



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Board OKs asking voters for renewal of 18 mills + 2

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Because the district's 18 non-homestead mills were subject to a Headlee Rollback for the 2016 tax levy, the Van Buren Public Schools is able to levy only 17.17822 mills and thus will lose more than \$110,000.

That would be if the voters approved just the 18 mills which is expiring in December.

At Monday's regular meeting of the school board, the board agreed to ask voters in the Nov. 8 general election for renewal of 18 mills plus an additional two mills for eight years.

That would be 20 mills, \$20 for each \$1,000 of taxable value.

This levy is for non-homestead property only. Homestead is considered a property owner's home. Non-homestead is rental property, business property, and vacation homes.

The 20 mills approval would let the district levy the full 18 mills allowed and leave a "cushion" so the district could keep levying the 18 mills to cover any other rollbacks over the years. Board members discussed the term "cushion" and they didn't like it because it is confusing and won't use it in promoting the millage vote for the Nov. 8 election.

They also stressed they are only allowed to levy 18 mills even though they will have 20 mills approved.

Finance Director Shareen Barker explained with the inception of Proposal A in 1994, property taxes paid by Michigan homeowners were dramatically reduced and future increases were limited.

Property was classified into homestead and non-homestead.

Property that is not a homestead and not qualified agricultural property can be assessed up to an additional 18 mills non-

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Abdul Madyun, left, is new Director of Human Resources for the Van Buren Public Schools. Kimberly Searcy, center, is new Transportation Supervisor. Lisa Preuss, right, is new principal at Savage Elementary School. New Athletic Director Joseph Brodie was not present at Monday's meeting.

School Board promotes BHS principal to Human Resources Dir.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Abdul Madyun, former principal of Belleville High School, has been promoted to Director of Human Resources for the Van Buren Public Schools.

At Monday's regular school board meeting, the board approved the superintendent's selection of Madyun. He was making \$110,216 as high school principal and now will be paid \$112,000.

School Supt. Peter Kudlak noted that Madyun earned a Juris Doctorate degree at Thomas Cooley Law School, after getting a bachelor's degree at Wayne State University.

He has been an employee of the district for the past ten years, serving the first three at the former Alternative Education Building. He was an assistant principal

for four years and BHS principal for the past four years. He also served on the district's negotiation team for the past five years and was president of the Van Buren Administrators and Supervisors Association for the past four years.

The board also approved the hiring of Lisa Preuss as principal of Savage Elementary School with a salary of \$88,619. She has been an employee of the district for the past 22 years as an elementary teacher. She has completed the Aspiring Administrator's Academy through Wayne RESA and completed a Principal Internship at Tyler Elementary School in 2013. She was the interim principal at Savage Elementary at the beginning of the last school year. She earned her bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University and her master's degree from Concordia University.

At Monday's board meeting, the audience stood and applauded her official hire as principal.

Joseph Brodie, who was not present for Monday's meeting, was named Athletic Director at a salary of \$85,595. He has

(continued on page 15)

City Council wants to keep Pokemon Go out of cemetery

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The new Pokemon Go game has erupted throughout the country and in Belleville it is going strong. The city council, after consideration, decided to try to keep it out of Hillside Cemetery's hallowed grounds.

Jeff Vernon brought the subject before the council at Monday's meeting, saying you cannot just remove Pokemons.

He said two are at Victory Park and another in the center of Five Points and they are floating through the cemetery.

He said they are where people gather. It's a game that was made in Japan and uses Google maps. They are on three different sculptures in town that no longer exist here.

"I don't think we can petition to remove it from our cemetery," said Councilwoman Kim Tindall. "Some cemeteries embrace them and invite people in."

She said she doesn't think players should be invited in to tramp on sacred ground.

"I personally don't think we want to encourage people to hunt Pokemon in the cemetery," Councilwoman Tindall said.

Kelly Bates, representative of Victoria Commons, read the entry on Pokemon from Wikipedia to try to explain the phenomenon. It's a game where people hunt tiny virtual creatures on their cell phones.

She said she's seen reports where people are walking up to people grieving in cemeteries and asking them about Pokemon.

"Arlington Cemetery had to put up a sign," she said.

"People are walking into traffic and off cliffs," Tindall said, referring to the way they look down at smart phones while heading forward.

"It really is a trip hazard out there," Mike Renaud said of Hillside Cemetery, where he has served as a volunteer placing flags on veterans graves.

"We're liable," stated City Manager Diana Kollmeyer.

"It's a fad like pet rocks," said Vernon, predicting when September and November

(continued on page 14)

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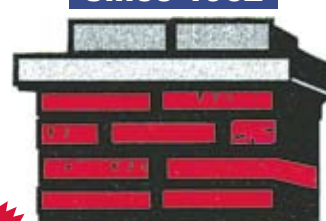
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

LDFA seeks more information from Van Buren on Grace Lake

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Michael Dotson, chairman of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, showed some irritation with the township at the LDFA's regular meeting on July 12.

He said he wants the township to be more forthcoming with information concerning Grace Lake, which the LDFA is trying to develop so more property tax money will come in to help with the Visteon bond shortfall.

First was the financial audit presented to the LDFA at the meeting by Ron Akers, VBT director of planning and economic development.

"Was anything mentioned about the bond?" Akers said referring to the audit and Akers said he didn't know but would report back at the next meeting in September.

Dotson asked if there were any concerns raised or anything missing.

"We need more time to study this," Dotson said. "We should get it sooner, not at the meeting."

Akers said the audit for the 2015 fiscal year was completed and submitted to the state by June 30.

LDFA member John Delaney said the audit should be a marketing tool.

LDFA member Shareen Barker said the audit is not regarding the balance sheet.

"It's the responsibility of any auditor to disclose any problems," Dotson said.

The *Independent* said that the LDFA audit is part of the VBT audit and the auditor discussed the whole audit at length before the VBT Board of Trustees at a recent meeting. The discussion on the bond by the Plante Moran representative was lengthy.

Then, Akers reported on an Aerotropolis Asset Familiarization Tour that recently toured Grace Lake Corporate Center (the former Visteon Village) among

"We need to put on a dog and pony show and have our pony as brushed and pretty as anyone can imagine ... It's an amazing location ... So many things we're not telling about it ... We're not telling our story...."

-- Michael Dotson, chairman of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority

other locations in the area. Akers said he and Downtown Development Authority Director Susan Ireland gave presentations on the township.

"This is just to let you know what's going on," Akers said.

"I'm very, very, very disappointed the LDFA was not told about it," Delaney said. "When we're absent from something like this... It's not that Dotson's not invited ... We need to get involved. This is a corporate body ...

"We've got a bond coming up," Delaney continued. "We've got a jewel here and we need to promote it ... You need to allow us to work on this. Where's that special meeting with the board we were supposed to have?"

Akers said the Detroit Regional Aerotropolis had limited spaces and the township supervisor was invited to attend and Akers was asked to attend in her stead.

"I see the DDA was there," Delaney said.

Akers said as opportunities arrive in the future he will get word to the LDFA.

"I agree with almost everything he [Delaney] said – the first time ever," Dotson said. "This is an area of utmost importance, more in terms of the community ... So we can have the best presentation before these Site Selectors ... We need to put on a dog and pony show and have our pony as brushed and pretty as anyone can imagine ... It's an amazing location ... So many things we're not telling about it ... We're not telling our story... We need to go to these events so we can bring back to our board what is going on. Please bring these things back to our board."

In other business at the regular meeting on July 12, the LDFA:

- Welcomed LDFA member Danylo Dobriansky to his first meeting after being appointed a year ago. Dobriansky is asset manager for Sovereign Partners, who purchased Visteon Village from Visteon. Dobriansky is based in New York City and he said he flew out to VBT twice for LDFA meetings but they were cancelled at the last minute due to lack of a quorum;

- Discussed the proposed revision to the bylaws to allow members to teleconference when they can't be at the meeting in person and sent it back to Akers for additional research and information on certain details. Dotson directed Akers to send the information to him and he will relay it to everyone so they will have time to study it and be ready to accept something at the next meeting;

- Heard Dobriansky report that Grace Lake Corporate Center is fully occupied after City Bank moved in about a month ago. He said they attracted City Bank from Ann



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Danylo Dobriansky, asset manager for Sovereign Partners and member of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, left, attended his first LDFA meeting on July 12. John Delaney, right, another LDFA member, talks with him after the meeting. Dobriansky has to travel from New York City for the meetings.

Arbor. Delaney asked if Dickinson Wright, the lawfirm representing Visteon, is the counsel for Sovereign and Dobriansky said Dickinson Wright is a tenant of Sovereign in Detroit. And, "We are not Visteon. Visteon is our tenant";

- Heard Akers update on the Ecorse Road property the LDFA wants to sell. The rezoning from Agricultural to Commercial zoning was expected to be on the July 18 work/study agenda of the township board, with the first reading before the board on July 19, the second reading Aug. 16 and publication in the *Independent* on Aug. 25. Akers said he will be back at the next meeting to discuss details of the public sale. LDFA member Leonard Armstrong asked the difference in price to expect between C zoning and the C-1 zoning that was first requested and Akers didn't know. The appraisal for the property as AG is two years old and Dobriansky said an appraiser has to look at the fact right now to make a determination;

- Heard Dobriansky report Sovereign is marketing the vacant Grace Lake property as build-to-suit, but businesses don't want to wait 18-19 months to occupy. He said Sovereign had submitted plans to VBT for a sign to put along I-275 three times and was turned down three times. They submitted a request to the National Highway Transportation Board, but VBT has jurisdiction. "We're not looking for something ostentatious," Dobriansky said. Delaney said the LDFA wants to partner with Sovereign to market the property. Dobriansky said VBT would only approve

a small directional sign saying "This Way to Grace Lake." Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development Matthew Best said they sent word to Sovereign about the sign and that they were willing to fight for Sovereign's sign. He said it was more appropriate for Sovereign to go through the planning commission. He said the township contacted Sovereign's sign company and has given it guidance and are waiting for a reply. Dotson, again, said the LDFA would like to be made aware of what's going on with Grace Lake;

- Heard Delaney ask about maintenance of the public trails at Grace Lake and Dobriansky's reply that Sovereign has a landscaping company under contract that maintains the trails and it was out that same day with chain saws cleaning up from the storm. When asked about the flooding from time to time, Dobriansky said it is a wetlands. He said they had a few charity races there 5-10K and they do see a lot of international use of the trails; and

- Heard Delaney inquire into the meeting the LDFA asked for with the township board and attorney Kaveh Kashef "to find out what the hell's going on" with Visteon. The joint meeting also was requested at a board work/study session by board members Miller, Hart, and Jahr, said Delaney. Akers said he would follow up.

In the audience was former planning commissioner Carl Johnson who said his figures show the township will be a half-million dollars short in 2019 for payment on the Visteon bonds and two million dollars short in 2020.

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Two suspended Savage teachers attend board mtg.

Two of the teachers that had been suspended from Savage Elementary School duties in a big fiasco under former School Supt Michael Van Tassel attended Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

Although they previously had been warned not to come on school property, they told those who asked that they got an email that said their jobs were reinstated and the warning to stay off school property was no longer in force.

School Board Trustee Sherry Frazier asked at Monday's meeting for an update on the Savage School teachers, but was met with silence. She said the board needed to have resolution of this matter.

Four teachers had filed suit against the school district after being put on paid leave for alleged misconduct in the state testing of students a year ago. After they filed suit, they were put on unpaid leave.

New School Supt. Pete Kudlak has said that he wants resolution to this issue. He has said he will be meeting with school district attorneys soon to try to resolve this issue so the district can move forward.

It was an unexpected pleasure to see two of the Savage Five at Monday's meeting, along with former Savage School Principal Kelly Villa, who now has another position in another district.

The district is yearning for a positive solution to this incredibly painful situation involving beloved teachers. We hope School Supt. Kudlak can heal the district.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

My old friend Tom Webster died June 30 after being on life supports since Feb. 21. Tom was a retired Detroit Reserve Police Officer, 25 years, and also retired from GM. He moved out to Rawsonville Woods back when our newspaper was new, 22 years ago or so, and he used to take our papers around to certain people and the Willis Post Office.

I recall him waiting for us outside the gas station at the corner of Willis and Rawsonville roads to pick up his papers as soon as they arrived. He generally would be tapping his wrist to show we were late – whether we were or weren't. There was no wristwatch there, but he tapped his wrist anyway.

That's the same gas station where he left his little dog in the car, along with his keys, and she bounced around and locked him out. He had to get someone to take him home to get his spare set of keys.

Tom owned a WWII airplane and went to air shows a lot. He was part of the Yankee Air Museum since the beginning. He was a kind man with a blustering demeanor. I'm going to miss him.

Tony Losey said last Thursday night, around 10-10:30, he was driving up Belleville Road after crossing the bridge and he saw a Van Buren Township police car all lit up blocking part of the roadway in front of the apartments.

He said a big SUV was disabled with a black man at the wheel and two other black men and a white VBT police officer trying to push the heavy SUV up the inclined entryway to the apartments.

Tony said he asked the young cop what



he was doing and why he just didn't call a tow truck. The officer said he was just trying to be a good guy.

Tony hooked his tow rope up to the SUV and dragged it up the incline.

Tony said he didn't know the name of the young cop, but he had been working for VBT for two years and he thought the officer should get credit for trying to help. Tony said the three guys pushing the SUV were really straining and they never would have got it up the incline, but they were trying.

He called VBT to tell them about the good officer that should get an award. He also called Channel 7. He thinks the whole thing was on the patrol car's videotape.

Tony said since everything is so bad between black people and white cops these days, he thought this story was worth telling.

At the Belleville Area District Library board meeting on July 12, board member Michael Boelter said he was in Detroit earlier that day and was in a coffee shop. He emphasized it was a coffee shop, not a donut shop. He said he bought coffee for a pair of Detroit police officers, one black and one white. He said they were surprised and appreciative and, "It made me feel good."

As of Monday the Van Buren Township clerk's office reported two people had

officially filed for the four Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education seats open in the Nov. 8 general election. They are Susan Featheringill, 50385 S. I-94 Service Drive, and Keith Johnston, 39848 E. Huron River Dr., Romulus mailing. July 26 is the final deadline for school board filings.

Also, on Monday JamesForrestChapman, 43364 E. Huron River Dr., officially filed as a non-partisan candidate for Van Buren Township trustee on the Nov. 8 ballot. He'll be on the ballot with those who win the Democratic primary on Aug. 2.

Big Ray of Big Ray and the Motor City Kings will perform Aug. 11 at the Music Lakeside outdoor concert series at Horizon Park in Belleville. They have just learned that Big Ray will be interviewed by Fox 2 News on Sunday, Aug. 7. They are kind of excited.

Matthew Best said the newly renovated offices for the VBT Building/Planning, Water/Sewer, and DDA departments could be completed as soon as next Monday. Some of those workers that were displaced to other locations during construction have begun moving back in. We are going to be impressed, he says.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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Letters

Back 2 School Blitz 9 to collect Aug. 1-29

To the Editor:

Here we go. It's time to launch Back 2 School Blitz 9 in Belleville. You will see that we have a committee working on all the details this year. Paul Henning (Chamber of Commerce), Andy Lindsay (Owen Intermediate School) and Brent Mikulski (President, Van Buren School Board) are working to coordinate the Belleville portion of this great event.

We need your help in sharing the word. Maybe your group would like to be a collection site? Maybe your group would like to collect supplies or make a monetary donation? We'd like to hear from you -- and we'll be sure we get you added to the flyer.

Maybe you know of a family who could use a little help getting their kids ready to go back to school? The Salvation Army will start the registration process to receive back packs on/after Aug. 8. All K-12 students in the City of Belleville and in Van Buren and Sumpter townships are eligible to receive backpacks as long as they reside in the household with a parent/guardian.

Please share this information far and wide. Please help us make Back 2 School Blitz 9 the best ever in Belleville. As always, feel free to contact me should you have questions. Email works best.

Thanks!

Laurie Aren

The Salvation Army, Plymouth

(734) 453-5464 (phone)

(734) 927-0060 (fax)

Laurie_Aren@usc.salvationarmy.org

Back to School Fun Day is Aug. 20 in Sumpter

To the Editor:

The Sumpter Progressive Civic League is sponsoring Back-to-School Fun Day for the school children of Sumpter Township. It will be held at Graham Park (Sumpter and Wear roads) Aug. 20 from 2 to 5 p.m. All children interested in participating must register before Aug. 10. To register call (734) 461-1767.

Karthea Murry Hanible, president
 Sumpter Progressive Civic League

Millage renewals? Help yourself, vote NO

To the Editor:

Seniors, help yourself. Vote NO on any millage. It's time for us seniors to stand up and say enough is enough. We don't get raises in our pension checks and it's been a while since our Social Security checks increased.

Remember when your house value goes up so do the millages you voted for. So, if

they say a millage will cost a home owner only \$30 per year, well next year it could cost you \$35 per year when the value of your home goes up. And this will continue throughout the number of years the millage is OKed for.

When was the last time you went to the library? How many times in a year would you go? I can't see paying \$100 or more every year for something I won't use and many of you seniors won't use the library, either. Remember, every year the price will go up with the value of your home.

With health cost and medicine cost going up what can we do? Vote No! Keep the money we get in our pockets. Syd was right. Seniors should be exempt from these millages and there is only so much juice in an orange.

Van Buren Township resident
 Name withheld by request.

Editor's Note: The writer refers to Syd Stewart of Sumpter Township whose letter with the same feelings ran in last week's paper.

Meeting set to discuss Lower Huron Metropark

To the Editor:

We are in the beginning stages of master plan development for Lower Huron Metropark. As a Lower Huron stakeholder, your input during this process is critical. Please join us at a public meeting to learn about the master plan and share your opinions about the future of the park.

Saturday, July 23

10 a.m. - 12 noon

Oakwoods Nature Center

Please note that the meeting is being held in Oakwoods Metropark, not Lower Huron Metropark. No RSVP required.

To ensure a comfortable atmosphere for learning and sharing information, this will be a strolling / drop-in-style meeting, without any formal presentations. You are encouraged to bring your children / grandchildren, as we plan to have an activity in which they can participate.

You are also welcome to share your opinions about the park in our online survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/lowerhuronmp

Thank you in advance, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Carolyn Lusch, System Planner
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Gun-a-Day Raffle to benefit teacher with double-lung transplant

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Men's Group has set a Gun-a-Day Raffle for the month of September to benefit St. John's teacher Kristin Jackson for costs associated with a double-lung transplant.

The Gun-a-Day Raffle will run Sept. 1-30 and the ticket price of \$20 is valid for the entire drawing.

Winners are chosen based on Michigan Lottery Evening Pick 3 numbers. The daily prizes are the equivalent dollar value of the gun being raffled in the form of a Cabela's gift card. The gift card does not have to be used to purchase a gun.

Tickets are available at the church office, 28320 Waltz Road, New Boston (734) 654-6366.

For more information contact Chris Tapley at guntickets@gmail.com.

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Obituaries



Juanita Irene Mason

JUANITA I. MASON

(June 13, 1928 - July 10, 2016)

Juanita Irene Mason, age 88, of Milan, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, July 10, 2016 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born June 13, 1928 in Lincoln Park, MI, daughter of Elby Warren & Lela Fern (Williams) Kanitz.

Juanita graduated from Milan High School and went on to receive her cosmetology license and worked in a salon for a number of years. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church, Plano, Texas. She enjoyed pencil drawing, reading and loved to debate politics and religion. Most of all, she loved time spent with family. Mrs. Mason is survived by two daughters Linda Talmadge and Becky Mason, both of Colorado Springs, Colorado; son-in-law Richard Talmadge of Ulysses, Kansas; five grandchildren Daniel (Lisa) Talmadge, Ryan Talmadge, Cindy (Kris) Warner, Christopher (Lacy) Talmadge and Jeffrey Mason; 12 great-grandchildren Timmy, Joshua, Alexis, Audra, Kaitlyn, Hannah, Beau, Paityn, Cade, Kellen, Justin and Jeremy; great-great-grandson Landon; sister Lavona (Bill) Dennison and brother Jack (Joan) Kanitz, both of Milan, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Juanita was preceded in death by her husband Clark Everett Mason on February 17, 2004; five siblings Harold Kanitz, Gertrude Seleska, Fern Shaffer, Elby Kanitz, Jr. and Wayne Kanitz; also, sister-in-law Eunice Baisch.

Visitation was 4-8 PM Wednesday, 12-8 PM Thursday, and 12-1 PM Friday, July 15, 2016 with a 1 PM Funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Rev. John W. Schwartz officiated. Interment followed in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and would be appreciated by the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, July 21 – Parents and the public are invited to offer input on what they would like to see in a new high school principal from 7-9 p.m. at the BHS cafeteria. BHS Principal Abdul Madyun has been promoted to district Human Resources Director, pending school board approval.

• Tuesday, July 26 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 27 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, Aug. 1 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

ANNIE RUTH McCLAIN

(February 17, 1921 - July 13, 2016)

Age 90, of Ypsilanti. A former longtime Belleville resident.

Annie Ruth Braden was born in Marshall County, Tennessee to the late James Lewis Braden and Rachel (Harney) Braden on February 17, 1921, and grew up in Tennessee. She was an active member in the Cross Street Church of Christ for many years and loved farming, cooking, baking, gardening and spending time with her family. Later in life, Annie met and married her beloved late husband, James W. McLain, who died in 2003. Annie departed this life on July 12, 2016 and leaves to cherish her memory two sisters, Carol Kennedy (Melvin) of Ypsilanti, MI and Thelma Morris of Ocala, FL; a special nephew, Joseph L. (Buddy) Angus; one daughter Orpah Paylor of Ypsilanti, MI; three granddaughters, Terria Jones, Debbie Pipkins, and Cassandra Paylor; and one grandson Richard Paylor II. Mrs. McClain also leaves to cherish her memory many nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

A time of visitation was arranged for Wednesday, July 20, from 10 AM until the 12 noon hour, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr. Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 697-4500. At the noon hour, a time of sharing and reflection will be held. Private entombment will follow at Acacia Park Cemetery in Beverly Hills.



Thomas Webster

THOMAS CLARK WEBSTER

(June 8, 1937 – June 30, 2016)

Thomas Clark Webster, 79, of St. Clair Shores and formerly of Sumpter Township and Detroit, died June 30, 2016 at St. John's Hospital in Detroit after being on life supports since Feb. 21.

He was born June 8, 1937 in Detroit, the son of John and Virginia Webster.

He retired in 1991 from General Motors, Detroit, after 26 years of service. He was active in the Detroit Police Reserves and retired after 25 years of service. He was the owner of a World War II T-6 airplane for many years and attended many air shows. He was an active member and supporter of the Yankee Air Museum since it started in 1982 and was one of its first members.

He is survived by his sister Kathleen Notoriano-Mazur and her husband Jack Mazur of Dryden; his nephews Charles (Patricia) Notoriano, Thomas Notoriano, Robert (Lorie) Notoriano, and Michael (Tammy) Notoriano; and eight great-nieces and great-nephews. He is also survived by Susan Notoriano, a nurse, who often watched over him in the hospital on her own time. The family appreciates her care.

Viewing was 3-9 p.m. Monday, July 18, at the Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Funeral Home, 36900 Schoenherr at 16 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, with a Rosary at 7 p.m. A funeral mass was held at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 19. Interment was in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Detroit.

Share memories with the family at their on-line guestbook at WujekCalcaterra.com.

More Letters

Car Show shows 'inverted socialism'

To the Editor:

I promised myself I would not let the subject of the weekly intrusive closure of Main Street for what is called "The Car Show" become an obsession.

Of course, unless I'm having to go around it yet again I have other business rattling in my head.

I've resided here 23 years now and support everything that's done to promote the area. I'm just the neighbor that speaks up when somebody's party runs too long; the party is fine, just get it off the street. If there were money being raised for charitable reasons it would be difficult to counter the street closings.

Let's just call this what it is, closing a busy street at 5 p.m. for The Bayou Grille and Egan's Pub to expand business or to use a precise term "inverted socialism."

The DDA's response to my initial comment submitted last year is to expand the closure starting at 5 instead of 6 which demonstrates the low regard for area residents.

Because my wife is a vegan I find myself eating out frequently in the local places not at any particular one regularly. I spread the business around.

About three weeks ago I just started bypassing the entire area because Belleville's DDA tells me the area just doesn't need my year-round revenue. My work day usually ends in Ann Arbor and there are plenty of places to eat there. If I'm at home I'll do Tin Pan in Sumpter or a quiet ride down Hannan Road gets me to Wayne with plenty of decent eateries.

Tom Elliott

Eleven reasons I am running for VBT trustee

To the Editor:

Pursuant to the forthcoming election in November, I should like to list my reasons for filing as a non-partisan candidate for the office of VBT Trustee:

1. VBT's neglect of its duty to preserve its history;

2. Misuse of public funds in the Dept. of Public Safety ("Blended rate");

3. VBT's floating of bonds making the public treasury liable for private industry in the Visteon Fiasco;

4. The current occupants of the offices are politicians who have never read the U.S. Constitution or understand the theory of limited government;

5. VBT's harassment by trying to usurp regulation of lake property owners to fatten their treasury (which they wish to mispend) by ignoring the original deeds which define property lines down to the original river bed;

6. Lack of taking steps to properly care for township roads, for instance the bridge(s) at French Landing, E. Huron River Dr., and Sumpter Rd.; and look at the sand in the lane in front of the Hull Rd. fire station;

7. Misuses of power that result in lawsuits, as in the recent \$650,000 water shut-off case, and others; and politically-sponsored harassment by factions within the Public Safety Department;

8. Increasing isolation of what the various departments of township government are doing, underfunding some while overfunding others;

9. Stifling certain development (the Home Depot/Orange Color Episode) while allowing certain "approved" companies carte blanche w/o competition;

10. The Edison Dam: at the heart of the lake issues is the Dam/Hydroelectric plant owned by the township; I would certainly think there should be more than \$45,000 a year profit from it, and would explore other ways to multiply that yield while best serving the voters and the township --and how much does the township pay DTE for all the rest of the township buildings? We should be supplying our own, and to our water and sewer plants as well, lowering operating expenses and passing the savings along to the taxpayers;

11. Lastly (for now), because I have taken the Serenity Prayer to Heart: Lord grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change, COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN, and the WISDOM to know the difference. I do truly believe that I have the principles to make township government better, a better plan for the

future, including preserving our History by SAVING THE RIGGS HERITAGE HOUSE, and certainly the COURAGE to make a run at it by offering the voters a choice and not politics as usual this November.

I will be writing on each subject above and perhaps some others again soon. These are very real issues no other candidate has raised or addressed, and I would think, relevant to the voters.

The Cross is at Hayward's and the Millstones are in front of the museum; no other candidate has done that but me, and those who would like to sign a nominating petition may do so:

Museum/Millstones: Saturdays 5 p.m., for signings and millstone informal;

Hayward's/Cross: Sundays 5 p.m., for signings and testimonial;

Or, call: (734) 262-5188 for appointment.

Most Sincerely Yours,

James F. Chapman

Candidate for VBT Trustee

SAVE THE RIGGS HERITAGE HOUSE

Belleville Planners recommend approval of revised sign ordinance

A public hearing was held on amendments to the city's Sign Ordinance at the July 14 meeting of the Belleville Planning Commission.

Jeff Vernon was the only person in the audience.

Commission members voted to recommend approval of the document to the city council. The ordinance is expected to be on the agenda of the Aug. 1 council meeting for consideration.

Wayne County Parks hosts program for seniors only at Crosswinds Marsh

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP -- Wayne County Parks is hosting Time Out for Seniors, a program dedicated to seniors who enjoy the game of Bingo.

The program offers seniors an opportunity to play Wetland bingo, which features drawings of various species of plants and wildlife instead of the standard bingo sheets with letter and numbers.

This bingo game with a twist, familiarizes participants with some of the flora and fauna that can be seen at Crosswinds Marsh in Sumpter Township.

The program is scheduled on Friday, July 22, from 10 a.m. until noon. Crosswinds Marsh is located at 27600 Haggerty Road.

This program is recommended for Senior Citizens 55 years and over. In the event of inclement weather, such as heavy storms and rain, the program will be cancelled. The event fee is \$3 per adult; add \$1 per person for out-of-county resident.

Advanced registration is required. Participants can call (734) 654-1220 to register for this event.

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More Letters

Who is Jay Bardell, II, for Sumpter Supervisor?

To the Editor:

Jay Bardell, II is running for Sumpter Township Supervisor for this upcoming election this August. Residents who are wondering, Who is Jay Bardell? I am going to give you an up-close and personal introduction.

Jay Bardell is not only a great father, but so much more. He is a loyal, hard-working, personable, and a loving man. For those of you who do know him, I am sure you will agree you cannot speak to him without smiling or laughing the entire time. He always has everyone else's feelings in mind and always willing to help.

My dad has been my hero from the beginning. I, along with my three sisters, their families and a majority of my extended family are Sumpter Township residents. We are ready to see changes: the seniors receive the help they need, our children to have more activities, a reason for them to have a future here with their families someday, a reason for people to make Sumpter Township their home and most important, a board that strives on doing right by the people who live here.

My dad, Jay Bardell, II, and his team will do just that. He always looks for the good and prides himself on getting the job done. He is always lending a helping hand for those in need without asking for anything in return.

He doesn't believe in taking the easy way out. Work hard and work hard every day! Being a young voter I truly believe that this is what our community has been longing for. It is time for a change. Fresh faces, new ideas, and finally, a board that will work hard for the residents and have their best interest at heart. Make the right choice this coming August.

Sincerely
Kelly Murphy
Sumpter Township
Daughter of Jay Bardell, II

Graber offers help with ADA Transition Plan

To the Editor:

The following is a copy of a July 14 letter to Sumpter Township Supervisor John

Morgan concerning the ADA Transition Plan/Coordinator.

Dear Mr. Morgan:

At the township meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2016, I asked for a copy of the ADA Transition Plan and ADA Coordinator contact person. You referred me to Maria Beaudrie in the Human Resources Department. I spoke with Ms. Beaudrie this morning and she informed me Sumpter Township does not have a Transition Plan.

The 1991 ADA regulation required all public entities, regardless of size, to evaluate all of these services, policies, and practices and to modify any that did not meet ADA requirements. Public entities were also required to provide an opportunity for interested individuals to participate in the self-evaluation and transition planning processes by submitting comments. A critical, but often overlooked, component of ensuring success is comprehensive and ongoing staff training. As a disability consultant, I am offering my services for this Transition Plan and to conduct ADA training to assist Sumpter Township and their residents.

Feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,
Lydia Graber
Sumpter Township

Editor's Note: Lydia Graber is a candidate for Sumpter Township Clerk in the Aug. 2 preliminary election.

Be assured our prayers will not go unanswered

To the Editor:

Our nation is in mourning and I feel an urgent need for universal prayer and revival. Our airwaves are constantly announcing divisiveness and killings. I do not believe any person of either political party can unite our nation unless we all pray for forgiveness and healing. But we must come together, as a nation of many creeds and colors, pray and seek His will be done, in His perfect timing.

By the tens of thousands, God's people will be gathering in Washington, D.C. on July 14-17, for a National Prayer Summit as one voice on behalf of our nation. There will also be an organized prayer walk around the city through the newly commissioned American Center for Prayer and Revival. Following the Summit, there will be a Pray for America Bus Rally Tour IV, July 18-30 to rally prayer at both national party conventions, seeking God's intervention in our nation's government. Prayerful Americans can follow along with these events at www.NationalDayofPrayer.org.

Our prayers will not go unanswered. We, as Americans, should be patient and be reminded daily that the prayers of His people are powerful and effective and generations not yet born will praise the Lord (Psalm 102:18).

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

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More Letters

Why Brenda for VBT Supervisor?

To the Editor:

Hello Van Buren Township,

It means a lot when the employees of our township want someone to be their boss. On June 15, 2016 the Van Buren Township Patrol and Dispatcher's Union met and voted to endorse Brenda McClanahan for Van Buren Township Supervisor.

In any job that someone applies for you have to submit a resume. The Van Buren Township Supervisor's position is a high-level government executive position. The Supervisor is required to make decisions concerning our multi-million-dollar budget, and dozens of highly skilled employees. Any candidate seeking to fill this position owes it to our residents to submit a resume detailing their educational background and work experience. The candidates' resumes should be submitted and publicly available for us as residents to review and consider before casting our vote.

After reviewing all of the campaign material from all of the candidates for Township Supervisor, and after evaluating Brenda McClanahan's past experience, and leadership in making critical decisions that assisted in balancing an unbalanced budget with the school board it became clear to me that she is the most qualified candidate for Township Supervisor. Additionally, to date she is the only candidate that has made her resume publicly available via www.electbrenda.com.

On Aug. 2, 2016 we have an obligation to review all of the candidates' platforms, resumes, and then make a decision on who we want as our leader. I believe after you visit Brenda's Website at www.electbrenda.com your decision will be clear that she is the most qualified person for the Van Buren Township Supervisor's position.

Please go to www.electbrenda.com, view her resume, evaluate the platform, get to know Brenda on the about page, feel free to join the team. Let's join the men and women of the Van Buren Patrol and Dispatcher's Union and put a leader we can trust, has the experience and proven leadership in office as our next Van Buren Township Supervisor. I am humbly asking you to join me and vote for Brenda McClanahan for Van Buren Township Supervisor on Aug. 2, 2016.

Sincerely,
Adam Byrd

Editor's Note: Adam Byrd is a township resident, VBT patrol officer, president of the patrol officers' union, and enthusiastic supporter of McClanahan for supervisor.

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Our neighborhoods becoming disgraces

To the Editor:

Is it my imagination or have some of our residents in this nice, pleasant community become careless and really neglectful when it comes to their homes, lawns, and general upkeep of their property?

One resident is "selling" firewood on his front porch and has a large sign on his front lawn saying "Wood for Sale." Is this legal? Does he need a permit or license to do this?

This same resident also has a number of vehicles parked in his driveway or on the grass. Once there were two cars in the driveway so one was parked over the sidewalk and close to the road. Is there a rule about this? It looks like a repair business of some kind. The garage has lawnmowers and motorcycles inside. Does he need a permit or license to do this in the city?

Another resident has a backyard full of "stuff." Branches, wood, boats on trailers, a large red-covered trailer, tall grass along the fence line and a shed in need of repair.

There were also boats on trailers, a pontoon boat on a trailer and a pontoon trailer. These were all on the grass on the side of the house. Now they are gone. This looks like a boat storage business. Does he need a permit or license?

I remember years ago if you did not shovel your sidewalk within 24 hours of a snowstorm you were fined. If you put your trash out before 5 p.m. that was a no-no. It seems like a lot of people do what they want and the others who care have to put up with it.

Where are the rules, permits and ordinances? Can people operate a business on their porch, driveway or garage? Operate a boat storage for the fall outside where everyone has to look at it?

Garage sales are three, ten, and thirty dollars. Do these people have permits?

Last, but not least, is that eyesore of an old business on Huron River Drive across from the neat and tidy grief center. You can't miss this one. It's black with peeling paint, roof with shingles damaged, and a huge wisteria bush climbing up a utility pole. This plant is at least 15 feet tall.

The front row of evergreens is overgrown as is the grass. Sidewalk is in poor condition.

I agree with Mrs. Fleming in her recent letter. How do we walk or get around town with all these obstacles? Support your merchants. Buy in Belleville that is if you can get to town.

Please check out these areas. You should have no trouble finding them.

I feel that the areas I have mentioned should be fined if they are indeed operating a business

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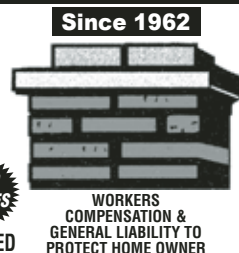
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\$400,000 upgrade of office areas at VBT Hall nearing completion

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The largest part of \$400,000 worth of renovations to Van Buren Township Hall is nearing completion. It was promised to be done by the time of the presidential election, but on Tuesday it was still hidden under a tarp of secrecy.

The work in the Clerk's office has been done for some time.

At the regular meeting of the township board on March 1, two trustees voted against the \$380,000 worth of costs to renovate two office areas at township hall, plus another \$20,000 for associated technology.

But the rest of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees voted yes, passing the motion.

Voting no were Trustees Regina Miller and Jeff Jahr. Absent and excused from the meeting was Treasurer Sharry Budd.

The office renovation project under way is the reconfiguration of the Building and Planning, Downtown Development Authority, and Water Department offices at the township hall, plus some work done in the Clerk's office.

Sources for the funds are: \$150,000 from Water and Sewer, \$125,000 from Building and Grounds, \$100,000 from the DDA, and \$25,000 from an insurance reimbursement from the Michigan Municipal Risk

Management Authority.

Trustees Miller and Jahr had questions about the new "design and build" type of contract being granted to Cross Renovation, Inc. for the not-to-exceed amount of \$380,000, which was reduced from the original \$400,000 amount after much discussion at two board work/study sessions.

The amount includes architectural design, construction management including specifications, construction, and everything in the project.

Director of Public Services James Taylor pulled the \$20,000 for the big-screened TVs and other equipment out of the design and build total, saying it was being purchased in-house through the IT Director Steve Rankin.

At the March 1 meeting, Taylor explained that the township hall was built in the mid 1990s and since then they has collected 20+ years of binders and plans.

He said there are 21 employees in the

(continued on page 23)

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AUG 2**

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- ... get resolution on the Visteon issue
- ... keep community values going up
- ... keep public safety as a priority

- Van Buren Twp. Resident and Realtor for over 30 years
- Committed to the Van Buren Community
- 4-time Van Buren School Board Member
- Children, grandchildren graduated from Belleville High School
- Granddaughter attends Van Buren Schools
- Former Educator, Plymouth-Canton Schools
- Bachelor's Degree, Eastern Michigan University
- Master's Degree, University of Michigan
- Specialist Degree, Wayne State University

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More Letters

Minister gets wish; dreams do come true

To the editor:

I got a calling to the ministry in 1972 in which I was installed as a minister servant of God to serve his people in a lay ministry. Many are called, few are chosen. I thank God he chose me.

I ministered at Sacred Heart Church for 30 years, hospital ministry, the less fortunate. Whatever God's plans were, I chose to follow. I also worked at Saint Pat's Senior Center in Detroit's Cass Corridor area. Driving their handicap van, taking people for dialysis treatment, chemotherapy, radiation, doctor and dentist appointments, etc. The last 14 years I have ministered in and around Sumpter Township, Belleville, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, and so on.

I ministered at the Belleville Lighthouse with Pastor Jim Lockard, a wonderful man of God, for almost 10 years. The last two years I have been ministering at Friends Church in Ypsilanti. I enjoy working at the Quaker Cupboard and also doing hospital ministry. Another wonderful man of God, Pastor Douglas C. Burch, pastor of Friends' Church for many years.

It's been my dream to one day have a wheelchair lift van. I have had many hurdles in my life to bear, but through it all, God has brought me through.

I am in remission with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, prostate cancer, and basal cell carcinoma. Almost 10 years ago I had a Saint Jude's mechanical valve implant put in my heart. I was in a wheelchair for some time. I also wore legs braces for peripheral neuropathy.

Well, my dream has come true. I was blessed with a wheelchair van lift so I can further my ministry in helping others.

Thanks be to God.
Rev. Charlie Crispell
Sumpter Township



ANTHONY WOODFORD

FOR VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

HUMILITY, ABILITY, INTEGRITY

AUGUST 2ND, 2016

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Pokemon

(continued from page 1)

come along, it won't be so popular. "It'll be a bigger issue in October," he said referring to the cemetery during Halloween season.

Tindall said bringing people to town to search for Pokemons is good in one way because they have to stop somewhere and buy water or something, but from a public safety aspect it is worrying.

Vernon said it's a fantasy world brought into reality and people are interacting at these spots and it's encouraging people to talk to each other.

"It's the general consensus that we do not want people in the cemetery searching for Pokemon," said Mayor Kerreen Conley. She turned the issue over to the city administration for a resolution.

A sign was suggested, with a positive message.

Vernon said there are six to eight at Horizon Park and Tindall said she knew that because people were at the concert last Thursday running along and bumping into concert-goers.

Renaud said he saw a report on television where hundreds of people were running across traffic trying to get a rare Pokemon.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Approved local approval for a charitable gaming license for the St. Anthony's Men's Club Association;

- Approved use of a part of Victory Park by the Fire Department Auxiliary from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 10 during the citywide yard sale for a Hotdogs for Heroes fund raiser, with a stipulation that the group will have to get the food service licensed by the Wayne County Health Department. City administration will work with the auxiliary on the details;

- Explained that approval was not necessary for the Five Points Band to do a Jazz on the Lake concert on the grass near the gazebo in Horizon Park from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 20. Anyone is free to use the park, no street closings are involved, and there is no charge. Christopher Bouldes is promoting the band;

- Approved the multi-year plan, 2017-19, for Senior Alliance;

- Heard a detailed presentation on budget amendments by Kelly Howey of Plante Moran for the year ended June 30 and then adopted the budget amendments; and

- Approved accounts payable of \$170,854.71 and a single departmental expense over \$500: to Web Rigging Supply for roping for Horizon Park, \$544.14.

Belleville Community Band



Sunday, July 31st 3:00pm
First United Methodist Church
417 Charles St.

Belleville Police Chief reports overwhelming local support for dept.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

"I'm proud of the citizens in this community for standing behind us," said Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman.

He thanked the community for its support and said he is, "proud to be out here."

At Monday's city council meeting, Chief Berriman reported that he had been through the 1967 race riots in Detroit as a police officer, through the riot in 1968 when the Tigers won the championship, and through when they were burning scout cars in 1984 after winning the World Series.

Those were tough times, but what is happening to police now in this country is harder.

He said the outpouring of support for his department here in the Belleville community has been overwhelming.

He said his department has received cards and letters and the Willis Baptist Church sent them a cake that was big enough to feed all three police departments in the tri-community.

Councilwoman Kim Tindall said political correctness doesn't work for her. She said when people assassinate police officers, it makes her want to bring all her loved ones inside and lock the door.

"It's not a place I want to live in anymore," she said.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said it is a tough time for folks. She said the council greatly appreciates all the police and fire fighters do "to mind our community."

Councilman Tom Fielder also personally thanked the police and fire department for what they do for the community.

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Gilchrist, Bryant, Scruggs honored at Davenport U.

Wade Gilchrist of Belleville has been named to the President's List for the Winter 2016 Semester at Davenport University in Grand Rapids.

The President's List recognizes top students who excel with outstanding academic performance. To achieve recognition, a student must maintain a minimum 3.8 grade point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular

coursework.

Willie Bryant and Jorri Scruggs of Belleville have been named to the Dean's List for the Winter 2016 Semester at Davenport.

To achieve the Dean's List, a student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

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VOTE
August 2

Kevin McNamara

for **VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

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- ★ **Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters Union & Millwrights**
- ★ **Teamsters**
- ★ **MEA**
- ★ **Linda Combs - Retiring Supervisor**
- ★ **Warren Evans - Wayne County Executive**

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK “MARICELLE”



We just love sweet and playful **Maricelle** and you will too! She's a 1 year and 4 month old Pitbull Terrier mix filled to the top of her adorable pointy ears with puppy love and fun to share. She's extremely social and fun-loving and always wants to be right in the middle of things. She reminds us of the best friend that is always up for anything, will stay up late having fun and be the first to ask what's next in the morning. Powered by what has to be energizer batteries she just keeps playing, running or walking with endless amounts of energy. When it comes to other dogs, **Maricelle** likes to take on an alpha female role and be the one in charge. After good introductions, she can play well with other dogs but needs a more submissive playmate that can also keep up with her energy level for a best fit. **Maricelle** is smart and responsive and ready for someone to work with her to get some good training under her belt. Although her small build and short black and white coat are adorable on their own her secret weapon of cuteness has got to be her goofy stand-up ears. Just try saying no to her when she pulls them out on you. Give us a ring today to meet her; she's spayed, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Contact **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

School Board hires

(continued from page 1)

been a health teacher at BHS for 10 years and coached many sports during that time. He was interim Athletic Director this past school year. He earned his bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University.

Also, Kim Searcy was hired as Transportation Supervisor at a salary of \$72,000. She has 23 years of experience working in pupil transportation. She last worked as a Safety & Training Supervisor for Durham. Prior to that she worked as a Lead Transportation Supervisor for Ann Arbor (WISD), a Transportation Director at Ypsilanti Public School District, and a Transportation Supervisor for Willow Run Community School District.

Searcy received her bachelor's degree from EMU.

Board Trustee Sherry Frazier pointed out that the salaries of these hires are less than the people they are replacing and pointed

out that Supt. Kudlak took a lower salary, as well, because they are watching finances in the district.

In other personnel matters, the board accepted the retirement of JoLynn DeBuysscher from Tyler Elementary School after 25 years of service as of June 30 and the resignation of Tracy Healy of McBride Middle School after 14 years of service as of June 28 because she is moving to Traverse City.

Alanna Campbell graduates from basic AF training

U.S. Air Force Airman Alanna N. Campbell graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Campbell is the daughter of Lucinda Campbell of Ann Arbor, Daryl Campbell of Ypsilanti, and Dawn Mack and Nicolle White of Belleville. She graduated in 2013 from Huron High School, Ypsilanti, Mich.

Fund raiser for Kevin Robertson set Aug. 13

Kevin Robertson is fighting cancer and is going into his fourth chemotherapy treatment. He is not able to work due to the treatments for five months or longer.

A "Cancer Sucks" fund raiser for Robertson will be held Aug. 13 at Rawsonville Woods mobile home park in Sumpter Township. Proceeds will be used to pay for chemotherapy treatments and expenses.

Activities include, but are not limited to: Saddle Rock Band, Elvis Presley performance, DJ, Belleville Karate Team demonstration, clown and face painting, craft show (\$20 donation for 12x12 booth), car show (\$10 donation and winner receives half of entry donation), 50/50 raffle sponsored by AFSCME Local 1862, and silent auction.

Sponsors are Rawsonville Woods Manufactured Home Community, 10825 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI 48111 and Wolverine Rental & Supply, Inc. 5475 S. State Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

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Paul D. White

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, July 21** – Brother Crowe (Irish/Indie band) will be in concert at Horizon Park starting at 7 p.m. The free Music Lakeside concert is presented by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. If it rains, it will be in the United Methodist Church across the street.

• **Thursday, July 21** – At 7 p.m., the Belleville Area District Library hosts Doc Fletcher, Michigan author and outdoor enthusiast who has been featured on PBS. He will share stories and photographs from his latest book, “Canoeing and Kayaking Michigan College Campuses.” Book signing and raffle for free canoe/kayak day trip.

• **Friday, July 22** – Romulus DDA presents free Sounds in Downtown at the Romulus Historical Park, 11147 Hunt Street, at 7 p.m. Tonight it's D'Tour, R&B/Motown.

• **Friday, July 22** – Friends Family Drive-In FREE Movie night, sunset, 9:04 p.m. Family films, fun, food, all free. At Friends Field, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road at Bemis, Ypsilanti. Featuring: “Secrets of Jonathan Sperry.” Questions: (734) 482-5074. www.friendsfamilytheater.com

• **Saturday, July 23** – State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, invites you to join her for coffee at Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road at 10 a.m. to discuss your concerns.

• **Sunday, July 24** – Waco 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, July 28** – Billy Craig (country) will be in concert at Horizon Park starting at 7 p.m. The free Music Lakeside concert is presented by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. If it rains, it will be in the United Methodist Church across the

street.

• **Friday, July 29** – Friends Family Drive-In FREE Movie night, sunset, 8:57 p.m. Family films, fun, food, all free. At Friends Field, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road at Bemis, Ypsilanti. Featuring: “War Room.” Questions: (734) 482-5074. Preview: www.friendsfamilytheater.com

• **Saturday, July 30** – The public is invited to Moose Lodge 934 at the corner of Sumpter and Harris Roads in Sumpter Township for a steak dinner with salad,

potato and dessert from 6 to 9 p.m. and to enjoy the Southern Heat Band from 8 p.m. to midnight with special guests “John Denver and Loretta Lynn” at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person, sold at the lodge. (734) 325-7799

• **Sunday, July 31** – Belleville Community Band's second Summer Concert begins at 3 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street.

Vote August 2, 2016

Brenda McClanahan ✓

for Van Buren Twp Supervisor

Endorsed by:

All three Van Buren Twp Public Safety Union Presidents

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brenda McClanahan, 42783 Tavistock Dr., Belleville, Michigan 48111

For More Information go to www.ElectBrenda.com

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& MORE

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MUD BOG
6PM

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I-94 Exit 190
North on Belleville Rd.
Left on N. Service Road
Right on Quirk Rd.

Monday, August 8 (No Carnival)

6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
8 am Swine Show - Livestock Pavilion
11 am Horse Show - Horse Arena
10 am - 2 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
2 -10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
6 pm Sheep Show - Livestock Pavilion
8 pm Fair Royalty Announcement - Patio

Tuesday, August 9

(Seniors Day - 55 & Older - Free Parking)
6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
9 am Poultry Show - Poultry Barn
9 am Horse Show - Horse Arena
10 am - 2 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
2 -10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
2 -10 pm Crafters/Vendors
4 - 10 pm Carnival - \$1.00 Ride Day
5 pm Pony Pull - Track
5 pm Senior Basket Raffle - Community Arts
6 pm Goat Show - Livestock Pavilion
7 pm Mini Horse Pull - Track

Wednesday, August 10 (Ladies Day)

6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
8 am Rabbit/Cavy/Pocket Pet Show - Cozadd Building
9 am Horse Show - Horse Arena
10 am - 2 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
2 - 10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
2 - 10 pm Crafters/Vendors
4 - 10 pm Carnival - \$10 All-U-Can-Ride
5 pm Ladies Basket Raffle Results - Community Arts
5 pm Dairy Show - Livestock Pavilion
6 pm Beef Show - Livestock Pavilion
7 pm Truck/Tractor Pull - Track
(New Attraction, Participants Welcome)

Thursday, August 11 (Kid's Day)

6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
9 am Goat Milking - Livestock Pavilion
9 am Horse Show - Horse Arena
10 am - 2 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
12 - 4 pm Mini Pedal Tractors - Merch/Comm. Arts
12 - 8 pm Michigan Stiltwalker - Strolling
1 - 3 pm Kid's Games (12 & Under) - By Gazebo
2 - 10 pm Carnival \$9 - 2-6pm; \$18 After 6 pm
2 - 10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
2 - 10 pm Crafters/Vendors
2 pm Deadline Coloring Contest w/ Prizes - Dining Hall (Ages: 3-5, 6-9, 10-13)
5 pm Great Lakes Jousting Games - Horse Arena (Practice)
6:30 pm Livestock Auction - Livestock Pavilion
7 - 8:30 pm Great Lakes Jousting Games - Track (Jousting Games/Competition)
8 pm Bike Raffle - Cozadd Building

For More Info visit:

www.WayneCountyFairgrounds.net

Friday, August 12

(Veteran's Day - Free Parking w/Military ID)

6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
10 am Shepherd's Trail - Livestock Pavilion
11 am Goat Pack Class - Livestock Pavilion
10 am - 2 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
12 - 8 pm Michigan Stiltwalker - Strolling
1 pm Master Stockman Workshop
1 - 10 pm Carnival - \$18
1 - 3 pm Kid's Games (12 & Under) - By Gazebo
1 - 10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
1 - 10 pm Crafters/Vendors
2:30 pm Great Lakes Jousting - Horse Arena (Games Competition)
Various Times Wood Carving Shows
5 pm Pig Trail - Livestock Pavilion
5 pm Great Lakes Jousting - Horse Arena (Competition)
Veteran's Day Basket Raffle - Community Arts
7:30 pm Night of Destruction \$10 - Track (Sponsored By Unique Motorsports)

Saturday, August 13 (Last Day)

6:30- 9:30 am Breakfast - Dining Hall w/A/C
9 am - 3 pm Car Show
10 am Master Stockman Contest - Livestock Pavilion
10 am - 4 pm Lunch - Dining Hall w/A/C
9 am - 12 pm Great Lakes Jousting - Horse Arena (Kids Participate)
12 - 8 pm Michigan Stiltwalker - Strolling
1 - 10 pm Carnival - \$18
1 - 10 pm Crafters/Vendors
Various Times Wood Carving Shows
1 - 10 pm Miracle of Life Exhibit - Cozadd Building
1 pm - 3 pm Kids Games - By Gazebo
2:30 pm Great Lakes Jousting - Horse Arena (Games Competition)
4 pm Livestock Awards - Livestock Pavilion
5 pm Horse & Pony Awards - Livestock Pavilion
5 pm Great Lakes Jousting - Horse Arena (Competition)
6 pm Mud Bog - \$10 - Track
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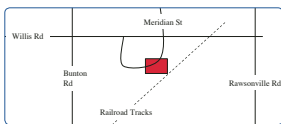
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School Board

(continued from page 1)

homestead operating purposes. Van Buren School voters approved a renewal of the 18 mills non-homestead operating millage on Nov. 8, 2011, which expires with the December 2016 levy.

A non-homestead operating millage renewal must be passed by voters before June 30, 2017, Barker said.

She said the district would lose \$9,091,374 without the 18 mills – 20% of the district's revenue.

They decided to seek the 20-mill approval for eight years so it would come back during a Presidential election when more voters turn out. Vice president Martha Toth said it was during a Presidential election that voters approved construction of the high school.

"A lot of districts have this in place," said Barker. "Gives us a little cushion ... wiggle room that we wouldn't have otherwise."

Barker said the district has been levying 18 mills for the last 10 years but fell into the rollback this year.

"This is the first rollback we've had," Toth said.

Barker said the district will receive \$7,667 per student this school year. That is \$2,045.87 from non-homestead taxes and \$5,621.13 from the state.

"We can't afford to lose \$8 million," Trustee Sherry Frazier said. "We're trying for November and if it did not pass, go in the spring."

In other business at the July 18 meeting, the board:

- Approved a Michigan High School Athletics Association resolution for a cooperative Ice Hockey Team with Huron High School in New Boston. The sport is currently not available at BHS. The agreement commences Oct. 31. Both high schools are Class A, with Huron having 886 students and Van Buren 1,747 students, according to the resolution. It will be self-funded, with a payment of \$1,000 per player. The money is paid up-front to Huron. Huron will coach the team and provides the transportation to games from the Brownstown arena where they practice. There will be varsity letters. There is no JV team. Several BHS players are already playing at Huron and they are trying to get

a big enough team to compete;

- Heard Trustee Frazier report that the attorney fees for this month are \$50,900 and the total for attorney fees is \$315,000, so far. She again stated she is against spending so much money on attorneys, which takes funds away from instruction. Later in the meeting she asked for a report on the Savage teacher situation. "We want to get a resolution"; and

- Was reminded of upcoming meetings on Aug. 8 (regular) and Aug. 15 (work/study), with a special meeting possible on July 25 to approve a contract. Also, School Supt. Pete Kudlak has set a meeting for 7 p.m. Thursday, July 21, at the BHS Commons to get public input on what parents want in a new BHS principal.

More Letters

Turn-down by council leads to surprising event

To the Editor:

My name is Bradley Manley who was attempting to hold a water show fund raiser in Belleville. Following your story you placed in the *Belleville Independent* (<http://bellevilleareaaindependent.com/promoter-of-water-show-fund-raiser-fails-to-get-approval-for-event/>), I was tracked down by Leisa D. Lessard, manager at Rawsonville Woods Manufactured Home Community, with surprising news.

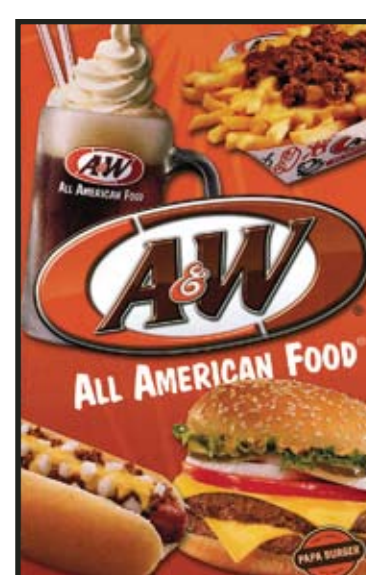
Ms. Lessard, with her blessing heart, stated: Although I cannot provide a place for a water show or a water parade, I can offer everything else that you were looking to have.

I cannot begin to tell you how surprised I was by the offer, but my only thought running through my mind was: God may not give us what we want but he gives us what we need and this must have been his answer. Ms. Lessard and I have been working to make this event successful. The current information is available at the Craig listing below and would really appreciate if could advertise the event up to the event date.

<http://detroit.craigslist.org/wyn/com/5676723207.html>

Thank you so much for printing the story. It was your action that has made this possible!

Brad Manley



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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztzman

Reg Ion dumped a pile of auto parts on the floor in front of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at Tuesday's meeting. He talked to board members about the problems with Great Lakes Towing, in back, while Fire Chief Dan Besson voluntarily picks up the mess. Chief Besson was joined by trustee candidate Sherry Frazier, and former Director of Public Safety Carl McClanahan.

Reg Ion dumps trash from vehicle accident before VBT board

By Rosemary K. Oztzman
Independent Editor

At Tuesday's meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees township resident Reg Ion dumped a big bucket of auto parts onto the floor before the seated board members.

He said this is what was left from an accident at the corner of Beck Road and the South Ecorse Service Drive where he lives. He said all this was left in the roadway when the Great Lakes Towing trucks left the scene after towing two cars.

Actually, he said, this was half of the trash left. He threw the other half away.

Ion said his son's car was impounded within an hour after being disabled at the bank next to Meijer's gas station and it was towed at a cost of \$550.

He said after this particular accident at the corner of Beck and Ecorse Service Drive his wife got a flat tire after driving there.

He told the board he talked to one of the

officers on the scene and he assured him someone would come to pick it up. No one did, Ion said.

"They got \$12,000 or more and they're not cleaning up their mess," Ion said.

He said a tire was left after an accident near CVS and it was by the side of the road for three months.

Ion said Great Lakes Towing does the towing for the township north of the freeway and the township should go out for bids since

Great Lakes charges whatever they want.

He said this is the second time he has come to the township board on this issue.

"They are charging people an arm and a leg for towing and not cleaning up the mess," Ion said. "People shouldn't have to drive through this... I've had this [trash] for three months."

He said he wasn't going to clean it up from the boardroom floor since he already cleaned it up once, but then he offered to

clean it up.

Fire Chief Dan Besson said emergency crews try to clean up the roadway as quickly as possible. He said he would talk to police officials on the issue.

Trustee Jeff Jahr said he was concerned about the exorbitant fees and he would like to see a report on that.

"I think fees should be in the contract," Jahr said. "VBT calls the towing company and they charge whatever they want?"

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Sumpter Twp. board alerted to fire hydrants covered by tall weeds

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

While the incumbent team sat at the board table, the opposing team that is challenging board members in the Aug. 2 primary election stood, one by one, in the audience to point out failings in the way the present Sumpter Township Board of Trustees was

running the township.

This was at the regular meeting on July 12, when Supervisor John Morgan opened the floor to comments.

Jay Bardell, who is seeking to unseat Supervisor Morgan, said he was inspired to talk about fire hydrants by Mary Ban's earlier comments on people indiscriminately lighting fireworks in the township when the fields of wheat were dry and coming to harvest.

Ban also was concerned about the fireworks falling on roofs and possibly burning homes. She pointed out the July 4 fires in Van Buren Township next door.

Bardell said he really appreciated Ban's comments and he, too, was concerned about fire safety. He pointed out there are 10-foot-tall cattails hiding fire hydrants along roads in the southeastern part of the township. This would hinder fire fighters trying to

save lives, he said.

Treasurer Alan Bates said the township is killing weeds around the hydrants along Bemis Road and he should just go look at the circles around the hydrants. Bardell asked if that started that day because he saw Randy at the hardware store.

Supervisor Morgan said the Water Department does an excellent job of cleaning around the hydrants so they are visible.

But, Bardell insisted all of the hydrants are not visible, which is a danger to public safety.

Trustee Matt Oddy challenged Bardell to give specific locations and Bardell said they are along Judd, Martinsville, and Haggerty on the southeast side.

"I've been on the board 12 years and every year they cut the grass around the hydrants and paint them every year," said Trustee Peggy Morgan. "Maybe they haven't got to it yet."

Supervisor Morgan accused Bardell of "grandstanding."

Oddy asked people to report it to the fire department when they see one that is overgrown so it can be cleared.

"We're a community," Oddy said, stressing everyone should work together.

Ban said people cannot spray poisons by waterways.

Lydia Graber, who is running for clerk, said she has lived at 21700 Mary Drive off Judd Road for 22 years and the hydrant in her front yard has never been cleared by the township or ever painted.

A fire fighter said the weeds are bad in the township and he has cut around three intersections himself so he can move the fire truck safely through those crossings at Karr/Arkona and Elwell north of Arkona. He was applauded for his work.

[On Thursday during paper delivery, the *Independent* noticed hydrants hidden by vegetation along Sumpter Road and Bardell brought pictures on his camera into the *Independent* office to show some of the other problem hydrants in that section of the township.]

Donald Robinson, who is running for trustee, said signs for the Bardell team have come up missing and he has reported this to the Sumpter Police Department.

"It's a violation of federal and state laws," Robinson said. "These are not idle allegations."

Graber said she is having trouble getting her trash picked up and they've missed her place for the last two weeks. She noted she was paying for it.

Supervisor Morgan told her to call Clerk Clarence Hoffman and he'll contact Republic Waste and see to it that her trash gets picked up.

[Clerk Hoffman is the only one of the incumbent board members to not be on the Morgan Team running for reelection. Hoffman was ousted from the team by a private vote of the other board members, according to reports, and his former deputy clerk, Esther Hurst, who had retired, was put on the team in his place. Hoffman is running on his own for reelection.]

Graber, who is disabled, also accused the board of being in violation of federal law by not having handicap access at township hall for the disabled with a counter cut down for wheelchair access.

"We don't have to change unless we renovated," Supervisor Morgan replied. "That's all I know." He said they would look into it.

Graber said, "It's only been 22 years that I've been trying to get it changed." She referred to federal law enacted in the 1990s.

Deb Callison, who is running for trustee, said she and trustee candidate Jane Stalmack were out campaigning and a man they talked to praised the Sumpter Police Department to the highest. He said he was speeding to get home because his wife had fallen and she called him for help. The police officer helped him and just gave him a warning for the speed.

"I've said right along we have the best police and fire departments in the state," Supervisor Morgan said.

In other business at its brief meeting on July 12, the board:

- Heard Police Chief Eric Luke give the police report. He told the story of two teens who stole a car in Sumpter and drove it to Westland. There they stole another car and drove it back to Sumpter, where police arrested them.

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with Bob Mytych



The Belleville Area Council for the Arts' Concert Lakeside series continues tonight with Brother Crow (Irish music) beginning at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. In case of rain, the concert will take place across the street inside Belleville United Methodist Church on Charles Street. The concert is free.

The Romulus Athletic Center will be holding a one-day Summer Sizzle event on Sunday, July 31, from noon to 6 p.m. at the center on Northline Road. The event is free for members and \$8 for non-members and will feature inflatable bouncers, outdoor splash pod, children's games, membership giveaways, live DJ, and free ice cream sandwiches with every entry. To learn more call (734) 942-2223 or see www.romulusathleticcenter.com

Express Tire on Belleville Road is now Express Tire & Automotive Repair, thanks to new owners Jim and Shelly Brown-Chudzinski, who closed on purchasing the Belleville business from owner Bob Memering last week. See their full page ad in today's paper for a list of their repair services, tire info, along with valuable coupons for an AC check, alignment, brake inspection, and more. Call Sales Manager Marty Clendening at (734) 697-2424 to schedule an appointment and visit their website at www.expresstiremi.com.

It's Neighborhood Bible Time July 25-29 at the Willis Baptist Church at 8687 Buntton Road in Willis. The weeklong program is geared for children in first through eighth grades. The time slot each day is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 461-0352. Teen Olympics will also be held the same week, July 24-29, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. for high schoolers. Call the number above to register. Registration is also available a half hour prior to the start of camp day.

Leo's Coney Island on Belleville Road will be closing at 3 p.m. this Sunday, July 23, to serve a memorial dinner for the family of Roy A. Sisco of Sumpter Township. The restaurant will reopen on Monday, July 24 at 6 a.m.

The schedule for the Wayne County Fairgrounds' Wayne County Fair is in today's paper. The fair is celebrating its 70th year with everything you'd expect to find at the fair, along with exciting arena events like jousting, truck and tractor pulls, a night of destruction, a mud bog, and much more. Visit www.waynecountyfairgrounds.net and call (734) 697-7002.

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

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Court Watching:

Riley bound over on charges of kidnapping, criminal sexual conduct

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

In 34th District Court Judge David Parrott's courtroom on July 13, Albert Lewis Riley, 27, waived his preliminary exam on charges of kidnapping and criminal sexual conduct – 4th degree with multiple variables in Sumpter Township on July 18, 2015.

The warrant for his arrest was issued July 20, 2015.

A special Wayne County Prosecutor told

Judge Parrott the People had no objection to the waiver.

Riley is due at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit at 9 a.m. on July 27 to face an arraignment on the information.

He is free after posting \$50,000/10% bond. His retained attorney is Jonathan Jones and officer in charge of the case is Sumpter Det. John Toth.

Rickey Lashun Tillman

Rickey Lashun Tillman, 33, waived his preliminary exam on charges of receiving and concealing a stolen motor vehicle and unauthorized driving away of a motor vehicle on July 1 in Van Buren Township.

Judge Parrott bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information

on July 20. Tillman was before Judge Parrott by video from the Wayne County Jail where he was lodged on \$20,000/10% bond.

VB T Det. Ken Toney is the officer in charge of the case.

Meagan Christin Masterson

Meagan Chris Masterson, 27, waived her preliminary exam on two charges of possession of analogues, one count of possession of marijuana, and one count of driving while license suspended, all on Sept. 1, 2015 in VBT. She was bound over by Judge Parrott for an arraignment on the information to be held July 27 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit. Her personal recognizance bond of \$10,000 was continued.

Masterson's retained attorney is Kevin Ernst and VBT Det. Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

Jimmy Kent Bentley

Jimmy Kent Bentley, 51, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of unlawful use of a motor vehicle on July 2 in VBT. Judge Parrott bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on July 27.

Bentley's court-appointed attorney is Robert Zaranek and officer in charge of the case is VBT Det. Ken Toney.

Karl Vincent Weber

Karl Vincent Weber, 26, waived his preliminary exam on charges of operation while intoxicated-3rd, driving while license suspended-2nd, and operating a motorcycle without endorsement on Sept. 14, 2015 in VBT.

Judge Parrott bound him over to circuit court to face the charges on July 27. His court-appointed attorney Frederick K. Smith reported the Wayne County Prosecutor had offered no plea deal.

Weber has been labeled a habitual offender. His personal recognizance bond

of \$10,000 was continued. Officer in charge of the case is Det. Mark Buxton.

Loretta Ann Tocco

The probable cause conference was adjourned to another date for Loretta Ann Tocco, 54, on a charge of operating while intoxicated-3rd in VBT on Dec. 24, 2015. She is labeled a habitual offender.

Her bond had been set at \$10,000/10%. VBT Det. Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

League of Women Voters information helps with ballot decisions

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County urges voters in the Belleville area to prepare for the upcoming Aug. 2 primary election by visiting VOTE411.org, the League's online voter guide.

VOTE411.org helps voters find their polling place, check voting hours, learn about ballot measures, and read candidate responses to questions for federal, state, county and local races. Information about county and local ballot proposals are also included.

Not sure which congressional or state legislative district you're in? Visiting VOTE411.org and entering your home address will give you that information right away, as well as other state and federal candidate information on this online Voter Guide.

The League's website, LWVnorthwestwayne.org, includes downloadable voter guide information, as well as videos of the recent League-sponsored candidate forums for the Sumpter and Van Buren Township offices conducted in June.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, public service organization that never supports candidates or political parties. Local residents are invited to use the League's resources to become educated voters.

Registration open for computer classes at Belleville library

Registration is open for August computer classes at the Belleville Area District Library.

Interested participants should register in person at the library between now and the day of the class. Space is limited. A \$5 deposit is required for each participant for each class they plan to attend in order to reserve a place in the class.

Topics for this round include Computer Basics, Staying Safe Online, and Google Drive. For more information contact Amy Greschaw, Adult Services Librarian, at (734) 699-3291. The library is at 167 Fourth Street in downtown Belleville.

"The rule is perfect: in all matters of opinion our adversaries are insane."

– Mark Twain

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS HIRING BUS DRIVERS

Substitute Positions \$12.50 Per Hour. Permanent Positions Starting \$15.58 Per Hour. Will Train Qualified Applicants. www.lincolnk12.org or Call (734) 484-7044
JOB FAIR
Tuesday, July 12, 2016
@ 9 am – 12 pm

EXPERIENCED OFFICE MANAGER

for self-storage facility. Part-time position (21 to 25 hours/week on average). Call or stop in for information. Taking applications now. U-Lock-It Self-Storage, 6130 Rawsonville, Belleville (Ypsilanti Township). (734) 482-1502

BILLER / TITLE CLERK



is seeking a full time Biller/Title Clerk. Experienced preferred. Great pay and benefits. Please contact Patty Phillips at (734) 697-9161 or pPhillips@atchinsonford.net

Now Hiring Experienced Waitstaff, Cooks & Bartender. Apply in Person: TIN PAN SALOON & PIZZERIA (734) 699-9070

19350 SUMPTER RD.

HELP WANTED

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

DRIVERS & O/Os. \$2000 Sign-On. HOME DAILY! Great Benefits. CDL-A. Also Hiring CDL School Grads. 888-300-9935. 7/21

SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR needed for Belleville location. Certified preferred but not necessary. Willing to train. Call Angela (248) 726-0127 7/28

LOCAL GROUND MAINTENANCE Company looking for full-time help. Zero-turn operator would help. Competitive wages. (734) 697-3600. 7/28

DRIVERS: LOCAL, No-touch Openings! \$3000 Sign-on Bonus! Excellent Pay, Comprehensive Benefits & More! 2 Years CDL-A Experience. Call Penske Logistics: 855-582-4441. 7/28

HAIR STYLIST at Bladez Hair Studio in Belleville. Commission or booth rental. Clientele welcome. (734) 697-5600. 8/4

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

Notice to Advertisers:

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





City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville Regular City Council Meeting Minutes July 5, 2016

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Absent
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Tindall	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Absent
Mayor Conley	Present

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to excuse Council Members Fielder and Loria.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Smith, Second by Tindall to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of June 20, 2016 with minor corrections.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Acting City Manager Appointment

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 16-075** to revoke Lisa Long as acting city manager and designate City Police Chief Hal Berriman as acting city manager effective upon adoption.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Annual Bridge Walk

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 16-076** to hold the 21st annual

Belleville Bridgewalk on Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in conjunction with the CBC's Taste of Belleville. The walk will kick off at Doane's Landing.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. FY 15-16 Budget Amendments

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer stated that council members would be receiving new financial reports soon. After a general discussion, Mayor Conley suggested that a decision be deferred until the next council meeting so that members would have time to examine revised financial reports that will be detailed in accordance with Council's preferences. Consensus to defer discussion and action until July 18th meeting.

D. MERS Pension Amendment for New Hires

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolutions No. 16-077 and 16-078** to amend the Municipal Employees' Retirement System Defined Benefit Plan for new hires in the police, public works and clerical departments as represented under the GELC and POAM labor agreements.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to adopt **Resolution No. 16-079** as presented to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 for a total of \$47,072.01.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: July 18, 2016

Published: July 21, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On Wednesday July 27, 2016, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:00 a.m. at **J&T Towing and Storage**, 287 Industrial Dr., Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2002	Ford	4D	1FAFP33P62W102439	16-12649
2015	Chevrolet	4D	1G11F5SL0FF178402	16-10823
2001	Saturn	4D	1G8JU52F41Y585993	16-11744
2001	Chevrolet	SW	1GBDM19W71B157814	16-10860
2001	Pontiac	SW	1GMDU23E41D237010	16-9975

At 11:00 a.m. the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd., Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2000	Chevrolet	4D	2G1WF52E1Y9366008	16-13378D
1992	Chevrolet	SW	1GNDU06D5NT129848	16-13378A
2002	Dodge	4D	1B3EL46X62N271435	16-13378B
2006	Chevrolet	4D	1G1ZS51FX6F280798	16-13378F
2000	Buick	4D	1G4HR54K2YU261924	16-13378E
1993	Dodge	SW	2B6HB21Y4PK530269	16-11184
2002	Ford	2D	1FMYU60E82UA95646	15-27001B
1999	Volkswagen	2D	3VWCA21COXM435832	16-11184
2005	Chevrolet	SW	2CNDL73F456189408	16-10046

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright, CMC
Van Buren Township Clerk
Published: July 21, 2016



City of Belleville Public Notice



POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON THURSDAY, **JULY 28, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.** at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle will be held:

1998 GMC, PICKUP, VIN: 1GTEC14W5WZ540224

DATE:	JULY 15, 2016	BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
		6 MAIN STREET
PUBLISH:	JULY 21, 2016	BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111
		BY SHERRI SCHARF, CITY CLERK



Sumpter Township Public Notice



TOWNSHIP OF SUMPTER NOTICE OF ACCURACY TEST

A Public Accuracy Test will be conducted on the following date and time for the purpose of testing the accuracy of the tabulation equipment and programs which will be used to tabulate voted ballots for the August Primary Election to be held on August 2, 2016 in Sumpter Township, Wayne County.

The Public Accuracy Test will be held on July 25, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
23480 Sumpter Road
Belleville, MI 48111

The Township of Sumpter will provide in accordance with the Disabilities Act a reasonable accommodation with advanced notice to the Clerk's Office. Candidates and other interested parties are invited to attend.

For further information contact: Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk at 734-461-6201.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish: July 21, 2016
Posted: July 11, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Attention All

Van Buren Charter Township Restaurants

If you would like to participate
in

Street Eats at Quirk Park



Summer Lunch Event

Call the Clerk's office at 734.699.8900 ext. 9293

For more information

Publish: June 30, 2016; July 7, 2016, July 14, 2016, July 21, 2016

District Library Board approves ballot language for Nov. 8 election

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The ballot language for the Belleville Area District Library proposal in the Nov. 8 election will ask for permission to bond for up to \$14 million to build a new library, which will cost taxpayers a simple average of 0.68 mill in property tax for each of 21 years to retire. A second proposal will ask for an additional .75 mill for 20 years for operation of the new facility.

Taxpayers already pay 0.7 mill for operation of the present library and that tax remains.

The unanimous, roll-call vote on the ballot language was taken at the July 12 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board. Treasurer Tonya Stoudemire was the only member absent.

The total new millage, if approved by voters, would add \$1.43 in taxes per year on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation. This

is in addition to the present \$0.70 tax per \$1,000 taxable valuation for a total tax of \$2.13 per \$1,000 taxable valuation for the library.

For a house valued at \$100,000, with \$50,000 taxable value, the total library tax per year would be \$106.50.

The new operating millage of .75 is expected to generate \$1,051,307 in 2017 of which the library will receive \$947,859 and the following will capture a portion of the revenues: Belleville Downtown Development Authority (\$18,398), Van Buren Township DDA (\$56,350), and VBT Local Development Financing Authority (\$28,701).

The bond is to construct, furnish, and equip a new building for library purposes; for constructing renovations to, furnishing and refurbishing and equipping and re-equipping an existing building for library purposes (in Sumpter Township); and to

acquire, develop, and improve sites for library buildings.

The expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.

The ballot language is due to the Wayne County Clerk by Aug. 16 and District Library Board president Sharon Peters said the board didn't want to get backed up on time, so had it on the agenda at the July meeting.

In other business at the July 12 meeting, the board:

- Heard Van Buren Township Trustee Phil Hart give a brief speech about why he should be elected VBT Supervisor, a position he said he has had his eye on for four years. He said he has the leadership qualities necessary for the position. He also said, "I am a supporter of the library";

- Viewed a presentation by architect Dan Whisler on drawings of the proposed new library that can be used for marketing of the ballot proposals. Part of the presentation was a "flyaround" drawing of the proposed library that can be linked to on the library website and used in presentations. Whisler said he is purposely not showing landscaping now because it takes away from the looks of the building. He said the building will not be exactly as the drawings show because, "Every building evolves from conceptual design to ribbon cutting";
- Heard Marketing Committee chairwoman Mary Jane Dawson invite the public to the next committee meeting at 11 a.m., July 29, at the library. The board discussed ideas for marketing the ballot proposal, including an ice cream social tentatively scheduled for 7 p.m., Aug. 24, at the library; and
- Was informed technology student assistant Taylor Clement, 17, is now on the library staff and he is being trained by Bradly Marshall who has been at the library three years and is transferring to Michigan State University this fall. The two were video recording the meeting as a pilot project with plans to link it to YouTube.



PHILLIP HART *for* Supervisor

"There are many things that are great about Van Buren Township—a place my family has proudly called home for over 33 years. However, there are pressing issues in our Township that need to be addressed. When elected Supervisor, I will work with the Board of Trustees, Directors and Staff to address the challenges we face.

For the last 19 years I have served our community as a Trustee and member of the Township Board. I clearly understand the needs of our residents and the issues we face. I understand Township government and my objectives are realistic. Unlike my opponents, I have not and will not make any unrealistic promises just to get your vote.

I have the education, credentials and management experience that are required to be an effective leader. I am ready to hit the ground running.

I would appreciate your support by electing me Supervisor on Election Day, August 2nd. Together, we can make our community an even better place to live, work and play."

—Phillip Trustee - Van Buren Township

✓ Proudly endorsed by Region 1A, UAW  ✓ Proudly endorsed by the community - 19 years

You can learn about my campaign, the issues and more by visiting www.phillipchart.com

Paid by Citizens for Phillip Hart - 12992 Lindavista, Belleville, Michigan

**LEADERSHIP
EXPERIENCE
INTEGRITY
RESULTS**

VBT upgrade

(continued from page 12)

area involved and recently additional staff was added in the Clerk's and Building Department.

He said the project is to improve the overall efficiency and service delivery to customers of the township.

In the larger part of the project, the three operations collaboratively work together to project the needed services for the wide range of customers, from residents seeking permits to business owners and potential developers.

The project also included a smaller scale renovation of the Clerk's office which provides office space to accommodate the Benefit's Coordinator's need for space and security, while improving the counter operations.

"As you can see, this effort is more than putting up more walls for offices and shuffling desks around. It is the first step in a comprehensive upgrade of the way we conduct our business," Taylor said.

"There is technology that will be integrated into our processes, a more open counter for customer convenience and reduced waiting time, and a host of other items..."

The project was being pushed forward to get it done before the fall's presidential election when the clerk's office would be very busy. There will be a \$550 per day penalty set for work that continues past the deadline, once it is set.

When the \$400,000 figure for the project was first announced, Jahr said you could build a very nice house for that amount of money.



ELECT MATT ODDY SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Make your Vote count and give me the opportunity to continue working for the residents securing a bright future in our Township.

LET MY EXPERIENCE WORK FOR YOU!

- ✓ Sumpter Twp Trustee(Incumbent) 2014 – Present
- ✓ Sumpter Twp Planning Commission. 2008 – Present
- ✓ Sumpter Twp Zoning Board of Appeals 2014 – Present
- ✓ Sumpter Twp Marijuana Committee Chair 2014 – Present
- ✓ BBA Eastern Michigan Univ. with majors in Accounting and Strategic Management

**Matt ODDY
for Leadership,
Experience, & Trust**

The John W. Morgan Team for Sumpter. Paid for by the C.T.E. to Elect Matthew Oddy, 17638 Odyssey, Belleville, MI 48111



Jackie Dalzell, right, grief coordinator at Brown Family Center, stops for a picture with Stephanie Halliday from Belleville High School after delivering five books on grieving to BHS. She also delivered five books to Huron High School.

Brown Funeral Home donates grief books to Van Buren, Huron schools

Teenagers and younger children often feel confused or shocked at the losses early in their lives, said Jackie Dalzell, grief coordinator at the Brown Family Center in Belleville.

She said it is helpful to provide resources for teens and children to respond to their feelings in the process of grieving.

The Brown Family Center, which is sponsored by the David C. Brown Funeral

Home, provides free grief services to the community.

The Center recently donated five books each to Huron and Belleville High Schools. The books are related to grief and mourning and the subject of suicide, Dalzell said.

The process of grief is different for all people, she said. No two people grieve the same, she said.

Many people take it upon themselves to "read" their way to healing, Dalzell said. Providing books to help thoughts of grief is paramount to healing, she added.

For grief support information email browngriefservices@yahoo.com or call (734) 697-5090.

Rev. Price Warner of Prudenville earns Doctor of Ministry

Former Belleville resident, the Rev. Kimberly Jo Price Warner, finished her Doctor of Ministry degree with a grade point average of 4.0 from Christian Leadership University on Dec. 7 and attended the graduation ceremony in Orlando, FL on April 16, along with her husband Dennis John Warner.

This is her sixth degree, having previously earned an associate's degree in Biblical Studies, a bachelor of arts in Biblical Studies, a master of arts in Religion in Christian Education, a master of arts in Religion in Bible, and a Master of Divinity.

She plays the piano for the Gladwin First United Methodist Church and is licensed to preach with the Assemblies of God. She is also a minister at Abundant Grace Assembly of God in Prudenville.

Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Presents

SUMPTER FAMILY FUN DAY

July 23 ~ 12 Noon - 3 pm
@ Graham Park (Sumpter & Wear Roads)

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES INCLUDE EGG TOSS, HULA HOOP CONTEST, LIMBO, PIE EATING CONTEST, POTATO SACK RACE AND A WATER SLIDE!

Sumpter Township Police Department will be having an Information Table and passing out Goody Bags. Swift Transportation will be bringing out a Semi Tractor for the children to climb and look around!

Hot Dogs • Chips • Pop • Freezer Pops • Popsicles

Romulus Athletic Center

Summer SIZZLE

Sunday, July 31st
12pm-6pm

Sizzling Savings!

Purchase or Renew a Yearly Membership on this day and receive :
One free month added on to your membership and 14 free group fitness or aquatic fitness classes!!!
FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Members: FREE
Non-Members: \$8

FREE ICE CREAM SANDWICH WITH ENTRY

Live DJ
Inflatable Bouncer
Membership Giveaways
Outdoor Splashpad
Children's Games
Indoor Waterpark

Sumpter Township
Public Notice

Sumpter Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm. Showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk C. Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustees: Oddy, Swinson, P. Morgan. Excused absent: Trustee LaPorte. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk J. Hoffman and approximately 10 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by C. Hoffman to approve Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items only:

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve warrants totaling \$105,580.99. Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, C. Hoffman, Bates, Swinson, Oddy, P. Morgan. Nay: None. Absent: LaPorte. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Parks & Recreation/Chamber Report-Swinson:

A. July 23, 2016 Family Fun Day at Graham Park at 12:00 pm, all residents invited. Food, refreshment are supplied, also fun games for the children.

B. Chamber had a Dock Party for the Strawberry Festival kick off on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 with the installation of new officers.

Motion by P. Morgan, supported by C. Hoffman to approve Parks & Recreation/Chamber Report. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Planning/Zoning Report-Oddy:

A. Location 5278 Oakville Waltz Road wanting to be rezoned to Industrial was tabled due to Applicant and his Attorney unable to be at the Planning Commission Meeting.

B. Planning Commission working on language for Zoning of the Medical Marijuana in the Industrial area.

C. Zoning Board of Appeals staying busy. Have two applications for Variance to be review this week for Accessory Buildings.

Motion by Swinson, supported by P. Morgan to approve the Planning/Zoning Report. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Attorney's Report-Young:

A. Reminder of last Board Meeting review of the Dangerous Animal changes to Ordinance. Will modify the existing Ordinance if there are no objections. Will bring to the Board to review in couple of weeks.

Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve Attorney's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Board Response:

A. Trustee Swinson spoke in regards to a question asked of him, why isn't Sumpter Township holding an open forum? Trustee Swinson clarified that on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month a Workshop is held at 6:00 pm before every Board Meeting giving Residents and Board Members time to discuss or ask questions on Agenda Items. At the Board Meeting that starts at 6:30 pm Line #4 gives the Public another opportunity to comment on agenda items and once more during Open Floor.

B. Trustee P. Morgan spoke on the 64 Employees of Sumpter Township. 99.8 % of the employees are very happy to work for Sumpter Township. The morale in the Township has never been higher. Employees work well together and are always ready to step up to the plate when short staffed. Whenever a resident comes into the Township Hall they are always greeted with nothing but kindness.

11. Old Business:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve to hire Colleen Armatis as a Firefighter. Motion carried unanimously.

12. New Business:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve 2017 Street Light Conversion Project with an upfront cost of approximately \$32,225.00. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson the Medical Leave of Absence for Michael McHenry (from Fire Department). Motion carried unanimously.

13. Announcements:

14. Open Floor:

A. Mary Ban:

1. Knowledge, consistency, and longevity important when running for a Political Office
2. Appreciation of the Township Board for listening to statements and concerns she has expressed over the years
3. Canadian trash
4. Martinsville lagoon closed
5. Community Center's handicap button system
6. Rawsonville Road closed on June 27, 2016
7. Michigan Township Booklet
8. Township employee suggestion

15. Adjournment: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
 Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Certification

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on June 28, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that the said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
 Publish: July 21, 2016



Sumpter Township Public Notice



TO THE ELECTORS OF THE
 TOWNSHIP OF SUMPTER
 WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given, that a Primary Election will be held in Wayne County Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at which time the following will be voted upon:

Representative in Congress, State Representative, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, County Clerk, County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, County Commissioner (District 11), Township Offices, Delegate(s) to County Convention, Judges of 3rd Circuit Court – Non-Incumbent Position.

Proposition P
Parks Millage Continuation
 To continue the millage authorized in 2010, shall Wayne County levy this millage at the estimated 2015 rollback rate of .2459 (about 25 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for five more years (2016 through 2020) to continue to improve and operate several parks and related facilities, including Hine Park, Elizabeth Park, Chandler Park, and improvements to municipal parks in the 43 communities as provided in an implementing ordinance through an annual allocation by commission district of the greater of \$50,000 or 15% of the total funds generated from that district, on the condition that, for any year for which this continued levy would be imposed, Wayne County must budget from other sources an amount equal to its 1995-1996 fiscal year appropriation for parks? This renewal is projected to generate \$9,865,514 in 2016. Yes or No

Wayne County Zoological Authority Renewal Millage
 The Wayne County Zoological Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 49 of 2008 and formed to allow for continuing zoological services for the students, residents and visitors of Wayne County. The laws allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax on real and personal property to provide revenue to an accredited zoological institution for this purpose. Accordingly, as a renewal of the previously approved millage authorization which expires with the 2017 tax levy, to continue providing zoological services to benefit the residents of the County, shall the 0.1 mill (10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all of the taxable property located within the County continue to be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2018 through 2027? It is estimated that if approved and levied, this millage would generate approximately \$3,940,066.55 in 2018. Shall this proposal be adopted? Yes or No

I, Eric R. Sabree, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of June 06, 2016 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows: County of Wayne, November 3, 2009, 1 mill, 2019; Wayne County Jail, August 7, 2012, 1 mill, 2021; Wayne County Community College, November 6, 2008, 1.25 mills, 2020, November 6, 2012, 1 mill, 2022; Huron School District, November 2011, 18 mills, 2017 (non-homestead only); Lincoln Consolidated Schools, November 2012, 18 mills, 2018 (non-homestead only), November 2012, .1 mill, 2018; Van Buren Township School District' August 2011, 18 mills, 2016 (non-homestead only).

ABSENTEE VOTER'S BALLOTS are now available and may be obtained from the Clerk's Office, for electors who expected to be absent from the community, physically disabled, cannot attend the polls because tenants of their religion, or are 60 years of age or older. Notice is further given that the office will be opened on Saturday, July 30, 2016 from 8 am to 2 pm the deadline for acceptance of Absentee Ballot Application in accordance with Section 168.759 of the Michigan Compiled Laws of 1948 as amended.

EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER APPLICATIONS will be issued to any registered elector at any time prior to 4 pm on Election Day if he/she shall have become physically disabled or shall be absent from the township because of sickness or death in the family, which has occurred at a time which has made it impossible to apply for Absent Voter's Ballots by the statutory deadline.

Each person voting in the election must be:

- (a) A citizen of the United states of America over eighteen (18) years of age;
- (b) A registered elector of the City or Township in which he or she resides.

Precinct Locations are as follows:

Precinct 1 & 3	Sumpter Community Center 23501 Sumpter Road (Corner of Dunn Road)
Precinct 2	Moose Lodge 45476 Harris Road (Corner of Sumpter Road)
Precinct 4 & 6	Fire Station #1 20550 Sumpter Road
Precinct 5	Bessie Hoffman School 50700 Willow Road

The Polls of said Primary Election will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on the day of election.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
 Clerk
 Sumpter Township

Publish: July 21, 2016
 Posted: July 14, 2016

Birthdays

July 17 – Sue Pieknik
 July 23 – Neil Griffin, Dee Crowe, Rachel Dobbins
 July 28 – Corrie Kucharczyk
 July 29 – Keith M. McDonald
 July 30 – Brandon Smith

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

Van Buren Township
Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 502 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, July 10:
0009 – assault & battery, Parkwood
0740 – missing person, Wildbrook Dr.
1024 – sexual assault, Denton Rd.
1131 – fraud, E. Walden Dr.
1431 – abandoned auto, Belleville/Van Born
2007 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
2138 – fireworks, Spencer Ave.
2148 – malicious destruction of property, Denton
2321 – fireworks, Savage/Martinsville

Monday, July 11:
0054 – operating while intoxicated, Lohr Rd.
0545 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Sheldon
0646 – disturbance, Westlake Cir.
0902 – agency assist, Victoria St.
1045 – loitering, N. Timberview Dr.
1223 – intimidation threat, Rose Blvd.
1246 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1324 – mental, Dellor St.
1456 – property damage accident, Bemis/Haggerty
1503 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.
1536 – property damage accident, Belleville/Quirk
1536 – suicide or attempt, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1541 – fraud, Lancaster Dr.
1617 – disturbance, Rawsonville Rd.
1801 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
2321 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N, I-94 Service Dr.
2340 – marine violation, Sumpter, cancel

Tuesday, July 12:
0925 – agency assist, Liberty/First
1106 – larceny, Lake Pointe Pass
1203 – breaking & entering, Denton Rd.
1207 – fraud, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1609 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd./Ayes Ave.
1614 – abandoned auto, Belleville Rd.
1704 – miscellaneous complaint, Van Buren Park
1809 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1815 – agency assist, High St.
2001 – juvenile complaint, Van Buren Park
2040 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2111 – dumping complaint, Quirk Rd.
2259 – abandoned auto, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.

Wednesday, July 13:
0117 – assault & battery, Maple Dr.
0551 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
0731 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1029 – fraud, Dellor St.
1218 – animal bite, Edgedale Dr.
1303 – vehicle repossession, Van Buren St., cancel
1528 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
1709 – ordinance violation, Van Buren Park
1855 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
2211 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Haggerty Rd.

2229 – property damage accident, EB I-94 / Rawsonville Rd.
2240 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.

Thursday, July 14:
0152 – malicious destruction of property, Liberty Ln.
0249 – larceny, Mida
0659 – agency assist, WB I-94/E. of Hannan
0858 – abandoned auto, Southport Bldg. 17
1247 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1315 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1442 – agency assist, Park Estates
1531 – private property incident, Van Born
1559 – larceny from auto, Ecorse Service Dr. B
1608 – abandoned auto, Jackson St.
1634 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1726 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1740 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1806 – family trouble, Jeannette Ave.
1816 – assault & battery, Mott
2026 – suicide or attempt, N. Cumberland Dr.
2210 – suicide or attempt, Parkwood Dr.
2258 – noise complaint, Parkwood Manor

Friday, July 15:
0003 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.

0009 – personal injury accident, WB I-94/rest area
0555 – vehicle repossession, Denton Rd.
0638 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr./Independence
0658 – traffic hazard, Sumpter Rd./Spencer St.
0950 – larceny, Rawsonville
1151 – fire investigation, Haggerty Rd., cancel
1407 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1553 – private property accident, Village Center Dr.
1659 – larceny, Denton Rd.
1829 – assault & battery, Hannan Rd.
1903 – property damage accident, Ecorse
1953 – neighbor trouble, Oak Ln.
2116 – juvenile complaint, Haggerty Rd.
2219 – trespassing, Van Buren Park
2259 – fire investigation, Denton Rd.

Saturday, July 16:
0204 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0305 – operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville
0317 – disturbance, Oak Ln.
0557 – traffic hazard, Belleville/I-94
0933 – larceny, Rawsonville
0942 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1104 – agency assist, Haggerty/Van Born
1151 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1207 – family trouble, Haggerty Rd.
1520 – ATV/ORV complaint, Arthur St.
1548 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1555 – private property accident, Belleville
1638 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1706 – assist fire dept., Van Buren Park
1738 – disturbance, Belleville Rd.
1851 – disturbance, Van Buren Park
2128 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
2147 – fireworks, Madison Dr./Ross Dr.
2221 – disturbance, Robson Rd.
2250 – fireworks, E. Adams
2322 – noise complaint, Peninsular Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 163 traffic stops, with 35 of those on I-94 or I-275 and one in the City of Belleville.

Belleville Police
Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 10:
0312 – E-911 cellular, High/Church
0339 – assault & battery, Henry/South
0419 – suspicious person, South/Henry
1027 – ordinance violation, St. Anthony’s
1117 – larceny, Belle Villa Blvd.
1305 – animal complaint, Astor
1349 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1411 – assist fire dept., Church St.
1440 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
1543 – larceny, High St.
2229 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
2318 – fireworks, N. Biggs Ave.
2351 – malicious destruction of property, Horizon Park

Monday, July 11:
0236 – assist fire dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.
0306 – disturbance, Potter Dr.
1329 – civil matter, Robbe St.
1352 – prisoner transport, Main St.
1538 – found property, Potter Dr.
1751 – civil matter, Robbe St.
2128 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Denton Rd.
2212 – suspicious situation, Main St.
2334 – disturbance, Loza Ln.

Tuesday, July 12:
0125 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0551 – information, Main St.
0914 – domestic assault, Belle Villa
1104 – indecent exposure, Horizon Park
1117 – vehicle lock out, Main St.
1152 – property damage accident, Main/Fifth
1802 – property damage accident, High St.
2058 – found property, Main St.
2108 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
2127 – missing person, Carmell St.

Wednesday, July 13:
0002 – assist fire dept., Main St., cancel
0001 – suspicious person, Carmell St.
0150 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
0809 – parking complaint, Pro Hardware, cancel

0808 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Santa Clara St., cancel
1106 – animal complaint, Sumpter/RR tracks
1340 – suspicious situation, High St.
1412 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1500 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1525 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1852 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
Thursday, July 14:
1134 – disorderly conduct, Third St.
1224 – miscellaneous conduct, Main St.
1221 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Owen Intermediate School
1405 – assist fire dept., Robbe St.
1621 – trespassing, Carmell St.
2334 – operating while intoxicated, Main/First

Friday, July 15:
0132 – suspicious situation, Carmell St.
0159 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
0246 – suspicious person, N. Liberty/Denton Rd.
0311 – suspicious person, Sumpter/Belle Villa
0417 -- parking complaint, Carmell St.
1558 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1653 – fraud, Main St.
1947 – agency assist, Main St.
2115 – suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.
Saturday, July 16:
0010 – juvenile complaint, Wexford Ave.
0152 – domestic assault, Church St.
0930 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1239 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.
1336 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Ct.
1422 – suspicious person, Carmell St.
2226 – follow up, Main St.
Also on this week’s log are 33 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township
Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 10:
0930 – assist other agency, 36000 bl. Willow Rd.
1156 – suspicious incident, Rustic Ln.
1217 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1229 – malicious destruction of property, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1506 – property damage accident, 49000 bl. Willow Rd.
1628 – suspicious vehicle, Sherwood/Arkona
1856 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
2028 – subpoena service, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
2149 – fireworks complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
Monday, July 11:
0049 – suspicious incident, Edgewood
0744 – suspicious incident, 27000 bl. Martinsville
0845 – malicious destruction of property, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

Tuesday, July 12:
0815 – alarm, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0824 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1543 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
1644 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1645 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1901 – ordinance violation, 18000 bl. Martinsville
1924 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2115 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
2147 – alarm, 47000 bl. Executive Dr.
2254 – violation public health code, Rustic Ln.

Wednesday, July 13:
0016 – mental health commitment, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.
0500 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
0713 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0917 – alarm, 26000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0955 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1248 – suspicious person, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1252 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1335 – traffic hazard, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1406 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1853 – suspicious incident, 22000 bl. Fenster
1939 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Arkona
2049 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2052 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2101 – down wires, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2128 – neighbor dispute, Nevada

Thursday, July 14:
0040 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0043 – traffic hazard, Oakville Waltz/Elwell
0230 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0659 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0811 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0905 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0906 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Judd
1009 – fire dept. assist, Hampshire
1134 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1334 – animal complaint, Oakville Waltz / Sherwood
1445 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1543 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1702 – death investigation, 21000 bl. Martinsville
1722 – threats complaint, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1922 – civil dispute, Nevada
1948 – suspicious incident, Edgewood
2017 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Lohr Rd.
2120 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Kozma

Friday, July 15:
0025 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0649 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
0820 – suspicious incident, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1121 – animal complaint, 18000 bl. Martinsville
1131 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1137 – alarm, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.
1227 – fire dept. assist, Second St.
1434 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1450 – traffic hazard, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1455 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1601 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2114 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
2325 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Dunn Rd.

Saturday, July 16:
0004 – noise complaint, Edgewood
0406 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0456 – disorderly person, 46000 bl. Reed
0557 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
0825 – breaking & entering report, Virginia
1314 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1346 – animal complaint, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1418 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1453 – 911 hang up, Texas
1821 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1825 – warrant arrest pick up, Nevada
1925 – civil dispute, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2150 – noise complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week’s log are eight follow-up investigations, 35 miscellaneous details, 142 patrol checks, and 28 traffic stops.

U.S. Mail burns in semi
tractor-trailer on I-94 on
Thursday, July 14

A semi tractor-trailer carrying U.S. Mail from Detroit to Ypsilanti was heavily damaged by fire in an early morning incident Thursday, July 14, on I-94 between Haggerty and Hannan roads.

Van Buren Township fire officials said the fire started around 4:30 a.m. and caused backups and westbound delays near an exit ramp at Haggerty Road until 9 a.m. when fire fighters cleared the scene. Traffic in the center and right lanes was affected.

There were no injuries, but the mail burned completely and the only thing left was the racks.

Van Buren Township Fire Department called on Romulus Fire Department for mutual aid, as well as Sumpter Township Fire Department. VBT asked Sumpter to bring its tanker truck.

The cause of the fire is yet to be determined.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztzman

Bidding a fond farewell to planning consultant Sally Hodges, center, were the members of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission and VBT staff. From left are Director of Planning and Economic Development Ron Akers, Commission Chairwoman Carol Thompson, VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd, Commissioner Byron Kelley, Hodges, Commissioner Ronald Jackson, Commissioners Medina Atchinson and Jane Franzoi, and commission recording secretary Christina Harman.

Sally Hodges steps down as consultant for VBT Planning Commission

By Rosemary K. Oztzman
Independent Editor

Sally Hodges, who has been planning consultant for Van Buren Township for 22 years, attended her last VBT Planning Commission meeting on July 13, and was presented with a special card, gift, flowers, and cupcakes by the board.

"I've had a rich time of service," said Hodges who is retiring from fulltime work at McKenna Associates, but doing a few assignments for it as she tapers off to retirement. She has been a planner for 32 years, she said.

Patrick Sloan of McKenna will take over her position with the township.

She said she first spent four years as township planner and then there was an election and she was replaced. She came back in 1998 and has been with VBT ever since.

"The community benefitted from your care and expertise," said Carol Thompson, chairwoman of the planning commission.

Commissioner Bryon Kelley said sitting next to Hodges at the commission table, when he was new, "was like having my own crib sheet. We're going to miss you."

"I don't like saying goodbye," said township Treasurer Sharry Budd, who sits on the commission. She wiped away tears.

"Sally, you're a very good planner," said Ron Akers, VBT director of planning and economic development. "You actually care about what goes on in this community."

"It's a team effort," Hodges said. She recalled that Walmart wasn't building brick buildings and VBT wanted brick. Walmart was turned back several times and, "We

got a brick building. You wouldn't fold."

She said it was one of the first projects that set the tone for Belleville Road.

"You gave us the courage," said Commissioner Joan Franzoi.

Hodges said she enjoyed her job because she got to work with the best people in the community and she tried to get both sides working together.

"I think there won't be anything we handle from now on that you haven't touched," said Thompson.

In other business at the July 13 meeting, the commission approved site plan amendments for Costco's Belleville Road facility, which has created 212 new positions plus 15-25 for Swift Transportation, a dedicated fleet. Commissioners also heard Akers' report on the Detroit Region Aerotropolis Asset Familiarization Tour, that stopped at Grace Lake (the former Visteon Village).

"I think a newspaper should be provocative, stir 'em up, but you can't do that on television. It's just not on."
— Rupert Murdoch

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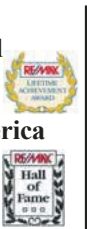
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48455 BAYSHORE, VAN BUREN

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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 \$219,900



6315 DENTON, VAN BUREN

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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.



242 CHURCH, BELLEVILLE

TRIPLE LOT AND CHARACTER-RICH with original details. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Large Kitchen, Impressive Formal Dining Room with Large Living Room, Fireplace, Hardwood Floors and Basement. This home includes, Big 3 Car Garage, Rear Deck & Fish Pond. \$245,000



65 WEXFORD BELLEVILLE

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26455 SHERWOOD, SUMPTER

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6306 HARLEQUIN, PITTSFIELD TWP

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VACANT MCKEAN 11+ ACRES	\$85,000
RAWSONVILLE & JUDD 78 AC	\$400,000
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP	
VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES	\$35,000
26455 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	\$25,000
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES	\$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC	\$29,500
ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10AS	\$59,500

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS	\$30,000 TO \$40,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES	\$180,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES	\$30,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES	\$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES	\$25,000
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
6422 GILMORE 82X165 LOT WITH WATER AND SEWER PRICED RIGHT AT	\$19,500
BOG ROAD 2.74 ACRES	\$47,500
5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES	\$31,000



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