Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, & the Charter Township of Van Buren 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111

www.bellevilleareaindependent.com

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren



Over the week end there were lots of ice fisherman on Belleville Lake next to French Landing Park.

Independent photo by James Otzman

Belleville Mayor: 'Our children are watching' all this turmoil

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At the end of Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, Mayor Kerreen Conley read a prepared statement on the turmoil in the Van Buren Public Schools.

"When it starts to affect businesses in our community ... I had to speak out," Mayor Conley said. "A lot of negative things have happened in the last couple of weeks."

Mayor Conley read: "I could not leave tonight without saying a few words about recent activities in and around our community. Because it is about our community. It's not just about a teacher, a principal, a school, an incident, a school board, a superintendent, a child, a friend, a

mother, brother, a sister or a father or a business owner. It's about each and every one of them.

"It's the frustration, expectations unanswered questions. It is about people's lives! It's about our community, the one we choose to live in,

Mayor Conley the one we are raising our children in, the one we do business in. Over the past several weeks we have seen a lot of things happen. In the incidents that involved our law enforcement officials, thank you for your professionalism and for your quick response. It does not go unnoticed.

"To the elected officials who were put in place to do their jobs, I feel for you as I understand there are limitations on what you can and cannot do. It is no easy task. Keep listening, remain professional, and when you can provide information, communicate it well.

"To the parents who have expressed their concerns, I thank you. It is clear we have a community that cares, a community that is passionate and one that demands to hold educators and administrators and elected

officials to a higher standard because they are the ones with our most precious gifts our children, my children.

"To everyone, this is a great community." I have hated to see the personal attacks on people, the suggestion to boycott businesses in this community. Let's remember that there are a lot of lives impacted by what has occurred over the last several weeks. Let's remember to respect people's differences. Let the facts, not the emotions be what guides us to good decisions.

"Our children are watching. What would you want them to see?" she concluded.

Keystone Principal Godfrey praised for high student scores

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At the Jan. 14 regular meeting of the Keystone Academy Board of Directors, Keystone Principal Keturah Godfrey was praised by the board for the high scores her students made on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) tests last spring.

The statewide scores on this new test, given during the 2014-15 school year, were released to the public on Dec. 18 by the Michigan Department of Education.

M-STEP took over the former Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) testing after 44 years.

For M-STEP, third through eighth graders sat down in front of computers to take tests in math and English language arts (ELA). In addition, fourth and seventh grade students were assessed in science and fifth and eighth graders took the M-STEP social studies test.

Also, Michigan 11th graders in the Class of 2016 took the Michigan Merit Exam during the spring testing period, including

This Space On The Front Page.

Postal Regulations Require

the M-STEP math, ELA, science and social studies assessment, along with the ACT

college entrance exam and WorkKeys.

Keystone Academy has classes from Young Five to eighth grade.

At the Jan. 14 school

board meeting, Godfrey presented a chart put

together by National Keturah Godfrey Heritage Academies that shows Keystone's average proficiency scores for grades 3-8 were 56%, and those scores were 29.3% higher than Van Buren Public Schools, 27.2% higher than Lincoln Consolidated School District, and 18.7% higher than state scores.

"I'm very proud of the students and

staff," said Principal Godfrey. She said after a lot of hard work, "... We were able to see some pretty terrific results."

She said Keystone has a number of advanced learners and the school is "incredibly rigorous" in its curriculum.

It was noted that Keystone did not receive a letter from the state questioning its high scores, such as the letter Van Buren Public Schools received, that was reported by School Supt. Michael Van Tassel.

Godfrey also reported that she had received notice from National Heritage Academies that Keystone was "top in the company" in staff satisfaction, according to the fall survey. NHA has 80 schools in nine states.

The fall parent survey put Keystone in

(continued on page 7)

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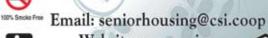
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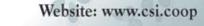


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February 4, 2016/Belleville Area Independent

COND FRONT PAG

\$87,445.98

Fire Fighters receive no benefits

\$114,917.10

Sumpter Township 2015 Employee Wages and Costs to Township

Cayce, James

Total

\$89,382.37

\$81,406.86

Ashby, John

Egerer, Elizabeth

\$119,453.44

\$118,545.33

Employee	Wages	1 Otal	Cayce, James	\$67,443.96	\$114,917.10
• •	vv ages	Compensation	Pierce, James	\$71,044.18	\$114,441.23
Elected Officials			Steffani, Brian	\$77,909.85	\$113,938.47
Morgan, John	\$33,761.54	\$46,717.73	Buccellato, Danielle	\$69,740.84	\$107,175.08
Hoffman, Clarence Jr.	\$30,712.52	\$43,624.51	Toth, John	\$77,695.09	\$97,793.77
Bates, Alan	\$24,101.09	\$30,029.22	Leonard, Jewell	\$58,169.35	\$93,520.91
Morgan, Peggy	\$22,204.28	\$36,241.86	Gottschalk, Colleen	\$62,773.64	\$91,058.33
Swinson, Donald	\$22,204.16	\$36,237.87	Salajan, George	\$71,561.18	\$87,050.88
Oddy, Matthew	\$22,204.16	\$36,235.38	Balowski, Joseph	\$66,071.72	\$86,980.98
Hamm, William	\$18,217.83	\$28,267.04	Paquette, Malissa	\$59,420.54	\$82,805.03
Laporte, Donald	\$1,808.68	\$2,976.92	Russell, Patrick	\$30,005.87	\$31,868.44
Supervisor's Office			Dufresne, Susan	\$26,245.44	\$28,354.53
Woodington, Karen	\$54,767.27	\$71,526.14	Scaglione, Joshua	\$21,524.99	\$22,866.13
-	* - · · , · · · · · ·	*,	Parise, Ryan	\$9,425.71	\$10,032.01
Accounting	¢02 520 02	\$1.46.562.04	Fire Fighters		
Glahn, James	\$93,530.02	\$146,563.04	Januszyk, Joseph	\$25,001.60	\$26,914.24
Bardell, Roxanne	\$48,961.81	\$71,389.55	Wisniewski, Michael	\$13,544.75	\$13,741.14
Assessor			Lynch, Collin	\$12,872.50	\$13,059.15
Shook, Torri	\$155.25	\$164.88	Kushlin, John	\$8,895.00	\$8,895.00
Bukis, Brenda	\$153.00	\$162.49	Sliwa, Richard	\$8,505.00	\$8,628.33
Treasurer Dept.			Kushlin, Jamie	\$6,260.50	\$6,351.28
Armatis, Karen	\$65,778.29	\$91,508.32	Montecinos, Daniel	\$6,245.75	\$6,336.31
Clerks		, ,	Laporte, Donald Jr.	\$6,094.50	\$6,182.89
	\$58,126.22	\$86,355.88	Armstrong, Timothy	\$5,719.00	\$5,801.94
Beaudrie, Maria	\$41,710.02	\$55,827.26	Laporte, Donald	\$5,588.75	\$8,646.69
Hurst, Esther	,	*	Long, Eric	\$4,908.75	\$4,979.92
Hoffman, Janet	\$18,097.16	\$19,219.20	Simmons, William	\$4,819.50	\$4,889.38
Bowman, Debbie	\$7,394.45	\$7,716.03	McHenry, Michael	\$4,774.50	\$4,843.74
Senior			Thompson, Walter	\$4,645.25	\$4,712.61
Watson, Mary Ann	\$58,646.76	\$68,045.44	Barnette, Ronald	\$4,603.25	\$4,670.00
Morgan, Richard	\$1,010.52	\$46,717.73	Stumpf, James	\$4,251.25	\$4,312.88
Watkins, Wanda	\$57,189.01	\$66,597.69	Brown, Richard	\$4,142.25	\$4,202.32
Building Dept			Akans, Garbriel	\$3,589.75	\$3,641.80
Roman, Michele	\$51,454.26	\$70,953.47	Scott, Christopher	\$2,990.00	\$3,033.36
Wright, Timothy	\$15,604.75	\$16,572.25	Hamm, William	\$2,031.50	\$2,031.50
Tackett, Jonathan	\$11,894.77	\$12,632.25	Frost, Daniel	\$2,031.30	\$1,778.93
Kemp, Jeffrey	\$95.00	\$100.89	Watson, Mary Ann	\$1,755.50	\$1,478.90
	·		Goode, Jamie	\$1,437.73	\$1,478.90 \$1,409.91
Water Dept.	¢90.070.12	¢100 022 02	Walter-Hamm, Chris	\$1,389.73 \$1,374.75	\$1, 4 09.91 \$1,394.68
Krushlin, John Kunka, Kenneth	\$89,070.13 \$76,467.71	\$108,933.83 \$106,668.64	Wisniewski, Edward	\$1,374.73	\$1,394.08
		·		\$1,190.00	\$939.93
Petrowski, Michael	\$65,994.97	\$94,800.67	Damico, Robert		
Campbell, Leroy	\$76,835.50	\$93,275.18	Spitznagel, Anthony	\$425.00	\$431.16
Lynch, Randy	\$63,765.96	\$80,715.56	Durham, Jesse	\$296.25	\$300.55
Buchanan, Sybil	\$48,929.14	\$65,807.74	Massel, Jennifer	\$135.38	\$143.77
Police Dept.			Reeves, Jason	\$102.00	\$103.48
Luke, Eric	\$94,952.16	\$136,194.00	Gay, Robert	\$51.00	\$51.74
Gannon, Patrick	\$90,200.27	\$133,425.15	Donofita include EIC	TOTAL	\$3,648,442.04
Cox, Jerry Jr.	\$86,006.92	\$131,036.88	dental life incurance and pension		
McGlynn, Christopher	\$84,574.99	\$129,284.90	Fire Fighters receive no benefits		
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Sumpter Twp. approves 3 new fire fighters, 1 fulltime police officer

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At its brief regular meeting on Jan. 26, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the hiring of three paid-percall fire fighters and one full-time police officer.

The fire fighters, who have been on the Sumpter department in the past, are Bernard Rich, Michael Beaudrie, and Shauna Spoonamore, who are approved pending their passing of physical examinations.

Rich said he had been on the fire department for two years and then had to step down, but now he's back and ready to serve again.

Beaudrie also had been on the fire department, but moved out of the township. Now, he's back in the township and ready

Spoonamore, who was not present at the meeting, was praised by Trustee Daniel LaPorte, also a fire fighters, who said she had moved back into the township. Trustee LaPorte said she has over 300 hours of training, most of which Sumpter paid for. He said she will be a good asset for the

The board also terminated employment of fire fighters Robert Gay and Nate Cornwall.

In other business at the 15-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved the recommendation of Police Chief James Pierce to appoint part-time Police Officer Patrick Douglas Russell to the position of full-time officer starting immediately:
- · Approved the specialized services operating assistance program third-party contract between SMART and Sumpter Township for fiscal year 2016;
- Approved canceling the regular meetings scheduled for March 8 and Nov. 8 because those are the same days as elections;
- · Approved paying warrants totaling \$692.258.24; and • Heard Mary Ban thank the administration
- for getting the street light fixed at Willis and Sumpter Roads. She then said the City of Belleville needs to repair some of its street lights that are out on South Street, heading south from 5 Points, and another one at a shopping center on Sumpter Road that has been out for ages. Ban also said Bemis Road, between Sumpter and Haggerty/ Savage roads, "is atrocious!" and needs to be resurfaced.

One Call Does It All At the Independent 699-9020

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Belleville Area Independent/February 4, 2016

OPINIONS

<u>Editorial</u>

Why can't the Strawberry Festival be at VB Park?

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Ruth Bleeker spoke to the board about beautiful Van Buren Park. Ruth has lived in the VBT-Belleville area for 60 years and worked for a VBT supervisor. Now she lives in the city of Belleville.

She's always thinking and was responsible for a Christmas tree being planted at the Bridge in Belleville a few years ago.

She told the board a report in the *Independent* a while back quoted Clerk Wright when he spoke about better use and attendance at the park. She said that stuck in her mind.

She remembers Detroit Edison Park that was there before it was Van Buren Park and when her family used to picnic and camp there. A beautiful, lakeside site.

She said she hears complaints about Strawberry Festival in downtown Belleville and problems with noise, parking, and use of city services for the event. Some businesses close for festival week end because it's impossible to function. She asked the board to consider moving Strawberry Festival to Van Buren Park and to formally place that on an upcoming agenda.

Supervisor Combs said she would have conversations with the city's mayor because, she said, the festival belongs to Belleville. What do you think? Would the Strawberry Festival be more fun in a grassy parkland than on city streets?

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

At about 1 p.m. Monday, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education President Brent Mikulski cancelled that evening's board meeting. He said there would not be a quorum since four board members were sick. According to reports, Martha Toth, who missed the last board meeting, said she was ill. Another board member, Kathy Kovach, said she wasn't ill, but had to attend a meeting with family members and others to plan her mother's care. Mikulski did not return my call asking who else was sick

Some of those planning to go to the board meeting, before the sick-out, decided to meet at Egan's Irish Pub instead. Others met at other locations.

I don't do Facebook. I have enough challenges keeping up with everything I need to write in the *Independent* from confirmed sources.

But, people who do follow Facebook tell me about what they see there.

After the Jan. 27 meeting with BHS Principal Madyun, I'm told Pam Johnson posted her opinion that maybe people should boycott Egan's because one of the owners spoke his opinion at that meeting. She thinks business people shouldn't have opinions, I guess.

But, I question her opinion, since she has set herself up as spokesperson for the superintendent's office. Maybe, in such a lofty position with the school, she shouldn't post her opinions.

As to Egan's, I've been advised that people are flocking to the pub in support of the owners and their opinions.

ic nt NVO

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



In a stack of documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act from the Michigan Department of Education, there is a letter to Van Buren Public Schools Curriculum Director Jeff Moore asking the district to change a part of School Supt. Van Tassel's letter posted on the district web site because "it could cause some confusion."

Jason Kolb of the MDE Office of Standards and Assessment asked Moore in a Jan. 19 email to change Van Tassel's statement in the second to the last paragraph that implies the state asked for teachers to be disciplined.

"Just to be clear, MDE only asked for letters to be sent to parents, but we do not and cannot discipline staff or instruct the district how to handle staffing issues," Kolb wrote.

Van Tassel's letter on the website has been changed to comply with the state's request.

Another FOIA'd document is from Jan Ellis, spokesperson, Communications and Process Specialist, Division of Accountability Services at the Department of Education, who, on Jan. 20, replied to a parent in an email that Van Buren Public Schools had contacted the state first on the Savage tests.

"Yes. When districts review their data, they often contact the Department for context or answers. But, as I mentioned, we also review building data for scores out of the ordinary," Ellis wrote.

She also said the state was done with the investigation and so any continuing investigation is in the hands of the district.

In response to another question from a parent, on Jan. 21, Ellis wrote, "... In regards to your questions regarding how

many schools received this request [for a selfinvestigation], hundreds of schools each year contact, or are contacted by, the department regarding testing issues. Self-investigations are requested when needed..."



Looks like the Savage self investigation was the only one that has become an ongoing "cheating" story in the Southeastern Michigan media because of the action of the superintendent who posted it on the district's website.

**

Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman confirms that his department is investigating a complaint by School Supt. Van Tassel that he was assaulted by School Board member Sherry Frazier during a discussion at the administration building shortly after 4 p.m., Jan. 28.

There was a lot of shouting by both Frazier and Van Tassel as they tried to sort out some information concerning Savage School. Frazier said she touched him on his shirt when he turned his back on her to storm out of the room. Assault?

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February 4, 2016/Belleville Area Independent

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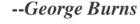
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Letters

We teach students wrong lessons ...

To the Editor:

We teach our kids the wrong lessons when we do something wrong ourselves. We teach them an even worse lesson when we don't own up to our mistakes and vow to do better.

Unfortunately, some students in the Van Buren Public Schools are learning such lessons in their own classrooms. As has been widely reported in the media, the district recently launched an investigation into the M-STEP academic achievement test scores at one of our elementary schools. The administration, along with the Michigan Department of Education, had found the results from this school were highly irregular and warranted further review.

As members of the district's Board of Education, we fully supported the investigation. The preliminary findings have unfortunately shown that several teachers in this school appear to have broken the rules by reviewing the students' answers with them and, in some cases, may even have provided them with the correct ones. This finding led to the entire school's testing data being invalidated by the state because, while many of the students earned their scores on their own, it's unknown how many may have received help through no fault of their own.

It was, without question, an extremely difficult situation for the school district to be in, as it unfairly casts a shadow over the tremendous work our teachers and students do on a daily basis. Yet, as troubling as the incident itself has been, perhaps even worse has been the reaction from members of the community who apparently believe these wrongdoings should have been swept under the rug and the teachers involved congratulated, instead of being put on administrative leave pending investigation.

This vocal minority, which shamefully includes a member of the district's Board of Education, has ignored the truth and instead has encouraged and provided a platform for anyone to make accusations and threats against others. Their agenda is shown to have more to do with politics and personal grudges than it has to do with what's best for our schools, as some have spread false rumors and called for the resignations of the people that stood up and actually did the right thing in this situation.

Their actions are nothing short of an embarrassment to this community and a terrible example to the students that are watching.

*C CA Pleasing You, Pleases Us 697-5222 As the administration works to finish their investigation and make the necessary changes to ensure that the integrity of testing is preserved in the future, we cannot afford to have an ongoing dialogue at our meetings that questions the value of the truth or suggests that cheating should be tolerated within our schools. We have to be better than that.

As members of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, we apologize to the parents of these students for what happened. They deserved better. But we are proud of the manner in which the district took immediate action to investigate and hold those responsible accountable.

It is through our actions, not our words, that we can demonstrate our commitment to teaching our students the right lesson from this experience. We are ready to do that and hope that the entire community will join us in that effort.

Brent Mikulski, President
Martha Toth, Vice President
Kevin English, Secretary
Kathy Kovach, Treasurer,
Kelly Owen, Trustee
Alison Bennett, Trustee
Van Buren Public Schools Board of
Education

This is excellent time for board to step forward

To the Board of Education: Dear Board,

I was very disappointed to hear the board meeting was canceled last night. Whether the board wants to acknowledge it or not this district faces a dire situation and most of the community needs to hear answers as to what action(s) the board is taking to address the situation.

Sadly, more teachers left this week and I understand more are planning to leave. The reputation of the district, which was questionable at best, has taken another blow with how the administration has handled recent events (M-STEP investigation failure to notify parents about the weapon at the high school, refusing to see parents -- even one who wanted to speak with him about their child being bullied at school, etc.). In the absence of being properly informed, innuendo and rumor flourish, and that is the fault of the board.

Rumor has it that one of the reasons the meeting was adjourned was to give the superintendent time to work with a PR firm he has just hired. I pay little credence to rumors and only mention the matter to ask why allow this type of information to spread by your silence to the community. This is an opportunity for this board to shine and show you are the trusted leaders we elected. Take some action to demonstrate you represent the best interests of the students and this district as a whole, and not solely the administration. Actions speak louder than words, and your actions and silence reflect the latter.

I would like to add some clarification and

(continued on page 8)

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VBEA president issues statement on M-STEP investigation at Savage

On Jan. 28, Van Buren Education Association President Marcus Hosman released the following statement regarding the recent investigation around M-STEP results in the Van Buren Public Schools.

"The Van Buren Education Association cautions everyone involved to pause before passing judgment on the investigation under way in the Van Buren Public Schools.

"Jumping to conclusions about the nature of the 'testing improprieties' or labeling the matter a 'cheating scandal' unfairly tarnishes the excellent reputations of five educators with outstanding records of serving students for 13 to 25 years.

"The Association will continue advocating for its members by demanding a fair and transparent resolution in which teachers are returned to their rightful place in the classroom."

Birthdays

Feb. 1 - Ryan McArthur, Carl McClanahan

Do you have a birthday in February? 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.



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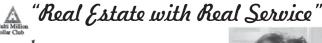
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Obituaries



Dorothy Mae Reese-Powell

DOROTHY M. REESE-POWELL

(December 28, 1953 - January 25, 2016)

Mrs. Dorothy Mae Reese-Powell passed away Monday, January 25, 2016 at Regency at Canton. She was born December 28, 1953 in Montevallo, Alabama a daughter of Gordon and Mary (Ford) Ward.

On May 18, 1995 she was married to Mark D. Powell in Las Vegas, NV moving to Belleville from Westland in December 2004. Mrs. Reese-Powell was a member of the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church of Inkster. She enjoyed watching television, especially the cooking shows and giving various recipes a try. She also enjoyed traveling the United States and Europe with her husband and family. Prior to her retirement on December 31, 2013 she had been a Registered Nurse with the State of Michigan at the Walter Reuther Hospital.

Mrs. Reese-Powell is survived by her loving husband of 20 years; Mark D. Powell. Dear mother of Terrance "Terry" Reese. She was preceded in death by her parents and 2

Visitation was held on Friday, January 29, 2016 from 4-8 P.M. at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 11:00 A.M. at the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, 821 Inkster Rd., Inkster, MI. The family received friends on Saturday at 10:30 at the church until the time of the services. Burial followed at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville

LINDA LEE McNEIL

(February 3, 1961 – January 29, 2016) Age 54, lifelong resident of Romulus. Survived by husband Brian, sons Michael and Andrew, mother, sisters and brothers. Service was Feb. 1 in Romulus. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

Keystone (continued from page 1)

the top 30 in satisfaction and several within the top 20 and top 10. She said Keystone teachers are making an effort to better communicate to the parents how they teach virtues with their "moral focus."

In other business at the Jan. 14 meeting, the board:

- Learned Godfrey was chosen to provide Professional Development to other NHA principals on developing deans;
- Applauded the Keystone Boys Basketball advance to the semi-finals and soon the finals in its league;
- Learned the Science Fair will be open for public viewing from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb. 18 and the Regional Solo and Ensemble Band Festival will be from 9





LeRoy G. Palnau

death on February 9, 2010.

(January 16, 1933 – January 31, 2016) Mr. LeRoy G. Palnau passed away Sunday, January 31, 2016 at the Villa at Parkridge in Ypsilanti. He was born on January 16, 1933 in Detroit, Michigan, a son of Gustave A. and Bertha (Nickel) Palnau. On April 11, 1953 he was married to Jennie Catherine Bileti in Detroit, Michigan moving to Belleville from Garden City in 1969. Jennie preceded him in

Mr. Palnau proudly served his country in the U. S. Army. He was a member of the Ford U.A.W. He worked as a Checker/Hi-Lo operator in the automotive industry for many years. Mr. Palnau truly enjoyed his home, his 5 acres were known as the "The Little L". With his sons he built a baseball diamond, volleyball court and a 9-hole golf course on his property. His greatest enjoyment was spending time with his family. Mr. Palnau was the loving father of 7 children; Christopher (Debra) Palnau, Mary (Bob Walthers) Palnau, David (Elsa) Palnau, John Palnau and the late Leonard, Roy and Carl Palnau. Fond grandfather of 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, one great-grandson, one brother, and one sister.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 from 4-8 P.M. at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Funeral services will be on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 11:00 A.M. at the funeral home with the Rev. Drex Morton celebrating the life of Mr. Palnau. Burial will follow services at Hillside Cemetery. The family has suggested memorial contributions to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 44110, Detroit, MI 48244 in lieu of flowers. www.hnfhome.com

a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 20 at South Arbor

- · Approved the list of board meetings for the 2016-17 school year. Feb. 4 is the date of the next meeting;
- Learned board member William Johnson does not wish to be reappointed when his term runs out May 30 because of other personal obligations. This means the board will be seeking a replacement for him on
- Reappointed Susan Meland to the board
- · Approved the recommendation to have Lia Gianatti appointed to serve on the Wayne RESA ISD Parent Advisory Committee. She has a Kindergarten student at Keystone and a younger son that will be coming to school soon;
- Reappointed Plante Moran for the 2015-16 audit: and
- Approved the appointment of CS³ Law as the law firm to represent the Keystone board for the rest of the fiscal year. LaRae Munk, Keystone's longtime attorney, has joined the law firm and the firm will continue to represent the board.

(continued from page 5)

caution about the results of the "climate survey" presented at the last board meeting. The report notes that the initiative began in the "Spring of 2015." That statement is extremely curious, as when I spoke before the board in June of 2015 and presented the idea of a climate survey, not one person in attendance seemed familiar with the concept or made any mention that efforts were already under way. Again, when I sent the board detailed information about my research on the topic and a recommended provider in August of 2015, there was no indication that a company had already been selected or that efforts were already under way. If there were, I would have appreciated the courtesy of being informed of such, so I did not waste my valuable time. Regardless, even at the August 2015 board meeting, when the topic was discussed, it was stated that the board was waiting on information from Mr. Rytman.

How can all this be true, if the school district had started the initiative back in the Spring of 2015? Again the lack of information\communication from the board is concerning.

I have reviewed the survey results in depth and was one of the few parents that actually took it. Based on the broad questions asked, it cannot be properly classified as a climate survey. It provides little useful information in regards to identifying any issues the teachers/staff or parents in the community may or may not have with the school district.

As I cautioned when I first presented the idea to the board, a survey will not provide useful and actionable information unless the questions are designed to identify specific environment issues and the individuals being surveyed are reasonably assured their identities are kept confidential. As stated, the questions themselves were overly generic. Additionally, the first questions the teachers had to answer dealt with identifying their sex (male/female), at which school do they teach, and what subject do they teach. It would not be possible for a teacher to answer those questions and have any confidence their identity would be kept confidential, thus

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rendering their answers suspect. In fact, numerous teachers have contacted me, indicating they did not feel comfortable answering the survey truthfully and only provided answers that would not make them the target of retribution from the superintendent.

If the goal of this survey was to have inaccurate results, that somehow painted a rosy picture of the current climate in the school district, then I suppose you can claim success. If not, then it was a waste of time and resources of the district and provided a disservice to the community. If you say it does paint an accurate picture of a positive environment, then how do you explain the exodus of teachers, pending law suits and mounting number of lawyers being obtained?

In a positive environment, the administration usually does not have to call, or threaten to call, the police on parents and board members. In a positive environment the administration usually does not take overt actions to embarrass staff or disrupt school and put students at risk by walking out the employees during school hours. Many students were negatively impacted by this unnecessary move.

In a positive environment, the board and superintendent would not tell the community that they cannot make public statements about a district matter, and then have the superintendent provide a detailed interview to the Free Press and to public radio on the very same topic. In a positive environment, the school board does not have to cancel a public meeting to avoid an upset community.

Lastly, I must mention that I have reviewed in detail the M-STEP investigative report findings submitted by the superintendent to

(Continued on page 9)

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More Letters

(continued from page 8)

the state. I have serious questions about the lack of detail in some areas, overly broad statements, and the heavy reliance of the statements taken from the children. Based on comments from some of the parents whose children were interviewed, the children were "confused" by the questions being asked, were asked the same question repeatedly and often couldn't distinguish between the test itself and the preparation

Additionally, not all students were asked the same question or even interviewed by the same individual. Parents were also not present, as you are well aware. I can say from professional experience, that process did not follow any of the standard rules for interviewing children, which are used to ensure statements taken are accurate and free of undue influence or coercion. Again, I would recommend that an independent investigation is conducted by the board to verify the accuracy of the findings/methods used and hopefully avoid exposing this district to additional litigation.

Thank you for the opportunity to share

my thoughts/concerns. This is an excellent opportunity for the board to demonstrate to the community that you are, in fact, passionate in your efforts to ensure the best learning environment for our children and diligently executing the duties or your elected positions. Thank you for your time. Sincerely,

Richard Rytman, Belleville

G&G Kneads Dough will be closing Feb. 9

To the Editor:

G&G Kneads Dough will be closing. Our last day will be Tues, Feb 9, also Paczki Day! Thanks so much to this community that has allowed us to serve you for 6-1/2 years.

We will miss your faces and your friendships. May God bless you all as wonderfully as you have blessed us.

You can reach us at the bakery phone for a few more weeks (734) 461-6075 or by email: gandgbakery@gmail.com .

Gina Zwiernikowski

G&G Kneads Dough bakery Willis Road, east of Rawsonville Sumpter Township

Friends of the Library set book sale Feb. 6

Attention Book Lovers!

This Saturday, Feb. 6, the Friends of the BADL (Belleville Area District Library) will be holding their first Book Sale of 2016. Not just books you can hold, but books on tape, DVDs, and CDs will also

If you are already a member of the Friends of the BADL, then you can get a head start at the sale because members of the Friends can start shopping at 11 a.m. Not a member? That can be easily remedied by becoming a member the day of the sale.

Anyone who joins the Friends of the BADL or renews their Friends' membership during the February Book Sale will receive a coupon for a free book with a paid membership.

2016 is a Leap Year and that means we all get an extra day to read!

MJ Dawson, Trustee

Belleville Area District Library Board

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• Thursday, Feb. 4 - The knitting group is back at the Belleville Area District Library. Led by librarians Amy Greschaw and Hilary Savage, the group is open to all knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, weavers, and any other fiber crafters. Group meets every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the library's tutoring room. Upcoming dates: Feb. 18, March 3, 17, 31. Information:

• Sunday, Feb. 7 - Pancake Brunch at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, hosted by the high school youth to help with the expenses of the mission trip to the Dominican Republic June 27-July 4. Pancakes, sausage, applesauce, milk and juice will be served. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for 12 and under, with kids 3 and under

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City Council approves big Ford Mercury Restorers car show

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on Monday, the Belleville City Council approved the Ford Mercury Restorers Club of America's request to hold a huge car show in downtown Belleville on Friday, July 15.

Russ Roberts, who represented the car club, said that the Return to Belleville Kickoff and Registration in the city is to prepare for the big swap meet and nonjudging car show at the Wayne County Fairgrounds the next day.

Roberts said the plan is to run the event in downtown Belleville from 4 to 9 p.m., "Just like Mondays' car shows you hold during the summer months."

City Manager Diane Kollmeyer said Main Street will be closed between Second and Fifth streets and traffic diverted at Five Points and High Street.

She said the event was approved subject to them putting up no parking signs on both sides of Liberty Street.

In other business at Monday's 55-minute meeting, the council:

- Heard a presentation by the Belleville Area District Library Board and its architect Dan Whisler about plans for a two-story, new library building in the middle of Fourth Street at Charles. The council voted to set up a subcommittee to work with the library on details surrounding the land parcels, moving of utility pipes, etc. Mayor Kerreen Conley thanked the library for "taking a step back and working with the community" after voters rejected its original plan. The proposed library building is reduced in size to 30,000 square feet and is placed in downtown Belleville, as voters wanted. Councilwoman Kim Tindall also praised the board, saying, "This clearly showed the library board listened to the people ... and came back with a great plan ... a jewel for our community";
- Held a 7:45 p.m. hearing to take comments from taxing jurisdictions only on the proposed Downtown Development and TIF Plan 2015 Amendment. Nobody spoke. A public hearing on the plan will be

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held before the council on Feb. 16;

- Heard a presentation by Bill Van Winkle seeking support for the new Belleville Area Lions Club that is being organized;
- Approved \$199,604.37 in accounts payable and departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Alice Training, \$595 for active shooter training, police dept.; to Blue Ribbon, \$3,274 for hydrant replacement, water dept.; to EJ, \$1,692.97 for hydrant replacement, water dept.; to Farmer Underwood, \$700.01 for 21AA stone, various depts..; to KCI, \$626.47 for postage for assessment notices, general fund; to Liquiforce, \$178,415.91 for SRF work, sewer dept.; to Roy & Sons Guns, \$3,599.94 for Tasers from Drug Forfeiture Funds; to R&R, \$1,260.85 for fire truck repairs, fire dept.; and to SMART, \$506.67 for vehicle repairs, from general fund; and
- Learned the next council meeting agenda on Feb. 16 will include an audit report, a financial proposal for street work, and the Strawberry Festival committee's administration and responsibility policies. When asked if it will be about the carnival location, Kollmeyer said the Chamber of Commerce has the carnival and they'll put the carnival where they want it to be.

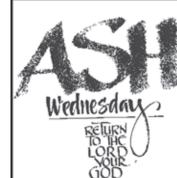
Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Monday, Feb. 8 American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Kickoff for the local Belleville relay is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Belleville High School cafeteria. All welcome. Information: Katherine Fitzpatrick at (586) 817-0478 or email Katherine. Fitzpatrick@cancer.org.
- Tuesday, Feb. 9 It's Fat Tuesday and time for the annual Italian buffet presented by the Belleville Rotary Club at the Van Buren Eagles from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12/adult, \$6/kids 12 and younger.
- Tuesday, Feb. 9 Kiwanis Club is organizing in the tri-community and meeting the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Wayne County Community College campus, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Room C-104. Next meeting is Feb. 23.

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NOTICE is hereby given that on Feb. 13, 2016 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc. S960 & 962 Terry Booth; P784 Charles Bourque; L523 Gwen Hill; F272, J614, I406 Stephen Kantos; L535 & 536 Daryl Chatman; J616 April Green; O708 Michael S. Doyle; N813 Michelle Meredith; L508 Jodi Mills; I421 Timothy Thompson; P764 Jeff Burgess, T981 Chandler Cuts And Snow; M586 Nicholis Adams, Jr.; S944 Wade Griffin; I403 Kimberly Boldin; N801 William Miller; H362 Lisa Howell. Publish: January 28, 2016; February 4, 2016

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

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

LOST

BLACK CASE w/portable DVD player inside, w/bible DVDs w/it. Lost on Judd Rd. (734) 697-8171 or (313) 978-8924 2/4

FOUND

TOOLS on January 12 on Haggerty Road near I-94. Call (734) 657-8731

SMALL FEMALE CAT wandering Edgemont/Robbe area since early fall. (734) 796-0186

FOR RENT

WAREHOUSE **FOR** STORAGE. 2,100 sq. ft. Heat available, located locally. Large entrances. (734) 697-9628

1 Bedroom APT. 1st Floor, \$595/mo. + security & 2 bedroom upper unit, \$630/mo. + security. Corner of 5th & Liberty St. Includes heat & water. 1 yr. lease. Must have good credit. No Pets. (734) 945-2409

800 SQ. FT. 1 BEDROOM apartment. No smoking, no pets. All utilities included. \$800/month, \$800/security. Doug (734) 664-9248.

FARMHOUSE. 4 Bedroom, 2 bath. Belleville area. \$1,100/mo. plus security. (734) 461-1362

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

Franklin Homes will double your TAX RETURN!

We'll match your tax return up to \$4000 as a credit when you purchase a select Franklin owned home in one of our fine communities through February 29!*

Call one of our sales associates today or visit our website for a list of homes for purchase or lease! www.FranklinHomeSales.com

Franklin

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Belleville Road just 1 mile north of I-94

Van Buren Estates 734-697-6159

3 miles south of I-94 at the Rawsonville Exit

Mohawk 734-513-4108

Joy Road between Middlebelt 📵 and Inkster

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

FOR LEASE

FOR LEASE

5 STAR PLAZA

Willis at Rawsonville Office or Retail. 1500 Sq. Ft.

Call (734) 740-7195

HOMES FOR SALE

CASH FOR YOUR HOME!

ANY CONDITION OKAY! QUICK BUY-OUTS! AERO REALTY (313) 402-0187

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



SERVICES

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

CARPET HEADQUARTERS Winter Special. Free padding w/purchase of carpet & installation. Free estimates, fast friendly service, repairs, restretching, since 1979. Phil (734) 612-7570

SERVICES

A&L SERVICES

Home Improvement & Handyman Service

Painting, Drywall, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath. **Serving Belleville Since** 1995. Call Aaron Schultz @ 734-740-0628

M.D. APPLIANCE **SERVICE**

Refrigerators • Washers Dryers • Ranges \$20 House Call

Phone (734) 782-3354

ROB'S GARAGE DOOR REPAIR LLC

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Call (734) 301-5959

FIREARM TRANSFERS

Consignments-Buy-Sell-Used-New Email: FFL48111@gmail.com

Call: 734-740-0746

THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT **NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!** (Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Quest, Inc. is HIRING in BELLEVILLE!

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes.

Applicants must be:

- Responsible & committed and work well with others.
- Have a clean criminal record.
- Be available for training. MORC/WCHO/CLS Training is preferred.

Send Letter/Resume to: recruiter@questserv.org or Call (734) 699-6543



INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

Home Heath Care Workers and Direct Care Workers Needed. Starting wage \$8.50 hour. Willing to train. Our team is motivated to provide services to the elderly in their own home. For an interview, call Golden **Home Health Care Agency in** Belleville at (734) 697-0888

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

PURPOSE OF HEARING:

HELP WANTED

ARAMARK @ Lincoln Schools is hiring part time food service employees. Please visit www.aramark.com/careers to apply. Email Thomas-karen@aramark.com with questions. A background check/drug screen is required for this position. EOE, M/F/Disability/Vet

COOKS & SERVERS needed at Huron School District. Please contact Honey (734) 782-1710.

HELP WANTED

HomeFirst Certified Community is now hiring for a full-time Maintenance Tech. Must have experience and knowledge with property maintenance, including but not limited to; snow removal, lawn care and home maintenance. Please submit resume to: augwoods@comcast.net

EXPERIENCED CARPENTERS wanted. Full-time, competitive wages based on experience. Based in Monroe County. (734) 587-3195.

HELP WANTED

LOOKING FOR A GREAT stylist and part-time nail tech to expand our team. Just finished our busiest year ever. Established over 14 years. Please call Marlene (734) 732-9295.

"Stop worrying about the world ending today. It's already tomorrow in Australia.'

- Charles M. Schulz

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**



Absent/Excused

City of Belleville **Regular City Council Meeting Minutes** January 19, 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 Pro Tem

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF **SILENCE**

2. ROLL CALL Council Member Fielder

Council Member Smith Present Council Member Tindall Present Mayor Pro Tem Loria Present Mayor Conley Absent/Excused

PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN **COMMENT** None.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

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

5. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of January 4, 2016 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

None.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL **EXPENDITURES** Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve

Resolution No. 16-003, to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Long, City Clerk/Treasurer Approved: February 1, 2016 Published: February 4, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION

CONSIDER AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 6-2-92 BY REZONING BELLEVILLE LAKE PARCELS OWNED BY VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP TO THE BELLEVILLE

LAKE SHORELINE DISTRICTS.

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, February 24, 2016

TIME OF HEARING: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE OF HEARING: Board of Trustees Room, Van Buren Township Hall,

46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Van Buren Charter Township on its own motion proposes to amend the Zoning Map of the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 to rezone those portions of Township-owned Belleville Lake parcels that are located below the 655-foot contour line (1929 NGVD) or "brow of the hill" to Belleville Lake Shoreline Districts, consistent with Article XVIC. The affected parcels to be rezoned all or in part are as follows:

Tax ID Number	Address
82-83-056-99-0013-000	N Interstate 94 Service Dr.
82-83-056-99-0014-000	Belleville Lake
82-83-073-99-0012-000	50901 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr.
82-83-073-99-0013-702	Belleville Lake
82-83-078-99-0002-702	Belleville Lake
82-83-082-99-0012-701	Belleville Lake
82-83-085-99-0023-000	Belleville Lake
82-83-090-99-0015-000	Belleville Lake
82-83-094-01-0215-000	Haggerty Rd.
82-83-095-01-0221-300	12100 Haggerty Rd.
82-83-110-99-0001-000	Belleville Lake
82-83-113-99-0008-000	Belleville Lake
82-83-117-99-0010-000	Belleville Lake

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the map of the parcels and proposed zoning district locations is available and may be examined at the Van Buren Township Department of Developmental Services, Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date of February 24, 2016. You may also contact the Department of Developmental Services with questions at (734) 699-8913. At or after the public hearing, the Planning Commission may recommend approval of the Zoning Map amendments as proposed, or as amended.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

PUBLISHED: February 4, 2016 **POSTED:** February 4, 2016 Page 14 Belleville Area Independent/February 4, 2016

Minding **Your Business** with Bob Mytych



Kellers Farm Bakery on Haggerty Road between Judd and Wear Roads is getting ready for Paczki Day next Monday and Tuesday with their traditional European recipe in flavors such as strawberry, raspberry, lemon and custard. The cost is \$12 per dozen and orders can be placed by calling (734) 753-4360. They're open Monday from 4 to 6 p.m., and Tuesday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Like them on Facebook too! The family bakery has been serving the community for more than 65 years and is open regularly on weekends only.

The 2016 Detroit Aviation & Airline Collectibles Show is this Saturday, Feb. 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport. The cost is \$5 for adults and free for children 15 and younger. Attractions and events include vendors selling airline postcard and aviation collector cards, vintage airline advertising, books, models and model kits, pins, photographs, discounted museum gift shop items and much more. The museum will also be offering discounted rides on their restored C-47 (DC-3) aircraft, Willow Run history and ramp tours, and static aircraft display. For info, call (734) 483-4030 and visit www.yankeeairmuseum.

This Sunday is the Super Bowl and Zino's Pizza, subs, and catering has everything you need for the big game, including big discount offers from their full-page ad in today's paper. They deliver, too. Call (734) 697-7999 or (734) 697-8872. They're located on the corner of Sumpter and Bemis roads.

Jackson Hewitt Tax Service located at **841 Sumpter Road** in the Belle Plaza will get you the maximum refund with accuracy that is guaranteed. Walk-ins are welcome and appointments can be made by calling (734) 732-4554 or (734) 252-2100.

BHS to open pool to the public on Fri., Feb. 19

Belleville High School will open its pool to the community on Friday, Feb. 19. Hours will be 6-8 p.m. with a fee of \$5 per swimmer. Parents swimming and parents of minor swimmers will be required to sign a waiver

'Ashes to Go' at Trinity

to enter the water.

Trinity Episcopal Church will again offer "Ashes to Go" blessings to motorists in the church parking lot at 11575 Belleville Road on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10 from 7-8 a.m. and again from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Regular Ash Wednesday services will be held at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the church.

Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

Out of the 521 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected

Sunday, Jan. 24:

0018 - robbery, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.

0216 - disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0509 - PPO violation, Outer Dr.

0514 - larceny, S. Ponderosa Trl.

0959 - intimidation threat, Hannan Rd.

1032 - assault & battery, Meadows Cir.

1200 - water leak found, Kennedy St.

1207 - breaking & entering, Rawsonville Rd.

1301 - fraud, Rawsonville Rd.

1302 - water leak found, Edison Lake Rd.

1513 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1549 - juvenile complaint, S. Woodbury Dr.

1623 - operating while intoxicated, Tyler Rd. /

1626 - private property accident, Lakewood

1727 - suicide or attempt, McBride Ave.

1751 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1919 - hospice, Marlow Ave. 1925 - private property accident, Belleville Rd.

2228 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.

Monday, Jan. 25:

0007 - assault & battery, Alba Ct.

0229 - shots fired S. Ponderosa Trl.

0248 - operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville Rd.

0323 - intimidation threat, Tyler Rd.

0640 - breaking & entering, W. Schooner Dr. / Michigan Ave.

0817 - breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1057 – private property incident, Parkwood Manor

1103 - ordinance violation, Heatherfield Blvd.

1244 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1328 - mental, Holly Ln.

1504 - fraud, Dollar General

1521 - private property incident, Country Ln.

1523 - private property incident, Waters Edge Ln.

1535 – juvenile complaint, Pebblebrook Dr.

1837 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

Tuesday, Jan. 26:

0125 - private property incident, Van Born

0507 - agency assist, Robbe

0710 - assist fire dept., EB I-94/rest area

1054 - abandoned auto, Rolan Meadows Dr. / Tyler

1217 - fraud, Rawsonville Rd.

1352 - unauthorized driving away of auto,

1653 - property damage accident, Quirk Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.

2104 - property damage accident, Quirk

2243 - assault & battery, Landmark

Wednesday, Jan. 27:

0210 – noise complaint, Village Green Ln.

0308 - assault & battery, Lake Crest Dr.

0745 - vehicle repossession, Parkwood Dr.

0829 - property damage accident, Michigan Ave.

/ Bypass 1153 – assault & battery, Elwell Rd.

1207 - malicious destruction of property, Bellevillle 1217 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1332 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.

1401 - lake complaint, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 28:

0724 - hospice, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0736 - unauthorized diving away of auto, Lincoln

0927 - private property accident, Tim Horton's / Belleville

1006 - juvenile complaint, Owen St., cancelled

1108 - malicious destruction of property, Archwood

1233 - fraud, Cedarhurst Dr.

1315 - breaking & entering, Vernon St.

1417 - dumping complaint, Tyler Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.

1438 – PPO violation, Outer Dr.

1522 - property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275

1537 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1700 - fraud, McBride Ave.

2218 - liquor violation, W. Huron River Dr.

Friday, Jan. 29:

0038 - breaking & entering, Kirkridge Park Dr.

0724 - property damage accident, Lohr Rd. / Bemis Rd.

1125 - malicious destruction of property, Haggerty

1304 - private property accident, Culver's 1330 - larceny from auto, Village Green Ln.

1338 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Beck

1629 - juvenile complaint, Jeremy Rd.

1149 - trespassing, Ormond Dr.

1642 – property damage accident, Visteon

1645 - agency assist, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.

1752 - harassment call, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1802 - mental, Haggerty Rd.

1829 - personal injury accident, WB Michigan Ave.

1837 - property damage accident, Ecorse/Hannan

Saturday, Jan. 30: 0024 – suspicious situation, S. Bellridge Dr.

0106 - suspicious situation, Beck/Ecorse

0851 - agency assist, Maple Dr.

1044 - assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

1110 - larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1155 - larceny from auto, E. Archwood Dr.

1156 - intimidation threat, Huron River Dr. 1413 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. /

Van Born Rd. 1433 - assault & battery, Birch Dr.

1458 - trespassing, Rose Blvd.

1547 - assault & battery, Birch Dr.

1706 - assault & battery, Tyler Rd.

1812 - property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.

2003 – suspicious person, office

2115 - fireworks, Gilmore St./Michigan Service Dr.

2214 - fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Also on this week's log are 209 traffic stops, with 46 of those being on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 24:

1354 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

1657 - property damage accident, Liberty

1735 - traffic complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. 2021 - suspicious person, Belleville Bridge

2230 - noise complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

2303 - suspicious vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd.

Monday, Jan. 25:

0048 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

0306 - agency assist, Rawsonville/Bemis

0345 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

1521 - traffic hazard, Chase Bank

1719 - missing person, W. Columbia Ave.

1753 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave. 1846 – noise complaint, E. Wabash Ave.

1849 - follow up, Girlstown

2344 - intrusion alarm, South St.

Tuesday, Jan. 26:

0026 - suspicious person, South St./RR tracks

0505 - suspicious person, Robbe St. 0945 - assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.

1416 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

1420 - disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave.

1445 - traffic complaint, W. Davis St./South St.

1722 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 27:

Thursday, Jan. 28:

0927 - E-911 hang up/investigation, Third St. 1105 - private property accident, W. Columbia Ave.

1106 - traffic complaint, E. Davis St./South St.

1124 - warrant arrest, Canton PD

1256 - warrant arrest, Washtenaw Co. Jail

1530 - family trouble, N. Aberdeen Ct. 2029 - assist fire dept., Carmell St.

0354 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd. 1013 - juvenile complaint, Owen St.

1116 - larceny, W. Columbia Ave.

1334 - miscellaneous complaint, Clarence St.

1614 - disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave. Friday, Jan. 29:

0133 - intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.

0155 - warrant arrest, Elwell/Willis

0237 - intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.

0402 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

1650 - assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd., cancelled

0656 - assist fire dept., Wexford Ave.

1501 - warrant arrest, Main St.

Saturday, Jan. 30: 0704 - assist fire dept., Second St. 0850 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

1005 – private property accident, Estrada Dr.

1414 – parking complaint, Church St.

1604 – neighbor trouble, Harbour Pointe Dr.

1732 - assist fire dept., Carmell St.

2150 - civil matter, Biggs Ave.

2239 - suspicious situation, Clarence Also on this week's log are 57 traffic stop.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 24:

0013 - suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd. 0100 – suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0151 - fight, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

0209 - animal complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.

0830 - animal complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.

0917 - alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1026 - animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd. 1230 - fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.

1318 - fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

1959 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd. 2206 - fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Carleton West

Monday, Jan. 25:

1105 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1232 - civil dispute, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.

1303 - warrant arrest pick up, 45000 bl. Bontekoe 1416 - alarm, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.

2046 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 46000 bl. Willis Rd. Tuesday, Jan. 26:

0558 - property damage accident, Willis/Lohr 0636 - warrant arrest pick up, 45000 bl. Bontekoe 0732 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

0902 - animal complaint, 17000 bl. Martinsville 0939 - abandoned vehicle, 28000 bl. Sherwood

0945 - abandoned vehicle, 8100 bl. Rawsonville 1340 - breaking & entering, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.

1400 - fraud complaint, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1549 - fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd. 1626 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1731 - civil dispute, 50000 bl. Judd Rd. 1914 - civil dispute, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1940 - fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Carleton West Wednesday, Jan. 27:

0302 - fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 0824 - breaking & entering, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.

1342 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1345 - civil dispute, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1644 – juvenile complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1747 - fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Carleton West

1923 - traffic hazard, Wear/Sherwood 2113 - warrant arrest pick up, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 28: 0346 - fire dept. assist, First St.

0747 – death investigation, 24000 bl. Martinsville 1158 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.

1331 - fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd. 1412 - harassment complaint, Walnut

1434 - fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd. 1444 - well-being check, 8800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1528 – death investigation, 45000 bl. Willis Rd. 1546 - mental health commitment, 48000 bl. Judd 1836 - breaking & entering, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.

0110 - operating while intoxicated arrest, Elwell

1030 - civil dispute, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1351 – noise complaint, Birch 1401 – alarm, Brookview

Friday, Jan. 29:

1411 - civil dispute, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd. 1432 – juvenile complaint, Pecan

1535 - civil dispute, Nevada 1540 - civil dispute, Redwood

Saturday, Jan. 30:

traffic stops.

1617 - family trouble, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1622 - fraud complaint, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

0523 - fire dept. assist, California 1329 - fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Judd Rd. $1730-911\ hang\ up,\,23000\ bl.$ Sherwood Rd.

2016 - suspicious person, Rustic Ln.

2034 - suspicious incident, 28000 bl. Martinsville Also on this week's log are 16 follow-up investigations. 30 miscellaneous details, 220 patrol checks, and 51

"Out of clutter, find simplicity."

– Albert Einstein

2358 - noise complaint, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.



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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION

PURPOSE OF HEARING: CONSIDER AMENDING THE TEXT OF THE VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 6-2-92 BY ADDING AN NEW ARTICLE XVIC, BELLEVILLE LAKE **SHORELINE** DISTRICTS, SECTIONS 16.01C. - 16.06C.

DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, February 24, 2016

TIME OF HEARING: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE OF HEARING: Board of Trustees Room, Van Buren

Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van

Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Van Buren Charter Township on its own motion proposes to amend The Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 to add a new Article XVIC, Belleville Lake Shoreline Districts, containing the following sections:

Section 16.01C. Purpose - The purpose of the regulations is

described.

Section 16.02C. **Definitions – Terms used in this Article**

Section 16.03C Belleville Lake Shoreline Districts - Two new

zoning districts are described (BLA and BLB) with

permitted uses and general conditions

Section 16.04C. Development Regulations - Dock location;

of measurement lake frontage; setback requirements; dock length and width; size and extent restrictions; dock and raft ownership identification and repair; boat storage devices; excavations, grade changes and earth modifications; markers or buoys; floating rafts; stairs; marinas and non-commercial multi-docking facilities; watercraft repairs; overnight

anchorage; rental prohibited; fences prohibited.

Exemptions - Activities that do not require

Township approval

Section 16.06C. Belleville Lake Shoreline District Approval

> **Process –** Activities that require Township approval; application requirements; review process; approval criteria; approval issuance; existing boat docks, structures and uses; exceptions, modifications and appeals; indemnification; obligations; penalties and

enforcement

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the complete text of the proposed amendments is available and may be examined at the Van Buren Township Department of Developmental Services, Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.pm. on the hearing date of February 24, 2016. You may also contact the Department of Developmental Services with questions at (734) 699-8913.

At or after the public hearing, the Planning Commission may recommend approval of the text changes as proposed, or as amended.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

PUBLISHED: February 4, 2016 POSTED: February 4, 2016

Section 16.05C.

For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips One call does it all: 734-699-9020 - The Independent



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43260 HURON RIVER DR, VAN BUREN UPDATED 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Belleville Lake Home with 1600+ Square Feet Offering En-chanting Lake Views, 30 ft Deck, 75 ft Boat Dock on Belleville Lake. Natural Stone Fireplace with Built In Book Cases, Super Refished Hard-wood Floors with New Carpet, Partially Fin-ished Basement, 2 1/2 Car Garage, Paved Street



40500 HARRIS, SUMPTER TWP FREE OF CITY PRESSURE Full Brick Cou try Home with 3 Large Bedrooms, Hardwood Floors, Large Bath, 90+ High Efficiency Fur-nace, Bigger Pole Barn Plus 2 1/2 Car Garage. Paved Street, 2+ Acres and this Preferred Loca-tion is Just minutes from Everwhere. Immediate Occupancy. Just Listed at \$175,000

BELLEVILLE ACRES 83X165 SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 26405 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308

BELLEVILLE LAKE

11716 JUNIPER, VAN BUREN MILLION DOLLAR Lakefront Panorar Views in this Custom Built Full Brick 4 Bed-oom, 3 Bath Home, More than 150 Feet of Lake Frontage. Home Professionally Designed for Optimum Lakefront Enjoyment and Constructed with an Unyielding Commitment to Quality. Carefully Placed One of Belleville Lake's Pre-miere Lake Lots \$495,000



12950 & 12900 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN 12950 & 12900 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN BEST LOCATIONS! 12950 Haggerty offers 9340 SQ FT with 20 foot Ceilings, Large Office Rooms, and Huge Warehouse AND 12900 Haggerty offers 8,000 Sq Ft, Plush Offices, Paved Street and Super Close to 1-94 AND 1-275. THESE HAVE IT ALL. \$750,000 each and Possible Lease at \$5.00 Sq Foot NNN

25817 SUMPTER RD .97 ACRES 26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES SUMPTER TOWNSHIP



UPDATED AND BEAUTIFULLY MAIN-TAINED Custom Built 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath 1,650 square Foot Ranch on 23+ Acres. Large Country Kitchen with Hardwood Floors, Granite Countertops, and Doorwall to your Deck overlooking Lush Farmlands plus Extra Large Second Garage. Shows like New. \$350,000



500 HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE A NEW BREW PUB? HIGHEST QUALITY! Brick Commercial building in the City of Belleville, Former florist, coffee house, and bak-

\$30,000 \$450,000 \$29,000



CORNER LOT DREAM HOME with 3 Car Attached Garage and elegant features throughout. Formal Dining Room, Great Room opens to a Huge Kitchen. Master suite offers whirl-pool tub and massive walk-in closet. Deep daylight basement has lots of space for play area, workshop area and more. \$289,000

510 SAVAGE, BELLEVILLE AUTOMOTIVE TESTING and Engineering Facility. 22,000 Square Feet of Offices, Testing

Facility. 22,000 Square Feet of Offices, Testing Labs, High Overhead Doors, Possible Proto-

Labs, High Overhead Doors, Possitive Proto-type Assembly. One of the Few Compressed Gas Filling Station, Light Industrial Zoning. Testing Equipment offered at Additional Price. Possible Land Contract Terms. \$700,000.

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

20731 GRIFFIN COURT 1.1 AC 20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC



IMPRESSIVE 4 BEDROOM 2 BATH Full Brick Country Home, Super New Kitchen with Hard-wood Floors, Countertops, Oak Cabinets, and More, Large Living Room with Fireplace and Lots of Living Space. This location is secluded yet close to shopping and main roads. Offered at \$150.00



17194 HIGDON, BROWNSTOWN IMPRESSIVE 2 bedroom 2 bathroom condo in the quaint Woodbridge Subdivision. Freshly painted quaint Woodonage Subdivision, Preshly painted and Impressive Hardwood Floors, Open Floor Plan, 2 Baths and 1 Car Attached Garage. Conveniently located close to major highways and shopping ar-eas yet far enough away to live in peace and quiet. Next to The Sultana Golf Course. \$85,000

VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES \$29,750VAN 6422 GILMORE 82X 165 LOT WITH WATER AND SEWER PRICED RIGHT \$15,900 49809 BOG 2.74 ACRES 5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES



rery with potential for immediate franchise oppor-tunity The quality, potential and design of this newer (2002) constructed building are beyond description. \$550,000 (or \$18.00 square ft - NNN)

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES VILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$180,000





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