



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 20.2 Thursday, January 9, 2014 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

Snowstorms, record low temperatures close schools, township halls

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Boy, was it snowy and cold and icy. A winter snowstorm that dropped its first heavy load last Thursday and then went into high gear again on Sunday night, closed the Van Buren Public Schools and Keystone Charter Academy for three days.

On Monday the township halls at Sumpter and Van Buren were closed, as well as the the Secretary of State's office, and many businesses along Main Street.

Besides the snow, beginning Monday, through midweek, record low, sub-zero temperatures hit the area with dangerous windchills from 25 to 40 below zero.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Van Buren and Keystone Academy schools joined more than 800 schools in Michigan taking additional Snow Days. This made the Christmas vacation for the students grow from the original 16 days to 19 consecutive days.

On Monday, the City of Belleville office was open with a small staff that grew as the day wore on. The city council meeting went on as scheduled Monday night.

Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley said that holding the council meeting as scheduled reflects on the city leadership.

"If we can't plow our streets so people can get around, it's our fault," Mayor Conley said. She noted the city plows its own streets, but the townships have to rely on the county for snow removal.

All the tri-community police departments were on duty and all the fire departments were on call throughout it all. VBT Police sent out a number of electronic Nixle alerts, as did Sumpter Police.

VBT Hall reopened on Tuesday, but Sumpter Township Hall was still closed due to "extreme weather conditions," but reopened on Wednesday.

Official figures from Metro Airport show

(continued on page 9)



Independent photos by James Oztman

On Thursday morning, the snow was slowing traffic in downtown Belleville. On Sunday night, more heavy snow fell followed by dangerously low temperatures on Monday and Tuesday with windchills that hit 45 degrees below zero.

Belleville City Council to consider Snow Emergency ordinance

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Former Belleville City Councilman Brian Blackburn told the council on Monday that he thinks it's time to revisit the idea of a Snow Emergency ordinance for the city.

The council had discussed this in the past, but never acted upon it.

He said the DPW can't clear the streets properly when people park out on the streets and the plows have to go around them leaving mounds of snow until spring.

Blackburn lives in Victoria Commons and is a volunteer fire fighter and said he sees what happens. He said people could



On Thursday, clearing the snow from the sidewalk was the first order of business for all merchants.

park in their driveways during the snow removal, but they don't.

A Snow Emergency ordinance would require that once a snow emergency is declared people had to park off the street

during snow removal or be ticketed and/or towed.

Councilwoman Kim Tindall agreed such an ordinance was needed.

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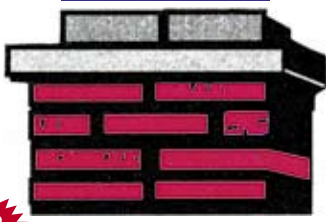


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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Library Building Committee picks up steam to hit deadlines

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Building Committee of the Belleville Area District Library met for almost three hours Dec. 30 to work on details for a proposed new building on the Department of Natural Resources/Spencer family property just north of the Belleville Bridge.

"We're going to be rocking and rolling," said architect Dan Whisler, referring to the work that needs to be done before the April 8 meeting when the district library board needs to have the proposed cost so it can approve ballot language for the August election.

Whisler had presented design options A, B, and C to the library board at the regular Dec. 10 meeting and then had refined that into a C1 option that the committee mostly approved at its Dec. 30 meeting. More tweaking is needed.

He said the point of the Dec. 30 meeting was to nominate a preferred design direction, which is C1.

He will be bringing C1 to the next library board meeting at 7 p.m. Jan. 14 for approval.

Whisler said the next steps include:

- Talking the DNR through the shoreline concept for the fisher folk. He plans to contact the DNR to set up an hour-long conference call to get their input on the design. He plans to include committee members, attorney John Day, and others in the upcoming phone call;
- Then, he wants to try to sit down with Arthur Mullen, director of planning and economic development for Van Buren Township, to start a conversation about parking requirements, detention pond fencing, and other things.
- Then, he wants to sit down with Wayne County to talk about curb cuts and other items; and
- Of course, he needs more meetings with the Building Committee and it set a meeting for 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4 and another tentative meeting for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23.

Meanwhile, Deputy Library Director Mary Jo Suchy said she will be meeting informally with library staff to explain what is planned so far and to get input.

"I want to make sure the staff is listened to..." Whisler said.

"The last two weeks in February we're cranking on developing a budget," Whisler said.

He said before he approaches the VBT Downtown Development Authority again, probably in March, he will need to get the budget developed. He said the DDA is interested in helping.

"But, they'll want to know how much ..." he said, adding he plans to have a wish list



Independent photo by Diane Madigan

Members of the Belleville Area District Library Building Committee met Dec. 30 to look over the developing plans for a new library on the DNR/Spencer site just north of the Belleville Bridge. Leading the discussion was architect Dan Whisler, second from right. From left are Michael Boelter, Mary Jane Dawson, chairwoman Joy Cichewicz, John Juriga, and, at right, Deputy Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.

for things the library can't fund, breaking out "must-do" expenses from "might-do" items.

Whisler also said he is being held up in site design because the survey of the DNR/Spencer property has yet to be finalized by Spicer Group Engineers.

"I don't know why the boundary information is taking so long ... I need it," he told the committee, noting he thought they gave Spicer the information.

He said he gave them drawings from the Wayne County Road Commission from two years ago that showed the right of way.

Spicer was granted the not-to-exceed \$10,350 contract for the site survey the first week in November and said it could do the work in four to five weeks.

Some of the details on Spicer's partial survey were questioned, but it is needed, Whisler said, "As long as they certify it with the seal and certify it is accurate."

The committee went over many details during the long meeting, including:

• **The lake elevation.** Whisler said he had the elevation at 651.5' above sea level and Mullen said it's just 650.8'. "With drought the lake might drop below that and some of these spot elevations (from the Spicer documents) might be below Arthur Mullen's water line," Whisler said, adding VBT owns the shoreline up to 655' above sea level;

• **The floodplain.** The Spicer preliminary survey notes the property primarily lies within Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Zone X, the moderate and minimal flood risk, and notes that a small

portion of the site is in Zone AE, high-risk, with a floodplain elevation of 653'. Whisler said, "Our property boundary is halfway up that bank and the contour VBT owns to is 655'." He said the floodplain is in the area VBT owns so he doesn't think it affects the library. (The information on VBT Shoreline Permits defines the township property as below the 655' contour line or brow of the hill.);

• **The design of the fishing pier.** Whisler said two decades ago the DNR proposed to the township fishing piers that went out into the lake on pilings into the lake bottom. Now, the DNR wants one-third of the 1,000 feet of lakeshore for fishing access. At first, Whisler considered a long pier along the shoreline, but now he is working on several individual fishing areas. He said he would love to have fishing along the causeway to the bridge;

• **The storm sewer.** Whisler said they have found a 48" diameter storm sewer and a 24" storm sewer both connecting to a 24" pipe where the water is coming out. "We thought it was odd. Large into small. Kind of a surprise. Why would they do that?" he asked. When he was asked if the county did that, he replied, "I assume so when the bridge work was done and the road widened... It's higher than the lake. We have to work with that." Whisler also said the Spencer in-ground pool was kind of missed by the survey done by Spicer. He said he hopes to have the completed survey by Spicer in a week or two, but he has no definite date;

• **Detention pond.** Whisler described

the planned detention pond near Belleville Road and the Bridge as "just a shallow depression that fills up with water from heavy rain, holds the water, and then slowly discharges it." When committee member John Juriga asked if it needs a fence around it, Whisler said it doesn't and he will work with VBT on that, emphasizing he doesn't think it needs a fence;

• **Pedestrian crossing.** Whisler discussed the possibility of a pedestrian crossing across Belleville Road by the satellite parking lot on the Spencer property. "We can get funding from the DDA if everyone thinks that's a good idea," he said, adding if people are coming to the library from the north, they won't want to walk all the way to the Quirk Road traffic signal to cross. He said maybe the pedestrian crossing could be closer to Harmony Lane;

• **Parking spaces.** Whisler is working with landscape architect Kyle Verseman of SmithGroup JJR on the plans. Whisler and Verseman came up with 151 parking spaces (10 set aside for the fisher folk) and the township ordinance requires 230 parking spaces, which Whisler called "crazy." He said they will have to sit down with the township and work this through;

• **Toxic waste?** Barbara Miller asked from the audience if they were going to look for toxic waste on the property and Whisler said they had soil borings done that didn't show toxic waste and didn't find any signs of fill. Juriga said the Stabnaus sold the property to the DNR 30 years ago and after that Wayne County dumped a lot of concrete on the site. He was told that was clean concrete along the shoreline for riprap. Whisler said, "We didn't bother to do anything on the Spencer lot. No cause for concern. All virgin soil, mostly clay..." Whisler said if there was any indication of a problem they would do studies, Miller said she and other longtime residents have seen dumping of building materials on that site;

• **Computers.** There is a total of 72 computers planned for public use, up from the present 25 in the current library;

• **Public art.** Miller asked at what point do library supporters go out to the big corporations to get grants for public art? Whisler told of other libraries that got grants for art. He said it will be nine months to a year from the vote to the building specifications done for a contractor and they could be thinking about art then. Miller said she was talking about art as a part of the building design, although committee chairman Joy Cichewicz said, "That's integrated art ... you can always add." Miller said she serves on the Wayne County Art Institute Authority with Hubert

(continued on page 11)

OPINIONS

Editorial

We've begun our 20th year of service

The *Belleville-Area Independent* published its first issue on Jan. 5, 1995, which means the *Independent* is beginning its 20th year of service to the community this month. In December 1994, 12 local residents threw in \$1,000 each to start a newspaper because they felt the other papers in town were biased. Our owners are Republicans, Democrats, and one who is definitely a Libertarian.

They wanted a watch dog to keep an eye on our elected officials and their spending, instead of a lap dog that published mostly news releases and the truth according to politicians and PR employees.

Most of the community welcomed us with open arms. But, the Belleville library wouldn't let us leave our papers there because the *Independent* wasn't a real newspaper. Well, after a while that idea was proven wrong. Van Buren Township decided to give us police news after the Attorney General said it had to.

One teenager said she has been reading the *Independent* her whole life and couldn't let a week go by without it.

We've been praised and punished over the years and our readers have supported us with vigor. It's been said if you are bringing an *Independent* to a reader, don't give it to him until you're done telling him what you want to say because once it's in his hand he will be reading and won't listen to a word.

We will continue to bring you local news you can't get anywhere else, as long as we can. We're working on the last months of 20 years.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I'm told Mark Procida of Grosse Pointe is the new court-appointed defense attorney for VBT resident Richard Jackson who is charged in the first-degree murder of his wife Travisteene.

Procida also is one of the court-appointed defense attorneys for Bob Bashara of Grosse Pointe Park who is charged with hiring the handyman who worked for him to kill his wife Jane.

His trial begins March 3.

Bashara presently is serving a minimum six-year sentence after pleading guilty to hiring a furniture store owner to kill the developmentally disabled handyman Joseph Gentz. Gentz was not killed, but is in prison after pleading guilty to strangling Jane.

Richard Jackson is undergoing a competency exam before proceeding forward in court.

I'm so old-fashioned. It's really hard for me to get used to calling the Belleville Lake fishermen "fisher folk." That's what the architect for the proposed new Belleville Area District Library calls them. I know it's what's politically correct because some of those fisher people are female.

If the new district library is built on the DNR/Spencer property north of the Belleville Bridge in Van Buren Township, it will have to accommodate fisher folk.

The fisher folk will have their own rest rooms in the library, accessible from the outside at the north end of the building, and the library will be responsible for picking up after them and keeping the fishing piers clean.

And, the architect said he would like the



fisher folk to be able to fish all the way from the library to the bridge causeway. Right now they get tickets if they do that.

On Sunday, Van Buren Township Public Safety Department advised residents to go to county website <http://www.compass.waynecounty.com/> for a live feed of Wayne County Road trucks to see where they are and when they are coming to your road.

We've looked at that county site before and it is interesting. Once you have located a truck on a county road in your neighborhood, you can watch it go by your house. They did do a good job in clearing the roads on Sunday/Monday.

We received an email from a Sumpter resident who doesn't wish to have his name printed. He was commenting on the man who didn't like the VBT holding cell:

"I am sorry to learn that the Van Buren holding cell accommodations are not enjoyable. Hopefully, other jails in this area will follow their lead and inmates that require a more upscale imprisonment will go outside of our community to do things that get them arrested. If traveling to an area with a nice jail is inconvenient, not doing things that get you incarcerated may be an option."

Most of us received the district library newsletter in the mail on Saturday, addressed to Occupant. The library has

started using its new mission statement and had it prominently displayed on the front of the newsletter: "Engage. Empower. Enrich."

"... Followed by a 40-word sentence detailing how that's happening," according to one of our readers.

This library stuff is "really bugging" that reader. She especially was taken with the large white text box captioned: "These Are The Words You Said Describe Your Library." She asked, "Why capitalize every word in that sentence?"

In the box there were countless words "printed in a jumble of varying sizes and shades of gray at right angles to each other."

The size indicated the number of times that word was suggested by library users.

Since Saturday was a snowy day, our reader decided to count the words. There are about 127, she said, adding her eyes gave out after a while, so she wasn't sure.

She said in very small print, at the vertical top, there's a word that was strange to her: Lagniappe. She looked it up and found it is "a small gift given a customer by a merchant at the time of purchase." "How does that describe a library?" she asked.

She said next time they look for words to describe the library, she hopes she hears about it so she can participate.



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INDEPENDENT

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Letters

District Library Board delusional about site

Dear Editor:

In my opinion, the Library Board and its myriad consultants are delusional or blowing smoke about the DNR site as a great location for our main library. I am planning an information meeting at my home for those who wish to continue to study this proposed library site. Please call my office if you seek more information about this meeting (734) 697-4455.

We must consider that the development and maintenance costs of the DNR site include but are not limited to:

- Dealing with an unstable lot, full of undesignated fill and rip rap, even perhaps toxic;
- An unstable shoreline, to be maintained into perpetuity, maintained especially for the fishing community to the DNR specifications;
- Installing water and sewer with an industrial-sized lift station (property is below grade);
- Developing a traffic roundabout or a light at Quirk Road;
- Providing parking, not only for the library patrons but also for the fishing community; and
- Developing and maintaining into perpetuity fishing piers, toilet facilities and parking for the fishing patrons, and cleaning debris from the fishing patrons. (How are these "amenities" library functions? Why should the community be burdened with these responsibilities forever?)

In addition to the development issues, the DNR site has access issues. Hundreds of high school students will be crossing the bridge to get to the Library. Our senior citizen housing is located primarily in town, not across the bridge. The vehicle traffic at that site will be horrific. It is

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already terrible.

I am hopeful that in the final analysis (i.e. bond vote), the community will reject this DNR site. In the meantime the Library Board will incur thousands and thousands of dollars of unnecessary fees from attorneys, consultants and architects as we get to that no vote.

Please attend **Library Board Meetings**
(2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.).

Express your views, ask questions. Our Library Board needs a wake-up call. In my opinion, they are, delusional about the DNR site. They bought a dream without thorough analysis.

Barbara Rogalle Miller
Van Buren Resident

Thanks to all who donated to the children

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a most heartfelt thank you to all those that donated to the 2013 Annual Children's Party.

Without the generosity of those that contributed, not only monetarily but with their time, this event could not remain the success and tradition it has become.

I would like to acknowledge the following sponsors. Not only is their kindness appreciated, but it is also admired.

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission, Mr. Nelson Po, Atlantic Welding, Mr. Alan Bates, J&T Crova Towing, David C. Brown Funeral Home, Jim Hughes Service, Kellers Real Farm Bakery, Fox Auto Parts, Burhop Collision, Brookdale Farms, Burnham & Flower, Honorable Judge David Parrott, Five Star Market, The Bake Shoppe, Wolverine Power Cooperative, Rawsonville Woods and Denmark Management, The Pumpkin Factory, Republic Waste Services, Law Office of Robert P. Young, Davenport Brothers Construction, Martin & Sons.

A special thanks also to the numerous volunteers that helped make our event a success.

Supervisor Johnny Vawters
Sumpter Township



Longtime Belleville resident Dorothy Noiseau hung her special ornament on the Tri-Community Christmas Tree next to the Belleville Bridge in the final days of 2013.

Obituaries



Richard Clifton Johnson

RICHARD CLIFTON JOHNSON

(May 20, 1952 – December 29, 2013)

Richard Clifton Johnson, age 61, passed away Sunday, December 29, 2013 at his sister's home in Belleville, MI, in the presence of his wife De-Linda.

He was born in Dearborn, MI on Tuesday, May 20, 1952 to Elizabeth and Clifton Johnson, residents of Melvindale, MI. He married De-Linda on Saturday, November 28, 1998. They are residents of Atlanta, MI.

After many years working in sales, Richard drove trucks for the last 7 years (6 years with his wife and two dogs). As a young man, he worked construction. He enjoyed playing guitar, keyboard, and writing music. He made friends across the country.

Richard is survived by his wife De-Linda Johnson (Winn) formerly of Belleville; mother Elizabeth Johnson, of New Boston; sons, Richard Johnson and Daniel Johnson; step children, Jeanella Bearden, Robert Bearden and Crystal (Robert) Roderick; six grandchildren; sisiblings, Catherine (Lester) Rich of Calhoun, GA, Ann Riggs of Brighton, MI, Christine Smith of Belleville, MI, Carey (Anita) Johnson of Rockwood, MI, and Christopher (Leslie) Johnson of Melvindale, MI; 11 nieces and nephews; and 7 great nieces and nephews. He will be greatly missed by De-Linda's family and all who loved him.

He was preceded in death by his father, Clifton Johnson and brother, Mark Johnson.

As per his wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial benefit dinner is planned.



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Obituaries



Shirley Dean 'SD' Fogg



SHIRLEY DEAN 'SD' FOGG

(April 25, 1926 - December 29, 2013)

SD Fogg, age 87, of Onsted, passed away December 29, 2013 at home. SD was born April 25, 1926 in Jonesville, MI, the son of Robert and Mary Jane (Granger) Fogg.

On November 12, 1947 he married Etta "Peggy" Welker in Angola, IN, and she survives. SD proudly served his country in the United States Navy during World War II as a Tin Can sailor. He was a master plumber for many years and a member of Local 190 Plumbers and Pipe Fitters in Ann Arbor. His dream was to build an earth home for his family, which he did.

SD was a member of Belleville Masonic Lodge, Belleville Emmanuel Baptist Church and Tecumseh Missionary Baptist Church where he was very involved and active in the church. He was instrumental in the building of many Southern Baptist Churches in the Michigan area and was very pleased to serve the Lord in this capacity. His family was a great joy to him.

In addition to his wife Peggy, SD is survived by his children, Linda (Thomas) Bitner, Christine (Ronald) Eldred and Mark (LaDonna) Fogg; grandchildren, Heather (Terry, Jr.) White, Thomas Michael Bitner, Robert (Michelle) Bitner, Jonathan (Tabatha) Bitner, Donald (Jenny) Eldred, Amanda (David) Carlisle, Eric (Stephanie) Eldred, Samantha (Andrew) Wolf and Kaitlyn (Scott) Cook; 14 great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and 8 brothers and sisters.

A Celebration of Life was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 4, 2013 at the Tecumseh Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Daniel Pann and Rev. Brian Jones officiating. Visitation was at 10 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Hospice of Lenawee. Messages to the family may be made online at www.pursefuneralhome.com.

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Ronald J. Hunter



RONALD J. HUNTER

(May 1, 1935 - January 3, 2014)

Ronald J. Hunter, 78, of Dearborn Heights passed into the hands of the Lord on January 3, 2014 after a long, courageous battle with a systemic infection.

Ron graduated from Belleville High School in 1953. He was a gifted baseball player with a scheduled opportunity to try out for a left-field position with the Detroit Tigers just before an ill-timed knee injury. He continued his lifetime love of sports as an avid University of Michigan football, Detroit Tigers, and Detroit Red Wings fan. Ron also enjoyed fishing and was a championship bowler and Little League Coach. After completing a tour of duty in Germany in service of the United States Army, Ron was employed with American Airlines for 43 years. Along with his memberships with the Moose, Eagles, and VFW halls, Ron's 50 years of annual vacations to Acapulco, created many longstanding friendships which he treasured.

Left to mourn Ron's passing are his very special friend, Judy Grace Mattlin, Lancaster, OH; brother Richard (Roberta Swaffer), Addison, MI; nephews Tim (Marla Lindeblad), Milan, MI; and Mike (Ronda Lilly), North Adams, MI; and niece Joanna, Tecumseh, MI; as well as his grandnephews Daniel and Thomas, and grandnieces Caty Ripperger (Kyle) and Camille.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ollie and Elizabeth (Brandt) Hunter.

Visitation was held on Monday, January 6, 2014

from 6-8 p.m. at Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. A funeral service was Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 11 a.m. officiated by Reverend Paul Bostwick. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Naval League or Seasons Hospice. Please sign his on-line guest book to share a memory with his family at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Blanche Ronette Mericle

BLANCHE RONETTE MERICLE

(October 6, 1917 - January 3, 2014)

Blanche Ronette Mericle, age 96, passed away Friday, January 3, 2014 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. She was born Saturday October 6, 1917 in Windber, Pennsylvania, daughter of the late Miles and Laura (Beckley) Berkey.

She has been a Belleville resident for 70 years. She was a member of the Myrtle Lodge Eastern Star and Manager of the Seaway Region Kaiser Frazer Owner Club for 38 years. Blanche was one of three women who was known as Rosie The Riveter at Willow Run Bomber Plant Factory.

She is survived by son-in-law Mark (Melissa) Dierks of Huntersville, North Carolina, neighbor David (Carolyn) Hildebrand of Belleville, Michigan, and special friend Keith Kriener of Niles, Michigan. Many thanks to all that helped Blanche.

She was preceded in death by her husband Kenneth Bernard, daughter Loralee, and two brothers.

Visitation was Tuesday, January 7, 2014 from

4-7 P.M. followed by a funeral service at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, Michigan with Pastor David Hildebrand officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Feed the Children. Please sign her on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

HOWARD MATTHEW GARDELLA

(November 2, 1983 - December 30, 2013)

Age 30, survived by a son Howard Joseph Gardella; parents Howard of Detroit and mother Ann Zimmerman of Belleville, sister and brother. David C. Brown Funeral Home. Service was Jan. 6 at Metro Baptist Church.

Ginger, Keith Bruder to teach Genealogy 101 with Mark Bowden

Belleville genealogists Ginger and Keith Bruder, with special guest Mark Bowden of the Detroit Public Library, will help local people discover their family roots in a Genealogy Workshop at the Belleville Area District Library.

The workshop will be offered on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the library program room on April 9, 23, 30, and May 7.

Space is limited. Registration begins at the library on March 24.

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Obituaries



William Conway Ashley, Jr.

WILLIAM C. ASHLEY, JR. ('BO')

(June 22, 1944 - December 31, 2013)

William Conway Ashley, Jr., ("BO"), age 69, of Belleville, passed away Tuesday, December 31, 2013 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born June 22, 1944 in Baltimore, Maryland, son of William C. & Madeline Cora (Stiltner) Ashley, Sr.

He was a member of the Belleville High School class of 1962. He was a journeyman who worked for Ford Motor Company, Horst, Aztec, and retired from Delmar after more than ten years of loyal service. He was a member of the U.A.W. Local 900, and a member of Biker's United. "BO" enjoyed riding his motorcycle, fishing, hunting, crafts, model airplanes, cooking, western movies and he loved music.

Mr. Ashley is survived by his wife of over 31 years, Martha Ashley; four children Jill Smallman, Stacy Ashley, Pam Ashley and Bill Ashley, all of Belleville; eight grandchildren and another on-the-way, a great-granddaughter Emma Lucas; two brothers Mike (Chris) Ashley of Perronville, MI, and Charles Ashley of Belleville; also numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death

by his parents.

Visitation was 1-8 PM Monday and 11 AM until noon Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, with a noon Funeral Tuesday. Pastor Gordon Moore officiated. Interment was in Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI.

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

GERALDINE L. LIEDEL

(October 2, 1932 - January 4, 2014)

Geraldine Louise Liedel, age 81, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 4, 2014 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI, held in the loving embrace of her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband Douglas D. Liedel, granddaughter Danielle Rose Bogardus, her parents Gerald L. & Agnes E. Savage, sister ShirlyAnn Shyne and brother Richard "Nick" Savage.

Geraldine is survived by her children, Rene (William) Garrity, Denise (Dennis) Schmidt, Jeffrey Liedel, Kimberly (Robert) Ross and Christopher (Diann) Liedel.

Geraldine will be remembered for more than her special chocolate chip cookies.

Though she met her husband of 55 years, Douglas, on a blind date, their vision for raising their five children was focused and engaged. Together they supported their children through scouting, church activities, swim club, school academics and activities.

Gerry's mothering skills extended beyond

her own five and many consider her Mom #2, mentor and confidant. Gerry was a Red Cross Volunteer for 20 years, fulfilling a dream that began as an LPN at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital, set aside to raise her family.

Bois Blanc Island in the Straits of Mackinac was Gerry's second home and she continued ties with many from that community. For several years, Gerry was owner/manager of the BBI General Store with Doug. On the Island, Gerry found peace and serenity with her stacks of books and sharing many beach fires, sunsets and Camp Magic Forest with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Affectionately known as Grandma Gerry or GiGi, Gerry delighted in her grandchildren: Bryan (Marsha) Bogardus, Dena (Angel) Reyes, Lee (Laura) Schmidt, Lindsay (Richard) Miller, Jared Liedel, Lanya (Ben) Hinckley, Arra (Zachary) Kidder, Asha Ross, Graham Ross and Lauren Liedel, and 15 great-grandchildren. She passed onto them all her love of reading, joy in baking and family traditions.

As a life-long resident of Belleville, Geraldine's family roots can be traced to 1833 through the lineage of Cornelius Savage, great-grandfather to Gamber Savage, her paternal grandfather. Her local connections extended beyond familial ties to the neighborhood communities of Spencer Street, the BHS class of 1950, Edison Avenue and Edgedale Drive.

Geraldine was a loyal friend and generous of heart.

Visitation will be Friday 4-8 PM and Saturday, January 11, 2014 from 11 AM-noon with a noon funeral service at David C. Brown Temporary Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Rev. Jim Walker will officiate. Inurnment will be in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Gerry be remembered for her hometown roots, joy of reading and love of animals through donations to: Belleville Area District Library, Cheboygan Area Public Library, Belleville Area Historical Society or Animal Care Fund at Belleville Animal Hospital.

Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, Jan. 9 – Keystone Academy Board of Directors, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. has been cancelled due to "lack of business."

• Monday, Jan. 13 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study session, 4 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 14 – Van Buren Township September Days Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA), 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Trustees, regular meeting, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 21 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Jan. 22 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m. On the agenda: Proposed construction for Bethany Bible Church, Tucker Insurance, and Clark gas station.

Snowstorm

(continued from page 1)

6.4" and 4.4" of snow fell in the Jan. 1-2 storm and 10.2" and .8" fell in the Jan 5-6 storm – about 11" each storm. It settled down to 16" on the ground on Monday, when temperatures plummeted and ice became a problem on the roads.

Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor said people in the city were driving with caution and there were only a few fender-benders. However, some people got stuck in their driveways, he noted.

Chief Taylor said the police department's newly painted Humvee (no graphics yet) was put into service during the storm Sunday and was ready for emergency use on Monday.

He said Wayne County Roads did a very good job clearing area roads, with the exception of Hull Road, which was covered in high snow Monday morning.

Belleville Fire Chief Loranger told the city council Monday that on Sunday evening Huron Valley Ambulance and a fire department emergency crew had to send for

the DPW to shovel a patient out of a house on Roland Street because they couldn't get to the house.

Temporary warming center

On Tuesday morning, there was a disruption of the flow of natural gas to the Archwood, Lighthouse, and Bellridge apartment complexes on the North I-94 Service Drive in VBT, with a loss of heat to the apartments.

VBT Supervisor Linda Combs invited those from the apartments to the Recreation Center at the township hall as a temporary warming center until heat could be restored to their apartments. And, heat was restored later Tuesday.

Supervisor Combs said this warming center is not exclusive to these residents and all residents without heat are welcome. She said the township recreation center is open from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and anyone is welcome to come in to get warm and, during the summer, come in to get cool.

The Senior Center, Recreation Center, Otisville/Sheldon room and Board room are available for this use, she said.

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Snow Emergency

(continued from page 1)

Councilman Tom Fielder said the threat would be “to move off the street so we can plow,” but he doesn’t think J&T Towing would want to come into such a situation.

Brian Copsey said from the audience that instead of towing, the city could “throw on a \$25 ticket.”

Councilwoman Tindall agreed that people could be warned, “This will happen if you don’t move and give them a \$25 ticket the first time and then a \$50 ticket the second time.”

She said the city uses Nixle to alert residents and could use it to declare a Snow Emergency. She said the city needs a really strong “public awareness thing,” especially about using Nixle. (Anyone can sign up for Nixle alerts without charge by going to Nixle.com.)

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Loria said some people park on the street during snow removal because they get blocked in by the snow thrown up by city plows over their driveway entrances.

Belleville Fire Chief Brian Loranger said when the county plows West Columbia Avenue at Five Points it throws slush right up over his sidewalk at his business.

“I don’t want to be a big ogre,” Tindall said, “but it’s a safety issue.”

Mayor Kerreen Conley said the council will look at Snow Emergency and other weather issues in coming meetings.

Chief Loranger said he had problems with the way the snow was removed at the fire hall. He said he had to bring equipment to the hall to remove snow because the city hadn’t done so.

He said the city’s protocol is to wait until they get four inches of snow before plowing and wait until the storm stops before plowing. He said if there is more than an inch at the fire hall it’s difficult to get equipment in and out of the hall.

He said the DPW has to remove the snow all the way up to the fire hall doors or the fire fighters have to shovel the snow themselves.

Chief Loranger said the police department had its driveway plowed by a personal service last week.

Councilwoman Tindall said maybe there should be a protocol for the DPW since the director lives out of the area and DPW workers living locally could see better what the local conditions are.

Mayor Conley said the DPW crews started snow removal at 10 p.m. Sunday.

Chief Loranger said on Sunday night, they had to get the DPW to shovel a patient out of a home on Roland Street because the Huron Valley Ambulance and fire department emergency crews couldn’t get to the house because the street was so bad.

In other business at Monday’s 28-minute meeting the council:

- Approved the 2014 Cruisin’ on the Bayou Car Show for 5-9 p.m. Mondays from June through September, with the closing of Main Street between Third and Fifth, part of Fourth and Roys Street (to the alley), and use of Fourth Street Square.

Brian Copsey said he’d like to see more nonprofits use the Fourth Street Square during the event to raise money for their projects or adopt dogs out like Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue did last summer. Chief Loranger said there was a safety issue of cars moving around on the street when it is closed down. Loria agreed those at the car show can’t walk in the middle of the street anymore because of moving vehicles. Copsey said they would address that problem;

- Approved accounts payable of \$153,684.62 and departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Argus-Hazco, \$740.40 for repair of gas monitors for the fire department; to Blue Ribbon Contracting, \$4,000 for leaf disposal; to Code Savvy, \$750 for plan review for building department; to Johnston Lithograph, \$621 for office supplies; to J&T Aggregate, \$540 for concrete removal for the water department; to Metro Environmental, \$1,213.75 for vactor service for the water department; and to R.L. Evans Electric, \$1,685 for repair/replacement of lights;

- Heard Loria say he was uncomfortable about the \$4,000 disposal charge approved that evening to Blue Ribbon for picking up the residents’ leaves. He said in Gaylord, residents bring their leaves to the DPW and dump them there. The DPW turns the pile and when it is compost, the residents can pick it up and use it in their yards. Mayor Conley said the usual problem is where to put it because nobody wants it in their backyards. Suggestions included the old skate park and the city lot next to the DPW yard where the house burned down. Loria asked the council to look at the idea to see if it’s feasible and if it could work;

- Heard the mayor thank people in the city who move snow for their neighbors, including her neighbor who hand-shoveled snow from her burned house that is awaiting repairs;

- Heard Tindall ask about the considerate amount of Board of Review refunds on the voucher list. Mayor Conley said in December the Board of Review deals with

clerical errors or those who didn’t get their Homestead Exemption when they should. Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Long said there is a new veteran exemption and one person has applied; and

- Heard City Manager Diana Kollmeyer is enjoying the warm weather in Florida during her vacation days there.

Birthdays

Jan. 1 – Reinard Heininger
Jan. 4 – Amber Laginess
Jan. 5 – Cathy Currier
Jan. 7 – Donald Currier, Jr.
Jan. 11 – Lance McArthur, Beverly Berek
Jan. 21 – Lisa Posegay
Jan. 23 – Jamie Lagi

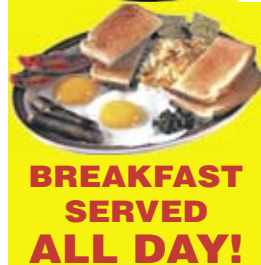


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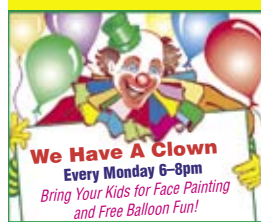
Bob and Ginny Dawson of Belleville read their Independent at their winter residence at Nettles Island, Florida – temps in the 70s.

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- Lake Perch, Fries & Pop 4pc -- \$8.99

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* Facebook: Mobile Vet Clinic with Dr. John Hermann D.V.M.

* www.mobilevetclinic.biz

* Ph (313)686-5701



District Library

(continued from page 3)

Massey who does a lot of public art. "He likes to talk to the community ... That should happen sometime early on ... The community should have the opportunity to get involved," Miller said. "The big challenge is who's going to pay for it," Whisler said. "Some put 1% aside for art ... using public money ... but you don't want the public to be critical";

• **Local History room.** Whisler said about 400 square feet, about half the size of the program room at the current library, is being set aside for Local History in the new building. "That's really sad," said Ginger Bruder from the audience. "It's not very much space to hold our past in." Bruder said the Local History room should have its own computer for a genealogist to work on in there. Whisler said if they see the need to add space to that room, they can do it; and

• **Entrance on the lake?** The committee talked a lot about having the front door facing Belleville Road and another entrance on a terrace in the back, where people could come in to get coffee or snacks in the café and then go out and sit on the steps and soak up the sun. "If we had a terrace on the children's area, we would have to have them fenced in – in a nice way," Whisler said. Committee chairwoman Cichewicz said they wouldn't be able to control materials going in and out with two doors. Whisler said they could talk to the DDA about enhancing this into more of a lake

walk and this wouldn't have to be solved prior to the bond issue. Whisler said there is a separate access for bathrooms for the fisher folk. "It's almost better not to have a door (on the lake) than making people angry because there's a door that they can't come in," Whisler said.

The building designed for Option C1 has a 26,000-square-foot footprint and 50,000 square feet of total area on two floors.

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

At 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 25, the Friends of the Library will hold their annual meeting and architect Whisler will present the latest sketches, site plans, and other plans for the new library. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served.

Sarah Jaromin makes Dean's List, earns award at Cooley Law School

Sarah Jaromin of Hudsonville made the Dean's List and earned a Certificate of Merit in Securities Regulations at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

She is a graduate of Belleville High School and the daughter of Dennis and Janet Jaromin of Belleville.

Robin sighting: -12 degrees

Pastor John Losen called in a robin sighting at 10:34 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7. Pastor Losen said a robin with a bright red breast was sitting out in the big tree in his backyard on Hannan Road in Van Buren Township. The temperature was 12 degrees below zero.

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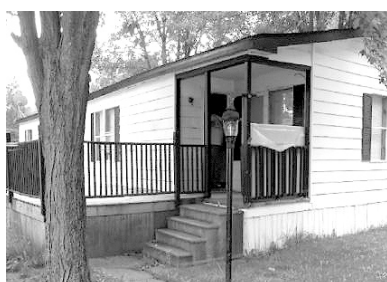


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Understanding the Law



By Jason Goldman, Esq.
and Bryan Suliman, Esq.

Goldman Suliman, PLLC, is a Belleville law firm that was started by Jason Goldman and Bryan Suliman in order to serve the Belleville-area community. In this and future articles we will be covering legal issues commonly faced by Belleville-area residents. Our goal is to help you better understand the law.

Now that the holiday season is behind us, it's only appropriate that we discuss something drastically less festive: taxes. This article will provide you with some general information to assist you in challenging your property tax assessment. In short, we are trying to help you save money. Since each township has its own specific procedures, the information that we are providing you with may vary depending on your municipality.

In Michigan, the General Property Tax Act provides for the establishment of boards of review for cities and townships. One of the board's primary functions is to hear appeals from taxpayers who want to challenge the values of their property as set forth in the notices of assessment that are sent to each individual taxpayer.

The board of review must meet on the second Monday in March, unless the legislative body of the city or township states otherwise. The city or township board of review must meet a total of at least 12 hours during the week beginning the second Monday in March to hear taxpayer protests. After the hearing, the board of review may decide to change the assessed value or tentative taxable value of the challenged property.

Your township or city may allow you to file a protest before the board of review by letter and without a personal appearance. The township or city assessing officer must include a statement notifying you of the option to appear before the board of review by letter in the assessment notice sent out to you. You can certainly retain an attorney to handle this entire process for you.

If you would like further information regarding this issue, or any other issues that you are having, please contact us at (734) 699-7360.

GOLDMAN | SULIMAN, PLLC
ATTORNEYS

287 INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE
BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111
TELEPHONE (734) 699-7360
FAX (734) 699-7365

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"The fact that man knows right from wrong proves his intellectual superiority to other creatures; but the fact that he can do wrong proves his moral inferiority to any creature that cannot."

— Mark Twain

Van Buren Area Little League sets registration dates for upcoming season

The Van Buren Area Little League (VBALL) has set the following walk-in registration dates for the 2014 season:

- Saturday, Jan. 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Van Buren Township Hall;
- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 6-8 p.m., McBride Middle School;
- Saturday, Jan. 25, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Van Buren Township Hall;
- Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6-8 p.m., McBride Middle School;
- Saturday, Feb. 8, Van Buren Township Hall, 3:30-5:30 p.m.;
- Wednesday, Feb. 12, 6-8 p.m., McBride Middle School;
- Saturday, Feb. 22, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Van Buren Township Hall; and
- Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6-8 p.m., McBride Middle School.

Fees are:

- T-Ball (Boys and Girls, ages 4-6), \$40;
- Coach pitch (Baseball/Softball, ages 7-8), \$80;
- Minors (Baseball and Softball, ages 9-10), \$110; and
- Majors (Baseball and Softball, ages 11-12), \$120.

Mail in registrations to: VBALL, P.O. Box 95, Belleville, MI 48112.

Or, go on line to www.VanBurenAreaLittleLeague.org (Blue Sombra).

Make checks payable to Van Buren Area Little League or VBALL. Please bring a photocopy of the child's birth certificate for registration.

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Rawsonville Woods, a manufactured home community located on Rawsonville Road a few miles south of Willis Road in Sumpter Township, is offering first month rent free to qualified applicants on homes as low as \$1, and \$100 discounts on site rent. Rental homes are available from \$600 a month. Applicants with bad credit, bankruptcy, and foreclosure are welcome. See their ad in today's paper for a coupon for \$50 off your closing costs. For info, call Donna at (734) 461-6700.

The **Lunch Box** on Main Street in Downtown Belleville announces \$5 lunch deals every Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dine-in only. See their ad in today's paper for the menu lineup. The Lunch Box also offers a huge selection of gourmet sandwiches, burgers, wraps, salads, homemade soups, cakes, floats, milkshakes, and old-fashioned sodas. They will even deliver with a \$7 minimum. Their ad also features a coupon for free delivery. To order, call (734) 391-8281.

The **Belleville Area Museum** presents **Third Thursday Lecture Series** kick-off on Jan. 16, at 6:30 p.m. with **Lost Detroit Photographer Sean Doerr**, who will present historical and current photographs of Detroit's grand architecture. Pizza and light refreshments will be served beginning at 6 p.m. and RSVP is encouraged. Call 697-1944.

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 includes children under the age of 18 living with
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any
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 of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that
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 at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone
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HELP WANTED

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, Dec. 29:
0004 – harassment call, Maple Dr.
0106 – fight, W. Huron River Dr.
0108 – assault & battery, Meadows Ln.
0504 – suspicious person, S. Bellridge Dr.
0604 – property damage accident, Bemis/Lohr
0816 – hospice, Jackson St.
1013 – shots fired, Rawsonville/Snow
1125 – property damage accident, South/Wabash
1232 – mental, Anna Dr.
1251 – ordinance violation, Sumpter/Hull
1540 – shots fired, Old Denton/s. I-94 Service
1732 – hospice, Van Buren Ct.
1925 – assault & battery, Stonebridge Dr.
2030 – fraud, Belleville Rd.

Monday, Dec. 30:
0811 – assault & battery, Victoria St.
0949 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
1005 – back check complaint, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1056 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
1232 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1509 – malicious destruction of property, no location given
1805 – fraud, Marlowe Ave.
1815 – assault & battery, Rogers Ave.
1948 – fraud, Rawsonville
2030 – harassment call, Maple Dr.
2043 – suicide/or attempt, Country Walk Blvd.

Tuesday, Dec. 31:
0018 – noise complaint, Meadows Circle
0045 – ATV/ORV complaint, Hull Rd.
0326 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
0652 – assault & battery, Parkside Dr.
0756 – holdup alarm, no location given
1144 – holdup alarm, Belleville Rd.
1441 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1457 – assault & battery, Lake Villa Dr.
1502 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1606 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1620 – larceny, Richard Run
1630 – driving under the influence of liquor, W. Sadie Ln.
1650 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1652 – mental, Tyler Rd.
1816 – shots fired, Tavistock Dr.
1855 – shots fired, Lohr
2357 – disturbance, Belleville

Wednesday, Jan. 1:
0004 – shots fired, N. Ponderosa Trl.
0013 – disturbance, S. Bellridge Dr.
0026 – shots fired, Tyler Rd./Lancaster Dr.
0024 – suspicious situation, Maurice Dr.
0041 – fireworks, Jewell Ave.
0059 – breaking & entering, Westlake
0103 – assault & battery, Beckley Rd.
0146 – assault & battery, Lake Villa Dr.
0149 – agency assist, Lake Villa Dr.
0206 – agency assist, WB I-94/Haggerty
0255 – noise complaint, Lighthouse Dr.
0326 – breaking & entering, 11520 Beckley
0338 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Denton
0354 – assault & battery, Brandi
0425 – fight, Park Estates
0449 – assault & battery, Brandi
0507 – intimidation threat, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1412 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1523 – domestic violence, Lighthouse Dr.
2003 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2111 – agency assist, WB I-94/Belleville
2116 – property damage accident, WB I-94 /

Rawsonville
2129 – assault & battery, Vista Dr.
2137 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
Thursday, Jan. 2:
0002 – harassment call, Village Green Ln.
0632 – holdup alarm, Belleville Rd.
0838 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service
1005 – suspicious person, Westlake
1046 – property damage accident, S. Service / Lodge Lanes
1248 – property damage accident, Belleville / Applebee’s
1320 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
1437 – property damage accident, Van Buren St.
1803 – personal injury accident, EB I-94 /

Rawsonville
2000 – property damage accident, Michigan/Dellor
2026 – property damage accident, EB I-94 /
Belleville
2032 – water leak found, Sonrisa
2137 – property damage accident, NB I-275 /
Ecorse
2305 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / bypass
2348 – property damage accident, Michigan /
Denton
Friday, Jan. 3:
0109 – larceny, Van Born
0206 – ATV/ORV complaint, Hull Rd.
0206 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0303 – water leak found, Parkwood
0536 – property damage accident, Arborview Ln.
0553 – property damage accident, Michigan /

bypass
0819 – larceny from auto, Country Walk Blvd.
0834 – private property accident, Ecorse Rd.
0906 – property damage accident, Hannan/Ecorse
0948 – larceny from auto, Hanover Dr.
1017 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1034 – larceny from auto, Hanover Dr.
1245 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Hannan
1307 – private property accident, Denton
1354 – suspicious situation, Oak Ln.
1406 – property damage accident, Ecorse /
Belleville
1412 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Bayshore Dr.
1414 – property damage accident, Belleville /
Ecorse
1422 – property damage accident, Ecorse /
Belleville
1524 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1532 – property damage accident, Belleville/I-94
1607 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1747 – assault & battery, Hull Rd.
1903 – assault & battery, Winding Pond Dr.
2152 – assault & battery, Meadows Cir.

Saturday, Jan. 4:
0028 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor / Tyler
0133 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0149 – disturbance, BP Belleville
0212 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0305 – suicide or attempt, Maurice Dr.
0305 – fight, Haggerty Rd.
0308 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
0336 – assault & battery, Edison Lake Rd.
1343 – property damage accident, Ecorse Service Dr. A / Denton Rd.
1547 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1852 – suicide or attempt., Huron River Dr.
2034 – private property accident, Van Born Rd.
2308 – harassment call, Borgman Ave.

Also on this week’s log are 51 traffic stops, four of which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 29:
0115 – agency assist, Meadows Ln.
0337 – suspicious vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd. / Estrada Dr.
0357 – disturbance, Belle Villa Blvd.
0732 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
1117 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
1125 – property damage accident, South St./W. Wabash Ave.
2309 – warrant arrest, Main St.
2345 – suspicious situation, no location given
Monday, Dec. 30:
0113 – mental, Harbour Pointe Dr.
0941 – domestic assault, Loza Ln.
1154 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1201 – dumping complaint, Sumpter
1523 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1634 – background investigation, N. Edgemont
1640 – background investigation, Daisy
1642 – background investigation, Sumpter
1654 – background investigation, Sumpter
2019 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
2042 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
2119 – larceny, Henry St.
Tuesday, Dec. 31:
0127 – domestic assault, Church St.

1022 – vehicle lockout, Carmell St.
1309 – malicious destruction of property, E. Huron River Dr.
1810 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1951 – suspicious situation, Belle Villa/Sumpter
2006 – domestic assault, Clarence St.
Wednesday, Jan. 1:
0030 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia
0100 – suspicious situation, 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court
1256 – malicious destruction of property, E. Columbia Ave./S. Liberty St.
1702 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
1739 – civil matter, Main St.
2144 – agency assist, Vista

Thursday, Jan. 2:
0005 – motorist assist, Church St./W. Columbia
0036 – suspicious vehicle, Brain St.
0217 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
0218 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
1138 – vehicle lockout, Estrada Dr.
1436 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1515 – mental, Loza Ln.
2027 – follow-up, Main St.
2138 – traffic hazard, High St./Edison Ave.

Friday, Jan. 3:
0140 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
0331 – domestic assault, Carmell St.
0829 – parking complaint, Fourth/Liberty
0904 – miscellaneous complaint, Owen Middle School
1351 – malicious destruction of property, S. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
1356 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.
1851 – family trouble, Main St.
1942 – property damage accident, Fifth St.
1945 – warrant arrest, S. Liberty St.

Saturday, Jan. 4:
0138 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
0709 – civil matter, Main St.
0822 – vehicle repossession, Church St.
1033 – juvenile complaint, First St.
1511 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1641 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Fourth St.
1657 – welfare check, E. Waterbury Ct.
2116 – E-911 hand up/investigation, Oxford Ct.

Also on this week’s log are 26 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 29:
0059 – suspicious incident, Wyoming
0229 – warrant arrest, out of township
0857 – personal injury accident, 20000 bl. Sumpter
0906 – mental health commitment, 23000 bl. Karr
1458 – shots fired, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1702 – suspicious incident, Utah
1731 – mental health commitment, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1818 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
2042 – assist other agency, out of township
2323 – warrant arrest, out of township
Monday, Dec. 30:
2204 – mental health commitment, 22000 bl. Bohn
Tuesday, Dec. 31:
0704 – death investigation, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1055 – citizen assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
1242 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Kozma
1441 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1504 – civil dispute, Wayside
1521 – threats complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1708 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1752 – traffic hazard, Willis/Lohr
Wednesday, Jan. 1:
0149 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Bemis
0313 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0359 – suspicious person, Sumpter/Judd
0407 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0635 – citizen assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1101 – well-being check, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.
1848 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 2:
0724 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0803 – animal complaint, Willis/Sumpter
1056 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Wear
1113 – accidental damage report, 41000 bl. Judd
1230 – neighbor dispute, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1405 – malicious destruction of property, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2037 – recovered stolen vehicle, 51000 bl. Willis
2145 – larceny, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
2226 – off road vehicle complaint, Martinsville / Bemis
2246 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
Friday, Jan. 3:
1145 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1405 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
2324 – larceny, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 4:
0027 – off road vehicle complaint, 21000 bl. Karr
0118 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sunpter Rd.
0118 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
1040 – property damage accident, 9200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1110 – family trouble, Montana
1520 – civil dispute, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1629 – civil dispute, Texas
1708 – accidental damage report, 51000 bl. Wear
1758 – threats complaint, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2242 – flee & elude, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
Also on this week’s log are six follow-up investigations, 24 miscellaneous details, 71 patrol checks, and 18 traffic stops.

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

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.

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10% OFF
Any Entree (Includes Carry Out Orders)
or Buffet Purchase Per Person

HOURS
MON.-THURS. 11AM-10PM
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DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT
Chinese & American Food

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COUPON EXPIRES JANUARY 31, 2014

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SHORT SEASON LEAGUE

Now FORMING IN JANUARY

For Info Visit

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STARTING JAN. 8TH @ 7:00PM

4 PER TEAM - ANY MIXED COMBO

YOUTH BUMPER LEAGUE



AGES 4-8 10:00AM

SATURDAYS, STARTING JAN. 11TH

TUESDAY TRIO



ANY COMBINATION OF BOWLERS

STARTING JAN. 14 @ 7:00PM

BIRTHDAY PACKAGES AVAILABLE

9 PIN NO TAP DOUBLES AND SINGLES

Fri. 10:00pm & Sat. 10:00pm

734-697-9178



46255 I-94 S. Service Dr. • Belleville

Tricia Risdon took a picture on Sunday morning of a bald eagle perched on a pine tree waiting to catch his breakfast in the open waters of Belleville Lake. The Risdons live on the lake in the City of Belleville.



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**UP TO \$3,000 IN REBATES.
BUY FOR \$15,343**



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24 month lease for

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**UP TO \$2,500 IN REBATES.
BUY FOR \$19,920**



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V-8, Chrome Pkg. **Only a few left!**

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Belleville, MI 48111

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\$5

Dine-In
Only

Lunches

**MONDAY – FRIDAY
10 A.M. – 2 P.M.**

CHOOSE FROM...

- SUPER NACHOS
- BRATWURST & FRIES
- SLOPPY JOE & FRIES
- 3 CHICKEN STRIPS & FRIES
- 2 LOOSE BURGERS & FRIES
- GREEK SALAD

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w/Coupon

The Lunch Box
Coupon Expires 2/28/14

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