



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 20.45 Thursday, November 6, 2014

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## Belleville voters turn down charter change, 2 to 1

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

The Belleville City Charter remains whole after city voters emphatically refused to delete the Civil Service Commission chapter in Tuesday's General Election.

The vote was 321 to remove the Civil Service Commission chapter and 725 not to remove it.

In the Belleville Area District Library Board election for four seats, all the women candidates won and all the men candidates lost. The unofficial totals from Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter are:

**Sharon Peters – 3,683**  
**Tonya Stoudemire – 3,499**  
**Mary Jane Dawson – 3,427**  
**LaChelle Reed Caver – 2,894**  
**Philip Miller – 2,774**  
**Bernard Grant – 2,664**  
**Paul Henning, -- 2,318**  
**Joe Monte – 2,069**

### Van Buren Public School Board

The Van Buren Public School Board of Education incumbents Sherry Frazier and Kevin English were reelected to the board, along with newcomer Alison Bennett. Incumbent Scott Russell was unseated.

The unofficial totals for the school district, which includes Belleville, Van Buren Township and parts of Sumpter, Canton, and Ypsilanti Township, are:

**Sherry Frazier – 4,937**  
**Kevin English – 4,294**  
**Alison Bennett – 4,067**  
**Scott Russell – 3,677**  
**Matthew Mann – 2,921**

### 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge

34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge David Parrott retained his seat for six more years, as he bested challenger Lisa Martin. The unofficial total for the five communities in the district was 9,084 (57%) for Judge Parrott and 6,963 (43%) for Martin.

(continued on page 14)



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

Showing off the low-vision reader at the Belleville Area District Library are, from left, Canton Lions president Bob Boyer, deputy library director Mary Jo Suchy, library director Deb Green, past district Lion governor Bill Van Winkle, and immediate past president of the Canton Lions and zone chairman Larry Wegrzyn. (See page 15)

## Court Watching:

# Thomas White pleads guilty to 20 felonies

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

On Monday, disbarred Belleville attorney Thomas A. White pled guilty to 20 felony charges on the first day of his bench trial before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Dalton Arnold Roberson.

Roberson, a retired judge, is filling in for Judge Margaret Van Houton who is off the bench for three months recovering from knee and foot surgery.

White is scheduled to be sentenced at 9 a.m., Feb. 4, and how much time he will



White

serve will depend on how much money he can come up with to pay off the people he embezzled, according to sources.

A sentence of 8 to 20 years is expected if he does not come up with the just under \$1 million proposed. If he comes in with the money, he could do no serious jail time, sources say.

Victims were told it would take officials four to six months to determine how to divide up the money among them.

Whatever he brings in would be accepted and he could be given probation for five years to pay the remaining balance of the restitution. He could spend one or two years in local jails, victims were told after the court session.

"No one can say what Judge Roberson will do," Prosecutor Dan Williams said, when the *Independent* asked about the proposed payback. Williams refused to talk about the proposal discussed with the victims.

One victim is dubious about the agreement

and said, White is a smart man and he knows "a number of ways to skin a cat."

Charges against White include 15 charges of embezzlement, four of those over \$100,000 each. He also was charged with forging a check and two counts of identity theft, along with larceny by conversion.

White, 46, a lifelong Belleville resident, also was charged with conducting a criminal enterprise while embezzling millions of dollars from trusting clients and their families.

The victims from Belleville and the surrounding area had been lined up by the prosecutor's office to testify over the next few days for the bench trial before Judge Roberson.

The witnesses were tense about testifying and when Michigan State Police Detective/Sergeant Joe White passed on the news to them that they didn't have to get up on the witness stand in court, they were greatly

(continued on page 19)

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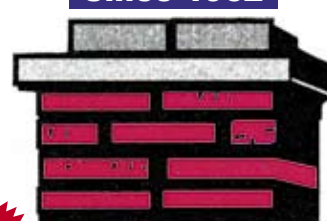
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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## Sumpter Board passes proclamation honoring veterans each November

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

A proclamation designating the month of November each year as Veterans' History and Appreciation Month in Sumpter Township was approved unanimously by the township board at its regular meeting Oct. 28.

This is in recognition of the accomplishments, contributions, and sacrifices of veterans in the service of this country.

The approved proclamation will be presented to representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV) at a veterans' dinner Nov. 8 at the Moose Lodge.

In other business at the 15-minute regular meeting on Oct. 28 meeting, the board:

- Approved Boy Scout Ryan York's request to build a guard post shed at the Recycling Center for his Eagle Scout project. Ryan will provide the materials and labor for his project;

- Tabled consideration of the addition to the zoning ordinance regarding medical marijuana provisionary centers;

- Approved closing the township hall from Dec. 24 through Jan. 4, with employees using their time for days not covered by union contract. The treasurer's office will be open Dec. 31 for tax payments only;

- Approved paying Fire Lt. Collin Lynch \$25 per hour for instructing medical classes for the department. Lt. Lynch got the training necessary to be an instructor and now can teach it to the local fire fighters at a big savings;

- Learned the annual haunted house would be open for children on Halloween at the fire hall. Children also can have their candy checked there;

- Heard Trustee Don Swinson report that Parks and Recreation had wonderful weather on October Sundays for the annual fund-raising Turkey Shoots, with no rain or snow;

- Heard Trustee Bill Hamm report that about 75% of the flood-damaged cars parked in a field on Willis Road have been removed;

- Heard Mary Ban compliment the township for all the sirens it has, "when Van Buren Township can't get their heads together for the safety of the residents." She recalled that former Trustee Tim Rush was one of those who pushed in the beginning for sirens for the township. "Right next door to us is Van Buren Township who can't do what we have done." She said Sumpter is right up front with sirens, while VBT is playing politics. Ban noted they could get a few and then gradually

add them, "Yet, they don't have them like Sumpter Township does"; and

- Heard candidate for re-election to state representative Bill LaVoy urge everybody to vote on Nov. 4. Then he passed out medical cards. Library board candidate LaChelle Caver, a Sumpter resident, came in at the end of the meeting and talked to residents.

Sumpter Supervisor Johnny Vawters was absent and still on medical leave. It has been more than one year since his stroke.

### Court Watching:

## Richard Jackson, Jr. pleads guilty to second degree murder of wife

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

On Monday, Richard Elmer Jackson, Jr., 39, of Van Buren Township pled guilty to second-degree murder in the stabbing death of his wife, Travisteene, 38, last December.

His jury trial on a first-degree murder charge was due to begin Nov. 12. The first-degree charge was dismissed in the plea deal.

Sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 3 before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Timothy M. Kenny.

Jackson has been held without bond in the Wayne County Jail since his arrest at his Greenwood Court home on Dec. 17.

The night of the murder, the two children of the couple had been taken to stay the night with a family friend, whose husband testified at district court that she had been concerned about the welfare of the children.

She had asked Travisteene to come with them, but reportedly Travisteene declined the offer.

Van Buren Township Police were dispatched to the home at about 3:37 a.m. for a "suicidal male subject" after receiving concerned calls from Jackson's friends and relatives.

Jackson refused to open the door for the police, but Lt. Charles Bazy established telephone contact with him and persuaded him to open the front door and speak to the officers.

When he opened the door, police became concerned for his safety and the safety of other residents in the house because of the inappropriate way the man was dressed and the blood on his clothes.

They performed a welfare check in the home and found Travisteene's body on the floor covered with a blanket.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

The Belleville City Council unanimously passed a proclamation at Monday's meeting to make November 2014 Veteran's History and Appreciation Month. Present to accept the proclamation were, from left, Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander Robert Krouse, who served in Desert Storm; Polish Legion of American Veterans Commander George Kennedy, who served in Vietnam; VFW member and World War II veteran Primo Gutierrez; Mayor Kerreen Conley; and VFW Jr. Vice Commander Cornell Anton, who served in Korea.

## City Council accepts Masonic Lodge's offer to pay for police training

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At Monday's meeting the Belleville City Council unanimously accepted an offered grant from the Belleville Masonic Lodge to pay for police academy training for a person to work at Belleville PD.

The details are conditioned on what Police Chief Hal Berriman wants.

Chief Berriman said he has a person being considered for employment and the academy training starts fairly soon.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said there is no obligation to hire the person full time and the city does have a part-time position open. But, the person does not have to be hired for that position, either, she said.

Chief Berriman said the Masonic Lodge said this would be for more than one time and it could sponsor others.

"We want to be sure of what our obligation is," said resident Mike Renaud.

When the *Independent* asked how much money is being talked about, Mayor Conley said she doesn't know the cost.

A Belleville fire fighter said the last time he checked, the police academy cost \$6,000.

Mayor Conley said the Masons have a substantial amount of money and they have to know if the city would be willing to accept the grant.

Councilman Tom Fielder said it would

be important for the person to stay with the city after being trained at a community organization's expense. He said the person could get trained, work in Belleville for a month or two, and then go elsewhere. The person could be hired here part time and then get offered a full-time position elsewhere.

The *Independent* said a similar subject was being discussed at a Sumpter Township meeting recently, and the township attorney advised them that "indentured servitude" is against the law.

Mayor Conley said the city doesn't want to tie its hands, since it could be that the person trained doesn't work out.

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

- Discussed for almost an hour complaints from three vociferous residents of Harbour Pointe who don't like the new parking signs that allow cars to park on just one side of the subdivision streets to make ambulances and fire trucks fit through in emergencies. They were told the city will not be enforcing the regulation for 90 days and if they come up with a better way to provide safety in the subdivision to let them know. The people said they would rather throw the whole council out and were advised the election next year only covers a few members. After they left the

(continued on page 16)



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### We urge City Hall to listen to the voters in Belleville

In the wake of Tuesday's election in which the voters of the City of Belleville told the mayor and city manager to keep their hands off the City Charter, we urge the leaders to back off and follow the charter.

The mayor and city manager got their hands slapped twice by the Civil Service Commission and so they just decided to get rid of it.

Get it erased from the City Charter.

But, the voters didn't agree and told their public servants to leave the charter alone and abide by it.

Currently, there is no Civil Service Commission, which is a committee of three persons, since two members resigned after the latest hand-slapping and the third was not reappointed by the mayor, after having served more than 20 years.

The city is getting ready to send a police recruit to the academy with a grant from the Masonic Lodge. The police recruits had been vetted in the past by the Civil Service Commission. Things are going forward as if there was no commission.

There has been an attitude of "we will do what we want unless we get sued" and that is unhealthy. The people have spoken. Don't make them get a lawyer for a class-action lawsuit or some other means to levy fines against those responsible for violating the City Charter.

Let's be civilized here instead of instigating a fight.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

There's a Glenn Silvenis / Remax for-sale sign in front of the Tin Pan bar/restaurant on Sumpter Road, just north of Willis. Owner Steve Kovach told us recently he would reopen it, but I guess he decided to let someone else open it.

\*\*\*

The two men who found the money blowing in the wind from the Moose break-in, actually live on Willis Road. I thought the one I talked to said Harris Road, which is where the Moose is located. I was wrong. Two honest men.

\*\*\*

At Monday's regular Belleville City Council meeting, Trustee Kim Tindall told the sad story of a school teacher whose daughter has just been labeled terminal. There were tears in many eyes as she proceeded with the story.

The father is Jason Strzalkowski, who has just taken leave from his position at McBride Intermediate School until after his daughter passes. Brian Blackburn, who has a daughter in Jason's class, said Jason gave a PowerPoint presentation to his students so they would understand his absence.

Four-year-old Amelie probably won't live until Christmas, so Kim said people wanted to give the family an early Christmas and donations are being accepted at the Bayou Grill, where Kim works, to make this happen. They'll be collecting until Nov. 12.

Jason has been writing a blog to chronicle the medical adventures of his daughter, starting in 2012 when Amelie first got sick. If people are interested they can go all the way back to the beginning to read about the entire journey.



Here's the link:

<http://amelie-strzalkowski.blogspot.com/>

\*\*\*

The owners of the Sumpter Roller Rink have published a letter of apology in today's paper, promising never to lease their rink to university frat groups again.

I saw from the dispatch logs for Belleville and Van Buren Township PD that their officers assisted Sumpter about 1:20 a.m. or so last Friday morning at the Sumpter Roller Rink.

I called Sumpter Police Chief Jim Pierce and he said it all started with a call for an unresponsive male at the Roller Rink. An officer went there and was joined with another and they were looking for that person. Then people started saying someone was stabbed and, someone had been stabbed. That information was put out onto the police radio and help from other departments started arriving.

The place was full of people and there was a heavy marijuana smell inside and later people said they could smell it across the street. It was hard to get evidence because many people were high, the chief said.

Then, there was an armed robbery, with a gun, that either happened inside the rink or at the gas station across the street. It was very chaotic. Chief Pierce said Sumpter Police have had problems at the rink before, but nothing of this magnitude.

He said two males were taken into custody. I'll get the rest from Det. Toth for

next week's paper.

\*\*\*

I've been told that on Halloween, the Belleville PD put a logo on their new police car reading "BOOVILLE." I didn't see it and no one gave me a picture, so we'll have to just picture it in our minds.

Chief Hal Berriman told me it was the idea of Cpl. Kris Faull.

Maybe someone will come up with a picture to share with us.

The City Council did "officially" transform Belleville into Booville for the month of October.


\*\*\*

At Monday's City Council meeting, VFW member Cornell Anton invited everyone to Bugles Across America held the first Monday of each month at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial on High Street. Ross Medos plays "Taps," a few words are said to honor the veterans and those serving now, and the flag is pledged. Then everyone goes home.

He said he has found a 10 year old who can play "Taps" clear as a bell and he said this young bugler will be helping Ross out from time to time. Can hardly wait.

There's nothing like a live performance of "Taps" at a special event. I missed attending Bugles last Sunday, but I'm usually there. A great, simple ceremony.





www.bellevilleareaindependent.com  
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**BELLEVILLE - AREA  
INDEPENDENT**

Established Dec. 3, 1994      First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

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Belleville, MI 48111  
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**Letters****Roller rink owners  
apologize for incident**

To the Editor:

Last Friday, early morning, we had an incident that happened with the private party that rented our roller rink. This incident, that required our police department's attention, greatly disrupted our community.

For this we apologize to all residents of Sumpter Township for any inconveniences that resulted from the incident. We care deeply about our community so, therefore, want to let our neighbors know that in the future we will not lease our roller rink to any organization associated with the local universities' frat parties.

Bewey Horn and Kathleen Spires  
Sumpter Roller Rink

**Dilemma for annual  
Angel of Hope event**

To the Editor:

We wish to explain the sincere dilemma we have this year with our annual Angel of Hope Ceremony. As the citizens of Belleville already know, this ceremony is to honor and cherish the memories of our deceased children. The attendance has been overwhelming on this annual Remembrance Day. We truly are so impacted by the amount of people that grow in number every year to come and give a moment of recognition to those gone, but not forgotten.

The intent of this letter is to apologize for the poor scheduling of another local event in Belleville loved by our citizens, as well. The event is the Belleville Christmas Night Parade. This event is a tradition and enjoyed by all. The parade can be scheduled any convenient time in December by the Chamber of Commerce in Belleville.

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Unfortunately, this year the Chamber has decided to hold this celebration on the same day as the Angel of Hope Ceremony. We are beyond disappointed that the celebration will be wrongly happening while many are mourning their lost children.

The Chamber has only agreed to move the fireworks to the previous day, not the parade. This is unsettling to us as we are unable to move our date of Remembrance. The Angel of Hope ceremony is a worldwide celebration. Yes, worldwide. Dec. 6 all around the world this is celebrated, not just here in our community.

We cannot move the date and we have expressed this to the Chamber. We are left with no other choice but to move forward with our observance of the children. Quite possibly there are many who are fortunate enough not to have lost a child too early. For all those who have not had to endure this grief, there are many who have. This day is beyond special to those who have endured this unexplainable loss. We understand this and hope that those attending will understand our compromised position.

Lastly, the Belleville Fire Department generously helps to light the cemetery on this Remembrance Day. It will be tough for the department to participate in the parade and the Remembrance Ceremony. We are distressed with the planning of the parade as it is truly intrusive to the memory and honor of our blessed children, which we give our hearts to in this ceremony.

David C. Brown Funeral Home  
Belleville

**Editor's Note:** The lighted, nighttime Christmas parade is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. (since sunset is at 4:29) on Saturday, Dec. 6, and the Angel of Hope Ceremony begins at 7 p.m.

**Thanks to All Year Tree  
Service for response**

To the Editor:

We would like to thank Jon Harrington, Andy, and the awesome crew from All Year Tree Service for their quick response to the recent September storm.

Jon came out on an emergency basis to clear the tree that blocked our driveway. He and the crew came back to cut the remainder of the tree and removed other trees as well.

The crew did a fantastic job raking and cleaning the yard from all the debris and branches. We really appreciate the great job they did!

A special "thank you" to Otto Sierak for recommending Jon and All Year Tree Service.

The Wollweber family

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## More Letters

### Church of God holds successful BASH

To the Editor:

Friday, Oct. 24, Belleville Church of God hosted an event for the whole family – “The BASH.” The first-annual community affair was a hit!

Kids in costumes, huge inflatables, free food, hot chocolate, trunk or treat, loads of prizes, and fun music had the church’s seven acres packed with over 650 people enjoying the evening!

This completely free experience was sponsored by families & businesses who backed the event from its beginning. Adam Schultz, Next Generation Pastor at Belleville Church of God, said, “I’m so excited about the turnout. You could tell the community really wanted it, and I can’t wait until next year!”

Jonathan and Missy Fuson, Lead Pastors of the church, were posted at the prizes, where they were able to meet families from the area throughout the event. The goal of The BASH was to provide a free, fun, and safe atmosphere for the entire family, and that’s exactly what it did. See you at The BASH 2015!

Pastor Jonathan Fuson  
Belleville Church of God



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# Obituaries



John Marvin Kilgore

## JOHN MARVIN KILGORE

(October 23, 1954 - October 26, 2014)

John Kilgore, a resident of Belleville, passed away on October 26, 2014 at the young age of 60. John was a Carpenter and loved riding his motorcycle.

He leaves behind his beloved wife of 33 years, Emily; children, John "Stuwbo," Sara, & Krystin; father, Robert "Country"; brother, Clifford "Chico"; grandchildren Trevor, Tyler, Araya, Arianne, Pride; and many nieces, nephews, extended family & friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother Hazel, sisters Sheila & Margaret, and brother Tony. No services will be held.

## HUEY LEE COSTON

(August 24, 1931 - November 2, 2014)

Age 83, of Belleville, formerly of Tennessee. Survived by children including daughter Jennifer Thibodeaux of Belleville, a brother, a sister, and grandchildren. Service Nov. 5 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

## JOHN LURRELL WILLHITE

(October 29, 1928 - October 29, 2014)

Age 86, of Belleville. Loved buying, fixing, and selling tractors. Survived by 5 children, 8 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, 6 brothers and sisters. Funeral service Nov. 3 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

# More Letters

## Some suggestions for Walmart Halloween fete

To the Editor:

Never again.

Suggestion to Walmart: Think about it before you plan it. You may think your Halloween night on Oct. 29 was a success. It was way far from that. It was like a nightmare.

Your store was a total mess. It was not organized well. Adults were getting nasty and rude because of the lack of proper lines. Teenagers were knocking into the little ones. We even saw kids taking items off shelves without paying. Good example to others because of the lack of supervision.

I finally got ahold of a supervisor, after getting the run-around, who explained to me they didn't expect this many people. She asked what suggestions do you have for next year?

Instead of passing candy off at different stations, make a roped-off area with rope with one-way only, instead of people wondering where is the front and where is the end. I saw people almost fight over this. OMG. It's for the kids and is it really worth it?

I brought my four-year-old granddaughter because I thought she would enjoy it, seeing her friends dressed up, but it was a nightmare. Instead, we left and I got her something at another store without all the hassle.

Even regular customers who came to

shop left in disgust. Never again.

Walmart: Plan better and make it for children. I'll plan it if you can't get reliable people who know what they're doing.

Thank you,  
Annoyed Grandparent  
Belleville

P.S. A suggestion: Pre-register children ahead of time. Give wrist bands and if you're not registered, you don't participate. It should be for ages 1-12 only.

## VB Little League to begin early registration

To the Editor:

The Van Buren Area Little League (VBALL) will begin early registration for the 2015 spring season this Saturday, Nov. 8, from noon until 4 p.m. at the Wayne County Community College on Haggerty Road.

VBALL will also have another walk-in date for registration on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Wayne County Community College.

Fees are as follows: T-Ball, \$40; Coach Pitch boys and girls, \$80; minor baseball and softball, \$110; major baseball and softball, \$120; and the new 50/70 division, \$125. These fees include hat, shirt, pants, belt and socks.

A copy of your child's birth certificate is MANDATORY and payment is expected at time of registration.

Thank you,  
Marc Littleleson, President VBALL

## Democrats invite you to sit down and talk

To the Editor:

Politics, for the most part, is about a lot of talking: talking about community problems, talking about issues, talking about foreign affairs, talking about our elected representatives and talking about state or federal officials.

Now, we Democrats like to meet and be organized. We have regular local, regional and state-level Democratic meetings. For these meetings we have detailed agendas with lots of protocols and lugubrious by-laws. Unfortunately, the business of our meetings often allows little time for us to talk with each other about what is on our minds and in our hearts.

**New idea:** to promote the informal exchange of ideas among the members of our community, we are scheduling a social hour arranged for any and all local Democrats to meet each other and talk. No meeting, no agenda, no dues - just talking and an opportunity for friendship. We call it PARTY LIBERALLY, DEMOCRATS TALKING.

**Our first gathering will be at Egan's Thursday, Nov. 20, @ 6 p.m.**

Please join us at Egan's Pub at 396 Main Street, Downtown Belleville, on the Third Thursday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. No dues, no agenda, no by-laws, no officers, no protocol. Just intelligent conversation about issues.

Please join us any third Thursday.

John Herman

Active Democrat and Van Buren Resident.

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## More Letters

### Goodfellows seek donations to help project

To the Editor:

As the holiday time of year draws ever near, we are reaching out to you as leaders of our community for donations to help the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows keep the promise of "No Child Without a Christmas." Without your support, we would not be able to serve even half of the families who received assistance last year.

We are a totally volunteer organization and spend countless hours putting together this endeavor. Every cent of your donation goes to the program and without your generous help none of this would be possible!

Christmas is brighter for hundreds of families because we all care. We supply things such as food (non-perishable items), new children's winter coats, and the nearest and dearest things are presents for each child from Santa. It is a great feeling to know that each and every one of us who are part of this is a Santa, not only to our families, but also to countless others, as well.

Your continued support is most important to this huge yearly undertaking. If you haven't made a donation to this community-wide effort before, we urge you to give serious consideration this year. Please give 'til it helps!

We thank you in advance for your contribution and also want to thank you for the hundreds of children who still believe in Santa because of you.

Please make your donation out to the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows. Mail to Attn: Pam Fleming, Van Buren Township, 46425 Tyler Rd., Belleville 48111. You may also drop your donation off at the Van Buren Township Police Department, Attn: Pam Fleming, or at the Belleville Police Department, Attn: Sue Moore.

Happy Holidays and all the best to you and yours in the coming year!

Gratefully yours,  
Pam Fleming, Goodfellows Coordinator

Director Greg Laurain, co-chair  
Van Buren Township Police

Chief Hal Berriman, co-chair  
City of Belleville Police



Students of Stacy Porzondek's second grade class at Edgemont Elementary School.

### Edgemont PTO thanks community for help

To the Editor:

What an awesome community we have!

Edgemont Elementary PTO held its annual Pumpkin Fest on Oct. 26. We scouted around town asking for donations from our local businesses and, wow, they sure were generous!

Our evening was more than successful and we are excited to be able to use the funds that we profited to purchase educational tools for our students and to grant teachers some of their wishes, too!

We would like to thank all of our staff, teachers and parents for their help and donations. We also would like to thank the awesome NHS students from BHS for their time and the following businesses for their generous donations.

Benito's on Main Street, Martin and Son, Kovalak Excavating, Main Street Flowers, A&W, Fantastic Sam's, Edible

Arrangements, O'Reillys Auto Parts, Belleville Auto, The Spotted Spoon, Twisted Rooster, Feed Rite, Lodge Lanes, Citgo Gas Station, McDonald's, Romulus Athletic Center, Ace Hardware, Inspirations Hair Salon, Arby's, Apple Charlie's, Tim Horton's, Debuck's Corn Maze, Wendy's, Great Clips, Atchinson Ford, Applebee's, Taco Bell, Walgreens, Honey Baked Ham, Sumpter Roller Rink, Meijer, Walmart, Budd's Produce, Moe's Farm, The Pumpkin Factory

We Thank You All!

Edgemont Elementary's PTO

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### Scouts will be gathering food to feed the hungry

To the Editor:

My name is Ryan Barker and I am a Life Scout and the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader of Boy Scout Troop 231.

The purpose of my letter is to thank everyone who has supported our Troop for more than 50 years and have allowed us to give back to this community.

Throughout these years, Trinity Episcopal Church has been our chartering organization. Trinity gives us a place for our Troop meetings, where we learn the skills that make scouting so much fun.

Last spring, Trinity allowed our Troop to host a spaghetti dinner that raised money to buy a badly needed new equipment trailer for our monthly campouts.

Our Troop relies on donations and also fund raisers we do throughout the year. When you buy a Christmas wreath, popcorn, flower bulbs, craft items at the Strawberry Festival or something else we might be selling during the year, you help us go on our monthly campouts (even in the winter), go to summer camp, take high-adventure trips, and buy gear.

Most importantly, it also helps us perform important service projects in our community. Our next service is our annual scouting for food program. We will be handing out bags on Nov. 2 and picking them up on Nov. 8. All donations will help needy families during the holidays.

It's an honor to be part of our Troop and part of a community that supports the Boy Scouts.

Thank you,  
Ryan Barker  
Assistant Senior Patrol Leader  
Boy Scout Troop 231

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## November is National Veterans Month

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### Van Buren Area Home Sales Statistics

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**1453 Pine Valley, Ann Arbor**  
 \$249,900- 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, 2045 sqft home w/partially finished basement, fenced backyard, new carpet & paint!



**48245 Bayshore, Belleville**  
 \$159,900- 2 bdrm, 1.1 bath condo on Belleville Lake! Lakefront views from all 3 levels, finished walk-out bsmt w/ bar, fireplace & balcony. Spectacular!

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## More Letters

### Writer asks readers to be watchful and careful

To the Editor:

Labor Day weekend on Saturday, early afternoon, our pontoon boat was taken from Hayward's Beer & Wine where we had rented a dock for the summer.

Two people took our pontoon, must have hot-wired it, and attached their boat to ours. They took it down near the dam and stripped it – motor, battery, cover, ripped out the hull, stereo, all contents, except left some of the seats.

The only way I know they had another boat was a friend who lives on the lake spotted our boat pulling another, but said the person driving it was not my husband. He wasn't sure if we had lent the boat.

People need to be aware of this. If you see someone pulling another boat, call Marine Wayne County Sheriff and have them check it out. They may be able to stop this from going on.

This is very upsetting to see how gutsy these guys are right on a busy holiday weekend.

Belleville Resident

### VBT needs to put funds into cemetery budget

To the Editor:

This is in reference to your article back in August about the storm damage done in the Townships. As you are aware of the damage done to one of our historical cemeteries (Otisville) located on Riggs Road. If I am correct this is the smallest of our cemeteries in the Township and a large part of our founding families' last resting place. If this is true; in my opinion it is also the one in the most disrepair.

As you can recall a few years back, I went and cut back all the overgrowth along the south fence area and found graves there. I also made contact with the 34<sup>th</sup> district court work program and for a couple of years, the work program cleaned up all the

leaves to keep it from looking abandoned.

After the second historical oak tree had been brought down by time and storm damage, my family planted the two new trees that stand on both sides of the entry way. I had also made it well known that the current trees in the cemetery that I call garbage trees would one day come down in a storm and destroy the headstone(s) along with our township history, that would be forever gone. The proof came in August of this year.

I no way blame the DPW who from my understanding is responsible for the maintenance and care of the cemeteries; they can only do what is in their budget. I do think the Township board should look at putting more funds or getting grants for the care and maintenance of our cemeteries to preserve our history for generations to come.

On the plus side, I did see that two of what I called garbage trees have been taken down and no longer a threat to further damage to the old headstones, for that: Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kenneth Landstrom

Van Buren Township Resident and hopefully a very distant future resident of Otisville Cemetery.

### Community organizer should seek forgiveness

To the Editor:

In a recent Sunday paper was a picture with a headline that said Businessman Rick Snyder vs. the Community Activist Mark Schauer -- Snyder who knows how to balance a budget and Schauer who does not know what a budget is.

Mr. Schauer, go to church this Sunday. Seek forgiveness and redemption for the mess the likes of you and the more famous community organizer in Washington have made of this country and state – before someone like Rick Snyder comes along and has to fix it.

Mickey Widener

Van Buren Township

**Editor's Note:** The writer had a hip

replacement in the spring and now has a broken leg, but he still feels like writing. After explaining why he didn't bring the letter in himself, he wrote: "Could be worse."



### Does Secretary of State read the *Independent*?

To the Editor:

Could it be that the Secretary of State got ahold of your article a while back regarding our conversation on the terrible new bridge plates?

Judging by the two attachments it looks like they've made changes as the background now uses a lot less yellow/orange and the lettering is now black instead of white.

Looks like someone was listening.

Captain Eric Luke

Sumpter Township Police Department

**Editor's Note:** Captain Luke told us that many police officers were having trouble reading the numbers on the new Michigan plate that was honored as the most beautiful license plate design in the world. A St. Clair Shores police officer started an online petition that 700 police officers signed and the Secretary of State recently redesigned the plate, just enough for the numbers to be easily read. The new plates have been in circulation for more than a month.

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

-- Margaret Thatcher

British Prime Minister, 1925-2013

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Free winter vehicle safety check-ups are being offered this month at the **Willis Baptist Church** in Willis on Saturdays, Nov. 8, 15, and 22, from noon to 4 p.m. each day. The checkup will include batteries, fluids, belts, wipers, tires, etc. Also get your windows cleaned and interior vacuumed for free. Call (734) 461-0352. The church is located at **8687 Bunton Road**.

\*\*\*

Coney hot dogs are just 99 cents everyday now until the season ends at the **Belleville A & W** restaurant on West Columbia near 5 Points. While you're there, try some new menu items like Hometown Chili and Chicken Noodle Soup. Call (734) 699-1800.

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\*\*\*

**St. Pauls' Lutheran Church** in nearby

New Boston is holding its **Annual Sauerkraut Dinner** today, Nov. 6, beginning at 5 p.m. until sold out. Dinners are \$10 each and includes the meal, beverage and dessert. Proceeds go to the **St. Paul's Ladies Aid** and the **St. Paul's Men's Club**. Call (734) 753-9048.

\*\*\*

If you're a church in the area planning your holiday calendars with Thanksgiving and Christmas services and events, and you'd like to get the word out, our church directory is the place for you. For just \$75, you can get your church listed in a 1 column by 1 inch tall display box for 13 weeks. To see what I'm referring to, check out today's directory on page 6 in this newspaper and call me at (734) 699-9020.

\*\*\*

And a personal thanks to every veteran and service man and woman for your commitment to our country. My dad was a veteran and he was wounded overseas and received the Purple Heart and a handful of other medals my Mom kept. I remember my Dad showing his scars to us sometimes but I never really knew exactly what they meant or his medals. The same freedom he fought for is the same freedom we defend today. Being young when he passed, I don't know if I ever thanked him like he deserved. Thanks, Dad.

\*\*\*

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## Birthdays

Nov. 4 – Mike Raland  
Nov. 6 – Mary Mathis, Tami Cummings  
Nov. 8 – Vickie Brown  
Nov. 10 – Jim Graham  
Nov. 12 – Debbie Wisniewski  
Nov. 18 – Pat Veerkamp  
Nov. 24 – Lillian McArthur

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

## Paperwork signed for Yankee Air Museum to get part of bomber plant

On Thursday, the Yankee Air Museum declared "Mission Accomplished" to its drive to "Save the Bomber Plant" at a ceremony held at Willow Run Airport.

The Yankee Air Museum officially acquired 175,000 square feet of the former Willow Run Bomber Plant where Rosie the Riveters and other Michigan workers built more than 8,600 B-24 Liberator bombers during World War II.

The signing ceremony represented the culmination of efforts to raise the \$8 million needed to save part of the factory for the nearby Yankee Air Museum's new home.

Following the signing, two Rosies unveiled the name and logo of the planned facility: National Museum of Aviation and Technology at Historic Willow Run.

Officials said \$5 million more is needed to "fill out the interior of the building" — to create the exhibits and infrastructure necessary to transform the edifice into a museum.

The facility in Van Buren Township was owned by the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust, which took control of sites around the country left behind in General Motors' bankruptcy.

In its recent budget, the state Legislature allocated \$1.5 million to help the museum fund the expansion into the new space. The rest of the plant is currently being demolished with the process expected to finish within months, and Detroit-based Walbridge Development has a deal to explore the possibility of building a research-and-development operation for autonomous vehicles at the site.

Also celebrated Thursday was the reopening of the renovated Willow Run runway, originally used to launch B24 bombers back in 1939-41. The 7,526-foot runway is the airport's longest. Renovation cost \$45 million.

For more information about the museum project see [historicwillowrun.org](http://historicwillowrun.org).

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# Cement shortage causes VBT DDA to reject bid, delay new sidewalks

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Although the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority had hoped to have sidewalks installed along the North I-94 Service Drive and Belleville Road north of Tyler by winter, that won't happen.

At its regular meeting Oct. 28, the DDA voted to reject the single bid it got for the sidewalks, which was about twice as much as estimated, and to direct engineers Wade Trim to rebid the project in late January for proposed installation in the spring.

The new scope of the project, in addition to the sidewalk on the north side of the North I-94 Service Drive from Belleville Road west to Quirk, is along the east side of Belleville Road from Tyler, north to the north property line of 8701 Belleville Road.

There had been some problems with the Belleville Road sidewalks because of the Wayne County requirement for a drainage ditch, but that has been worked out and a French drain will do.

At the Oct. 28 meeting, engineer Dave Nummer reported that Wade Trim went out for bids and two companies came in for information. When they opened the bids on Oct. 23, only one bid came in, from Lacaria Concrete Contracting in the amount of \$278,825, close to twice the expected amount of \$150,280.

Nummer said that could be due to a couple of factors. First, it's late in the season and contractors are very busy.

Also, there is a cement shortage. He said Michigan Department of Transportation hasn't indicated that it's industry-wide, but it seems to be for those working in Wayne County, which reduced the bidders.

Nummer said, for example, for the sidewalk project in Plymouth, there were no bidders at all.

Nummer suggested the DDA look at rebidding in late winter and putting the sidewalks in in early spring.

"I can't see paying twice as much," he said.

Craig Atchinson, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of chairman Gere Dolph, asked for information on

"inspection days."

Nummer said they have contractors bid the days of inspection. If there are less, they get kind of a bonus. If more, they pay for it.

"It's a way to tie back the cost of inspection," Nummer said.

Nummer said work on the parking lot behind township hall stopped when they ran out of concrete and they will get some concrete early the following week.

Atchinson said they are using concrete at their Ford dealership building upgrade and he knows what Nummer means.

In other business at the 25-minute meeting, the DDA:

- Unanimously approved spending \$12,032 to purchase three LED trees (11', 15', and 7') and ice skating figures, with the tallest 8.5' tall, from Bronner's, which includes shipping and handling. They had to take an additional \$5,000 from the fund balance to cover the cost. Old Glory Flags said there will be no problem for them to erect these figures when they light the evergreens at the monument sign at Quirk and Belleville roads. The LED displays are warranted for five seasons and the lamps for one season;

- Unanimously approved attorney Patrick McCauley's recommendation to broaden the language of a motion made at the Aug. 24 meeting concerning purchase of real property, adding a reference to "retaining professional consultants as part of the investigation process and authorize the Executive Director to execute documents to retain professional services." The property being considered for purchase has not been

## Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Nov. 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Owen Intermediate School. There will be a tour of the building at 6:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, Nov. 11 – Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority at 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township meetings are cancelled because of the Veterans' Day holiday.

- Wednesday, Nov. 12 – Van Buren Township Board discusses 2015 budget beginning at 8:30 a.m. in board room. Also, VBT Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

disclosed, but DDA member Carol Bird, a realtor, was allowed to abstain from the vote;

- Heard Nummer report that he is still working on the hydraulics for the regional detention pond. He said he would like to have another meeting with the Wayne County Road Commission and then bring information back to the DDA; and

- Heard DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland say she has reviewed resumes and spoken with applicants for the open position of deputy director and has narrowed the field to two candidates. She asked for one additional meeting with the subcommittee

and needed someone to fill in for Gere Dolph, who is hospitalized. Joe Baskin volunteered.

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## THANK YOU Belleville Community for an amazing BOOVILLE celebration!



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WELL DONE to the Many who Helped make BOOVILLE a great Success:

Belleville CBC/Central Business Community, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, BAM/Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society, Belleville New Tech, Garden Fantasy, Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, Belleville Area District Library/BADL, Friends of the BADL, Belleville Community Chorus, Blue Steel Jazz Band, CAF 5/Community Assistance Fund, Plymouth Family YMCA, Belleville Rotary Club, Downtown Businesses, City of Belleville, Belleville Dept of Public Services, Belleville Police, A&W, Egan's Pub, The Lunch Box, Bayou Grill, Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation, Van Buren Township - Parks and Recreation, Police and Downtown Development Authority, Unlimited DJ, Sumpter Parks and Recreation, Becky Hasen, Rhonda Dutton, Kathleen Springer

See you next year for BOOVILLE 2015!

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# Belleville DDA approves façade grant for Egan's Pub at Fourth St. Sq.

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At its Oct. 22 meeting, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority granted a \$10,000 façade grant to Jennifer and John Winters of Egan's Pub at 396 Main Street, next to the Fourth Street Square.

Egan's has plans for about \$12,500 worth of upgrading to the pub's façade by putting in a new, larger picture window with gold lettering "EGAN's PUB" above the

window. There will be gooseneck lighting above the sign and the front door changed to solid oak.

The plans also call for cedar wainscoting below the window and in columns framing the façade and tongue and groove surrounding the window. The wood will be painted dark green, there will be crown molding over the lettering/sign, and cultured stone put at the base.

Three bids were presented with the lowest of \$12,500 from Oakview Building Company and the highest \$15,780 from Hunter Building Company.

The recommended action from the façade committee, after review by the city's ordinance and department of public works officials, is to approve for a \$5,000 grant and a \$5,000 loan.

The committee approved the design, materials, and color choices. It also discussed the owners' interest in improvements on the Fourth Street Square side of the building. These would be separate from

this application and subject to the owner's expense and time, the committee noted.

When the façade grant came up for discussion, DDA member Brian Copsey, whose Bayou Grill is across the Fourth Street Square from Egan's and the two bars are in competition, said that he had a problem because Egan's taxes were due and its water bill is not paid.

DDA coordinator Carol Thompson said this is just step 2 and step 3 requires all the payments be submitted before the signing is final. It's a legal obligation, she said.

Copsey asked if it wasn't true that at the top of the application for a grant it says that the applicant must be in good standing with the city and Thompson said that is what it says, but that's not what they do.

She said they must pay their obligations before they get any money.

DDA chairman John Hoops said he won't sign anything until the applicant is up to date on everything.

Copsey said they are getting \$10,000 and their contract is only \$12,000. He said he wanted to express his concern as far as the risk of the DDA going forward, to make sure the DDA is protected.

DDA member Rosemary Loria made the motion to approve the façade grant, with the money being taken from the fund balance.

"I agree with what Brian's saying," said DDA member Gary Snarski. "It must be current before money is expended."

He said they have to realize that it takes from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for the applicant to get the drawings and there are other investments to be made to get approved.

"These are the things this DDA does in order to make the town better," Snarski said.

Copsey asked if there was going to be a mural or something on the side of the building and Jennifer Winters said they will just be painting it for now.

"The Christmas lights are back in season

now," Copsey said, referring to the lights at Egan's. He said he's glad they are doing something because the building could use some work.

When the roll-call vote was taken to spend the money, everyone voted yes, including Copsey.

On a check by the *Independent*, it was found Egan's paid its summer tax bill for \$2,673.51 on Oct. 22, the day of the meeting. Thompson said their water bill was to be paid the following Monday.

In other business at the Oct. 22 meeting, the DDA:

- Approved taking part in the Midwest Sculpture Initiative outdoor sculpture program in 2015 by leasing six sculptures at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. The current sculpture exhibit is on loan until April/May 2015. The commitment letter for the 2015 exhibit is due to MSI no later than Nov. 1. Thompson said they have been reasonably successful this year in getting sponsors and she would like to spread out and get new sponsors for next year. She asked the DDA for help in getting new sponsors. She said there was \$10,000 in expenses for the current exhibit and \$5,000 in sponsorship;

- Heard a report from Belleville Area Council for the Arts president Doug Dalton on Music Lakeside, saying that the \$2,500 from the DDA represented five acts. He also reported on ArtAffair on Main and how BACA hopes to get it self-sustaining once they get enough artists leasing booths. The DDA allocated \$2,500 for this event and it was mainly spent on advertising. He said they have plateaued at about 40-45 artists and they need 85 to 100 artists for the event to pay for itself, "So we don't have to ask anyone for money." Mayor Kerreen Conley, who sits on the DDA, said the DDA expects reports from the groups it has given money to and, "You're the model of what we want";

(Continued on page 14)

**Jesus Is Waiting 4 U Meet Him @ Church**  
Message paid for by a member of the Catholic Church.

## City of Belleville Public Notice

### City of Belleville NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CDBG PROGRAM TRANSFER



Notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled before the City Council on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, for the purpose hearing comments in the City of Belleville, in accordance with the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The Community Development Block Grant Program provides for citizens the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the City transferring 2012 CDBG funds by discussing City needs and expressing preferences on proposed activities. At its November 3, 2014 City Council meeting, approval was granted to set a Public Hearing to consider the transfer of 2012 CDBG funds.

Total funds to be transferred for the City of Belleville from 2012 Community Development Block Grant (Barrier Free Improvements) funds are \$34,080.00 and is planned for replacement of the Village Park playscape to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If you wish to be heard on this matter please make arrangements to be present, or send written communications to the Belleville City Clerk.

The City of Belleville will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and service to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon advanced notice to the City Clerk, by writing or calling Lisa Long, City Clerk, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. Telephone 734-697-9323.

Lisa Long, CMC  
City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLISH: November 6, 2014

### PUBLIC NOTICE SURPLUS PROPERTY DISPOSITION CITY OF BELLEVILLE DDA

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For information call the DDA at 734-646-0504**

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# Belleville DDA

(continued from page 13)

- Heard a report from Thompson on state legislation in the works that will reform Tax Increment Financing and deeply impact the local DDA. She said it currently is in the House Commerce Committee and the DDA's attorney is attending the meetings. Thompson said if it comes to a vote on the floor, "We'll have to see about going down." She said provisions of the bill keep changing, but the goal is to build consensus and enact reforms by the end of the year;
- Heard Richardson-Williams say she was asked by a friend from Van Buren Township why the city closes down Main Street for the car shows one day a week in the summer, yet won't close the street for Halloween trick or treating. Mayor Conley said if the street was closed kids would be darting back and forth across the street. Now, with the caution tape marking off the sidewalks, kids go up one side and then back down the other side. With the street closed off, it would be more confusing, she said. DDA member Jim Higerson asked where parents would park if Main Street was closed and Liberty Street had no parking to allow for emergency vehicles to pass. Councilman Tom Fielder said the former police chief said the city has never had an incident, so Fielder asked why they should change that;
- Heard DDA member Loria say the Boy Scouts have not moved forward to take the ten old Main Street benches offered to them to do, so the DDA should just sell the benches. Planning Commission chairman Steve Jones said some of the benches have plaques on them and they should find a home for those benches;
- Heard Mayor Conley announce that she is hosting a "Power of the Purse" fund raiser at the Holiday Inn Express on Nov. 7 to benefit the Boys and Girls Club, the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, and Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Everyone is invited. There will be a silent auction, raffles, door prizes, and lots of purses. Call Conley at (313) 969-5183 for more information;
- Heard Copsey say the DDA passed an unbalanced budget and now is giving

money away, which he objects to;

- Heard Richardson-Williams say that Booville is a real success and, "It puts us on the map." As treasurer, she said to Copsey, "I think we have tried very much to stay in the budget"; and

• Heard Gary Snarski say, "There are a lot of good things going on ... a lot of people who do a lot of work ... the volunteers at the churches and the Central Business Community ... and it still bothers me that there are a lot of people on Main Street who don't help... and I'm not pointing you out (to Copsey)." Copsey said he has refused to join the Chamber of Commerce because of past problems. "You are one business," Snarski replied. "There is only a handful on Main Street who work and those who benefit the most don't participate." Steve Jones, who works for Copsey, said Copsey supports the Arts Council and other things. "We should be working together," Snarski continued. "People on Main Street benefit, but don't join because they don't like that person. If he refuses to belong to the Chamber, that's his problem," Snarski said. "Let's put the cards on the table," Copsey said. "I give more than any other business on Main Street." He said it's not because he doesn't like somebody, but, "It's got to do with the operation [of the chamber]."

The DDA meeting was held in a darkened city council chambers because it was the Booville meeting of the DDA. On the agenda there was a reminder that the city council proclaimed: "Belleville Becomes Booville for October 2014." Five members of the DDA wore costumes to the meeting.

"Out of clutter, find simplicity."  
— Albert Einstein

**Community Thanksgiving Service**  
**Sunday, November 23 @ 6pm**  
**FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH**  
894 East Huron River Drive  
*Calling out to Pastors and Churches to an evening of Praise & Worship.*  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

## Court Watching:

### Billy Ray Patrick gets 2-10 years for shooting friend on W. Columbia

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Billy Ray Patrick, II, 22 of Belleville was sentenced to prison on Oct. 2 for shooting his friend in the cheek May 12 in the victim's driveway on W. Columbia Avenue in a dispute over marijuana.

Patrick was sentenced to 2 to 10 years for assault to do great bodily harm less than murder plus a consecutive 2 years for felony firearm. He also was charged a \$266 victim's fee.

A plea bargain was worked out Sept. 4 by Patrick's retained attorney Michael Vincent and Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Francesco Simone.

In May Patrick was charged with:

1. Assault with intent to murder,
2. Assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder,
3. Assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), and
4. Weapons, felony firearm.

His bond was set at \$500,000 or 10% and he had been held in the Wayne County Jail since his arrest. His sentence gave him



Patrick

credit of 144 days for time served.

When he was arraigned Patrick stood mute and pleas of not guilty were entered by the court.

On Sept. 4, Patrick accepted a plea deal that dismissed charges 1 and 3. He pled no contest to charges 2 and 4.

His sentence by Wayne County Circuit Court Thomas Cameron was effective Oct. 2 and will be consecutive to the mandatory 2 years for felony firearm.

Michigan Department of Correction records say his earliest release date is May 10, 2018 and maximum release of May 10, 2026.

## Election day

(continued from page 1)

### State Senator, 8<sup>th</sup> District

Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D, retained his state senate seat over challenger Darrell McNeill, R.

### State Representatives

In District 21, Kristy Pagan, D, earned 15,796 to fill Rep. Dian Slavens' seat and Carol Fausone, R, earned 12,951.

In District 12, Erika Geiss, D, retained her husband's seat with 5,163, over Kelly Thompson, R, 1,469.

In District 17, Bill LaVoy, D, retained his seat with 14,623 votes over Charles Londo, R, at 9,903.

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# Lions Club donates low-vision magnifier to Belleville Library

Last week the Canton Lions Club provided the Belleville Area District Library with an Aladdin Low-Vision Magnifier which enhances the size of words so reading of books, letters or viewing of pictures are possible for those with vision disabilities.

The library agreed to provide a space where those with vision challenges can come in and use the reader.

"We are very grateful for their generous donation of a low-vision magnifier to our library," said Mary Jo Suchy, deputy director.

"In addition, our library has a large-

print book collection and members of our community can contact the Wayne County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for additional services (888-769-2737).

The Canton Lions Club works throughout the communities of Belleville and Canton to raise funds for various projects.

"It's the generosity of the people who live in these communities that allows the Canton Lions Club to reach out to those who are

in need of assistance during our economic times," said Lion Bill Van Winkle.

"We get many requests to provide eye glasses for children in school whose parents are unable due to our economic times. We also provide funds for low-vision aids and hearing exams and Braille books.

"The Club also provides funds for the Michigan Eye Bank, Penrickton Center for Blind and Handicapped Children, along with Leader Dog School for the Blind

and many other deserving projects in the metropolitan area.

The Canton Lions has 40 members and meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month at Rose's Restaurant at Canton Center Road and Cherry Hill in Canton.

For more information or to get involved with the Canton Lions, contact Van Winkle at (734) 254-9404 or [govbill1@wowway.com](mailto:govbill1@wowway.com).

## Court Watching:

## Jury finds Coskie guilty of second-degree murder

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

After an hour of deliberation Oct. 29, a Wayne County Circuit Court jury found Kenneth William Coskie, 74, of Van Buren Township, guilty of second-degree murder instead of the first-degree murder charge that had been pressed.

The jury also found him guilty of the second charge of felony firearm, which carries a two-year mandatory sentence.

Coskie was charged with premeditated, first-degree murder, after he shot Eric Williams, 44, of Van Buren Township just before 8 p.m. on April 9.

The trial started Monday, Oct. 27, and ran Tuesday, Oct. 28 and until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 29, when the jury went out to deliberate and found him guilty of the second-degree murder charge.

Sentencing will be at 9 a.m. Nov. 14 before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Vera Massey Jones.

During jury selection, one of the jurors, from Sumpter Township, told the judge that she had read about the case in the *Independent* and the court had no problem with that and put her on the jury anyway.

After the trial, a juror said two other women jurors at first wanted a not-guilty verdict because they were stuck in the "poor grandpa mold."

Coskie, who has been held in the Wayne County Jail since the shooting, testified that his house near the corner of Michigan Avenue and Denton roads had been condemned and he was living in a camper in the front yard.

Coskie told the jury that he had gone to Walmart to buy some gun oil and shells and had oiled his gun. He said he was loading his gun when the man who had hit him on the head the last time they were together showed up.

Coskie testified that he shot the man.

**Boys' Lacrosse  
Teams Bottle Drive  
Sunday, Nov. 23  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
BHS parking lot &  
Victory Park**

## Sumpter Township Public Notice

### Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 14, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by J. Morgan Treasurer showing present: Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, & Swinson. On medical Supervisor Vawters. Also present: Deputy Clerk Hurst, Attorney Young and approximately 18 residents.

**3. Agenda:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 4. Public comments only on agenda items

#### 5. Minutes:

**A.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve regular board meeting minutes September 23, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Warrants:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve warrants totaling \$939,290.41. Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, Hoffman, Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan & Swinson. Medical Vawters. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

**9. Building/Ordinance:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the purchase of lights for ordinance vehicle for \$548.20 and approve the building/ordinance report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**11. Treasurer:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the treasurers' report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. Attorney:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the attorneys report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 13. Board Response

#### 14. New Business:

**A.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve the purchase of a Western 8' pro plus snow plow plus package for \$4,771.00 from Harold's Frame Shop. Motion carried unanimously.

**B.** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve resolution 2014-13 Memorial Garden for employees. Motion carried unanimously.

**C.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to sign the YUCA contract. Motion carried unanimously.

**D.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Hamm to approve with regrets the resignation of Sandra Todd from the Board of Review and Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion carried unanimously.

**E.** Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to approve the haunted house at fire station #1 on October 31, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

**F.** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to not allow staff or fire department personnel at stations from 9 pm to 8 am unless authorized by fire chief or a fire department response. Motion carried unanimously.

**G.** Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to approve the positions for the chain of command for the fire department. Motion carried unanimously.

**H.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve resolution 2014-14 to amend & restate agreement between Sumpter and County of Wayne CDBG program. Motion carried unanimously.

**I.** Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to approve resolution 2014-15 Wayne County Parks grant for \$20,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 15. Announcements.

#### 16. Open Floor

**17. Adjournment:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on October 14, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Published: November 6, 2014

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### Van Buren Charter Township Board of Trustees

### Budget Preparation Meetings

November 12, 2014  
8:30 a.m.-Noon & 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

November 13, 2014  
8:30 a.m.-12:00

Van Buren Township Hall  
Board of Trustees Room

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

Posted: 10/30/2014 4:00 p.m.

Published: 11/06/2014

# City Council

(continued from page 3)

meeting, other residents of the subdivision said the man who was so offensive lives in the second house into the subdivision, uses his driveway for a patio and parks his vehicles in the street;

- Approved a proclamation designating the month of November as Veteran's History & Appreciation Month in the City of Belleville in recognition of the accomplishments, contributions and sacrifices of Veterans in the service of their country. It is for 2014 only and Mayor Conley said they can do it every year to bring attention to the honors;

- Approved a memo from City Manager Diana Kollmeyer on how to work out the costs of the repairs and the vendors for the fire apparatus;

- Approved calling a public hearing for 7:30 p.m., Nov. 17, to consider a transfer of \$34,080 in federal 2012 Community Development Block Grant funds to replace the Village Park playscape to meet the American with Disabilities Act;

- Approved street closings for the Dec. 6 Jingle Bell – 5K Fun Run/Walk that begins at 9:45 a.m. and is being put on by the Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation. It starts and ends at the Horizon Park Gazebo on High Street and all race activities will be completed by 11:30 a.m.;

- Approved the SMART specialized services operating assistance program for 2015. This agreement helps to subsidize the operation of a city service that provides transportation of the elderly and disabled persons in Belleville;

- Approved accounts payable of \$78,026.96 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Hennessey, \$6,600 from the Water Department for ongoing SRF work for sanitary sewer maintenance; and to Western Wayne County Fire Department, \$2,319.29 for HEMS participation from the General Fund/Fire;

- Discussed the big success of the Booville event, with Trustee Tom Smith saying, "It was an incredible turnout for the first year. For 2015: Bigger, better, more";

- Heard Trustee Kim Tindall recall that the city sent letters to every one of the 96 or so homes in Harbour Pointe to explain the new parking regulations, although

those complaining that evening said they got no notice. DPW Director said the city got a total of 8-9 complaint calls; and

- Heard Mayor Conley invite everyone to her fund raiser this Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Express to earn money for several local charities. They will auction off 300 purses and tickets are available at the door. There will be food, music, and cash bar.

## September Days to host free elder law, advocacy event on Wed., Nov. 19

The Elder Law & Advocacy Center will give a free legal presentation for persons 60 years of age and older, family members, and persons caring for older adults.

The session will start at 10 a.m. sharp on Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road.

Call 699-8918 or sign up at the center. Subjects to be covered include: guardianship/conservatorship, wills/trusts, powers of attorney, nursing home/assisted living/senior housing. Medicaid/Medicare, elder abuse and scams, information on support services for veterans and their families.

Questions can be asked during the presentation and individual assistance is offered after the presentation, if time permits.

Be the person who brings the most family and friends and win a gift card.

The Elder Law & Advocacy Center is located in Redford.

ELAC is funded by The Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Area Agency on Aging 1B, The Senior Alliance and Community Block Grant Funds from the Township of Canton. Services are free.

### 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.



# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR RENT

1 BR. APT. 2nd Floor. Corner of 5th & Liberty St. \$595/mo. plus security. Includes heat & water. 1 yr. lease. Must have good credit. No Pets. (734) 945-2409 TFN

## HELP WANTED

**Johnny's Grill Restaurant located on Belleville Lake is looking for experienced Bartenders, Chefs, Pizza Makers, Managers, Dishwashers, Servers and Delivery Drivers. Also need a full time Maintenance Person. Must be reliable. Mail resume to: Johnny's Grill, 146 High St., Belleville, MI 48111 or fax to (734) 699-7847**

DRIVER NEEDED. Approximately two hours per day, M-F. (734) 717-6540. 11/20

DRIVERS: Dedicated Home Daily! Dedicated Round Trip Runs. CDL-A, 6 mos. OTR, Good Background. Apply: [www.mtstrans.com](http://www.mtstrans.com) or (800) 305-7223. 11/6

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT wanted to assist maintenance director. Must have general maintenance experience. Apply within, Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm. Cedar Woods Assisted Living, 44401 S. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville. No Phone Calls. 11/13

HAIRSTYLIST WITH CLIENTELE needed for beautiful salon in Belleville. Call (734) 697-9778 or apply at Shear Envy, 990 Sumpter Road. 11/27

## HELP WANTED

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Feel great about the work that you do helping people we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training provided. \$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits. **Call (248) 437-7535 New Hudson** Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Work close to home assisting persons we serve in their homes in the Wixom & Novi communities. \$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits. **Call (248) 960-9657 or (248) 946-4425** Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)

## HELP WANTED

## LAWNCARE PERSON NEEDED

**Immediate Opening. Experienced With Trimmer, Edger & Blower. Pay Based On Experience -- \$10-\$15. 27-30 Hours Minimum Per Week. Contact Jay @ (734) 323-8973**

## HIRING IMMEDIATELY

**Dedicated & Reliable Bus Drivers for Permanent Positions for Van Buren Public Schools. Starting Pay: \$11.50/hour. Call 734-699-5100**

**Full/Part Time Custodians needed ASAP! Must pass background check, must have reliable transportation. Please call 313-886-7797 for more information.**

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

## HELP WANTED

**Buy 20 Yards or More and We'll Donate \$50 to the BHS Band Fund!\***  
*\*Offer Expires December 1, 2014*  
**DOUGLAS CARPETS**  
 MILL OUTLET  
*Professional Installation Of Quality Carpeting, Laminate Wood Flooring, And No-Wax Vinyl. We Sell Shaw, Mohawk, and Beaulieu Carpet.*  
**(734) 697-9137**  
**OVER 200 REMS IN STOCK!**  
 HOURS: MON-FRI 9:00-6:00 • SATURDAY 9:00-4:00  
**240 MAIN ST., BELLEVILLE, MI 48111**  
*"Celebrating Over 35 Years"*



# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## AUCTION

### JNG Auction Services

**LIVE PUBLIC AUCTION:**  
at The Q, 879 Sumpter Rd.  
**Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Preview 6 p.m. -- Auction 7 p.m.

**BLACK FRIDAY ONLINE AUCTION:**  
**November 28<sup>th</sup> - December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Accepting quality consignments and estates.

**www.JNGAUCTIONS.com**  
**734-489-4636**

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions  
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!  
(734) 282-1700 TFN

2000 FORD RANGER XLT. Runs good,  
original owner. College student needs  
funds for school. \$2,000 OBO. Call  
(734) 697-9892 or (734) 516-9686 11/6

SATURN ION, 2007. Ignition switch  
replaced. 88,900 miles. Wine colored,  
AC, 4-door. Very good condition. Extra  
Clean. \$5,000 (734) 635-1549 11/6

JOHN DEERE 5 BOTTOM PLOWS.  
Make an offer. Call (734) 461-6542 or  
Cell (734) 516-5937. 11/13

1990 JEEP CHEROKEE, 4x4, Auto, 6cy.  
125,000 miles. \$1,100 OBO.  
2002 FOCUS, 4cy, 4 speed. \$1,700 OBO.  
Call Pete (734) 796-3058 11/13

2005 CHEVY SILVERADO LS 1500  
Ext. Cab. Gray, very good condition.  
Low miles (under 62,000). One  
owner, clean title. \$11,000 OBO. Call  
(734) 502-9181 or (734) 697-7267. 11/13

'93 GMC SUBURBAN, many new  
parts. 167,000 miles. Rebuilt trans,  
new gas tank, replaced rear end. \$2,300  
(734) 325-7872 11/20

## FREE

CONNIE COOK-TESTORELLI  
ECORSE ROAD  
You've won a dozen free roses.  
Pick them up at Main St. Flower's  
downtown, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or  
www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

THREE ADORABLE baby kittens.  
7 weeks. Litter box trained, child proof-  
good with kids. Have first set of shots.  
(734) 218-4421 11/6

TWO KITTENS. 1 \_ yrs old (1 male &  
1 female). Very playful tabbies. Litter  
box trained-eating kibble. 384 Nevada in  
Holiday West. (734) 383-1402 11/6

FRIENDLY KITTENS to a good home.  
Neutered & shots. (734) 968-1209 11/13

### Notice to Advertisers:

The *BelleVue 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.

## WANTED

**WE BUY  
JUNK CARS**

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

**WANTED:  
JUNK CARS**

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

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

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

SEEKING HOUSING in Belleville. Room  
or small apartment with well behaved dog.  
Employed but willing to barter services.  
Contact Jeannie (734) 307-9857 11/20

## LOST

GRAY COCKATIEL, Angel, with white  
along both her wings. Lost in Belleville  
since July 8, 2014. Reward. Call Linda  
(734) 699-2266. 11/6

MISSING SINCE May 21. 6 year old  
orange tabby male cat named Charlie. All  
declawed. I-94 S. Service Drive Area -  
REWARD. (734) 699-5997 11/6

SILVER RING. Engraved with "Debbie"  
followed by a heart. (734) 444-7566 11/20

## SERVICES

ELECTRICAL WIRING & Generator  
Systems. Installations & repairs. Call  
Electro-Tech (313) 520-1212 TFN

COMPUTER REPAIRS by experienced  
college student; improve overall  
performance. Very fair prices. Call Royce  
(734) 664-8657. 11/6

PIANO LESSONS. Ages 5-adult, two  
free lessons after payment for first month.  
(734) 697-9628. 11/20

## SERVICES

**Take Advantage Of Fall Rates!**

Call **FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**  
(734) 699-4711  
**FREE ESTIMATES!!!**  
**YEAR ROUND SERVICES**  
\*Landscaping Maintenance\*  
\*Snow Removal\* Garage, Basement  
& Attic Clean-Ups\*  
Removal Of: Unwanted Home  
Items, Inside Or Outside Debris.

## 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**

## PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

**Over 41 Years  
Experience.  
Local To The  
Belleville Area. Call  
(313) 740-6276.  
Ask For Bill.**

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

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions  
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!  
(734) 282-1700 TFN

MURRAY'S GENERAL SERVICE.  
Commercial & Residential Lawn  
Care. Licensed & Insured. Hauling.  
(734) 325-6062 11/13

CARPET HEADQUARTERS. Sales/  
Installation/Repairs/Re-stretching.  
Est. 1979. Ask about our carpet specials.  
Call Phil (734) 612-7570. TFN

## FOR SALE

GENERATOR, 6HR, 3750 Watts. \$200  
Romulus (734) 765-9528. 11/6

TWO ELECTRIC SCOOTERS with seats.  
Batteries and scooters are great. \$175ea.  
or \$300 for both. Maybee, MI. Call  
(734) 819-8292 11/13

5' BABY GRAND PIANO. White. Like  
new condition. \$1,900 (734) 697-2250 11/13

CHAR-GRILL. Never Used.  
When new \$79 - selling for \$40.  
Call Teresa (734) 383-4378 11/13

TV STAND, glass & Steel, 3 shelves,  
28" x 48". \$50. (734) 391-7003. 11/20

2500 SKEINS of yarn - \$1+. Seeing is  
believing. Don't miss this one. 1st come  
1st served. Call Larry for an appointment:  
(313) 570-3206 11/20

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

- Mark Twain

# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected calls for VBT Police.*

**Sunday, Oct. 26:**  
0136 – fight, W. Huron River Dr.  
0237 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Belleville  
0331 – intimidation threat, Belleville Rd.  
0522 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.  
0527 – suspicious person, rest area  
0628 – breaking & entering, Van Buren St.  
1104 – harassment call, Village Green Ln.  
1217 – property damage accident, Belleville/I-94  
1407 – breaking & entering, Anna Dr.  
1438 – private property accident, Jackson St.  
1455 – agency assist, E Street  
1535 – shots fired, Martz Rd.  
1715 – PPO violation, Cobblestone Creek Dr.  
1939 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Haggerty Rd.  
1958 – disturbance, Haggerty/Huron River  
2230 – suspicious situation, Crowley/Marlowe  
2233 – noise complaint, Cherry Ln.  
2349 – missing person, McBride Ave.  
2357 – intimidation threat, Denton Rd.

**Monday, Oct. 27:**  
0312 – larceny from auto, Ashbury  
0358 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
0823 – personal injury accident, Tyler  
0922 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1239 – breaking & entering motor vehicle, Oak Ln.  
1414 – harassment call, Pond Ridge Dr.  
1500 – private property accident, Denton Rd.  
1530 – private property accident, Ecorse Rd.  
1654 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1722 – assault & battery, Rogers Ave.  
1749 – breaking & entering, Sumpter Rd.  
2055 – mental, Holly Ln.  
2102 – private property accident, Southport  
2205 – private property accident, Van Born Rd.

**Tuesday, Oct. 28:**  
0345 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. Bellridge Dr.  
0724 – breaking & entering, Arlene Ln.  
0942 – larceny from auto, E. Huron River Dr.  
1002 – larceny from auto, E. Huron River Dr.  
1201 – private property accident, Kirkridge Park  
1206 – fraud, Meadows Ln.  
1403 – agency assist, Liberty  
1447 – mental, Landmark  
1617 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1641 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.  
1704 – fight, Lohr  
1720 – disorderly conduct, Parkwood Dr.  
2128 – disturbance, Michigan Ave.  
2235 – noise complaint, Bayou parking lot

**Wednesday, Oct. 29:**  
0206 – assault & battery, Lakecrest  
0204 – disorderly conduct, Belleville  
1053 – private property accident, Belleville  
1233 – fraud, Belleville  
1337 – fraud, Patriot Ln.  
1548 – assault & battery, Clayton Rd.  
1630 – lake complaint, Belleville Bridge  
1640 – assault & battery, Oak Blvd.  
1707 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.  
1833 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2203 – assault & battery, Village Green Ln.  
2302 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.

**Thursday, Oct. 30:**  
0033 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
0228 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
0451 – operating while intoxicated, I-94 WB/rest area  
0616 – larceny, Oak Ln.  
1037 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville  
1118 – larceny, Amanda Dr.  
1124 – assault & battery, Christina Ln.  
1355 – private property accident, Belleville  
1504 – missing person, Birch Dr.  
1815 – larceny from auto, E. Schooner Dr.  
2013 – missing person, Westlake  
2045 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville  
2159 – assault & battery, Andover Dr.  
2220 – private property accident, Village Green Cluhouse  
2237 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.

**Friday, Oct. 31:**  
0123 – agency assist, roller rink  
0141 – agency assist, Willis  
0544 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.  
0856 – assault & battery, Woodbury Dr.  
0929 – agency assist, Lighthouse Dr.  
1203 – suspicious person, Budd’s farm  
1243 – assault & battery, Lake Pointe Blvd.  
1302 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.  
1310 – larceny, Amanda Dr.  
1644 – property damage accident, Belleville/Auto Zone  
1647 – juvenile complaint, Pond Ridge Dr.  
1649 – harassment call, Maple Dr.  
1853 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Maurice  
1959 – assault & battery, Maple  
2100 – breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.  
2118 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.  
2327 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.

**Saturday, Nov. 1:**  
0024 – disturbance, Geddes  
0200 – water leak found, N. I-9 Service Dr.  
0314 – mental, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
0806 – fraud, Chloe Ct.  
0958 – larceny from auto, Revere Dr.  
1304 – property damage accident, Martinsville Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.  
1335 – harassment call, S. Cumberland Dr.  
1447 – assault & battery, Stratford Dr.  
1755 – private property accident, W. Huron River  
1916 – private property accident, Belleville  
2059 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2203 – property damage accident, Jackson St.

Also on this week’s log are 139 traffic stops, 24 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

# Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Oct. 26:**  
0247 – suspicious person, Church St. / W. Columbia Ave.  
1412 – civil matter, Main St.  
1924 – domestic assault, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1933 – harassment call, N. Liberty St.  
2054 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.  
2345 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.

**Monday, Oct. 27:**  
1233 – private property accident, Fred C. Fisher  
1546 – suspicious person, Third St.  
1659 – assist fire dept., Main St.  
1730 – assist fire dept., Main St.  
1752 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.  
1753 – animal complaint, Victory Park  
1826 – trespassing, Hillside Cemetery  
2007 – civil matter, Estrada  
2310 – suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.

**Tuesday, Oct. 28:**  
0123 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.  
0951 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.  
1044 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.  
1157 – vehicle lockout, Citgo  
1327 – domestic assault, S. Liberty St.  
1451 – private property accident, W. Columbia  
1932 – missing person, Mike’s Red Apple

**Wednesday, Oct. 29:**  
0216 – assist citizen, Main St.  
0408 – assist citizen, Main St.  
0922 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.  
1041 – assist fire dept., E. Columbia Ave.  
1908 – follow up, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1923 – retail fraud, South St.  
1928 – vehicle lockout, N. Liberty St.  
2146 – harassment call, Astor Pl.  
2338 – assist fire dept., Henry St.

**Thursday, Oct. 30:**  
0058 – animal complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.  
0850 – intimidation threat, Main St.  
1059 – miscellaneous complaint, Victory Park  
1352 – follow up, Estrada  
1512 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Owen  
1713 – civil matter, N. Liberty St.  
2008 – suspicious vehicle, Belleville/Hull  
2306 – suspicious vehicle, High St./Edison St.

**Friday, Oct. 31:**  
0133 – agency assist, Roller Rink  
0444 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. / Carmell  
0824 – juvenile complaint, Owen  
0759 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

1041 – assault & battery, N. Liberty St.  
1217 – animal complaint, Sumpter  
1256 – assist fire dept., Owen  
1538 – warrant arrest, Main St.  
1542 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave. / Madelon St.  
1756 – vehicle lockout, N. Edgemont Ave.  
1853 – vehicle lockout, Lunch Box  
2013 – missing person, Carmell St.  
2233 – suspicious vehicle, S. Industrial Park Dr.  
2251 – vehicle repossession, Church St.

**Saturday, Nov. 1:**  
0010 – suspicious situation, Salon on Sumpter  
0403 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.  
1041 – juvenile complaint, Century 21  
1323 – follow up, Estrada  
2109 – suspicious situation, Victory Park

Also on this week’s log are 52 traffic stops.

# Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Oct. 26:**  
0856 – assist other agency, 25000 bl. Waltz Rd.  
1359 – 911 hang up, 25000 Elwell Rd.  
1727 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1849 – suspicious person, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2016 – suspicious incident, Knollwood  
2018 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2056 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Kozma  
2340 – disorderly person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

**Monday, Oct. 27:**  
0129 – property damage accident, Wear/Haggerty  
0659 – citizen assist, 9100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1102 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1128 – property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis  
1358 – trespassing complaint, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1411 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1548 – fight, Wyoming  
1647 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1720 – solicitor complaint, Mulberry  
1818 – ORV complaint, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1831 – warrant arrest, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1903 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Martinsville  
1907 – suspicious vehicle, 446000 bl. Arkona Rd.

**Tuesday, Oct. 28:**  
1143 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1317 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1323 – breaking & entering report, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1455 – suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1512 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1657 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1727 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1758 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1834 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1842 – alarm, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1942 – juvenile complaint, Edgewood

**Wednesday, Oct. 29:**  
0727 – missing person, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.  
0940 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.  
1115 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1410 – trespassing complaint, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.

**Thursday, Oct. 30:**  
0928 – civil dispute, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1045 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1059 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 7800 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1305 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1549 – animal complaint, Lohr/Willis  
1732 – suspicious incident, Oakville Waltz / Sumpter  
1753 – recovered missing, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1829 – assist other agency, Rawsonville/Bemis  
2117 – suspicious person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

**Friday, Oct. 31:**  
0242 – ordinance violation, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
0438 – property damage accident, Judd/Sherwood  
0800 – animal bite, 20000 bl. Kozma Rd.  
1108 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Lane  
1126 – traffic hazard, Wear/Elwell  
1441 – civil dispute, Arizona  
1501 – alarm, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1625 – civil dispute, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1651 – civil dispute, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1802 – disorderly person, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1843 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2013 – property damage accident, 5800 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.  
2142 – alarm, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2212 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2247 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Fenster

**Saturday, Nov. 1:**  
0000 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
0211 – noise complaint, Second St.  
0429 – suspicious incident, Harris/Martinsville  
0909 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1123 – traffic hazard, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1341 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1630 – suspicious incident, 11000 bl. Rawsonville  
1644 – property damage accident, Harris / Martinsville  
2033 – assist other agency, out of township

Also on this week’s log are 11 follow-up investigations, 28 miscellaneous details, 169 patrol checks, and 35 traffic stops.

# Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Friday, Nov. 7** – St. John’s Lutheran Church, 28320 Waltz Rd., Waltz, is having a Potato Pancake Supper from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Donations for adults, \$10; children 6-12, \$4; children 5 and under free. Carry-outs available only after 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by St. John’s Ladies Aid.

• **Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8** – Sumpter Seniors Craft Show runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at the Sumpter Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Road. Table sales help support the Senior Christmas Party. Information: (734) 461-2296.

• **Saturday, Nov. 8** – The Belleville Moose Lodge is holding a spaghetti dinner to honor local veterans. It begins at 6:30 p.m. at the lodge at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads. Cost will be \$10 per person. Children eat free. For information, call (313) 570-6115.

• **Sunday, Nov. 9** – Benefit for Jesse Yates runs from 1 to 6 p.m. at Moose Lodge, 5506 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti. Spaghetti dinner is \$10 per person. Silent auction. Jesse is fighting stage 4 Hodgkin’s Lymphoma.

• **Tuesday, Nov. 11** – Canton Township invites the public to a free event at 7 p.m. at the Village Theater at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, that will honor area service men and women. Doors open at 6 p.m. so the public can look at the many displays. Keynote speaker is Alexander Jefferson, a Tuskegee fighter pilot. Items for service men and women will be collected by the Michigan Military Moms. (734) 394-5300

• **Wednesday, Nov. 12** – Chicken Supper begins at 5 p.m. until sell-out at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston, (734) 654-9020. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Adults \$10, children 12 and under, \$5. Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits and gravy, dinner rolls, dessert, beverage.

• **Thursday, Nov. 13** – Everyone is invited to the Veterans’ Day Luncheon at 11:15 a.m. at VBT September Days. Lunch donation is \$2.25. Please sign up by Nov. 10, 699-8918. Guest speaker is Master Sgt. Alfonso King, U.S. Air Force (ret) Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

**Spaghetti Dinner  
Honoring Local Veterans  
Saturday, Nov. 8  
6:30 p.m.  
Belleville Moose Lodge  
Corner of Sumpter & Harris Rds.  
\$10 each**



# Orphan of the Week

Friends of Michigan  
Animals Rescue

## "CAPTAIN"



**Captain** will make a winning addition to your family team. He's a 1 year and 8 month old Labrador Retriever mix with a playful, energetic, adventurous and friendly personality ready to help you tackle and claim all your victories in the game of life. His happy attitude and goofy grins will easily help you shake off bad moods and his eagerness to play and be active will motivate you to fight any battle of the bulge by joining in the fun. **Captain** will do best in an active home with a family that will keep him busy and tired out to keep him on his best behavior. He loves taking walks, running and of course playing fetch so keeping him tired out is only a matter of you making time for the outdoor fun he needs. His lovable and friendly nature also has him needing lots of quality time and attention from his family and he can show some separation anxiety if left alone too much. Getting in some basic training classes once in a home would help make sure he starts life with you on the right paw. He also beats all the competition in the looks department with a muscular build, handsome black and white coat complete with black eye patch and a permanent goofy grin. **Captain** is already neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. If you would like to add this winning pup to your family team call Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue at 734-461-9458 or visit our website [fmar1.org](http://fmar1.org) for more information.

## Thomas White

(continued from page 1)

relieved.

One tentative witness who lives out of state responded: "Her happy heart sings."

Prosecutor Williams previously told Judge Van Houten that 50-60 witnesses would be called if the case went to trial.

The 20 felony charges cover five charges from Sept. 14, 2007 and 15 from Jan. 1, 2009 to Dec. 18, 2013. The two sets of charges were combined into one case by

Judge Van Houten last spring.

One victim told the *Independent* that that they were told to be in the courtroom at 9 a.m. sharp on Monday and then had to wait for Judge Roberson, who showed up around 10:30 a.m. They were told he had to "come from another area."

She said there were a lot of conferences and Judge Roberson wasn't very kind in his statements to White. White told the judge he lived on Harris Road.

Another victim, who was due to testify on Wednesday, said she wonders how

White can have the money to pay his high-priced attorney, Michael Vincent, when he couldn't pay his house and car payments.

Vincent has been defending White for more than a year, with many delays and postponements. White is out on \$50,000 personal recognizance bond.

A series of civil cases are awaiting the end of the criminal case so they can begin, including two victims who have reportedly linked up with the Geoff Fieger law firm.

Witnesses said the prosecutor had promised them they could make statements at White's sentencing, so several indicated they will be happy to talk at that time.

## Joy, Rick Cichewicz present travelogue on their trip to Cuba

Joy and Rick Cichewicz of Sumpter Township will be featured at the 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 13, Homegrown Knowledge program at the Belleville Area District Library.

They will present a travelogue of their recent trip to Cuba.

The public is invited without charge to view their photos of Havana and the southern Cuban towns of Cienfuegos and Trinidad, and learn about the educated and talented artists, musicians and dancers who are a part of the Cuban population, that also includes so much poverty.

The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library. Joy Cichewicz is a member of the library board.

"When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity."

— Albert Einstein

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ENJOY OUR CLOWN,  
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6-8PM



**TUESDAY'S BURGER DAY**

Starting at **\$2.99**

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**CHOOSE FROM**  
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## NOVEMBER SAVINGS EVENT IS UNDERWAY AT ATCHINSON FORD!

**New  
DETAIL SHOP  
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**41525 TYLER, VAN BUREN**  
**BECAUSE YOU DESERVE IT!** Ultra move in condition 4 bedroom, 2 bath Full brick ranch with premium kitchen, fireplace, newer carpet, and floor coverings, 3 seasons room, full finished basement with bar, Large 2+ Acre parcel with huge pole barn. \$244,900



**132 N LIBERTY, BELLEVILLE**  
**MULTI MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS** Updated 3 Bedroom Belleville Lake Home. Lakefront views from doorwalls & master bedroom, updated kitchen, newer roof, walkout deck from large family room w fireplace. New flooring, paint walkout basement \$269,900.



**49075 ARKONA, SUMPTER**  
**ENJOY THE PLEASURES OF PRIVACY** in this 37 ACRE FARM. Extraordinary 2 bedroom (was 3) 2 bath Brick Ranch. Large Basement, Large Pole Barn, pond, 37+ acres. \$250,000 Call Ashlee at Greenstone Farm Credit Services (734) 625-3813 ADDITIONAL 40 acres available.



**44233 HARMONY LANE, VAN BUREN**  
**BELLEVILLE LAKE FRONT ESTATE.** Indoor olympic pool & whirlpool, multiple fireplaces, skylights, family room with fireplace, 4 1/2 baths and 5 bedrooms. Many newer improvements, 350 ft lake frontage on 2+ acres with boathouse and tennis court. \$699,000



**14015 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN**  
**APPETITE FOR AN ACRE?** Country vinyl ranch featuring 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Brand New Furnace and Brand New Water Heater. Close to Lower Huron Metro Park, Freeways, Metro Airport and Shopping. Paved Street and paved drive plus TWO - 2 1/2 CAR GARAGES make this a must see property. \$114,900



**70 DAVIS, BELLEVILLE**  
**5,000+ SQUARE FEET.** Property has a Rubber Roof-Engineered Trusses in 30x50 rm has own fuse box-self contained heat & air-10 ft ceilings-2 baths 1 has shower & 1 room plumbed for 3rd bath-7 locations for offices-2 large bay doors-3 skylights. Multi uses! \$275,000



**429 HARBOUR POINTE, BELLEVILLE**  
**CUSTOM BUILT** brick & vinyl 3 bedroom home with large master suite, sitting room and huge master bath, hardwood floors, double fireplaces, 2 1/2 baths, large basement, three seasons room and deck. 2 1/2 car attached garage. Great neighborhood. \$179,900.



**9502 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN**  
**CAR COLLECTORS DREAM!** Load up the pole barns with 30+ cars! 5+ acre brick ranch offering 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, finished basement plus large family room & bar and NEW ROOF (2014). Paved street and 2 huge pole barns. Possible rezoning to commercial use. \$214,900



**6320 SANDALWOOD, VAN BUREN**  
**IN A SECLUDED SUBDIVISION** just minutes from everything. Immediate occupancy on this 3 bedroom brick and vinyl colonial with room for everyone! Large master suite, large family room with fireplace plus full basement, 2 1/2 car attached garage, paver brick patio and more. \$172,900.



**500 HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE**  
**HIGHEST QUALITY!** Brick Commercial building in the City of Belleville. Former florist, coffee house, and bakery with potential for immediate franchise opportunity The quality, potential and design of this newer (2002) constructed building are beyond description. \$795,000