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

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# NEELEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

Vol. 20.22 Thursday, May 29, 2014

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The Belleville Community Chorus sang several patriotic songs at Monday's Thunder Rolls in Belleville Memorial Day event, closing with "God Bless America," during which the large crowd joined in singing. This was the tenth year for the ceremony that is presented by David C. Brown Funeral Home and Family Center, with the help of Chapter G, Gold Wings Touring Association. Chairperson of the event Kathie Steigerwald said 298 bikers registered for the ride, paying \$10 each to help veterans and their families. She said both gas stations at I-94 were full of additional bikers who joined in the run at the end.



The contingent from the Sumpter Roller Rink skated their way through the parade on Saturday, stopping for a well-rehearsed presentation at the judge's stand.

Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman Candidate for U.S. Congress Debbie Dingell walked the whole Sumpter Township Country Fest Parade route in high heels on Saturday. The route is one mile long.

# VBT Planners approve four fireworks sales stands

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

The Van Buren Township Planning Commission held four public hearings on temporary land uses for fireworks stands at its April 23 meeting and at the May 14 meeting approved all the requests.

Three companies wanted to sell fireworks at four stands in VBT for more than the seven consecutive days allowed under the township zoning ordinance:

- TNT Fireworks in the Walmart parking lot at 10562 Belleville Road, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., June 24-July 6;
- USA Fireworks at Faith United Methodist Church, 6200 Denton Road, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., except for Sundays, which will be noon to 10 p.m., June 20-July 6;
  - USA Fireworks at Belleville Square

Shopping Center, 10864 Belleville Road, north of the I-94 Service Drive, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., June 20-July 6; and

• Phantom of Michigan at the Lakewood Shopping Plaza, 2095 Rawsonville Road, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.. June 26-July 5.

At the public hearings, John Delaney said since the State of Michigan allowed expanded fireworks sales, the fireworks stands in VBT have increased by 100% every year – from one to two last year and now four this year.

He asked if it will be eight next year, then 16. He suggested over the next year that this township should sit down with the Public Safety Department to recommend approval of so many fireworks stands and no more, "So we don't become the fireworks capital of Wayne County."

He complained about Chinese "whatever" projectiles that carry live fire and the wind blows it down and it sets fields on fire.

Britt Tapper of Phantom of Michigan said a Chinese Lantern is not a firework.

Jason Bachelder of Bay Pointe Drive asked about two years ago, didn't the township approve setting off lit lanterns from the Denton Road bridge?

Planning Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson said that was for the  $100^{\rm th}$  anniversary of the Belleville Fire Department.

Bachelder said it's the parental responsibility to watch out for use of fireworks by children. He said establishing points of sale has to be regulated by the municipality.

A resident of Endicott Street said she lives behind Walmart and she doesn't want fireworks going off so close.

The fireworks representatives said they are not setting off fireworks, but just selling them. They said the law allows people to

(continued on page 18)

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#### Page :

# SECOND FRONT PAGE

# Sumpter Officers Balowski, Steffani win awards for their work

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At the May 13 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, Police Captain Eric Luke announced awards for police officers

He said in late 2012, Police Chief James Pierce said he would like to give awards to outstanding officers and so the recognition program began.

It was decided that a mountain of awards would take away from the award, Captain Luke said, so just three were given for the year 2013. They were announced during National Police Week.

Officer Joseph Balowski earned the Meritorious Service award for his actions on Nov. 20. He was dispatched to a well-being check that turned into a suicidal female armed with a knife.

After attempts to talk her into dropping the knife failed and it appeared she was about to begin harming herself, he was able to use his Taser to subdue her and bring the situation to a successful end.

"Officer Balowski showed extreme calmness and professionalism during the incident," said Captain Luke. "His action would be impressive for a veteran officer,



*Independent* photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Joseph Balowski, 24, was promoted from part-time Sumpter Township Police Officer to full-time at the April 8 meeting of the township board of trustees. His parents, Kelly and Frank Balowski, who live in Flat Rock, were present for the swearing-in ceremony. Balowski was hired a year ago as a part-time officer. He graduated from the police academy in 2009 and worked as an officer for the Metroparks.

let alone an officer who had only been with the PD for approximately 7 months at the time."

Officer Balowski was awarded a Uniform

Citation Bar.

Officer Brian Steffani was given two awards: Patrol Productivity and Officer of

The patrol award brought him a Uniform Citation Barand was "Awarded in recognition of the most productive and proactive patrol officer for the previous calendar year."

His Officer of the Year award also brings a Uniform Citation Bar, and Acrylic Desk Award, and his name on a perpetual plaque in the lobby.

Captain Luke also announced the awards for 2012 that were presented in May 2013.

The Meritorious Service Award went to Sgt. Patrick Gannon; the Valued Service award to Sgt. Chris McGlynn and Sgt. Patrick Gannon; the Chief's Recognition Award to Administrative Assistant Jewel Leonard and Operations Coordinator Malissa (Baker) Paquette; Patrol Productivity to Officer Brian Steffani; and Officer of the Year to Detective John Toth.

Captain Luke said, "Det. Toth has transformed the Detective Bureau into one of dynamic investigations, quality interrogation, expanded patrol officer guidance, and successful case closures ... In other words, he gets results. In my opinion, his assignment to Detective has been one of the best things to happen to the police department in the 20 years that I have been here."

# VBT approves 3-year pact with Belleville for dispatch, lockup service

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Last year, Belleville got a gift from Van Buren Township: no raise in the rates it paid for emergency dispatch and lockup services

The charge for 2013 was the same as 2012: \$145,600, although the rates had been rising every year since the agreement started in 2005.

At its regular meeting on May 20, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees made up for lost time and approved a three-year intergovernmental agreement with the City of Belleville for the services.

The increase will be 6% in 2014, 4% in 2015, and 4% in 2016.

The agreement also named each municipality as an additional insured to the other's insurance in connection with the emergency dispatch agreement.

The agreement will expire Dec. 31,

Supervisor Linda Combs and VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain met with Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley and City Manager Kollmeyer to negotiate the intergovernmental agreement.

At the May 20 meeting, VBT Trustee Jeff Jahr asked if the agreement is being audited, since the contract says VBT will be reimbursed for *actual cost*.

Treasurer Sharry Budd said when it was first drawn up there were estimates and an audit of actual costs.

The City of Belleville had its regular meeting the night before VBT's meeting and the new dispatch/lockup agreement was not mentioned.

When asked, City Manager Kollmeyer told the *Independent* that the agreement will be on the agenda at the next city meeting on June 2, at the same meeting as the city budget hearing. She said the new charges are included in the 2014-15 city budget.

In other business at the May 20 meeting, the VBT board:

- Approved changes to the Water and Sewer Commission By-Laws, as recommended by the Water and Sewer Commission;
- Learned Oakland County required a resolution from the board for CLEMIS (Oakland County's Courts & Law Enforcement Management Information System) services for the fire department, so the board passed a resolution. The contract was originally approved by the board on May 6;
- Heard a review by SEMCOG of the 8 ½-hour strategic planning session held by the board on Feb. 8;
- Approved the second reading and final adoption of three ordinances on drug possession, use, and paraphernalia to put

the local laws in compliance with the state Medical Marijuana Act and the Department of Health;

- Approved the first reading of an ordinance amendment that repeals the begging ordinance. It was discussed in closed session with the township attorney on March 31;
- Approved phase II of the parking lot replacement program and awarded a contract extension to Asphalt Specialist, Inc. for \$90,426, plus a 10% contingency amount to address changes and unforeseen conditions that may arise during construction. Phase II will upgrade the parking area around the senior center and recreation center part of the building;
- Approved a professional services agreement with engineers Wade Trim not to exceed \$6,000 on an hourly schedule to oversee the parking lot upgrade;
- Approved awarding a pump station replacement contract to TSP Environmental for \$348,292, plus a 10% contingency fee, for replacement/upgrade of three sanitary lift station located at Ryznar, Haggerty, and North Shore:
- Approved the pump station project administration services by Wade Trim at a cost not to exceed \$36,000;
- Removed from the agenda the request of DPW Director Taylor to purchase a

2014 F-150 XLT from Jack Demmer Ford for \$30,706. The request will be further discussed at the board's June 1 work/study session;

- Heard Supervisor Combs read a letter from Huron Valley Ambulance Paramedic Supervisor Robert Gibbons to Fire Chief Dan Besson complimenting the emergency crews on a job well done on the way to Oakwood Wayne Hospital. It involved a 7-week-old child in full cardiac arrest at 6:10 a.m. the previous Saturday at Belleville Manor. The police and fire emergency crews were praised for their professional efforts, although the child did not survive;
- Heard DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland talk about the Belleville Road construction that people are "up in arms over." She said it will take a little pain to have a good outcome. Ireland said the first phase is expected to be done by July 12 and the second phase by Aug. 15. She said there will be no work scheduled on July 4 and Memorial Day and access to all businesses will be maintained. Ireland also said the cleanup and landscaping along the new fence along Belleville Road near Harmony Lane will be done before the contractor gets paid;
- Heard Belleville High School student Dequan Robertson tell how he appreciates

(continued on page 15)

Belleville Area Independent/May 29, 2014

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

# OPINIONS

<u>Editorial</u>

# Great weather, great gatherings for Memorial Day

The weather was sunny and clear throughout the past week end, giving the four-day Sumpter Country Fest a wonderful backdrop for its community festival. The parade on Saturday was full of country-themed units, including the judges from the district court in T-shirts and blue jeans in their convertible, and a crowd of kids from the roller rink skating the parade route.

There were horses and police and fire units from Sumpter and also surrounding communities – Augusta Township and City of Belleville. One parade watcher was surprised that there were no police or fire units there from Van Buren Township, which shares a border at Bemis Road. No, VBT hasn't joined in to help Sumpter celebrate for quite a few years.

Those who attended the Memorial Day service at the Veterans Monument in Belleville also commented on the sunny weather, remembering the year it stormed and hailed and last year's rain. Those were just bad dreams this year.

The Belleville Community Chorus sang several patriotic songs, much to the delight of the audience. This was the tenth anniversary of the ceremony and those who spoke 10 years ago, took part again.

VBT did take part in this event, with Supervisor Combs giving a few words and a few members of the honor guard present. There were lots of bikers.

It was great a great week end. Finally, it feels like summer.

# **EXTRA THINGS I KNOW**

Don Juchartz, a world-renowned horticulturalist and radio personality who lives in Sumpter Township, is suffering from congestive heart failure and is under hospice care. If you'd like to send him a card, send it to the *Belleville-Area Independent*, 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville 48111 and we will get it to him.

Bob Allison of the "Ask Your Neighbor" radio show called to talk to Don the other day, but Don was sleeping. Don's radio show was on WJR for many years and he was called the "Plant Doctor." Recently he has been on 960 AM with Allison. Cards would be nice.

\*\*

Last Thursday two City of Belleville residents were awakened by a phone call from a man who had a poor command of the English language and said he was with the IRS. He said they have determined that the couple endeavored to defraud the federal government of \$4,000 and now they are suing them for \$52,000. They were told they will lose their house, car, money, job and they will tell their friends about it.

The husband, a pilot trying to get his rest, turned the call over to his wife because he couldn't understand the man, but heard "lawsuit." The wife tried to speak, but the man said not to interrupt, that he had to read the text of the whole message. He ended by saying if they don't pay in 45 minutes the Sheriff's Department will be at their door to arrest them. They finally asked the man what state he was calling from and he said Florida. When they asked what city in Florida, he hung up.

They called the IRS and the person there told them the IRS never calls people. It

sends certified mail and legal paperwork.
The IRS suggests a call recipient ask for the badge number, name, and phone number of a caller. The wife said she had read before that when callers sound foreign and claim they are in America, just ask them to repeat something all Americans would know, like the rest of "Mary had a little lamb..."

To report fraud calls, they found you can call the Inspector General's office for tax administration in Washington, D.C., at 1-800-366-4484. The wife also noted the number of the scam caller showed up on her Caller ID as 888-855-7258. She suggests you not pick up the phone if that bad number calls you.

She said the IRS lady offered to check the status of the couple's tax returns and she found, "You're so good, you squeak," the IRS lady said. "You're good to go."

The Belleville lady also called the police about the threat that they would be arrested. The police dispatcher laughed, saying it was a scam call and the police department certainly doesn't have the manpower to run around arresting people as was threatened.

On May 21, at the end of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority meeting at city hall, the electricity went out and then a moment later went back on.

This was around 6:42 p.m. and that's when the emergency siren started blaring and it blared and blared. City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said when the lights went

out she left the meeting to see if the traffic lights were off at Five Points. That's when the electricity went back on and the siren started.

The siren (of WWII vintage) has to be turned on and off manually and she didn't

have a key to the police department, so the siren blared until they could get a police officer in off the road to turn it off. It wailed for about nine minutes. The resumption of electrical



power seems to have triggered the alarm. We had a report of a brief power outage on Elwell Road at that same time, so it seems to have been something over a wide area.

~~~

A resident of North Liberty Street in Belleville reports recently seeing an orange-red light traveling toward Belleville Lake in the night sky. It wasn't flashing and it was just one steady light and no other lights as you'd expect to see on aircraft at night.

She said she watched until the light went out of sight, but never heard a sound from it and couldn't see its shape. It wasn't a helicopter or regular airplane.

Her question: Are drones silent in flight and do they have just one light? And, are drones being flown near Belleville?



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# Letters

## Thank you to all who helped with Food Drive

To the Editor:

We would like to extend a very special "thank you" to all who participated in the 22<sup>nd</sup>-Annual Postal Workers National Food Drive in our community.

This year's drive was a huge success with more than 11,500 pounds of food collected at last count. The federal government equates one pound of food at a cost value of \$1.66 for a total of \$19,090.

The mail carriers from the Belleville Post Office worked with volunteers from the First United Methodist Church all day Saturday, May 10, collecting the food, weighing it, and transporting it from the post office to the church.

All of the food collected has been sorted, boxed, and stocked in the food closet at First United Methodist Church to serve those in need in Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the City of Belleville. The food collected will help many, especially some of the children in our community who depend on breakfast and/or lunch at school during the school year. The food closet is serving more and more Senior Citizens and those people that are being called the working poor - those who are working at low-paying jobs, not able to make ends meet.

Thank you to the people who took the time and effort to put food out for the mail carriers and those who took their donations directly to the post office. Their generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the volunteers who spent their time transporting and sorting the food, a tremendous job well

A very special thank you to Donna Collins who coordinated efforts with Lynn Taylor of the post office and Marilyn Wood who coordinated the volunteers at the First

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United Methodist church.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful community project.

Sandy Askew, Food Closet Belleville First United Methost Church

## Savage PTO thanks all who helped carnival

Savage Elementary School PTO wishes to say a big Thank You to Van Buren Public Schools board member and Savage Superstar Parent Scott Russell, who not only was one of the five brave souls who volunteered to be in the dunk tank for Savage at their yearly carnival, but also matched the funds raised during his time on the hot seat.

The seat was the only thing that was hot on carnival night this year, which was unseasonably cold. Mr. Russell did the dunk tank for the second year in a row-last year he also generously matched the funds. He also adds to the fun by wearing a fancy suit while in the dunk tank!

The Savage Elementary PTO wishes to thank all of the parents and helpers who volunteered their time, a cake or a donation to the annual carnival, which is an extremely popular event. This year there were 73 baskets and gift certificates raffled off which made for a lot of happy winners.

Thanks also to all of the local businesses and organizations who gave products or gift certificates.

Proceeds from the Basket Raffle are going to the Savage PTO's Playground Improvement Drive. Savage PTO has raised over \$20,000 to improve the Savage playground so that the current number of Savage Superstars can be accommodated as the school count has increased due to the elementary consolidation.

Thank you all so much! Savage PTO Kelly Doty, president Lenore Sykes, vice-president Susan Rizzo-Melidosian, treasurer Andrea VanDenBergh, secretary

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# **More Letters**

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Dear Community,

Saturday, May 31 at 10 a.m. begins Belleville's Relay for Life at Quirk Park. It's time we make a statement as a community that we are aware, involved and ready to fight back against cancer.

This year's Relay is going to be different, and more important it's going to be exciting. We will have live entertainment all day, activities for the whole family, and, of course, walking the track. There is a special luncheon for cancer survivors. Survivors can register online at the Belleville Relay for Life website or on site the morning of the event. Survivors are especially invited to come to the opening ceremony and participate in the survivor lap and be honored for their fight.

There is still time to get involved. Start a team, donate, become a sponsor, or register as a survivor.

Everyone is invited to come out to the event and participate. Come on, Belleville. Let's show 'em what we got!

For more information check our website relayforlife.org - search Belleville, MI or email steve.windom@cancer.org.

Yours in the Fight,

Katrina Paich

Survivorship Chair

Belleville Relay for Life



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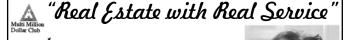
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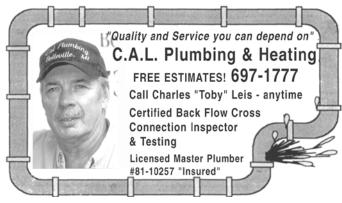
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### **More Letters**

### Residents deserve a new, beautiful library

To the Editor:

Years ago, my husband and I often checked out books from libraries in other communities, knowing that their collections were more extensive than that in the Fred C. Fischer Library.

Now, after volunteering some time there, I have become aware of how much our own library has to offer. A quick read of the Spring/Summer newsletter will quickly amaze anyone who hasn't frequented libraries in recent years.

Educational programs and activities for all ages fill the calendar every day the library is open, and citizens in great numbers avail themselves of the opportunities.

Preschoolers might choose to learn about music, for example. A percussion discussion is coming up for children, teens may learn about Taiko Japanese drumming, and for adults there are one-on-one reading skills classes.

Adults may want to attend an upcoming

# **Obituaries**

#### ELIZABETH BULIFANT

Age 89, of Belleville and formerly of Ypsilanti, died May 26, 2014 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Funeral arrangements are pending at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Friday visitation and a Saturday service.

#### BLANCHE RONETTE MERICLE

(October 6, 1917 – January 3, 2014)

A Celebration of Life memorial service will be held for Blanche Ronette Mericle, 96, at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, June 21, 2014 at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, with Pastor David Hildebrand officiating.

#### GERALDINE HELEN THORNTON

(January 24, 1956 - May 19, 2014)

Age 59, of Van Buren Township. Survived by three children Edwin, Daniel, and Dawn Petrich; 8 grandchildren; 4 sisters; 2 brothers. Visitation was May 23 at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing chapel, Belleville. informative program about identity theft. They may enjoy help with writing projects. The Homegrown Knowledge Series features travelogues, and includes a variety of skill-based presentations. Often people need to wait for a turn at the computers. And of course there are book shelves and magazine to browse.

A major problem with continuing to use the Fred C. Fischer Library is that between the last two censuses, our tri-community has increased its population approximately 23%.

But fortunately, voters of Sumpter Township, Belleville, and Van Buren Township now have the opportunity to create the space and resources for all these library functions.

Our some 44,000 residents need and deserve a modern and beautiful facility where all ages can gather for these many educational functions that are presently squeezed into a small and needy building. I for one, look forward to having such a library right here close to home.

Dee Crowe, Van Buren Resident

# Now we play numbers game on the voters

Dear Editor

Now we play the numbers game, for if there are enough figures "thrown at the voters" they become mind-boggling, they get confusing, and the voter will just throw up their hands and say, "I don't understand all of this!" skim over the myriad of hyperbole

in disgust and vote their emotions; at least that is what the library board is hoping.

And isn't it strange how EVERY request for a millage increase always uses \$100,000 as assessment? They say it's easier to compute, but it isn't the truth and it's not fact.

I just looked at my "Notice of Assessment ..." from the City of Belleville. It was interesting to note that: "The 2014 Inflation Rate Multiplier is: 1.016" and not the Mr. Whistler rate of 2% per year. At his rate in inflation our home should have a market value of \$152,000 in 2014 to \$212,000 in 2034. There are times I wish I could be a Nostradamus and see into the future as accurately as these prognosticators. But, I do know that these figures loom on the horizon:

- 1. Encumbered BHS School Bonds ...... \$179,000,000
- 2. Encumbered Wayne County Prison Bonds ...... \$200,000,000
- 4. Encumbered Van Buren Visteon Bond ...... \$28,000,000
- 5. Purposed BADL Library \
  Construction Bond ....... \$19,050,000

Total \$726,050,000

Yes, those Wayne County bonds and Township bonds and Library bonds and School bonds are ours to pay off. These amounts DO NOT reflect the actual bond payoff and costs because the interest for 20 years has not been computed into FINAL COSTS.

These are not interest-free bonds, therefore, one can come close to the actual cost by doubling the amount of bond indebtedness, that will be \$1,452,100,000. Yes, that is one BILLION dollars that wants to be -- and some has been -- foisted upon a beleaguered taxpaying public. Now add to your tax assessment a millage for Van Buren School operating expense, and another millage increase in the Library operating expense millage that already exists.

We have a decimated infrastructure in our county roads, our township roads, and city streets. They are crumbling into dust and ruts. We citizens have NEEDS that require immediate attention and not a "pie-in-the-sky" library WANT!

Register to vote! If out of town or you have a need, get your Absentee Ballot!

Library Bond, Vote NO!

Sincerely Cornell Anton, Jr. City of Belleville

# Vote NO on the library bond question

To the Editor:

"Beware the Public Carnivores, for they inevitably, edibly, have a softnosed hollowpoint magnum behind every bush..."

--Ted Nugent

Chastised from several friends about my not writing in this forum for a while, I have decided to weigh in on the Library issue(s).

(continued on page 8)

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(continued from page 7)

I wonder how far our leaders in power think they can go; the nation is trillions in debt, our production has gone overseas, and just surviving in this economy, or the lack of it, has become a larger and larger chore

In the face of all this, Belleville is being taken the down the primrose path of building a new Library, when one is not really needed or by some. On the Lake? With boat access, fishing, and rain gardens?

The current library building works well enough for the people who do use it -- and I do. I have never seen it jammed to capacity. Yet, somebody wants a new building. They could've used the old east wing of the High School before it was torn down to make room for a mosquito-disease retention pond. Such Library could've been connected directly to the High School with a gated hallway, but we no longer trust ourselves to come in contact with students, or vice versa.

But no, they want to saddle the taxpayers with yet another brand-new building with a multimillion-dollar debt attached. WRONG.

If anything should be done to the existing building, it should be built UP, with a second floor and new roof, current space and leaking problems solved. There is no problem with parking, as the Municipal lot is still available. Boats are for fishing, parking lots for Libraries, close to the High

VOTE NO ON THE LIBRARY BOND!

Sincerely, Jimmi Chapman

# Sumpter police make me feel safe in my home

To the Editor:

I live on Wear Road and I went to the Sumpter Township Police Department in mid-January to see Jewell Leonard. I told her that I would be going to Alabama and Florida and be back in mid-April.

She said the police officers would check

on my home while I was gone.

I came back in mid-April and found my house flooded. I had lost two floors. The second floor was not flooded, but the furnace was out. I curled up and went to bed.

A few days later, I was looking at my security tape and saw a light going around my pole barn and house in the snowy, frigid weather. There were footprints I could see in the snow.

It took a couple of days of watching the 24-hour tape until I could see that it was a police officer walking around, checking my property for me.

It gave me a safe feeling to know that they did that for me.

I went to the police department and asked what I could do for them. I offered a donation, but that was declined. Jewell said I should call Rosemary at the *Independent*, so I did.

As to the flood, the insurance company thinks maybe the electricity went out and the furnace went out and the pipes froze. I keep my temperature at 68-69 degrees all year round. The water had been running so long, water was coming out under the door when I got home.

There are things that happen, but it always could be worse. I thanked God I had a floor upstairs that wasn't wet.

In closing, I want to thank the Sumpter Police Department for doing their duty and for their attention to duty.

Hardred Barnes, Jr. Sumpter Township

# A reminder: Flag Day is June 14, fly your flag

To Belleville Residents and all my South Biggs Neighbors:

Flag Day (June 14) falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days.

During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

June 14, 2014 is fast approaching and I am attempting to have a Flag displayed at every home and business in Belleville.

Here's YOUR chance to demonstrate pride in our country.

Once again I am encouraging all my South Biggs neighbors and the city to have a flag at every home. Let's repeat the last couple of year's 100% effort on South Biggs Street. This should be a city-wide effort and I am looking forward to having several more streets with 100% participation.

"Business Owners, Firemen, Police Officers, City Officials," set the example. Display your U.S. flag early. Show the rest of Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Michigan and the entire country how proud we are to be a U.S. Citizen, creating a sense of pride in our neighborhood and our country.

I will have many free, refurbished flags (11"x16") available. Stop by and pick up one. Stop at 48 S. Biggs. Also, I can have your old flags properly disposed of. Drop them off when you pick up a new one.

You may purchase flags at Meijer, Walmart, Belleville and Sumpter Hardware stores, even most drug stores, and they are relatively inexpensive.

Pete Pitzen

U.S. Citizen, Belleville Resident, U.S. Army Vet, U.S. Air Force Vet, VFW Member, American Legion Member

P.S. Don't let Flag Day go by without acknowledging our Great Country.

# We can't let Fermi 2 get licensed for 31 more years

Dear Editor.

While wondering why DTE Energy would request a license extension for Fermi 2 eleven years before the current license expires, someone sent me a *New York Times* article which reported on the Fukushima disaster, "Experts Had Long Criticized Potential Weakness in Design of Stricken Reactor." (2/15/2011)

The article stated that warnings about the potential for failure of Mark 1 containment vessels if the cooling systems failed were issued as far back as 1972. The manufacturers, General Electric, engineers

had expressed misgivings that a massive pipe break, rather than an epic earthquake and tsunami would trigger the disaster.

"Questions about the design escalated in the mid-1980s, when Harold Denton, an official with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, asserted that Mark 1 reactors had a 90% probability of bursting should the fuel rods overheat and melt in an accident."

Reactors at Fukushima were Mark 1s and

Fermi 2 is the largest Mark 1 reactor in the

world. Although safety changes have been made as a result of the Fukushima disaster, it still represents a major danger to our bioregion. Countries all over the world are converting to sustainable forms of energy. After voting to shut down all their nuclear reactors, Germany now gets 76% of its

reactors, Germany now gets 76% of its energy from sustainable sources. Other countries are on that same path, and just this week, Canada declined licensing new reactors.

And yet, Detroit Edison seeks not only to license and build another nuclear reactor on the shores of Lake Erie, they seek to license the existing Fermi 2 for another 31 years. People, we just can't let that happen. Sincerely,

Jessie Pauline Collins Redford jessiepauline@gmail.com

# Public invited to visit Julien's Garden at Savage Elementary

Wednesday, May 21 marked the oneyear anniversary of the dedication of Julien's Garden. It also would have been the ninth birthday of Van Buren Public Schools student Julien Vanderlinden and the butterfly garden was planted in his

Julien's Garden is an official Monarch Butterfly Way Station and has grown into a beautiful area for the Savage Elementary students and teachers to appreciate. The public is invited to come and check out the garden when visiting Savage.





#### Court Watching:

# Judge Braxton sentences Woodford, 19, under Youthful Training Act

By Diane Madigan *Independent* Court Reporter

After pleading guilty as charged on five felony charges involving an 11-year-old girl, 19-year-old Van Buren Township resident Darryl Woodford was sentenced under HYTA.

The Holmes Youthful Training Act is a

discretionary sentence where a person who pleads guilty to a crime committed between his/her 17th and 21st birthdays may, with the youth's consent and without entering an adjudication of guilt, be assigned the status of a youthful trainee.



Woodford

In Judge Margie R. Braxton's courtroom at Circuit Court on May 21, Woodford was placed on probation for three years. Upon successful completion of all terms

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set by the judge, the court will dismiss the charges. On May 21, 2017 Woodford's YTA status will be taken off.

If Woodford fails to successfully complete the terms of probation, the judge may terminate YTA status, enter an adjudication of guilt, and sentence the defendant.

The charges Woodford pled guilty to on April 8 are:

- Two counts of communicating with another to commit internet / computer crime;
- One count of child sexually abusive commercial activity;
- One count of possession of child sexually abusive material; and
- One count of distributing obscene matter to children

Prior to sentencing, Woodford's attorney Ryan Hill and the prosecutor had a sidebar conference with Judge Braxton. It was agreed between the parties that Woodford would not need to register as a sex offender.

In a statement to the court, Hill described Woodford's status as living with his mother. He had not graduated from high school. According to Hill, Woodford had worked at Walmart but was terminated after an "unflattering article" in the Belleville paper.

Hill asked the court for two years of probation. The prosecution asked for five years. Judge Braxton ordered three years with two weeks in Wayne County Jail and a lot of requirements.

The conditions of Woodford's probation include:

- He cannot have contact with any person under 17 without adult supervision;
- He must obtain sex offender counseling and waive confidentiality with authorities;
  - He cannot own or possess any

device to connect to the internet without obtaining permission from the probation department;

- He cannot take any sexually stimulating substances;
- He cannot possess or enter places where sexually stimulating material is sold or used;
- He must have no contact with the victim or be within 500 feet of her residence;
- He cannot live or work within 1,000 feet of school property;
- He cannot go within 500 feet of parks, playgrounds or other places primarily used by persons under 17 years of age;
- He must obtain GED or register within 45 days;
- He must report change of address to the probation department;
  - He must seek and obtain employment;
- He must submit to search of property and car; and
- He must not use any assaultive behavior.

Judge Braxton gave Woodford two weeks credit for time served and ordered \$455 in fines with an additional \$285 per year in supervision fees and court costs.

Van Buren Township Detective Ken Toney was the officer in charge on this case.

**Court Watching:** 

# Paul Henson of Sumpter sentenced to 5 years of probation for accosting

By Diane Madigan Independent Court Reporter

On May 23, Sumpter Township resident, Paul Edward Henson, 43, was sentenced to 5 years of probation for accosting a child

for immoral purposes on Oct. 9.

Other requirements of Henson's probation are the need to register as a Tier II sex offender and receive sex offender treatment. Henson is to have absolutely no contact with the victim



Henson

and no contact with anyone less than 17 years of age.

According to the Sumpter Township police report, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, on Oct. 9 Henson wrote a letter to the victim asking her to dress a certain way and inviting her into his bedroom while her mother was at

work.

The victim told her school counselor about the letter which started a Child Protective Services investigation. CPS removed the victim from the home and she is now living with her sister.

Sumpter Township Detective John Toth is the officer in charge of the case.

#### Van Buren Township

Also on May 23, in Circuit Court Judge Gregory D. Bill's courtroom, **Richard Jackson Jr.**'s scheduled final conference was postponed until today (May 29). Jackson, 39, was not brought to court from Wayne County Jail where he is being held.

Jackson is charged with premeditated first-degree murder in the Dec. 17 stabbing death of his wife Travisteen in their Van Buren Township home. Several family members and friends of Travisteen Jackson were in court.

Although Jackson has an Aug. 7 trial date scheduled, Jackson's court appointed attorney Mark Procido was heard saying he didn't think the case should go to trial. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Nicole James has been assigned the case.

Van Buren Township Detective Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

**Court Watching:** 

# Trish Lada's \$100 bid gets front-row seat at 34th District Court

By Diane Madigan Independent Court Reporter

Trish Lada of Westland bid \$100 at the recent Belleville Area Women's Club fashion show and won a certificate to spend a day with a judge and have lunch with a judge.

Lada, the daughter of Virginia Truran of Van Buren Township, spent May 14 in Judge David Parrott's courtroom at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court in Romulus and then had lunch with a judge.

District Court Administrator/Magistrate Al Hindman showed Lada the judge's chambers and where the prisoners are held. From there, Lada was treated to a front-row seat in the juror's box to watch arraignments in Judge Parrott's courtroom.

Moving across the hall, Lada then had a chair next to Judge Brian Oakley during court proceedings in his courtroom.

She also was introduced to Jeffrey Bowdich, who serves as a court-appointed attorney.

Lada told the *Independent* that she liked the way Judge Parrott spoke to the defendants and was impressed with how organized and courteous Magistrate Hindman and the guards were.

Proceeds from the Belleville Area Women's Club silent auction are used to support the club's scholarship fund. The fashion show brought in just over \$6,000, the most they've ever raised by the event, according to club member Shelly Brown Chudzinski.

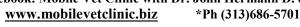
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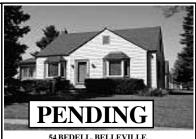
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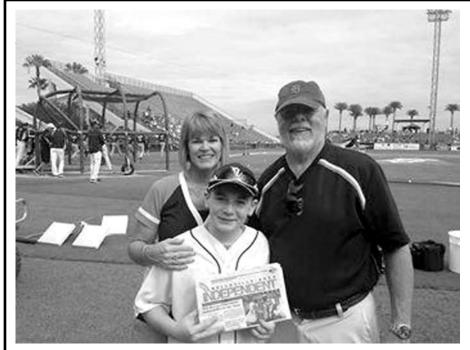
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If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.



### Yankee Air Museum, local businesses host free Veterans' Seminar

The Yankee Air Museum will open its doors free of charge for veterans and their families on Wednesday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a Veterans' Seminar.

The range of presentations will include eligibility for benefits, financial assistance and planning, health care, and disability claims, among others.

The Veterans Seminar is the result of a partnership between Brig. General Carol Ann Fausone (ret.) at Legal Help for Veterans, Comerica Bank, and the Professional Resource Alliance of Greater

Michigan.

While the event is free, space is limited to 300 people. RSVPs would be appreciated by Monday, June 9 to kbdermody@gmail. com or 734-740-8867.

Fausone, the event's organizer, said that veterans and their families simply are not aware of the resources available to them. which was a primary motivator for putting the seminar together.

"Since retiring from the service in 2011, I have encountered countless veterans and families who don't even know where to begin looking for the help they need. It can be overwhelming," said Fausone.

"This event will provide veterans with a great opportunity to learn about the benefits to which they're entitled and how to apply for them."





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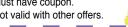


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8021 Teaticket, Ypsilanti Twp \$239,900-3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath home on 1 acre! Great rm, vault ceilings, skylights, fireplace, master suite...



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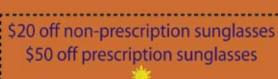














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#### Belleville Area Independent/May 29, 2014

# Man dies in VBT apartment fire on Saturday morning

A man was found dead in his bed at Bellridge Apartments early Saturday morning after residents noticed smoke gathering in the hallways and called Van Buren Township 911.

The man, who was 20 years old, was expected to be positively identified by the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office after an autopsy.

At 3:55 a.m. Saturday, the VBT Public Safety Department was dispatched to the 41000 block of Bellridge Drive (near Independence and Haggerty roads, north of I-94) for an activated smoke alarm, according to a news release from Fire Chief Dan Besson.

Engine 2, Ladder 1, Engine 2, Engine 3, Rescue 1, and Utility 1, along with several patrol cars, responded to the call, Chief Besson said.

While crews were responding, it was reported that a ground-floor apartment was well-involved with fire and the windows were beginning to break out.

Engine 2 and Ladder 1 arrived at the scene at 4:05 a.m. and found VBT police assisting evacuation of residents of the building. Police had been pushed back by the fire and heat coming from the apartment, Besson said.

Firefighters entered the apartment to put out the fire and searched for possible occupants. Moments after entering the apartment fire crews discovered an occupant, who was still lying in bed, deceased.

Firefighters worked quickly to extinguish the fire to prevent it from spreading to other apartments and the scene was brought under control at 04:52 a.m., Besson said.

The fire started in the first-floor apartment where the kitchen, dining room and living room were located, but the man was found in his bedroom, near a window and may have been trying to escape, officials said.

There were about a dozen VBT fire fighters, along with a cross-trained VBT police officer. They were aided by the Michigan State Police, and the City of

# **Dennis and Carol Sturtz** celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary

Dennis and Carol (Posegay) Sturtz were married 50 years ago on April 4, 1964 at St. Stephen Catholic Church in New Boston.

They celebrated their 50th anniversary with an Hawaiian Island cruise.

A 50th anniversary party was held on May 10 at the Romulus Progressive Hall with many family and friends, which is also the same hall where they had their wedding

The event was hosted by their children, Greg and Karen Sturtz, Ted and Debbie Wisniewski, and Mike and Cheryl Sturtz.

Dennis and Carol were blessed with seven grandchildren, Kristyn Sturtz, Rachel Sturtz, Allyson Sturtz, Stacey Wisniewski, Matthew Wisniewski, Sarah Sturtz, and Nicholas Sturtz.

Dennis and Carol both graduated from Belleville High School in 1960. Dennis worked for 40 years at GM Hydramatic in Ypsilanti. They still reside in Belleville, but spend the winter months near Fort Myers,

Belleville Fire Department.

Information about the deceased person, a male, was withheld pending positive identification by the Medical Examiner and notification of the next of kin. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Michigan State Police.

No other injuries were reported. One family, displaced by the fire, was assisted by the VBT Department of Public Safety's Chaplain Program.

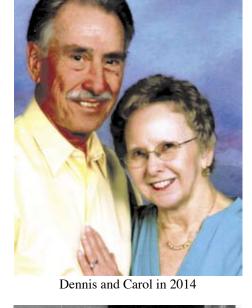
There are about 12 apartments in the three-story building. Preliminary fire loss is estimated at \$75,000.



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#### Page 15

### New 'Common Sense Library PAC' can use Horizon Park for event

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

There was no disagreement that a new political action committee has the right to peaceably assemble at Horizon Park for a Friend Raiser – Fund Raiser event from 5 to 8 p.m. on June 18.

The question was whether the Common Sense Library PAC could reserve the gazebo/pavilion for the meeting.

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, Barbara Miller was on the agenda with her request to use the park site for her meeting. She was directed by city administration to come before the

Miller explained that the PAC was formed in opposition to millage for the library bond and construction. She said members will take donations, sign up volunteers, recruit poll workers and find people who will take signs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Loria, who was presiding at the meeting in the absence of Mayor Kerreen Conley, said, "Barb, just go sit there early." He noted they haven't reserved the site in the past, but the council has no objection to it.

But, Councilwoman Kim Tindall wanted it on the record and made a motion to allow the group to use the pavilion. Councilman Tom Smith seconded the motion.

"Does everyone have to come here to use the gazebo?" asked former Councilman and attorney George Chedraue. He said if the city lets this group use the gazebo, it would look like the city supports the PAC.

"They have passed a resolution" in favor of keeping the library in the city, Miller said, adding, "We have the right to assemble."

"What better place for a discussion?" said Councilman Tom Fielder.

Chedraue warned that if you allow others to use the park for political meetings, "You'll have every other group wanting to

"She has a right to stand up and speak on a soap box," Chedraue said, adding Miller could just go there when she wants to.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said the council has said it wants people to come to it when they want to use public space.

"You want notice so if [the group is] controversial, you can get your police" alerted, Miller said.

"I don't think you can tell people not to come," Councilwoman Tindall said.

Chedraue said in December the Strawberry Festival group said people couldn't be passing out literature, but people do have the right.

Mike Renaud said potentially an opposing group might want to be there before Miller's group arrives, to keep her from using the site.

Miller said to the council, "I'm putting you on notice" concerning her planned use of the gazebo.

When it was noted there was no need to pass Tindall's motion, she replied, "I stay with the motion," and the council unanimously passed it.

Miller also said she wanted to thank the city for the sculpture program the city and its Downtown Development Authority put together.

"It's a tremendous lift for the city," Miller said. "A lot of people are talking about it."

Later in the meeting, Councilwoman Tindall, who said she now works downtown, said she was disappointed in the placement of the "lollypops" on the Fourth Street Square because it takes out a block of seats on the square that people use to watch parades.

She also said the microphone on the "Heavy Metal" sculpture at the other end of the square is already damaged. Tindall said many people are taking pictures of the sculptures.

Tindall said the Belleville Area Council for the Arts is so pleased that it has been sought out by the Detroit Institute of Arts and will bringing DIA art to the Art Affair on Main event in Belleville this summer.

In other business at Monday's meeting,

- Heard Kathie Steigerwald say that the annual Angel of Hope gathering, every year at 7 p.m. on Dec. 6, is for families of children who have passed away. This year, the Chamber of Commerce parade is on the same night. Dec. 6 is the date of all Angel of Hope gatherings around the world and can't be changed. "Either we have it on Dec. 6 or not at all," Steigerwald said. She asked that the parade date be changed, so the two events don't conflict. She was told the city has already approved the parade for Dec. 6 and she should take it up with the Chamber;
- Approved use of Victory Park from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on June 4 for a can and bottle drive by Jacqueline Riley to earn money for her Army Cadette training in Kentucky. Her grandmother, Leona Herrmann, made the request for her granddaughter. Riley has had the bottle drive at the Moose Lodge parking lot in the past and thought a more central location might be better. It was suggested she set up the collection on South Liberty Street at the park so people could just drive up with their donations;
- Approved two dates for possible Canton Lions Club fund raising at Five Points May 23 and May 30 – because the last dates that were approved were rained out by heavy storms; and
- Set a public hearing for 7:30 p.m., June 2, to get comments on the proposed city



On Thursday afternoon, May 22, a emergency weather alert siren was installed in front of The Bake Shoppe at the corner of Savage/Haggerty and Bemis roads in Sumpter Township. This is one of the six new sirens being erected in Sumpter, making a total of 14 in use. This siren is across Bemis Road from Van Buren Township, which has no emergency

### VBT Board

(continued from page 3)

Clerk Leon Wright's efforts to bring voting lessons to BHS, especially by speaking to civics classes and running the student council elections. Clerk Wright said he got the idea from a clerk in another community. He praised the efforts of Deputy Clerk Kathy Cline and Election Clerk Joanne

- Heard Treasurer Sharry Budd announce 80 dogs were vaccinated at the recent drive-in dog clinic and she thanked her staff for running the event since she was unable to be there since she had just had knee-replacement surgery;
- Heard Clerk Wright thank Bob and Marie Krouse for putting flags on the graves of township veterans;
- Heard Fire chief Dan Besson announce that Coffee With a Cop, which had been scheduled for Memorial Day week end, has been cancelled; and
- · Heard a township resident press the board to make sure the township cemeteries are cleaned up. She said Denton Cemetery looked so bad on Mother's Day when she went to her mother's grave to place a flower on it. She said when Parks and Recreation Bruce Ross was at the township he fixed a lot of tombstones.



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# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2014

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent: None. Others in attendance: DPW Director Taylor, DDA Director Ireland, Fire Chief Besson, Executive Assistant LaMothe, Secretary Cline and an audience of thirteen (13).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved,

Hart seconded to approve the agenda with

the following amendments: Deletion of New

Business #5 "Consider the purchase of a 2014

F-150 pick-up truck from Jack Demmer Ford in the amount of \$30,706" and to add to Consent Agenda item #7 "Adoption of Resolution 2014-14, CLEMIS Fire reporting system". Carried. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes May 5, 2014; Closed Session Minutes May 5, 2014; Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 6, 2014; Approval of intergovernmental agreement between the Charter Township of Van Buren and the City of Belleville for emergency dispatch and lockup services; authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement; Approval of changes to the Water and Sewer Commission By-Laws, as recommended by the Water and Sewer Commission; Voucher List of May 20, 2014; Adoption of Resolution 2014-14, CLEMIS Fire reporting system.] as amended.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs read a thank you letter addressed to Chief Besson from Huron Valley Ambulance Paramedic Supervisor for the assistance Van Buren Fire Department provided during a recent call regarding an infant patient.

DDA Director Ireland provided updates on the Belleville Road construction project; the fence project along Belleville Road; plans for sidewalks on Belleville Road and I-94 South Service Drive.

Dequan Robertson, a senior from Belleville High School thanked Clerk Wright and his staff for running the Belleville High School Student Council election last week; providing the opportunity for eligible students to register to vote and to complete an application to be an election worker. Board members thanked Clerk Wright for the collaborative effort with the Belleville High School Student Council to run their elections over the past two years. Clerk Wright thanked his staff, Deputy Clerk Cline and Election Clerk Montgomery; student election workers; those who provided donations to fund the election Charles B. Cozzard Rotary Foundation, Wade Trim, Attorney Patrick McCauley and Van Buren Public Schools along with vendors ES&S and Inland Press for their participation and support.

A SEMCOG representative presented an overview of SEMCOG services provided to their members such as Van Buren Township. A SEMCOG representative presented a power point presentation reviewing the Board's Strategic Planning Session held on February 8, 2014. The presentation showed a framework for future planning noting the Board will need to review this plan in six to twelve months. Board members are currently working on the items presented and will meet again in six months to review the plan.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 05-06-14(2) to amend General Ordinance 58-292 Controlled Substances: Possession; penalties for violation of section. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, Jahr, McClanahan, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Navs: None. Absent: None. Carried.

\*(A copy of the synopsis Ordinance 05-06-14(2) follows the minutes. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 05-06-14(3) to amend General Ordinance 58-293 Same – use. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McClanahan, Jahr, Miller, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

\*(A copy of the synopsis of Ordinance 05-06-14(3) follows the minutes. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 05-06-14(4) to amend General Ordinance 58-296 Narcotic paraphernalia; possession, sales gift. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan, Miller and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

\*(A copy of the synopsis of Ordinance 05-06-14(4) follows the minutes. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

NEW BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the first reading of General Code of Ordinance 05-20-14 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Van Buren, Chapter 58 - Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions, Article V Offenses Against Public Peace, by repealing Section 58-180, Begging. Carried.

\*(A copy of the synopsis of Ordinance 05-20-14 follows the minutes. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Jahr moved, Wright seconded to approve Parking Lot Replacement Program (Phase II) awarding contract extension to Asphalt Specialist, Inc. in the amount of \$90,426; to approve a 10 percent contingency amount at the direction and discretion of the DPW Director Taylor to address changes and unforeseen conditions that may arise during construction; to approve professional services to be performed by Wade Trim not to exceed \$6,000; to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the contracts.

Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to approve awarding Pump Station Replacement contract to TSP Environmental in the amount of \$348,292; to approve a 10 percent contingency amount at the direction and discretion of the DPW Director Taylor to address changes and unforeseen conditions that may arise during construction; to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the contract. Carried.

Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to approve Pump Station project administration and engineering services not to exceed \$36,000 to Wade Trim. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor Combs announced Yankee Air Museum will host a Veterans Seminar on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. located at 47884 D St., Belleville. The Senior Center will host a Question and Answer with the Director of Public Works on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. On

Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> the Tenth-Annual Thunder Rolls in Belleville for motorcycles will begin at 11:00 a.m. from Wayne County Community College on Haggerty Road and conclude with a Memorial Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at Horizon Park in the City of Belleville. Lastly, the Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> in honor of Memorial Day.

Treasurer Budd thanked her staff Deputy Treasurer Bellingham, Account Clerks Kathy Adams and Jessica Lampinen, for their work at the Annual Drive-In Dog Clinic held on May 10<sup>th</sup>. There were 80 dogs vaccinated along with dog licenses be sold. Dog licenses are available at the Treasurer's Office.

Clerk Wright thanked Bob and Marie Krouse for placing American Flags on veteran's graves at the four township cemetery. Chief Besson announced the Coffee with a Cop

scheduled over the weekend is canceled due to the holiday.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Non-

Agenda Items started at 8:24 p.m. and ended at 8:35 p.m. Comments were made regarding the maintenance of Denton Cemetery. Director Taylor and Clerk Wright stated the maintenance for the cemeteries is being addressed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hart moved, Mille seconded to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Carried. Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor Publish: May 29, 2014



#### Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes April 22, 2014

Meeting called to order by Treasurer J. Morgan at 6:30 pm showing present: Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan & Swinson. Excused medical Supervisor Vawters. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 16 residents.

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

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

State Representative LaVoy spoke stating that the state revenue sharing for 2015-2016 should be increased.

#### 5. Minutes

- **A.** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve minutes of the regular board meeting April 8, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to accept minutes of the parks & recreation March 19, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to accept minutes of the planning commission January 9, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.
- **6.** Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the warrants totaling \$53,411.78. Roll call vote: Yes: Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Absent: Vawters. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7. Parks & Recreation/Chamber: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the parks & recreation/chamber report. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 8. Attorneys:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the Intergovermental Mutual Aid agreement for the fire department. Motion carried unanimously.
 B. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve resolution 2014-06 the refinancing of the sewer bonds. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption of the employee personal policy. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to give the accountant James Glahn a \$5.00 hr. raise he would make \$37.82 hr. under the condition that he takes classes for HR Management to be effective

immediately. 1 opposed. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve the attorney's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Belleville Area Independent/May 29, 2014

#### 9. Board Response

#### 10. New Business

for Marken Roofing Inc. to reroof the fairgrounds bathroom at cost of \$3,500.00 paid from Wayne County Parks Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to approve for R. Henry Construction to put new doors and concrete at parks and recreation building and repair deck at fairgrounds bathroom at a cost

A. Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to approve

#### 11. Announcements

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Open Floor

**13. Adjournment:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to adjourn at 7:24 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

of \$5,825.00 paid from Wayne County Parks Grant.

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 April 22, 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 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Publish: May 29, 2014

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Monday, June 2 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 3 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, regular meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 4 Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

# Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Sunday, June 1 Bugles Across America is held at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street in Belleville to honor military people serving and at rest with a brief ceremony
- Thursday, June 5 Join the Evening Book Group at the Belleville Area District Library at 7 p.m. to discuss "Five Days at Memorial" by Sheri Fink.
- Friday, June 6 The 2<sup>nd</sup>-annual Garden Soiree (formerly known as the Bach's Wine Garden Party) runs from 6 to 9 p.m. as a fund-raiser by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- Friday, June 13 through Sunday, June 15 It's Strawberry Festival time in Belleville. Parade is Saturday at 11 a.m.
- Saturday, June 14 Romulus Historical Society is holding its annual flea market from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Romulus Historical Park, 11147 Hunt Street, Romulus. Cost is \$15 per set up, furnish your own tables. For more information, call Cathy Morse, (734) 941-6361.
- Sunday, June 15 Cinnamon's 13<sup>th</sup> annual Father's Day Car Show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Victory Park at Five Points in Belleville. Free to all spectators.

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Belleville Relay for Life entertainment schedule set for this Saturday

The 2014 Belleville Relay for Life will be this Saturday and Sunday at Quirk Park behind the Van Buren Township Hall.

The entertainment schedule for Saturday is:

10 a.m. - Opening Ceremony

11a.m. - Marilyn Diamond Joe, contemporary gospel

12 p.m. - Julia's Seizure, indie/folk band 1 p.m. - Flex Bandaxx, 14-year-old

apper
2 p.m. Michigan Karata Academy Tana

 $2\ p.m.$  - Michigan Karate Academy, Tang

Suon Do demo

3 p.m. - Pure Potential Kidz Dance Company

4 p.m. - Fight Back ceremony

4:15 p.m. - Casey Windom, singer / songwriter

5 p.m. - Clash Pro Wrestling, WWE-style wrestling

6 p.m. - Black Feather, rock & roll band

8 p.m. - The Riddlerz, classic rock band

9 p.m. or dusk - Lumanria ceremony

# Davis, Ward, Novak on Adrian College Dean's List

Three local students were named to the Adrian College Spring 2014 Dean's List.

They are William Davis and Angel Ward, both seniors from Belleville, and Gabrielle Novak, a sophomore from Van Buren Township.

# **Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice**

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN County of Wayne, State of Michigan Ordinance No.: 05-06-14(2)

Second reading for adoption.

An ordinance to amend Section 58-292 of the Township General Code of Ordinances, as amended.

The Charter Township of Van Buren hereby ordains that Section 58-292 of the Township General Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

General Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:
Sec. 58-292. Controlled substances—Possession; penalties for violation of section.

A person shall not knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance or an official prescription form or a prescription form unless the controlled substance, official prescription form, or prescription form was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of the practitioner's professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this division. A person who violates this section as to:

- (1) Lysergic acid diethylamide, peyote, mescaline, dimethyltryptamine, psilocyn, psilocybin, or a controlled substance classified in schedule 5 of section 7220 of Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1978 (MCL 333.7220, MSA 14.15(7220)), is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.
- (2) Marijuana, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both, unless possessed in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MCL 333.26421 et seq.) and the rules of the Michigan Department of Community Health promulgated thereunder and any subsequent amendments to said Act or rules
- (3) A prescription form other than an official prescription form, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

State law reference— Similar provisions, MCL 333.7403, MSA 14.15(7403).

#### **SEVERABILITY**

In the event any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

#### REPEALER

Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect immediately after adoption and publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

YEAS: Miller, Jahr, McClanahan, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

Linda H. Combs, Supervisor

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Published: 5/15/14 & 5/29/14

Leon Wright, Clerk

Adopted: 5/20/14 Effective: 5/29/14 Second reading for adoption.

An ordinance to amend Section 58-293 of the Township General Code of Ordinances,

as amended.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN County of Wayne, State of Michigan

Ordinance No.: 05-06-14(3)

The Charter Township of Van Buren hereby ordains that Section 58-293 of the Township General Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

Sec. 58-293. Same—Use.

A person shall not use a controlled substance unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of the practitioner's professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this division. A person who violates this section as to:

- (1) Lysergic acid diethylamide, peyote, mescaline, dimethyltryptamine, psilocyn, psilocybin, or a controlled substance classified in schedule 5 of section 7220 of Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1978 (MCL 333.7220, MSA 14.15(7220)), is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.
- (2) Marijuana, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both unless used in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MCL 333.26421 et seq.) and the rules of the Michigan Department of Community Health promulgated thereunder and any subsequent amendments to said Act or rules.

State law reference—Similar provisions, MCL 333.7404, MSA 14.15(7404).

#### SEVERABILITY

In the event any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

#### REPEALER.

Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect immediately after adoption and publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

YEAS: McClanahan, Jahr, Miller, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Leon Wright, Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Supervisor

Published: 5/15/14 & 5/29/14

Adopted: 5/20/14 Effective: 5/29/14

Belleville Area Independent/May 29, 2014

# **VBT** fireworks

(continued from page 1)

set off fireworks on federal holidays and the day before and the day after the holiday.

Steven Robinson, director of stores in Michigan for USA Fireworks, said in Michigan, they were going from zero base to fireworks sales. "I don't think you'll see 100% growth

annually," he said, noting it was his opinion that the sales will level off. Commissioner Joan Franzoi criticized the vendors for planning sales at Walmart and

at nearby Belleville Square. "Do you people comparison shop?" she

Robinson said the church location they

have had in the past is unique and they would like to continue that. But, they also would like to take advantage of the natural traffic at an open shopping center.

The vendors were questioned about safety training of employees, hours open, and other details.

Richard Tapper of Phantom said the township fire marshal will be inspecting this year instead of the state fire marshal, so the township will get the fees.

He said there have been no incidents in the last two years that Phantom had been at the Lakewood Shopping center.

The commissioners had no packets of information on the requests before them at the public hearings, but Arthur Mullen, director of planning and economic development,

said commissioners would get complete packets before the next meeting when the votes would be taken. Commissioners had their packets at that meeting.

#### Carnival fees

At the April 23 meeting, Delaney said he wanted to commend Arthur Mullen and the planning department for charging the right fees for carnivals this year. He said he filed a Freedom of Information Act request on the carnival fees charged to the two carnivals that had set up in the township -- Elliott and Wade – since 2010.

He said he found in 2010, the fees were \$280 each; in 2011, \$280 each; in 2012, \$420 each; and in 2013, \$280 each.

Delaney said the fees this year are \$2,600, which he said is the way its supposed to be.

Second reading for adoption.

General Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:

any subsequent amendments to said Act or rules.

Sec. 58-296. Narcotic paraphernalia; possession, sales, gift.

### VBT terminates Mullen as director of planning, dev.

Arthur Mullen of Grosse Pointe, who was hired by Van Buren Township just over a year ago to be director of planning and economic development, was terminated May 19, after a closed-door board session to evaluate his employment. VBT Supervisor Linda Combs said it was a board decision. A staff member from planning consultant McKenna Assoc. will fill in until the position is filled, she said.

-- Diane Madigan, Special Writer

"Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising." Mark Twain

# Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

#### **Belleville Area District Library**

#### **Notice of Public Hearing**

The Belleville Area District Library will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at 7:00 pm in the program room of the library, 167 Fourth Street, Belleville, MI 48111, to consider the proposed 2014-2015 Library Budget.

The proposed library budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year is \$954,190. The property tax millage rate (.7 mills) proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the proposed budget is available at the Library during open hours (Monday – Thursday, 10 am – 9 pm, and Friday & Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm).

Publish: May 29, 2014

# **Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice**

#### ORDINANCE 05-20-14

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY

First reading of Ordinance 05-20-14. Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:00 p.m. regular Board of Trustees meeting to be held on June 3, 2014 in the Board Room, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111. An Ordinance to amend and replace Chapter 58, Article V, Sec. 58-180 entitled "Begging"

Amend. The Charter Township of Van Buren hereby ordains that Chapter 58, Article V, Sec. 58-180, being Ordinance No. 1-28-86 of the Charter Township Code of Ordinances, is repealed.

Effective Date. This Amendment shall become effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Charter Township of Van

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting called and held on the \_\_\_ \_\_\_day of \_ 2014.

Combs, Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller.

YEAS: NAYS. None ABSENT: None. I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance. Leon Wright, Township Clerk Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Adopted: Published: 5/29/14 Effective:

#### SEVERABILITY

14.15(7451).

In the event any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

**Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice** 

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN County of Wayne, State of Michigan

Ordinance No.: 05-06-2014(4)

Ordinances, as amended.

The Charter Township of Van Buren hereby ordains that Section 58-296 of the Township

It shall be unlawful for any person to have, possess, sell, offer to sell, dispense or give away any pipe, device or contrivance adapted for the use of smoking or inhaling marijuana (Cannabis sativa L.), hashish or opium, or other dangerous or hallucinatory drugs as defined by Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1978 (MCL

333.7101 et seq., MSA 14.15(7101) et seq.), as amended, unless in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act (MCL 333.26421 et seq.) and the rules of the Michigan Department of Community Health promulgated thereunder and

State law reference— Drug paraphernalia, defined, MCL 333.7451, MSA

An ordinance to amend Section 58-296 of the Township General Code of

#### REPEALER.

Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect immediately after adoption and publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

YEAS: Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan, Miller and Combs.

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None. ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 20th day of May, 2014.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Leon Wright, Clerk Linda H. Combs, Supervisor

Published: 5/15/14 & 5/29/14

Adopted: 5/20/14 Effective: 5/29/14

#### Page 1

# Rotary Club hands out \$20,000 in scholarships at annual ceremony

By Diane Madigan Independent Special Writer

On May 20, the Belleville Rotary Club held its 69th Annual Scholarship Award Program in the basement of Belleville's First United Methodist Church.

Ten scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded to Belleville High School graduates. The club recognized seven recipients of first-time scholarships and three recipients of second-year, renewal scholarships.

The Scholarship Award event was attended by more than 100 Rotarians and guests, including relatives of the students, administrators and school board members from Van Buren Public Schools, representatives from Sumpter Township and a board member from the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce.

After the meal, 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley, who is a Romulus Rotarian and the current Romulus Citizen of the Year, directed his speech to the student awardees and their families.

Judge Oakley opened by saying he is not good at telling people what they want to hear, but rather is good at telling people what they need to hear. He advised the students that no one owes them a thing, rather they owe the world their time, talents, and passion.

He reminded the graduates of how fortunate they are to live in this nation and stressed giving back through serving others. He warned them to go in with their eyes wide open and know what it's going to take to get out of debt.

Judge Oakley's daughter, two nieces, and a nephew are graduating from college this year. He said he asked them for advice to pass on to the scholarship awardees.

He said they gave the following advice: Say yes to new experiences. Set goals internally and don't compare yourself to people around you. Join things on campus. Get involved, there are people going through the same struggles as you. Embrace the idea of a fresh start and buy good rain boots.

Judge Oakley ended by saying, "Good luck I hope this is the low point of your life."

The Belleville Rotary has been around for 75 years and has awarded more than \$400,000 in grants over the years for local community service as well as international projects to those in need.

Internationally it has supported efforts toward polio eradication, building footbridges in mountain countries, establishing safe water and other sanitary facilities for impoverished communities, and other projects.

The Belleville Rotary Club also has awarded well over \$400,000 to BHS students as part of the scholarship program. This year, the primary funding source for the scholarship program has been the Charles B. Cozadd Rotary Foundation.



34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley, a Romulus Rotarian, gave the keynote address to encourage the students as they move forward in life.

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9:00 – 3:00 P.M. (BAG DAY)

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Independent photos by Carl Johnson

First-year Rotary scholarship winners are, from left, with their universities: Lauren Benedict, Eastern Michigan; Kayla Hardy, Grand Valley State; Kelsey Long, EMU; Deboray Lazarean, EMU: Hannah Rodriguez, Michigan State; Allison Juchartz, University of Michigan; and Cody Ochs, Northern Michigan. Renewal awardees are, from left, Daizchane Baker, EMU; Samantha Henning, EMU; and Kyle Archer, U of M.

# Belleville Road construction estimated to be complete Aug. 15

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Construction on Belleville Road began April 14 along the sides of the roadway with little impact on travel as traffic re-signalization post foundations were installed.

But, last week construction moved into the roadway with massive traffic jams tying up Belleville Road, the service drives, and impacting the I-94 freeway entrances and exits.

And, there were lots of angry motorists.

Construction is being done in two phases. The road work south of I-94 is expected to be complete by July 12. The work north of I-94 is estimated to be done by Aug. 15.

Weather may impact the schedule.

The milling of the road surface needs crews to be right out in the roadway and barrels have narrowed the driving space to one lane north and one lane south, with lots of traffic sparls

Van Buren Township police issued a Nixle alert on Thursday advising motorists to stay away from Belleville Road north of I-94.

According to a Friday news release from Van Buren Township, the project will require periodic lane closures and traffic shifts during construction.

One lane is to be maintained in each direction at all times on Belleville Road.

Closure and detour of the I-94 ramps is only allowed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. and/or on weekends.

The project is being done by the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority with the assistance of a 2013 federal grant to install new traffic signals along Belleville Road from Tyler Road to the North I-94 Service Drive.

DDA Director Susan Ireland said, "These major construction improvements will facilitate safety and accessibility to the businesses along Belleville Road."

Ireland said no lane closures will occur during the Memorial Day weekend or the July 4 holiday.

Access to all businesses, homes, and intersecting streets will be open throughout construction, she said.

A year ago, the VBT DDA sent out a press release announcing the DDA had been awarded \$774,620 through Wayne County for a major streetscape improvement project on Belleville Road, from Tyler Road south to the I-94 South Service Drive.

The funds for the project came from state Act 51 highway funds distributed by the state to counties, cities and villages that have roadway ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Funded projects required a focus upon safety improvements.



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Office: (734) 461-6165 Cell: (734) 730-9733 Page 20 Belleville Area Independent/May 29, 2014

# Understanding the Law





In this article we will be discussing personal protection orders ("PPO"). A PPO is a court order to stop threats or violence against you. A PPO can help protect you from someone who is threatening, hurting, or harassing you. If you have a <u>reasonable fear</u> for your personal liberty or safety, then you may be able to get a PPO.

A PPO comes in three forms: (1) domestic relationship, (2) stalking, and, (3) sexual assault. To apply for a PPO, you must file a petition with the Court, which can be done by you or by your attorney. Typically, a PPO will state that your order is effective and immediately enforceable, what actions the abuser is prohibited from doing, when your order expires, and what happens if the abuser violates your order.

The abuser can be arrested for behavior that violates the PPO. Typically, if the abuser comes anywhere near you, then they have likely violated the PPO. If you believe that the abuser has violated the PPO, then call the police and report the violation.

If you want to change the PPO before it expires, then you must go back to Court and ask the judge to change or end it. Typically PPOs will expire within one-year from the date of entry.

If you find yourself in the above scenario, call your Attorney. If you would like further information regarding this issue, or any other issues that you are having, please contact us at (734) 699-7360.

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

# GOLDMAN SULIMAN, PLLC

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# Top-Ten BHS Graduates lead class for tonight's Commencement event

At 7 p.m. today, May 29, the Belleville High School Class of 2014 will hold its Commencement Ceremonies at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti.

The Top Ten Graduates are:

- 1. Robin Seay Valedictorian
- 2. Taylor Pearce Salutatorian
- 3. Theodore Miller4. Sydney Bagley
- 5. Katelyn Martin
- 6. Eri Iwao7. Allison Juchartz
- 8. Alan Stoelton

9. Jessica Sierak 10. Andrew Attard

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#### 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.



#### **HELP WANTED**

Drivers: Carter Express - CDL-A. Dedicated Routes, Romulus, MI to Smyrna, TN. Average 2,695 miles/wk. Solos up to 37 cpm to start. Dedicated Routes \$195 per day Romulus, MI to Anderson, IN. Home Weekly. No Slip Seat. No Touch, Newer Equipment. (855) 219-4838

Holland's Detroit Terminal in Romulus, MI is hiring FT Local & FT Regional drivers. Drivers must be 21 yrs old, having a CDLA w/ hazmat & tanker w/ 1yr. or 50k miles experience. Apply online: www.hollandregional.com/careers Company paid health insurance for full time drivers after probation. EEO/AAE Minorities/Females/Persons with Disabilities/Protected Veterans.

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# Septic & Excavating business looking for labor with CDL license

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#### **HELP WANTED**

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#### Page 21

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| Year | Make/Model         | VIN                  |
|------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1999 | Volkswagen Passat  | WVWPD63B7XE50508     |
| 2002 | Mercury Moutaine   | er 4M2ZU86W02UJ3827  |
| 1998 | Hyundai Sonata     | KMHCF24F5WA06980     |
| 1997 | Pontiac Bonneville | 1G2HX52K5VH258151    |
| 1999 | Ford Taurus        | 1FAFP53UXXG287176    |
| 1998 | Dodge Caravan      | 2B4GP4436WR529583    |
| 1998 | Chevrolet Venture  | 1GNDU06E7WD213593    |
| 2007 | Pontiac G6         | 1G2ZF58B074127184    |
| 2000 | Olds Alero         | 1G3NL52T1YC413427    |
| 2000 | Ford Taurus        | 1FAFP56S1YG203225    |
|      |                    | Publish: May 29, 201 |
|      |                    |                      |

#### GARAGE/YARD SALE

MOVING SALE. Belleville Manor, 83 Ponderosa Tr. N. May 23 - June 8, 10 a.m./5 p.m. Household, All outside yard stuff. Too Much to list.

MULTI FAMILY SALES - 7380 & 7388 Homestead Rd., Ypsi. Textile & Hitchingham. May 31 & June 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Keyboard, TV's, Bikes, Clothes, Household, Collectibles and Much Much More.

YARD SALE, 46647 AYRES, Quirk Subdivision. June 6-7, 9 a.m./4 p.m. Household items, Dishes, Oak table w/chairs, Furniture, Misc. items.

BIG YARD SALE, 50462 Bog Rd. 1/2 mile S. of Huron River Dr. & Rawsonville May 29-31, 9 a.m./6 p.m. Men/Women things, Bikes, Antiques, Furniture.

ESTATE SALE - 16315 Huron River Dr. Romulus May 30/June1 & June 6-8, 9 a.m./6 p.m. Home, Barn, Vehicles, Tools, Tractor & Much More.

1st YARD SALE. 22115 Haggerty Rd. May 29-31, 9-?. Lots of Good Stuff. Come and See. 5/29

13585 PINEWOOD LN. May 29-30, 9 a.m./5 p.m. Tools, Men's clothes, Misc.

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Galvanized hand-laced - no prongs to catch noses, 2 feet high galvanized divider and end panels. 1 1/2 inch heavy duty wire diamonds.
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Inc. NMLS # 33675 Expires May 31, 2014

### **Birthdays**

May 22 - Gail Whitmire

May 26 – Keith Miller

May 29 – Sam Ricker

May 31 - Nick Berder

June 1 – David Morgan, Peggy Miller

Do you have a birthday in June? 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.

Oakville Waltz Rd. 0854 - trespassing complaint, Mulberry

1024 - suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Fenster

1025 - suspicious incident, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.

1152 - unauthorized driving away of auto, 43000 bl.

1324 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1424 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Willis

1718 - trespassing complaint, Mulberry

Wednesday, May 21:

0235 - citizen assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

0901 - abandoned vehicle, Utah 0951 - 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1313 - alarm, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.

1609 - trespassing complaint, Nevada 1701 - ORV complaint, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.

1740 - warrant arrest, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.

1749 - subpoena service, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2026 - subpoena service, 44000 bl. Harris Rd. 2055 - subpoena service, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.

2246 - fire dept. assist, Birch Ct.

Thursday, May 22:

0942 - alarm, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

1145 - suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1317 - suspicious vehicle, Utah

1706 - suspicious vehicle, Carriage Ln.

1754 - noise complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd. 2242 - warrant arrest, 28000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

2252 - suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

2308 - fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.

2320 - shots fired, Pecan

Friday, May 23:

0113 - suspicious vehicle, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0611 - alarm, 8500 bl. Rawsonville Rd. 0844 - larceny, Rustic Ln.

0917 - truancy complaint, Timberlane 0948 - animal complaint, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.

1425 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1426 - fire dwept. Assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.

1440 - alarm, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.

1451 - property damage accident, 19000 bl. Sumpter

1503 - suspicious incident, New Mexico

1525 - malicious destruction of property, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1719 - fire dept. assist, E. Arizona

1723 - fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2336 - operating while intoxicated arrest, Willis /

Sumpter

Saturday, May 24: 0005 - suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

0130 - disorderly person, Third 0211 - noise complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

0906 - threats complaint, 9200 bl. Rawsonville

1153 – neighbor dispute, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1422 - harassment complaint, 17000 bl. Martinsville

Rd. 1605 - reckless driver complaint, Sumpter/Clay

1617 - fire dept. assist, Nevada

1644 – suspicious incident, Mulberry

1753 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1908 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 21000 bl.

1909 - operating while intoxicated arrest, Haggerty/

1933 - operating while intoxicated arrest, E. Arizona

2153 - suspicious person, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

2301 - fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week's log are four follow-up investigations, 47

miscellaneous details, 123 patrol checks, and 60 traffic stops.

SAT. 12PM-11PM

#### **HOURS** MON.-THURS. 11AM-10PM FRI. 11AM - 11PM

45915 S. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville

Next to the Belleville Post Office

(734) 699-1550

**DOUBLE COMBINATION PLATES - \$9.00** 

SINGLE COMBINATION PLATES - \$6.50 - \$7.00

**DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT** Chinese & American Food

Any Entree (Includes Carry Out Orders) **CHINA KING COUPON COUPON EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2014** 

Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log** 

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, May 18:

0129 - property damage accident, Kahla Dr.

0444 – assault & battery, Parkside Dr. 0641 - breaking & entering, Oak Ln.

0757 - fraud, N. I-94 Service Dr. 0905 - larceny from auto, N. Woodbury Dr.

0928 - larceny from auto, Oak Ln.

0940 - larceny from auto, Country Walk Blvd.

0938 - larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr. 0957 - breaking & entering, Redwood

1013 - disturbance, Parkwood

1145 - larceny from auto, Oak Ln.

1237 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1512 - private property accident, Industrial

1514 - ATV/ORV complaint, McBride/Quirk 1530 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd./ E.

-94 entrance 1624 - malicious destruction of property, Lake Villa

1740 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1924 - noise complaint, Parkwood

substance act, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2018 - private property accident, Haggerty

2211 - violation public health code/violation controlled

2342 - property damage accident, America Monday, May 19:

 $0002-assault\ \&\ battery, Arthur\ St.$ 0618 - disorderly conduct, Borgman Ave. 0728 - juvenile complaint, Pebblebrook Dr.

0752 - trespassing, Parkwood Dr. 1004 - private property accident, Haggerty BP

1220 - assist citizen, Sandy's Marina 1224 - fraud, Laguna Dr.

1224 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Venetian Ave.

1326 - narcotics crime, S. I-94 Service Dr. 1414 - mental, S. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty Rd.

1456 - larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1613 - larceny, Village Green 1616 - trespassing, Peachtree

1624 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.

1653 - suspicious person, Burtrig St. 1820 - assault & battery, Rogers Ave.

2237 - breaking & entering, Hannan Rd.

2333 - noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.

Tuesday, May 20: 0102 - intimidation threat, Wildbrook Dr.

0116 - disorderly conduct, Maurice Dr.

0631 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Village Green Ln.

0758 - missing person, Pebblebrook 0847 - intimidation threat, Wayne Co. Fairgrounds

0905 - assault & battery, Denton Rd. 1219 - breaking & entering, Van Born

1224 – larceny, Dartmoor Cir.

1257 - malicious destruction of property, Union

1444 - breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.

1514 - private property accident, Van Born Rd. 1557 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1612 - missing person, Quirk Rd.

1615 - property damage accident, Parkwood Dr. 1622 – agency assist, Liberty/Huron River

1708 - breaking & entering, E. Adams 1803 - felony assault, Parkwood Dr.

1917 - fraud, Rawsonville

1949 - fraud, Maurice Dr.

2225 - property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler

Wednesday, May 21:

0009 - malicious destruction of property, Ivy 0249 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

 $0824-private\ property\ accident,\ Denton\ Rd.$ 1013 - property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./

Old Denton 1537 – holdup alarm, Belleville Rd. 1616 - property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Denton Rd. 1802 - private property accident, S. I-94 Service

2049 - private property accident, Ironwood Dr.  $2110-violation\ public\ health\ code/violation\ controlled$ substance act, Harwood Dr.

2224 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. Thursday, May 22:

0416 - noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.

I-94 Service Dr.

0815 - property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.

0924 - larceny, Lake Villa Dr. 1239 - trespassing, Faye/Belle Pointe 1322 - harassment call, Bemis Rd.

1413 - trespassing, Huron River Dr.

1836 - Brandi, disturbance 2010 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

2306 - missing person, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2343 - noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.

Friday, May 23: 0439 - assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

0639 - assault & battery, Elwell Rd.

1241 - assault & battery, Haggerty Rd.

1549 – larceny, Rogers Ave.

1725 - operating while intoxicated, Village Green

2322 - assault & battery, Dalton Dr. 2340 – property damage accident, Ecorse / E. of I-275

Saturday, May 24:

0008 - property damage accident, E. Huron River

0127 - fraud, Belleville Rd. 0224 - disorderly conduct, Arthur St.

0302 - noise complaint, Arthur St.

0356 - assist fire dept., S. Bellridge Dr.

1108 - assault & battery, Hull Rd. 1146 - trespassing, Mida

1156 – assault & battery, Barnwell Dr.  $1232-narcotics\ crime, Stonebridge\ Dr./S.\ Timberview$ 

1553 - holdup alarm, Woodgrove Dr. 1620 - larceny, Huron River DNR

1737 - fight, Parkwood

1754 - personal injury accident, N. I-94/Self Storage

1849 - noise complaint, Arthur St. 1946 - larceny, DNR boat/Huron River Dr.

2115 - noise complaint, Solitude Ln. 2146 - assault & battery, Sylvia Dr.

Also on this week's log are 187 traffic stops, with 19 of those on the I-94 freeway.

# **Belleville Police** Dispatch Log

1241 - civil matter, S. Liberty St.

1816 - breaking & entering, Menlo Park Dr.

2212 – larceny, N. Liberty St. 2237 - noise complaint, N. Liberty St.

0738 - property damage accident, South St./W.

0926 - malicious destruction of property, Third St.

1046 - civil matter, Main St.

1916 - civil matter, Estrada

0934 - private property accident, Main St. 1128 - parking complaint, Henry St.

1429 - disorderly conduct, McBride 1429 - disorderly conduct, McBride 1430 - disorderly conduct, McBride

1618 - personal injury accident, N. Liberty St. / E.

2039 - harassment call, Biggs Ave.

1023 - assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.

1053 - suspicious person, Parkwood Dr.

1244 - assault & battery, Haggerty Rd. 1309 - mental, Chatsworth Dr.

1753 – missing person, Pebblebrook Dr. 2017 - breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0054 - assault & battery, Marlowe Ave.

0302 - noise complaint, Holly Ln.

0550 - larceny from auto, Kirkridge Park Dr. 0550 - larceny from auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1636 - fireworks, N. Bellridge Dr.

1807 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. 1822 – assault & battery, Village Green Ln.

2024 - weapons violation, Hoeft Rd.

2221 - assault & battery, Lighthouse Dr.

Sunday, May 18: 0852-assist fire dept., Carmell St.

1710 - ordinance violation, Denton/Main 1724 - hospice, Loza Lane

2048 - miscellaneous complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

Monday, May 19:

1505 - operating while intoxicated, W. Columbia

Tuesday, May 20: 0038 - suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.

1247 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.

1430 - disorderly conduct, McBride 1458 - civil matter, Light Tower Ct.

1503 - suspicious person, E. Davis/Mill 1533 - traffic complaint, S. Edgemont Ave.

Huron River Dr. 1823 --- miscellaneous complaint, Main St.

2226 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Wednesday, May 21:

1712 - disturbance, Fourth St.

1507 - property damage accident, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd. 1537 - larceny, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

1814 – warrant arrest, Carriage Ln

0804 - fire dept. assist, California

1812 - animal complaint, Harbour Pointe Dr.

1922 - juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. / Sumpter

0658 - juvenile complaint, E. Columbia Ave. / South

0925 - weapons violation, W. Columbia Ave.

1415 - ordinance violation, Belleville Bridge

0223 -- parking complaint, Third St./Main St.

0928 - parking complaint, N. Liberty/First St.

0955 - assist fire dept., N. Liberty/First St.

1302 – all other traffic, Belle Villa Blvd.

1623 - assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

1928 - information, W. Columbia Ave.

Also on this week's log are 78 traffic stops.

1941 - larceny from auto, Menlo Park Dr.

**Sumpter Township** 

**Police Dispatch Log** 

0007 - civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0319 – warrant arrest, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.

1623 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1801 - fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2140 - citizen assist, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0104 - traffic hazard, Judd east of Martinsville

0427 - fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1243 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1302 - fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1539 - property damage accident, Redwood

1825 - animal complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

1955 - alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

0236 - suspicious incident, 39000 bl. Wear Rd.

1743 – animal complaint. E. Wabash

1841 - intrusion alarm, Fourth St.

2035 - vehicle lockout, Frosty Boy

0910 - miscellaneous complaint, Henry St.

1858 – assist fire dept., S. Edgemont Ave.

2137 - property check, W. Columbia Ave.

1218 - vehicle lockout, Main St./Third St.

1844 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.

1911 - larceny, Wabash Ave.

0700 - intrusion alarm, Owen

1133 - civil matter, N. Liberty St.

1341 – vehicle lockout, Potter Dr.

1434 - information, Dos Rios St.

1912 - assist fire dept., Egan's Pub

1015 - neighbor trouble, South St.

2259 - suspicious person, Carmell St.

0812 - assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

1239 - narcotics crime, Owen

2319 - warrant arrest, Main St.

1412 - assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.

1616 - miscellaneous complaint, Owen

1726 - vehicle lockout, Menlo Park Dr.

Thursday, May 22:

Friday, May 23:

Saturday, May 24:

Sunday, May 18:

Monday, May 19:

Rd.

1856 - family trouble, 40000 bl. Harris Rd. 2115 - suspicious vehicle, Tulip

Tuesday, May 20: 0023 - suspicious incident, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

BUDWEISER BOTTLES - \$2, WINE AVAILABLE!

or Buffet Purchase Per Person

# Minding **Your Business** with Bob Mytych

The folks at Edible Arrangements on Belleville Road are offering fresher gifts this year for your special graduate, like customized fruit bouquets. Right now, save \$5 on their signature Pineapple Edible Numbers. See their ad in today's paper for the details. You can order on line at www. edible.com or call (734) 391-8176. They're located in the Murray's Plaza across from Meijer gas station.

The Independent welcomes Express **Tire** on Belleville Road to our advertising pages. Express Tire is a family owned and operated business and right now is offering great coupon deals in today's paper featuring \$15 off an A/C recharge, alignments for \$29.95, \$5 off oil changes, and 10% off parts on any auto repair up to \$30 discount. Every Thursday, the business will honor all

competitor coupons. Appointments are also available by calling Sales Manager Marty Clendening at (734) 697-2424.

The Drake-Jordan Team for real estate says it's time to spring into a new home and they can help. See their half-page ad in today's paper and call Greg Drake or Meghan Jordan at (734) 699-8000. For more information and other listings, visit their website at www.drake-jordan.com.

Choice Lawn & Landscape Services LLC serves the Belleville, Canton and Westland area with complete weekly lawn-care services, spring clean-up, light landscaping, garden walls, shrub pruning and other services. Owner Brian McKelvey is licensed and insured and will provide you with free on-site estimates. Call (734) 796-5888.

The Belleville Presbyterian Church on Belleville Road will be holding its Spring Rummage sale this Friday and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call (734) 697-8687.

Early Bird / Night Owl . Drop Box Available

The pond-stocking truck will be returning to the Willis Feed Mill in nearby Willis on Saturday, June 7, from 2 to 3 p.m. Also, all pond products and chemicals are discounted 10% on this day only. Call (734) 461-1111.

Our Father's Child Daycare Center at 111 South Street will be holding a fundraising event for the children on June 6, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. This year's event is titled "Let the Son Shine In." The day care is celebrating its 26th year. Events include a 50/50 raffle at 6 p.m., car smash, games, and more. Admission is free and the public is welcome to stop by. Call Dorene at (734) 697-2985.

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# Museum sets yard sale, antique appraisal for Thursday, July 17

The Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society will present a yard sale from noon to 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 17. at the museum and old fire hall behind the

Antique Appraisal Day with Doug Dalton will also be held at that location on the same day, from 2 to 7 p.m. Admission and first appraisal is \$10 and each additional item is \$5.

Proceeds will benefit the museum's Don Keene Memorial Fund.

Katie Dallos, museum director, invites the public to find treasures among the tables of antiques and collectibles from the museum collections and donations.

The museum is located at 405 Main Street in downtown Belleville. For more information call Dallos at (734) 697-1944.

"He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever." Chinese Proverb

# Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan **Animals Rescue** 

"CUTIE"



Meet Cutie, she's a big cream puff of love that unlike the dessert can be enjoyed not just after dinner but all day long. She's a beautiful, fullfigured almost 4 year old Burmese Persian mix with a deliciously friendly and affectionate personality that's 100% calorie free. Cutie believes there's no shame in having a full-figure and happily plops hers down in visiting laps for pets and attention without hesitation. As much as we agree with her, for health reasons she could benefit from a diet but keep that info on the down low since this girl likes to eat. Her pretty, fluffy light colored coat needs regular brushing to keep it tangle free but since she'll often be in your lap you'll have plenty of opportunities for grooming time. Cutie seems to like things on the mellow side and would probably prefer a calmer environment where she can lounge, receive attention, nap and eat at her leisure. Call today to meet this sweet treat kitty! She's spayed, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. 734-461-9458



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