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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Vol. 20.24 Thursday, June 12, 2014

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

David, Martha Brown to lead Strawberry Fest Parade

The Strawberry Festival Parade begins at 11 a.m. Saturday at Belleville High School and will head up West Columbia Avenue to Five Points and then proceed down Main Street to the museum.

Leading the parade as Grand Marshals this year will be Martha and David C. Brown.

David was born in Muskegon, and graduated from Orchard View High School in 1965. He earned an associate degree in pre-Mortuary Science in 1971 and graduated from Worsham College of Mortuary Science, in Chicago in 1974. He became a licensed funeral director in Michigan in 1974 and in Illinois in 1975.

David moved to Belleville in 1974. He was employed at the Roberts Brothers Funeral Home in Belleville from 1974 to 1981, serving as manager in 1978-81.

The David C. Brown Funeral Home was established in Belleville on April 5, 1982.

David is married to Martha, and they have two daughters, Amy (Kevin) Hinks, and Shelly (Jim Chudzinski) Brown, and also three grandsons Nicholas David and Andrew Thomas Hinks and Seth Levi. One grandson, Luke Charles Willick, died Sept. 26, 2013. Amy is a Kindergarten teacher for Van Buren Public Schools at Tyler Elementary School. Shelly has been working alongside David since 1999.

David has been active in the Michigan Funeral Directors Association, MFDA affairs since 1978. He went through the District #2 chairs from 1978-1982, serving as president of District #2 in 1981-1982. He represented District #2 on the MFDA Board of Directors from 1989-1995 and served as president of the state MFDA from 1998-1999. He also served on several MFDA committees from 1978-present, currently

(continued on page 23)



David and Martha Brown

Romulus Police Officer suspended after VBT road-rage incident

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

On Friday, Romulus Police Captain Derran Shelby verified that an off-duty Romulus police officer involved in a roadrage incident in Van Buren Township on May 29 has been suspended.

Captain Shelby said until the investigative process is complete, the officer has been suspended.

"Inappropriate behavior will not be condoned or tolerated," Captain Shelby said in a news release. "All allegations of misconduct are immediately investigated."

Captain Shelby said the Romulus Police Department became aware of a trafficrelated altercation involving an off-duty Romulus police officer.

"Based on the information provided to us by the Van Buren Township Police

Department, the officer's action may be criminal in nature."

Local individuals close to the situation identify the officer as a former part-time Belleville police officer who abruptly quit the Belleville department and went to work for Romulus. He is a resident of Van Buren Township.

"The Van Buren Township department and Wayne County Prosecutor's Office are conducting a thorough review of the incident. An internal investigation into the off-duty officer's actions has been initiated by the Romulus Police Department," Captain Shelby said.

According to unconfirmed reports, the off-duty police officer pulled his 40-caliber service revolver on a motorist after the two

(continued on page 23)

This Space On The Front Page. Postal Regulations Require



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On June 2, the Belleville Co-op held a big celebration marking its 10th anniversary in Belleville. Pausing for a photo before lunch were, from left, Cindy Lamb, Belleville Coop president mary Ann Frasure, Julia Garland, Congressman John Dingell, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, Anne Sackrison, Nancy Evans, and in back, Tim Braunscheide. Belleville Co-op is a 60-unit, non-profit senior apartment building.

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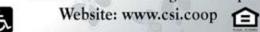
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Page 3

SECOND FRONT PAGE

Justin Verlander's parents to be at Strawberry Festival

Richard and Kathy Verlander, the parents of Detroit Tigers ace pitcher Justin Verlander, will be at the National Strawberry Festival in Belleville for all three days to sign their book, "Rocks Across the Pond."

They will also have Justin's All Star ring with them for people to see and try on.

When Justin was a child growing up in Manakin-Sabot, VA, he and his father would often play catch in the yard, which lay adjacent to a pond. On one of those occasions, Verlander's father told him that if he practiced hard enough, he would someday be able to throw a rock clear across the pond. His father threw first, hurling his rock three-quarters of the length of the pond before splashing down in the water. Justin took his turn and launched his rock clear across the pond, hitting a tree on the opposite side and rolling back into the water. He was ten years old.

That experience, along with many others, is what inspired the parents of American League Cy Young Award winner and Most Valuable Player of the Year Justin Verlander to write "Rocks Across the Pond," a perspective on the joys and pitfalls of raising a young, up-and-coming star athlete.

Richard and Kathy Verlander observe that there's really no roadmap for parents.

"This much was clear to us from the start in 1989 as parents of then 6-year-old Justin ... With little background or experience in any type of organized sports ourselves we had no idea about the turn our lives were about to take when a neighbor from across the street suggested that our son Justin should 'sign up' for Little League Baseball. In our wildest dreams we never would have imagined that 20 years later we would be receiving the 'Little League Parents of The Year Award' in Willamsport, PA. This is an honor bestowed annually on the parents of major league stars that played Little League Baseball.

"This book was written in hopes that other parents raising young athletes can gain something from our experience and look back as we have, knowing that Baseball is a great metaphor for life and that lessons learned last a lifetime."

"Rocks Across the Pond" is a 9"x12" hard cover with 112 pages, a color pictorial. ISBN: 978-0-9850375-0-5, \$29.95. Published by Dementi Milestone Publishing, www.justinverlanderbook.





Connie Testorelli was announced as Van Buren Public Schools Teacher of the Year in a surprise event on Friday morning. With the Belleville High School teacher is her principal Abdul Madyun. A whole line of teachers and administrators crowded around Testorelli to congratulate her and give her hugs after the announcement was made over the BHS public address system.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

On May 31, six people were invited to eat lunch with Van Buren Township fire fighters. Lynnette Kuszak had paid \$48 for her bid at the recent Belleville Women's Club fashion show to win lunch for six with the firemen. From left are Stacey Puchalsky, Kuszak, Landon Davis, 3, Tina Buxton, Mason and Madison Buxton, and host Firefighter Curtis Lundstrom, who ordered out for pizza.

Belleville Police investigate two CSC incidents on June 4

Belleville Police will be seeking a warrant for a criminal sexual conduct incident on Loza Lane, reported at 11:33 a.m., June 4.

Police Chief Hal Berriman said the case involves a handyman touching someone else and the department will probably seek a CSC-4 charge.

CSC-4 is a high misdemeanor and a sentence could result in up to two years in prison and a \$500 fine. It involves sexual

contact using force or coercion or victim incapacity.

Also, Belleville Police are investigating a criminal sexual conduct incident involving juveniles that also occurred June 4, at 1:45 p.m. at Belleville High School.

Chief Berriman said one male juvenile has been suspended from school as a result of the incident.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

School Board lays off 12 educators, 6 other staff

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, votes were taken for the layoffs of 11 instructional staff and six support staff.

The vote was 5-2 for each list, with Treasurer Sherry Frazier and Trustee Scott Russell voting against the layoffs both times.

The instructional staff being laid off are: Elizabeth Bull-Davie, Elizabeth Elster, and Danielle Haase, all 1-year teachers; Laurie Miller, 3 years; Tamara Hanaka, 6 years; Michelle Komaromi, 10 years; Genesha Frederick, Mark Gregor, Lisa J. Myers, and Christina Brasil, 14 years; and Jessica Kiser, 16 years.

The support staff laid off were 1-year cafeteria workers: Amy Osborne, Susan Kosikowski, Kathryn Etherington, Robin Bresett, Shannon Randell, and Lisa Bodenham.

Sandra Hutchins was approved hired as Food Service Coordinator as of June 23.

Although the layoff lists were a part of the board's consent agenda, that is approved without comment, Trustee Russell requested the two personnel items be pulled off the consent agenda and discussed.

He said the board has been told that the large number of positions eliminated were because the federal money paying for them would not be available next school year.

As to the food-service workers, students aren't eating the healthy lunches the federal government wants them to.

Financial director Karen Moffitt said the district no longer has universal breakfast, which cuts back on the number of workers needed.

And, the menu has to contain more whole grain and less sugar. Participation in lunches has gone down and in cookie sales alone, the district lost \$40,000.

"We're working on whole grain cookies," Moffitt said

Moffitt said the students will be helping themselves more now and will be able to put their own dressings on their salads, their lettuce and tomatoes on their hamburgers, and help themselves in other ways.

"Are we saying we can't teach our kids to eat healthy?" Frazier asked.

Moffit said food costs are also going up and the cost of breakfast is going up from 6 to 12%.

Frazier asked how many students get free and reduced meals and Moffitt said 50%, and reimbursement for meals is not going up.

(continued on page 10)

Belleville Area Independent/June 12, 2014

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

OPINIONS

<u>Editorial</u>

It's Strawberry Festival time again in Belleville

It's time for the 38th annual National Strawberry Festival in Belleville. By the time you read this, the streets will be full of vendors and the carnival on Main Street will be setting up.

On Monday, as the School Board meeting was ready to begin, the tents and rides already were up on the St. Anthony property next door. The festival was beginning.

The largest number ever of vetted vendors is ready for Main Street. If you're a Tigers' fan, the fact that Justin Verlander's parents will be here promoting their book about their son is a big deal. If not, they still sound like lovely people to meet.

Strawberries and jams and baked goods with strawberries in them – the reason for the festival -- will be available at the Masonic Temple, and the Presbyterian, Episcopal and Catholic churches.

The parade on Saturday is the big-deal event, with lots of entries heading from the high school to Main Street and then up to the museum area. Many political candidates will be involved since it's an election year.

We couldn't get a list of parade entries this year, but that's OK. We'll just enjoy what comes.

Belleville is the downtown for the tricommunity and it's the place most special events take place. It's time to enjoy this festival that has been here for decades. Join in the fun.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

John Nigg of Van Buren Township invited me to take a ride out West Huron River Drive, between High Street in the city and Elwell Road in VBT. After you get around the curve at Harbour Pointe housing complex, the road does get a bit bumpy.

He's in the 800 block and there was a huge pothole at the end of his driveway that the county did fill up, but now it is sinking again.

There are lots of pot holes, but many of the roads in this area are just like West Huron River Drive. Hey, take a ride out East Huron River Drive from the bumpy ride in the city out toward Martinsville. That was supposed to be rebuilt by the county in the summer of 2014, but it's been pushed to 2015.

John said he has called the county roads department many times and he said he is always treated graciously, but the answer always is, "You're on the list."

On Monday, I hear there were some county trucks out in that area. Hope they fixed the roadway.

He's frustrated. Many in Michigan are also frustrated with the roads and the HUGE potholes that claimed tires and mangled vehicles last winter. Most of those local big ones have been patched, but there are still lots of holes to fix.

A lady placed a garage sale ad for Strawberry Festival weekend, but then came in to get her money back. The sale was off. She went into Belleville City Hall to get a garage sale permit, which she thought was \$3, but it turned out to be \$250.

I called Belleville Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Long and she sent me a city fee schedule. Garage sale permits are \$3 for the first sale, \$10 for the second sale, and \$50 for the third sale within a year. But, during the Strawberry Festival the price is \$250.

On the whole city fee schedule list that Strawberry Festival garage sale permit is the costliest permit of them all. A tattoo artist or establishment permit is just \$200 a year. Getting the mayor to go out of town to marry a couple is just \$100.

The woman said her daughters have gone off to college and beyond and she has lots of musical instruments and other things to sell. We told her that the free city-wide garage sales will be coming up Sept. 6 and 7.

One observer suggested that the city didn't want people spending their money at garage sales instead of spending it on vendors at the festival.

According to a story in *The Detroit News* last Thursday, a 325,000-square-foot, high-end outlet mall is planned on I-94 in Romulus opposite the airport. The Outlets of Michigan will feature about 75 retail shops and is expected to open in 2016.

Mayor LeRoy Burcroff said the development is just what the region needed and promised to work with New England Development on the project.

A reader said something strange happened in front of the Tim Horton's on Belleville Road recently. He said a man was walking two Afghan hounds when one put his head into the bushes and came out with a mallard duck in his mouth.

As people watched in horror, the dog opened his mouth and the duck flew off.

I know the mallards post all along the

I know the mallards nest all along the businesses on Belleville Road and in the

city and out on country yards. Most of the time they do all right, but sometimes they have close calls or worse.

A few years ago a reader told me he had

tried to become a Reserve police officer in Van Buren Township, but they never called him, although he had experience.

He came in recently to tell me that he has joined the Michigan Volunteer Defense Force that backs up the National Guard in the Department of Homeland Security.

Jimmy Baleja of Van Buren Township is now Pvt. Baleja. He was CERT-certified in Howell and is on call for disasters. He wanted to volunteer to help his community and now he is doing so.

I'm never too sure about those Reserves in VBT. At one time they had a lot of Reserves and then none and then a few.

The School Board meetings are now being shown on Channel 19 and Barbara Miller is recording the library board meetings to be shown on You Tube.

SOME EVENTS WE'D ENJOY ATTHIS
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Page 5

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Letters

Vote NO on library, now and every time

To the Editor:

I have been studying the statement by Mr. Whisler [library architect] about the "... crosswalk from Quirk Road across Belleville Road..." and cannot fathom his rationale. There is currently a sidewalk on the west side of Belleville Road and Quirk Road that is a "Winchester Mystery House" delight -- a sidewalk to nowhere; and to extend this walkway further north would again involve the Department of Natural Resources and eventually turn into a suspension walk bridge at the current bend in Quirk Road.

There is no sidewalk on the east side of Quirk Road, ergo there would have to be further erosion into the existing historical Ouirk Farm house property of about 10 feet and the removal of the owners' current fencing, and the building of a long and high

No mention of purchasing this and further easements so an assumption of "Right of Eminent Domain" may be in the offing. Now, something else for these four property owners to consider is maintenance in the winter (snow removal) of said sidewalk. So nice to have this foisted upon them!

This current Belleville Area District Library debacle is a can of so many twists and turns and worms it defies understanding. A location was decided upon not with rationale, but with emotion. An edifice was designed with multifaceted uses that are more conducive to a Recreation Center and school extension than a library.

This is a fiasco! And, you realize this organization will be back FOUR more times like a spoiled little child begging their parents, "Please, oh please give us..." Vote NO now and every time!

Sincerely,

Cornell Anton, Jr., Belleville



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Thanks for the correction

To the Editor:

Thank you to Martha Toth for finding my error about the Van Buren School Bond

It only reinforces the fact that dealing with millions and billions of dollars is beyond my mind's ability to decipher these amounts, ergo, I (and some of those who deal in these constants) refer to them as smaller decimal amounts such as 79M or 200M or 300M or, in the library case 28M. and Visteon as \$19.05M.

Of course, this way the amount doesn't seem so high and the debt conceivable and reasonable. For some reason there was a typo and a one (1) added to the VB School Bond issue and I sincerely apologize, but it seemed correct at the time.

I did double check all of my other figures and sources and they are as stated so the total is now \$626.05M (or, correctly, MM) x2 @ maturity = \$1,252,100,000 -- Yes, still over a BILLION DOLLARS.

Sincerely, Cornell Anton, Jr. Belleville

Black kitten rescued at September Days

To the Editor:

Last Friday at September Days my art class spotted a little black kitten stranded in our parking lot. We sprung into action to rescue the kitten from certain death.

There was a gentleman who helped capture a very frightened kitten and held him to his chest and calmed the little fellow

This gentleman, whom I do not know. expressed a very kind, loving attitude to this kitten. He reminded me of the good father who took time to comfort a lost one. His act exemplified what fathers do for our children and how important they are to our

This may seem like a strange father's day story, but it shows a tender side of fathers that we sometimes miss.

Thank you, sir, for spending a little time to help us rescue the kitten.

(Thanks to the Recreation Department for finding a home for this kitten.) Marian Caldwell

Van Buren Township



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Serving the Belleville Area

Author Ron Gries to speak June 17 on 'Through Death to Life'

Ron Gries, a well-known author and speaker, will share his message of hope and healing found in his book, "Through Death to Life" from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 17, at the David C. Brown Funeral Home. It will be held either at the temporary location at 500 E. Huron River Drive or the rebuilt funeral home across the street, if it's ready.

Gries is hosted by David C. Brown Funeral Home and the Brown Family Center.

In the words of Andrea Gambill, then editor of Bereavement magazine, "This elegant memoir reminds us that peace and love and joy persist – even in the darkness of unthinkable sorrow. It is a victory over the ashes of grief."

Gries speaks throughout Michigan to grief support groups, sharing the process that allowed him to recapture the joy of life after the devastating loss of his beloved wife Patty.

"If you are on your own journey of grief and would like a helping hand, please join us for this event," said Grief Counselor Mary Martinez. Call her at (734) 697-5090 to register.

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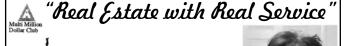
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<u>JAMES F. BENNETT</u>

(March 5, 1930 - June 8, 2014)

James F. Bennett, age 84, passed away Sunday, June 8, 2014 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born March 5, 1930 in McDougal, AR, son of late William A. and Della D. (Dobbins) Bennett. He moved to Ann Arbor, MI in 1947.

He honorably served his country in The United States Army during the Korean War. He met the love of his life, Mildred J. (Fielder) Bennett, in August of 1952. They married on May 16, 1953, and she survives. He retired in 1982 from Bendix Corp. (formerly Buhr Machine & Tool). He was the neighborhood watchman who loved to tinker. He could, and would, fix anything for anyone; he was a jack-of-all-trades. He loved nature, bird watching, bicycling, and gardening.

He is also survived by his two daughters Deborah M. Osborne and Beverly K. (Jeff) Fulton, both of Ypsilanti, MI; son-in-law Paul L. Rigan of Ann Arbor, MI; ten grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, two brothers-in-law Noel Roach of Ann Arbor, and Robert Kaiser of Mahomet, IL; two sisters-in-law, Mildred Jane Bennett of Pentwater, MI, and Myrna Bennett of Ann Arbor; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by four sisters, two brothers, and one daughter: E. Annette (Bennett) Rigan.

Visitation was 10-11 AM Wednesday, June 11, 2014 with an 11:00 AM Funeral at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Episcopal Church and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure at www.davidebrownfh.com.

KEENYA COMBS

(December 17, 1957 – June 7, 2014)

Survived by Shiann, Mandie, and Jacob; sisters Sherry, Marketa, Leslie, and Susan; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial service at 11 a.m., Sat., June 14, at Belleville Lighthouse Worship Center, 51185 Willis Rd., Belleville.



Nancy Ann Grow

NANCY ANN GROW

(February 24, 1935 - June 7, 2014)

Mrs. Nancy Ann Grow passed away on Saturday, June 7, 2014 at home. She was born February 24, 1935 in Ypsilanti, MI a daughter of Lloyd and Cleo (Blackmer) Richards.

In 1952 she was married to Jack Vernon Grow in Ypsilanti moving to Belleville. They were long-time residents of the Belleville area. Mr. Grow preceded her in death in 2006.

Mrs. Grow was a member of The Women of the Moose #1135. She enjoyed crocheting, reading and gardening. Cooking was her passion; she loved watching family and friends enjoy the meals she had prepared.

Mrs. Grow was the loving mother of Mark (Jennifer) Grow, Dawn Butzky and Michael (Tammy Williams) Grow. Fond grandmother of 5 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. Sister to 5 brothers and sisters. Preceded in death by 3 brothers and sisters.

A memorial gathering will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 1 P.M. to 6 P.M. at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 2935 Holmes Rd., Ypsilanti, MI. The family has suggested memorial contributions to Dawn Butzky for a charity to be determined at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). www.hnfhome.com



Charles W. Peltier

CHARLES W. PELTIER

(March 9, 1948 - June 10, 2014)

Charles William Peltier, age 66, of Belleville, MI, passed away Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born March 9, 1948 in Hudson, MI, son of Charles & Vera (Hale) Peltier.

Mr. Peltier was a Pipe Fitter and member of Local 190. He was also a model having worked in television and print ads, and a member of SAG-Screen Actor Guild. He loved antique, classic cars and was an avid golfer.

Survived by his wife of 30 years, Sharon Marie (Embach) Peltier, daughter Andrea (Aaron) Sellers, grandchildren Lincoln & McKinley Sellers, all of Belleville, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents, also a sister Joy Berlin. Cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to cherish at www.davidebrownfh.com.

JOAN W. PENDRY

(January 2, 1942 - May 27, 2014)

Joan W. Pendry of Van Buren Township died with her loving family at her side. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will take place later this summer. Call Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel, 734-699-6000.



Evelyn Mae Krug

EVELYN MAE KRUG

(August 25, 1940 – June 4, 2014)

Evelyn M. Krug, age 73, of Belleville, originally from Pennsylvania, died June 4, 2014. Beloved wife of Richard Krug. Loving mother of Karen (Barry) White, Kevin (Gina) Krug and Ken (Michelle) Krug. Dearest grandmother of Sarah, Joshua, Joseph, Jacob, Kristen, and Jonathan. She is also survived by her sister Mary Catherine (James) Dinger.

She was preceded in death by her parents Domenick and Mildred Bellas and her brother Joseph Bellas.

Visitation was Friday, 1-8 PM at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Funeral service was Saturday. In-State, 11 AM; Service, 12 PM at Woodland Church. Interment in Hillside Cemetery. www.mimemorial.com

VIRGINIA TURNEY BAUER

A memorial service for Virginia Turney Bauer will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 21, at Belleville First United Methodist Church. Lunch to follow.

SANDRA J. PORTER

(November 11, 1939 - May 28, 2014) Died at home in Belleville. Services were held May 31 at 3 p.m. at Janowiak Funeral Home in Sumpter Township. Cremation followed. Obituary at janowiakfuneralhome.com

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They're reading the Independent everywhere

The Weick family of New Boston stopped in front of the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada, on May 12 to get their picture taken reading their *Independent*. From left are Lori, Jolene, Jessica, and Joey Weick.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

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.

Page 9

More Letters

Clarification: DNR will pay for fishing amenities

To the Editor:

A clarification for the residents living in Belleville, Sumpter Township, and the Charter Township of Van Buren:

There have been a number of Letters to the Editor, newspaper articles, plus misinformation spread by word-of-mouth regarding funding sources for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plan for lakeshore development at the proposed site for the main building of the Belleville Area District Library.

Any letters or articles you may have read and/or any comments you may have heard that have stated library tax dollars will be used to build recreational amenities are not true. At a Natural Resources Commission meeting in May of this year, the Director of the DNR, Keith Creagh, publically stated that he would sign the Land Transaction Agreement that was developed and agreed to by the BADL Board of Trustees and representatives of the DNR Land Trust and the Real Estate Division of the DNR.

The Land Transaction Agreement states that the <u>DNR will be responsible to acquire funding</u> to build and maintain their planned recreational amenities, which includes piers for barrier-free fishing access. They have

already applied for a \$300,000.00 grant to begin the first phase of that plan. A copy of the "Director's Memo" will be available at the BADL on June 11 for anyone who wishes to see it for themselves.

ALL tax dollars that come from passage of the BOND and the Operating Millage Proposals (both of which will be on the Aug. 5 ballot) will <u>ONLY</u> be used for library-related construction and operational purposes.

Sincerely,

MJ Dawson, Chair Belleville Area District Library Board

A reminder: Flag Day is Saturday, fly your flag

To Belleville Residents and all my South Biggs Neighbors:

Flag Day (June 14) is just two days away. Honoring our country is not just a NICE thing to do, it's a privilege. Think of all the other countries that the government controls: what is said, how we dress, what religion we follow, what outside information is allowed, who we can marry, and otherwise control just about your whole life.

The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. Without this, we probably would not be celebrating our annual Strawberry Festival and a lot of other activities.

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 years' 100% effort on South Biggs Street. This should be a citywide 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. Hopefully, the U.S. Flags will be re-installed along Main Street like they were for Memorial Day. The street sure looked good!

I have already given away many refurbished flags (11"x16") and hopefully will still have more available when this issue of the *Independent* goes to press. Stop at 48 S. Biggs. Also, I can have your old flags properly disposed. 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.

Don't let Flag Day go by without acknowledging our great country.

Pete Pitzen

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

Disgusted by VA, terrorist swap

To the Editor:

As a person that proudly served in the military, I'm disgusted by treatment given to the military at V.A. Hospitals and the slap in the face to all the men and women that DID NOT walk away from their duty, by the government in Washington that traded away five high-level terrorists that have vowed to come back and cause us great harm.

Mickey Widener Van Buren Township

We've got Father's Day gifts for the history buff

To the Editor:

New BAM apparel has arrived at The Belleville Area Museum Gift shop! Long and short-sleeved t-shirts featured in red, blue, and orange, as well as full-zip hoodies are now available.

A sale of retired t-shirts for only \$5 is currently running, as well.

We just received copies of historical fiction author, Jean Scheffler's new book, "The Sugar House." Set back in 1920s Detroit, "The Sugar House" follows a young Polish boy torn between family values and growing up in America's fast-growing city.

This, in addition to "Water Under the Bridge," a definitive history of the tri-

community, and more items including calendars, magnets, coozies, and jewelry are also available in our gift shop. Stop by today!

The Belleville Area Museum (The BAM) is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from noon to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays 3-7 p.m. in the spring and summer months.

Katie Dallos, director Belleville Area Museum

Let us honor fathers on Father' Day

To the Editor:

Fathers are going to honored Sunday, June 15. It is a time that we pay special attention to fathers who are both father and mother. Many fathers wear many hats, preparing meals, taking care of household chores and basically filling in for mothers.

Fathers are the role models of how their children will grow to be upstanding citizens in the community in which they live. They give advice, coach sport teams, cheer on their children in building robots and doing their homework and still maintain outside employment.

Being in a father/mother role requires much sacrifice but the results are fantastic. So hats off to the fathers who keep their families together by any means necessary.

Happy Father's Day. Marian Caldwell Van Buren Township

Considering proposed library: Wants vs. Needs

To the Editor:

Subject: Wants vs. Needs

Since I moved to Belleville, my property value has dropped over 25% (unlike what my favorite real estate agent had assured me of). Of course, this has also lowered my tax bill. Yeah! You would think, but not so fast. Here in the tri-city communities local governments are scrambling to trim services to meet the lower revenues.

So, because of this, I want a new Corvette; I can enjoy the summer months, with the top down, and the wind blowing through my hair. (I jest. I'm bald.)

Now, the issue with that "want" is that I don't have a Corvette budget, so I have to stick to my old Chevy truck.

Here, in our tri-community setting, the BADL supporters appeal, in almost every edition of the paper(s), to our "wants", of just how "wonderful" and beautiful, our new proposed library "will" be. While tugging on our heart strings, these supporters, only dwell on the sweet baby breath and cold puppy dog noses, of the "good" and greatness the new library will be; a showcase, a palace, mind you. Never mind, it's easy to dream of winning the lottery and what nice things you can buy.

(continued on page 11)

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School Board

(continued from page 3)

Russell asked if the theory is that if you give it a year or two, it's possible the students will want to eat healthier food?

Moffitt said that's the theory.

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel said as of July 1, they won't be able to sell candy in the schools, which will put an end to a lot of fund drives.

"It's a real interesting year coming up," he said.

As to the educators that were laid off, they were not laid off by their seniority, since that is no longer allowed by state law.

Frazier pointed out six have ten or more years of experience. She asked how much warning did they get.

Human Resources Director Shonta Langford-Green said that anyone with an ineffective evaluation knows they could be in trouble if there are layoffs. She said there was a meeting in May on this. But, those laid off could be called back.

Van Tassel said the district lost 93 students last year and is expected to lose 100-135 a year over a five-year period, according to Plante Moran.

And Curriculum Director Diane Kullis said this year they sent six interventionists to BHS and had a hard time finding things for them to do.

She said they will now have two less social workers, although every school will have a social worker next year.

"I had no idea we were overstaffed," Frazier said.

"A number of these are new teachers, but others were 14, 16 years," Russell stated.

Green said it's no longer seniority that determines how you lay off. It's the evaluations.

"What have we been doing for 16 years? Tolerating ineffective teachers?" Russell asked.

"I wouldn't say that," Green replied. "We now need to lay off ... according to evaluations..."

"I think we're becoming a swinging-door school district," Frazier said. "Come here for a few years and then, gone."

"I think your opinion is unhelpful and inaccurate," Vice President Toth said to Frazier.

Frazier said the principal should be responsible for the teachers.

Russell said he wanted to see if the board would want to send these decisions back for reevaluation, but only he and Frazier were in favor of doing so.

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

- Approved hiring Robert Carlesso as Director of Finance with a two-year contract beginning July 1. He will be paid \$104,000, plus fringe benefits. Carlesso, currently Chief Financial Officer of the Warren Consolidated Schools, will take over for Karen Moffitt who will leave June 30;
- Approved purchasing five special needs buses off of the MSBO/MAPT Bus Purchase Program (bid) for \$398,370. Low bidder was Hoekstra of Grand Rapids;
- Approved Michigan Association of School Board membership for the 2014-15 school year for \$7,284. Toth pointed out that one of the many benefits is the ability for members to participate in the SET-SEG insurance pools, which reduces workers' compensation pool premium by \$69,804;
- Approved the resolution for membership in the Michigan High School Athletic Association for the 2014-15 school year for Belleville High School and McBride Middle School;
- Approved the purchase of 25 Student Response Systems for Owen Intermediate School from SPI Innovations in the amount of \$58,432.50. The hand-held devices give instant feedback to the teacher which shows if the students are learning what the teacher is teaching;
- Approved the purchase of 40 laptops off of the Midwestern Higher Educastion Compact contract bid for \$30,760 from NETech Corporation, to replace the 8-10-year-old teacher laptops and desktops throughout the district, according to the Technology Plan;
- Approved a resolution supporting the district expenditure of the Wayne County Millage Funds if the six-year millage passes in the Aug. 5 election. The district plans to use the money by funding technology, and buses, and repairing and maintaining district building purposes, K-1 reduced class sizes, and textbook purchases, and not for unassigned general fund purposes;
- After much discussion, approved the New Board Member and Candidate Orientation recommendation with no meet and greet with candidates as part of the program;
- Approved the Board Operating Procedures recommendation;
- Heard an Owen student play a ukulele with her teacher to show off the ukuleles purchased by the Civic Fund for the school. The school has 21 ukes now and will soon have 35;

Curtis, 15 years; Ann Cyganski, 41 years; Walter "Butch" Maciejewski, 20 years; and Donna Roberts, 17 years, from the Transportation Department; Liz Martin

from BHS; and Catherine Day from Food Service, 34 years; and

• Approved the use of school buses five times for the Boys & Girls Club.

Parents, grandparents protest loss of Bright Beginnings pre-school

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

About 11 parents, grandparents, and others supporting Bright Beginnings tuition pre-school sat in the audience for more than two hours at Monday's School Board meeting until some of the group were allowed to speak on the subject.

Letters had just been received by parents from the school district that said Bright Beginnings would not be part of the district next fall.

One parent told the board, "My heart sank when I got the letter."

After five people spoke in support of the tuition pre-school, the board agreed to discuss the issue at its next work/study session at 7 p.m., Monday, June 16 at the administration building.

Board President Brent Mikulski said the decision wasn't made by the board, but by the superintendent and his cabinet, so discussing it wouldn't change anything.

But, Trustee Scott Russell wanted the board to discuss it.

Vice President Martha Toth protested, saying discussing it would give "false hope" to those who support the program.

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel said he saw no problem with discussing the issue.

The paid pre-school didn't have enough students to continue, so it was closing because it was losing money, according to school information.

Karen Mida spoke as a grandma and community member, protesting the elimination of tuition preschool. She also was a longtime educator in the Van Buren Public Schools.

Mida said by throwing the tuition preschool out, when parents are willing to pay and drive their students to school, the district is telling them all to "Go to Bethany!"

She said she truly loves Vesta Losen,

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who runs the Bethany program, but after teaching them through preschool, "she preps her kids to go to Bethany for Kindergarten and then they are prepped to go to Keystone."

Keystone Charter Academy in Sumpter Township has taken more than 200 students from the Van Buren Public Schools.

"You don't market!" Mida said to the board, adding when she was principal at ECDC they marketed the school district. (ECDC is the acronym for the Early Childhood Development program.)

She said the Van Buren Public schools need to go to the daycares in the area and market the program by spending a little bit of time to get the three and four year olds.

for 14 years and you'd get the state funds all that time," Mida said. She said by closing the Bright Beginnings

program they are sending the children into

"With a little bit of care, you'd have them

the arms of Bethany and Keystone.
"I'm asking for reconsideration and some marketing," Mida said. "We've got a good thing going. Be a part of it."

The district has free, income-based preschool programs, Head Start and Great Start, but now would have nothing for middle-income parents who are willing to pay.

Leah Gionotti said her family moved to the Van Buren district from Downriver and her 4 year old entered Bright Beginnings and flourished. She was planning to take her younger child to Bright Beginnings when the child turned three.

"My heart sank when I got the letter," she said. "I don't know where to take him. This has cast a shadow over the school district... I can't say for sure I'll continue in this district... I would love to see you reconsider."

She said she left a community with a plethora of programs.



More Letters

(continued from page 9)

with other people's money.

Have you ever been to Belleville City Hall, and asked Marilyn if you can pay your taxes with the hopes and dreams of those "said" baby breaths and cold puppy noses? Oh, it sounds so easy. "Bond" it out, it's just a mere "30-or-so-odd million" we have just lying around.

I know, I can go to the Chevy dealer, and with "very" creative financing, buy that Corvette. Issue at hand, regardless of just how "creative" one spells it out, for the joy of a new, "wonderful", cornerstone of the communities, it still just doesn't add up.

Sane people, argue the realities of this pipe dream, only to get "shouted down" in a sea of rose-colored glasses. (I would like a red Corvette, mind you.) In Belleville, smaller budgets, reduced budgets, in which, for an example, we can't pay our fire fighters a "real" wage; poor Sumpter, who with a larger population and should have a larger say in this whole pipe dream, faces similar crisis among the various departments. Same goes for Van Buren, the township that resides in the valley of the methane mountains, and six-figure police officers, is under-funded in their own

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bonds, and with the largest population of the three communities, would shoulder the largest share of the debt.

In reality, only Belleville, has questioned or even addressed the burden of proposed "debt" of the library. The vote for all these communities is drawing near, and the BADL is riding on the wave of hope that of the few voters, generally out of apathy, will vote with their "heart" rather than the reality of the proposed library, and how it really affects "their" (the voter's share) of

Of the population, the shouldered debt would be almost \$800 per each person living here, man, woman and child. But of the property owners alone, who will really end up paying the bill, that tab will be much, much higher.

I have a great idea for MJ Dawson and the other dreamers at the BADL: "First," increase my property values. This area, keeps trying to bank upon retail businesses. That, my friends, lowers the values of the area; low-paying "jobs" do not draw higher salaries that prop up the tax base.

For example, Canton gets a high-tech company to call home, with 10-15 high tech salaries, careers mind you. What do we get? A hooka store, with few, if any, hourly positions. Oh boy, Belleville has nothing but party stores and pizza shops;

so I question you, does this raise the tax revenues to "pay" for the library and reminisced services of the communities? No, No, and NO.

We need to educate the tax-paying voters of the folly of this pipe dream; until this area goes back into a growth mode and restores property values, a new library is nothing more than a "want," not a need for the communities.

Ms. Dawson; I'll even promise you a ride in my new Corvette.

Bob Balderston, Belleville

Lions Club sets pancake breakfast at Liberty Fest

To the Editor:

The Canton Lions Club, which provides services to the Belleville area, will be holding its annual pancake breakfast from 7 to 11 a.m., Saturday, June 14, during Canton Township's Liberty Fest.

It's time for Liberty Fest in Canton where folks come and have three days of fun and entertainment. Don't know what Liberty Fest is? You are missing out on the fun and great food. Canton Township has designated June 12-14 as the time for all good people to come together for three days in Heritage Park off of Canton Center Road between Cherry Hill and Summit

Co-chairs, Lions Bob Boyer and Larry Wegrzyn, have worked for weeks planning and organizing so all will go well. They understand that this is a fund-raising event and people are dependent on the Lions to assist them in their time of need.

The Canton Lions buy many pairs of eyeglasses for kids whose parents cannot afford to buy them. The Club has provided low-vision readers to the Canton Library where individuals can check the readers out of the library for a period of time.

They also sponsor two scholarships for the visually or hearing impaired to obtain college degrees. So, you see, our work goes on. However we do need your help by donating funds which allow this valuable work to continue.

We have planned to have three contests this year. Prizes will be awarded to the person who can eat the most pancakes, with kids 5 and under participating in pancake decorating, as well as kids 6-8. Judges have been selected, so come over and join in the fun and cheer for the kids.

What is the Canton Lions Club? Well. it's a diverse group of men and women who have come together to earn funds to support those who are less fortunate.

For an example, the Penrickton Center in Taylor will educate a blind and multiplehandicapped child until the child is 12 years old. The children are with their parents on weekends but during the week they live at the Penrickton Center. I think you can see the work must go on.

If you feel you can contribute to this worthy endeavor, join us as we meet on Monday evening at 7 p.m. at Rose's Restaurant at the corner of Canton Center Road and Cherry Hill in Canton.

For information call me. Lion Bill Van Winkle, (734) 254-9404 govbill1@wowway.com

District Library sets special 7 p.m. meeting for Wed., June 18

A special meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board has been set for 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 18 at the library.

On the agenda will be three items:

- · A draft of the Sumpter Satellite lease agreement, presented by attorney John
- · A report on the traffic study for the Belleville/Quirk road intersection to determine if a traffic light is needed there;
- · A sign proposed for the DNR property that would show motorists the site of the proposed new library.

The special meeting was set at Tuesday's regular meeting of the library board.

Architect Dan Whisler said he has looked into sign regulations for Van Buren Township and prices for a sign that will cost from \$550 to \$1,000.

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Belleville Area Independent/June 12, 2014

Court Watching:

VBT police arrest man for strangling, assaulting mother of his children

By Diane Madigan Independent Court Reporter

Hal Dwayne Hinton, 27, appeared for a preliminary exam in Judge Brian Oakley's courtroom at the 34th District Court on June

Hinton was arrested by Van Buren Township Police and accused of felony charges he assaulted the mother of his two children by strangulation and assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder.

Hinton's court-appointed attorney David Lankford asked the court to waive the preliminary exam and schedule an arraignment on the information at Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

Judge Oakley agreed and set a June 18 date for the arraignment on the information. Oakley also agreed to the victim's request to change the no contact order to, no assaultive contact. Judge Oakley ordered Hinton to maintain no harm, harassment, or confrontation.

A presentence investigation by the probation department was ordered for Eric McKinzie after he pled guilty to possession of marijuana and attempted possession of "speed" on Feb. 21 in VBT. The plea agreement reduced the felony possession of an analog to attempted possession.

Linda Luke to tell story at 7 p.m. today at Ann **Arbor Storytellers**

Linda Luke of Van Buren Township will be telling a four-minute story as part of the Ann Arbor Storytellers' Guild event from 7-9 p.m. today, June 12, at Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, 114 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor.

Luke said the tea room is next door to Vinology. Around the corner to the northwest is a parking garage that is less expensive than the norm, she said.

"Come on out, not to just hear me but to hear the other tellers and have an interesting evening," Luke said, adding the AASG will have another event there in July.

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Summer Reading Program begins at Belleville Library

The Summer Reading Program at the Belleville Area District Library for preschoolers, elementary-schoolers, and teens is beginning.

On Monday, June 9, participants started to register for the program and begin their reading. On Monday, June 16, - Reading Records will be available and participants begin collecting prizes.

The Preschool program is from June 25 to July 30 at 7 p.m. Wednesdays:

- June 25 The Music Lady
- July 2 Ming the Magnificent
- July 9 Storyteller Tonya "Touchdown"
- July 16 The Science of Music
- July 23 Gratitude Steel Band
- July 30 Geoff Kinde Living Rhythm **Drumming Community**

The Elementary-Schoolers program is from June 24 to July 29 at 11 a.m.

- June 24 Gordon Russ the Magician
- July 1 Percussion Discussion
- July 8 Baffling Bill's Magic Show

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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- July 15 Tiki Music and Limbo
- July 22 Joel Tacey's ScienceRiffic Comedy
- July 29 Gratitude Steel Band, Final Awards

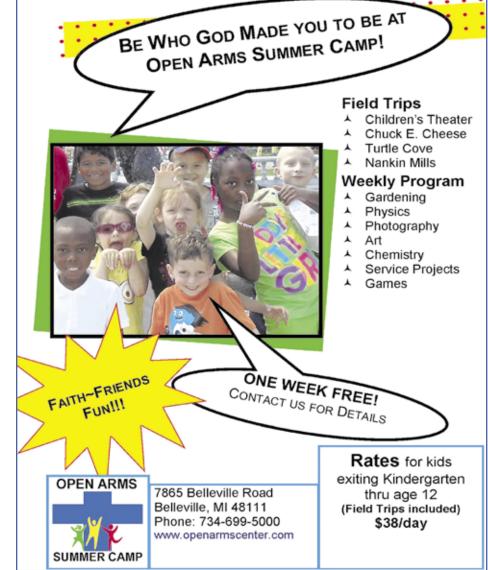
The Teens' program is from June 23 to July 28 at 7 p.m. on Mondays:

- June 23 Dunuya Drum and Dance
- June 30 Baffling Bill Magic Show and Workshop for Teens
- July 7 Japanese Taiko Drumming
- July 14 Steampunk Extravaganza
- July 21 Video Games Tourney
- July 28 Board Games and Pizza Night/ Cedar Point Tickets Raffle

• Thursday, June 12 – Keystone Academy Board of Directors, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, June 16 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 17 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, regular meeting, 7 p.m.



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8731 Lilly, Ypsilanti Twp \$259,900-4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath brick home! 2 stry foyer, brick pvr patio overlooks pond, mstr ste +!



13164 Ventura, Belleville \$299,900-4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath beauty in Mission Pointe Lake Sub! Hrdwd floors, paver patio & more!



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Belleville Area Independent/June 12, 2014



Winners announced for Royalty, Parade in Sumpter **Township Country Fest**

Sumpter Country Festival Royalty Pageant Winners were: Brooke Temple, Queen; Lataysia Lacy, Princess; and Alexis Tracy Jr. Princess.

Members of the court were Jamilah Hendricks and Madyson Curtis-Rose for the Queen; Chelsea Moore-Currier, Auara Pearson, Kyra Stevens, Isabella Camacho, Evelyn Harvey and Kyra Barnett for the Princess; Mya Couch, Jillian Wildman, Sarah Davis, Brooke Barnett, Mya Falconer and Mackenzie Simon for the Jr. Princess.

Parade trophy winners

The parade trophy winners are:

Floats -- Sumpter Royalty Float and Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club.

Children's Group: Rollers Skate Park, St. Anthony's Boy Scout and Cub Scout and Cub Scout Pack 822.

Antique Vehicle -- Jim Posegay, Jim

Chudzinski, Van Gasper Recycling.

Specialty Group: Greco Choi Kwang Do demo team, Animal Magic and Lower Huron Metro Park.

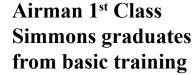
Community Organization -- VFW/PLAV, 2014 Wayne County Fair Association Homemaker and Princess, Public Service Credit Union.

Equine -- E-Z Riders, Loving Arms Rescue and Dogs and Suds.

Best in Show was Greco Choi Kwang Do demo team and Best in Theme was Roller's Skate Park.

-- Sumpter Country Festival Parade Chairman and Royalty Pageant Chairman

The \$66,599 fence along Belleville Road north of the Belleville Bridge was damaged by a speeding vehicle trying to elude police at about 3:10 a.m., June 2. The fence is expected to be repaired before Strawberry Festival. The fence was installed during the winter by Future Fence of Warren who removed 1,212 feet of old fence, removed 29 trees and stumps and pruned some trees. It then installed 1,212 feet of new fence, graded, and seeded.



Air Force Airman 1st Class Joe D. Simmons graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland at San Antonio, TX.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Simmons is the son of Regina Brown of Canton. He is a 2002 graduate of Belleville High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in 2010 from Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY.

New fence damaged



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Surprise: Library approves 'small' traffic study on DNR site

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

The Belleville Area District Library Board selected a bidder to do a "small" traffic study for the Belleville/Quirk Road intersection to prove the need for a traffic light at that corner if a library is built there.

But, the information that the board had even gone out for bids for a traffic study was news to at least one member of the board.

At the library board's regular meeting on May 13, Treasurer Elaine Gutierrez expressed surprise at the item on the agenda.

"The rest of us didn't know about it," she said, but the other board members remained silent. Board secretary Joy Cichewicz was absent.

From the audience, Barbara Rogalle Miller asked if chairwoman Mary Jane Dawson went out for bids without approval of the board.

"I felt we needed a traffic study," Dawson said.

Library attorney John Day said the board can vote it down if members don't want it. He said there was no cost to go out for bids and they were "pro bono bids."

He said the bidders bid on doing a small traffic study and he prepared the specifications.

Miller said she doesn't know what "small" means in connection with a traffic study and Day said it was a category used by Wayne County.

John Delaney said from the audience

that he gives a lot of credit to Gutierrez for speaking up. He said Dawson took charge and with legal counsel went out for bids, "ignoring you until the end."

"Just your chairperson is on top of this ... and the only comments are from the peanut gallery," Delaney said.

(Miller challenged Delaney's "peanut gallery" comment, saying she was the public asking a question. Delaney laughed and said he was the "peanut gallery.")

Dawson then opened three sealed bids and the different prices and services were read aloud.

Board members Kris Brasil and Gutierrez asked for a copy of the bids so they could compare them, but got no copies. Dawson did give them the original Fleis and Vandenbrink bid to look at after it became the leading contender.

Library board member John Juriga said all three companies have the same agenda: "to determine effects of a stop light at the corner."

"All work by the same playbook, with the same professional standards," Day said.

Architect Dan Whisler said the study will justify the need for a traffic signal.

Juriga made a motion to go with Fleis and Vandenbrink of Grand Rapids, and Joe Monte seconded the motion, saying that bid was most cost-effective.

They changed the motion to read that the work is not to exceed \$3,600.

Traffic counts will be collected 7-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. in each of three directions for

24 hours on a typical weekday. They also will review three years of crash data.

Whisler said in the call for bids, Day put the onus on the engineer to contact Wayne County with the results, since it will be the county that recommends whether or not traffic signals are needed there.

Whisler said Van Buren Township engineers Wade Trim said they will share their data.

"I only had one library project that required a traffic study," Whisler said, noting it was in the \$11,000-\$12,000 range. "This is a 'small' study."

Guitierrez asked why they don't just look at the existing data.

Whisler said the VBT data isn't for that part of Belleville Road. He said the traffic engineers will take a physical count, putting someone out there to count cars.

"Ultimately, Wayne County will decide if the study is done right," Whisler said. "That's why John [Day] had them speak to the township and county first. The duration of the count is dictated by the county."

Phil Miller asked for the methodology of the bidding and was ignored.

"You need to act on this soon so it can be done," Whisler said. "They think school being in makes a difference, but they do it all year-round." He referred to people in the audience asking if it shouldn't be done when school is in session.

Day responded to Phil Miller saying, "We asked engineering companies with traffic engineers on staff to bid. Five were contacted and three responded."

Phil Miller asked if Day or Whisler had used the firm before and they said they hadn't.

Mary Ban said the study is for traffic safety and Morin replied, "It's just a traffic flow

"It's also about safety," Day added.

Phil Miller asked if the traffic engineers were to present their report to the library board.

The report will go to Wayne County, Whisler said, although it will be sent to Day and Dawson, as well.

Whisler said there is no meeting with the township planning commission until a bond is passed and that would be "down the road."

Phil Miller asked if there would be a time for public comment to the engineers and Whisler said there would be no public comments.

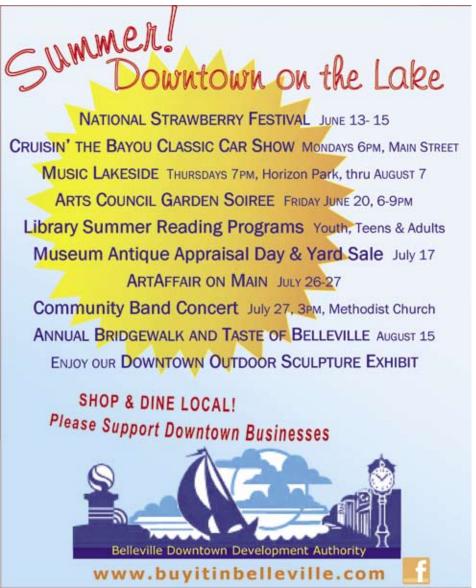
Whisler said all this is about whether a traffic light is warranted and the report ultimately will be sent to Wayne County.

At previous meetings Delaney had asked

for a traffic study and was told there were no plans for a traffic study.

The email to engineering firms asking for bids on a "small" traffic study went out April 21.

The board had two special meetings since that date – on April 22 and May 1 – and no mention was made that the chairwoman had made a decision to go out for traffic study bids.





Wheelchair ride gives a different view of Belleville

By Don Bluhm, Belleville

Having been a resident of Belleville for many decades, I have witnessed new buildings being constructed as well as watching some of the older buildings and businesses being removed, including the old water tower.

I enjoyed driving around the streets of Belleville, especially after Mayor Royce Smith had all the streets in Belleville changed from a dirt base to being new concrete streets in the early 1970s.

In March 2012 I was involved in an automobile accident (the air bag did not deploy) and after 22 months I came home. Due to my injuries, my mode of transportation has been reduced from driving and restricted to a power wheelchair.

The technology today allows people restricted to chairs to maneuver the chair through their blowing in and out of a mouthpiece, using the movements of their face, and other technical advancements. The one thing that has not been done is that the wheelchair does not have a suspension or shock absorber system such as we have on our cars. Consequently, when you have an uneven surface to maneuver over the ride becomes very harsh, jarring, and sometimes impossible, causing accidents and tip overs.

I believe that the Legion of wheelchair users would classify Belleville and say that the city does not realize how unfriendly the situation is in our town. I would like to point out a few examples and wonder if they can be taken care of to comply with the American Disabilities Act. I have asked the editor of the *Independent* to accompany me to take photos of these conditions that I have found using my wheelchair on areas of city sidewalks and streets.

1. My normal path is to walk the lakeside sidewalk at Horizon Park. I usually install an American flag on a four-foot shaft and put this in the back of my wheelchair, so the wheelchair would be more easily seen by motorists. You have to be careful when you cross into the park from Edison Street as motorists seem to either ignore or don't see the stop sign and they go whistling

through the intersection. Once you cross over into the park area at that location, you have to duck as the pine tree branches are extending out over the sidewalk hitting your face or head. New View.

- 2. The sidewalk to the gazebo structure provides a beautiful view of the lake and as you start to go to the Memorial, there is a row of bricks that have been laid on each side of the sidewalk; the row closest to High Street has sunken below the level of the sidewalk. When you have to go on them to allow other people to pass on the sidewalk it causes a most difficult time as the wheelchair does not want to follow the depression. And, when you try to bring it back up to the sidewalk, the wheels jump and pitch the chair awkwardly, endangering the occupant.
- 3. Several years back, I believe a grant was given to the city and the fishing pier and ramp was built in back of the Memorial. Today it is impossible for a wheelchair occupant to use this RAMP as the cement approach pad has sunken at least 3 inches below the wooden flooring of the ramp. I do not know who is responsible for the maintenance of this ramp, stairs, and fishing area, but in its present condition a handicapped person in a wheelchair cannot use it to get to the lake. Also, it does not meet the requirements of the American Disability Act. I was talking to another person who is confined to a wheelchair at this site one day when he told me that he had made a complaint to the city over several years ago and still nothing has been done. Who is responsible for the maintenance?
- 4. The driveway entrance into the city parking lot and the sidewalk by the Memorial is uneven, with holes that you have to maneuver around to get to the main
- 5. The northeast corner of Fifth Street, where the handicap ramp is located, has a very high curb at the north end and with one wheel going over that section and the other wheel going towards the center of the ramp, it causes the wheelchair to tilt in a very dangerous condition, possibly even a turnover.
 - 6. As you take the sidewalk on the



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Donald Bluhm of Belleville points out the sunken area in the "handicapped-accessible" ramp to the fishing deck at Horizon Park. If he tried to drive over the more than 3" difference he could possible get thrown down the stairs ahead.

west side of Roys Street and get in front of the Baptist Church, there is a very bad groove completely across the sidewalk approximately 2-3 inches wide and the same depth. I'm certain that members of this church have made complaints about this condition, but it still exists.

7. If you're going to the drugstore (Savon) on Main Street (remember, shop in Belleville), you come down High Street on the east sidewalk and be careful where the sidewalk has buckled, go past the Methodist Church, and cut through the city parking lot across the street from the library. This is what you will find: as you cross the street to go into the parking lot there are several giant potholes in the cement road you have to duck around and then you enter the parking lot and find the same conditions. The route is the one you want to take because there is a ramp in front of the alligator's restaurant and you're trying to use the shortest route, so as to use the shortest amount of electricity from your battery.

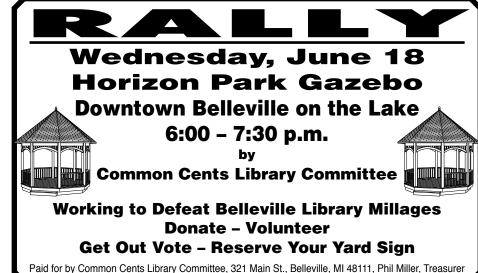
Well, I realize that wheelchair folks are in the minority and it's not my position that every little thing has to be fixed for us, but some of these conditions I found to be interesting in my new view of Belleville.

I wish each member of the administration would use a wheelchair and ride with me so that they would know the conditions I have found. I'm sure that the American Disabilities Act covers these problems and I'm hoping that this small article will alert the administration so we can prevent liability lawsuits. I do not know of any specific program for city inspection of the roads or the sidewalks nor records of problems, repairs, and where or when the repairs have been made. Maybe it's something that council would like for accountability.

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

Charles M. Schulz





age 19

Belleville DDA talks of CDBG funds for new playscape at Village Park

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

At first, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority members were poised to approve the low price quote for fibar mulch for the playscapes at both Village and Victory parks, but then they changed their minds.

Fibar is a special type of wood safety mulch used for playgrounds. The DDA asked for price quotes for 225 cubic yards delivered to Village Park and 134 cubic yards delivered to Victory Park.

At the DDA's regular meeting May 21, the lowest of four price quotes, \$16 per cubic foot (\$5,760), from Play Environments, Inc. of Holland, MI, was about to be approved, when Councilman Tom Fielder asked from the audience if the city wasn't looking at using federal Community Development Block Grant funds to install a new handicapped-accessible playscape at Village Park.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said there is a good possibility that the CDBG funds could be used for handicapped-accessible playscapes and some of that money has to be used by the end of the year.

Trying to put in new fibar and then moving it to install a new playscape and then moving it back sounded inefficient, so the DDA changed its motion to ask the bidder to change the order to just fibar for Victory Park.

If the bidder is reluctant to give the same price for a smaller order (\$2,144), the fibar will be rebid.

DDA member Rosemary Loria said the Village Park play equipment at Victoria Commons is of wood and is in bad shape.

Councilman Fielder said that if CDBG funds can be used for both parks for handicapped-accessible play equipment that they should make them different from one another, so residents will seek out both playgrounds to use.

In other business at the May 21 meeting, the DDA:

• Approved budget recommendations for fiscal year 2014-15 which requires \$28,605 from the fund balance to balance the budget. There is a fund balance of \$834,453 for 2014-15 and revenue and

expenditures of \$914,838. Also, \$110,000 in the 2015 bond principal payment is allocated from the reserve amount. With continued slow economic growth, the budget committee continued to recommend reserving future bond payments through 2016 in the amount of \$411,467, "just in case." DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson got a raise from \$22.66 to \$23.10 per hour. Printing costs have been reduced since the newsletter is now sent by email. The budget report also said the DDA is working with DTE Energy to conduct an energy audit, trying to determine why it is not seeing cost savings since installing the LED street lighting;

- Approved paying not to exceed \$500 for the purchase and installation of the proposed city pedestrian crosswalk sign to be put in the middle of Main Street at Fourth Street. The sign will be in place from the end of snow-plowing season in March until the beginning of snow-plowing in November, except when it is moved for special events. The city will vacate one parking space on Main Street to facilitate left turns from Fourth to Main Street, may authorize a 90-day local traffic order, and may take down the yellow crosswalk warning signs leading to the crosswalks if state law allows. City Manager Kollmeyer said there may be a way for the city to pay half of the cost. Councilman Fielder said state law says you must stop for pedestrians in a marked crosswalk;
- Heard Kollmeyer say that two young people were in city hall earlier that day finding out how to go about getting a skate park reopened in the city;
- Heard DDA chairman John Hoops say better striping is needed for the parking spaces on Main Street, especially in front of the Fourth Street Square;
- Heard DDA member Brian Copsey (owner of Bayou Grill) say more downtown family events are needed for the Fourth Street Square, something like a chili cook-off in the fall. "Now it's just a bunch of rectangular ashtrays ... Sad to see it sit empty most of the time." He was told the Booville committee is planning many events during October at the square;
- Heard resident Ken Voigt compliment the

DDA for the crosswalk sign it is planning, for the Wayfinding signs that have been put up, and the sculptures. "The art is fabulous," he said. He said he was born in Greeley, CO and his family lives in Loveland, CO, and he visits there often. He said Loveland has embraced art and has 120 sculptures in a sculpture park. This has attracted sculptors, foundries, and other businesses related to sculptures. It has a first-Friday art walk and is an art incubator. "You're on the right track with this art," Voigt said. "Stats show art is a fantastic economic-development tool." He suggested once the lease is up on the six sculptures put up in the city, the DDA should look at ways to get permanent sculptures erected;

- Heard Voigt asked if there was any plan to do anything about the geese at Horizon Park. Voigt is part of the committee that arranges the summer Music in the Park series. Kollmeyer said they had tried several things, but haven't tried dogs. Hoops said he knows someone who has a business, Bye-Bye Birdie, that uses dogs to get rid of birds. "It's kind of nasty on concert night," Hoops agreed;
- Heard Steve Jones, president of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, thank the DDA for the new donations for Art Affair on Main and the summer concerts. He said the Monday car shows will begin June 2;
- Heard DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson thank the six crews of the BYC for the shore cleanup the previous Saturday. There were others who worked to clean up the city and the 34th District Court crew came out to sweep. "We're looking pretty tidy and ready for summer," she said; and
- Heard Councilman Fielder say he has heard the most photographed sculpture

Belleville DDA allocates grants in 2014-15 budget

At its May 21 meeting, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority approved its proposed budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year beginning July 1.

There was \$16,000 budgeted to support the following community events:
• Belleville Area Council for the Arts,

- Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Music Lakeside – group's total budget \$6,450, \$4,500 requested, \$2,500 granted;
- Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Art Affair on Main -- \$20,000 total budget; \$5,000 requested, **\$2,500** granted;
- National Strawberry Festival --\$79,598 total budget, \$8,000 requested, **\$7,000** granted (includes covering cost of downtown business participation);
- Chamber of Commerce Winter Fest --\$13,225 total budget, \$3,000 requested, **\$2,500** granted; and
- Belleville Area Historical Society, Museum Exhibits, Monthly Events, Booville -- \$5,000 total budget, \$1,800 requested, **\$1,500** granted.

has been "Heavy Metal" on the Fourth Street Square. He thanked the DDA for its donation to the Historical Society and announced that Strawberry Festival will feature a water show with performers using jet packs on the lake.

Absent and excused from the meeting were Secretary James Higgerson and Treasurer Sabrina Richardson Williams.



From left, Michelle Veenhuis, Bragenzer, her son Dawson Bragenzer, and Diesel the bulldog made up one team for the Dreamcatchers that walked the track at the Belleville Relay for Life event on May 31 at Quirk Park. They were walking in honor of Christina Daniel who was diagnosed with breast cancer and recently had a double mastectomy. Daniel had walked with them earlier in the day and was planning to come back and do it again later Saturday. The overnight Relay for Life events make up the largest fund raiser for the American Cancer Society.



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VBT approves **XLT-Plus** F-150 Ford pickup at **\$30,706 from Demmer**

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

On a 6-1 vote at its regular meeting on June 3, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved the DPW Director's request for purchase of a 2014 XLT-Plus F-150 pickup truck from Jack Demmer Ford for \$30,706.

Trustee Reggie Miller cast the only nay vote against the purchase, saying she disagreed with buying a "top of the line truck" for DPW employees to use for meter repairs.

"Why not go with the bare-bones minimum, a standard package, instead of options that will cost to maintain in the future?" Miller asked.

DPW Director James Taylor said he advertised for sealed bids and received the single bid from Demmer. He told the board the bid of \$30,706 was about \$4,000 lower than the purchase price of recently purchased 2013 F-150s.

The base price of the new truck was \$30,706, Taylor said, which includes power locks and power windows, floor mats, reverse sensing system, reverse camera, power mirrors, tailgate step, HID headlamps, remote start, supercrew cab, and leather seats.

The specifications also call for the truck to be Blue Jeans Metallic in color, have the SXT Chrome Package, Hard Tri-Fold Tonneau Cover, and factory-spray bed liner, along with Sirius XM Radio. The radio is free for six months, as part of the package, and Taylor said they will not seek to renew Sirius when the free service runs

On its March 27 bid, Demmer Ford said the special order will take 4-6 weeks to

"We didn't go through the state bidding process because we thought it would be higher," said Taylor. "We found out this was a better deal."

Later in the meeting when the public could respond, John Delaney said the board was lied to two weeks earlier when Taylor said the trucks bought last summer were XLTs. They weren't, according to documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request by Delaney.

Also, the trucks bought last summer were 2014s, the same year as the one being bought this summer.

He noted Taylor didn't use the state bidding process. And, Delaney pointed out, Taylor said he needed more space in the truck because more people could be transported in one truck when they go to training. He suggested getting something like a Ford Ranger for the truck used to maintain meters and carry repair items.

Delaney said the township could have saved \$11,000 by going to the proper people to order the vehicle. He referred to the XLT purchase as a "parade" package because of all the chrome.

In other business at the June 3 meeting, the board:

- Approved filing a petition to abandon a portion of the Fisher and Lenge Drain which is on the property to be developed by Costco for a truck depot;
- · Approved the second reading and adoption of an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances and to repeal the section on Begging. Instead of just repealing the ordinance, it was rewritten;
- Approved adoption of the 300+ page Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to receive funds made available through certain mitigation grant programs. This is a renewal of what VBT had in the past,
- Approved a special use request for Full House Self-Storage for expansion of the mini warehouse/self-storage facility, as recommended by the planning commission. John Delaney asked about requiring sidewalks in front that aren't a part of the plan and Supervisor Linda Combs said that would be covered as part of the site plan
- Approved first reading of an amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 46, Fire Prevention and Protection, by replacing Article III - Fireworks. The Michigan Fireworks Safety Act (effective January 2012) limits municipalities from enacting any ordinance regulating the sale, display, storage, transportation or distribution of consumer fireworks;
- Heard Supervisor Combs read a letter from Margaret and Lawrence Zelanka of Ormond Drive thanking two police officers

for their help in a parking lot on May 25. They included lotto tickets to give to the police officers and wished them good luck;

- Heard Delaney question the legality of the closed-door session the previous day "to discuss the township attorney's opinion letter regarding the township's access/ use policies and rules for the township meeting rooms, multi-purpose rooms, and gymnasium, as well as to discuss the township attorney's opinion letter regarding township's access/use policies and rules regarding sponsorship / advertising space for events held by the township." He said the public should be able to offer their opinions on those subjects in open meetings;
- Heard an update on the Belleville Road construction by Downtown Development Executive Director Susan Ireland. She said those with questions may call Dan's Excavating construction department at (734) 947-9700;
- · Learned the phase II of the parking lot resurfacing at the township hall will begin June 23 and take about a week to complete. The area to be paved is around the recreation/senior center and people are asked to park at the other end of the building during the work; and
- · Heard a suggestion for those heading to the Strawberry Festival in Belleville to take Haggerty or Rawsonville to Huron River Drive to get to Belleville because of the Belleville Road construction.

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**

Hollow's Landscape Supply on Rawsonville Road just south of Huron River Drive/Textile, has over five acres of hardscape materials, mulches, and more for the do-it-yourselfer. Pine needles have also arrived. Hollow carries everything from sand and gravel to decorative stone and top soil. Visit their website at www.hollowtrucking.com and call Lisa Amadore at (734) 482-SAND (7263).

The **Belleville Church of God** on Hull Road in Belleville is giving away free food on Thursday, June 19, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The church's pantry gives away perishable and non-perishables the third Thursday of each month. To reserve some for pickup, call **JoAnne** at (734) 697-1142 or the church at (734) 697-0927.

The **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue,** based in Sumpter, will once again be offering pet adoptions at this weekend's

Strawberry Festival. FMAR will be set up under the canopy at the **Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home** on Main Street. Call **(734) 461-9458**.

**

Dusting Dames is a residential and commercial cleaning company with excellent references. For a free quote, call **Maggie D'Aversa** or **Crystal Howard** at (734) 624-9332.

The Romulus Historical Society will be holding its annual Flea Market this Saturday, June 14, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Romulus Historical Park on Hunt Street. Table space is available for \$15. Bring tables. Call (734) 941-6361.

Marti's Gift Gallery on East Huron River Drive in Belleville is offering 50% off jewelry with their ad in today's paper. The same ad will get you 40% off wall hangings, too. The business is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, noon-5 p.m., noon to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Call (734) 699-GIFT (4438).

Summer is practically upon us with the **Strawberry Festival** here in town this weekend, and the classic car shows under way every Monday on Main Street, sponsored by the Bayou. The **Belleville Area Council for the Arts** kicks off its free **Lakeside Concert Series** at Horizon Park next Thursday, June 19, with the **Paul Keller Quartet** (jazz). The **Belleville District Library** is home of the Summer

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

ORDINANCE 05-20-14

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY

Second reading for adoption.

An Ordinance to amend and replace Chapter 58, Article V, Sec. 58-180 entitled "Begging"

Section 1. <u>Amend.</u> 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 and replaced.

Section 2. <u>Effective Date</u>. This Amendment shall become effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Charter Township of Van Buren.

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 3rd day of June, 2014.

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

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Adopted: 6/3/14.

Published: 5/29/14 & 6/12/14.

Effective: 6/12/14.

Reading Series and June 19 marks the end of another very long school year in the district. Congrats to the senior class of 2014 and happy Father's Day to all Dads.

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HELP WANTED: PLUMBING INSPECTOR

The Township of Sumpter is seeking an individual for the part-time position as inspector. They are paid on an inspection basis. Must have a High School Diploma, have Act 54 certification, experience in inspection or code enforcement work or the equivalent. Must have state of Michigan certification. Applications available at the Sumpter Township Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerks Office 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111. 734-461-6201. Sumpter Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Publish: June 12, 19 & 26, 2014

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP FIREWORKS SAFETY ACT ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NO. 06-03-14

First reading of General Code of Ordinance 6-3-14 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Van Buren, Chapter 46 – Fire Prevention and Protection, by replacing Article III Fireworks. Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:00 p.m. regular Board of Trustees meeting to be held on June 17, 2014 in the Board Room, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

AN ORDINANCE TO CONTROL THE USE AND DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS AND OTHER EXPLOSIVE AND FLAMMABLE COMPOUNDS, CHEMICALS, AND DEVICES USED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

The Van Buren Charter Township ordains:

SECTION 1 – TITLE

SECTION 2 – PURPOSE

SECTION 3 – DEFINITIONS

SECTION 4 – PROHIBITIONS

<u>SECTION 5 – PERMITS</u>

SECTION 6 – COST RECOVERY

SECTION 7 – INSURANCE

<u>SECTION 8 – PENALTIES</u> <u>SECTION 9 – SEVERABILITY</u>

SECTION 10 - REPEALER

<u>SECTION 11 – SAVINGS CLAUSE</u> <u>SECTION 12 – EFFECTIVE DATE</u>

This Ordinance shall take effect following publication in the manner prescribed by law. This Ordinance shall be published in the manner provided by law.

SECTION 13 – ADOPTION

This Ordinance is hereby declar-	ed to have been adopted b	by the Township Board of
the Charter Township of Van Bur	en, County of Wayne, Stat	e of Michigan, at a regular
meeting called and held on the _	day of	, 2014.

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

NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Adopted:

Published: 6/12/14

Effective:

Page 23

Grand Marshals

(continued from page 1)

including the MI-MORT, Mortuary Response Team for mass casualties.

David's community activities include: four-time director of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce, Hospice of Washtenaw Spiritual and Bereavement Committee, member of the board of trustees of the Oakwood Hospital Beyer Center Foundation, Tri-County Sportsman's Club, and current president of the Charles B. Cozaad Rotary Foundation.

He is also a member of the Central Business Community, Rotary Club (past president with perfect attendance for 26+ years), Myrtle Lodge #89 F&AM, the Moose Lodge #934, and the Van Buren Eagles Aerie #3996, all of Belleville. He served on the Belleville Downtown Development Authority for 19 years. He is a communicant at St. Anthony Catholic Church and also served there as a Minister of the Eucharist for many years. He is also an avid hunter and fisherman.

Martha Brown

Martha also was born in Muskegon and moved with her family to Belleville in 1975. Martha helped David open the funeral home in 1982, then went back to school when her girls were older, and received her Bachelor of Social Work degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1993.

In 1994, she began working at the Brown

Family Center, where extensive aftercare services, pre-need counseling, monuments and markers, are offered to serve local families in an "off-premises" setting.

Martha is a social worker specializing in grief support. She received extensive training from Accord, Inc., a national association of professional counselors, and several local hospice agencies.

Martha has worked with a considerable number of individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one, and has assisted them through the grieving process either on a one-on-one basis or in a group setting.

In addition to her expertise in helping the grieving, she brings with her a sensitivity from the experience of losing a mother a father, a brother, a nephew, and a grandson.

Martha opened Marti's Gift Gallery in 2004. It is next to the Family Center and two blocks east of the funeral home. She enjoys taking care of her grandsons. Martha loves being outdoors, especially boating, and also traveling.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 3, 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, Public Safety Director Laurain, Secretary Cline and an audience of fifteen (15).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the agenda, as presented. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes May 19, 2014; Closed Session Minutes May 19, 2014; Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 20, 2014; Resolution 2014-15, to file petition to abandon a portion of the Fisher and Lenge Drain; Voucher List of June 3, 2014.] as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs read a thank you letter addressed to Police Department from a senior citizen for their assistance with their vehicle.

Supervisor Combs read a letter from Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks congratulating Clerk Wright for obtaining his certification as a Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC). Clerk Wright stated Deputy Clerk Cline has also received the same certification.

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Delaney commented on the following: New Business item #2 regarding special use request for Full House storage regarding sidewalks; Unfinished Business item #2 regarding purchase of a 2014 pick-up truck; potential Open Meeting Act violation at June 2, 2014 Closed Session item #1 regarding Attorney opinion letter regarding Township meeting uses policy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the second reading for adoption 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 and replacing Section 58-180, Begging. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, Jahr, Hart, McClanahan, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried. *(A copy of the synopsis 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.)

McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the purchase of a 2014 F-150 pick-up truck from Jack Demmer Ford in the amount of \$30,706. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Combs. Nays: Miller. Absent: None. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the adoption of Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan, as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve Full House Self-Storage Special Use Approval request for expansion of mini-warehouse/self-storage facility in C-1 Zoning District, including the seven conditions referenced in the special use approval letter from Sally Hodges, McKenna Associates dated March 28, 2014. Carried.

McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the first reading of General Code of Ordinance 06-03-14 to amend the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Van Buren, Chapter 46 – Fire Prevention and Protection, by replacing Article III Fireworks. Carried.

*(A copy of the synopsis of Ordinance 06-04-14 follows the minutes. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs made the following announcements: On behalf of the DDA provided an update on the Belleville Road construction project; Township parking lot construction project will begin on June 23rd; The Strawberry Festival will be held on Father's Day weekend.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Non-Agenda Items started at 7:48 p.m. and ended at 8:03 p.m. Comments were made regarding: Country Walk; Open Meeting Act; requests back-up cameras on township vehicles; Victoria Park complaints regarding SR Jacobson maintenance of property; Fence along Ecorse Road; Beck Road Dust\Willow Run Airport Construction; Clean-up has improved after accidents; Not in favor of fireworks; Bottle drive at Five Points for Army Sergeant Cadet to pay for training; Not in favor of back-up cameras for township vehicles.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Carried. Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor Publish: June 12, 2014

Road rage

(continued from page 1)

vehicles mirrors touched when driving in the construction zone on Belleville Road at I-94 at about 3:20 p.m., May 29.

He reportedly threatened to kill the motorist if he ever touched the officer's mirror again. The motorist reportedly was a Romulus business owner.

VBT police were dispatched for a "weapons violation" call and reportedly stopped the officer in the Farmer Jack shopping center. They did not arrest him or take him into custody. He was allowed to retain his weapon.

Five days after the incident with the Romulus officer, where no charges had been filed, VBT had a second, similar report.

Just before 3 p.m. on June 3, VBT police received a complaint against an 18-year-old male motorist who also was accused of a "weapons violation" after an altercation with two other drivers who reportedly were blocking the road at the I-94 South Service Drive and Denton Road.

After VBT police ran the reported plate, they called the teen's father, since the truck was in the father's name. The father told his son to go to the VBT police station and talk to them, which he did.

But, the teen was handcuffed and put in the lockup. He gave police permission to search his truck. Reportedly, no gun was found, only a paint spray can with a pistol pull trigger on it, which the teen said he was holding when he gave the other motorists "the finger."

Late in the day last Thursday, a week after the Romulus police officer incident and while the teen was still in custody, VBT Police Lt. Ken Floro told the *Independent* he took requests for two warrants to the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

Later that day, Lt. Floro said one of the requests was denied and the Prosecutor's office was considering the other, but didn't specify which.

Late Tuesday afternoon, VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain said the Prosecutor's office still is investigating VBT's request for a warrant against the Romulus officer. He said because the Prosecutor's office is short-staffed, sometimes these requests take a while to process. Also, he said, the Prosecutor's office often re-interviews witnesses before making a decision.

It was learned through sources in the community that the teenager was held in the

VBT lockup for 48 hours and then released without charges when the Prosecutor's office turned down VBT's request for a warrant against him.

The Romulus Police Department is in the process of recovering from a police scandal that involved the former police chief and his wife and five detectives, with them all being arraigned at 34th District Court in 2011.

Sandra St. Andre was sentenced to 7-20 years after being found guilty by a jury in January. Her husband, former Romulus Police Chief Michael St. Andre, this month entered a guilty plea to corruption charges in Wayne County Circuit Court during a pre-trial hearing. He will be sentenced Oct. 17 and will serve five years as part of his plea agreement.

Three other officers pled guilty and were sentenced to periods of probation and two are facing trials in the coming months.

Ecorse crash



Photo by Kevin English, Sr. At about 5:20 p.m., Saturday, May 31 emergency crews were cleaning up after an accident at the northeast corner of Ecorse and Belleville roads.

"Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory."

— George S. Patton

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Page 24 Belleville Area Independent/June 12, 2014



Ask Angela By Angela Nettro

I am here to answer questions pertaining to buying or selling real estate. Send your questions to "Ask Angela," c/o *Belleville-Area Independent*, 152 Main Street, Suite 9, Belleville 48111 or send me an email at nettroandco@comcast.net . I'll answer questions in this column.

Question from Linda in Van Buren: Since this time of year is filled with many people planning vacations, I have been considering purchasing a time share that will be available on a yearly basis and take the hassle out of searching for various destinations, hotels, flights, etc. every year. I would like your advice and information as to the details of a time share.

Answer: There are so many time shares available at different prices, locations throughout the world, and with different values and maintenance fees.

First, you need to know what area you would like to vacation in every year, what calendar week(s) and how much you are willing to pay for the time share, as well as the maintenance fees.

There are also time share affiliations that time share owners can subscribe to for the purpose of trading their time share with other time shares. If you want the same vacation destination every year, a time share may be for you. But before buying one, check the history of turnovers and if there are individual owners selling (usually for much less than the management company).

Also, if you do not use the time share much, you will still be paying the maintenance fees for as long as you own it. Maintenance fees also may increase. When you want to sell it, it is not easy to sell and most prior-time share owners finally sell it for much less than they bought it for and never recoup the maintenance costs they put into it.

In closing, I am a past-time, share owner myself and in with the majority of time share owners who have sold their time shares just to be relieved from the fees, lack of use, and commitment.

Enjoy your future vacations with the freedom to go wherever you want and whenever. -- Angela

Angela Nettro, Real Estate Broker (734) 697-6655

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CHOICE LAWN & LANDSCAPE SERVICES, LLC

SERVING BELLEVILLE, CANTON & WESTLAND AREAS

COMPLETE WEEKLY LAWN CARE SERVICES

Spring/Fall Clean Up • Light Landscaping
Shrub Prunning • Flower Bed Edging & Garden Walls

FREE ON-SITE ESTIMATES • LICENSED & INSURED
A REGISTERED WAYNE COUNTY BUSINESS

BRIAN MCKELVEY

Owner / Operator

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Lakefront Window Cleaning

Residential – Commercial

Get a 7 Day Rain Proof Warranty for Residential!

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Commercial & Residential Lawn Care.
Licensed & Insured. Hauling.
(734) 325-6062

MD APPLIANCE SERVICE Refrigerators, "Washers, Dryers, Ranges, \$20 House Call (734) 782-3354 8/28

SUMMER TUTORING K-12. Experienced Teacher. Begins July 1st. Also Piano lessons, 5 yrs.old./adult. (734) 697-9628

HELP WANTED

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

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

HAIR STYLIST with or without Clientele needed at a Modern Salon w/ Friendly Workers. Bladez (734) 697-5600 TFN

TRAINED STAFF Wanted for Group Home in Romulus, (734) 942-1010 ALSO Riverview & Brownstown, (734) 282-0230

Notice to Advertisers:

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

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value."

- Albert Einstein

HELP WANTED

Septic & Excavating business looking for labor with CDL license

We are a septic tank cleaning (sewage cleaning) and excavating business serving the Belleville area and Southeast Michigan. Job duties include heavy lifting, installation, digging, truck driving and general labor work. Full or part time positions available. Please email us or call for an application.

kovalak@comcast.net (734) 461-6838

HIRING IMMEDIATELY

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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

There's a good chance we're right in your neighborhood. We're looking for **Direct Care Assistants** to support persons we serve in their homes in the Belleville & Romulus communities.
\$8.25 total per hr. plus good benefits.

Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543 Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Feel great about the work that you do helping people we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training provided. \$8.40 total per hr. plus good benefits.

Call (734) 753-4804 New Boston Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

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INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

JNG Auction Services 881 Sumpter Rd.

Online: June 13-18
Hardware, Dodge Dakota, Tools, etc.

Short Notice
Estate Auction: June 21

Belleville: See Website for info

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

PUBLIC AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that on 6/27/14 at 9:00 a.m. or after the contents of the following storage units will be sold by competitive bidding (Public Auction) at:

U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC

6130 Rawsonville Rd.,Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 482-1502

SPACE #B-11, John Johnson – Refrigerator, sofa, portable TV, bookcase, upholstered chair(s), end table, large table, storage cases, work table, car mats, kids' toys, Keurig Coffee Maker, multiple boxes and bags, misc. items.

SPACE #J-19, Kimberly Kelly – Headboard, dresser, 2 speakers, night stand, trunk, TV, wooden table, Totes, 4 lawn chairs, 4 boxes.

SPACE #C-24, Clint Moomey – Grandfather clock, BBQ grill, 2 box springs/mattress sets, 4 kitchen chairs, upholstered chair, 2 chests of drawers, refrigerator/freezer, 3 wooden shelves, table lamp, 2 fans, lawn mower, shop vac, house vacuum, lawn chairs, air compressor, various tools, wall shelves, multiple boxes, misc. items.

SPACE #G-14, Anthony Ford – 1980 Chevrolet Malibu car

publish: June 12, 2014

GARAGE/YARD SALE

COMMUNITY YARD SALE!!
June 13th - 15th, 9 am/4 pm. Swan Creek,
6988 McKean Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 6/12

HUGE GARAGE SALE 46200 McBride, off Quirk Rd. June 12-14, 9 a.m./5 p.m. Little Bit of Everything, Some new in box.

10634 VAN BUREN LANE off N. Service Dr. June 20-21, 9 a.m./ 5 p.m. Many Household & Electrical items. Some women's clothes, Patio Table & chairs plus folding chairs.

45171 JUDD RD. E. off Sumpter Rd. June 19-21, 9 a.m./6 p.m. Lawn Tractor, Utility trailer, Glass picnic table (new), Plus size Men & Women's clothes, Kitchen & Decorations.

YARD SALE - 44072 Harmony Lane. June 13-15 & June 20-22. Household goods, Women's clothes (12-16) some new, Old boat motors & Misc.

(2) FAMILY YARD SALE 9615 Woodland Ct., Ypsilanti, off Bunton Rd. June 13-15, 9 a.m./6 p.m. Household items, Furniture & Much More

GARAGE/YARD SALE

MOVING SALE - 19795 Sherwood off Willis Rd. June 14, 9 a.m./1 p.m. Make An Offer. 6/12

HUGE SALE - 17980 Savage Rd. between Bemis & Harris Rds. June 20-22 9 a.m./5 p.m. Electronics, Yard equipment, Toys, Clothes, Movies, Video games, Books, Bikes & Furniture.

86 MENLO PARK DR. in BelleVilla Mobile Home Park. June 13-15, 9 a.m./ 6 p.m. Baby girl, M & W clothes, Baby items, Books, CD's, Movies, DVD's, Records, Christmas décor, Lots of Misc.

FOR SALE

14 H.P. SNAPPER TWIN BLADE Mower & Bagger. Runs good. Plus Power Washer (needs hose). (734) 697-8954

HUSKEE 10HP 3 way system, Chipper Shredder. \$300. Kitchen Aid stove, gas, black & stainless, New mother board. \$100. (734) 649-3219 6/19

LG. Room Air Conditioner. Standard window size. Very clean. Ice cold, Quiet. \$225 obo (734) 728-1925 6/19

CHINA CABINET, Oak, 4'Wx 6 ½ H. Super clean. \$150. Heavy equipment trailer, 27,000 GVW, 28'. \$2,500 obo (734) 649-3219

JD 350 B Wide Track Crawler. No leaks, runs good, 3 cyl (D). \$8,000 obo. Case 580 Extend Ahoe. Runs good, 4 cyl. (D) some leaks. \$9,000 obo. (734) 649-3219

1996 HOLIDAY Rambler Travel Trailer. Aluma-lite Custom. 32'- slide-out, great condition. (734) 697-8984 6/19

MANURE COMPOST DIRT. Great for gardening & landscaping. \$50/pickup truck bed load. (734) 812-2988

1800 CUB CADET Golf Cart. Senior owned. Well maintained, Electric, Heavy duty charger included. Full vinyl zipper cover, double seats (back seat folds), Full front visor. Could be used for utility use. (734) 697-9892

LIKE NEW, RARELY USED 36" round Pub table w/4 matching swivel back chairs. Rustic oak finish. Original price \$600 asking \$300. (734) 753-9790 6/26

VEHICLE FOR SALE

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

VEHICLE FOR SALE

1985 GM BLUEBIRD SCHOOL BUS, Runs Good, 81,000 miles (734) 740-8761 6/05

1993 OLDS CUTLASS Supreme Convertible from Georgia. 3.3L VG, 108K miles, Auto., PS/PB, Power top, Windows & Leather seats. Lady owned. \$2,900 negotiable. (734) 391-7371 6/26

2006 VOLKSWAGEN New Beetle. 69,700 miles, Auto., Leather, Power All. Tan w/Black Convertible top. \$10,500 obo (734) 776-7459

WANTED

WE BUY JUNK CARS

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

WANTED: JUNK CARS

Running or Not. Top \$
Paid. Call For Free
Pickup. Drive In For
Extra Dollars.

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

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

WANTED - WORK - Asking \$10/hr. taking you to Doctors, Shopping, Cleaning, Gardening, etc. Belleville Area Only. Outside Belleville Mileage Also. (734) 697-7506

FREE

VAL SWINSON HARRIS RD. You've won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

FREE

PICNIC TABLE, SOLID needs TLC. (734) 325-6530 6/19

OLD WORK BENCH. Solid wood, 3 ½ x 10°, very heavy. Need equipment to move. (734) 325-2728

FOUND

NEUTERED MALE Black pit bull or pit bull mix. No tags. If not claimed by 6-13-14 will be available for adoption. (734) 697-4700

BOATING Equipment on Sumpter Rd. Memorial week end. Call with details. (734) 587-2206

MANUFACTURED HOME FOR SALE

UNBELIEVABLE SAVINGS!

3 bed/2 bath for only \$17,995? Yes! All appliances including washer, dryer, a/c, shed and deck. Located at Lakeview in Ypsilanti

with incredible amenities.
Reserve this home today!

888-205-6379 www.4lakeview.com

*WAC. EHO. Financed: \$17,995 @ 10.5% APR, 36 months. Discount lot rent for 3 years. Financing arranged through Sun Home Services, Inc. NMLS # 33675 Expires May 31, 2014

FOR RENT

FREE RENT UNTIL JULY 1ST! MOVE IN FOR ONLY \$398!!!*

Lincoln Schools
Call Sun Homes
Today
888-235-4695

Or apply online www.4lakeview.com

*some restrictions apply. WAC, EHO Expires 5/31/2014. NMLS #33675

2 BR. WOODBURY GREEN CONDO. Appliances, W/D. \$825/mo. \$825 Security. Income/Credit required. (734) 218-0866

2 BR. APARTMENT. Close to freeways & airport. \$585/mo. water included. \$585 deposit. (734) 730-8286 6/26

Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, June 1:

0003 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. -94 Service Dr.

 $0016-noise\ complaint,\ N.\ Ponderosa\ Trl.$

 $0103-juvenile\ complaint, And over\ Dr.$

0227 - shots fired, Parkwood Dr. 0244 - disturbance, Village Green Ln.

0310 - noise complaint, W. Archwood Dr.

1233 - property damage accident, I-94/rest area

1238 - malicious destruction of property, Bay Pointe

1256 – domestic violence, Victoria St.

1406 - ATV/ORV complaint, Morton Taylor / Ecorse Rd.

1406 - missing person, W. Walden Dr.

1407 - ATV/ORV complaint, Birch Dr.

1423 - domestic violence, French Landing Dam

1548 - private property accident, Ecorse Rd.

1554 - malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1758 – intimidation threat, Outer Dr.

1855 - juvenile complaint, Edison Lake

1901 - property damage accident, Lohr Rd./Martz

2300 - suicide or attempt, Daisy

2322 - loitering, Village Green Ln.

Monday, June 2:

0223 - suicide or attempt, S. Bellridge Dr.

0303 - property damage accident, Belleville / Harmony Ln.

0738 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton

0911 - neighbor trouble, Linda Vista

1100 - malicious destruction of property, Belleville

1147 - agency assist, Main

1152 - property damage accident, Jackson/Zachary

1408 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. /

1516 - property damage accident, Michigan Ave. /

1541 - trespassing, Parkwood Dr.

1638 - harassment call, Celestine Dr.

1653 - suspicious person, Zachary St.

1728 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.

1802 - retail fraud, Belleville

1830 - suicide or attempt, Bemis Rd. 1905 - fight, Beck Ball Field

2028 - breaking & entering, Brookside Dr.

2222 - agency assist, Rawsonville Rd/Bemis Rd.

2305 - missing person, Meadows Cir.

Tuesday, June 3:

 $0005-assault\ \&\ battery,$ maple Dr.

0319 - malicious destruction of property, Parkwood

0546 - assault & battery, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1100 - private property accident, Van Born Rd. 1256 - shots fired, Martz Rd./Lohr Rd.

1457 - weapons violation, S. I-94 Service Dr. /

Denton Rd.

1501 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. /

Visteon Way

1508 - personal injury accident, KFC 1806 – fraud, Belleville Rd.

1834 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.

1845 - disturbance, Ponderosa

2059 - juvenile complaint, Stonebridge Ct. 2117 - suspicious person, Bog Rd.

2327 - harassment call, Belleville Rd.

2328 - missing person, S. Ponderosa Trl.

Wednesday, June 4:

 $0134-disturbance, Pond\ Bluff\ Dr.$ 0716 - assault & battery, Holly Ln.

0720 - fight, Arthur St.

0755 – intimidation threat, Pond Bluff Dr.

1107 - fraud, E. Sadie Ln.

1301 - private property accident, Belleville Rd.

1322 - private property accident, Twisted Rooster 1440 - personal injury accident, Ecorse/Denton

1613 - private property accident, Belleville Rd.

1636 - property damage accident, Sumpter Rd. 1739 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. /

1742 - personal injury accident, SB I-275/Ecorse

1935 – fraud, Vernon St.

1956 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /

Van Born Rd.

2106 - malicious destruction of property, Ayres

2136 - assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

2137 - violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, Parkwood Dr.

2316 - larceny, Rawsonville

Thursday, June 5: 0050 - private property accident, Southport building

0219 - assault & battery, Aspen Ln.

0535 - assault & battery, Lake Pointe Pass

0952 - disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1012 - dumping complaint, Morton Taylor Rd. / Van

1031 - private property accident, Sumpter Rd.

1143 - private property accident, Southport

1149 - agency assist, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.

1302 - malicious destruction of property, Tyler Rd

1355 – assault & battery, S. Bellridge Dr. 1431 - missing person, Quirk Rd.

1503 - personal injury accident, Belleville Rd.

1527 - trespassing, Savage Rd.

1535 – follow up, St. Joe's ER

1554 - mental, Quirk Rd.

1624 - loitering, Quirk Rd. / Juniper Dr.

1626 - sexual assault, N. I-94 Service Dr. 1718 - neighbor trouble, Hull Rd.

1831 – juvenile complaint, McBride

1839 - private property accident, Belleville 1853 - harassment call, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1859 - breaking & entering, McBride Ave.

1955 - disturbance, Ayres Ave.

2304 - disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Friday, June 6:

0051 - private property accident, Westlake

0609 - fraud, Belleville

0945 - noise complaint, North Shore Dr.

1016 - private property accident, Southport Bdg. 6 1423 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.

1539 - trespassing, Maurice Dr.

1558 - private property accident, Tyler Rd.

1602 - suspicious person, Bak Rd. 1605 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.

1648 – breaking & entering, Rose

1809 - personal injury accident, WB I-94 / Belleville

1933 - water leak found, Chandler/Morton Taylor

1941 – private property accident, Hanover Dr. 2031 - assault & battery, N. I-94 Service Dr.

2056 - harassment call, Sandlewood Dr.

2127 - larceny, Union St. 2336 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / S.

Saturday, June 7: 0656 - suicide or attempt, Forestdale Dr.

1031 – PPO violation, Elwell Rd.

1126 - harassment call, Pebblebrook Dr.

1241 - hospice, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1250 - malicious destruction of property, Quirk

1411 - malicious destruction of property, Hardwood

1502 - assault & battery, Westlake

1621 - suspicious person, Jake Hunt State Farm

1749 - larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr. 1822 - harassment call, Tompkins St.

1830 - assault & battery, Bradley Dr. 1911 - noise complaint, Arthur St.

2012 - unattended death, Van Buren St.

2048 - assault & battery, Lohr Rd./Bemis Rd. 2328 - larceny, Denton

Also on this week's log are 181 traffic stops, 10 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 1:

Monday, June 2:

0100 – assist fire dept., Capistrano Ct. 0530 - intrusion alarm, Burhop's

1106 - intrusion alarm, Burhop's Collision

1248 - malicious destruction of property, Bay Pointe 1511 - follow up, Main St.

1518 – holdup alarm, High St.

1855 - civil matter, Henry St.

1956 - breaking & entering, Belle Villa Blvd. 2019 - welfare check, Charles St.

2133 - assist fire dept., E. Columbia Ave. 2201 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter

2343 - warrant arrest, N. Liberty St.

0333 – agency assist, Belleville/Harmony

0819 - malicious destruction of property, South St.

1143 - property damage accident, Main St.

1224 - mental, W. Columbia Ave.

1538 - private property accident, Owen Middle School

1754 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

2017 - suspicious situation, Victorian

2023 - intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

0237 - parking complaint, Belle Villa

0259 – parking complaint, Victoria Commons

1006 - civil matter, Loza Lane

1319 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

1538 - breaking & entering, Loza Ln.

1548 - civil matter, Main St.

1846 - civil matter, W. Columbia Ave.

1922 - parking complaint, E. Waterbury Ct. 2238 - intrusion alarm, Main St.

2252 - civil matter, Church St.

Wednesday, June 4:

0042 - suspicious vehicle, S. Industrial Park Dr.

1133 - sexual assault, Loza Ln.

1345 - sexual assault, W. Columbia Ave.

1411 - minor in possession, W. Columbia Ave.

1600 - larceny, W. Columbia Ave. 1933 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

2130 - animal complaint, Biggs Ave. Thursday, June 5:

1139 - civil matter, Charles Ct. 1906 - traffic complaint, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.

2107 - E-911 hangup/investigation, High St. 2219 – neighbor trouble, W. Columbia Ave.

2241 - suspicious vehicle, Astor Pl.

2311 - assist citizen, San Carlos St. Friday, June 6: 0047 - parking complaint, Carmell St.

0051 - assist fire dept., Carmell St. 0214 - assist fire dept., Main St.

0356 - property check, South Middle 0754 - civil matter, N. Liberty St.

0855 - information, W. Columbia Ave. 1152 - larceny, E. Huron River Dr. 1403 - private property accident, Astor Pl.

1426 - civil matter, N. Liberty St.

1453 – assist fire dept., S. Edgemont Ave. 1525 - assist fire dept., Carmell St.

1845 – juvenile complaint, Victory Park 1848 - juvenile complaint, Victory Park

1911 - suspicious person, Hayward's 2137 - private property accident, Bayou Grill 2314 - suspicious person, Horizon Park

Saturday, June 7: 0020 - assist fire dept., San Carlos St.

0134 - family trouble, N. Liberty St. 0929 - civil matter, N. Liberty St.

1333 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

1500 - civil matter, Cool Cone 1535 - intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

1843 - E-911 cellular, E. Waterbury Ct. 2006 - animal complaint, N. Liberty St.

2226 - agency assist, Hayward's Also on this week's log are 56 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 1:

0058 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0645 - suspicious incident, Bemis/Savage

0150 - suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Sherwood

0805 - missing person report, 49000 bl. Judd Rd. 0940 - fire dept. assist, California

1021 - malicious destruction of property report,

1307 - suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd. 1318 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1329 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.

1340 - assist other agency, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd. 1439 - violation of park rules, 24000 bl. Sherwood

1509 - traffic hazard, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd. 1803 - threats complaint, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd. 1906 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 5400 bl.

Oakville Waltz Rd. 2037 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2140 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 2155 - disorderly person, 24000 bl. Martinsville 2313 - animal complaint, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.

Monday, June 2: 0057 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

0422 - fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd. 0606 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Willis Rd. 0838 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0942 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1154 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1243 – warrant arrest pickup, out of township

1249 - fire dept. assist, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Belleville Area Independent/June 12, 2014

1318 - well-being check, Rustic Ln.

1407 - larceny, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1539 - suspicious vehicle, 43000 bl. Willis Ct.

1550 – alarm, 49000 bl. Judd Rd. 1616 - fire dept. assist, Birch

1738 – animal complaint, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1751 – suspicious person, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.

Tuesday, June 3:

1154 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.

1603 - breaking & entering report, Edgewood

Wednesday, June 4:

1010 - malicious destruction of property report, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

1542 - missing person recovered, Carriage Ln.

1602 - assist other agency, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1744 - civil dispute, Carriage Ln. 1843 - suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Sherwood

1916 - fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1937 - assault, Montana

2109 - citizen assist, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd. 2121 - warrant arrest pickup, Wyoming

Thursday, June 5: 0226 - warrant arrest pickup, out of township

1301 - threats complaint, 22000 bl. Fenster

1523 – found property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1929 - odor investigation, Brookview

0825 - alarm, 22000 bl. Carleton West Rd.

1345 - trespassing complaint, New Mexico

1904 - subpoena service, Texas 1948 - subpoena service, Texas

2325 - suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Sherwood

0619 - down wires, Judd/Carleton West 1006 - fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.

Rawsonville Rd.

Also on this week's log are 19 follow-up investigations, 53

2259 - fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willis Rd. 2323 - breaking & entering report, Texas

0747 – alarm, Georgia

1217 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct. 1447 - civil dispute, Greenmeadow

1601 - property damage accident, 49000 bl. Willis

1610 - property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter

1759 - breaking & entering report, 45000 bl. Kozma

0657 - shots fired, Creekside

1502 - warrant arrest pickup, out of township

1620 - suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd. 1719 - assist other agency, Waltz/Willow

1859 - missing person recovered, Carriage Ln.

2319 – noise complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

0809 - noise complaint, 49000 bl. Willis Rd. 1146 - flee & elude, Willis/Sumpter 1213 - animal complaint, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.

1349 - fire dept. assist, Wyoming

1854 - assist other agency, Rawsonville/Judd

2108 - neighbor dispute, 48000 bl. Sully Dr. 2204 - alarm, 45000 bl. Harris Rd. 2352 - suspicious person, 21000 bl. Sumpter

Friday, June 6:

0002 - violation of park rules, 24000 bl. Sherwood

1007 - citizen assist, 46000 bl. Judd Rd. 1259 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

1629 - alarm, 25000 bl. Karr Rd. 1900 - subpoena service, Texas

2037 - missing person report, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Elwell

1459 - larceny, Greenmeadow

1139 - ordinance violation, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1635 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.

2030 --- unauthorized driving away of auto, 44000

1715 - personal injury accident, Rawsonville /

bl. Willis Rd.

1321 - fraud complaint, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.

2030 - subpoena service, Texas

0332 - warrant arrest pickup, out of township

1230 - breaking & entering report, 8700 bl.

1609 - fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

1937 - traffic hazard, Rawsonville/Willow

2111 - reckless driver complaint, 43000 bl. Judd

Martinsville Rd.

2114 - reckless driver complaint, 18000 bl.

1421 - civil dispute, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Saturday, June 7: 0009 - operating while intoxicated arrest, Arkona

Oakville Waltz 1758 - death investigation, New Mexico

2259 - fight, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.

miscellaneous details, 144 patrol checks, and 43 traffic stops.

1143 - harassment complaint, Colorado 1159 - property damage accident, 40000 bl. Harris

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- 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)
- Sunday, June 15 Cinnamon's 13th 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.
- Wednesday, June 18 Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, will be holding a June Senior Brigade event for the 7th District from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth St. Senior Brigades are designed to inform seniors

of issues that are important to them. This session is on home identity theft. For information, call 517-373-5713 or see www.senatorpatrickcolbeck.com.

- Thursday, June 19 "Orphan Trains of Michigan" with Al and David Eicher will be presented from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall by the Belleville Area Historical Society. Free to members, \$3 for non-members.
- Thursday, June 19 Music Lakeside begins the season at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with the Paul Keller Jazz Quartet. Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- Friday, June 20 The Garden Soiree (second annual - used to be called Bach's Wine Garden Party) will run from 6-9 p.m. at two private gardens in the city of Belleville to earn funds for the Music Lakeside Summer Concert series. Tickets \$35 each. Information, 697-8123.
- Sunday, June 22 Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds,

10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

- Thursday, June 26 Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with The Stubbs Sisters (Motown). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- Sunday, June 29 Feral Farms' Community Gathering Breakfast Fundraiser for the Belleville Area Museum, 8 a.m. to noon, 10944 Tuttle Hill Rd., Willis. Proceeds benefit the Don Keene Memorial
- Thursday, July 3 Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Bill Bynum (Bluegrass). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for
- Sunday, July 6 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, July 10 Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with One Love

Reggae (Reggae). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

- Sunday, July 13 Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs
- Thursday, July 17 Yard Sale and Antique Appraisal Day noon to 7 p.m. at the museum. (Appraisals: 2-6 p.m.) Admission to appraisals and first item is \$10; each additional item is \$5, limit 4.
- Thursday, July 17 Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Paul Carey Organ Trio featuring Benny Reeves (Blues). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- Saturday, July 19 Family Fun Day at Sumpter's Graham Park
- Thursday, July 24 Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Cash O'Riley (Rockabilly). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for

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