



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 20.32 Thursday, August 7, 2014

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## Police Officer David Brooks arraigned on two felony charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

David Ryan Brooks, 25, of Van Buren Township turned himself in to the VBT Police Department on July 31 and was video-arraigned at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court.

Brooks is charged with felonious assault, which is a four-year felony, and felony firearm, which is a mandatory two years, from a road rage incident May 29.

34<sup>th</sup> District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green set his preliminary exam for 9 a.m. Aug. 13, and released him on \$10,000 personal recognizance bond.

His defense attorney is Michael Vincent.

Brooks is a police officer who currently is suspended from his job at the Romulus Police Department until the investigative process on these charges are complete.

Romulus Police Captain Derran Shelby also indicated Romulus would conduct

an internal investigation into the off-duty officer's actions.

Brooks formerly served as a part-time and then briefly full-time officer in the City of Belleville. Brooks had also been on the staff of the police academy at Schoolcraft College.

His father is VBT Police Lt. Dennis Brooks and his mother is VBT chief dispatcher Terri Brooks.

According to Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller, who serves as Communications Director of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, on May 29 at about 3:22 p.m., Brooks was driving a truck and it is alleged he had a traffic altercation with a 62-year-old Romulus man.

Miller said it is further alleged that during the altercation Brooks pulled out a weapon and pointed it at the victim's face.

The road-rage incident happened in the area of Belleville Road and I-94. Two trucks were involved and one of the occupants was reported to be in possession of a handgun, according to a news release

*(continued on page 23)*

## Voters turn down library proposals in Tuesday's election

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

In Tuesday's primary election, voters resoundingly turned down both proposals for the Belleville Area District Library's plan to build a \$19 million library on the DNR lakeside property and to provide operating funds for 20 years.

The total for the combined votes of Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township was 4,032 no votes on the bond question and 2,487 yes votes.

For the operational millage question of

one mill for 20 years, the voters cast 4,230 no votes and 2,617 yes votes.

To break down the votes, Belleville voters cast 492 no votes and 210 yes votes for the bond and 521 no votes and 228 yes votes for the operational millage.

Van Buren voters cast 2,368 no votes and 1,952 yes votes for the bond and 2,498 no votes and 2,045 yes votes for the operational millage.

Sumpter Township voters cast 1,172 no votes and 325 yes votes on the bond and

*(continued on page 12)*



*Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman*

Hannah Ramdooph, 11, and her cousin Kyle Schalte, 17, both of Carleton, were blue-ribbon winners with their swine entries Monday at the 4-H Fair, now under way at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township. Hannah won a gold ribbon in showmanship and will be competing at the Michigan State Fair in Novi. Kyle's two pigs are named Sadie (256 pounds) and Willie (272 pounds). The annual livestock auction begins at 6:30 p.m. today (Thursday). The Wayne County Fair, with many events, runs through Saturday.

## This week end features County Fair, parade in Belleville, Air Show

This is a busy week end in the Belleville area.

• The **Wayne County Fair** started Monday and will continue through Saturday at the fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township. The big livestock auction is tonight at 6:30.

• The **Air Show** ground parade with World War II military vehicles from the U.S. and Germany – and re-enactors in costume -- will proceed up Main Street in Belleville from Victory Park at about 6:30 p.m. on Friday. This year a mass flyover of 20 war birds will accompany the parade.

• The **2014 Baltia Airlines Thunder Over Michigan Air Show** at Willow Run Airport featuring the U.S. Air Force

Thunderbirds runs from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Also, the final **Music Lakeside** summer concert at Horizon Park in Belleville is at 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday). Playing is the Blue Steel big band.

Contractors doing the construction work on Belleville Road will not work this week end so as not to interfere with air show traffic.

**Menards public  
hearing set Aug. 27  
See page 22.**



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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## After fire, 5-Star Market reopens with new Benito's Pizza Parlor

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

It has been eight and a half months since the electrical fire that devastated Five Star Market and its new sit-down Benito's Pizza Parlor that was being constructed next door.

Last week, owner Roy Acho re-opened his business with 16 of the 18 employees he had last Nov. 17 when the fire erupted. And, everyone is excited to be there.

"Everything is new," Acho said, showing off his party store with the epoxy floor that shines like it is always wet.

The owners of the bakery shop in the complex said Acho was as excited as a father with a newborn to be able to reopen his business.

"We were three weeks away from opening the dining room when the fire happened," Acho said Friday, as he sat in a booth in his new, 40-seat restaurant with a full view of the pizza kitchen, while workers put up his new sign out front.

The walls of the dining room are decorated with bright posters and items Acho personally has collected over the years.

Since the fire was at the front of the building in the party store, he said the dining room just suffered smoke damage. All he had to do was reupholster the booths and paint the walls again.

The hair salon that Acho moved down to the end of the building to make way for his dining room was aired out in a day.

His restaurant now has state licenses for bottled beer and liquor by the glass, but the whole thing is based on the Benito's Pizza they serve.

"Our dream was to have a sit-down



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Roy Acho sits in his new Benito's Pizza Parlor adjoining Five Star Market on Willis Road east of Rawsonville in Sumpter Township. It was eight and a half months ago that his business was up in flames.

restaurant," Acho said, explaining they opened their pizzeria in 1995 and have been producing carry-out and delivered pizza for 20 years. It's been about 60% delivery and 40% carry out.

"Our pizza is excellent. We put it in a box and then a hot bag, but it loses a bit of quality in the process.

"When we can go oven to plate: It can't get any better," Acho said.

He said the party store opened in 1991 and was owned by him and Jeff Haisha. The two also owned Hayward's together in the City of Belleville.

He said the co-owners split up amicably and are still the best of friends. Acho took Five Star and Haisha took Hayward's.

Acho remembered that when they were at

Hayward's, Benito's next door would bring over pizzas to share after someone made a mistake in the preparation. Acho said it was always delicious, even with the mistakes. After ten years at Hayward's, he never got tired of the pizza, he said.

He said his wife Debbie had the idea to open a pizzeria at the Sumpter store.

Acho bought the building from Jeannie Chudzinski in 2012.

It was time to get moving on Debbie's idea. The salon was next door, so Acho remodeled the empty suite at the end and moved the hair salon there.

"She got a brand-new place and is doing very well," Acho said.

On Sunday, Acho invited about 45 family and friends in for a test: "To see how we

handle a full house."

The routine is for a customer to come to the counter and order, then go sit down. The customer is called when the order is ready.

He plans to hold a grand opening and ribbon-cutting in the future and invites everyone to stop by.

"It took our entire crew to get the store opened," Acho said of his team. "Everybody was thrilled to get back to work."

Acho said he used all local contractors on the rebuilding. He said he used Rob Szyndler of Lake Pointe Construction who was there the night of the fire and boarded everything up for him and is still working.

"We couldn't have done it without him."

He said all four of his kids and his wife were instrumental in getting things going. Also, Sumpter Township was great in helping him along, especially the building department, he said.

Since there was no store to tend over the winter, the whole family went to Las Vegas for a pizza convention. They looked at new equipment, attended seminars, and saw up-to-date operations.

"It got depressing at times. It got maddening at times," Acho said of the delays in rebuilding.

"The insurance companies are not your friends," Acho said. "A sense of urgency is woefully deficient compared to the people who suffered a loss and need your help."

Acho said he went into debt to get the business back in shape and, luckily, he had friends and family with resources to share. And, the vendors are giving him time to make payments since they know it is coming.

## Belleville City Council OKs new AWD Ford Interceptor police car

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

A white 2015 Ford Interceptor AWD Utility vehicle was approved by the Belleville City Council to be its new police car.

The unanimous vote was at Monday's regular city council meeting. Trustee Tom Fielder was absent.

Police Chief Hal Berriman presented the proposal which was a total of \$26,720 and would be paid in three annual installments of \$9,473.07 from Gorno Ford in Woodhaven.

Chief Berriman said the car had been lent to the city for test drives and it was still out in the city hall garage for the council to inspect.

Berriman said he checked out General Motors and Ford products, adding, "Dodge doesn't have what we need." He said now utility-type vehicles are a growing trend

for law enforcement agencies, with about 70% of the police departments buying that type over sedans. He said the percentage is expected to reach 80% over the next few years.

He said Gorno Ford had the state government bid price. And, he noted, the utility vehicles have a better resale value than sedans. The sticker price is \$31,795.

He said this model sits the police officer 5 ½ inches higher up than a sedan for better viewing.

Berriman said the all-white vehicle was the only one Gorno had left in stock and he figures they can put black lettering on it to fit in with Belleville's black and white fleet.

"All-wheel-drive vehicle will be a godsend," said Fire Chief Brian Loranger, referring to the snow and ice last winter.

Berriman said they will be retiring the 2006 police car. He said the 2005 car

works better than the 2006, 2007 or 2009 models.

In the written proposal to the council, Berriman said, "In our present fleet, three of our four vehicles are well in excess of 100,000 miles. If you factor in the actual miles/hours of idling time, slow cruising miles, it would be much higher. Our maintenance/repair bills are increasing as well as the down time for the vehicles."

There is \$20,000 in the budget for a new police car and \$10,000 of that will be used to install lights and other police equipment on the vehicle, said City Manager Diana Kollmeyer.

In Monday's 20-minute meeting, the council:

- Approved paying \$749.64 to Hall Signs of Bloomington, IN for 25 signs and 25 green U-channel posts to be used to post no-parking on one side of the streets throughout the Harbor Pointe subdivision,

as recommended by Keith Tackett, part-time DPW Director. There were two other price quotes. When people park on both sides of the streets, as they do on Halloween, there has been no room for emergency vehicles to get through the housing development; and

- Approved the Community Development Block Grant Amended Urban County Cooperative Agreement, as recommended by City Manager Kollmeyer, who said this is the first amendment to the 2000 agreement. When asked what the changes were, Kollmeyer said, "It all has to do with the agreement between the city and the county ... it doesn't obligate us any more than it obligates them ... We want to participate in the CDBG program." Communities have to approve this to stay in the program.



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Voters turn down library proposals almost two to one

On Tuesday, voters in Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter told the Belleville Area District Library Board what it thought of its plans for a 45,000-square-foot library on Belleville Lake.

They didn't like them.

All three communities voted almost two to one to turn down the proposals.

The site is wrong, the size is too big, and the library should stay in the city to be part of a cultural area with the museum. This also would keep the life in the downtown and encourage foot traffic.

If the library board didn't get that message, it can repeat Tuesday's debacle by sending the same proposals to the voters in February.

Those who voted against the library proposals aren't against libraries. They are against the plans this board presented.

Almost ten years ago the library director and the present library architect visited a Sumpter Township board meeting and told of the library they wanted to build on the DNR property. They showed a drawing. It was a plan.

Last year, the library board went through the motions of considering a variety of sites and then settled on – guess what – the DNR site.

Sumpter has met on the second and fourth Tuesdays forever, but the second Tuesday is when the library board decided to meet and refused to change. It treated Sumpter like it wasn't important and Sumpter returned the favor. What next?

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Phil Hecksel of Belleville called last Thursday to say that the story at the top of page three in that day's paper kind of blended in with the letters about the library.

His question: "Wouldn't the library plans have to go before FERC, too?"

Since the library isn't a single-family dwelling and the statement from Van Buren Township said anything being built on the lake that isn't single family has to be approved by FERC, Phil could be right.

John Nix also dropped by to ask: "How can the DNR property become a library with the FERC regulations?"

\*\*\*

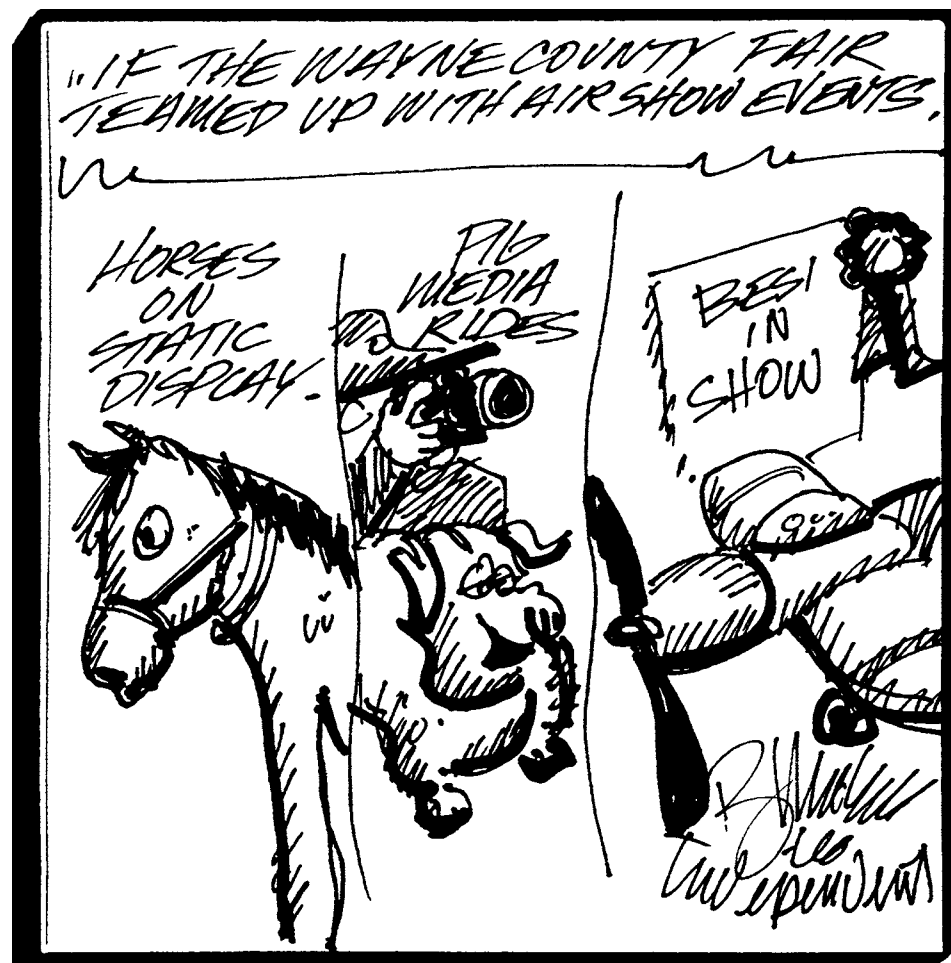
Last Thursday afternoon, electricity went off briefly over a wide area of the City of Belleville and Van Buren Township and, when the electricity went back on, the emergency siren in the city started wailing.

The siren is turned on manually every Friday at noon to test it and keep it operational. I've been told it's an old siren from the 1950s and so you have to keep using it or it will stop working.

\*\*\*

One old-timer told me he remembers why Van Buren Township turned down the free Homeland Security outdoor emergency sirens being offered to municipalities a few years back.

He said he recalls former VBT Public Safety Director Jerry Champagne wanted Homeland Security to provide the more upscale sirens, like Canton Township has. But, Homeland Security wouldn't pay for the more-expensive models and Director Champagne said, never mind, the township will buy the sirens itself.



As part of that deal, the City of Belleville, which had backed out of its Central Dispatch agreement and was being dispatched by VBT, was due to get three new emergency sirens from Homeland Security, but then got none.

Champagne was fired in 2009 and the township never got any sirens of any description.

At a recent VBT DDA meeting, it was noted that no one knew why VBT never got any free sirens from Homeland Security. Now we know.

\*\*\*

I was told there was a stabbing in Victory Park the weekend of July 26-27 and so I asked Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman about it at Monday's regular city council meeting. He's not in his office every day, but he attends council meetings.

Chief Berriman told me that his department is still looking into it, but police don't believe it happened the way the victim said. The wound is a puncture wound, not a slash the way it would be in a fight.

The incident occurred at the basketball court, I'm told, and the stabber and the victim knew each other from Detroit.

\*\*\*

On Tuesday morning, Election Day, we were informed that the big sign on the site of the proposed new library was defaced overnight with spray-painted NOs. That is very saddening. The issue should be settled at the voting booth, and vandalism doesn't

help.

\*\*\*

Belleville City Councilman Tom Smith said he had a problem. He was to be giving out literature at the polls on Tuesday for State Rep. candidate Natalie Mosher, county executive candidate Kevin McNamara, and district court judge candidate David Parrott -- and each committee gave him a special T-shirt to wear. Problem: Which one to wear?

\*\*\*

A reader came into the office to report that he was able to get a gas station owner to give him 8 cents off each gallon when he uses his debit card. In the past, his debit card was treated the same as credit and cost more than cash. He noticed that when he checked his account immediately after driving the mile and a half home from the gas station, the gas purchase was already taken out of his account. Good as cash.

He went back and talked to the gas station owner and now he gets his debit card treated as cash. He said when he drove from Pensacola across the state of Florida to the ocean, he found gas stations treated debit cards as cash. He wondered if any of our readers have found gas stations here that treat debit cards as cash?

\*\*\*



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**INDEPENDENT**

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Photo by Dee Crowe

Early Tuesday morning, motorists on Belleville Road could see the sign that marked the site of the proposed new library had been defaced with spray paint. A sign promoting a NO vote was also placed at the site.

*"The mills of God grind slowly,  
yet they grind exceeding small"*

*-- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*



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## Letters

### Sign vandalism leads to shame for community

To the Editor:

Last month my son and his wife were home on leave (Marines) and I was delighted to spend some time in our tri-community showing them around.

We ate at local restaurants, went to see an outdoor concert and visited friends who reside on the lake. In previous visits they have visited my church and where I work in Belleville. We just generally enjoyed the community that I live and work in.

They will be leaving the military and coming home to Michigan in the next two years and I wanted them to consider moving here. I explained to them that I feel it is very important to be a part of a place where you know your neighbors. At the bank, grocery store or gas station, you bump into folks you know. That in this community there is a sense of togetherness; you never feel isolated or alone.

The generosity of the people that live here never ceases to amaze me. A call for help goes

out and help pours in. Even when there are differences of opinions people do feel free to share those opinions.

Up until today I thought that last sentence was a good thing. This morning, while at the polls, one of the volunteers checking people in thought that his views were the only views that mattered. While I was VOTING I could clearly hear this man telling everyone where he thought the library should go! In the polling place!

I suggested that he might not be in the best place to share those thoughts and he agreed. I hope he kept his thoughts to himself for the rest of the voting day.

While driving into work along Belleville Road I saw that the sign on the DNR property was defaced by some moron with a can of spray paint! In total disbelief I took a picture of it.

Since when is this the way that grown adults with differing opinions are allowed to act? I have been to the meetings where the rude, uninformed, loud mouths shout down the members of the board who are trying to do the job they were elected to do.

I no longer go to the meetings because of it. But this is something else entirely. I am embarrassed for the person or people who did this. I frankly am surprised that they were even able to spell the word "NO" having such a low-level mentality.

I will not be asking my son and daughter-in-law to move to my community any longer. I am ashamed of it.

Kelly Boelter, Sumpter Township

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## More Letters

### Marti's Gift Gallery is closing on Sept. 30

Dear Customers of Marti's Gift Gallery:  
It is with a tremendous amount of sadness that we write this letter.

After almost 10 years of providing a unique gift shop to Belleville and surrounding communities, Marti's Gift Gallery will be closing its doors on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 at the end of the day.

All Gift Certificates and 35% envelopes will be honored until then.

To you, our loyal customers, we are offering 40% off each item that you purchase. Some exclusions do apply. Look for our ad and weekly discounts in the *Independent* newspaper.

Thank you, again, for all of your support and friendships over the years. We will share many fond memories of all of you. The good times, sad times, and in-between times.

Sincerely,  
Marti and Tracey  
Marti's Gift Gallery  
Belleville

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# Obituaries



Johanna 'Jean' F. Parent

## JOHANNA 'JEAN' F. PARENT

(June 18, 1923 - July 30, 2014)

Johanna Frances "Jean" Parent, age 91, of Belleville, MI, passed away Wednesday, July 30, 2014 at Arbor Hospice-The Residence, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born June 18, 1923 in Saginaw, MI, daughter of Frank and Edith (Emeott) Latoski.

Jean was a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Church, New Boston, MI. She was also a member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary and September Days of Van Buren Township. She enjoyed being a licensed Beautician, working out of her home. She also enjoyed bingo, baking, bowling, playing cards and she loved to travel.

Mrs. Parent is survived by her husband of 64 years Raymond Parent; daughter Patricia Mull of Belleville; son Raymond (Cheyrl) Parent of Belleville; 4 grandchildren Mark Mull of Belleville, Marie Mull of Belleville, Melisa Parent of Belleville, and Raymond Parent of Port Austin; a great-granddaughter Keira Parent; sister Donna Nowosielski of Ohio; a brother Eddie (Gloria) Latoski of Florida; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers Frank Latoski, George Latoski and Jack Latoski; four sisters Burt Thompson, Betty Smith, Winkie Shuell, and Nancy Hammond; also son-in-law Edward Mull.

Visitation was 5-8 PM Monday, August 4, 2014 with a 5:30 PM rosary service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. A funeral Mass was 11:00 AM Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 18858 Huron River Dr., New Boston, MI, 48164, with an hour prior visitation. Father John Hedges was the Celebrant. Interment was in St. Stephen's Cemetery, New Boston.

Memorial contributions to Arbor Hospice would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).



Melvin D. Sayan

## MELVIN D. SAYAN

(May 7, 1940 - July 29, 2014)

Melvin D. Sayan of Belleville passed away July 29, 2014. Survivors include four children: Sherry (Angel) Garcia, Julie (Keith) Snead, Doug (Sheryl) Sayan, and Jamie (Jason) Whalen; many grandchildren; many nieces and nephews, and many friends; two sisters Nancy (James) Dickson and Ruth Draper.

Cremation has taken place. No service at this time. Arrangements by Stark, Ypsilanti.

## EVELYN 'JEANNIE' J. BEAUDRIE

(March 9, 1969 - July 31, 2014)

Evelyn Jean Beaudrie, age 45, resident of Belleville, Michigan, passed away Thursday, July 31, 2014 at Garden City Hospital. She was born Sunday, March 9, 1969 in Tennessee, daughter of Jeff & Linda (Rogers) Taylor.

Evelyn is survived by her parents; her husband Edsel Beaudrie III; four children Richard Chapman, Robert Chapman of Belleville, Rebecka Chapman of Westland, and Rachel Chapman of Westland; four stepchildren Amy Beaudrie, Anna Beaudrie, Helen (Julius) Jobe, and Joanna Beaudrie, all of Belleville; brother Mark Francis of Plymouth; and sister Donnie of Branch, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her stepfather Alex Francis in 2013 and stepdaughter Julie in 2008.

Evelyn was very interested in learning about the history of the Civil War and Gettysburg. She

also enjoyed hot rods and swimming. Evelyn's greatest love was her family.

Visitation was Monday, August 4, 2014 from 3-8 p.m., and Tuesday, August 5, 2014 from 10-11 a.m. followed by a funeral service at 11 a.m. at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Humane Society and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to treasure at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).



Sheila Kay Collins

## SHEILA KAY COLLINS

(January 3, 1966 - June 7, 2014)

Sheila Kay Collins, 48 years old, of White House, TN and formerly of Belleville, passed away June 7, 2014 after a short battle with an aggressive lung cancer.

She was born in Piqua, OH, on January 3, 1966, the daughter of John Lewis Collins (deceased) and Glenda Ruth Hall of White House, TN.

She is survived by her daughter Jeanine Rochelle Paul of Gallatin, TN; two sisters, Bernie Lalime-Brown of Las Vegas, NV, and Elizabeth Sanders of Belleville, MI; and a brother, Jimmy Dean Collins of Blue Creek, OH. She was preceded in death by another brother John Jr. Collins. She is survived by several nieces and nephews along with great-nieces and nephews.

Celebration of life dinner was June 14, 2014, officiated by Doc Ray Elder.



Sally L. Selecki

## SALLY L. SELECKI

(October 5, 1955 - July 30, 2014)

Sally Lou Selecki, age 58, of Morenci, MI, age 58, passed away Wednesday, July 30, 2014 at Toledo Hospital, Ohio. She was born October 5, 1955 in Ypsilanti, MI, daughter of Lawrence Roger & Gertrude (Brendtke) Bogoske.

Sally was a 1973 graduate of Belleville High School. She worked for Lincoln Park schools for a number of years. She was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother who loved her home and family; decorating, wall papering and cooking. She also enjoyed technology, Facebook, texting, singing and loved to shop! Mrs. Selecki is survived by her loving husband of 33 years, Randall E. Selecki; four sons Brian (Tammy) Johnson of Southgate, MI, Jacob (April) Selecki of Temperance, Ohio, Aaron Selecki of Toledo, Ohio and Eric (Lindsey) Selecki of Erie, MI; two grandchildren; her mother Trudy Bogoske of Belleville, MI; sister Peggy Sue (John) Simoni of Nowslandville, TN; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her father.

A Celebration of Life Service was held at 1:00 PM Monday with a gathering hour from 12-1 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for them to treasure at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

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# Obituaries



Judith C. Norris

## JUDITH C. NORRIS

(July 9, 1940 - July 30, 2014)

Judith Caroline Norris, age 74, life-long Belleville resident, passed away Wednesday, July 30, 2014 at her home. She was born July 9, 1940 in Detroit, MI, daughter of Harold Martin & Sylvia Lucretia (Collyer) Fowler.

Judy was a bus driver for Lincoln Schools for over 25 years. She loved playing Scrabble and traveling with her husband to places like Hawaii, Alaska and Maine. She was also a talented doll maker. She made over 100 porcelain dolls and clothes, all stitched by hand.

Our Mom was the glue that kept a very large family all together. She planned every holiday, graduation and family function with so much love and food. She thought the most important part of any function was to provide great food, enough to feed an army!

As grandparents they love to watch sporting events, dance recitals, graduations and whatever else their 22 grandchildren participated in. Our Mom was a conservative Republican and would challenge anyone to a good debate on current events. She put family before anything and gave her children an impeccable example of what type of parent each of us should be. Although I don't think any of us can shine in that role as our mom did. She was loved and will be missed very much, but we know she is with our Father in Heaven and knowing they are together again brings us peace.

She is survived by 8 children Donna (Burt) Filler of Saline, MI, Steve Norris of Dexter, MI, Debbie (Rick) Godsey of Ypsilanti, MI, Dan (Jackie) Norris of Van Wert, Ohio, David (Wendy) Norris of Lincoln Park, MI, Brian (Rhonda) Norris of Garden City, MI, Dawn (Jeff Nowaczewski) Norris of Belleville, and Mark Norris of Belleville; 22 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren and two on the way; brother Rex Carter and sister Beverly (Barry) Booth, both of Willis, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Fred S. Norris on December 12, 2011, daughter Ellen Norris, two brothers Marlo & Larry Fowler, also a sister Sharon Green.

Visitation was 4-8 PM Friday and Noon-1 PM Saturday, August 2, 2014 with a Noon Funeral Saturday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Preacher Chris Pittman officiated. Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Wounded Warrior Project would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## DOROTHY RITA SEARS SCHROEDER

(November 3, 1921 - July 16, 2014)

Former Belleville City Councilwoman, died in Jerome, Idaho at age 92. She ran her own real estate business for many years in Belleville. Survived by four children. She was buried with her husband Walter in Boise, Idaho.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

A large crowd gathered at the new Brown's Funeral Home in Belleville on Sunday to watch a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tour the new facility. It was almost two years ago that the original funeral home burned. Center front at the ribbon-cutting were, from left, Martha, David, and Shelly Brown.

## More Letters

### I will have to rethink my library Yes vote

To the Editor:

By the time this letter is printed (if it is printed), the BADL issue will be resolved by the voters and the bickering and arguing will be over regarding the proposed new library.

I am writing this before the election. I have never been opposed to building a better library, but after reading Joy Cichewicz's snarky letter (Belleville Area District Library Board Member) in last week's *Independent*, I am unsure how I am going to vote.

To quote Ms. Cichewicz: "Is it a bad location because it's on the lake where adults and kids can walk along the lake or fish...? Or, because it will allow all of the community to enjoy the beauty of our lake, not just those who are wealthy enough to own property on the lake as are some of the opposition?"

I strongly take great umbrage to this mean-spirited statement -- has Ms. Cichewicz taken some sort of voter poll? Does she know how those living on the lake are going to vote?

To conclude that lake-dwellers would not want to better the community so that we could keep the lake to ourselves is just ludicrous, absurd and frankly insulting.

If this is the conclusion of the other Board Members, then I am seriously going to have to rethink my "yes" vote.

Cheryl Sherman  
Van Buren Township Resident  
Lake Resident  
Tax Payer  
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## Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Aug. 11 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building.
- Tuesday, Aug. 12 – VBT Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT

Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m., with the Costco Depot lights on the agenda. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, Aug. 13 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Aug. 14 – Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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# 65 Years

# Sumpter Twp. hears presentation about District Library



George and Doreen Craven of Van Buren Township say they are going to celebrate their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Aug. 12 at Haab's with their kids, nine grandkids, and one great-grandkid. "Here we go again, taking a chance on love!" the Cravens say.

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on July 22, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees listened to a presentation by Joy Cichewicz, vice president of the Belleville Area District Library Board, and Rick Dawson, husband of the library board president.

The primary election on Aug. 5 will contain two library proposals: one for millage to fund bonds to build the main library and one for millage to run the libraries, both for 20 years.

Cichewicz showed the architect's drawings and explained briefly the proposed satellite library plan for the Sumpter Community Center site. She said it would be open 28 hours a week.

She said the satellite will contain a lab to teach computers, typically one-on-one since that works best, and the computers would be open to the public when not used for teaching.

She said according to her calculations, this library site would have the only public wireless access in Sumpter Township.

Cichewicz said the satellite library will be about 3,000 square feet, the same size as the original Belleville Library.

She then gave a brief description of the proposed main library at the DNR site on the lake north of the Belleville Bridge.

Sumpter Trustee Bill Hamm said the library board sent a display for the Community

Center and he and Trustee Alan Bates were charged with inspecting the display and OKing it to be put up.

Hamm said they looked at it and it didn't urge people to vote yes or no, but was just information.

Cichewicz said there were two small drawings: one of the Sumpter satellite and one of the new main library. She said they were already stuck up on a door at the Community Center.

Then Dawson, who had been handing the drawings to Cichewicz for her talk, said their presentation was complete and they would be leaving.

Mary Sherwood protested from the audience, asking when the public would be able to ask questions. Cichewicz and Dawson said they would stay for questions.

At the end of the meeting when questions were taken, Sherwood asked about access to the adult area upstairs in the proposed main library and Cichewicz said there is an elevator.

Barbara Miller asked how much would be spent on renovations of the Community Center for Sumpter's satellite library and Cichewicz said that would be just under \$1 million. She said \$19 million is being spent on the main library.

Miller said that means Sumpter would get just 5% of the money spent.

Miller asked what the target date was for constructing the Sumpter Township Library and Cichewicz said the library architect said the Sumpter and main library could be built simultaneously.

Mary Ban asked about the acreage for the library and the acreage for the fishing area on the lake and Dawson said they didn't have that information. But, Cichewicz said the library acreage is just under five acres for the two plots. They didn't have acreage for the fishing.

The house would be \$500,000, Cichewicz said, and she didn't have the figure on her for the DNR property.

Earlier in the meeting, township attorney Rob Young said the draft of the lease agreement between the library and the township has been studied and suggested changes added.

Young said the document has been sent back to library attorney John Day for his

comments.

The lease agreement proposed by Day was for paying the township \$1 for 30 years, but having the library pay its own expenses.

In other business at the July 22 meeting, the board:

- Approved the Senior Alliance Plan for Aging Services for fiscal year 2015;

- Approved an interview committee of John Tackett, Bill Hamm, Alan Bates, and John Morgan to go over the three applications for plumbing inspector;

- Approved the Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan developed by the Wayne County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, with the Wayne County Local Emergency Planning Committee;

- Approved hiring as on-call fire fighters: Ronald Barnette, Jamie Krushlin, Daniel Montecinos, Jesse Durham, Gabe Akans, and Robert Gay;

- Approved a proclamation supporting a Willow Run Bomber Plant Memorial, as envisioned by Tim King of Ypsilanti Township. King is getting support throughout Michigan for a memorial and is asking the governor and legislature to delegate sufficient funding for the memorial to honor the contributions of the Bomber Plant, the B-24 Bomber, and all who worked there as "Guardians of the Spirit of America's Liberator";

- Heard Trustee Peggy Morgan announce she went to the open house at the Moose Lodge (in the former PNA Hall) the previous Sunday and there was a large crowd and the Moose has done a great job with the building. Treasurer John Morgan said the Moose is "an asset to the community." He said Moose memberships are at a discount now, but will be going back up to regular price soon;

- Learned there is no new information on the proposed Inter-county Drain and so attorney Young suggested the project, which no longer seems pressing, be put on hold for a bit; and

- Learned the fire department will be presenting its annual corn roast on Sept. 7.

Treasurer John Morgan presided at the meeting in place of Supervisor Johnny Vawters who is on medical leave.

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# Belleville Council gets lesson on Affordable Care Act options for city

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

On July 14, the Belleville City Council was given an hour-long lesson on the federal Affordable Care Act and options officials have to supply health care for employees and comply with federal law.

On hand were Ken Hurtt and attorney John Wilson from Employee Solve, Inc. of Birmingham, a firm hired in February to give Human Resources help to the city for retiree health care. Now the firm is helping with employee health care.

Hurtt has professional designations as a Chartered Life Underwriter, Registered Health Underwriter, and Registered Employee Benefit Specialist.

Hurtt told the council that he comes to them with "all the frustrations and battle scars of health care reform."

Attorney Wilson said the Affordable Healthcare Act is "the most impactful piece of legislation in my career of 23 years."

Hurtt said the city administration will have to construct a new strategy, scope, and approach to health care. While he said the subject could be covered in a three-day session, he will give a little orientation on the subject.

Wagner said one of the issues involved is that the city has a Cadillac plan for employees.

"The city has a long history of benefits richer than normal," Wagner said. "Now all the dynamics have changed. There's upward cost pressure."

He said in 2018 there will be a tax on richer benefits, including the Cadillac benefits plan.

"Why not just not provide insurance and put them out to the exchanges?" Wagner asked and then answered himself. "Having health insurance is better than not having health insurance. But the last place to get insurance coverage is in the public exchange."

"Every segment of health care is affected," Hurtt said. "Doctors are going into practice groups from private practice. Eighty-five percent of the premium has to go for claims. There's a dynamic going on and it is not a comfortable change."

Hurtt said Blue Cross did away with its

old schedules because there are new federal requirements.

"The plan we looked at at the last contract [with employees]... doesn't exist anymore. It was for us," said Councilwoman Kim Tindall.

Hurtt said it was good until July, but then it wasn't an option.

"We knew our Cadillac plan was going to go away," Mayor Kerreen Conley said. She said they tried to get ahead of the problem.

"There are two federal elections before 2018," Councilwoman Tindall said of the rules due to go into effect.

"All we know today is what is," Mayor Conley replied.

"This would fall closer to a Cadillac tax than not," Hurtt said. "This is a richer plan."

Hurtt said a health care plan is like a piece of paper, and he held up a small sheet of blank paper.

He said what you have to consider is how to fund it, what to offer, and how to administer it? He is recommending defined contributions rather than defined benefits as the funding consideration.

He said the plan is stabilized by defining it.

"We have to retrofit our thinking," he said. "How to fund it and how to define it."

"Funding is the first step. Then, convert funding to compensation," Hurtt said.

Councilman Tom Fielder asked if employees would have a set of choices within a plan?

Hurtt said in the past the city offered plans for a single employee, a husband and wife, and then a family of more.

"Now, we have to get information and age on every employee and every family member and the zip code to match to the market," Hurtt said.

With the new process, "Some of the employees are frowning, some are laughing. Some have their cost doubled and for some it went down," Hurtt said.

Hurtt and Wagner had met with Belleville employees recently to explain the new law and what it means to them.

Hurtt said the city could say, "I'm getting out of the health care business and getting back into compensation."

He said in the past people were paid a dollar at this job or a dollar at that job, with no difference in the dollar pay. Then the employers started competing by adding benefits. They brought in employees' health care needs and their retirement.

"All portions of personal lifestyle were brought into the workplace," Hurtt said.

"Really, this is an opportunity if we take advantage of the time and change the compensation system," Hurtt said.

Fielder said, "We're going to pay you a salary and tell you we have a medical/dental plan to consider. You'll need something to satisfy federal law. We can get you a better deal than on your own. But, you will have to make your choices."

Hurtt said that was correct.

Wagner said this is a defined contribution system and people now are buying below the coverage they had before and there is extra money for them. He said there is a flexibility where those with medical

problems can pay more for medical than healthy families would want to.

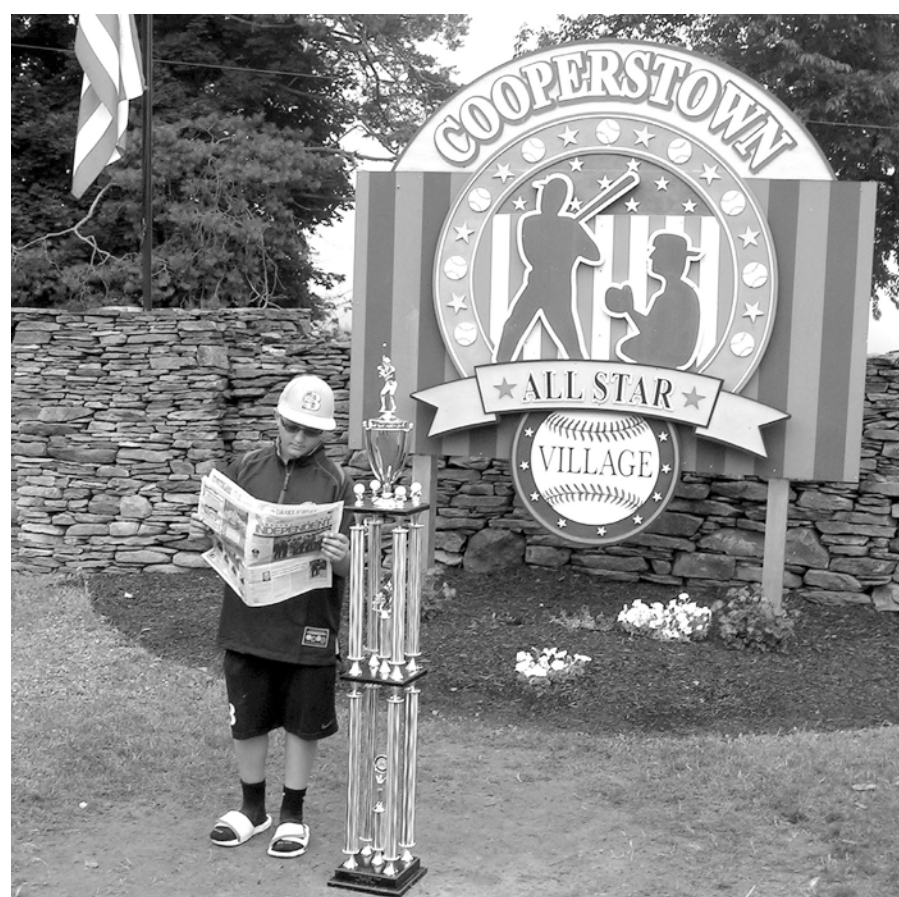
When it comes time to choose whether the city will be offering the 80/20 plan (city paying 80% and employee paying 20% of health care premiums), as in the past, the city wouldn't have to choose that plan.

Hurtt said the budget issues, contract language, and underwriting problems defines the corridor the city can take, and, "It is narrow."

Mayor Conley said the size of the city is a factor and if they could partner with another municipality it might help them in cost.

Wagner said the city could sponsor its plan as part of a multiple-employee association plan.

"Federal legislation required change to our health plan," Tindall said. "We discussed in the past trying to tweak the retired employees, but the previous Cadillac plan [for retired employees] we cannot change."



## They're reading the Independent everywhere

Nathan Boyar of Belleville, a student at Keystone Academy, reads the *Independent* in Cooperstown, NY, at the All-Star Village Baseball Tournament where he was July 4-11. His team, The Michigan Bulls, won the tournament, consisting of all 12-year-old boy teams. This was the first time that a Michigan team won the tournament since its inception. This is the first time a Michigan team made it to even the quarter finals, let alone won it all. The 6-foot trophy is the team's prize. Nathan is the only boy from Belleville on the team.

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.

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# Belleville holds joint meeting to discuss new Sign Ordinance

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

The council chamber at City Hall was packed with community leaders on July 16, when members of the City Council, Planning Commission and Downtown Development Authority met for a workshop session to discuss a proposed Sign Ordinance.

After more than an hour of discussion, Mayor Kerreen Conley said she would add the ordinance to the July 21 city council meeting agenda so they could set a public hearing and, "keep the ball rolling so it can be done."

"This is our long-awaited get together to discuss and consider the Sign Ordinance," began Mayor Conley. "Countless hours have been put in and re-put in and it's much closer to where we'd like to see it."

Steve Jones, chairman of the Planning Commission, gave a timeline of the ordinance, saying four years ago it was brought to city council because of problems with enforcement with local businesses.

He said a council-level committee brought forward a recommendation, but then it was sent to the planning commission. The planning commission and DDA put together a joint committee.

"It was choppy and hard to read and enforce," Jones said of the ordinance, noting they worked on it for a long time.

The last subcommittee was made up of Mike Renaud, Gary Snarski, Ken Voigt, and Jones. They met with the planner.

"This is our best so far," Jones said of the 332-page document before city officials that evening. (There was only one member of the public at the meeting: the *Independent*.)

Jones said the ordinance is put together in the Clearzoning process their planner started. The city's ordinances have been put on the web with cross references and the sign ordinance has been done the same way.

"You can quickly refer to the sign ordinance before coming to the planning commission," Jones said. "Before that, everything was hard copy."

Jones said what spurred the project originally was that businesses had problems. One had window advertising



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Members of the Belleville City Council, Belleville Planning Commission, and Belleville Downtown Development Authority crowded together at city hall to discuss the proposed sign ordinance at a joint meeting July 16. The only official missing from the groups was Councilwoman Kim Tinadall. Also present was City Manager Diana Kollmeyer, DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson, and Building Official Rick Rutherford.

from its national office and it had to use it and couldn't change the size.

The old ordinance said a business could only cover up 30% per pane and it was a violation if a business used more.

Jones said the subcommittee thought it made sense to increase the total from 30% to 35% of the total window space. For example, if a business had six windows, it could cover two completely with posters.

"It also allows you to pick and choose how you use your advertising," Jones said.

"We also cleaned up definitions and added definitions for murals," Jones said. "Most communities have separate documents for murals, including maintenance and how they're taken care of."

He said California and Washington State have gone through lawsuits on murals vs. signs.

Jones said one of the suggestions was a sign review committee, but he said they decided they didn't need another level of review, since the city had a hard enough time finding people to serve on

committees.

He said they edited some things, like the 16 square feet maximum for temporary signs has been increased to 32 square feet.

They also changed a lot of small things, Jones said.

"Political signs are being haggled over in other communities," Jones said, noting they are going from not regulating them at all because of free speech issues or regulating them as a sign.

DDA chairman John Hoops asked what is the biggest change and Jones said "calculation of windows."

Planning commission member John Juriga disagreed, saying, "The biggest is enforcement."

Jones said once A-frame signs were not allowed and now they are allowed and there was discussion on how many should be allowed per property.

DDA member Jim Higgerson said many years ago there were questions over pole signs and a \$300 incentive given to help replace a pole sign with a monument sign.

He said some are still up and he wondered if they were grandfathered.

Jones explained by pointing to what happened with the Red Apple. He said the business changed hands, so the sign had to come in compliance. Or like the late Chesley Odom's office with a pole sign that had to be removed after the building was vacant six months.

DDA treasurer Sabrina Richardson Williams asked about murals, one of her main interests for the city.

"That's on our plates to do next," Jones said, adding that the City of Seattle and Los Angeles had numerous lawsuits over murals. The issue is, once it's up, who takes care of it?

"The city allows it and who takes care of it?" Jones asked, offering, "The nonprofit who put it up?"

He said they will form another group to tackle the question of murals.

The city's new part-time Building Official Rick Rutherford asked in the sign standards does it say pole signs are prohibited? He said it does say the poles should be shrouded.

"The fact that it's available on line is important," Rutherford said. He said the city had to fax the sign ordinance to California to show a sign company why its sign was a violation here.

He said a salesman convinced a local business that he knew the local ordinances and sold a sign that was in violation.

Councilman Tom Fielder said, "Coming into town there is an unnamed business" with complete window coverage.

He said the city will have to convince the owner why it's a good idea not to cover all the windows.

"We're not out to hurt your business, but make the community better," Fielder said.

Jones said the business owner must be told it is not helping it to have a million signs, but the store needs, "more of a direct message."

Fielder said some businesses consider the sign ordinance more of an intrusion.

Rutherford said he goes out and talks with the businesses.

City Manager Kollmeyer said if something

(continued on page 22)

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## Election

(continued from page 1)

1,211 no votes and 344 yes votes on the operational millage.

Barbara Miller of the Common Cents Library Committee which opposed the library proposals pointed out that the committee supporting the proposals raised much more than the amount raised by the Common Cents group.

The Belleville Area Citizens for a New Library raised \$6,297.99, according to the pre-primary report filed with the state. Just \$3,358.08 was spent on promotions.

The Common Cents Library Committee raised about \$900, she said, and was only able to purchase 100 signs to oppose the proposals.

The tri-community voters also supported 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge David Parrott who won with 65% of the vote in the five communities in the court district.

Tri-community voters also supported State Proposal 1 and voted against the Wayne RESA Regional Enhancement millage.

While many tri-community voters supported Kevin McNamara, D-Belleville, for county executive, Warren Evans unseated Robert Ficano for the nomination.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous won the nomination for county commissioner to replace McNamara.

Total ballots cast in Van Buren Township were 9,024. There are 22,451 registered voters in VBT, so the turnout was 40%.

Problems erupted with Sumpter and Belleville tallies on Tuesday night so revised election totals were released. In Van Buren Township the final voting report was not issued until just before midnight.

The Belleville Area District Library Board will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 12, and may suggest what its next steps will be for its library plans.

\*\*\*

The **Belleville Church of God** will be holding a **Co-Ed Flag Football League & Cheerleading Clinic** this fall with a cost of \$35 per person, which includes a free T-shirt. Registration is underway through Aug. 28 in three age divisions, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Call (734) 697-0927.

\*\*\*

The **Wayne County Fair** is running through Saturday at the **Wayne County Fairgrounds** on Quirk Road. Today is Kids' Day featuring a coloring contest, games and pedal tractors. The evening track event features the **SJO Super Cross Championship Series**. Tomorrow the fair celebrates veterans with cool events such as a jousting competition at noon and a night of destruction at the track, featuring

a demolition derby, quad drag, burnout contest, and a garden tractor demo derby. On Saturday, a mud bog presented by **Unique Motor Sports** will get underway at 5 p.m. at the track. See their ad in today's paper for other events and times. Call (734) 697-7002.

\*\*\*

The weekend skies will also be filled with the sound of propellers and jet engines as the **Thunder Over Michigan Air Show** takes place at **Willow Run Airport**. The **US Air Force Thunderbirds** are scheduled to arrive in town this afternoon at 3 p.m. and will headline the show, which will also feature vintage aircraft, parachutes, helicopters and ground battle re-enactments. A ground parade and staging of military vehicles will once again roll into downtown Belleville

tomorrow evening, including a flyby of warplanes along the parade route. For air show info, visit [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org).

\*\*\*

The **Belleville Area Council for the Arts' Concert Lakeside Series** concludes tonight with **Blue Steel** (big band) at 7 p.m. at **Horizon Park** on High Street. Rain location is **First United Methodist Church**. Call (734) 697-8123.

\*\*\*

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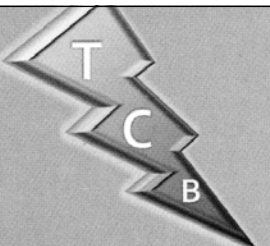
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**Livestock Auction  
 Thursday 6:30 p.m.**

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**NIGHT OF  
 DESTRUCTION**  
 7:00 p.m. Friday

**Wayne County  
 FAIR**

**1st Place**

**Figure 8 & Off Road  
 Demolition Derby**  
 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

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 TUESDAY - SATURDAY**

**AUG.  
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 Contact Unique Motor Sports  
 For Mud Bog, Night of Destruction  
 Figure 8 & Off Road, & Demolition Derby  
 Or Contact SJO Productions  
 For Motocross Registrations

**Wood-n-Creations  
 Chainsaw Carving  
 FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

**MudBog**  
 SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, August 7 (Kids Day)		
7 - 10 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9 am	Goat Milking	Livestock Pavilion
9 am	Horse Show	Equine
11 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall w/A/C
12 pm	Lysts on the Great Lakes	Barn 1
	Jousting Practice	
2 - 10 pm	Carnival \$8 - 2 pm til close; \$16 after 6 pm	
2 - 10 pm	Miracle of Life Exhibit	Cozadd Building
2 - 10 pm	Crafters / Vendors	
2 pm	Coloring Contest w/Prizes	Dining Hall
	Theme: Animals at the Fair	
	Age Groups: 3-5, 6-9, 10-13; 2 pm Deadline	
	Winners announced Friday at 6 pm	
4 pm	Kids Games, Ages 12 & Under	
4 - 7 pm	Pedal Tractors	
6:30 pm	Livestock Auction	Livestock Pavilion
7 pm	SJO Super Cross Championship Series \$10	Track
	Super Cross Sign-up at 3 pm; Practice 5 pm	
Friday, August 8 (Veteran's Day)		
7 - 10 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8 am	Pig Trail	Livestock Pavilion
9 am	Horse Show	Equine
10 am	Shepherd's Trail	Livestock Pavilion
11 am	Goat Pack Class	Livestock Pavilion
11 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall w/A/C
12 pm	Lysts on the Great Lakes	Barn 1
	Jousting Competition	
1 pm	Master Stockman Workshop	
1 - 10 pm	Carnival - \$16	
2 - 10 pm	Miracle of Life Exhibit	Cozadd Building
1 - 10 pm	Crafters / Vendors	
Various	Wood Carving Shows	
4:30 - 7 pm	Dinner - (\$1 Discount for Veterans)	Dining Hall w/A/C
7 pm	Unique Motor Sports presents Night of Destruction \$10	Track
Saturday, August 9		
7 - 10 am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
10 am - 6 pm	Car Show	
10 am	Master Stockman Contest	Livestock Pavilion
11 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Dining Hall w/A/C
12 pm	Youth Pet Show	Livestock Pavilion
12 pm, 2 pm & 4 pm	Lysts on the Great Lakes	Barn 1
	Jousting Competition	
1-10 pm	Carnival - \$16	
1-10 pm	Crafters / Vendors	
Various	Wood Carving Shows	
2-10 pm	Miracle of Life Exhibit	Cozadd Building
3 pm	Livestock Awards	Livestock Pavilion
4 pm	Youth Awards	Livestock Pavilion
4 - 8 pm	Steak Dinner \$12	Dining Hall w/A/C
5 pm	Equine Awards	Livestock Pavilion
5 pm	Unique Motor Sports presents Mud Bog \$10	Track

\*Schedule subject to change without notice. No refunds \*

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Monday, August 4 (No Carnival)	
7 - 10 am	Breakfast
8 am	Swine Show
11 am	Horse Show
11 am - 2 pm	Lunch
2 - 10 pm	Miracle of Life Exhibit
6 pm	Sheep Show
Tuesday, August 5 (Family Day)	
7 - 10 am	Breakfast
9 am	Poultry Show
9 am	Horse Show

Dining Hall
Livestock Pavilion
Equine
Dining Hall w/A/C
Cozadd Building
Livestock Pavilion

11 am - 2 pm
2 - 10 pm
2 - 10 pm
4 - 10 pm
6 pm
7 pm
4:30 - 7 pm

Wednesday, August 6 (Seniors Day)	
7 - 10 am	Breakfast
8 am	Rabbit/Cavy/Pocket Pet Show
9 am	Horse Show

Dining Hall w/A/C
Cozadd Building
Livestock Pavilion
Track/Horse Arena
Dining Hall

11 am - 2 pm
2 - 10 pm
2 - 10 pm
2 pm
4 pm
4 - 10 pm
4:30 - 7 pm
6 pm
7 pm
7 pm

Lunch
Miracle of Life Exhibit
Crafters / Vendors
Fruit Pie Bake Off (1st-3rd Prizes)
Senior Citizen Basket Raffle
Carnival - \$10
Dinner - (\$1 Discount for Seniors)
Dairy Show
Beef Show - Livestock Pavilion
Unique Motor Sports presents
Enduro Derby / Figure 8 Off Road - \$10 - Local Participants Welcome!

Dining Hall w/A/C
Cozadd Building
Dining Hall
Community Arts
Dining Hall w/A/C
Livestock Pavilion
Track

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# Charter County of Wayne Public Notice

## OFFICE OF THE WAYNE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

### NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES and NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

**Notice Is Hereby Given** that on **August 18, 2014**, the Wayne County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division, Central Maintenance Yard, located at **29900 Goddard Road, Romulus, Michigan**, to hear the proofs and allegations and to carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Drainage Districts for the Drains listed below, and determine whether the addition and/or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefitted by the Drains, and whether such addition and/or deletion of lands is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of the Michigan Drain Code (MCL 280.197).

A general description of the lands by section number proposed to be added or deleted from the Drainage Districts as recommended by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor for each of the Drains is as follows:

Drain Name	Municipalities	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Added	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Removed
Anglum Drain	City of Woodhaven	22	15, 22
Big Swan Creek Consolidated Drain	Sumpter Township	-	4-6
Blakely Drain	City of Romulus	19, 20, 28, 30, 31, 34, 35	19, 20, 28, 29, 30, 34
	Huron Twp.	1, 2, 4-6	1-6
	City of Taylor	29-34	30, 32-34
	Brownstown Twp.	7, 17, 18, 20, 21, 34, PC355	2, 7, 8, 17, 18, 21, 34, PC355
	City of Riverview	2, 11	2, 11
	City of Southgate	35	35
	City of Woodhaven	28	27
	City of Trenton	14, 26	23, 26
	City of Gibraltar	35, PC355, PC54	35, PC345, PC355
Brahmer Drain	Huron Twp.	13, 24	-
	Brownstown Twp.	18, 19, 20	18, 19, 20
Breitmeyer Drain	City of Rockwood	9, 16	9, 15, 16
Brown Drain	City of Romulus	34, 35	34, 35
	Huron Twp.	2	2
Bull Drain	Huron Twp.	23, 26	23, 26
Burns Drain	City of Taylor	30, 31	30, 31
Carr Drain	City of Romulus	29, 30, 31, 32	29, 31, 32, 33
	Huron Twp.	4, 5	-
Carsonstown Drain	Brownstown Twp.	9, 11	3, 10, 11

(Continued on page 18)

### Court Watching:

## Romulus teen bound over for breaking & entering in Sumpter

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Speed Marcel Miller, 17, of Romulus was bound over to circuit court on charges of breaking and entering of a building in



Sumpter Township two counts of receiving and concealing stolen property, and one count of larceny from a building.

His preliminary exam was set for July 23 at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court in

Miller Romulus and Sumpter waived his exam.

Judge Tina Brooks Green ordered Miller to appear at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on Aug. 6 for an arraignment on the information.

Miller's bond was \$20,000/10% and he was lodged in the Wayne County Jail and bonded out shortly after the bond was set.

Sumpter Police Detective John Toth said the break in was reported just after midnight on July 12 in the 20000 block of Sumpter Road. He said two John Deere Gators were taken, along with a minibike.

Det. Toth said because of the respect in the community for the victims, a large number of tips came into the police department and the owner received a tip that his Gator was seen at Crosswinds Marsh that morning.

By 10 a.m., Miller and a juvenile were in custody and the stolen items in hand, including one Gator that had been sold at Crosswinds Marsh.

He said Sumpter Officer Jerry Cox and new Sumpter Officer Ryan Parise worked together to bring the suspects in.

Det. Toth said Van Buren Township Detective Mark Buxton had other items allegedly taken by the two and VBT had recovered a camper the suspects allegedly had stolen.

### **Devon Lamar Mayes Hyo Sang Rogers**

Devon Lamar Mayes and Hyo Sang Rogers each have been charged with two counts of armed robbery, two counts of assault, and weapons charges and are being held in the Wayne County Jail on bonds of \$100,000/10% each.

They have been charged in the July 11 armed robbery of Montroy's Market, at the corner of Van Born and Haggerty roads in Van Buren Township.

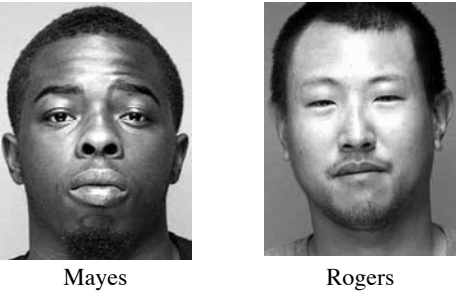
They each have a court-appointed attorney and the prosecutor's office had asked that they be kept in separate holding cells, but when they were brought to the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court for their preliminary exams on July 23, they inadvertently were put in the same cell.

They were separated in Judge Green's courtroom and then put in separate holding cells after the court session.

(Continued on page 18)

Court Watching:

(continued from page 17)



The two were brought before the judge separately, but the request was the same: both the prosecutor and the defense attorneys said they needed more time for discovery – to compile the evidence in the cases.

Judge Green gave them each three weeks and they will be back before her at 9 a.m., Aug. 13.

VBT Police Lt. Ken Floro said the two were arrested after a photo lineup was set up and the victims identified both suspects. Lt. Floro said the photo lineup was put together based on information from the license plate, records from the CLEMIS (Courts and Law Enforcement Information Management System), and information from the City of Taylor, where both men reside.

Detective Mark Buxton is the officer in charge of both cases.

Jeremy Allen Sneyd

Jeremy Allen Sneyd, 27, waived his preliminary exam and Judge Green bound him over to circuit court for arraignment on the information on Aug. 6.

Sneyd is accused of home invasion – first degree in Van Buren Township on July 15, 2012. His court-appointed attorney was George Chedraue and the officer in charge is VBT Detective McCarthy.

Sneyd has two co-defendants in the case. Robert Norman Stark, 53, pled guilty to second-degree home invasion. He was to be sentenced Aug. 7. Randy Eli Black, 43, has a jury trial set for Aug. 13 for first degree home invasion, following a final conference Aug. 1.

First-degree home invasion is a 20-year felony.

Melvin Carl Foster

The charge of malicious destruction of property against Melvin Carl Foster was dismissed by the prosecutor’s office before Foster’s preliminary exam was due to begin on July 23. Sumpter Township Officer Michael Lange was the officer in charge. Foster was on a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond that the judge cancelled.

Darrell Demetrius Brown

Darrell Demetrius Brown, 21, who was charged with carrying a concealed weapon and being in possession of a controlled substance, marijuana, was bound over to circuit court after he waived his preliminary exam. He had posted 10% of his \$5,000 bond.

Brown’s court-appointed attorney was George Chedraue and the officers in charge were VBT Officers Champagne and Herrick.

Charter County of Wayne Public Notice

(Continued from page 17)

Drain Name	Municipalities	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Added	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Removed
Carter Drain*	Brownstown Twp.	18, 19, 20	18, 19
Carter Drain**	City of Romulus	28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34	28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34
Chase Drain	City of Flat Rock	4, 5, 32	5, 32, 33
Cicotte Drain	Huron Twp.	9	9
Clark No. 1 Drain	City of Taylor	-	34
	City of Southgate	-	35
	Brownstown Twp.	2, 11	2, 3, 11
	City of Riverview	2, 11	2, 11
Clark No. 2 Drain	City of Taylor	31, 32	31
	Huron Twp.	1	1
	Brownstown Twp.	5, 6	5, 6
Clark No. 3 Drain	City of Taylor	34	34
	City of Southgate	-	35
	Brownstown Twp.	-	2, 3, 11
	City of Riverview	-	2
Clee Drain	City of Woodhaven	15, 22, 23, 26, 27	15, 22
	Brownstown Twp.	10	10
Crane Drain	City of Romulus	28, 33	28, 33
Denton & Branch Drain	Canton Twp.	32	-
	Van Buren Twp.	4-6	5, 6
Ellward Drain	City of Romulus	36	36
	City of Taylor	31	31
English Drain	City of Romulus	36	36
	City of Taylor	31	-
	Huron Twp.	1	-
Evans Drain	City of Romulus	33	33, 34
	Huron Twp.	4	3, 4
Flowers Drain	City of Flat Rock	28, 33	28, 33
	Brownstown Twp.	20, 21, 28, 29	20, 21, 28, 29
	City of Woodhaven	21, 27, 28	21, 28
Goetske Drain	Huron Twp.	1, 2	1, 2

(Continued on page 19)

# Charter County of Wayne Public Notice

(Continued from page 18)

Drain Name	Municipalities	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Added	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Removed
Gregory Drain	Brownstown Twp.	20	20
Groh Drain	Brownstown Twp.	3, 10, 11, PC 354	3, 10, 11, PC 354
	City of Gibraltar	2, PC 354	2, PC 354
	City of Rockwood	10, 15	10, 15
Gudith Drain	Brownstown Twp.	3, 9, 10, 11	10, 11
A.A.Hale Drain	Huron Twp.	15, 22	15, 22
Hale Creek Drain	City of Romulus	29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35	17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35
	Huron Twp.	1	-
Hale Drain	Huron Twp.	9, 10, 15, 16	8, 9, 16
Hand Drain	Huron Twp.	11, 12, 13	11, 12, 13
	Brownstown Twp.	18	-
Holbert Drain	Huron Twp.	4, 5, 8, 9	4, 5, 8, 9
Hosmer Drain	Huron Twp.	5, 6	5, 6
Jewett Drain	Van Buren Twp.	28, 29, 30, 32, 33	28, 30, 32, 33, 34
Jones Drain	Brownstown Twp.	2, 11-14, 24, PC636	11-14, PC636
Kauffman Drain	Brownstown Twp.	4, 5, 6	4, 5
King Tile Drain	Brownstown Twp.	16, 17	16, 17
LeClair Storm Drain	Brownstown Twp.	34, PC 355	34, PC 355
Lee Drain	Brownstown Twp.	14, 23, PC636	13, 14, 23, PC636
Lindsay Drain	Brownstown Twp.	4, 5	4, 5, 6
Lindsay West Drain	Brownstown Twp.	5, 6	4, 5, 6
	Huron Twp.	1	1
Monroe Drain	Canton Twp.	35	35
Morrison Branch Drain	Brownstown Twp.	11, 14	11, 14
Morrison Drain	Brownstown Twp.	11, 14, 23	11, 14, PC354, PC355
	City of Gibraltar	2, PC354, PC355	2, PC354, PC355
Nowland Drain	Huron Twp.	9, 10, 15, 16	9, 10, 15, 16
Number One & Three Drain	City of Romulus	33	32, 33
	Huron Twp.	4	4
Olds Drain	City of Romulus	33, 34	33, 34
Olmstead Drain	City of Flat Rock	3, 4	3, 4

(Continued on page 20)

## Court Watching:

## Jeffrey Chamberlain takes plea deal on VBT drug charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Jeffrey M. Chamberlain pled guilty to possession of marijuana and a charge of controlled substance/delivery of marijuana was dropped by Judge David Parrott at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court on July 30.

On July 9, Chamberlain's attorney Seymour Schwartz had asked for a postponement of his preliminary exam and so Judge Parrott delayed it until July 30. Schwartz had told Judge Parrott he needed more time to obtain evidence in the case and his client agreed to waive the 14-day rule for a preliminary exam within that time.

Chamberlain was out after posting 10% of his \$5,000 set bond.

On July 30, Schwartz worked out the plea deal with the prosecutor and Judge Parrott pointed out this was a very good deal for Chamberlain.

Chamberlain told the judge that he has never been charged with a drug-related offense before.

Chamberlain agreed that on Feb. 4, 2013 he was in possession of marijuana in Van Buren Township.

Judge Parrott said after a period of 12 months, if he does not reoffend and if his \$700 fine is paid, his charge will be dismissed. Judge Parrott also sentenced him to four days on the court work program and random drug testing.

VBT Police Detective Donovan McCarthy was the officer in charge of the case.

### **Brian Carl Barton**

Brian Carl Barton pled guilty to a misdemeanor -- operating while intoxicated, second offense -- and the OWI third offense he was charged with was dropped.

Part of the plea deal with the prosecutor included serving 45 days in jail.

He told Judge Parrott he was operating a motor vehicle on June 21 in Van Buren Township with a .15 blood alcohol level. He had been convicted of the charge before in 2006 and in 2007, both in Isabella County.

Judge Parrott said Barton must have alcohol screening. His bond of \$5,000 or 10% had been posted.

Officer in charge of the case was Detective Ken Toney.

### **Julian Aileni**

Julian Aileni waived his preliminary exam on a drug possession charge and was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information at 9 a.m., Aug. 13.

Aileni, 31, first was due for a preliminary exam on July 16, but had the exam postponed. He was arrested on July 2 in Belleville by Officers Matthew Vandeweghe and Jeffrey Wickham and charged with possession of narcotics less than 25 grams. He is out on \$3,000 personal recognizance bond.

### **Brandon Lamar Webb**

The preliminary exam for Brandon Lamar

(Continued on page 20)



# Court Watching:

(continued from page 19)

Webb on six felony charges was adjourned one week by Judge Parrott, until Aug. 6, at the request of the People.

The assistant prosecutor said the July 30 date was a conflict for the officer in charge and the Michigan State Police Trooper who are part of DRANO [Downriver Area Narcotics Organization]. They couldn't be present on July 30.

Webb is charged with possession by a felon, carrying concealed weapon, controlled substances, possession controlled substance, weapons, and controlled substance/possession of marijuana.

He is out on \$20,000 personal recognizance bond.

## Brandon Barnett

Brandon Barnett accepted a plea deal and pled guilty to domestic violence. If there are no further arrests within a 12-month period, this will be wiped from his record.

He said he has had no assaultive crime before this.

When Judge Parrott asked what he did, Barnett said on June 3 in Van Buren Township he put his hands on his girlfriend. When the judge asked for more details, Barnett said he "slapped her on her knee and told her to get out."

Barnett was ordred to get a substance abuse assessment, as determined by the probation department, and to get batterer's counseling. He also was sentenced to four days on the court work crew.

VBT Detective Ken Toney said from the back of the courtroom that Barnett had been served a Personal Protection Order that same day.

Barnett's total fees were \$905. Judge Parrott told him to comply with everything and his case will be dismissed in a year.

## Brandon Petrie

Brandon Petrie was due for a bench trial on July 30 on a charge of domestic violence, but he took a plea deal instead that offered him a dismissal of the charge after 12 months if he did not reoffend.

Judge Parrott was told after the original offense on April 23 in Van Buren Township he was charged with misdemeanor trespassing concerning the same individual. VBT agreed to dismiss that trespassing charge.

Judge Parrott said that Petrie was charged once before, but it was dismissed in 2010 when his girlfriend decided not to press charges and the prosecutor didn't proceed.

"I'm taking you at your word, because it's not in the records," Judge Parrott said.

"When you failed to appear..." Judge Parrot began and court-appointed defense attorney Jeff Bowdich cut in, "He was incarcerated."

Judge Parrott asked him to say exactly what he did to his girlfriend on the offense he was pleading guilty to and Petrie said he put his hands around her throat.

Judge Parrott ordered Petrie to pay a \$445 total fee and serve four days in the court work program. He was to have no assaultive contact with the victim and would attend batterer's counseling.

# Charter County of Wayne Public Notice

(Continued from page 19)

Drain Name	Municipalities	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Added	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Removed
Peters Drain	City of Flat Rock	29	29
	Brownstown Twp.	28, 29	28, 29
Ray Drain	City of Woodhaven	14	14
Reh Drain	Brownstown Twp.	19, 20	19, 20
Reiser Drain	Huron Twp.	4, 5	4, 5
Richardson Drain	Huron Twp.	5, 6	5, 6
Richman Branch of Morrison Drain	Brownstown Twp.	2, 11	2, 11
	City of Gibraltar	PC354	-
Sanders Drain	Brownstown Twp.	20, 21	20, 21
	City of Woodhaven	21	21
Sherben Drain	City of Flat Rock	31	31
Sherman Drain	Huron Twp.	1, 2, 11, 12	1, 2, 3, 11, 12
	Brownstown Twp.	7	7
Shetrum Drain	City of Taylor	32, 33, 34	33, 34
	Brownstown Twp.	3, 4	3, 4
Silver Creek Drain	Huron Twp.	1-5, 8-14, 23-26	3-5, 8-14, 23-26
	Brownstown Twp.	2,3, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17-21, 34, PC355	18, 19
	City of Woodhaven	26, 27, 34	-
	City of Flat Rock	28-34, 4, 5	29-33, 4, 5
	City of Gibraltar	PC354	-
	City of Rockwood	8-10, 15	9, 10
Smith Creek Drain	Huron Twp.	1-3, 11-13, 24	1-3, 11-13
	Brownstown Twp.	2, 3, 7, 11, 14, 17-21, 28-30, 34, PC355	2, 3, 7, 11, 17-21, 28-30, 34, PC355
	City of Woodhaven	27, 28	21, 27, 28
	City of Flat Rock	32, 33, 3, 4	32, 33, 3, 4
	City of Gibraltar	PC354	PC354
	City of Rockwood	10, 15	10
Stear Drain	Huron Twp.	12, 13	12, 13
Strong Drain	Brownstown Twp.	3, 4	3, 4
Texas Marsh and Branch Drain	City of Romulus	25, 36	25, 26
Trosin Drain	Brownstown Twp.	5, 6, 7, 8, 9	5, 7, 8, 9

(Continued on page 21)

# Charter County of Wayne Public Notice

(Continued from page 20)

Drain Name	Municipalities	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Added	Portions of Sections or Private Claims (PC) Removed
Truax Drain	City of Romulus	35, 36	35, 36
	Huron Twp.	1	1
Uht Drain	Huron Twp.	5, 6	5, 6
Van Cleef Drain	Brownstown Twp.	3, 4, 5, 9, 10	3, 4, 5, 9, 10
Vandicar Drain	Huron Twp.	10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 26	10, 14, 15, 23-26
Vreeland Drain	City of Flat Rock	29, 32, 33	29, 32, 33
Wallace Drain	Huron Twp.	30	-
	City of Flat Rock	30-32	29-31
Warner Drain	Huron Twp.	14, 15, 22, 23, 26	14, 15, 22, 23, 26, 27
Waterman Drain	Huron Twp.	24-26	24-26
	Brownstown Twp.	19	-
Zink Drain	City of Romulus	19, 20, 29	19, 20, 29, 30

\*Carter Drain C010 - Located in Brownstown Township near West Road and Beech Daly Road

\*\*Carter Drain C011 - Located in the City of Romulus near Eureka Road and Interstate 275

Maps depicting the proposed revisions to the boundaries of each Drainage District can be reviewed at [www.waynecounty.com/doe](http://www.waynecounty.com/doe).

**Notice Is Further Hereby Given** that on **August 25, 2014**, the Wayne County Drain Commissioner will also hold a Day of Review of Apportionments from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Wayne County Department of Public Services Roads Division, Central Maintenance Yard, located at **29900 Goddard Road, Romulus, Michigan**, for the benefits of land within the Drainage Districts for the Drains listed above. Any property owner within the Drainage Districts, Road Commission representative, representative from the Michigan Department of Transportation, Township, City, Village or County wishing to be heard or wishing to inspect the computation of costs with respect to the special assessments may appear during the day and time specified.

The computation of costs for each of the Drains will also be available for review. The Drain Commissioner will have available to review the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within each of the Drainage Districts. Drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If the collection period is greater than one year, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's Office at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

**You Are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Drain Commissioner as to the addition and/or deletion of lands to a Drainage District may seek judicial review in the Wayne County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the decision. Persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Drain Commissioner as to the apportionment of benefits for a Drain may appeal to the Wayne County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the decisions.

Kenneth M. Kucel, P.E.  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner  
Telephone (313) 224-3620

Publish: August 7, 2014

## VBT approves pending law suit against Wayne County on sewer issue

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

At its July 15 meeting, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved a motion to join a law suit against Wayne County with other Downriver Sewer System communities.

The vote had been postponed from the July 1 meeting when it was first proposed to allow board members to get more information on the issue.

Trustee Jeff Jahr, an attorney, had made suggestions for changes to the litigation, which were made, said DPW Director James Taylor.

Taylor said this is a last-ditch effort to bring issues to the forefront. He said the Wayne County assistant wanted a meeting with the supervisor on the issue and there was a meeting.

Clerk Leon Wright, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Executive Assistant to the Supervisor Karen LaMothe, Jahr and Taylor listened to what he had to say.

Taylor said Alan Helmkamp, Assistant Wayne County Executive, told them the county took funds that were in the sewer system's enterprise funds and those funds have been restored with interest. He said it was legal and done at the advice of counsel.

Taylor said Helmkamp said the county was willing to put that restriction in place in future agreements.

"The board must understand that I'm recommending approving the resolution," Taylor said. "But it won't be filed tomorrow or the next day. Our attorney recommended this. We really have to go forward to protect the interests of Van Buren Township."

Jahr said the original resolution said the county didn't want to negotiate, but then Helmkamp came to the meeting and asked to meet with the board, so that was taken out of the resolution.

"We have to protect our interest in that system," said Supervisor Linda Combs.

Jahr said the county commission approved the debt reduction plan, which included selling the wastewater treatment system for \$120 million for the general deficit.

Jahr said he objects to the county shifting the general deficit to the back of the customers of the water and sewer system.

When Taylor was asked how many of the 13 communities involved have voted to join in the law suit, he said five or six are firmly committed and some haven't yet met to discuss it. Some others want to wait and see if anything is resolved by the upcoming negotiations.

"Almost half are in favor of the suit," Taylor said.

"I wanted to hear both sides of the stories," Clerk Wright said. "Litigation is absolutely the last resort. If the bargaining fails, we authorize our attorney to do that."

(Continued on page 23)

# Sign ordinance

(continued from page 11)

is not specified in the ordinance, “We don’t allow it.”

DDA member Brian Copsey, owner of Bayou Grill, asked about putting a film on his windows with promotions or string lights. The film with a sign on it is figured as a window sign.

Jones said seasonal string lights are OK, for Christmas or whatever, but outlining the roof of the building is not allowed.

Renaud said the window treatment at The Lunchbox is on the inside and allowed.

DDA member Williams asked about L.A. Insurance at Five Points.

“Are they up to code? They’re pretty well lit and open constantly,” she said, referring to the Open sign that blinks 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“That’s enforcement,” Jones replied.

Kollmeyer said Marathon, recently reopened at Five Points, wanted the blinking Open sign and their gas prices up there.

Jones said the sign ordinance wants everything nice and neat. If a place goes out of business, the signs come down so the place can look as nice as possible.

Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria said the city should get printed ordinances for businesses.

“It’s on line, but people can come in and get printed ordinances,” Rutherford said. He said with the ordinances on line, people can study them instead of what they have done, “Sending it in like a crap shoot, hoping the city might pass it.”

Kollmeyer said with the old copy of the sign ordinance, you would have to search and search for the regulation you wanted.

With the new one, she said, you can type in a search word and come up with what

you need.

“It’s cross-linked and key words,” said planning commission vice chairman Hawkins.

Planning Commissioner Matthew Wagner said political signs can be up for 30 days and taken down five days after the election.

Jones said election sign ordinances are being challenged in some communities for not allowing free speech.

“We allow them, but you can’t have a sign up from the primary through the general election,” Jones said.

Renaud said electronic signs have their own ordinance and there will be no more in town than there are now.

“It’s only allowable by the city and schools,” Jones said, explaining the school doesn’t have to comply with city regulations, but they were “good neighbors” in keeping their sign small and only one color.

“I haven’t heard any desire to change that,” Mayor Conley said of the electronic sign ordinance.

Renaud asked about having murals downtown.

Mayor Conley said in order to make it all work, you need a process.

“One big problem with murals,” Jones said, “...they morph into signs to advertise the building they’re on.”

Renaud said, “You want civic themes.”

Juriga said about a year ago there was a problem with how to enforce the sign ordinance.

“I think we need more than Rick or Rick full-time,” Juriga said. “Show them we mean business and even take some to court.”

“I don’t agree with you,” Mayor Conley said. She said the planning commission had a public hearing and there will be a hearing at the city council. Everyone will have it in hand, she said.

“The thing about Rick is that he has the background with a focus on ordinances and enforcement,” Mayor Conley said.

“I’ve been on the planning commission for 11 years and I’ve never seen it,” Juriga said of sign enforcement.

“We can’t do it all at once,” Mayor Conley said. “We have to start at one place.”

“You have to put money behind it,” Juriga said.

DDA member Snarski said there probably aren’t that many noncompliant businesses, maybe 20, he said. He said Rutherford will go out and give them an ordinance and give them time to fix it – a week or two weeks.

“It has to be enforced,” Snarski said. “One step at a time. It took us five years to get it. We’re in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour and once we get it passed, we enforce it.

“I believe we have the courts behind us. We didn’t before,” he said.

“Once they are informed, enforcement is easier,” Mayor Conley said. “We prefer compliance. We prefer not to have to go to court.”

“I agree with you,” Snarski added. “It

has to be enforced. One hundred percent coverage of windows is tacky.”

“We want to tell people we want to help them,” Kollmeyer said. “We wrote a ticket for a business to get a sign down. It came down. Didn’t want to fight it. A police officer has to write the ticket and go to court.”

“I think we’re going to find most businesses want to have a nice business and follow the rules,” Jones said.

## Stephen Bohlen earns degree in architecture from Lawrence Tech Univ.

Stephen Bohlen of Belleville graduated May 10 at Lawrence Technological University’s 82nd Commencement Exercises.

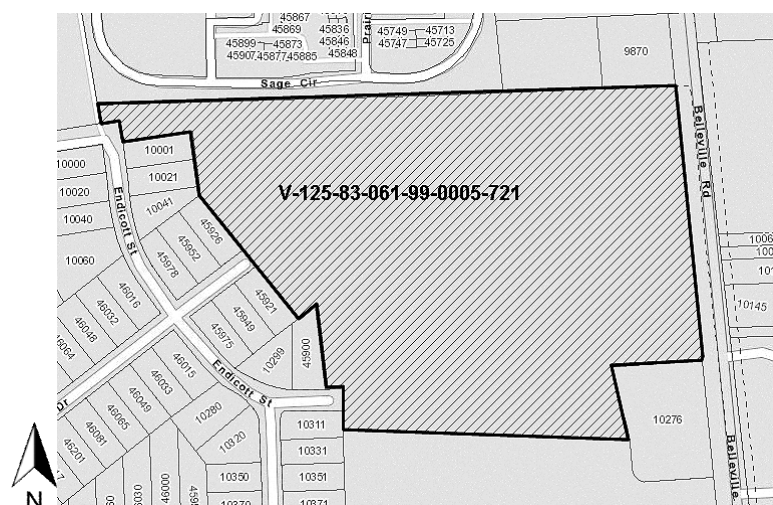
Bohlen was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Architecture, UG Cert. in Bldg. Information Modeling.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a Special Land Use request on the following described property.

Parcel number V125-83-061-99-0005-721, which is currently vacant, is the subject of this hearing. The site is approximately 27.24 acres and is located in the C-2, Extensive Highway Business Zoning District. This site is located on the west side of Belleville Road between Tyler Road to the north and I-94 to the south:



The applicant, Menard, Inc., is requesting approval for the development of a retail building with outside storage of supplies. Outdoor storage of supplies is a Special Land Use in the C-2 District, and requires a public hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with Section 13.03 (Permitted Uses With Special Approval) of the Zoning Ordinance.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m., the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting to request accommodations.

Posted: August 1, 2014  
Published: August 7, 2014

## City of Belleville Public Notice

### CITY OF BELLEVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A NEW SIGN ORDINANCE Chapter 66 of the Code of Ordinances



The City Council for the City of Belleville will conduct a public hearing on August 18, 2014 beginning at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the agenda will permit. The hearing will be conducted at the City of Belleville City Hall, located at 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from the public on the adoption of a new sign ordinance that will replace the sign ordinance in its entirety. The proposed sign ordinance employs a more logical organizational structure and contains additional graphic representations of sign regulations, designed to make the sign ordinance easier to understand and more user-friendly.

A draft copy of the sign ordinance is available for review at City Hall during regular business hours 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The draft copy may also be viewed at the City’s website, <http://www.belleville.mi.us>, anytime prior to the hearing. Written comments may be submitted in person at City Hall or mailed to the City of Belleville, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111 prior to June 18, 2014 meeting. Oral comments will be taken during the public hearing.

Lisa Long,  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish Date: August 7, 2014



# Officer Brooks

(continued from page 1)

by VBT Lt. Kenneth Floro.

The responding VBT police personnel received information that the suspect vehicle was a black Dodge Ram and the vehicle was traveling northbound on Belleville Road.

VBT police located the Dodge Ram truck and performed a traffic stop on the vehicle, Lt. Floro said. The officers learned at that time that the driver of the Dodge Ram was an off-duty Romulus Police officer.

Lt. Floro said additional officers made contact with the complainant and initiated an investigation. Officers on the scene conducted a preliminary investigation, obtained written statements, and forwarded the incident details to the investigative division.

The VBT Detective Bureau conducted a follow-up investigation and, a week later on June 5, forwarded a warrant request to the Wayne County Prosecutor.

Lt. Floro said he personally took two

warrant requests to the prosecutor's office on June 5 and the other request was quickly denied. The one for Brooks was not signed by the prosecutor's office until late on July 30, almost eight weeks later.

"There are a number of things that have to be done before we can make a charging decision," said Miller in explaining the delay of the prosecutor's office.

"It is certainly no secret that the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has been devastated by Mr. Ficano's cuts and failure to replace staff," she said referring to County Executive Robert Ficano.

"The Public Integrity Unit that reviews these cases has recently lost four attorneys, all without any replacement. There are currently only two APAs [assistant prosecuting attorneys] in that unit for the entire county. This causes a delay in the work that can be done," Miller said.

When asked why VBT didn't call in the Michigan State Police to investigate because the accused's parents both worked in the VBT police department, VBT Director of Public Safety Greg Laurain explained.

"The incident occurred in Van Buren Township and was phoned in to Van Buren Township dispatch," Director Laurain wrote in an email on June 13.

"Officers were in the vicinity of the incident, and responded immediately. Officers obtained statements, and all parties were interviewed.

"No related parties have been involved in any way with the investigation," Director Laurain continued.

"Had the incident involved a Van Buren Township officer, Michigan State Police would be handling the investigation; but as this individual is an officer of another jurisdiction, we conducted the investigation which has been turned over to the prosecutor in Wayne County for review."

*Diane Madigan also contributed to this report.*

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



# VBT lawsuit

(continued from page 21)

(file suit)."

Taylor said the contract expired in 2010 and there have been unsuccessful efforts to meet with the county. Now that the law suit has been put forth, now the county wants to meet.

"No one wants litigation," said Trustee Reggie Miller.

Taylor said the sewer system attorneys, the county attorneys, and other attorneys were due to meet on July 18.

"Our attorney will convey if there is an indication of moving forward," Jahr said.

In other business at the July 15 regular meeting, the board:

- Approved extension of the 2014 Summer Tax bill without penalty through Tuesday, Sept. 30;

- Approved the 2014 tax rate request of .9144 allocated millage and 4 mills extra voted millage for a total of 4.9144 mills. The resolutions said the taxable value of the township (real and personal property) has a value of \$954,621,814 and the tax amounts to \$4,691,393;

- Adopted a resolution approving the Senior Alliance 2015 Annual Implementation Plan for Aging Services;

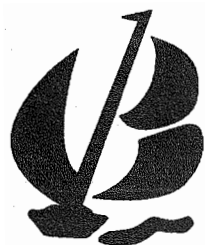
- Approved the application for Farmland Development Rights Agreement from William and Thomas Budd for land at 42500 N. I-94 Service Drive, with Treasurer Sharry Budd not voting or participating in the discussion because she is married to William. Those with Farmland Development Rights are eligible to claim a credit against their state income tax liability. Additionally, the township and other governmental agencies are prohibited from imposing special assessment on the land. Local tax revenues are not impacted by the Farmland agreement;

- Approved joining the MI WARN (Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network) Mutual Aid Agreement for Public Works Departments, as recommended by DPW Director Jim Taylor. Membership, which is without cost, provides the township with access to additional resources to respond to both FEMA and non-FEMA events;

- Approved purchasing a parcel of tax foreclosed property at 51352 Old Michigan Avenue, which is being offered by the Wayne County Treasurer by paying the taxes due of \$5,782.16. The vacant site holds a water pit connection box to Detroit water for which the township has no easement to access, so the site is a good buy for the township. Two other proposed sites at 10001 Endicott Street (\$8,842.84), right behind the future Menards site, and 40731 Edison Lake Road (\$33,766.25), an industrial site next to French Landing Park, were discussed at the work/study session on July 14 and found not to be suitable for purchase by the township; and

- Heard Tim King give an update on his mission to get the state government to pass legislation to fund a memorial for Willow Run Bomber Plant and the people who worked there to help win WW II.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



### Charter Township of Van Buren

#### ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111-5217  
(734) 699.8946 • Fax (734) 699.8952

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP HALL 46425 TYLER ROAD

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing in conjunction with the Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 to consider the request for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate pursuant to Act 198, Michigan Public Acts of 1974, as amended for NEAPCO Driveline, 6735 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Following is the described parcel:

Part of: V125-83-002-99-0026-704 described as:

\*01U1A3,--V2B1B2\*PT OF THE SW 1/4 OF SEC 1 T3S R8E DESC AS BEG S 01D 31M 58S E 667.45 FT AND S 89D 39M 33S E 60.02 FT FROM W 1/4 COR OF SEC 1--TH N 01D 31M 58S W 314.72 FT--TH S 89D 39M 41S E 230.38 FT--TH N 01D 31M 58S W 234.46 FT--TH S 89D 39M 41S E 0.15 FT--TH N 01D 31M 58S W 118.27 FT--TH N 89D-39-41S W 0.15 FT--TH N 01D 30M 47S W 424.75 FT--TH N 89D 39M 41S W 230.38 FT--TH N 01D 30M 47S W 540.43 FT--TH 87D 46M 03S E 1292.36 FT--TH S 01D 55M 43S E 1023.45 FT--TH S 89D 39M 41S E 6.26 FT--TH S 01D 54M 06S E 315.55 FT--TH S 01D 05M 54S W 351.87 FT--TH N 89D 39M 33S W 1292.49 FT--45.44 AC-K-45.44

Written comments may be forwarded to the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

Leon Wright, Clerk  
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: August 7, 2014  
August 14, 2014

# Postmaster says ‘North Service Road’ not a valid delivery address

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Belleville Postmaster Timothy C. Inman said if Wayne County changes the common name of the I-94 Service Drive to I-94 Service Road, that is not a valid delivery address for the post office.

Postmaster Inman said he would have to create the change in the national database and until somebody tells him to do so, he won't do that.

Postmaster Inman said just changing it would screw up the post office's sorting procedure.

But, he said, if it actually is being changed, he could make it so that both Road and Drive would work in an address.

Inman said the Michigan map that the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce hands out shows them to be called Drives, not Roads.

Last week, Susan Gohl, a motorist who uses her GPS to find addresses for deliveries, sent the *Independent* a picture of the new sign on the I-94 North Service Drive that now called it a Road. She said using Road with the address gives her another location in a completely different city.

The new name would have out-of-town folks getting the wrong directions from their GPS systems, she said.

Meanwhile, Susan Ireland, executive director of the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, sent the *Independent* a news release last Thursday.

“Interestingly, ‘Expressway’ and ‘Service Drive’ are NOT the official names of the ROADS that run parallel to Interstate 94,” Ireland wrote.

“When the lighted signage was placed on the new traffic mast arms, it was thought that a mistake had been made; however, NO, the signs are in fact correct,” she wrote.

“According to Wayne County, the official names of the ROADS that run just north and south of I-94 are **I-94 North Service Road** and **I-94 South Service Road**. Isn't that interesting?

“If you drive down both Service Drives, with the exception of three road signs at the eastern end of the Township, all the smaller road signs say Service DRIVE.

“When this was brought to the County's attention, it was indicated that as signs along the North or South Service ROADS becomes unreadable or destroyed, they will be replaced with the correct legal name,” Ireland wrote.

At first, the DDA director announced the “wrong” names on the mast arms would be covered up. But then, she discovered they were the “right” names, afterall.

“Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on or by imbeciles who really mean it.”  
Mark Twain

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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

MURRAY'S GENERAL SERVICE. Commercial & Residential Lawn Care. Licensed & Insured. Hauling. (734) 325-6062 8/14

## Two Belleville residents arrested in Ohio for \$12,000 of heroin in car

LUCASVILLE, Ohio -- A Michigan man and woman face felony drug charges after Ohio State troopers say they found an estimated \$12,000 in heroin in their car during a traffic stop, according to a report by WSAZ television.

The driver, Ericka N. Glover, 39, and passenger, Darius D. Boyd, 40, both from Belleville, MI, are charged with possession of heroin and drug trafficking. Troopers stopped their car along U.S. 23 near the 12-mile marker about 6:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1.

Both remain in the Scioto County Jail.

## VBT Board holds closed-door session on lawsuit by John Day

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At 4 p.m., July 28, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees went into a closed-door session to discuss a law suit brought by Belleville attorney John Day of the office of DiPietro & Day.

The law suit, #13-03254, concerns a Freedom of Information Act request from Day that was denied by the township.

The board also was to discuss union contracts in closed session.

**The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ [bellevilleareaindependent.com](http://bellevilleareaindependent.com) Read The Newspaper On The Web!**

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

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## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

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

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Work close to home assisting persons we serve in their homes in the Wixom & Novi communities. \$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits.  
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## HELP WANTED

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

DIRECTOR needed for a child care center. Must meet licensing requirements. Part-time 30 hours a week. Send Resume to email: [ofcdc111@gmail.com](mailto:ofcdc111@gmail.com). 8/7

CNA'S. Full and Part-time. Call (734) 259-8620. 8/7

BODY MAN and PORTER. Burhop Collision. Mon-Fri., 8am-5pm. Pay based on Experience. (734) 699-3641 8/14

DRIVERS: CDL-A Lots of Money & Miles! 100% Hands OFF Freight. Run Newer Equipment & Get Home more often. (855) 219-4838 8/28

DRIVERS: Local Delivery Openings! \$3,000 Sign-On Bonus! Average \$55-\$60,000/yr! Paid Holidays, Vacation! 2 yrs Class-A CDL. Call Penske Logistics: 1-(855) 971-7416. 8/14

## HELP WANTED



# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## BHS CLASS OF 1962

ATTN: BHS CLASS OF '62. Casual get together at Van Buren Park, Sept. 6, 11am. Bring your own picnic lunch & drinks, etc. See you there - tell all your classmates. Donna Hyde Collins, Alyce Curry, Donna Dickinson Renton, Peach Januszyk Williams, Pat Curtis Wilson 8/7

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, August 8-10, 9am-4pm. Snow Blowers, Tools, etc. 10404 Quirk Rd. (between Tyler & N. I-94 Service Dr.) 8/7

AUGUST 7, 8 & 9, 10am-4pm, 46265 Bemis (between Sumpter & Elwell). Women's clothes, Model Cars (50's-70's), Collectibles, 1940 Fridge, Misc. 8/7

AUGUST 8, 9 & 10, 8am-9pm. 50981 Wear. Thomas Wooden Train Set & Table, Easel and variety of items. 8/7

AUGUST 7-8, 10am-?, August 9, 10am-3pm. 11132 Quirk. Baldwin Piano W/Bench, China, Books & records, lots more. 8/7

TWO FAMILY. August 8 & 9. 9am-5pm. 5915 Big Pine Court, Ypsi off Textile between Rawsonville & Whittaker. Household items, clothing, variety of everything. 8/7

## FOR SALE

LIVING ROOM Tables, Juicer, Samsung Galaxy III, Sickle, Electric Edger, Electric hedge trimmer, Gas weed eater, Post hole digger, Golf pull cart, digger, Best Offers. (734) 516-0600 8/7

FORD 302 COMPLETE ENGINE \$250 OBO. Mark (734) 697-4578 8/7

BOAT FOR SALE. 1997 Four Winns Fling Jet Boat W/Trailer. 115 horse OMC motor. \$2,500. In the water on Belleville Lake. (734) 516-5962 8/7

ALL GOOD CONDITION: (2) Roto Tillers - both Rear Tine; (2) Snow Blowers (24" & 22"), Canning Quart Jars, Treadmill-full size; Lane Cedar Chest - 63 Years Old; Desk-42x22"; JCV Color TV W/Stand. Call (734) 461-6347 8/7

HOOP HOUSE/Green House, 30 x 96 ft., Never Used, still in boxes, \$2,500. (734) 649-6316 8/14

SAND FILTER, 1hp Pump & Motor for Kayak Pool, In Pool Ladder. ALL \$175. (734) 697-3508 8/14

"You can observe a lot just by watching."  
- Yogi Berra

## FOR SALE

ELECTRIC SCOOTER, New Batteries, Refurbished. Will carry 350 lbs. \$400 OBO, Call (734) 502-8321 8/14

SHORE STATION BOATLIFT for Pontoon. Located on Belleville Lake - \$500 you take out - \$650 I bring to you. (734) 796-3009 8/21

POWER MOBILITY Scooter. 3 wheel. Good Condition & new batteries. \$300 (734) 699-0772 8/21

EIGHT TICKETS for One Direction Concert - August 17 at Ford Field. Lower Bowl - \$130 ea. (734) 307-6955 8/14

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

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2000 CHEVY JIMMY, 2 door. Dependable. Runs Good. \$1,200 OBO. Call (734) 833-3522 8/21

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YELLOW TABBY named Bella. Approx 7 years old. Spayed - all declawed. (734) 697-7448 8/21

## FOUND

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"A body of men holding themselves accountable to nobody ought not to be trusted by anybody."

- Thomas Paine

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SELL YOUR BOAT, Jet Ski, Canoe, etc. on August 21 during Taste of Belleville. Units must be clean. Call (734) 697-6971 8/7

## LOST

MISSING SINCE May 21. 6 year old orange tabby male cat named Charlie. All declawed. I-94 S. Service Drive Area - REWARD. (734) 699-5997 8/14

PLAIN GREY FEMALE COCKATIEL with some white under both wings flew out into Belle Villa Condo Complex on July 8. She is pretty nice. Call Linda (734) 699-2266 8/21

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

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Expires October 31, 2014

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

- Mark Twain

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

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# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected calls for VBT Police.*  
**Sunday, July 27:**  
0054 – ATV/ORV complaint, Hannan Rd.  
0159 – disturbance, Rawsonville  
0323 – assault & battery, Brookside Dr.  
0545 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0550 – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0918 – Personal Protection Order violation, Haggerty Rd.  
1028 – hospice, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1053 – malicious destruction of property, S. Adams  
1200 – suspicious vehicle, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1208 – assault & battery, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1309 – malicious destruction of property, Arthur  
1418 – assault & battery, Bog Rd.  
1603 – breaking & entering, Lake Point Blvd.  
1819 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Manor  
2011 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.  
2056 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.  
2321 – ATV/ORV complaint, Morton Taylor Rd. / Van Born Rd.  
**Monday, July 28:**  
0011 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Dewitt Rd.  
0217 – disturbance, Parkwood Dr.  
1220 – harassment call, W. Archwood Dr.  
1221 – fraud, Jackson St.  
1257 – assault & battery, Arthur St.  
1412 – suspicious person, Belleville BP  
1413 – malicious destruction of property, Sumpter  
1525 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Cir.  
1658 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.  
1658 – narcotics crime, N. Woodbury Dr.  
1929 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville  
1950 – juvenile complaint, Chaney Ave.  
2013 – noise complaint, Arthur St.  
2019 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk Rd.  
2353 – operating while intoxicated, CVS  
**Tuesday, July 29:**  
0130 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0155 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0631 – larceny, Maurice Dr.  
1517 – mental, Barkley St.  
1741 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.  
1941 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd./Van Born Rd.  
2115 – disturbance, Parkwood Manor  
2225 – felony assault, Parkwood Dr.  
2315 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.  
**Wednesday, July 30:**  
0330 – breaking & entering, Parkwood  
0728 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.  
0813 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0940 – assault & battery, S. Woodbury Dr.  
1129 – malicious destruction of property, Tyler Rd  
1209 – assault & battery, Maple Dr.  
1218 – assault & battery, Belleville  
1306 – juvenile complaint, Tyler Rd.  
1323 – private property accident, Tompkins St.  
1325 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1340 – fraud, Pinewood Ln.  
1522 – larceny from auto, E. Archwood Dr.  
1526 – intimidation threat, Denton Rd.  
1636 – suicide or attempt, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
1652 – intrusion alarm, Milton Dr.  
1704 – assault & battery, Brandi  
1720 – larceny, Oak Blvd.  
1725 – retail fraud, Rawsonville  
1731 – noise complaint, Greylock  
1746 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.  
1841 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1847 – mental, Bak Rd.  
1903 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service/rest area  
2057 – fireworks, Morton Taylor Rd./Tyler Rd.  
**Thursday, July 31:**  
0227 – assault & battery, Arthur St.  
0320 – fraud, Belleville  
0604 – assault & battery, Arthur St.  
0832 – mental, Patty Ln.  
0904 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0909 – private property accident, Westlake

1429 – sexual assault, Kirkridge  
1528 – disturbance, Maple Dr.  
1720 – private property accident, N. I-94 Service  
1809 – assault & battery, Willow Way  
1822 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.  
1838 – fight, WB I-94/rest area  
**Friday, Aug. 1:**  
0003 – disorderly conduct, Old Denton Rd./ Denton Rd.  
0003 – larceny, Oak Blvd.  
0652 – shots fired, Hoeft Rd.  
0821 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Denton Rd.  
0841 – private property accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0901 – private property accident, Van Born  
0922 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1013 – missing person, McBride Ave.  
1155 – fraud, Rolan Meadows Dr.  
1410 – disorderly conduct, Lohr Rd.  
1419 – harassment call, Sylvia Dr.  
1637 – trespassing, Haggerty Rd.  
1736 – intimidation threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1855 – juvenile complaint, Maple Dr.  
2245 – retail fraud, Belleville  
2308 – assault & battery, Rose  
2322 – property damage accident, Belleville  
**Saturday, Aug. 2:**  
0055 – suspicious situation, Parkwood Dr.  
0055 – assault & battery, Bemis Rd./Lohr Rd.  
0203 – disturbance, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service  
0247 – felony assault, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0253 – suspicious situation, Sandy’s/dam  
0449 – noise complaint, Ash Dr.  
0940 – fraud, Martinsville Rd.  
1008 – larceny, Lighthouse Dr.  
1122 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1508 – hospice, Wildbrook Dr.  
1519 – juvenile complaint, Denton Rd.  
1602 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.  
1618 – juvenile complaint, Reene Dr.  
1644 – intimidation threat, Amanda Dr.  
1837 – personal injury accident, Belleville/I-94  
1946 – disturbance, maple Dr.  
2152 – disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2249 – bomb threat, Rawsonville  
Also on this week’s log are 146 traffic stops, with 22 of them on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

# Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, July 27:**  
1155 – assault & battery, Main St.  
1414 – follow up, Denton  
1651 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.  
2308 – domestic assault, Potter  
**Monday, July 28:**  
0843 – all other traffic, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.  
1711 – parking complaint, N. Liberty St.  
2232 – traffic complaint, Victoria commons  
**Tuesday, July 29:**  
0902 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.  
1324 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.  
1342 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
1742 – all other traffic, Aberdeen Ct.  
2153 – assist fire dept., Bayou  
**Wednesday, July 30:**  
0051 – noise complaint, Loza Ln.  
0204 – suspicious situation, Loza Ln.  
0231 – information, Main St.  
0257 – vehicle repossession, Loza Ln.  
0659 – traffic complaint, Main St./Columbia Ave.  
0856 – agency assist, Sumpter  
1012 – intimidation threat, Main St.  
1543 – misc. complaint, Main St.  
1544 – domestic assault, Main St.  
1730 – noise complaint, Greylock St.  
2001 – parking complaint, Carmell St.  
**Thursday, July 31:**  
0617 – parking complaint, Carmell St.  
0743 – vehicle lockout, Belle Plaza  
0804 – follow up, Henry  
1247 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.  
1415 – found property, N. Liberty St.  
1418 – motorist assist, South St.  
1518 – overdose, Loza Ln.  
1739 – personal injury accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Bay Pointe Dr.

2144 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. / Carmell  
2310 – animal complaint, Victorian Ln.  
**Friday, Aug. 1:**  
0008 – disturbance Carmell/Belle Villa Blvd.  
0137 – warrant arrest, Main St.  
0817 – prisoner transport, S. Wayne Rd.  
0954 – intrusion alarm, W. Wabash Ave.  
1250 – larceny, Main St.  
1451 – malicious destruction of property, Main St.  
1550 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.  
1658 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
1726 – parking complaint, Andrew’s  
1732 – malicious destruction of property, Horizon  
1829 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.  
2148 – operating while intoxicated, N. Liberty St.  
2151 – suspicious situation, Belle Villa Blvd.  
2244 – follow up, Belle Villa Blvd.  
**Saturday, Aug. 2:**  
0100 – suspicious situation, Belle Villa  
0210 – suspicious situation, Henry St.  
0821 – suspicious person, Horizon Park  
1101 – E-911 hang up/investigation, W. Columbia  
1343 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.  
1927 – larceny, Loza Ln.  
2033 – intimidation threat, Main St.  
2101 – animal bite, Potter Dr./Loza Ln.  
2143 – civil matter, Loza Ln.  
2305 – suspicious person, Estrada/Belle Villa  
Also on this week’s log are 24 traffic stops.

# Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, July 27:**  
0015 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz/Clark  
0041 – assist other agency, Oakville Waltz/Clark  
0105 – operating while intoxicated, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0325 – suspicious incident, 8500 bl. Meadow Springs Dr.  
0615 – suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
0747 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1122 – suspicious vehicle, Bemis/Lohr  
1705 – threats complaint, Timberlane  
1755 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Willow  
1916 – mental health commitment, 50000 bl. Judd  
1946 – alarm, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1950 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Kozma  
2349 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.  
**Monday, July 28:**  
0119 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
0738 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0821 – fraud complaint, New Mexico  
0956 – larceny, Iowa  
1119 – assist other agency, Rustic Ln.  
1424 – suspicious incident, Wyoming  
1434 – suspicious person, Carriage Ln.  
1437 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1511 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1536 – ordinance violation, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.  
1900 – fraud complaint, Rustic Ln.  
1914 – suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
2217 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2351 – suspicious vehicle, 8500 bl. Meadow Springs Dr.  
**Tuesday, July 29:**  
1121 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Dunn Rd.  
1232 – breaking & entering report, Birch Dr.  
1246 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1420 – suspicious incident, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1649 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.  
1725 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2328 – assist other agency, out of township  
**Wednesday, July 30:**  
0219 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1113 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1204 – suspicious incident, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1211 – fire dept. assist, Birch Ct.  
1241 – citizen assist, Greenmeadow  
1351 – ORV complaint, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1505 – death investigation, 49000 bl. Collyer Ct.  
1855 – neighbor dispute, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
**Thursday, July 31:**  
0148 – assist other agency, Clark/S. Huron Rd.  
0215 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0301 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0543 – well-being check, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.

1011 – alarm, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1203 – alarm, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1320 – fire dept. assist, Walnut  
1652 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1753 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1854 – well-being check, New Mexico  
2006 – neighbor dispute, 10000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2054 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2209 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
2332 – fight, Greenmeadow  
**Friday, Aug. 1:**  
0957 – fraud complaint, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1141 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1315 – suspicious incident, Sherwood/Arkona  
1433 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1435 – reckless driver complaint, 44000 bl. Harris  
1746 – assist other agency, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.  
2258 – family trouble, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
**Saturday, Aug. 2:**  
0035 – harassment complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
0105 – assist other agency, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
0744 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.  
0925 – assist other agency, Rawsonville/Willow  
0953 – assault, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1254 – warrant arrest, 5000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1309 – ORV complaint, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1724 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1732 – alarm, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1955 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2349 – citizen assist, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
Also on this week’s log are nine follow-up investigations, 31 miscellaneous details, 113 patrol checks, and 56 traffic stops.

*Court Watching:*

# Circuit Court Judge Van Houten resets White’s final conference

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

The final conference for disbarred Belleville attorney Thomas A. White, before his Nov. 3 jury trial, has been moved from Aug. 8 to Aug. 15 before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Margaret Van Houton.

White, 46, has 20 felony charges pending against him concerning his treatment of clients of his law firm. Although the charges started as two cases, Judge Van Houton consolidated the cases in May.

His defense attorney is Michael Vincent. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor on the case is Daniel Williams.

Judge Van Houton gave the defense and prosecution extra time to go over the three, five-inch binders of bank records and noted that both parties will need to use a forensic accountant.

Judge Van Houten said a two-to-three-week trial will be needed.

Prosecutor Williams said they will need a long time because, “This is a criminal enterprise” and a considerable amount of money is involved. He told the judge there would be 50-60 witnesses if the cases go to trial.

Official charges in what was the first case, filed Sept. 6, 2013, are uttering and publishing, larceny by conversion - \$20,000 or more, embezzlement, and two counts of identity theft.

In White’s second case, which was filed Dec. 18, 2013 charges are one count of conducting a criminal enterprise and 14 additional counts of embezzlement.

White is accused of stealing an estimated \$11 million from widows, families, and estate beneficiaries.

He practiced law in an office across Main Street from Belleville City Hall for 20 years.



## Birthdays

Aug. 7 -- Janet McArthur, Gary Marshall  
 Aug. 8 -- LeRoy Paige, Shana Tooley, Carol Welhouse, Vasa Jordon, Kathy Briggs  
 Aug. 9 -- Maria Holmes, Kelly Wells  
 Aug. 10 -- Barbod Aghili  
 Aug. 11 -- Claudia Roullier, Mareck Thompson  
 Aug. 15 -- Mary Talaga  
 Aug. 16 -- Nastaran Shokoohi, Phillip Miller

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

## Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan  
 Animals Rescue  
**"HOGAN"**



We guarantee you can't go wrong with **Hogan** if you're looking for a fantastic new addition to your home. **Hogan** is a 6 1/2 year old male that is sure to please. His attractive marble patterned orange and white coat is ever so soft and its shorter length makes for low maintenance in the grooming department. He keeps his slinky, long figure in shape by staying quite active and playful for a slightly older guy, no overweight kitty here! **Hogan** has a mild-mannered, playful personality and is often eager to make friends with new people and cats alike. He loves attention and anyone wanting to give him a good pet or scratch behind the ear is more than welcomed. If **Hogan** sounds like what you're looking for give us a call to meet him, we are sure you will find him as charming as we do. **Hogan** is neutered, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. Call Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue at 734-461-9458 or visit our website [fmar1.org](http://fmar1.org) for more info.

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## Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Aug. 7, through Saturday, Aug. 9** – The Wayne County Fair continues through Saturday. The big livestock auction starts at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.
- **Thursday, Aug. 7** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Blue Steel (Big Band). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- **Friday, Aug. 8** – The Air Show ground parade in Belleville starts around 6:30 p.m. from Victory Park. The parade is made up of World War II military vehicles from the U.S. and Germany with re-enactors in uniform. Also, 21 war birds are planned to fly over during the parade.
- **Friday, Aug. 8** – The Salvation Army Rummage Sale runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 9451 S. Main Street in Plymouth. Rent a table or space and sell your own stuff for \$20. Proceeds help support the senior group "Older N Wiser." Information: (734) 453-5464, ext. 24.
- **Friday, Aug. 8** – Friends Family Drive-in Theater FREE Movie Night at dusk, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road, at Bemis, in Ypsilanti. "Theo: God's Desire" and "A Letter for Joe." It's "Faygo Remembers Night." Information: (734) 482-5074.
- **Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10** – The 2014 Baltia Airlines Thunder Over Michigan Air Show will be held at Willow Run Airport featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. The grounds are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a variety of activities besides the air show.
- **Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10** – The BHS Tiger Football Booster Club is collecting scrap metal in its main fund raiser for the upcoming season. The drive is from noon to 5 p.m. and the collection box is on Davis Street, behind St. Anthony's and near the BHS parking lot. Information or big-item pick up: (734) 787-0054.



**Hours:**  
 Monday - Saturday 6am - 10pm  
 Sunday 7am - 9pm

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