



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 23.18 Thursday, May 4, 2017 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

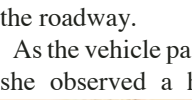
Sumpter Twp. Police arrest four in home invasion

On Saturday, April 29, at about 3:40 p.m., officers from the Sumpter Township



Woods reported.

When the police officers got to the home, the female homeowner/victim explained that she arrived home to find an unrecognized vehicle parked in her driveway. As she approached closer she observed three subjects wearing masks exit her front door. The three got into the vehicle, driven by a fourth subject, and began fleeing towards the roadway.



Karo

Huron Township officer and subsequently stopped on I-275 in Monroe County. All four occupants were arrested and several items inside the vehicle were identified as stolen from the victim's residence.

Police Department were dispatched to a residence in the 27000 block of Sumpter Road on report of a home invasion with a shot fired at the homeowner.

According to a news release by Sumpter Police Chief Eric Luke, the following was

Officers also found a .45 caliber handgun, which had been reported stolen from a residence in the 47000 block of Wear Road on Thursday, April 27. During a search of the vehicle, a spent .45 caliber cartridge was found, giving credence to the victim's report of being fired upon.

The case was presented to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Officer and charges were issued on three of the suspects, as the fourth was a 15-year-old juvenile and was petitioned to the juvenile court system. The three adult suspects were arraigned May 1, in the 34th District Court on the following charges:

Deantwuan Rayshawn Woods, 20, of Ypsilanti has been charged with assault with intent to murder, home invasion – first degree, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), weapons-firearms-discharge from vehicle, and weapons-felony firearm (five counts).

Armani Lavel Chivas Karo and Jamelle Johnathon Devon Belton, both age 18 of Ypsilanti, has each been charged with home invasion-first degree.

Probable cause conferences for the three are scheduled for May 10 at 34th District Court, with the preliminary exams set for May 17. They were being held on bond in the Wayne County Jail.

Supervisor McNamara: Ecorse could be runway for self-driving cars

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

With the American Center for Mobility getting under way at Willow Run at the west side of Van Buren Township, the VBT Downtown Development Authority is looking for ways to tap into the project.

(continued on page 19)



Bryan Walters was named Volunteer of the Year at the September Days Senior Center in Van Buren Township. At right is Senior Director Lynette Jordan who praised Walters for always being there to help when needed. He comes to the center at 8 a.m. and is a great volunteer, she said, calling Bingo and doing many other services. He was honored for his ten years of service at the April 27 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.



Belleville High School's 2017 Distinguished Graduates posed for a photo during the meal served in their honor at BHS on Friday. At left is Bernard Hovey, class of 1965, and at right Jill Devers, class of 1982. In the center is Sharry Budd who was present to accept the posthumous honor for her husband, the late Bill Budd, class of 1960. Myra MacPherson, class of 1952, who was to be honored had to send her regrets because of health concerns.

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SECOND FRONT PAGE



Members of the Belleville High School Varsity Soccer team show off their new backpacks donated by Atchinson Ford in Van Buren Township. At left is Coach William Cline and at right are Craig Atchinson and Mike Sylvestre of Atchinson Ford. Members of the team are Jordan Kelly, Erika Nofz, Shawn Broadhurst, Colleen McCurtis, Gabrielle DeLibera, Amanda Greene, Alyssa Clark, A'Nya Griffin, Michelle Eau Claire, Lauren Marshall, Ashlynd Griffith, Madison Marshall, Mallyn Ward, Kaitlyn Fujii, Kyra Key, Kat Santavy, Bella Sylvestre, Kekenzi Guice, Brooke Sperr, and Katie Byrd. "The sport of soccer has been very good to the Atchinson family," said Medina Atchinson in explaining the donation. "Soccer and other sporting events keep kids busy, build confidence, teamwork and help shape our future leaders. Atchinson Ford loves this community and giving back. Play with confidence, Tigers!"

City of Belleville holds two meetings to discuss special assessment dist.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Last week the Belleville City Council held two special meetings at the Belleville High School cafeteria to discuss a proposed special assessment district for Harbour Pointe residents to fix their streets.

At the end of Thursday's almost two-hour special meeting, Beth and William Hutter said they would circulate a petition among the 95 property owners to see how people feel about paying to upgrade the almost one mile of roads in the subdivision.

The city provided a proposed petition for the petition circulators to consider.

Attorney Tom Colis of Miller Canfield said they needed to get at least 60% of the property owners to sign for the SAD to proceed. Later in the meeting he said 57 signatures were needed.

Kari Blanchett of PFM Financial Advisors and John Hennessey of Hennessey Engineers also were on hand to offer their expertise.

Mayor Kerreen Conley explained there was an overall citywide assessment of city roads by Hennessey in 2015 and they found that Harbour Pointe had the worst roads in the city. The council held a meeting last December on the overall assessment. It was estimated it would take \$10 million to tackle all the road problems in the city and the city doesn't have the bonding capacity to get that money.

Breaking the work up into areas for special assessment districts was one option.

Mayor Conley, who lives in Harbour Pointe, did not take part in the discussion

because she had a vested interest. Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria was absent, so Councilman Tom Fielder led the discussion.

Work to completely replace the concrete streets is estimated at \$1.6 million to \$1.7 million.

Hennessey said the the problem is Alkali-Silica Reactivity (ASR), common with streets constructed in the 1990s and early 2000s, that is caused by materials used in the concrete. Reaction became present several years after construction. Deterioration begins at the joints. In the industry, this is called "cancer of the joints," Hennessey said.

He said his recommendation is not to treat the symptoms, but to remove and replace the affected areas.

Complete removal and replacement of the streets would give 30-40 years of life expectancy, but there would be 60-90 days during construction where the residents couldn't drive on it. Cost is estimated at \$1.6 to \$1.7 million.

Joint repair and asphalt overlays would have a life expectancy of 8-15 years, while the underlying concrete continues to deteriorate. Hennessey said the base of the streets is very good. Cost is estimated at \$1 million to \$1.1 million.

The third option, concrete crack repairs, has the lowest cost and the shortest construction time. Regular maintenance would be \$30,000 every three to five years and it is not aesthetically pleasing, he said. Cost is estimated at \$900,000 to \$1 million.

Different options were discussed.

The recommended option for complete removal and replacement is estimated at a total of \$10,089.47 per property owner or payments per year for 10 years of \$1,121.05 with an estimated 4% interest.

When a property owner sells his house, the assessment needs to be paid off, Blanchett said.

Eric Luke, a property owner who is also the police chief for Sumpter Township, said he will have to pay 30-35% more each year for this.

"Is this the way the city is going to do business going forward?" he asked.

Councilman Fielder said someone came to the council asking for repair of roads and the council sought every option possible.

He referred to the provision that if changes are made to a petition once it is presented to the council that the council, on a 4-5 vote could proceed with the original petition.

"It's not the intention of this project: Whether you like it or not we're going to do this... It's naïve to think if they don't want it we'll do it anyway ... It's improper of the government to do it anyway," he said.

A property owner asked if the city would share some costs and if some of the Public Act 51 funds could be used.

"That's open to discussion," Fielder said. He said they can use the funds for actual construction, but most is used for snow removal and other maintenance.

"It's certainly worth discussion," Fielder said.

The property owners were irritated that they had to pay for the engineering, phase 1 of the project, whether or not the project

proceeds.

Fielder said the funds in the general fund comes from all the people in the city.

"Can the city be considered an entity that benefits from this?" asked planning commissioner Mike Renaud, who also lives in Harbour Pointe.

"If the city's not willing to commit to this, it's silly for us to commit," Renaud said. "They're not our roads."

Another property owner said roads will continue to deteriorate in the city and the entire city will have poor streets. She asked if there is something to do as a whole city to solve this problem.

Blanchett said the city has a limitation on its legal debt, which is \$5 million, and that could be put on the ballot. It would take \$10 to address all the roads, Hennessey said.

Attorney Colis said a city is different than a township. A city has a 20 mills limit and it's been rolled back. He said Belleville could do a Headlee override, which would bring in 1.5 mills, \$40,000 a year more. He said the debt limit is 10% of the State Equalized Valuation and the city already issued \$5 million. It could add another \$5 million.

He noted the SEV in Belleville has gone down.

"This is a lien on you," Luke said of the SAD. "This doesn't have a chance of passing. It doesn't go with the house."

Attorney Colis said it's no different than a property tax.

A man in the audience said a lien has to be cleared.

(continued on page 9)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Four special men keep woman from drowning in lake

Although they didn't seek the spotlight, we think the men who saved a woman's life deserve our thanks.

Last Friday, at about noon, a woman in her 70s, who had a recent surgery, was sitting in the passenger seat of a Chevrolet Equinox when her grandson got out of the vehicle. They were at Sandy's Marina on Belleville Lake and somehow the vehicle was not in park and slipped into the lake, head-first.

Kevin Gillespie and Shawn McKelvey raced down the dock to help the woman and were able to grab her arm and hold her above the water until they were almost out of strength. The car was pressed to the dock and had turned so the passenger window was against the dock.

Then, Van Buren Township fire fighters Ken Floro and Daniel Walter arrived and helped the two pull her out of the window. She is a large woman and it wasn't easy.

None of the rescuers got wet, said VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain, who also arrived at the scene. The VBT dive team did get in the water to help secure some straps so J&T Towing could lift the car from the lake. The car had floated at first and then sank. Some docks were destroyed.

It took a lot of teamwork to save a life and we applaud all those who were there and willing to do what it took. Although there were aerial videos shown on television news, no one named the heroes. Now we can thank them by name.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

John of Sumpter Township said a man called him last Thursday. He wanted to come out to his house to fix his computer. John is 85 and he doesn't have a computer. He told the man that and hung up. He thought our readers might be interested in his story, in case they get a call like that as well.

Ross Medos of Willis said he got a message on his telephone answering machine from the IRS saying a warrant had been issued for his arrest and the sheriff will come out and get him. The message accused him of committing fraud against the IRS.

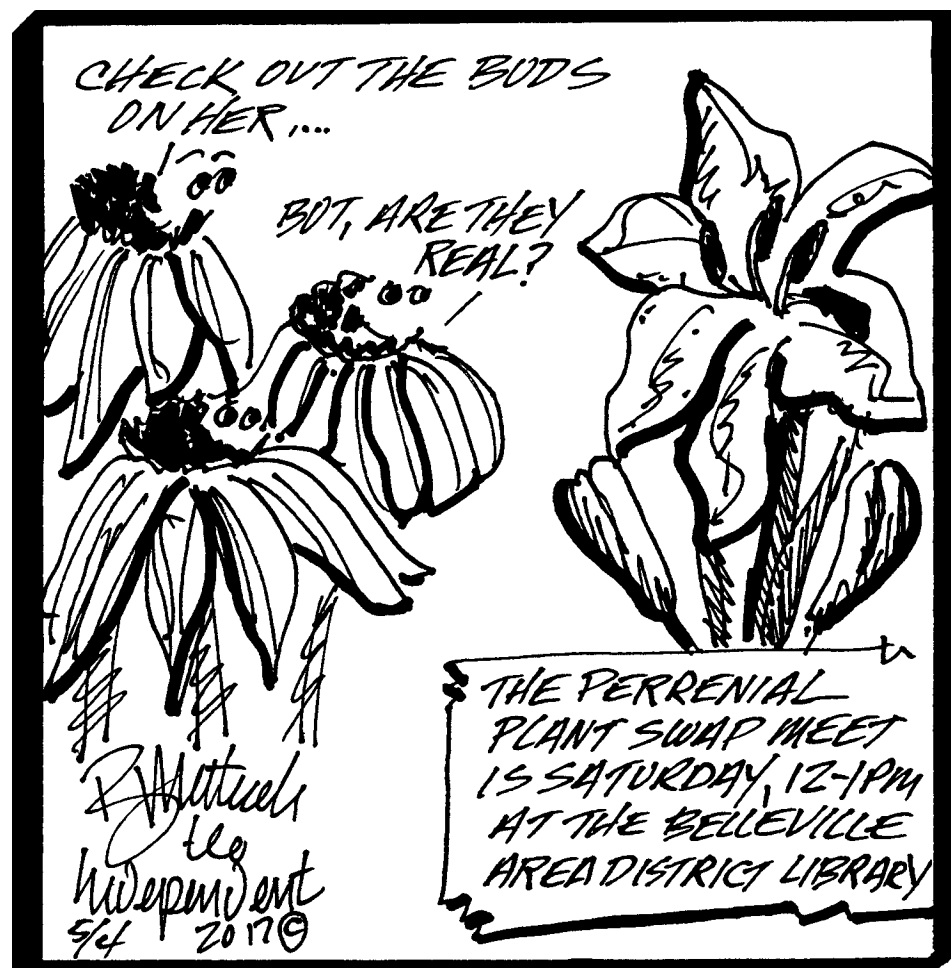
He said he knew the IRS didn't call people up on the phone, but sent any notices needed by mail. He knew it was a scam, but he thought telling about the call might help those who are frightened by a call from the IRS.

Ross said some people might send them money because it is so scary to have what they think is the IRS mad at them. It's not real. It's a scam.

I like to suggest people call their local police department and tell it about the call. The police are sure to tell them it's a scam. Sometimes they tell the person to call the *Independent* to share the report.

A resident of Walden Woods called to tell me he thought that it was wrong to have \$90,000 of school money used to help pave McBride Road. He said he pays his school taxes with the idea that his money is being used to help students learn, not build a road.

Also, he thought it was unfair to Walden Woods. Last year, Walden Woods paid 20%



of the cost of some repairs to roadways in its subdivision and the Wayne County grant paid for 80%. The grant is offered on an 80-20 split.

He said the property owners on McBride will only be paying 10% because the school approved the \$90,000 amount. Not fair, he said.

Keith Bruder, who has been a part of the Belleville Rotary Club's Charles Cozzad Foundation since it began, was interested in the story we had about defibrillators being purchased for the VBT Hall.

He said he remembers in April 1992 when three people came to the Rotary to ask for money to buy three defibrillators for the tri-community: Van Buren Township Fire Chief Al Smolen, Sumpter Township Fire Chief Les Powell, and Belleville Fire Chief Tony Talaga. When Rotary asked how soon the defibrillator had to be used to save a life, the fire chiefs said it was 4-5 minutes. The Rotary thought that since it was so far from one end of the townships to the other that Van Buren and Sumpter should have two each. Belleville got one.

The Rotary bought five defibrillators for \$5,000 each, a total of \$25,000. He said he's sure they've all been replaced by more advanced models by now.

He recalled in 1995, the Rotary paid \$5,000 for a VBT fire rescue boat for the lake and subdivision retention ponds. In 1998, Ralph Nodwell came for a donation for his Smoke


House and the Rotary donated \$20,000 for that. That was for training children in the tri-community on fire safety.

On Tuesday, I talked to Rob Corbett, DNR case manager for the property just north of the Belleville Bridge on the lake. He said he has yet to see the application for the property from Van Buren Township because it is making its rounds through the DNR departments. He said the property was purchased in 1986 with DNR Trust Fund dollars from Roy Stabnau in order to have public outdoor recreation there. He said the DNR attempted to develop it but at the time the township gave so much opposition that the DNR shelved its plans.

He said they got two applications from the library and the first one was declined. He said the DNR had purchased it for passive recreation and a fire barn, library, or township hall didn't fit in with their goal of making the lake more accessible.

When the library said it would contribute additional property, by buying the house to the east, and develop the library and passive recreation along the shoreline, the DNR accepted the proposal. But then voters turned down money for the project. I'll check back with him in a few weeks.





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Letters

Vote NO for SAD in Harbour Pointe Sub.

To the Editor:

Let me repeat: "Please vote NO for any proposed SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT (SAD) for Harbour Pointe Subdivision.

There is an old saying that "a failure to plan is a plan to fail." This is exactly what our esteemed city council has accomplished: a profound plan to fail!

Once again, the city council has demonstrated its inability to govern by a total lack of forethought and a vision to adequately manage the city-owned streets. What they are proposing is, "sorry that we failed to save any money (for the past 25 years) to repair the streets, instead please accept this 'invoice' for a minimum of \$7,144.69 and a maximum of **\$36,580.46**. (estimated and subject to increase or decrease)."

This also bears repeating: **THE CITY MAY SEND HARBOUR POINTE RESIDENTS AN INVOICE FOR UP TO \$36,580.46**. Don't worry, they will also offer a 10- to 15-year payment plan at 4 to 4.5% interest!

Apparently, this "special assessment" is yours to keep and you will be responsible for paying it in the event of a home sale.

By the way, how do you think *future* repairs will be funded? Perhaps another SAD 15 years from now?

City council: Do your job! Either identify and secure county/state/federal funding or assess ALL property owners for city streets.

VOTE NO ON SAD for Harbour Pointe Subdivision.

Jeffrey Harris
250 Harbour Pointe Drive
24-year resident of Harbour Pointe subdivision

Detroit News did wish 'Happy Easter' to all

To the Editor:

This is in reference to Ruth Bleeker's letter to the editor in the April 20 *Independent*. She mentioned that she had cancelled her subscription to *The Detroit News* since the newspaper had failed to wish everyone "Happy Easter" in its Sunday edition of *The Detroit Free Press* and *The Detroit News*.

As I was preparing my papers for recycling this week, I happened to notice the *Free Press* front page of the Easter Sunday edition. I'm afraid Ruth Bleeker was sadly

mistaken when she stated that they had omitted the traditional greeting because there at the top of the front page, directly next to the caption "Sunday Free Press" were brightly colored Easter eggs and on one blue egg were the clearly visible words in bold type, "Happy Easter."

Maybe she should re-subscribe to the newspaper and apologize for her critical remarks to both newspapers. Clearly, both Detroit newspapers are not concerned about being politically correct! Also, she may want to apologize to all those who may have cancelled their subscriptions at her urging!
A concerned citizen who would like to set the record straight!

Editor's note: The letter writer, who asked that her name be withheld, included with her letter the clipped-off top of the Sunday Free Press with the bright Easter eggs and the "HAPPY EASTER" greeting.

Thank you, community, for your support

To the Editor:

Recently, the City of Belleville Fire Department held a Dine & Donate event at Egan's Pub. Thanks to the many community supporters it was a huge success.

Because of the generosity of the Belleville-area community, the fire department was able to raise enough money not only for the defibrillator, but for other much-needed equipment not within this year's budget.

The BFD is humbled by the amount of support displayed at this event. We would like to send out a big Thank You to those who came out and supported us. It was a fun-filled evening with raffles and prizes.

Thank you to Jennifer and John Winter and the wonderful staff at Egan's Pub for hosting this great event and to the City of Belleville Fire Auxiliary for their help and participation in making it a success.

The Belleville Fire Department

Thank you to Belleville Police Department

To the Editor:

I just wanted to extend a thank you to the Belleville Police Department. I recently received a phone call that was scam, however, the person became very vulgar towards me.

My fiancé advised me to give the police a call since I was home by myself and he was worried. They were so sweet on the phone and even sent an officer over in a matter of minutes. He explained what the callers are usually looking for and then kept making sure I was all right.

I appreciate all that you do for our city, the big and the little!

-Jessica S., Belleville

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— Yoda




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Obituaries

Alfred O. Brendtke

ALFRED O. BRENDTKE
(July 9, 1939 - April 23, 2017)
Alfred O. Brendtke of Mecosta, MI, went to be with the Lord on Sunday morning, April 23, 2017 at his home with his wife and son by his side.
Born on July 9, 1939 to the late Albert and Vera (Cook) Brendtke of Belleville, MI. Mr. Brendtke attended Belleville High School in Belleville, MI, and served his country in the Navy. On June 13, 2013 he married Dawn Marie Jenkins of Romulus, MI. He was a member of the Steadfast Baptist Church in Mecosta, MI.
Al is survived by his wife Dawn; children: Jay Chad Brendtke (Amber) of Belleville, MI, and Stephanie Yannella (Chris) of Stockbridge, MI; grandchildren: Jacob Paul and Alysse Brendtke of Belleville, and Zabrina, MacKenzye, and Brenden Yannella of Stockbridge, MI; siblings: Gertrude Bogyske, Ed (Becky) Brendtke, Cal (Barb) Brendtke, Alvera (John) Linfield, Grace Ann (Ed) Publiski, Gary Brendtke, Jerry(Sue) Brendtke.
He was preceded in death by his parents, his late wife Pamela, a granddaughter, Emmi-Rose Yannella; siblings Maria Jean Gonyaw, Gladys Wojcie, Edna Holton, and Elinor Wojciecowski
A memorial service was held on April 16 at 4 p.m. at the Steadfast Baptist Church in Mecosta, MI. Pastors Mark Tolosa and J. Chad Brendtke officiating.
A second memorial service was held on Sunday April 30, 2017 at 1 p.m. in the Maranatha Baptist Church, 6250 Gilmore, Belleville, MI 48111. Pastor Jay Chad Brendtke and Dr. Paul D. Bostwick officiating. A luncheon followed the service.

RANDY JAMES FIELDS
(September 2, 1959 - April 30, 2017)
Age 57 of Westland. Survived by 4 children, 2 grandchildren, 3 sisters. Memorial service at 11 a.m., Thursday, May 4, at Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel. Visitation 3-8 p.m. Wednesday. www.janowiakfuneralhome.com

DAVID ALAN NOEL
(March 17, 1958 - April 14, 2017)
Age 59 of Ann Arbor. Survivors include his father Richard Noel and sister Bonnie Noel, both of Belleville. Private family service will be held. Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel www.janowiakfuneralhome.com


PAULINE MARGARET DAWSON
(May 20, 1919 - April 28, 2017)
Age 97, mother of William (Lena) Dawson, Rick (Mary Jane) Dawson of Belleville, and Mary Ann (Scott) VanCuren. Memorial service set for 6 p.m., Sunday, May 21, David C. Brown Funeral Home, (734) 697-4500.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

More Obituaries on page 8



Bessie Elizabeth Stiver

BESSIE ELIZABETH STIVER
(January 25, 1930 - April 18, 2017)
Bessie Stiver, age 87, of Belleville, MI, passed away on Tuesday, April 18, after a brief stay in hospice. She was born in Bedford, PA to Harry and Louise Bridenthal.
She was preceded in death by her husband Edward Anthony Stiver, several brothers, and a sister. She is survived by sisters June (Vernon) Wright and Ruth (Donald) Jamison, children Ronald (Terri) Stiver, Alan (Anne) Stiver, Elaine (Brian) Smith, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.
Bessie spent most of her adult life in Belleville. She loved spending time with her family and friends. Her favorite place to go was Sam's Place in Belleville, formerly known as the Red Apple Restaurant. She loved going to garage sales. She liked listening to music and loved to laugh. She loved watching birds and couldn't wait to tell you when she saw her first robin of the season. When she was younger, she used to love to yodel and sing. She was very kind and giving and loved to smile and laugh.
A special thanks to all the staff at Henry Ford Allegiance Hospice in Jackson, MI. The care given to our mother and family was outstanding. There will be a celebration of life for Bessie on June 3, 2017 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Brecon Village Memory Support Center, 101 Brecon Drive, Saline, MI 48176. Any donations should go to Henry Ford Allegiance Hospice Home in Jackson, MI.



Jean Wenderski

JEAN WENDERSKI
(April 8, 1928 - April 7, 2017)
Jean Wenderski of Newport, MI, passed away at Belle Fountain Nursing Center, Riverview, MI, with her loving family by her side. She was born in Sumpter Township to the late Frank and Josephine Yaczemski Dunayczan. Jean started working at Kroger's on Main Street in Belleville in 1942. After three years she went to work at Midwest, also on Main Street, where she worked for five years. After marrying her husband Edward they moved to Detroit where they raised their three children. She returned to work at Kroger's, retiring after 25 years of service. Jean loved to crochet and spend time with her grandchildren.
She is survived by her children Edward (Lynn) of Newport, MI, Diane Goul of Idaho, and Joseph (Robin) of Bellingham, WA. Also five grandchildren, one brother John Dunayczan (Ginny) of Vero Beach, FL, and nieces, nephews, and friends.
She was predeceased by her husband Edward; sisters Stella Golka, Frances Korgal, Sophie Gorney, Helen Ostrowski; and brothers Joseph, Walter, and Edward Dunayczan. Cremation rites have been accorded.

More Letters

VBALL opening day ceremonies are Saturday

To the Editor:

The signs of spring are here. Tulips are blooming, robins are chirping, and baseball is back in the D.

This also means it's time for the Van Buren Area Little League to start playing. Saturday, May 6, is the Opening Day Ceremonies for VBALL starting at 9 a.m. at Beck Fields and all are welcomed to attend the festivities.

This is a special year because it marks the 60th year that chartered Little League has been established in the Belleville Community and VBALL has been selected to host two state tournaments: The Boys Intermediate (50/70) Tournament and the Girls 9/10 Softball Tournament.

We will have 16 teams from across the State of Michigan competing for the State Title this coming July. We will be looking for several volunteers to help out with the tournaments, so if anyone is interested please stop by the concession stand at the fields and let a VBALL board member be aware of your desire to help.

We are also looking for donations or help to get some field improvements completed before the July tournaments. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

We strive to keep our fees low, yet still try to maintain a safe and well-maintained facility for all the players. We are also taking donations of old and gently used gloves and/or cleats that we display allowing families in need to pick a pair of cleats or a glove at no charge. You can drop these donations off at the concession stand anytime.

Come on out on Saturday and see all the players in their uniforms march down McBride to Beck then into the complex where the ceremonies will commence. It's a fun time for all!

Marc Littleson
VBALL president

"I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots."
— Albert Einstein

Obituaries



JAY ROBERT CHESBRO

(February 27, 1939 - April 28, 2017)
Age 78, died unexpectedly at home in Belleville. Survived by wife Gwenn, three stepchildren, six grandchildren. Memorial Mass 11 a.m. Thursday, May 4, at St. Stephens Church, New Boston.

Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel

Day of Prayer May 4 at Free Will Baptist Church

To the Editor:

National Day of Prayer

May 4, 2017

Belleville Free Will Baptist Church
750 E. Huron River Drive

We will open the church building from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for everyone who wants to join. On every hour we will pray. We hope you will join us. Throughout the day, whether at the church or in your own personal time, we hope you will pray with us.

"For Your Great Name Sake - Hear Us ... Forgive Us ... Heal Us"

Jodi Meade

Belleville Free Will Baptist Church

Safety hazard: Electric cars run in silence

To the Editor:

Every year, thousands of children are killed or seriously injured because a driver backing up didn't see them. A back-over incident typically takes place when a car is backing out of a driveway or parking space.

In the U.S., at least 50 children are being backed over by vehicles EVERY week. More than 60% of these incidents involve a larger-size vehicle. Tragically, in over 70% of these incidents, a parent or close relative is behind the wheel.

But the new threat is hybrid vehicles, which run nearly silent on electric batteries making them quieter than the sound of human breathing – at 3 decibels vs. 10 decibels for breathing.

As a pedestrian, I've had four close calls in local store parking lots. One car touched me! And, yes, these people were on their phones, too!

Although Michigan doesn't yet have a law prohibiting phone use, a driver who becomes distracted by using a cell phone,

and commits a traffic violation, could be charged with careless driving.

Michigan defines distracted driving as any non-driving activity that takes the driver's eyes away from the road while behind the wheel of a moving vehicle.

Texting and driving is illegal in Michigan and this includes reading, typing, or sending a text message on any electronic device. Some municipalities have local ordinances banning the use of cell phones, as well. The City of Troy has gone even further, prohibiting any activity that may distract a driver from the roadway. This is not just limited to cell phone use, but can include eating, grooming, reading, etc.

Until the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) adds safety features, such as back-up warning lights or beepers (like on commercial vehicles), please teach your children to be aware of this silent threat. And, if you drive one of these vehicles, please be more responsible and attentive.

Karen Nolan
Belleville

St. Jude's Novena answered my prayer

To the Editor:

Re: St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world. Now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day for nine consecutive days. By the eighth day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail.

Resident of Columbia Court, Belleville

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Shelby Wilson earns Master's degree in Clinical Psychology at EMU

Shelby Wilson of Belleville recently graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Master of Science degree in Clinical Psychology.

Wilson is a 2011 graduate of Huron High School, New Boston, where she was class valedictorian, and a 2015 honors graduate from the University of Michigan – Dearborn, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

While attending EMU as a grad student, Wilson also taught an undergraduate psychology lab.

In 2016, she presented her research at the American Psychological Association annual convention in Denver, as well as in Portland, OR earlier this year.

In addition to taking classes at EMU, Wilson has also worked as a research assistant for a hearing study at the University of Michigan, as well as at an internship at Par Rehabilitation in Lansing, where she will continue to work after graduation.

She is the daughter of Lena and Michael Wilson and granddaughter of Mickey and Linda Widener of Van Buren Township.

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Special assessment

(continued from page 3)

Colis agreed that a bank is going to want to take it out.

"The bank won't fund a mortgage," Renaud said.

Luke said they are just asking for driveable road.

Fielder asked Realtor Glenn Silvenis about the lien.

"It has to be paid off," Silvenis said. "No bank would mortgage it." He questioned the city's number of 95 parcels in the subdivision when there are 94. Also the city owns two parcels, one in front and one in back, he said.

A property owner asked about time limits on the petition.

Hennessey said you have to start now to hit this construction season. But, he said, most projects are designed in the winter and bid for start in the spring. If it's later than that, costs will go up 3-9%.

DPW Director Rick Rutherford said

deterioration of the roads is pretty progressive.

Fielder said road in Belleville were first paved in the 1950s and those old roads are in good condition. He said the roads in Harbour Pointe and Victoria Commons were done in the period when the concrete was not done properly.

Renaud said he noticed during the West Huron River Drive paving that they dug down and put a black goo in.

Hennessey said that adheres to the side walls of deteriorating areas. He said he could talk to Rutherford about that.

"It wouldn't look good, but it would work," Rutherford said.

Luke asked for average special assessment districts for roads across the state and Hennessey said they were high, with some from \$25,000 to \$28,000 per household.

Luke said there is a slim chance that this would pass if the city comes up with better numbers.

"We can't get detailed numbers until the detailed engineering is done," Hennessey said, referring to the \$500 to \$600 per household it would cost.

"Sounds like a scam ... Pay me the money first," Luke replied.

A man in the audience asked if they could get council meetings televised since the council chamber is so small.

Fielder said the video club at the high school wanted \$35,000 to \$40,000 to use their camera and students to televise the meetings a few years ago when they checked.

Belleville Council votes to share cost of engineering for roads

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, the council voted unanimously to pay a minimum of \$30,000 of the \$60,000 engineering costs the Harbour Pointe property owners would have had to pay upfront to get more exact costs for the special assessment district to fix their roads.

The council also agreed to share 50% of the cost not to exceed a total of \$40,000.

But, that wasn't necessary, since petition carrier Beth Hutter, who had volunteered to collect signatures to start the SAD, announced that she and her husband William have found that, "None are in favor of moving forward with the petition."

The 94 properties in the subdivision were asked to pay the cost of from \$1.6 million to \$1.7 million in roadwork.

Hutter asked the council to form a committee made up of residents and city officials to discuss the city's road problem and come up with ideas on what to do.

Hutter noted the city has funding limitations and people at Harbour Pointe don't want liens on their homes.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said she doesn't think the city ever would not want to hear from the residents. She suggested the city administration and DPW director Rick Rutherford form a subcommittee.

Mayor Conley said they will be looking at other alternatives at the next council meeting.

"It's certainly open to dialog," Conley said. "Leave it open to discussion."

Planning Commissioner Mike Renaud said until Main Street is paid off in 10 to 12 years, the city has no money for an upgrade of city streets.

While the city has no debt, the Downtown Development Authority has bonds it is paying off for upgrading Main Street and water lines. The DDA's debt limits the city's ability to bond to \$5 million and the city streets upgrades would amount to an estimated \$10 million.

"I wondered why [the council] renewed

the DDA for another 30 years," Renaud said. He said the DDA life should have been limited.

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

- Introduced the current 1953 ordinance on Special Assessments with a recommendation to have attorney Tom Colis make suggestions for updates. A man in the audience said they should not waste the money on the off chance the city will need it. Mayor Conley said the ordinance is not just for Harbour Pointe. "This ordinance is 64 years old," she said;

- Approved Strawberry Festival policies without changes. These were the policies presented in February. They were turned over to City Manager Diana Kollmeyer for review and not brought back until now. Joan Bodnar of the festival said she asked for them to be on the agenda since the festival is just a few weeks away and they want to know everything is in place;

- Approved holding the annual citywide yard sales on the weekend after Labor Day; and

- Heard a 20-minute, PowerPoint presentation by Ron Akers on the newly approved Van Buren Township Lake Shoreline Ordinances. Akers, director of planning and economic development at the township, said he is at the city meeting because they want to be good neighbors and treat the city residents well. He suggested the city may want to formalize the township ordinance or treat it in some other way. He said if a city resident wants to build a dock, the city should refer the resident to the township for guidance. Councilman Tom Fielder said the city should check with its legal counsel to make sure it meets its legal obligations in this matter.

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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Dr. Yvonne Craiger of Sumpter Pet Care will be holding her final one-day dog vaccine clinic this Sunday, May 7, from 1 to 4 p.m. at her location at 19435 Sumpter Road across from Sumpter Ace Hardware. No appointment is necessary. Shots start at \$15. See her ad in today's paper.

The Wayne County Fairgrounds will be holding a Taco Dinner fund raiser this Saturday, May 6 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds on Quirk Road. Dinners are \$12 and the proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the fairgrounds. There will also be a Chinese raffle and a 50/50 drawing. Call (734) 697-7002

Grille Kings are a mobile BBQ & catering company in Belleville that is available for graduation parties, reunions, picnics, weddings, etc. Call (734) 502-2325 or (734) 497-1704.

The Huron Valley Conservation Association will be holding its annual flower sale on Saturday, May 13, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chase Bank parking lot in downtown Belleville. Call Joe Nellis (734) 646-2201 or Kris Matthew (734) 646-3763.

Doug Dalton Auctioneer returns with his monthly Estate Antique Auction Friday, May 5, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Romulus Progressive Hall on Ozga Road. A sample of items include duck decoys, fishing collection, and hundreds of books. See his ad in today's paper and visit www.dougdaltonauctioneer.com for lots of photos.

The fish truck is making its first appearance of the season next Tuesday, May 9, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Willis Feed Mill in Willis. Fish for pond stocking include catfish, largemouth bass, red ear, bluegill, minnows, black crappie and Koi, if available. To place an order, call 1-870 578-9773.

St. Stephen's Church in nearby New Boston is getting ready for its 69th Annual Spring Polish Festival, May 19-21. Activities include Polish food and music, craft show, carnival rides, kids' games, petting farm, and more. Visit www.ststephenfestival.com for hours and music lineup. Sixty-nine years is a lot of perogies.

A used book sale and the annual perennial plant swap will take place this Saturday, May 6, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Call (734) 699-3291.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter will be holding pet adoption clinics next Saturday, May 13, at the Pet Emporium on E. Stadium Street in Ann Arbor and on May 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Petco Pet Store on Warren Avenue across from Westland Mall. Call (734) 461-9458.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, May 4** – 66th-annual National Day of Prayer gathering at noon at Victory Station in Victory Park at Five Points in Belleville. Prayer and Thanksgiving for our nation and our elected officials, as well as our First Responders -- Police and Firefighters.

• **Thursday, May 4** – Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr., opens its doors from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., inviting people to come in and join in the Day of Prayer. They will be praying on the hour.

• **Thursday, May 4, and Friday, May 5** – September Days Senior Center Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township.

• **Saturday, May 6** – Perennial Plant Swap from noon to 1 p.m. in the Belleville Area District Library Courtyard on the corner of 4th Street and Charles. Bring your plants to exchange.

• **Saturday, May 6** – Friends of the Library BOGO (Buy One, Get One) Used Book Sale from noon to 3 p.m. in the program room of the Belleville Area District Library. Preview sale for members of the Friends of the Library is 11 a.m. to noon.

• **Saturday, May 6** – The Smithsonian Institution's traveling "Mail Call" exhibit opens at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit will be at the museum through Aug. 6.

(continued on page 20)

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Friends of Library set Plant Swap, Book Sale Saturday

The Friends of the Library are hosting two events on Saturday, May 6, at the Belleville Area District Library.

A Perennial Plant Swap will take place in the Library Courtyard at the corner of 4th Street and Charles from noon to 1 p.m. Bring your plants in small, labeled containers to exchange. In case of rain, the swap will take place under the covered porch at the library entrance.

Master gardeners will be available for questions and gardening hints. Participants will receive goodie bags and door prizes from local nurseries and businesses.

The Friends will also be holding a Used Book Sale on Saturday, from noon to 3 p.m. in the program room of the library. Books will be "Buy One, Get One Free." There will be a members-only preview sale from 11 a.m. until noon. Membership applications will be available at the door.

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Andy Davidson from Berean Baptist Church in Van Buren Township won several awards at the annual Junior High MACS (Michigan Association of Christian Schools) competition last Friday. He took two firsts and a second in preaching categories, second in violin solo, and two third place awards in photography, and participated in some group activities.

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May 6th, 2017 at 5:30 pm

\$12.00 per dinner

All proceeds go to the upkeep of the
Wayne County Fairgrounds,
a Nonprofit organization

Where: 10871 Quirk Rd., Belleville, MI
Phone: 734.697.7002

Birthdays

May 1 – Jenny Niemann Genimatas
May 6 – Terri Morioka
May 9 – Marilyn Locke
May 10 – Tiffany Marie Boyer
May 12 – Verlinda Hinton

Do you have a birthday in May? 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.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, May 8 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education regular meeting, 7 p.m., Belleville High School Commons
- Tuesday, May 9 – Van Buren Township Senior Center Endowment Committee at 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Finance Authority, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 10 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 11 – Keystone Academy Board of Education, 6 p.m., Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission at 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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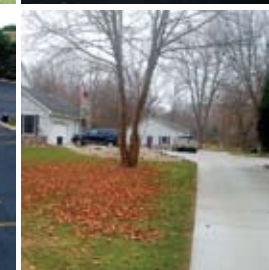
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- Why simply taking thyroid medication may not impact your condition.
- What Really Works to improve your condition. Safely. Healthfully!

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK "RAVEN"



Senior sweetheart **Raven** is such a gentle soul looking for her fur-ever home. She is 10 year old Coonhound mix that came to us very underweight and we have been working hard to add some pounds to her lanky frame. Despite hunger and whatever else she endured prior to coming to us from animal control she has been the sweetest of sweet with all she meets. Being a hound mix, she will need adequate time to sniff outdoors but since she's a senior dog her energy level is lower. A few nice outside strolls a day is all she needs. **Raven** is a total love and really just a very precious dog. We understand that many people are not looking to adopt a senior dog due to their limited time but if you have it in your heart to give this girl a home for her golden years we think you will be glad you did. She is affectionate, doesn't need a lot of exercise and will warm your heart with her gentle disposition. Give **Raven** a chance to be your best friend for however many years she can and you'll find the memories with her will be the sweetest ones at that. **Raven** is spayed, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

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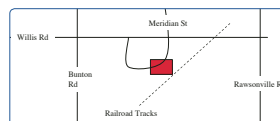
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Sumpter Country Fest announces annual Cutest Baby Contest

The Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission announces its 2017 Cutest Baby Boy and Baby Girl Contest on Memorial Day week end, May 26-29, as part of the annual Sumpter Country Fest.

The contest is open to residents of Sumpter and surrounding communities. Babies from newborn through three years of age are eligible.

To enter a child, submit a picture up to 5x7 inches in size with an application form to Sumpter Township Hall, Attn: Baby Contest, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 461-6201. Applications are requested as soon as possible, but no later than May 22.

Applications are available at the township hall and at numerous business places throughout the area, including the office of the *Belleville-Area Independent*, 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville 48111.

If you have questions about the contest or would like to have an application form mailed to you, call Virginia Belinski at (734) 461-6630.

Notice for Seniors

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Beltone, the MOST TRUSTED NAME IN HEARING AIDS, wishes to test a remarkable new hearing instrument in the area. This offer is free of charge and you are under no obligation. The revolutionary 100% Digital instruments use the latest technology to comfortably and almost invisibly help you hear more clearly. This technology solves the "stopped up ears", "head in a barrel" sensation some people experience, and has been clinically demonstrated to improve hearing in noisy environments. If you wish to participate, you will be required to have your hearing tested in our office FREE OF CHARGE to determine candidacy.

A limited number of qualified seniors are needed to try this product. NO PURCHASE is necessary, however you may purchase Beltone Legend™ Technology at a reduced rate.

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Sumpter Country Fest 2017 Car Show

Sunday, May 27

Noon to 3:00 p.m., Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville

Contact: Margaret Rochon (734) 699-5275

Entries are \$5 each

Trophies presented to winner of each class:

1. Muscle Car
2. Antique
3. Classic
4. Street Rod
5. Street Machine
6. Sports Car
7. Truck
8. Motorcycle

First 25 entries receive dash plaque. People's Choice Award presented. Door prizes! Registration 10 a.m. to noon.

Chapman trial is Friday

James Forrest Chapman's Wayne County Circuit Court jury trial on charges of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer and refusing or resisting providing a DNA sample is now set for May 5 before Judge Margaret Van Houten.

Chapman, 57, of Van Buren Township, had a jury trial under way on the charges in October and a mistrial was called Oct. 27 by the judge following a health problem in the jury room and the entrance of a VBT police officer to help.

The trial was then set for Jan. 23 and now it has been reset for May 5.

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Constellium to open new aluminum plant in White, Georgia

A grand-opening celebration and plant tour of Constellium's new automotive aluminum manufacturing plant in White, GA, will take place May 11, with remarks by Georgia Governor Nathan Deal and Constellium CEO Jean-Marc Germain.

The Constellium Automotive Structures plant will help to meet the growing industry demand for lighter-weight vehicles.

Constellium Automotive USA is located at 6331 Schooner Drive in Van Buren Township. Constellium makes aluminum lightweight auto parts and has a contract

with Ford Motor Company to make crash management systems for its F-150 aluminum pickups.

A Constellium executive told the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees the engineering is fairly sophisticated and there are more robots moving in the shop than people.

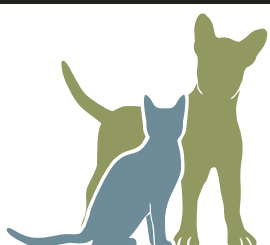
Constellium executives and subject matter experts will be available May 11 to address the new plant and its products, the company's continued growth, advanced aluminum solutions, and trends to address light-weighting, improved safety, and thermal management, etc.

Constellium Automotive Structures specializes in advanced aluminum automotive structural, safety, and thermal management applications – for niche to high-volume vehicles, and entry-level to luxury segments.

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ESTATE SALE. May 19, 20 & 21, 10am-4pm. 10756 Granby Lane, off Rawsonville in Augusta Woods. No reasonable offer refused. 05/18

DRUMMAGE SALE. St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia. Fri, May 19, 8am-4pm & Sat, May 20, 8am-2pm. 05/18

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— Albert Einstein

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AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on May 6, 2017 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

L-537, Denise Henrickson-McFay; N-810 & S-960, Terry Booth; P-785, Jeremy Poe; P-770, John Bartush; G-476, Mona Salisbury; L-508, Jennifer Beaudry; C-114, Latese Walls; J-606, John Spencer; L-501, Lisa Clark; N-813, Michelle Meredith; D-155 & E-215, Joyce Price; I-403, Kimberly Boldin; T-978, Stephen Salisbury; K-657, Shunya Cleveland; R-922, Andrea Randle; M-586, Nicholis Adams Jr.; F-272 & J-614, Stephen Kantos; T-969, T-970 & H-376, Thomas Martin

Publish: April 20, 2017; May 4, 2017

NOTICE OF AUCTION

For Michigan State Police

AT J&T CROVA TOWING

287 Industrial Park Dr.

Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 699-0584

Wednesday, May 10 at 9 a.m.

Year	Make/Model	VIN
2003	Cadillac Deville	1G6KD54Y63U123621
2001	GMC Jimmy	1GKDT13W512157516
2000	Ford Escort	3FAKP1137YR190366
2004	Chevrolet Trailblazer	2GNET16P346128301
2007	Mercury Montego	1MEHM42157G607693
2000	Ford Taurus	1FAFP53U2YG181998
1998	Buick Lasabre	1G4HP52K0WH449663
1999	Ford Taurus	1FAFP53UXXA308739
2007	Pontiac G6	1G2ZH35N874140682
2000	Cadillac Deville	1G6KD54YXU314868
1994	Toyota Corolla	1NXAE04B3RZ223877
1999	Lincoln Continental	1LNHM97V3XY640272
1999	Mazda 626	1YVGF22C2X5823777
1994	Ford F-150	1FTEF15YXRLA65474
1993	Mercury Grand Marquis	2MELM75WXPX607279
2016	Honda Civic	19XFC1F82GE002712
2000	Jeep Cherokee	1J4FF48S0Y1137529
2002	Pontiac Grand Prix	1G2WK52J32F163589
2002	Chevrolet Trailblazer	1GNDDT13SY22238500
1995	Chevrolet Suburban	1GNFK16K0S316960
2012	Harley Davidson 1200	1HD1CT313CC400900
2001	Ford Crown Vic	2FAFP71WX1X126862
2003	Saturn Ion	1G8AJ52F73Z137415
2003	Dodge Caravan	2D4GP44LX3R323457
2006	Chevrolet Malibu	1G1ZT51F56F292662
2001	Oldsmobile Alero	1G3NL52T71C249574
2004	Mitsubishi	JA3AJ26E444061736
2003	Dodge Neon	1B3ES56C03D216914
2004	Hyundai Elantra	KMHDN46D34U851983
2005	Kia	KNDUP131256651304
2001	Chrysler PT Cruiser	3C8FY4BBX1T654550
2009	Dodge Caliber	1B3HB48A49D237177
1999	Ford Ranger	1FTYR11V6XPB96598
1997	Pontiac Bonneville	1G2HX52K8VH202074
2003	Pontiac Grand Am	1G2NW12E63C255181
2001	Hyundai Elantra	KMHDN45D21U198091
2008	Ford Crown Vic	2FAHP71V18X174809
2002	Toyota Camry	4T1BE32K12U561390
1999	Ford Ranger	1FTYR10C5XPB89366
2008	Saturn Vue	3GSCL53788S693452
1998	Buick Century	2G4WS52M4W1566401
2002	Dodge Stratus	1B3EL36X72N106617
1991	Lexus LS400	JT8UF11E5M0091531
2000	Oldsmobile Intrigue	1G3WH52H3YF112156
2006	Chevrolet Cobalt	1G1AK15F367881013
2000	Mercury Grand Marquis	2MEFM75W8YX607098
2005	Dodge Caravan	1D4GP25R15B201689
1999	BMW 5 series	WBADP633XXBY22153
1998	Ford Crown Vic	2FAFP71WOWX186155
1997	Chevrolet Monte Carlo	2G1WW12M4V9111154

Publish: May 4, 2017

Sumpter Senior Center honors volunteers at township board meeting

Sumpter Senior Center Director Mary Ann Watson honored volunteers at the center during the April 25 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees. Then she honored them again at the Senior Center the next day with ice cream and cake.

"It takes a team to run the Senior Center," Watson told the township board. "Many duties are done by volunteers, from watering plants, decorating at Christmas, helping others, and we appreciate all."

"At this time I am honored to announce our volunteers for outstanding dedication to Sumpter Township Senior Citizens," she said.

For Meals on Wheels delivery, preparation and cleanup, thereby servicing over 50 clients daily: Christine Wenderski, 12 years; Jackie McKenzie, five years; Paulette Thompson, seven years; and Joe Wilson and Joe Watkins.

Serving the congregate meal at lunch time, assisting with the preparation of the Focus Hope TEFAP program, thereby servicing over 60 clients monthly: Karen Mickens, Lettie Sanders, Dee Patterson, Beverly Powell, and Leona Mixon, who's been volunteering for 30 years.

Training and planning and implementing the Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, thereby servicing over 15 clients weekly: Virginia Belinski, three years.

Assisting with Homebound Focus Hope delivery and weekly shopping trip, thereby servicing over 20 seniors weekly: Margaret Rochon, seven years.

Monthly blood pressure screening: Sharon Romanos, R.N., three years.

Bingo caller twice monthly servicing 12 clients, with set up: Bonnie Rish, five years.

She also honored Jewel Butler, who has been leader of the Bible Study Class for 24 years and helps in other ways.

"Your loyalty to Sumpter Township Senior Program is a great asset that does not go unnoticed," Watson said. "Thank you for all your dedication and time."

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Court Watching:

Keaton Kukola takes plea deal on stealing at Walmart, having Taser

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Keaton William Kukola, 23, of Sumpter Township, took a plea deal before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on April 26.

He pled guilty to new charges of disorderly conduct and retail fraud, both 93-day misdemeanors, and the original felony charges of unarmed robbery at Walmart and possession or sale of a Taser on Nov. 18 were dismissed.

He told Judge Oakley that he was on drugs and he got caught at Walmart on Belleville Road trying to steal.

He told the judge that he had one home invasion on his record and he was on probation. He said he turned himself in to the county.

Kukola said he went to Dawn Farms for treatment and goes to Narcotics Anonymous five times a week and Alcoholics Anonymous. He has been testing clean since Jan. 15, he said. He said his job at Total Landscaping has given him time to get this settled.

Judge Oakley asked why he was “four months in the wind” and he said he was trying to get his life together.

Kukola’s court-appointed attorney Steven Menken asked for immediate sentencing and pointed out his client is on probation for three years.

Judge Oakley credited him 30 days and put him on non-reporting probation.

Tyrone O Dodson

Tyrone O Dodson, 47, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for an arraignment on the information on May 10. Dodson is charged with fleeing police in a vehicle and assaulting, resisting, obstructing a police officer in VBT on April 10. He is free on \$3,000/10% bond. Detective Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

Aaron Latrell Patton

Aaron Latrell Patton, 19, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for an arraignment on the information on May 10. He is facing a felony charge of carrying a concealed weapon in VBT on March 31. He is free on \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.

Clarence Edward Davis

Jordan Michael Tumminello

Co-defendants Clarence Edward Davis, 44, and Jordan Michael Tumminello, 21, scheduled their preliminary exam for May 10 at 34th

District Court. They are both charged with two counts of assaulting, resisting, obstructing, causing injury to a police officer and disturbing the peace in the City of Belleville on Oct. 26, 2015.

Both are free after posting \$5,000/10% bond. Their retained attorney is William Maze. Judge Oakley gave Tumminello, who lives on Loza Lane, permission to leave the state since he is enrolled in college in Ohio. Officer in charge of the cases is Belleville Officer Jeff Wickham.

Wilfred Deshaun Utsey

Wilfred Deshaun Utsey, 27, waived his preliminary exam on charges of embezzlement, larceny by conversion, and retail fraud first degree on March 1 in VBT. He was bound over to circuit court at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on May 10 for an arraignment on the information. Utsey is free on \$10,000 personal recognizance bond. Officer in charge of the case is VBT Officer Mike Long.

Chad Allen Shaw

The preliminary exam for Chad Allen Shaw, 25, will be held May 3 on charges of weapons/firearms/larceny, larceny in a building, and weapons to commit a felony in Sumpter Township on Oct. 2, 2016. Shaw is free on \$20,000 personal recognizance bond. Officer in charge of the case is Sumpter Officer Joseph Balowski.

Dustin Mathew Vermilyea

Dustin Mathew Vermilyea, 35, had his probable cause conference adjourned until May 17 when he will face charges of assault with intent to murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, larceny from a motor vehicle, possession of a weapon by a felon, and using a weapon to do a felony on Oct. 20, 2015 in VBT. Officer Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

Kenneth Arthur Bowman

Kenneth Arthur Bowman, 54, waived his preliminary exam on April 5 and was bound over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for an April 12 arraignment on the information.

At that time a plea was made before Judge Gregory Bill and a disposition conference was set for May 1.

Bowman is charged with operating while intoxicated – 3rd time, driving while license suspended, and driving with an open intoxicant in the vehicle in Sumpter Township on March 21.

He was lodged on \$5,000/10% bond and was brought to his probable cause conference by Sheriff’s deputies. Bond was continued, but he was referred to pre-trial services for a bond review. Officer Brian Steffani is the officer in charge of the case.

Wisam Louis Mansour

The preliminary exam of Wisam Louis

Mansour, 47, that had been set for April 13 before Judge Green was adjourned to another date. The exam will require two American Sign Language interpreters and one Arab interpreter and the interpreters have to be screened from each other so no one can read the conversations with their attorneys. Both the suspect and the complaining witness are deaf and Mansour is Chaldean.

He is charged with criminal sexual conduct first degree, criminal sexual conduct second degree, criminal sexual conduct assault, first-degree home invasion, and stalking.

The crimes allegedly occurred on Jan. 6 in Van Buren Township. Detective Ken Toney is the officer in charge of the case.

David Arthur Radecki

David Arthur Radecki, 38, has his final

conference scheduled for May 19 before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Stuart Talon. A jury trial is scheduled for June 22.

Radecki is charged with criminal sexual conduct 2nd degree – defendant under 13; accosting children for immoral purposes, aggravated indecent exposure, and indecent exposure in Romulus on Oct. 1.

Nelson S Po

Nelson S Po, 67, of Sumpter Township was due to have a jury trial in 34th District Court on April 28 on a misdemeanor charge of molesting or disturbing workers at Atchinson Ford in Van Buren Township on Oct. 29, 2015. The trial was adjourned until Nov. 6. Officer in charge of the case is Mark Buxton.



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They’re reading the Independent everywhere

Teri Hagen-Cranson of Belleville reads her *Independent* at Loretta Lynn’s Ranch / Coal Miner’s Daughter Museum in Hurricane Mills, TN, at the end of the day touring the property and waiting for her daughter to bring the car around. This was just a part of her special Bucket List Vacation her daughter Suzanne arranged for them to go on together. Teri is a seven-year, stage-four metastatic breast cancer patient and Suzanne took her on this special vacation over Easter week, where they saw Loretta Lynn perform on her 85th birthday at Ryman, went to the Ranch for the annual Spring Bar-B-Que and then to the Grand Ole Opry on Saturday. Then it was on to Florida for a few days of Oceanside lifestyle before driving home.

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

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

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VBT DDA

(continued from page 1)

At its regular DDA meeting on April 25, VBT Supervisor Kevin McNamara said the township made sure ACM knew about Grace Lake, just down Ecorse Road from Willow Run, as a place for research and development offices.

"They'll be looking for a new runway for

cars and Ecorse is a natural," Supervisor McNamara said of the driverless-car facility.

He said ACM needed \$50 million to start and they just got two \$15 million pots of money, giving them the final \$30 million they needed. Now they can move forward and plan to open Dec. 1 of this year, he said.

McNamara said all car companies will want a little bit of property near the project for research and development and VBT is in the right place.

He said there will be a super-high-tech garage offered on site. The cars will be tested in their little city on site, but those involved will need another facility. He said realtors are waiting to see if ACM takes off.

DDA Director Susan Ireland said AT&T was ACM's first investor.

Assistant DDA Director Lisa Lothringer reported she and VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Ron Akers

attended a regional meeting at SPARK on "Planning for the Future of Mobility and Autonomous Vehicles." SPARK is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the economy of the Ann Arbor region.

She said she and Akers also attended the Wayne County Economic Development Partnership Forum which included discussions on possible local implications of budget cuts from the federal and state levels and a presentation by DTE on creating partnerships for growth.

In other business at the April 25 meeting, the DDA:

- Approved expending \$7,335 for the purchase of five Automatic External Defibrillators to be mounted in strategic locations at the township hall and public services building, as requested by Public Safety Director Gregory Laurain. The DDA also allocated \$200 for other training expenses, probably pizza for the 35-40-minute training session planned for all township employees. They are being purchased from Aventric Tech in Warren and have an eight-year warranty. They will be maintained by the fire department;

- Approved the low \$14,610 bid of Gonczy's Property Maintenance to maintain the landscape for 2017 at the Ecorse and Belleville roads intersection. WH Canon, which maintained the landscape last year after installing it, bid \$35,340, and Pioneer bid \$22,375;

- Approved allocating \$150 for a Michigan Certified Assessing Technician (MCAT) class for Lothringer during the 2017 calendar year, plus lodging and meals, if necessary. Ireland said it is in the best interest of the DDA for staff to have background in either assessing or taxes;

- Approved allocating up to \$3,000 for Phase 1 of the 2017-18 Printing Marketing Campaign that includes a full-page ad in the 2018 Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Directory; a half-page ad in the Strawberry Festival booklet, shared with the township; the 2017 sculpture brochure; and revision and reprint of the Welcome Map;

- Heard Ireland report that she and Lothringer went to Glen-Gery Supply and selected the building stone for the bottom four inches of the structure to be rebuilt at 10101 and 10151 Belleville Road – the Placemaking project. The manmade stone selected is impervious and never fades, she said;

- Heard Ireland announce the DDA has completed purchase of 10065 and 10085 Belleville Road. The DPW has secured the

buildings until they are checked out for asbestos and demolished. The architect has been directed to include these parcels as part of the Placemaking project;

- Heard Ireland report she met with MDOT to discuss the aesthetics of the planned pedestrian overpass on Belleville Road. She said she believes they will be able to put a VBT logo on both sides of the bridge. She said there will be light poles at each end of the walkway, for safety, but not shining into traffic. No lights will be on the bridge. She said MDOT said the bridge at Telegraph and I-94 is its worst nightmare because workers have to change lightbulbs every week because of traffic vibrations. She said they plan to go out for bids on the pedestrian overpass in March 2018; and

- Heard Lothringer report that thus far 55 young people had applied for the Summer Youth Jobs Initiative. McNamara said there are 25 to 30 positions open and so applicants will compete for the jobs.

No. 4 Michigan defeats Louisville in six races on Belleville Lake

The University of Louisville rowing team competed in its final tune-up prior to May's ACC Championship with a Sunday morning visit to No. 4 Michigan.

The Cardinals had six crews rowing on Belleville Lake against the host Wolverines, who won in each of the competitive races.

Michigan paced the way in the varsity eight race in a time of 6:28.51, while Louisville had a time of 6:42.74. In the second varsity eight, the Wolverines finished at 6:38.15, while the Cardinals crossed the line at 6:49.93. Michigan's varsity four crew had a time of 7:18.98, while Louisville closed at 7:31.16.

In the second varsity four race, Michigan led the way at 7:24.77 with Louisville finishing at 7:39.74. The Wolverines' third varsity four boat had a time of 7:57.33 and the Cardinals were at 8:39.75. In Sunday's third varsity eight race, Michigan covered the course in a time of 6:57.09, while Louisville finished at 7:16.32.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

(continued from page 10)

- **Saturday, May 6** – Kickoff party runs from 6 to 9 p.m. at Riverside Park in Ypsilanti for the 38th-annual Show ‘n’ Shine Car Show and Swap Meet, which will be held Sunday, May 7.
- **Saturday, May 6** – You’re invited to come to the Van Buren Eagles for dinner and a show: ‘First Ladies of the White House.’ Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner is 6-7:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. (734)

699-8836.

- **Saturday, May 6** – A Taco Dinner is being served at 5:30 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road, north of the I-94 N. Service Drive. The \$12 cost per dinner goes to the upkeep of the fairgrounds. Information: (734) 697-7002.
- **Sunday, May 7** – 18 Strings musical performance from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.
- **Sunday, May 7** – Join Bugles Across America at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Belleville for a brief ceremony to honor past and present members of the

military. Stand to pledge the flag and hear “Taps” played.

- **Sunday, May 7** – The 38th-annual Show ‘n’ Shine Car Show and Swap meet runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Riverside Park, Ypsilanti, with NSRA inspections, awards, door prizes, games, DJ, food. Information: (734) 485-7025 or (734) 787-0764.
- **Monday, May 8** – Michigan Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood will hold his May coffee hour at 9 a.m. at Mr. Mike’s Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Rd., Westland. His 6th

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville City Council Special Meeting Minutes April 27, 2017

A special meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville High School Commons by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL:

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Absent
Mayor Conley	Present

3. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The following individuals presented information regarding Harbour Pointe Street/Road Improvements:

- John Hennessey, Hennessey Engineers, Inc.
- Tom Colis, Attorney for Miller Canfield
- Kari Blanchett, Public Financial Management (PFM)

Also present to assist with the presentation was Ryan Kern from Hennessey Engineers, Inc.

Project information and financing alternatives were presented to residents of the Harbour Pointe subdivision, and the presenters answered questions from the audience.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Smith, Second by Marcotte to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Scharf, City Clerk
Approved: May 1, 2017
Published: May 4, 2017

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 public hearings on **Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan to consider the following requests.

1. **Case 17-014:** A request by SCH, Inc. to rezone the property located at 49412 Michigan Avenue, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 (Parcel ID# V-125-83-021-01-0009-304) from C (Local Business) & C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) to C-1 (General Business).
2. **Case 17-016:** A request by the Belleville Yacht Club, for a special use approval to expand their club use by constructing an accessory building at their facility located at 831 E. Huron River Drive, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 (Parcel ID# V-125-83-088-99-0005-000).

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or by e-mail at rakers@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date and all materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact the Van Buren Township Planning & Economic Development department at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you require assistance.

Posted: May 4, 2017
Published: May 4, 2017

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes April 11, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m., showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk C. Hoffman, Treasurer P. Morgan, Trustees: Swinson, Oddy, Hurst. Excused absent: LaPorte. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk J. Hoffman and approximately 45 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve the Agenda with the addition of a Closed Session: Update on AFSCME Negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by Swinson to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Oddy to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of March 28, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to accept the Fire Department Minutes of January 8, 2017 and February 5, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the Warrants totaling \$241,589.91. Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, C. Hoffman, P. Morgan, Swinson, Oddy, Hurst. Nay: None. Excused: LaPorte. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Water & Sewer Report - P. Morgan: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to Receive and File Water & Sewer Report with the exception of the Police and Attorney’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Police Report - Luke:

A. Chief’s Recognition Awards presented to Det./Sgt. John Toth, Sgt. Chris McGlynn, Sgt. Beth Egerer, Cpl. John Ashby, Ofc. Danielle Buccellato, Sgt. Brian Steffani, Ofc. George Salajan, Ofc. Joe Balowski, Ofc. Colleen Gottschalk.

B. Patrol Productivity Award presented to Cpl. John Ashby

C. Merit Service presented to Sgt. Beth Egerer

D. Valor Award presented to Sgt. Brian Steffani and Ofc. Joe Balowski

E. Officer of the Year presented to Det./Sgt. John Toth

9. Building/Ordinance Report - C. Hoffman: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to Receive and File Building/ Ordinance Report with the exception of the Police and Attorney’s Reports. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Fire Report - Januszyk: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to Receive and File the Fire Report with the exception of the Police and Attorney’s Reports. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Treasurer’s Report - P. Morgan: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to Receive and File Treasurer Report with the exception of the Police and Attorney’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Supervisor’s Report-J. Morgan: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to Receive and File Supervisor’s Report with the exception of the Police and Attorney’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Attorney’s Report-Young:

A. Malissa Paquette and Joseph Januszyk Contracts complete with one typo correction to Joe’s contract.

B. Reimbursement for Two invoices for Transcripts that were ordered one for \$650.00 and the other \$17.00.

C. Motion by Hurst, supported by P. Morgan to approve the Attorney’s Report. Motion carried

Senate District represents Belleville, Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township, among other communities.

- **Wednesday, May 10** – Chicken Dinner at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston, from 5 p.m. until sold out. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person with children 12 and under \$5 each. Menu: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits and gravy, cole slaw, dessert, coffee, hot tea, milk. Information: (734) 654-9020.

unanimously.

14. Board Response:

A. Trustee Swinson reported a Successful Easter Egg Hunt and gave special Thank you to the Police Department, Fire Department and Parks & Recreation Commission

B. Treasurer P. Morgan congratulations to the awarded Police Officers

15. New Business:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by P. Morgan to approve the recommendation from Planning Commission the Proposed Zoning Ordinance for Waste Receptacles. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Hurst, supported by Swinson to approve the Recommendation from Planning Commission the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments for Site Plan Review. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the Installation of Additional Cameras at Township Hall at a cost of \$2,621.79. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the Amendment to Interlocal agreement with Huron Township for Dispatch/PD Lodging Service. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Hurst to approve O&W/Miller Beer Check for Sumpter festival Beer Tent for \$4,190.00. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the change from Administrative Restriction to full active duties without restrictions for Fire Chief Joseph Januszyk. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Announcements:

17. Open Floor:

A. Mary Ban

Thank you to Karen W. for trying to do something about the Road situations

Wayne County Roads

Congratulations to the Police Officers

B. Ronald Barrington Robinson

Thank you to Parks & Recreation for all they do

Summer employment programs for youth

18. Closed Session:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to go into Closed Session at 7:03 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to go back in to Open Session at 7:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

19. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
Sumpter Township

Certification

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the following is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on April 11, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and the said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
Published: May 4, 2017



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes April 17, 2017

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

Presentations
City Manager Diana Kollmeyer introduced Karen Tyler, new account clerk and Police Chief Hal Berriman introduced part-time police officer Ahmed Kassem and full-time police officer Sarah Dzagulones. He also presented Officer Dzagulones with a life-saving certificate for being part of a

team who was recently dispatched to a Belleville resident's home.

Council follow up list None

Citizen Comments

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said there would be a fundraiser to benefit Belleville's Fire Department on April 24th, hosted by Egan's Pub. Jeff Vernon mentioned still seeing straw on the ground at Victory Park after the Flop-E-Bunny event on April 15th. City Manager Kollmeyer stated that DPW picks up the straw and reuses it at the cemetery.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, second by Fielder to approve the agenda with the addition of Item D, seawall restoration update.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Marcotte, second by Smith to approve the regular city council meeting minutes of April 3, 2017 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Annual Memorial Day Celebration (Street Closings)

Motion by Loria, second by Marcotte to approve

Resolution No. 17-027 granting the VFW Post 4434 and PLAV Post 167 permission to hold its annual Memorial Day service on May 29, 2017 at the High Street Veterans' Memorial site with the street closed at 12 noon and services from 2 to 3 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Mayor's Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Motion by Fielder, second by Loria to adopt Resolution No. 17-028 approving the appointment of Nathaniel Oregon to the Parks & Recreation Commission as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. FY 2017-18 Budget Schedule

Motion by Fielder, second by Smith to adopt Resolution No. 17-029 approving the FY 2017-18 Budget Schedule as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Seawall Repair at Doane's Landing
DPW Director Rick Rutherford stated that 200 feet of seawall at Doane's Landing on the City's side is in urgent need of repair. The first step must be a survey of the area before proceeding with project scope/specifications and preparing a bid package.

Motion by Loria, second by Smith to adopt Resolution No. 17-030 authorizing required survey work not to exceed \$2,500 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Loria, second by Fielder to approve Resolution No. 17-031 for accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 totaling \$104,734.64 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Loria to adjourn meeting at 8:40 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: May 1, 2017

Published: May 4, 2017



City of Belleville

City Council Special Meeting Minutes April 25, 2017

A special meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville High School Commons by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL:

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The following individuals presented information regarding Harbour Pointe Street/Road Improvements:

- John Hennessey, Hennessey Engineers, Inc.
- Tom Colis, Attorney for Miller Canfield
- Kari Blanchett, Public Financial Management (PFM)

Also present to assist with the presentation was Ryan Kern from Hennessey Engineers, Inc.

Project information and financing alternatives were presented to residents of the Harbour Pointe subdivision, and the presenters answered questions from the audience.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Marcotte to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: May 1, 2017

Published: May 4, 2017

National Heritage Academies Keystone Academy Public Notice

Public Budget Hearing

will be held for the following
Public School Academy:

Keystone

47925 Bemis, Belleville

(734) 697-9470

May 11, 6 p.m.

Copies of the Budget for the listed Public School Academy will be available at the school office.

Published: May 4, 2017

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

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Scrap Tire Collection

Sponsored by: Wayne County DPS

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017

9 AM – 1 PM

Sumpter Township Recycle Center

23480 Sumpter Road (behind Township Hall)

Free tire drop-off for Sumpter Township Residents.

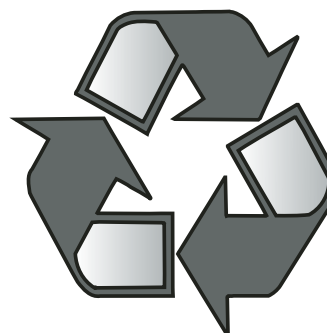
(no commercial sources)

Residents may drop off up to 10 tires per vehicle.

Must show proof of residency.

Let's clean up our yards and ditches of scrap tires and get them recycled for FREE!!

Questions? Call 734-461-6201 Ext. 2242



Publish: April 27, 2017,
May 4, 2017 and May 11, 2017

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 475 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for the past week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, April 23:
0005 – domestic, Lancaster Dr.
0028 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0102 – suspicious person/vehicle, Harmony Ln.
0251 – suspicious person/vehicle S. Ponderosa Trl.
1019 – fraud, Ironwood Dr.
1621 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1755 – family trouble, Assembly St.
1930 – dumping complaint, Farm Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
2302 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
Monday, April 24:
0640 – private property impound, Willow Run Airport
0720 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
0743 – threat, W. Adams
0840 – private property impound, Lake Villa Dr.
1153 – larceny, W. Schooner Dr.
1220 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1308 – civil matter, Haggerty Rd.
1312 – mental subject, Ecorse Rd.
1331 – domestic, Lighthouse Dr.
1340 – larceny, Westlake Cir.
1431 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1533 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
1552 – larceny, Jackson St.
1633 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
1649 – private property/property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1652 – harassment call, Freeport Ct.
1710 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
1729 – juvenile complaint, Pine Dr.
2005 – road hazard, Denton Rd./Bayshore Dr.
2016 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood/Tyler

Tuesday, April 25:
0013 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0148 – domestic, Peninsular Dr.
0541 – assist other dept., Tyler Rd.
0755 – traffic offense, Tyler Rd.
0855 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1205 – dumping complaint, Beck Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1254 – private property impound, Van Born
1255 – abandoned auto, Ecorse/I-275
1403 – follow up by officer, Denton Rd.
1448 – mental subject, Van Buren St.
1517 – private property impound, Rose Blvd.
1547 – harassment call, Park Estates Dr.
1632 – larceny, Prairie Ct.
1717 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1823 – fraud, Tyler Rd.
1959 – traffic offense, Chaney Ave.
2325 – property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter
Wednesday, April 26:
0033 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0128 – domestic, Haggerty Rd.
0417 – domestic, Rose Blvd.
0757 – unattended death, N. Timberview Dr.
1045 – suspicious person/vehicle, Amanda Dr.
1248 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler/Andover
1313 – property damage accident, Bog Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
1321 – private property impound, Sumpter Rd.
1544 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1735 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
1812 – threat, Jackson St.
1827 – suspicious person/vehicle, Water Works
1843 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Born Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1848 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hoeft/Martz
2025 – private property impound, Van Born
2049 – threat, Sylvia Dr.
2050 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
2144 – suspicious person/vehicle, Oak Blvd.
2304 – domestic, Hull Rd.
2344 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
Thursday, April 27:
0315 – disorderly, Parkwood
0351 – larceny from auto, E. Archwood Dr.
0812 – civil matter, Meadows Cir.
1013 – ordinance violation, Belleville Rd.
1132 – assist other dept., Holly Ln.
1221 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.

1249 – disorderly, Denton Rd.
1257 – civil matter, Van Born Rd.
1351 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Walden Dr.
1353 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1551 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
1609 – assist fire dept., Meadows Ln.
1641 – harassment call, Belleville Rd.
1731 – harassment call, Oak Ln.
1751 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1817 – abandoned auto, Bemis Rd.
1907 – suspicious person/vehicle, Meadows Cir.
2008 – fraud, Oak Ln.
2037 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./rest area
2112 – weapons violation, Jackson Ln.
2134 – larceny, Ash Dr.
2154 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville
Friday, April 28:
0118 – operating while intoxicated, N. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.
1017 – road hazard, Bog Rd./Monroe Ct.
1023 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1204 – property damage accident, Edison Lake Rd.
1257 – ordinance violation, Cobblestone Creek Dr.
1356 – property damage accident, Denton Rd.
1415 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1425 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1441 – assist fire dept., Martz Rd.
1454 – fight, Oak Blvd.
1459 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lake Crest Dr.
1506 – ordinance violation, Patty Ln.
1551 – domestic, Rose Blvd./Lily St.
1608 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1650 – suspicious person/vehicle, Water’s Edge Ln.
1818 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Beck
1831 – family trouble, Belleville Rd.
1841 – property damage accident, Fay Dr.
2110 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
2130 – road hazard, EB bypass/Denton
2153 – assault & battery, Victoria St.
2202 – suspicious person/vehicle, Forestdale Dr.
2222 – suspicious person/vehicle, Chatsworth Dr.
2237 – noise complaint, Meadows Circle
2302 – shooting, Savage Rd./Haggerty Rd.
2323 – suspicious person/vehicle, Dellor St.
Saturday, April 29:
0023 – traffic offense, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
0052 – suspicious person/vehicle, WB I-94 / Haggerty Rd.
0110 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
0112 – domestic, Park Estates Dr.
0201 – suspicious person/vehicle, Victoria St.
0230 – noise complaint, Rentoon Rd.
0434 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Ave.
0456 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0716 – property damage accident, I-275/Tyler
0921 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.
1014 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1133 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1203 – property damage accident, Savage Rd.
1309 – suspicious person/vehicle, Barnwell Dr. / Hanover Dr.
1434 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River Dr.
1537 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lindsey / Bellpointe
1539 – malicious destruction of property, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1612 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Rawsonville Rd.
1926 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
1955 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2111 – suicidal person, Haggerty/Bemis
2301 – assist other dept., Martz Rd./Hoeft Rd.
Also on this week’s log are 158 traffic stops, 45 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 23:
1413 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1745 – misc. complaints, South St.
2302 – misc. complaints, Main St.
Monday, April 24:
0015 – noise complaint, Estrada Dr.

1135 – disorderly, Owen St.
1225 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Fourth St.
1511 – assist other dept., Tyler
1750 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
1833 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.
2116 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
Tuesday, April 25:
0000 – warrant arrest, Michigan/Belleville
0123 – suspicious person/vehicle, Victory Park
0304 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia Ave.
0825 – found property/child, Henry St.
1004 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1047 – fraud, Main St.
1439 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
1724 – 911 welfare check, Main St.
1815 – 911 welfare check, Fourth St.
Wednesday, April 26:
0000 – assist citizen, W. Columbia Ave.
0514 – intrusion alarm, Carmell St.
0633 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1628 – warrant arrest, Farmington
1835 – juvenile complaint, Owen Intermediate
2326 – fraud, Main St.
Thursday, April 27:
0033 – suspicious person/vehicle, Carmell
0306 – suspicious person/vehicle, Carmell
1112 – misc. complaints, W. Columbia Ave.
1302 – warrant arrest, Church
1937 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
2116 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
Friday, April 28:
0029 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lakeview
0159 – parking complaint, S. Aberdeen Ct.
0233 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Aberdeen Ct. / Victorian Ln.
0411 – threat, N. Liberty St.
0917 – follow up by officer, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1943 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1059 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1118 – mental subject, Carmell
1511 – intrusion alarm, Robbe St.
1522 – narcotics crime, Estrada Dr.
1555 – assist citizen, Sumpter Rd.
1751 – intrusion alarm, Harbour Pointe
Saturday, April 30:
0122 – assist other dept., Haggerty/Alden
0215 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia Ave.
0345 – assist citizen, W. Columbia Ave.
0443 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Park
1452 – larceny from auto, Main St.
1837 – property damage accident, Main St.
Also on this week’s log are 26 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 23:
0920 – animal complaint, Arkona/Elwell
1624 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
1815 – larceny, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2031 – larceny, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
Monday, April 24:
1517 – found property, Judd/Martinsville
1913 – assist other agency, out of township
2009 – larceny, Edgewood
2018 – shots fired, 88200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
2049 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
2341 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
2358 – suspicious vehicle, 14000 bl. Carleton West
Tuesday, April 25:
0633 – civil dispute, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
0939 – well-being check, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1056 – fire dept. assist, California
1132 – assist other agency, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1247 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1452 – larceny, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1638 – assist other agency, out of township
1703 – reckless driver, Rawsonville/Judd
1708 – civil dispute, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1713 – ordinance violation, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1846 – well-being check, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1945 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
2027 – trespassing, Nevada
2125 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2223 – assist other agency, Willow/Clark
2326 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis

Wednesday, April 26:
0109 – violation of park rules, 28000 bl. Haggerty
1008 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1033 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1336 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1503 – harassment complaint, Rustic Ln.
1535 – ordinance violation, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1643 – animal complaint, Stonecrest
1648 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Rawsonville/Willis
1750 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1840 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1918 – suspicious incident, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
2000 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Martinsville
2102 – parking complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
2124 – warrant arrest, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
Thursday, April 27:
0938 – larceny, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1043 – fire dept. assist, Washington
1209 – citizen assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1235 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1308 – assist other agency, Mulberry
1439 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1638 – family trouble, Carriage Ln.
1817 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1947 – animal bite, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
2023 – breaking & entering, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
2137 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Willow

2200 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
2305 – parking complaint, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Friday, April 28:
1048 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1109 – animal complaint, 9400 bl. Rawsonville
1431 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
1551 – ordinance violation, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1632 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2141 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
Saturday, April 29:
1119 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1121 – animal complaint, Judd/Wilmot
1345 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1541 – breaking & entering, 27000 bl. Sumpter
1702 – personal injury accident, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1822 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1823 – shots fired, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
2019 – disorderly person, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2121 – assist other agency, out of township
Also on this week’s log are 14 follow-up investigations, 24 miscellaneous details, 99 patrol checks, and 42 traffic stops.

Correction: MJ Dawson didn’t meet with city

Mary Jane Dawson, an elected member of the Belleville Area District Library board, pointed out the story in the *Independent* last week, on page 15, said she met with city officials.

“I have not met with them since before 2012 or so,” she said. “Whoever told you I have met with them recently is wrong.”

I checked my notes for the April 11 meeting and the chairwoman said she and “MJ” (I abbreviated it that way to save time) had a preliminary meeting with the Belleville Downtown Development Authority administrator and chair, plus the mayor and city manager. Obviously, the “MJ” mentioned was Mary Jo Suchy, library director, not Mary Jane Dawson, library board member. We regret the error.

Rosemary Otzman, editor

**Read The Newspaper
On The Web!**
**The Belleville-Area
Independent New Website
is Now Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com**

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Shanita Williams earns National Volunteer Award from Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan (GSSEM) announce Shanita Williams of Belleville was among 103 recipients of 2017 National Volunteer Awards. The award was presented at GSSEM's annual banquet held April 1 at the San Marino Club in Troy.

Williams received the Volunteer of Excellence Award. Individuals who earn these awards demonstrate exceptional dedication and service as Girl Scouts volunteers. Fellow volunteers or GSSEM staff who can vouch for their "above and beyond the call of duty" level of service to girls and other adult volunteers in the GSSEM service area must nominate all honorees.

Williams served as an organizer and

coordinator for her troop's participation in the 2016 Cookie Program. The troop sold well above the GSSEM's overall per girl selling average for number of boxes sold. Williams supported her troop's sale with multiple restocking trips to the cookie cupboard, and coordinated cookie booths to ensure every girl had an opportunity to maximize sales.

"I am so excited to have honored more than 100 of our dedicated volunteers this year," said Denise Dalrymple, CEO of GSSEM. "Without our volunteers' commitment of their time and talents, we would not be able to help nearly as many girls discover new interests, abilities, and passions that help to build girls' leadership skills and prepare them to positively impact their communities. Volunteers really are the life's blood of a girl's scouting experience," Dalrymple said.

Nearly 33,000 girls and adults participate in Girl Scouting through GSSEM.

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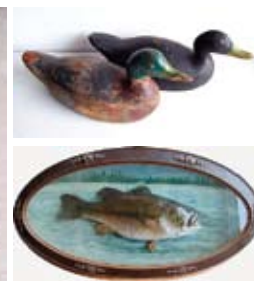
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SUNDAY MAY 7th 2-4**



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MILES OF STYLE in this Outstanding Waterfront Home. Large Yard, Waterfront Dock, and Decks. Open Kitchen-Dining-Family Room Area with Fireplace. 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage with Extra Attached Carport Space. More than 2,100 square feet with Room for Everyone. Just listed at \$325,000

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9746 RAWSONVILLE, AUGUSTA TWP
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21381 ELWELL, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
IMPRESSIVE 3 Bedroom Vinyl Ranch with Open Kitchen, Large Dining Area, Family Room with Fireplace, New Roof (2015), New Furnace (2015) and Air Conditioning (2015). Double Driveway, Pond, PLUS 1,920 Square Foot 2 Story Heated Garage on Almost 1 Acre. IT'S A WINNER \$179,900

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24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
22407 KARR 21 AC POLEBARN \$195,000

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
BEMIS 6 ACRES + 6 ACRES \$65,000 EACH
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26405 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$33,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$33,000

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3RD ANNUAL DETROIT TIGERS ALUMNI SOFTBALL GAME



HOSTED BY THE VAN BUREN CIVIC FUND

YOU CAN PLAY AGAINST THE DETROIT TIGERS ALUMNI

The Van Buren Civic Fund will host the third annual charity softball game and day of fun on Saturday, May 20th, 2017 at noon at 46425 Tyler, behind the Township Hall. (Activities will begin at 11 AM)

THERE IS NO ADMISSION TO ATTEND GAME

(please bring lawn chairs)

NEW THIS YEAR! For a donation of \$25, 10-17 year olds can play the first two innings.

For a tax-deductible donation of \$250, you can suit up and play against the Detroit Tigers Alumni:

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