

Van Buren Lake Ledger

"Your link to recreational leisure activities and community news"

Volume II: Fall/Winter 2007-08



- *Recreation Programs*
- *Parks and Lake*
- *September Days Seniors*
- *Belleville Area Museum*
- *Fred C. Fischer Library*
- *Community News*
- *Trash and Recycle*
- *Public Safety*

"Creating Community
in Van Buren Township"

Visit our website at: www.vanburen-mi.org



Van Buren Township Directory

Board of Trustees

Cindy C. King (cking@vanburen-mi.org) Supervisor	699-8910
Joannie D. Payne (jpayne@vanburen-mi.org) Clerk	699-8909
Sharry A. Budd (sbudd@vanburen-mi.org) Treasurer	699-8903
Lianne Clair Phillip Hart Jeffrey Jahr Walter Rochowiak Trustees	699-8910

Township Departments

Public Safety

Jerry Champagne, Director of Public Safety	699-8930
Mark Nicholai, Fire Chief	699-8930
Police, Fire Dispatch	699-8930
Animal Control	699-8930
Emergencies	9-1-1

Developmental Services

Bryce Kelley, Planning & Economic Development Director	699-8913
Todd Knepper, Director of Public Works	699-8944
Ordinance Enforcement	699-8913

Community Services

Bruce Ross, Director of Parks & Recreation	699-8926
Parks & Recreation	699-8921
Cable	699-8926
Linda Combs, Senior Director	699-8918
September Days Senior Center	699-8918

Lake Ledger

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Editor:

Christina Harman
Community Services Department

Email Directory

To contact township departments via email please visit our website at www.vanburen-mi.org, go to "Departments" and select the department you desire to obtain the email directory.

Township Meetings

Board Meetings:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.

Work Study Meetings:

1st & 3rd Mondays 4:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals:

2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Cable Commission:

No longer meets regularly

Downtown Development Authority:

2nd Tuesday 5:30 p.m.

Endowment Committee:

2nd Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Environmental Commission:

2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

LDFA:

2nd Tuesday 2:00 p.m.

Planning Commission:

2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee:

2nd Tuesday 5:30 p.m.

Recreation Committee:

2nd Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

(Meets February, April, June, August, October & December, changes will be posted)

Water/Sewer Commission:

4th Monday 7:00 p.m.

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SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

At the August 21, 2007 Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved a seven year 50% tax abatement on personal (equipment only) property for Wellington Industries. Wellington, located on Hannan Road just north of Huron River Drive has been in Van Buren Township since 1982. Currently, they have 115 employees. The tax abatement was granted based upon Wellington acquiring a 2,000 ton stamping press at a cost of approximately \$3.4 million dollars that will be used to perform metal stamping related to a project they were awarded and for which there was competition from out of state.

The five year project is to manufacture products used in the automotive industry, although the press can also be used to manufacture products used by other Wellington clients, including Whirlpool, Donaldson and Blue Bird, a school bus manufacturer. In addition, Wellington, an ISO 14001 company, expects to add at least 52 new positions to their employee base, a 45% increase in their staffing level, with salaries ranging from \$12 per hour to \$35 per hour for skilled labor and/or professional employees.

The Board awarded Wellington a seven year tax abatement based upon Tax Abatement Guidelines adopted by the Board in 1997 that set forth objective criteria for evaluating these requests. For instance, the guidelines award points (100 points are possible), based upon dollar investment in the township, number of new jobs created, environmental impacts, type of project such as manufacturing or research and development, and other criteria. Wellington achieved 67 out of 100 points which resulted in a recommendation for a seven year abatement and that is what the Board approved.

During these difficult economic times, the success in Wellington Industries acquiring this project and being able to hire new employees is one worth mention and we wish them well with the project and in future endeavors.

You may have seen a new face at Township Hall over the past month or so. After reviewing 23 resumes and interviewing several applicants, Todd Knepper has been hired to serve as DPW Director for the Township. The DPW Director position includes the responsibilities formerly assigned to the Water & Sewer Director and those of buildings and grounds maintenance and cemetery management.

Todd comes to us from the City of Milan where he was employed as DPW Director for eight years. His 18 years' experience in this field includes managing capital improvement projects, street maintenance (although streets in the township are County-maintained), water and sanitary sewer distribution, facilities management, fleet maintenance, public transit and administration of solid waste including refuse collection and disposal, recycling and yard waste pick up. Todd holds an S-2 water distribution system certification through the State of Michigan as well as D-2 certification and Sewage Treatment Works Operator C and D certifications.

Todd also has experience and credentials in Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, and has served as a fire fighter. With respect to professional training in fire fighting, Mr. Knepper holds certificates in Unified Incident Command, Rapid Intervention Team, Hazardous Materials and Fire Fighter I and II certifications.

Todd and his wife have four children and in his free time, he enjoys being with his family and participating in activities with them, one of which includes going on camping trips. Please join me in welcoming Todd to the township as we look forward to his contributions in providing high quality service to you.

Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley and I continued to be extensively involved in discussions and planning related to the concept of "Aerotropolis," a coordinated planning effort for the undeveloped land that exists between Willow Run and Detroit Metropolitan Airports, and land that encompasses an area stretching from the I-94/US-23 exchange west of Van Buren to the City of Taylor to our east, and from Ecorse Road south to

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Huron Township. This work which will serve as the foundation upon which the "bricks and mortar" will be laid with respect to the actual development of the land at some unknown point in the future, is critical and could serve to transform the region from a primarily automotive-dependent economy to one that is more diverse and robust.

The primary objective of the Aerotropolis effort is to put into place tools that make sure this land develops in a coordinated manner such that economic stability in the region is achieved, and employment opportunities are available to those living here. As you might imagine, this vacant land near the airports, and in close proximity to freeways, etc., will eventually develop. Our goal is to make sure that development is well thought out and beneficial to the communities and region in which it is located.

The many subcommittee meetings and discussions that have taken place over the past several months are to formulate policies and practices that will guide future development to ensure it is coordinated, compatible with neighboring land uses and offers the best opportunity for economic growth including jobs and business retention. Recently, I have heard rumors about land purchases and development in the Aerotropolis region that must be laid to rest. There are no plans for anything to be built on this land as yet, and no plans to purchase land that already has some type of use on it, especially land in neighborhoods or other residential areas.

As the work of those involved in the Aerotropolis planning which includes Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, several neighboring communities, the Wayne County Airport Authority and Detroit Renaissance, continues to unfold, people in the region will be kept abreast of that effort. The Aerotropolis is a long-range planning effort, the results of which will be realized over the next several years.

In closing, fall will soon be upon us. This is a great time to visit Van Buren Park and enjoy nature at its finest. Our residents remain our greatest asset. Thank you for all you do to ensure Van Buren is a great place in which to live, work and raise a family.

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Home for the Holidays

Bored with the same old decorations? Want new decorations without breaking the bank? Join me in making a ribbon topiary and ornaments for a memorable Holiday Celebration!

Please bring adhesive, scissors, bone folder and paper cutter.

Ages: 18 and up

Thursdays, November 1, 8, 15
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$50 Non-Resident = \$65
(Materials included in price) Must pre register!!

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES

Why does a community need ordinances?

Ordinances promote an increased quality of life through improved maintenance of private property and the exterior of buildings. Ordinances are designed with quality of life and safety in mind.

How are ordinances created?

The Board of Trustees adopts ordinances in response to public need. Ordinances and ordinance amendments are initiated by Township staff, the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees.

Can ordinances be changed?

Yes, if the community and Board of Trustees see fit. Additional ordinances or amendments to ordinances must be received in a public hearing before they can be adopted at a later Township Board meeting.

Who enforces general ordinances?

Ordinance Officers, who work out of the Developmental Services Department, handle enforcement. Public Safety officers are a separate entity with different areas of enforcement and should not be confused with ordinance officers. Situations such as abandoned vehicles in the street are handled by public safety.

Ordinance vs. deed restrictions

Most homeowners' associations have their own set of deed restrictions, applicable to those who live in that particular subdivision. These deed restrictions may be comparable to Van Buren Township's general ordinances, which set minimum standards. However, many deed restrictions are more restrictive than the local ordinances, and must be enforced by the homeowners association...not the township.

Ordinance complaints can be filed by anyone, both residents and business owners. Complaints are taken over the telephone, email, and in person at the Developmental Services office located in the township hall across from the Supervisor's Office. Officers also generate their own complaints when they see violations while in the community.

How a complaint is processed

1. When an ordinance complaint is received, a case number is issued and assigned to an Ordinance officer who investigates the violation. If the complaint is unfounded the case is then closed.
2. If verification of the violation is made, the inspector contacts the property owner in person, or by mail. If verbal contact is unsuccessful, the subject is issued a Notice of Violation through certified mail. This notice lists the violation(s) and how to correct them. It also has a time frame in which the violation should be corrected.
3. If the situation is not corrected as required by the ordinance in the time allotted, photographs are taken and a citation is then issued via certified mail.

4. Once the citation is issued, a pre-trial is set at the 34th District Court. During the hearing the subject may plead guilty or not guilty.
5. If the plea is guilty the court will decide what happens next and assesses all court costs and fines. If the plea is not guilty the court sets a date for trial. The court will hear the case from both sides and make a determination on the case.

SOME OF THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED ABOUT ORDINANCES

Q: Where can I find a copy of the ordinances?

A: You will find a copy of the General ordinances at the Developmental Services office in the Township Hall or online at www.municode.com.

Q: What do I need to do to build a fence?

A: A fence authorization form from the Township Building Department is needed prior to building the fence.

Q: What about overgrown yards?

A: No landscaped grass shall be higher than 10 inches. A Notice of Violation will be sent for properties that exceed this limit, and the violation must be corrected within 10 business days of the Notice. If the violation is not corrected, the Ordinance Officer can order the property to be mowed by a Township contractor. Additionally, all trees & shrubs must be kept up so they do not encroach upon any public sidewalk or pathway.

Q: Who is responsible for my cracked or damaged sidewalk?

A: The owner of the abutting property is responsible for sidewalk maintenance and repair.

Q: What about my neighbor's trailer or vehicle on their property?

A: In no event shall any trailer or vehicle be parked in the front or side street yard area of any such residential premises. All vehicles within the township shall be Michigan roadway ready - this includes license plates, tires, and all other main parts.

Q: How many acres must I have to own a horse?

A: Five acres for the first and one acre for each additional horse.

Van Buren Township's ordinance officers are normally in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. To contact them, call (734) 699-8913 and provide the address and description of the ordinance concern. When they are out of the office, please leave a voicemail message. The ordinance officers are here to serve, they are willing to work with people to resolve ordinance violations, and will gladly answer all questions.

David Schuler
Ordinance Officer

2007 SENIOR OLYMPICS



Van Buren Township was well represented in this year's Western Wayne County Senior Olympics, hosted by Canton Township on August 20-24th. 56 participants brought home 43 medals - 20 Gold, 10 Silver, and 13 Bronze. Congratulations to all!

Boaters Safety Class

This course is designed to provide the boater with a wide range of information.

- General information concerning boats and maintenance.
- How to make boating more comfortable and safer.
- How to be a courteous boat operator.
- Laws and regulations that you must adhere to.

Saturday, February 23, March 29, April 26, 2008

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

\$15.00 per person (Lunch will be provided)

Who must have this class?

- Persons born after December 31, 1978, if they wish to operate a personal watercraft.
- Those less than 16 years of old who wish to operate a boat may need this course.

Who should take this class?

- All persons who operate a boat or personal watercraft will find useful information.

Pre-Registration is necessary!!!

CLERK'S OFFICE

Greetings from the Clerk's Office. Last year about this time I discussed that I and my staff would be reviewing our precinct information and maps in preparation for changing some precinct boundaries and locations for 2008. The purpose of changing precinct boundaries is to achieve a better balance of voters per precinct based on growth in the last fifteen years. The maximum number of voters per precinct is 2,999. We will also be looking at adding an additional precinct to better serve the community. This is a big project and I had hoped to have it completed by the end of 2007. However, due to additional elections held in 2007 and the potential Presidential Primary Election that may take place in January the new precincts may be pushed off until the May 2008 Election. Rest assured that I will keep the community informed as the process moves forward.

This brings me to my next item, which is adding election inspectors to our ranks. I am always looking for people to serve as precinct inspectors and should we get a large enough group of inspectors I would be able to offer half days should an inspector request it. So, if you have ever thought about serving your community in this capacity and being involved in the electoral process this is a great way to provide a valuable service to your community. Applications are available at the Clerk's Office and training is provided. For additional information and an application contact the Clerk's Office at (734) 699-8909.

As always, information on voting equipment, voting locations and voter status may be found by going to www.vanburen-mi.org and clicking on "links" then to 'Secretary of State', then to 'online services' and finally to 'Michigan voter information center.'

Finally, Township offices have employees who serve as notary publics. Documents may be notarized at most department counters during regular business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is no charge for this service.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Open Scrap Night

Do you have a scrapbook that you just can't find time to finish or have you always wanted to make one but don't like to do it alone? This is a great opportunity to get away from the distractions at home and work on our projects at the lovely Van Buren Township building with other "Scrapppers" alike! Bring your supplies and work on your scrapbook album at your own pace.

Meets the last Friday of each month

January 25, February 29, March 28, April 25
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

\$2.00 per person (Pizza included in price)
Childcare \$5.00 per child (must be potty trained)

PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE PASSES

Thank You! On August 2, 2007 voters in Van Buren Township went to the polls to vote on a renewal of the current public safety millage and one additional mill to enhance the services we provide to the community. The outcome of the vote was successful with the ballot initiative being passed by the voters. On behalf of all the public safety employees, I would like to thank the citizens, businesses, elected officials and clergy that helped us to achieve success during this millage campaign. I personally want to thank all the public safety and township employees who volunteered countless hours toward this important endeavor.

This was a very important vote for the township so we could continue to deliver quality services and provide enhanced services we were not able to provide in the past. Although the millage is not levied until the December 2007 tax bill, we are working hard right now to be able to implement the enhanced services as soon as the new millage takes effect.

The enhanced services you should expect to see will include staffing the south fire station 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This will result in a reduction of time it takes for the firefighters to respond to you for fire and medical emergencies. The north fire station will be staffed 24/7 as well. Currently, there is no staffing between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the north station and no staffing at all at the south station.

You can also expect to see more police patrols in residential and business areas. We will be increasing from the current three patrols that cover the entire 36 square miles of the township, to a five zone patrol system. What this means to you is increased patrols in your areas and quicker response when you need help. At the current time there is one patrol car assigned to the entire south end of the township, one in the north and one centralized. The increased patrol zones will add a second car in the south and a second car in the north to achieve faster response to you.

Another improvement will be the formation of a special investigation unit to investigate major crimes such as narcotics, home invasions, identity theft, auto theft, etc. This was an area of service we were unable to meet prior to the success of the additional millage.

I assure you the men and women of the police and fire departments are working to keep up with the demands of our community and we would like to hear about any public safety concerns you may have. You can contact the public safety department 24 hours a day by calling (734) 699-8930. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to improve service to the community.

Gerald M. Champagne
Director of Public Safety.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Greetings from the Treasurer's Office. The 2007 summer levy included the implementation of the new tax law requiring collection of the Wayne County charter approved operating millage with the summer bills. Public Act 357 of 2004 provided a funding mechanism to serve as a substitute to county revenue sharing payments. This substitute funding mechanism involved a gradual shift of county property tax millage from a winter levy to a summer levy over a three year period and additionally, required the establishment of a restricted fund to be known as the Revenue Sharing Reserve Fund.

Below is an illustration of the gradual shift of Wayne County's operating millage from the winter to the summer tax bills:

**WAYNE COUNTY CHARTER
OPERATING LEVY**

	Summer Levy	Winter Levy	Total Levy
2004	0	5.6483	5.6483
2005	1.8828	3.7655	5.6483
2006	3.7655	1.8828	5.6483
2007	5.6483	0	5.6483

Future winter tax bills will now only include Wayne County levies for the "soldier's relief millage" and the "extra voted millage". These 2006 millage rates were .0368 and .9529 respectively. They will continue to be levied 100% in December of each year. In addition, Wayne County levies the Wayne County Parks and Wayne County Jail millages. These millages will also continue to be levied 100% in December of each year.

The due date of September 14, 2007 for 2007 summer tax bills has been extended through Friday, September 28, 2007. This is consistent with the Township's past practice in order to offer taxpayers a few additional days to pay their tax obligation. Winter tax bills will be mailed out the first week of December, with a due date of February 14th, 2008. The winter tax bill will contain the previously levied public safety millage and an additional 1 mill due to the voter approved increase, for a total of 4 mills.

Please visit our website in order to access online tax information, tax calculation estimates, millage rates and other important information. The Treasurer's Office website address is: www.vanburen-mi.org/Department/Treasurer.html.

Our office is committed to serve the residents of this township. Please do not hesitate to contact our staff regarding any Treasury related issues or concerns.

Sharry A. Budd, CPFA
Treasurer

Sean Bellingham, CPFA, CMAE1
Deputy Treasurer

ANNUAL FIRE HYDRANT
FLUSHING PROGRAM

On a regular basis, the Van Buren Township Water and Sewer Department performs maintenance on many parts of the water and sewer systems, such as water main valve and fire hydrant repairs, pump station preventive maintenance, manhole inspections, sanitary sewer cleaning, customer service requests, meter reading, and inspections of water and sewer tap installations. In addition to all this, the Water & Sewer Department performs its annual hydrant flushing and winterizing program, usually beginning in September and lasting for one to two months.

The hydrant flushing program is an important maintenance activity of the Department. Every fall, each of the approximately 1,600 hydrants in the township is operated to verify that the hydrant is in good operating condition. Minor preventive maintenance such as greasing the operating nut and making sure the fire hose nozzle caps can be removed easily in an emergency are also part of the program. Necessary repairs are identified and scheduled for completion. We also make sure that the water in the hydrant is pumped out so that it does not freeze and become inoperable in the winter.

In addition to the hydrant maintenance, flushing also allows us to improve water quality in certain areas of the water system, like dead-end water mains, by moving fresh water into areas of the system that don't regularly draw a great deal of water.

It is important that we remind our customers that a fire hydrant cannot be operated without a permit by any person other than Water Department or Fire Department personnel. It is extremely important that we know which hydrants have been opened so that we can re-check after it is used to be sure it is still operating properly. Appropriate actions will be taken against any non-permitted fire hydrant use.

Because fire hydrants and water mains can be damaged by improper use of the hydrant, we also strictly limit the purposes for which we will issue a hydrant use permit, specifically, we do not issue hydrant use permits for lawn irrigation, filling pools, fund-raising car washes and the like.

If you have any questions regarding our fire hydrant flushing program, please contact the Van Buren Township Water Department.

Please call 9-1-1 **ONLY** if there is an **EMERGENCY!!**

For all non-emergencies, please call (734) 699-8930.

VAN BUREN PARKS AND RECREATION RECEIVES WAYNE COUNTY GRANT FOR GET UP AND GET ACTIVE

The Van Buren Parks and Recreation Department has received a mini grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 dollars for the youth "Get Up and Get Active" program.

With the youth epidemic on a steady incline it is vital that all communities stand together to provide activities and information on how to become and stay physically fit. A major component of being active is keeping the activity fun. Children are more prone to stay with an activity if it is fun and within their interest. This is why Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation developed "Get Up and Get Active."

With an abundance of nontraditional, physical activities as well as providing information on nutrition and staying positive, this program will take place at the Van Buren Township Recreation Department even if participants do not have transportation. Every Saturday for eight weeks, youth that register with the recreation department will be transported from their homes (if needed) by the recreation department. They will be brought to the community center for a breakfast snack and stretching. Once we have finished with the daily inside activities, we will begin with the scheduled events. Youth will be broken into groups of two or more and earn points for participating in the program. Staff will keep track of the points and a chart will be created so youth can see how well they are performing in this program. On the last day of the program a Fitness Day will be implemented for the registered youth and their families. This day will be filled with physical activities, healthy picnic foods and awards for everyone that participated.

Scheduled events will vary each Saturday with such activities as our Vita Course, a walking scavenger hunt around the township, creating a mini garden at the recreation department, even performing in team building activities. Field trips are also a component of this program. Children will be able to experience numerous outings for getting up and getting active.

In addition, a public health advisor will be on hand to provide youth with useful nutritional information. Youth will also be able to earn points for keeping track of what activities they perform during the week as well as what they eat. They will be provided with an Activity/Food Organizer Booklet created by the Van Buren Recreation Department.

Overall, this program will definitely give youth a boost in self-esteem. They will be able to meet new people or "hang out" with their existing friends. "Get Up and Get Active" will also inform youth on the importance of staying healthy and providing nontraditional techniques in order to maintain this task. This program will go a long way toward "Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs" in Van Buren Township.

Bruce J. Ross
Director of Recreation

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP PARKS

Americans have a special relationship with their parks and a rich tradition of preserving public lands ever since the creation of the first national parks and subsequent development of state and local park systems. Where can you go for a relaxing retreat from everyday life? A place to unwind, have fun, go swimming at the beach, take your children to play, have a family reunion, spread out at an afternoon picnic, participate in sports, take a walk, ride your bike, see a concert, look for wildlife, go fishing, exercise, walk your dog, go sledding, enjoy some ice skating, toss some horseshoes, see your friends, walk through a haunted forest, have a barbecue, or just sit under a tree and read. These leisure experiences, and more, are all available at Van Buren Township's Parks.

Public parks provide many important benefits for the community. Parks provide the opportunity for township residents to get out and be physically active. Parks also have economic impacts by improving the property values of private land in close proximity to parklands. The preservation of vital green space and critical wildlife habitat are also benefits that the parks provide. Park benefits for individuals include facilitation of social interactions as well as improved moods, reduced stress, and an enhanced sense of wellness. Van Buren Township's Parks Department is committed to supplying these benefits by offering recreation options in its parks to all of its citizens.

As Van Buren Township continues to grow and change, the parks continue to grow and change with it. 2007 has been the first year of full operation for the new Van Buren and French Landing Park comfort stations. These comfort stations were made possible by the use of grant funds provided through Wayne County's parks millage. Other projects that are under way utilizing the Wayne County funding include the construction of Van Buren Park's renovated front entrance along with accessibility and picnic area improvements to the beach. The addition of a new park at the Riggs homestead is an exciting project under development utilizing the County funding. Improvements to the Haggerty Subdivision Park and new monument style sign with entryway landscaping for French Landing Park are also projects that will be completed with the grant money.

The parks have had a wonderful summer season. Attendance at Van Buren Park has sharply increased, and we are working toward providing the community with quality recreation options. Some attractions to the parks through this fall and winter season feature the Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest in Van Buren Park on October 6th, and the Haunted Forest featuring the Haunted Cabin and Trail of Terror will be taking place Friday and Saturday evenings October 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27. This winter will see the return of the popular ice skating rink and sled hill in front of Van Buren Park.

So as the weather cools off, remember to continue to visit your Van Buren Township Parks and take advantage of the recreation options available to you as we continue to create community through people, parks and programs.

Anthony Mulkey
Parks Manager

BUILDING, PLANNING & ORDINANCE SERVICES

“A community resource for Planning, Building and Ordinance; Providing a positive partnership through teamwork, communication and education; Responsible for safeguarding the public; Committed to enhancing the community.”

This is the mission statement of the Township's Building, Planning and Ordinance Enforcement Divisions; our stated commitment is printed on our business cards. The Department's focus is the health, safety and welfare of the public in the areas of construction, building, and ordinance enforcement. Further our staff is trained and available to provide information and guidance through the Township's permit process for those planning to improve their homes and property. Our range of experience is fairly expansive and includes any type of project from the construction of a **deck on the back of their home to the development of a corporate village.**

Our staff is here to explain the various zoning and building regulations, inspect and monitor the numerous sites under development, issue building and trade permits, provide information on developments in the Township, enforce zoning ordinances. We are committed to doing so in a manner that is as customer-friendly and as clear as possible.

We review and manage the technical and physical aspects of building and development under the jurisdiction of the Township's Zoning Ordinances and Building Codes. Technical and physical aspects include zoning compliance and enforcement, storm water management, planning and building plan review, the issuance of building permits and performance of field inspections. And as with any service organization, especially a government service agency, there are a many other items and issues that arise in the normal course of business; our staff is trained to provide help, perform investigations and work in a cooperative manner with you.

We report to the Township Supervisor and serve the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Board of Construction Appeals. We are accountable to the citizens, residents and business owners of the Township. The level and competency in the manner in which we carry out our charge is our highest priority.

Ten fulltime and one part time cadre of women and men make up the Department's staff. These ten are dedicated professionals whose goal is to meet you, help you and serve you. The Building, Planning and Ordinance divisions of the Department of Developmental Services, like other divisions/departments in Van Buren Township, are here to serve as well as provide service and guidance to the citizens, residents, business owners and other persons interested in moving to and/or developing in our community. The professionally trained Department staff welcomes your questions and the opportunity to meet and interact with you.

Bryce Kelley
Director of Planning and Economic Development

VBTV 12

At VBTV 12, we pride ourselves in keeping our community informed and entertained with an information bulletin board which runs twenty-four hours each day whenever a program is not airing; programs highlighting the classes and activities around the township; and live broadcast of Township Board Meetings. You can also check us out at our website, www.vanburen-mi.org, for program dates and times and other information regarding our community.

This fall we will continue with our regular line-up to bring you shows like the Belleville Chamber report with Janet Millard, and the Museum Historical Society Program. If you wish to own a copy of a program you've seen on VBTV 12, give us a call at (734) 699-8912 ext. 9322.

Don't forget to tune in to VBTV Channel 12, to catch our exciting programs, and for up to date township information so that you can participate in all of the exciting opportunities our community has to offer.

Ally Acosta
Cable Operations Manager

VAN BUREN FIRE-RESCUE RECOMMENDS THE USE OF KNOX-BOX RESIDENTIAL RAPID ENTRY SYSTEM

Seconds count in a life-threatening medical emergency or fire. Yet sometimes, firefighters are greeted by locked gates or entrance doors, causing a significant delay in getting to those in dire needs of our services.

With a significant amount of responses where there are invalids, handicapped/disabled, or elderly in the home, the Van Buren Fire-Rescue Department is joining more than 7,000 fire departments nationwide by highly recommending the installation of a non-destructive emergency access system, known as the Knox-Box, at your home.

The system is designed at putting a key to your home immediately in a firefighter's hand when you, or a loved one, find themselves unable to get to the door during an emergency. By simply putting a house key inside a secured box near your front door, where only the on-scene fire department personnel has access to it, you eliminate damage to your doors and windows when firefighters find it necessary to force their way in, in order to render immediate help.

The Residential Knox-Boxes, which cost \$140-\$180 each, are designed to protect you, your family, and your property during emergencies such as: emergency medical incidents, disable person lift assists, fire or smoke alarm activations, fire sprinkler system activations, and senior citizen personal medical alarm (I.E: Lifeline) alerts.

For an order form, or for more information on the program, contact Captain Anthony Karver at (734) 699-8900 ext 9419 or via email at: akarver@vanburen-mi.org.

Fred C. Fischer Library Events

*Summer Fun at the Library***Belleville Area Garden Walk**

Puppeteer Greg Lester entertains grade-schoolers at the Summer Reading Program

Teens solve a mystery at a CSI role playing game led by a real homicide detective

*Fall Programs at the Library***Story Times****Terrific Toddlers (Ages 2 - 3 1/2)**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., September 12 - October 17

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m., September 12 - October 17

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., November 14 - December 19

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m., November 14 - December 19

Preschool Pals (Ages 3 1/2 - 6)

Mondays, 6:30 p.m., September 10 - October 15

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., September 11 - October 16

Mondays, 6:30 p.m., November 5 - December 10

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., November 6 - December 11

Ravin' Readers (Ages 6-11)

One weekday evening, twice a month, with possible craft or activity involved. Dates to be announced.

Book Discussion Groups**Ages 18 and up**

Evening Book Group, 1st Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

African American Book Group, Last Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Creative Tradition:**Performance Poetry Ensemble**

Saturday, September 29, 2:30 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of poetry and jazz with urban folk poet Wardell Montgomery and saxophonist Keith Gamble. Sponsored by the Friends of the Fred C. Fischer Library.

Harvest Fest

Saturday, October 20, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bring the kids and enjoy old-time activities with your friends and neighbors! Dip candles and make cornhusk dolls and Indian corn jewelry. All activities are free and take place on 4th Street at the Library, Museum, and Farmer's Market.

Galapagos Adventure

Thursday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.

Enjoy photos and stories of the Galapagos Islands with Dee Crowe. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Address: 167 Fourth Street, Belleville, MI 48111

Phone: (734) 699-3291

Website: www.belleville.lib.mi.us

PRESS RELEASE

The long-awaited third edition of WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE: A History of Van Buren Township by Cathy S. Horste and Diane F. Wilson is scheduled to be published this summer.

First appearing in 1977, the original edition of WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE was researched and written in 1976 to mark the occasion of the nation's Bicentennial, its 200th anniversary. A second edition was published in 1980.

Topics explored in WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE included township settlers, churches, schools (from one-room log schools through the consolidated system), and cemeteries, complete with listings through 1977.

Also included are chapters on the pioneer village of Belleville, as well as the ghost-town communities of Rawsonville, Willow Run, Denton, Sheldon, Tyler Street, Otisville, Mt. Pleasant, and French Landing.

The third edition of WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE will include a much requested index, a quick reference which will provide easy access to the genealogy of hundreds of Van Buren Township families. The hard-bound book will contain over 770 pages and will be sold at a cost of \$43.

Books should be reserved in advance as this is a limited-run edition. Order forms are available at the Belleville Area Museum, the Fred C. Fischer Library, Van Buren Township Hall, and Belleville City Hall. To request an order form by mail, call the museum at (734) 697-1944 or Cathy Horste at (734) 697-3662.

Upon publication, advance purchasers may have books mailed to their home, or they may pick them up at the museum when notified. Delivery of WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE is expected in 60-120 days.

Fancy Fixins'

It may be too early for Thanksgiving Dinner, but it's not too early to prepare. Come join me as I create a unique table setting and garland for Thanksgiving Supper!

Please bring scissors, adhesive, bone folder and paper cutter to class.

Ages: 18 and up

**Friday, October 12
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Van Buren Resident = \$50 Non-Resident = \$65
(Materials included in price)

**** Must register 2 weeks in advance ****

Did You Know Van Buren Township Has A HISTORY?

Announcing the Publication of a Third Edition - Limited Run
WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

A History of Van Buren Township
by Cathy S. Horste and Diane F. Wilson

Now you can have a copy of your very own, with the new quick reference index. WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE, Third Edition, is a complete history of Van Buren Township beginning with its pioneers. Among the subjects explored are: early settlers, churches, schools (from one-room log schools through the consolidated system), and cemeteries, complete with listings through 1977. Also included are chapters on the Village of Belleville, as well as the ghost-town communities of Rawsonville, Willow Run, Denton, Sheldon, Tyler Street, Otisville, Mt. Pleasant and French Landing. Hardbound, 770+ pages. History enthusiasts will find *Water* intriguing, and family history researchers will love the new index! Books may be ordered by mail or picked up when available at the Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street, Belleville, MI. Delivery is anticipated in 90-120 days.

RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW!

ORDER FORM - PLEASE PRINT

WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE: A History of Van Buren Township

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

FOR PICK UP: Book cost = \$43.00 each
6% Michigan Sales Tax = \$2.58 each
TOTAL: \$45.58

FOR MAIL ORDERS: Book cost = \$43.00 each
6% Michigan Sales Tax = \$2.58 each
Shipping & Handling \$5.50
TOTAL: \$51.08 (resident) \$48.50 (non-resident)

PICK UP: (BEST DEAL) Please reserve _____ (#) of copies at \$45.58 for a total of \$_____ enclosed. I will pick up at the Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street, Belleville, MI, when notified.

BY MAIL - MICHIGAN RESIDENTS: Please reserve _____ (#) of copies at \$51.08 each, for a total of \$_____ enclosed, to be mailed to the address above.

BY MAIL - NON-RESIDENTS ONLY: Please reserve _____ (#) of copies at \$48.50 each, for a total of \$_____ enclosed, to be mailed to me at the address above.

Checks or money orders only, please. Questions? Contact Cathy Horste during business hours at (734) 697-3662. To place your order, mail payment and completed form to:

WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE
16446 Martinsville Road
Belleville, MI 48111.

BELLEVILLE AREA HOME TOUR Sunday, September 16

Mark your calendars for the Belleville Area Home Tour to be held on Sunday, September 16 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The tour will feature five beautiful homes and an 1853 commercial building. The tour is presented by the Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society.

The tour features homes in the city, in the country, and on the lake. The houses include a Victorian-era home on East Huron River Drive; two contemporary Belleville lakeside homes - one on Peninsular in the Mission Pointe subdivision and one on Lake Point Pass; a contemporary home on Willis Road, designed to be handicapped accessible; and a 19th Century upright-and-wing farm house on Tuttle Hill Road in Ypsilanti Township.

Also on this tour is Century 21/Belvil Realty located in a building constructed in 1853 as a Baptist Church. For many years, it was the site of the Roberts Brothers undertaking/furniture store business. In 2005, the building underwent a dramatic renovation and now features a wide central stairway, a balcony enclosed in glass and wood, and a stained glass ceiling at the site of the original church steeple.

Home tour tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 the day of the tour. Advance tickets are available at the Belleville Area Museum, Antiques on Main, Flowers by Katherine Rose, and the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce.

A Home Tour Soup & Salad Buffet Luncheon will be held at the Belleville Masonic Temple on tour day from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Luncheon tickets are \$6.50. The Temple will also be open for tours.



The Juriga Home
on East Huron River
Drive

The Patton
Home on Lake
Pointe Pass



You Are Invited to Tour Our New Exhibit

Generation to Generation: A History of Community Farms

Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street, Belleville

Featuring:

The History of Local Farms:

Budd, Miller, Reynolds, & CoyKendall

The Farm Home:

Kitchen, Sewing Room and Laundry Area

Barn Photography by Keith Bruder

For information, call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

2008 Historical Society Calendar

The 2008 Historical Society Calendar is expected to be available for sale by November 1. Each month will feature a full-page local historic photograph. Calendars are published as a fund raiser for the Belleville Area Museum and will be sold for \$7.00 each.

If you wish to place an order by mail, please call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

Trick or Treat

Wednesday, October 31 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Main Street, Belleville

Sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community

You are invited to the October program of the Belleville Area Historical Society

Mr. Charles Haas

of the Michigan Depression Glass Society

"The Glass Package"

Thursday, October 18, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Mr. Haas will explain how Depression Glass was molded and show samples manufactured during the Depression Glass era, dated 1925-40, by such glass-makers as Anchor-Hocking, Hazel-Atlas, Heisey, and Fostoria.

Bring your own Depression Glass pieces for "show-and-tell."

Belleville Area Museum
405 Main Street, Belleville
(734) 697-1944

CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

An Autumn Lecture Series

Presented By:

Belleville Area Council for the Arts
 Belleville Area Historical Society
 Friends of the Fred C. Fischer Library

All programs at 7:00 p.m.

at the
 Belleville Area Museum
 405 Main Street, Belleville

- Thursday, November 1** The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy on the ***Detroit River Walk***
- Thursday, November 8** Laurie Romulka Palazzolo on ***Dom Polski: Dance Hall Days of Detroit's Polonia***
- Thursday, November 15** Steward McMillan of Wayne State University on ***Historic Architecture of Detroit Churches***

(All programs followed by refreshments)

Coming up in Spring 2008
Saturday, April 5
 A "Behind the Scene" Tour of
 Pewabic Pottery
 Detroit

For additional information, call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

Belleville Area
 Chamber of Commerce
 Holiday Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, November 3
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Located at the Belleville High School
 501 W. Columbia

Belleville Harvest Fest
Saturday, October 20

Bring the kids and enjoy the bountiful harvest and old-time activities with friends and neighbors. Activities are free and take place at the:

Belleville Area Museum
 Fred C. Fischer Library
 Belleville Farmer's Market

Christmas is Coming!

Belleville Area Museum
 Festival of Holiday Trees
 November 27 - December 28, 2007

Festival of Holiday Trees

December will bring the museum's 12th Annual Festival of Holiday Trees. The museum will be filled with Christmas trees and wreaths decorated by individuals and community organizations such as churches, schools, businesses, and service groups. If you or your organization would like to take part, please call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

Christmas Parade of Lights

Saturday, December 1
 Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce

Parade steps off at BHS at 5:30 p.m.

Following the parade:
 City Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies
 On the museum lawn
 &
 Santa will hear Christmas wishes
 on the second floor of the museum

Christmas Ornament Workshop's

Saturday, December 8
10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 8 & 15
 Santa at the museum
 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TRASH GUIDELINES

All Homeowners:

Your trash must be set out the night prior to pickup day. Waste Management starts rubbish removal early and there is not a set schedule for the starting point of each route. Trash that is missed due to late set out will not be picked up until the following week - **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

Please write your address on all containers!

Homeowners of Brand New Homes:

Please call the Community Services Department at (734) 699-8926 to order your garbage container (toter) and recycle bin. You should receive both within 2-3 weeks following your call.

Please use a 32 gallon or smaller container until you receive your toter. Boxes are not acceptable rubbish containers.

Toters and Additional Containers:

Please bag all items and place in toters or additional containers. Bagging the trash keeps your toters/containers cleaner and does not allow items to stick or freeze to the bottom. **Please DO NOT place LOOSE TRASH in toters/containers or they will not be picked up.**

Additional containers must not exceed 32 gallons and must not weigh more than 50 lbs.

Please write your address on containers!

Special Pickups:

Pickups for refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners must be called in ahead of time for special collection due to Freon. These items will be picked up by a different truck than the normal trash truck. Doors on refrigerators/freezers must be removed and the shelving units from inside must also be removed and properly disposed of in a rubbish container.

To schedule a special pickup, please call the Community Services Department at (734) 699-8926 one day prior to pickup day.

Damaged Containers:

Broken or damaged containers supplied by Waste Management may be replaced or repaired if necessary. Please call (734) 699-8926 to notify us if your container needs to be replaced or repaired.

Waste Management will only provide maintenance or replacement of cart due to normal wear and tear including broken wheels, worn out bottom, broken or bent front bar or lid damage.

If you are moving:

Please leave the rubbish container and recycle bin that were provided by Waste Management on the property for the next homeowner as they remain the property of Waste Management.

Stolen Containers:

If your Waste Management toter is stolen or missing, you will need to contact Waste Management at (800) 796-9696 to acquire a new one at a cost of \$85.00. If you do not wish to purchase this container, you may use a 32 gallon or smaller container at the curbside.

Large Quantities of Trash:

All remodeling material or large amounts of rubbish must be taken to the landfill directly. As a Van Buren Township resident you have the option to utilize the landfill (Woodland Meadows) free of charge. This is a courtesy that is passed on to our homeowners. Please keep in mind that this privilege cannot be extended to contractors. Commercialized vehicles and/or Commercialized jobs are prohibited. In order to utilize the above privilege you must provide a driver's license that reflects a Van Buren Township address when you enter the landfill. Yard waste and household waste must be kept separate.

Holiday Pickup Schedule:

If your trash day falls on a holiday, please continue to place your trash at the curb for removal on your regularly scheduled day.

Attention Mobile Home/Manufactured Home and Apartment Residents:

If you wish to recycle, you may take your recycleables to the Woodland Meadows Recycling Center.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

Yard Waste Pickup **RESUMES**
the first full week of April.

Woodland Meadows is located on the south side of Van Born Road just west of Hannan Road. Landfill hours are: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. To contact Woodland Meadows please call (734) 326-0993.

YARD WASTE GUIDELINES

Brush

Bundle all brush whose branches are less than 6" in diameter. Bundles must not weigh more than 50 lbs. Bundles must be no longer than 4 feet in length and 18" around. Brush larger than 6" in diameter must still be bundled, however, it is considered trash and will be picked up as such.

If your trash, yard waste, or recycling is not picked up by 4:00 p.m. on your regularly scheduled day, please call (734) 699-8926.

Compost season ends **the last full week in November** - no compost will be taken at the landfill or curbside after that date.

Please be sure that all yard waste is set out at the curb tied and bundled, in the appropriate container, and properly labeled.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Services Department at (734) 699-8926.

Yard Waste Season

Yard Waste pickup **ENDS the last full week of November** and will **RESUME the first full week of April.**

Leaves and Grass Clippings

Leaves and grass clippings may either be placed in paper compost bags purchased at your local grocery store, or placed in a trash can with a compost sticker. Compost sticker must face the road.

Do not overload compost bags, and be sure to fold down the tops for easier lifting.

Do not use plastic bags!!

If you are using a can, it must have a yard waste sticker. Face the sticker toward the street and place the container 10 feet from your garbage. It should not be any larger than a 32 gallon can. 50 lb. limit.

RECYCLE GUIDELINES

Plastic

Bottles and Containers: Must be marked on the bottom with a 1 or 2 symbol. *Butter tubs and trays from microwaveable foods are not acceptable.*

Rinse and remove all caps.

Tin

Tin Cans: Remove all labels and rinse them out before placing in bin.

Aluminum: Containers and foil.

Glass

Bottles and Jars: Any color except brown. You do not have to peel the labels off or remove the little plastic rings that remain from twist off caps.

Rinse and remove all caps.

Please Recycle!

Paper

Newspapers: Including all inserts, advertisements, and magazines that are delivered with them.

White Paper: Including office paper, computer paper, and envelopes.

Brown Paper Bags: Keep them separate from your paper.

Cardboard

Cardboard: All cardboard boxes must be broken down (including moving boxes) into 2' x 2' bundles. Cardboard boxes are not acceptable rubbish containers.

**** No Pizza boxes ****

Tae Kwon Do

Ages: 8 to adult

Tuesdays & Thursdays

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

September 25 - December 13

January 8 - March 27

(No class November 22 and December 6)

Tae Kwon Do is an ongoing class geared to anyone interested in the Korean martial art. Classes are comprised of a diverse group of individuals of all ages, backgrounds, goals, and athletic skill levels. Students learn and advance in rank at their own pace.

Emphasis is on self control, flexibility, coordination, and self defense. This class is taught by a three time national gold medalist with the assistance of skilled and knowledgeable blackbelts.

Testing dates will be announced throughout the class. Results of the test will be given during class time, if you are not present to receive the testing results, you may pick up results at our recreation office.

Van Buren Residents = \$55.00

Non-Residents = \$70.00

Will Pro-rate Classes



Camp In "Down on the Farm"

Friday, November 16

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Ages: 7 and up



Old McDonald had a farm and you're invited to spend the evening on his farm. Kids grab your sleeping bags and trot on over to the rec center for an evening of fun, down on the farm.

We'll make nifty crafts and watch Charlotte's Web while we "camp" out in the farm room.

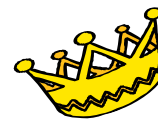
We'll make hot dogs, trail mix and s'mores for dinner.

Van Buren Residents = \$20 Non-Residents = \$35

Miss Van Buren Township Pageant 2007



Saturday, October 20
Location and time TBD



All participants must fill out a registration form with the recreation department. We must have a registration form on file with a \$50 Entry Fee.

Competition Phases:

Private Interview, Party Wear, Sports Wear, and on Stage Question

Optional Categories:

Talent, Photogenic

\$15 additional for each category

**** All categories are based on number of participants ****

All Categories:

Little Miss - ages 4-7

Junior Miss - ages 8-12

Miss Teen - ages 13-16

Miss - ages 17-22

Winners will participate in the City of Belleville Christmas Parade. Also, winners will attend various local events. Former Miss Michigan, Laura Abney and the Van Buren Township Recreation Department will be partnering to offer this new and exciting event.

Don't Leave Your Kids Home Alone Babysitter/CPR Certification Class

Make yourself more marketable in your community by becoming certified in American Heart Infant and Child as well as Babysitter Safety. This program will teach you how to handle emergency situations, rescue breathing, as well as how to hold infants.

Saturday, September 22

Saturday, October 27

Saturday, February 23

Saturday, April 26

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ages 11 and up - pizza included.

Van Buren Residents = \$50 Non-Residents = \$65

Jitterbugs Dance, Inc.

Enroll in Youth Dance with our amazing instructor, Jennifer Valinski for non-stop fun. Your child will develop techniques for jazz, ballet and tap. If they have already been in youth dance then your child will learn even more about enhancing their skills. **Register with Dance Instructor, not the Recreation Department.**

Tuesdays: September 18 - December 17 (14 week class)

Wednesdays: September 19 - December 18 (13 week class - No Class on October 31)

Tuesdays:

Kinder Ballet	5:00 - 5:30 p.m.	(Ages 4-6)
Kinder Jazz	5:30 - 6:00 p.m.	(Ages 4-6)
Kinder Tap	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.	(Ages 4-6)
Jr. Jazz/Hip Hop	6:30 - 7:15 p.m.	(Ages 7 & up)
Dance Team	7:15 - 8:00 p.m.	(Ages 6-10)**

** Instructor's permission, must be enrolled in Ballet class

Wednesdays:

Preschool Ballet/Tap	5:00 - 5:30 p.m.	(Ages 3-4)
Jr. Ballet	5:30 - 6:15 p.m.	(Ages 7 & up)
Jr. Tap	6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	(Ages 7 & up)
Dance Team	7:00 - 7:45 p.m.	(Ages 10 & up)**

** Instructor's permission, must be enrolled in Ballet class

Prices:

- 1/2 hour classes = \$87.50 (14 weeks)
- 45 min. classes = \$101.50 (14 weeks)
- 1/2 hour classes = \$81.25 (13 weeks)
- 45 min. classes = \$94.25 (13 weeks)

Youth Cheerleading

Instructor, Laura Abney former Eastern Michigan University Cheerleader, will teach students the basic fundamentals of cheerleading including sidelines, cheers, jumps and routines.

Mondays, September 10 - October 15

Mondays, October 22 - November 26

Mondays, January 21 - February 25

Mondays, March 3 - April 7

Mondays, April 14 - May 19

5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Ages: 6-14
 Van Buren Residents = \$50 Non-Residents = \$65

3 week mini-session

Mondays, December 3, 10 & 17
5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$25 Non-Resident = \$40

Registration:

Please register September 11th and 13th with Jennifer Valinski. Registration will be from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Register ahead of time by calling (734) 777-0201.

Late registration held on the first day of class.

Get Up & Get Active

Don't spend your spring break indoors...Get Up and Get Active with the rec crew. We'll take trips to fun and awesome places. Call for a list of trips.

Drop your child off at 10:00 a.m./please pick up at 4:00 p.m. Must have at least five to go, 25 max.

March 24 - 28 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ages: 7-15 Lunch is included

Van Buren Resident = \$55.00 for all trips

Non-Residents = \$70.00 for all trips

Van Buren Residents = \$15.00/per trip

Non-Residents = \$20.00/per trip

Just Gymnastics

Saturdays, September 15 - November 17

Saturdays, March 22 - May 24 (Recital May 24)
(10 weeks)

Tot Tumbling

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Ages: 4-6

Van Buren Residents = \$65

Non-Residents = \$80

Beginners

12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Ages: 7 and up

Van Buren Residents = \$70

Non-Residents = \$85

Intermediates

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Ages: 7 and up

Van Buren Residents = \$75

Non-Residents = \$90

Anusara Inspired Yoga

Fall Schedule (3 sessions)

This graceful, flowing practice blends the spirit and expression of the heart with the science of biomechanics and alignment. For more information about Anusara and the instructor, please go to:

<http://www.giqidasyoga.com>

Therapeutic Yoga: Mondays, 6:45 - 7:45 p.m.

Good for beginners and those who have injuries. Suitable for all ages. Emphasis of detailed instructions and basic alignments that are therapeutic for injuries. Build strength and flexibility. Each session has a different focus. It is recommended to come to all 3 sessions since all parts of our bodies are connected. No prior yoga experience required.

Yoga for Beginners: Mondays, 7:45 - 8:45 p.m.

Mixed level of beginners and intermediate level. Some or no yoga experience but new to Anusara Yoga. Build strength and flexibility. These 3 sessions are based on progressive pace. It is recommended to come to all three sessions.

Level	Time	Dates
Session 1 Therapeutic Beginner	6:45-7:45 p.m. 7:45-8:45 p.m.	Mondays, Sept 10 - Oct 1
Session 2 Therapeutic Beginner	6:45-7:45 p.m. 7:45-8:45 p.m.	Mondays, Oct 15 - Nov 5
Session 3 Therapeutic Beginner	6:45-7:45 p.m. 7:45-8:45 p.m.	Mondays, Nov 12 - Dec 3

Class Fees:

Therapeutic Yoga: \$30/session (Non-Resident: \$45)

Beginners Yoga: \$30/session (Non-Resident: \$45)

Sign up for 2 sessions: \$55 (Non-Resident: \$65)

Drop-ins = \$10

Students receive a 5% discount with valid student ID.

Make up Policy: Missed classes can be made up during the current session. Missed classes may NOT be carried over to the next session. To set up a private lesson, please contact the instructor.

Please: Bring a yoga mat to class. As a courtesy to others, arrive 5 minutes early to the class. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. Do not eat a full meal at least 2 hours prior to the class.

Belly Dancing

Thursdays, September 20 - November 8

Thursdays, January 24 - March 13

7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Discover American Cabaret and Tribal Style Belly Dance, a mixture of modern, westernized belly dance and folkloric dances from around the world. Learn from a professional about the culture behind this exciting aerobic dance form while you shimmy and shake your way to a complete dance routine!

Adults only please, or youths accompanied by an adult.

Comfortable clothes recommended and yoga mat

Van Buren Residents = \$45 Non-Residents = \$60

Free Health Talks

ADD/ADHD/Autism

September 19 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Holistic approaches to ADHD and Autism - Alternative to bringing better health without drugs. Dr. Blagsvedt will discuss nutritional and detoxification needs, use of homeopathic remedies and benefits and supporting mental and emotional needs.

Pain Control

October 17 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Alternatives to natural relief of various chronic pain issues.

Compulsive Eating

November 14 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Learn alternative approaches to dealing with overeating and weight management.

Women's Health

December 19 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Discussion will cover natural approaches to various issues.



**More Health Talks
coming in Winter**

fresh moves | new music | pure motivation

jazzercise
it shows

Each 60 minute workout blends dance and muscle toning movements choreographed to today's hottest music, including Top 40, jazz, country, funk, and classics. Our instructors make all the routines fun and easy-to-follow. Every class includes a gentle warm-up, 30-minute aerobic workout, muscle toning and strengthening segment with weights, and a stretch finale.

Ongoing, Mondays & Wednesdays

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (Regular) (**free childcare)

5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. (Regular)

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Regular)

Ongoing, Tuesdays (Regular) 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
(Cardio Quick) 6:25 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.
Ongoing, Thursdays (Regular)** 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
Ongoing, Fridays (Regular)** 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
(Express) 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Ongoing, Saturdays (Circuit) 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.**Ongoing, Sundays** (Regular) 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

\$25.00 joining fee

\$36.00/month Easy Fitness Ticket (EFT)

\$88/8 weeks (cash or check) Walk-in = \$10.00

cardio



strength



stretch



Tai Chi Chuan & Meditation

Tai Chi Chuan is the traditional Chinese martial art practiced for self defense. Tai Chi improves balance, flexibility, muscle strength, and cardiovascular to release tension by exercising all muscle groups and emphasizing breathing.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**Fridays, September 14 - November 16 (10 weeks)****Fridays, January 11 - March 14 (10 weeks)**

Van Buren Resident = \$35 Non-Resident = \$40

Mini-Session**Fridays, October 5 - November 16**

Van Buren Resident = \$25 Non-Resident = \$30

All levels of Tai Chi are encouraged to sign up.

Adventures in Art Appreciation

This new and exciting youth art program will enable children the opportunity to visit art museums. This program will expose children to various arts and cultures they may or may not have resources to experience. Children will develop art appreciation as well as etiquette for visiting museums.

Van Buren Recreation and the Belleville Area Arts Council are partnering to bring this program to the community. Prior to departing for the day, students will engage in discussion with experienced art presenters.

On the final day, students will showcase what they have learned on their excursions. A final group project will be completed and displayed in Van Buren Township.

Tentative Schedule:

Toledo Art Museum, Charles H. Wright African American History Museum, Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the DIA.

Saturdays, October-NovemberDates & Times TBA **Ages: 11-15**

Fee **\$5 per day** (must register one week in advance) lunch is included. ** Please see page 26 about Project Youth for financial assistance if needed.

The recreation department will provide transportation to and from the museums.

Snowmobile Safety

Who needs to take a snowmobile safety course?

- A person who is at least 12 but less than 17 years of age operating a snowmobile without direct supervision of a person 21 years of age or older must have in their immediate possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate.
- A person who is at least 12 but less than 17 years of age may not cross a highway or street without having a valid snowmobile safety certificate in their immediate possession.

Receive student reading material when you register. This information is for you to read and complete the exercises at the end of each chapter.

Come to the one time class for testing on
Thursday, December 6, 6:00-9:30 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$15 Non-Resident = \$30

Non-Refundable Fee 15 minimum for class

Drama Improvisational Comedy

Saturdays, September 15 - October 20
Saturdays, October 27 - December 1
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Ages: 10 & up

Come and learn the basics of drama and Improvisational Comedy. Children will be involved in a series of fun-filled learning activities which aim to develop ongoing confidence, self-esteem and skill in verbal communication while learning the basics of drama performance. Improv is a form of theater in which the actors perform spontaneously, without a script. We will learn in-depth character development, spontaneity, focus, being in the moment, comedic timing, and the collaborative creative process. Emphasis will be placed on clean, child-like comedy! Students will learn to develop clear speech, fluent delivery, and pleasing social skills.

Instructor Susan MacQuarrie has an extensive background in drama and dance. She will be sure to provide the techniques but with a fun twist.

Van Buren Residents = \$45 Non-Residents = \$60

Domestic Violence and Anger Management

Ongoing, Thursdays
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Join Social Worker Moses Boone on a weekly basis to discuss issues of domestic violence and steps to fulfill anger management. Moses has twenty four years of diverse work experience in human services. This is a free program to assist those who are looking for help and understanding. Participants must meet with Moses Boone prior to registering for the program.

If you are new and interested in attending class, come 15 minutes prior to start of the session to meet Mr. Boone.

Adult Ballet Workout

Saturdays, September 15 - October 20
Saturdays, October 27 - December 1
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Ages: 15 and up

Come and get a great workout while learning the beautiful art of ballet. Work on flexibility, toning, and coordination while dancing to beautiful, soothing classical music. Class will concentrate on stretching, barre work, centre moves, and traveling steps. Join us in this relaxing way to tone and strengthen yourself to a stronger you.

Instructor Susan MacQuarrie has an extensive background in a variety of dance styles: Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Highland, Irish, Character, Middle Eastern (just to name a few).

Van Buren Residents = \$45 Non-Residents = \$60

American/Latin Combo Dance Lessons

Learn the basics of Beginning Ballroom Dancing. American: Foxtrot, Waltz, Swing or Disco Hustle. Latin: Cha-Cha, Tango, Mambo, Rumba, and others.

Wednesdays, September 19 - November 7
Wednesdays, January 16 - March 5
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

(8 week class) **Couples Rates:**

Van Buren Residents = \$65 Non-Residents = \$80

(8 week class) **Singles Rates:**

Van Buren Residents = \$55 Non-Residents = \$70

Wednesdays, November 14 - December 19
Wednesdays, March 12 - April 16
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

(6 week class) **Couples Rates:**

Van Buren Residents = \$45 Non-Residents = \$60

(6 week class) **Singles Rates:**

Van Buren Residents = \$35 Non-Residents = \$50

****Partners are not required ****

Explosion Book

Join us for an afternoon of fun creating a handmade explosion scrapbook. Take home a 4"x4" book that opens up to hold at least 10 pictures. And a bonus mini explosion book.

Instructor: Darlene Gerick

Level: Beginners & above **Ages:** 12+

Supplies needed: Adhesive, scissors and 12x12 paper trimmer.

Monday, October 22 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 27 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$15 Non-Resident = \$18

Holiday Cards

Join us for an afternoon of fun creating handmade Holiday Cards. Take home 16 handmade cards (4 each of 4 different designs) and envelopes.

Instructor: Darlene Gerick

Level: Beginners and above **Ages:** 12+

Supplies Needed: Adhesive, Scissors

Monday, November 5 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 10 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$20 Non-Resident = \$23

Simply Cards

Create 10 colorful cards with a matching box to store them in, using Simply Scrappin Kits. Choose from Birthday, Baby, Winter, or Sentimental (please specify at time of registration).

Instructor: Darlene Gerick

Level: Beginners & up **Age:** 12+

Supplies Needed: Adhesive, scissors and 12x12 paper trimmer.

Monday, October 8 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 13 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$30 Non-Resident = \$33

K-9 Household Obedience Behavior Modification Class

Join trainer of 40 years experience, Lila Warner, for six weeks of one on one training. What to bring: your dog, a training collar and a 6 foot leash. Dogs must be six months or older.

We teach you to train your own pet under our supervision. Must bring proof of rabies, distemper, and a recent proof of negative fecal report to the first class. Your dog's tags must be up to date as well.

18 or older to participate

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

**** Classes overlap so advanced dogs can show beginners their new skills ****

October 2 - November 6

November 6 - December 11

January 8 - February 12

April 1 - May 6

**** Classes held at Belleville High School Small Gymnasium ****

No aggressive dogs allowed.

Van Buren Residents = \$35 Non-Residents = \$40

Cards for Gift Cards

Does your Holiday Shopping include Gift Cards? Spend some time with us making Cards especially for holding Gift Cards. We will make a dozen cards. Option for Holiday, Birthday, or Wedding.

Instructor: Darlene Gerwick

Level: Beginners & above **Age:** 12+

Supplies Needed: Adhesive, scissors

Monday, December 3 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 8 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$12 Non-Resident = \$15

Be sure to check out **Scrapbooking Backgrounds** on **Page 25.**



Van Buren Township Parks & Recreation
Presents
2007 Haunted Forest



Featuring

THE HAUNTED CABIN & TRAIL OF TERROR

October 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 26 & 27 (Closed Halloween night)

Open: 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Ticket Sales: 7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

\$8.00 per victim

**** Not recommended for small children ****



Located at Van Buren Park on the S. I-94 Service Drive between Belleville and Rawsonville Roads.

Please call (734) 699-8921 in advance for information or the Park at (734) 484-3666.

Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest

Saturday, October 6 at Van Buren Park
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Have no fear it's the Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest time of year. The day is planned with lots of fun, fun, fun for everyone!

In addition to this year's Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest is the **Candy Walk**. Please be aware this candy walk will replace the trick-or-treat night traditionally held at the Van Buren Township Hall.

Cost: \$10 per person

Babies under 2 years of age are FREE

Included in price:

12:00-6:00 p.m.	Inflatables, Moon Walk/Giant Slide
12:00-6:00 p.m.	Walk through the forest
12:00-6:00 p.m.	Hayride
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Games/Kid's Crafts
1:00-1:45 p.m.	Animal Magic, "Creatures of the Night"
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Get a closer look at Animal Magic's "creatures"
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Games/Kid's Crafts
4:00-4:45 p.m.	Gordon Russ "Spooky Monster Magic Show"
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Candy Walk through the forest

For additional fee:

12:00-6:00 p.m.	Farmers Market/Craft Show for all ages
12:00-6:00 p.m.	Food vendors will be selling goodies

Parking is free. Food vendor on site - no outside food and/or beverages. NO pets allowed. NO refunds.

2007 Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest Fall Arts & Craft Show

**** Juried Show ****

Saturday, October 6
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Held at Van Buren Park
(located off the S. I-94 Service Drive)

Space Size 10 x 10

\$30 - Bring your own table

\$35 - 6ft. table supplied/must bring your own shelter

If you are interest in participating in this event, please contact the Van Buren Recreation Department for space availability. Last day for registration is Friday, September 21st. Registration forms are available at the Recreation Department.

For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at (734) 699-8921.

Brunch with Santa

Performance by The Belleville Brass

Sunday, December 16

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Van Buren Township Hall

Cost: Adults = \$7
Children 3 and up = \$5
Seniors = \$5
Children under 3 = FREE

**** MUST PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE ****

Ticket sales end Wednesday, December 12

Who can that be with a bright red suit and a shiny red nose? Well it's Santa Claus and he invites all youngsters to come out for brunch with him. Mrs. Claus will be around as well to share a fun story with you.

Enjoy brunch while listening to old and new seasonal songs performed by The Belleville Brass. After brunch head to Santa's workshop for photos. Recreation staff will have a Polaroid camera however bringing your own camera is encouraged. (Polaroid pictures are \$2 each, 2 max.)

This year the recreation department will be collecting donations for FMAR (Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue). Bring your donations to place under the "Giving Tree."

There are a limited number of seats available. NO onsite registration.

Any questions, please call Van Buren Parks and Recreation at (734) 699-8921.

Scrapbook Backgrounds

Everything you need to know about creating beautiful background sheets. Use wheels, stamps, inks, marbles, saran wrap, and other household items to make 10 - 6"x6" background pages.

Level: Beginner & above **Age:** 12+
Supplies Needed: none

Monday, November 26 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 1 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Van Buren Resident = \$9 Non-Resident = \$12

2007 Holiday Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, December 1, 2007

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Van Buren Township Community Center
46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Twp, MI 48111**

- **ALL CRAFTS MUST BE HANDMADE** (Non-handmade items will not be allowed)
- Electricity is not provided
- Crafters must provide their own display setup
- Setup begins Friday, November 30, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Saturday setup begins at 8:00 a.m.
- Crafters are expected to stay until 3:00 p.m.
- Call for space availability before sending in payment
- Send 2 pictures of your display
- Checks are payable to Van Buren Township
- Call (734) 699-8921 for more information

8' x 8' Space = \$20 bring your own table
\$25 - 6 ft. table supplied

8' x 10' Space = \$25 bring your own table
\$30 - 6ft. table supplied

10' x 10' Space = \$30 bring your own table
\$35 - 6ft. table supplied

\$5.00 for each additional table

Holiday Lights Contest

It's that time again to brighten the outside of your home for the holidays.

Deck your home with lights of many...
"Fa La La La La - La La La La."

Registration forms due by **Wednesday, December 12.**

Judging will take place **Friday, December 14.**
We will be randomly visiting the outside of your home on this evening. Please have your holiday lights on display. Winner will be called the following day. **** Must be a Van Buren Township resident ****

Winner receives:

Home photo in The Enterprise and a \$50 gift certificate to Applebee's restaurant.

The 13th Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance



Friday, February 8

Evening Dance 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



Saturday, February 9

Matinee Dance 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (ages 5 & under)

Evening Dance 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Located at the Van Buren Community Center
46425 Tyler Road

Spend an evening in "Old Hollywood." Dad's get out your zoot suits and girls put on your sparkle dresses and Jitterbug on over for some old time fun!

Grandfathers, uncles,
big brothers etc... are invited as well.

There will be no refunds. No tickets sold at the door. Tickets are limited.

Van Buren Residents = \$20 per couple
Non Residents = \$25 per couple
\$5 for each additional child
\$10 for each additional adult

Mother/Son Rock N' Bowl Night



Friday, May 9

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Meet at Lodge Lanes
46255 S. I-94 Service Drive

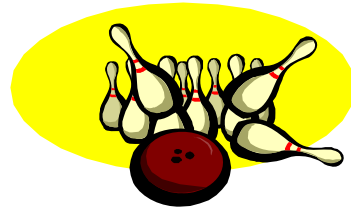


Show off your favorite sports team attire while you spend the evening bowling, eating pizza and groovin' to the music. Grandmothers, aunts, big sisters are invited too. Please register early space is limited.

When registering, please let us know who you would like on your lane so we can organize teams in advance.

Van Buren Residents = \$20 per couple
Non-Residents = \$25 per couple
\$5.00 for each additional child

Price includes 2-3 games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop.



Pre-Marshmallow Drop Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, March 15

8:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.



Held at the Community Center,
46425 Tyler Road

Join us before the Marshmallow Drop for King Brothers' pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. Please pre-register for the breakfast to help us plan accordingly. Participants can meet Mr. Bunny and Mrs. Bunny and get their pictures taken with them as well.

\$5 for adult
\$5 for child (includes admission to Marshmallow Drop)
2 and under are FREE

Marshmallow Drop



Saturday, March 15

Located at the Softball Field,
46425 Tyler Road



Heads up! Watch as thousands of marshmallows are dropped from a helicopter onto the softball field. Children only need to turn in one marshmallow to receive a treasure. There is no grand prize. Please remember to dress appropriately; it may get cold out there.

First Drop: 10:00 a.m. - ages 4 and under
Second Drop to follow - ages 5-7
Final Drop to follow - 8-10
Drops are approximately 10 minutes apart.

\$2 per child

Rain Date: Sunday, March 16 - First Drop at 1:00 p.m. (no pancake breakfast)



March 3rd Open Registration for all Camps



Registration time: 8:00 a.m. - 8:50 p.m.

First Session: June 16 - July 11 (4 weeks) No camp Friday, July 4

Second Session: July 14 - August 8 (4 weeks)

Registration for 1st session ends May 12 - Registration for 2nd session ends June 23

**** Please notice registration is based on grade level for the 2007-2008 school year, not age.**

Tot Camp: (Grades: K-2) Held at Van Buren Park
Van Buren Resident = \$340 Non-Resident = \$355

Day Camp: (Grades: 3-5) Held at Van Buren Park
Van Buren Resident = \$340 Non-Resident = \$355

Tween Camp: (Grades: 6-7) Held at Van Buren Park
Van Buren Resident = \$340 Non-Resident = \$355

Club Teen: (Grades: 8-10) Held at the Community Ctr.
Van Buren Resident = \$360 Non-Resident = \$375

Camps include: transportation for those who live in Van Buren Township and City of Belleville, one camp t-shirt, games, crafts, field trips, socialization with peers, supervision from highly trained counselors, and a chance for campers to just be a kid while enjoying the outdoors.

**** Camp Applications will not be dispersed prior to March 3rd ****

All Camps Run From: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Monday, June 2 Parent Orientation

It is highly recommended for parents/guardians to attend camp orientation. Camp packets and transportation times will be dispersed at the meeting. Plus meet and greet with your campers' counselors.

Tot Camp 6:00 p.m.
Day Camp 6:30 p.m.
Tween Camp 7:00 p.m.
Teen Camp 7:30 p.m.

Mother/Daughter Tea

Sunday, May 4
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mothers, daughters, grandmothers etc. are invited to our 7th annual Tea Party. Sample various teas, light refreshments and make crafts too. Theme to be announced.

Held at the Van Buren Community Center.
46425 Tyler Road

Van Buren Residents = \$20 per couple
Non-Resident = \$25 per couple

\$5.00 for each additional child
\$10.00 for each additional adult

Youth Under Construction

Spend the afternoon with your family learning about positive influences and how to become an effective role model for your community.

Youth Under Construction's Mission:

To develop quality entertainment productions and programs that educate and reinforce values-based, character-building lessons to support a student's emotional intelligence, growth and critical thinking.

So come on out to hear positive entertainment while enjoying hands-on experiences.

Sunday, November 18

3:00-4:00 p.m. - Show

4:00-5:00 p.m. - Light refreshments

Wayne County Residents = \$5 Non-Residents = \$7

Sponsored by: Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation
A county endorsed grant funded program to provide positive and appropriate leisure services to individuals with disabilities.

See www.wwctr.org for a listing of fall programs.

How to Register:

Walk In:

Register at the Recreation Department Desk, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. We are located at 46425 Tyler Road between Belleville and Beck Roads. Registration is taken on a first-come, first-served basis. We accept cash or check. Please make checks payable to Van Buren Township.

Mail In:

Print all information on registration form, be sure to include phone number and class name. Mail to the address on the registration form with check or money order. Please do not mail cash! All mail will be processed on a first-come basis.

Important Recreation Phone Numbers:

Van Buren Soccer Association

(734) 480-3966 or www.vanburensoccer.com

You must register with the Association for soccer.

Belleville Cougars

(734) 697-0440

You must register with the Belleville Cougars.

Belleville Area Little League

(734) 487-9335

www.eteamz.com/BellevilleAreaLL

You must register with Belleville Area Little League.

Belleville Tiger Swim Club

(734) 697-9494

You must register with Tiger Swim Club.

All of the above groups are parent ran organizations. Groups use recreation department's facilities only.

Project Youth

This is a community participation outreach program. If you are looking to make a donation for a great cause, this is it. This program will give children who are from families of low to moderate income a chance to participate in the various recreation programs at our facility. Applicants seeking to apply for this Scholarship can call Recreation Deputy Director Jennifer Wright at (734) 699-8921. Scholarships will not be granted until the Recreation Department receives funds.

Applications are available at the Van Buren Recreation Department. Proof of your household income must be submitted with the application. All information is confidential. Children may qualify for one scholarship per season.

Volunteers

The Van Buren Parks and Recreation Department is looking for volunteers to assist with our community activities, events, and youth programs. There is something for everyone - ongoing volunteer programs or a few hours of activity helping others. Upcoming volunteer opportunities include: Not-so-Scary Haunted Forest and Brunch with Santa. For more information, please contact Jennifer Wright at (734) 699-8921 or jwright@vanburen-mi.org.



Having fun at Takin It to the Streets!