



# Van Buren Lake Ledger

*"Your link to recreational leisure activities and community news"*

Volume IV: Fall/Winter 2008-2009

- 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"*

## VAN BUREN PARKS LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

The Van Buren Township Park System is committed to improving park facilities and the quality of life for the community. The parks have experienced a time of tremendous growth over the last couple of years. This year saw the completion of the new front entrance and beach accessibility improvements at Van Buren Park. Improvements to pavilion access as well as the completion of the renovation of the park store have taken place concurrently with improvements to other structures within the park.

### **VAN BUREN PARKS**

Continued on Page 4



Visit our website at: [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)

## Van Buren Township Directory

### Board of Trustees

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Cindy C. King ( <a href="mailto:cking@vanburen-mi.org">cking@vanburen-mi.org</a> )<br>Supervisor . . . . . | 699-8910 |
| Joannie D. Payne ( <a href="mailto:jpayne@vanburen-mi.org">jpayne@vanburen-mi.org</a> )<br>Clerk . . . . . | 699-8909 |
| Sharry A. Budd ( <a href="mailto:sbudd@vanburen-mi.org">sbudd@vanburen-mi.org</a> )<br>Treasurer . . . . . | 699-8903 |
| Lianne Clair<br>Phillip Hart<br>Jeffrey Jahr<br>Walter Rochowiak<br>Trustees . . . . .                     | 699-8910 |

### Township Departments

#### Public Safety

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Jerry Champagne, Director of Public Safety . . . | 699-8930 |
| Police, Fire Dispatch . . . . .                  | 699-8930 |
| Animal Control . . . . .                         | 699-8930 |
| Emergencies . . . . .                            | 9-1-1    |

#### Developmental Services

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Bryce Kelley, Planning & Economic<br>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](http://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.

## Table of Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Directory &amp; Meeting Schedule</b> . . . . .         | 2         |
| <b>Supervisor's Office</b> . . . . .                      | 3-4       |
| <b>Clerk's Office</b> . . . . .                           | 4         |
| <b>Treasurer's Office</b> . . . . .                       | 5         |
| <b>Boating &amp; Marine News</b> . . . . .                | 6         |
| <b>Fred C. Fischer Library Info</b> . . . . .             | 7         |
| <b>Belleville Area Museum</b> . . . . .                   | 8-9       |
| <b>Parks and Recreation &amp; VBT 12</b> . . . . .        | 9         |
| <b>Solid Waste/Recycling Survey</b> . . . . .             | 10        |
| <b>Water Dept. &amp; Senior News</b> . . . . .            | 11        |
| <b>New Trash &amp; Recycle Info</b> . . . . .             | 12        |
| <b>Household Hazardous Waste Day</b> . . . . .            | 13        |
| <b>Trash &amp; Recycle Guidelines</b> . . . . .           | 14-15     |
| <b>Recreation Program - Youth Classes</b> . . . . .       | 16-17     |
| <b>Recreation Program - Adult Fitness</b> . . . . .       | 18-19     |
| <b>Recreation Program - Teen/Adult Classes</b> . . . . .  | 20        |
| <b>Recreation Program - Special Events</b> . . . . .      | 21, 23-25 |
| <b>Recreation Program - Crafts &amp; Cards</b> . . . . .  | 22        |
| <b>Recreation Program - General Information</b> . . . . . | 26-27     |
| <b>Recreation Program - Therapeutic Rec</b> . . . . .     | 28        |
| <b>Recreation Program - Van Buren Parks</b> . . . . .     | 29        |
| <b>Recreation Program - Gym Schedule</b> . . . . .        | 30        |
| <b>Recreation Program - Registration Form</b> . . . . .   | 31        |
| <b>Recreation Program - Registration Info</b> . . . . .   | 32        |

### SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Writing this since publication of the State of the Township 2007-08, I feel I must comment upon the events of the past several months. Despite the dreary economy we face in Michigan, Township Hall has been a busy place. In January, the New Year commenced with Planning & Economic Development Director Kelley and I continuing our work on the many committees formed to develop the Detroit Region Aerotropolis. This work has included governance to determine how and who will provide oversight of aerotropolis affairs, the development of a marketing plan and business attraction plan to draw interested parties to the aerotropolis and public policy and legislation that will enable the aerotropolis to become a reality. For several months, Director Kelley and I have met every couple of weeks with one committee or another as the ten entities who signed the non-binding Memorandum of Understanding work to complete these various tasks.

Nearly everyday I receive questions from residents and business persons in the region about the aerotropolis and in every instance, I remind people the aerotropolis is a long-term concept to develop some 25,000 acres of developable land that exists roughly from Washtenaw County east to the City of Taylor. It is a coordinated land use effort with the seven communities, two counties and the Wayne County Airport Authority working in collaboration to develop the region economically to jump start the economy and most important to Michigan residents, provide jobs, particularly high paying jobs that will stave off the "brain drain" with our young people leaving to find work in other areas of the country.

In January, the Board of Trustees chose to become a member of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and appointed Clerk Payne as the Township's representative with Downtown Development Authority member Bob Bechtel being appointed the alternate representative to SEMCOG. For some time, Van Buren had not been a member of this organization but after evaluating their many services and resources, we realized that SEMCOG provides much to its members. Their services include statistical and analytical data to forecast any number of trends such as those involving population changes, land use development, and industry shifts, and an extensive library of materials on matters of interest to all levels of government. Quite simply, SEMCOG, an organization that also serves to influence public policy decisions was too good to pass up, and becoming a member provides Van Buren Township a voice in matters that impact upon our community.

In March, the Board approved seeking bids for construction of the first phase of Riggs Heritage Park located at the corner of E. Huron River Drive and Martinsville Roads. This park, a utilization of an original Van Buren homestead, is designed to be passive as compared to a park providing organized sports and other events, and is meant to honor the past and perhaps provide a glimpse of a more restful period in the township's history. The improvements to be made include providing restrooms and walking paths, park benches and other amenities, all in keeping with a nostalgic theme. Riggs Heritage Park was made possible with the \$2 million Wayne County parks grant the township received two years ago. We are fortunate in Van Buren to finally be able to say we have a bonafide parks system with Riggs Heritage Park complementing our first park, Van Buren Park on the S. I-94 Service Drive, French Landing Park on Haggerty Road, Quirk Park behind Township Hall and the neighborhood park off Hamilton Street in Haggerty Subdivision. The Board was pleased the low bidder to perform the construction work was Davenport Brothers, a local business who has done many similar projects in Van Buren and elsewhere. Their work is high quality, on time and on budget. We hope you enjoy this new addition to our park system.

As I write this, the Board of Trustees has awarded Ricardo, Inc. a 12-year facilities exemption certificate (i.e. tax abatement) in concert with a State of Michigan package of tax incentives related

### SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Continued on Page 4

## CLERK'S OFFICE

We all survived the Primary Election and it is now time to move forward to the General Election which will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008. As part of the changes in voting locations that were implemented this year after the Presidential Primary in January, new voter identification cards were mailed to all registered voters of the Township in March. If you did not receive a new voter identification card, please contact my office at (734) 699-8909 to request we verify your registration and send you a new card. This will do two things, make sure you are registered to vote in Van Buren Township and confirm your voting location so you will be ready for the upcoming election.

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. This year's General Election is shaping up to be very busy and the more inspectors on this day will greatly assist the voters. 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](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) and clicking on 'links' then to 'Secretary of State', then to 'Michigan Voter Center'.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC  
Township Clerk

### Dates to Remember

#### **Monday, October 6**

Last day to register for the November 4 General Election.

#### **Tuesday, November 4**

General Election polls open 7:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, November 11**

Administrative Offices closed in observance of Veterans Day.

#### **Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28**

Administrative Offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

#### **Wednesday, December 24 & Thursday, December 25**

Administrative Offices closed in observance of Christmas.

## SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Continued from Page 3

to a significant expansion they will be making to their North American Headquarters here in Van Buren Township. A United Kingdom-based research and development and consulting company whose works supports the automotive and other industries, Ricardo will be making an investment in excess of \$14 million in Van Buren Township utilizing latest technologies. A component of this investment includes 25 high paying jobs with salaries ranging from \$90,000 - \$102,000 per year and the potential to add more jobs in subsequent years. The 12-year abatement was based upon objective criteria outlined in tax abatement guidelines approved by the Township Board. During these difficult economic times, we are pleased that Ricardo is making this investment, adding jobs to the community and the "ripple effect" this expansion will have for other businesses in the community.

If you are not aware, while the home foreclosure situation is significant in various regions around the country, it is much less so in Van Buren Township. Currently, less than 1% of our housing stock is in foreclosure. While any foreclosure is unfortunate to the homeowner, the family and the community, the situation is not as bleak in Van Buren as it is elsewhere. Toward that end, the Ordinance Enforcement Officers are working hard to make sure vacant properties do not become eyesores in our community, ensuring lawns are maintained, debris is removed, etc.

By the time you read this, the leaves will be turning colors and snow soon to fly. As always, our residents are our greatest asset. We invite you to partake in the many services offered through Township Offices including information on becoming "green," helpful tips to protect against crime or catastrophe, participating in a recreational class or enjoying limited leisure time in one of our parks. A wealth of information may be found at [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) or by stopping by Township Hall where a variety of written materials are located at public entrances or on the counters of the various departments. We are always only a phone call away.

For all you do for our community, we thank you.

Regards,  
Cindy C. King  
Township Supervisor

## VAN BUREN PARKS

Continued from Cover Page

The Haggerty Neighborhood Park had a complete renovation, and now this once underutilized, nearly empty parcel is a vibrant community park. Children are often found utilizing the new playground equipment, while neighbors meet one another, picnic under the reconstructed pavilion, barbecue, and discuss the issues of the day. The Parks Department has made a concentrated effort in keeping this revitalized resource as a clean and secure location.

The French Landing Historical Park has also received a facelift. Visitors are now greeted with a new monument style sign and landscaping, that not only improves the aesthetics of the park, but also

## TREASURER'S OFFICE

provides security at the front entrance. The State Historical Marker has been replaced in the park to inform visitors of the unique historical value of this location.

Perhaps the most significant development within the parks is the construction of the first phase of the Riggs Heritage Park. This new recreation option is a shining example of innovative design utilizing the latest concepts for environmentally friendly development. The "green" elements were included to reduce costs and create a location for which the community can be proud. It is safe to say, that no other park in the state has gone as far as we have to incorporate these elements. The storm runoff is directed toward attractive permeable pavestones, then into "rain gardens" that naturally filter the water.

The pavilion structure features bathrooms that utilize natural lighting, motion-controlled low-watt light fixtures, motion-controlled low-flow plumbing fixtures, and solar water heat. The pavilion is also entirely powered through a solar panel system that feeds a battery and converter system. This enables the structure to have use and security lights, as well as electrical plugs for maintenance and users. The technology for the solar panels is a new Michigan product that utilizes 1/8" thick film to collect the sun's rays.

The site furnishings for this park are constructed mostly out of recycled plastic materials. These materials are virtually maintenance free and vandal resistant.

The park is a model for the integration of the influence of historical design, environmental best practices, educational use considerations, universal accessibility, and the passive recreation experience. The future phases of development to this unique site will further enhance these one of a kind qualities, and benefit the quality of life for the community. So come out and visit your new park for a bike ride, quiet walk, or a picnic with the family.

All of the preceding projects were made possible through the use of grant funds from Wayne County, Access to Recreation, and strategic partnership with the Van Buren Public Schools. It is the Parks and Recreation Department's goal to continue to proactively seek out and utilize any opportunity to increase recreation offerings to the community, and improve the quality of life for its residents, while reducing the Township's financial burden.

The Parks Department has had an extremely busy year developing a park system to increasingly serve the entire community. We look forward to carrying that momentum into 2009 as we attempt to leave no child or adult left inside.

For additional information and locations, please turn to page 33. For specific questions, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (734) 699-8921.

Tony Mulkey  
Parks Manager

Greetings from the Treasurer's Office. The 2008 winter tax bills are estimated to be mailed around December 1, 2008 with a due date of February 14, 2009. Please examine your tax bill closely to assure accuracy. If you find any information that needs to be updated you can either contact the Treasurer's Office for assistance or simply fill out the section on the back side of the tax bill voucher that is submitted to the Treasurer's Office along with your payment.

The 2008 winter tax bill will include the new Wayne County Zoological Authority millage that was passed by the voters of Wayne County on August 5, 2008. The new millage is .10 (1/10th) mill, which will be levied annually for a total of 10 years. The annual levy for a taxpayer with a taxable value of \$100,000 will be \$10.

There will be a number of new millage proposals on the November 4 ballot that could potentially affect future tax levies. Listed below are the "**tentative**" ballot proposals, which must still be officially submitted to the Wayne County Clerk's Office by the taxing authorities. Again, the proposed millages listed below are based on the information we have to date and are unofficial.

- Van Buren Schools: Proposed 2.98 mills requested for the construction/renovation of a new Belleville High School, not to exceed 30 years.
- Van Buren Schools: Proposal to reduce the existing 1.2603 sinking fund millage to roughly 1 mill. Proposal would also request the authorization to use future tax levies and the use of the existing fund balance for the repair and maintenance of existing school facilities.
- Lincoln Consolidated Schools: Proposed .10 (1/10th) mill for 5 years to operate community recreation programs, including senior citizen programs.
- Wayne County Community College: Proposed millage re-authorization of 1.5 mills for a period of 10 years, 2011-2020.

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

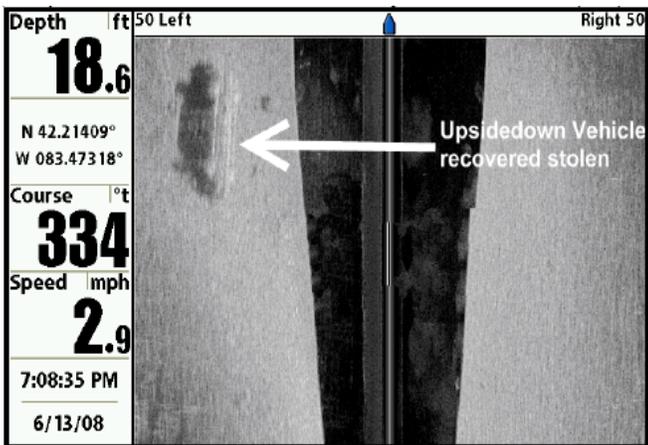
Please call 9-1-1 **ONLY** if there  
is an **EMERGENCY!!**

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

## FALL BOATING AND MARINE UNIT NEWS 2008

Summer will soon be coming to an end but we want to pass on some information that will help everyone get through the remainder of the boating season. Below are some areas of concern, upcoming laws, Dive Team news and some tips to help make our community safer and your boating experience more enjoyable.

- **Dive Team News** - The dive team's new sonar unit continues to provide assistance to our team and our community by recently locating a stolen vehicle that had sunk near the Huron River Drive DNR boat ramp. Locating and recovering vehicles dumped into the lake is important not only to the possible criminal investigation but has huge environmental benefits by removing these vehicles before they leak fuel, oil and other potentially dangerous materials into our water. Below are pictures of the sonar discovery of the vehicle (top) and the dive team removing the vehicle (bottom).



- **Old Laws** - Specific laws for Belleville lake are; (1) Speed limit 40 mph (2) Maintain a slow no wake speed within 100 ft. of Belleville Road and Denton Road bridges. Other laws which are commonly violated include; failure to operate in a counterclockwise fashion - which means to stay to the right side of the lake when operating at anything above idle speed. Make sure you have all required equipment for your size boat including life jackets for everyone onboard. When the boat is in motion passengers must sit in the manufactured seating designed into the boat, it is illegal to sit on the front (bow), sides or sundeck while the boat is underway. And as always "don't drink and boat."

- **New Laws** - There has been some confusion in reference to the new Jet Ski (PWC) law. The bill (HB 6014) was signed into law in July and is also known as the "Ashleigh Iserman Law." The law makes two changes and each change goes into effect at different times. The first change extends the ride time for jet skis from the current 8:00 a.m. through 1 hour before sunset to 8:00 a.m. through actual sunset; this law does not go into effect until March 2009. The second change increases the unsupervised age from 14 to 16 but allows 14 and 15 year olds to ride if supervised by someone over 21 years old and the 14 and 15 year olds stay within 100 feet of the person supervising them, this law does not go into effect until 2011.

- **Van Buren Park Swim Area/Buoys** - It is illegal to tamper with, move, hang on to or tie watercraft up to regulatory buoys. Keep all watercraft out of the swim area and operate at a slow no wake speed within 100 feet of the swim area. Buoys which have an orange diamond with a cross inside indicate stay-out or exclusionary areas. Operating a watercraft within these areas is considered a very serious offense by marine officers and is a Misdemeanor under Michigan Law.

In addition to the above listed, there are several other rules and regulations which must be followed on the water, for more information on boating laws go to the Michigan DNR website at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) or contact Van Buren Police Department Marine Unit at (734) 699-8930. Have fun, boat safe and we will see you on the water.

Officer Chris Hayes  
Van Buren Police Department/Marine Unit

## Haunting Halloween

**Friday, October 10** Ages: 10 and up  
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Spend a hauntingly good evening creating goodie bags for your little goblins' classmates. Also, one teacher's gift will be crafted.

Van Buren Residents = \$5 Non-Residents = \$10  
\$10 material fee per person

## Santa's Check List

**Saturday, September 27** Ages: 14 and up  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Christmas is just around the corner. Start preparing now so that you'll breeze through the holiday.

Van Buren Residents = \$5 Non-Residents = \$10  
\$10 material fee per person

## Fred C. Fischer Library Events

## Summer Fun @ the Library

## Belleville Area Garden Walk



Joel Tacey opened the summer reading program with a wild and wacky juggling comedy show.

Tonya "Touchdown" Dallas presented storytelling fun to the preschoolers



## Fall Programs @ the Library

## Story times

## Family Story Time

Mondays, 6:30 p.m., September 8 - October 13  
Mondays, 6:30 p.m., November 3 - December 8

## Preschool Pals (Ages 3 1/2 - 6)

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m., September 9 - October 14  
Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m., November 4 - December 9

## Terrific Toddlers (Ages 2 - 3 1/2)

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m., September 10 - October 15  
Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m., November 5 - December 10

## Model T: A Car for the Multitude

## Thursday, November 20, 7:00 p.m.

The library in partnership with the Belleville Area Museum and the Friends of the Library, celebrates the centennial of the Model T. One of America's foremost Model T experts, Robert Casey, will discuss his new book, *The Model T: A Centennial History*.

## Book Discussion Groups

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

## Teen Programs

## Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. (6th - 12th grade)

October 30: Day of the Dead  
November 13: Dungeons and Dragons Night  
December 18: Holiday Get-Together  
January 15: World Peace Night  
February 12: Valentines Party

## Harvest Fest

## Saturday, October 18, 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.

## Kenya Adventure

## Thursday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.

Enjoy photos and stories from Kenya with Dee Crowe. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

## Explore Your Family Tree

## Wednesdays, October 22 &amp; 29, November 5 &amp; 12, 7:00 p.m.

Discover your family roots with genealogist Ginger Bruder. Call or come to the library to sign up for this free program.

**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](http://www.belleville.lib.mi.us)

## Belleville Area Museum Events

### 2009 Historical Society Calendar

The 2009 Historical Calendar will be available for sale by late this fall. 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.



This photo of the Wilson blacksmith shop will appear in the 2009 Belleville Area Historical Society Calendar. As the automobile replaced horsepower, gas stations replaced blacksmiths. Belleville's last blacksmith shop operated by Harry Wilson stood on then unpaved Fourth Street next to the Van Buren Township fire station. The site of the blacksmith is now a city parking lot.

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

### Trick or Treat

**Friday, October 31 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Main Street, Belleville**

*Sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community.*

### Belleville Harvest Fest

**Saturday, October 18 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



**All activities are free and take place at the museum and library.**

Bring the kids and enjoy the bountiful harvest and old-time activities with your friends and neighbors.

**To the left:** Children wait for the Harvest Fest Nickel Dig to begin. They will hunt for \$75 worth of nickels in a big pile of straw.

### **Christmas is Coming!** Festival of Holiday Trees December 2 - 30



The 13th Annual Festival of Holiday Trees will take place at the Belleville Area Museum, December 2nd through the 30th during museum hours. This year, two beautifully decorated trees will be offered for silent auction.

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.

### Upcoming Holiday Events At the Belleville Area Museum

**Saturday, December 6:**  
**Children's Christmas Ornament Workshops**  
 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 13:**  
**Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce "Christmas Lights Parade"**. The Parade steps off at 6:00 p.m. Following the parade: **City Christmas Tree-Lighting Ceremony** on the museum lawn. **Angel of Hope Ceremony** at Hillside Cemetery at 7:00 p.m.

**Museum Closed**  
 December 24-28  
 Open December 29 & 30

**Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street, Belleville**  
**Open: Noon to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday**  
**Closed Holiday Weekends**  
**Admission:** Adults = \$1 Children = 50 cents Family = \$3  
*Tours by Appointment (734) 697-1944*

Belleville Area Museum Events  
Continued...

You are invited to the September Meeting of the  
Belleville Area Historical Society

**September 18**  
**7:00 p.m.**

A Civil War Program  
“Before Johnny Came Marching Home”

By Bob Zaetta,  
of the Southeast Michigan Civil War Round Tables

A talk and slide presentation which looks at the life and times  
of the Civil War soldier. Who was he/she? Why did he fight?  
How did he fight? What became of him after the war?

A retired teacher of both U.S. and Michigan history, Mr.  
Zaetta has lead tour groups to the Gettysburg Battlefield. A  
“serious student” of the Civil War, he has presented programs  
in southeast Michigan as well as Ohio.

This program is FREE and the public is welcome to attend.  
Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street  
(734) 697-1944

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

**Thursday, October 16**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Mr. Jim Cameron, Saline Public Schools**  
on  
“Preserving Your  
Personal History”

Want to give the best present ever to your children and  
grandchildren? Give them your history, recorded, with a  
transcript. The older they get, the more they will appreciate  
hearing your story of growing up in a different era with differ-  
ent challenges. It’s never too late to record YOUR history.

(This program was recently presented at the Upper Peninsula  
State History Conference.)

The program is FREE and the public is welcome to attend.  
Belleville Area Museum, 405 Main Street  
(734) 697-1944.

VBTV 12

If you have tuned in to VBTV 12 in the past or checked our pro-  
gramming schedule online, you would know or see that we run our  
bulletin announcement board twenty-four hours each day, and on  
weekends we show about six to eight video programs starting from  
9:00 a.m. to past 9:00 p.m., including live Township Board meetings.

As we strive to keep our community informed and entertained, I am  
delighted in announcing that very soon, VBTV 12 will be able to  
broadcast programming beyond our 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. slot.  
The new video playback system should be up and running some-  
time in mid or late September. So, in the very near future, you will  
have more opportunities to catch our video programs.

I do hope you tune in to catch and see what’s going on in the  
Township. Stay informed, entertained and perhaps participate. Take  
advantage of the various programs and activities throughout our  
community. Be safe and enjoy your fall and winter seasons.

Ally Acosta McCracken  
Cable Operations Manager

VAN BUREN PARKS AND RECREATION TO  
RECEIVE WAYNE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH  
GRANT FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

**“Enhancing the Quality of Life for our Children”**

During the past few years the Van Buren Parks and Recreation  
Department has strived to create quality programs by researching  
and locating alternative funding sources. Van Buren Parks and  
Recreation has implemented a diverse blend of programming by  
seeking alternative funding. Ten mission areas have been adopted  
for parks and recreation services in Van Buren. Those nine mis-  
sion areas are: providing recreational experience, fostering human  
development, promoting health and wellness, increasing cultural  
unity, facility/community problem solving, protection of natural re-  
sources, strengthening of safety and security, strengthening of  
community image, supporting economical development and sense  
of place.

The economy in Michigan has not been in the best condition.  
However, when seeking alternative funding sources we have included  
these ten mission areas. As in 2007, the department submitted a  
grant application to the Detroit-Wayne County Community Health  
Agency for the “Get Up and Get Active” program. The “Get Up and  
Get Active” program promotes health and wellness activities for  
children throughout Van Buren Township. I am happy to announce  
that Van Buren Township will receive a grant from the Detroit-Wayne  
County Community Mental Health Agency in the amount of \$2,000  
for the “Get Up and Get Active” program.

Special thanks to Deputy Director Jennifer Wright for all her hard  
work with the grant application. This helps to ensure that no child  
is left inside and promotes healthy lifestyle programs in Van Buren  
Township.

Bruce J. Ross  
Director of Parks and Recreation

2008 SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING SURVEY

- **How long have you been a resident of Van Buren Township?** \_\_\_\_\_ months/years
- **Number of individuals in your household?** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Do you recycle?** Weekly      Monthly      Occasionally      Rarely      Never
- **How do you currently do your recycling?** Curbside Drop-off  
Hazardous Waste Drop-off
- **What Items do you Recycle?**  

|             |                 |              |               |              |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| clear glass | metal food cans | aluminum     | paper         | plastic bags |
| junk mail   | car batteries   | motor oil    | phone books   | newspapers   |
| magazines   | paper bags      | appliances   | water bottles | electronics  |
| batteries   | cardboard       | other? _____ |               |              |
- **If you don't recycle, why not?** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Have you ever participated in a household hazardous waste collection event?**  
Yes No
- **If yes, how often do you participate?** Once      Annually      > once per year
- **Do you participate in Free Disposal services at the Woodland Meadows Recycling & Disposal Facility (landfill) on Ecorse Road?** Yes No  
\*How many times a year? \_\_\_\_\_
- **Do you use reusable grocery bags when you shop?** Yes No
- **How do you prefer to receive information about recycling events or facilities?**  
Twp. newsletter      Newspaper      Twp. Website      Cable-TV  
Friend      School      Email notification
- **Do you use the household battery recycling program available at the Township Hall?** Yes No
- **What other things do you (or your family) do to reduce solid waste?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- **What other solid waste/recycling services would you use if they were available?** \_\_\_\_\_
- **What other environmental issues are important to you?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- **Where do you reside (street name or section of the Township)?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED SURVEY BY OCT. 20TH TO:**

**Developmental Services Department,  
Charter Township of Van Buren,  
46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, MI 48111  
or the drop box at Township Hall. Thank you!**

MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS

The Charter Township of Van Buren has a sidewalk ordinance that requires the property owners within the Township to maintain the sidewalks and driveway approaches. Maintenance includes but is not limited to shoveling of snow, repairing of cracks, and leveling or replacing buckling and broken slabs of concrete. If you have any of these issues you should address them as soon as possible. If a complaint comes into the Ordinance Department an Ordinance Officer will come out and inspect the property. If a violation is found, a notice will be sent out to the owner of the property advising of the issue and giving the owner of the property time to fix the sidewalk or driveway approach. If you have any questions on this or any other Ordinance please feel free to contact the Ordinance Department of the Township at (734) 699-8913.

Sec. 74-26. Maintenance of sidewalks and driveway approaches.

(a) All sidewalks and driveway approaches between the lot line and the street curb, except crosswalks at intersections, shall be repaired and maintained by abutting property owners and shall comply with all requirements set forth in this article.

(b) All sidewalks within the township shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the land adjacent to and abutting upon it. If any owner shall neglect to keep and maintain the sidewalk along the front, rear, or side of the land owned by him in good repair and safe for the use of the public, the owner shall be liable to the township for any damages recovered against the township sustained by any person by reason of such sidewalk being unsafe and out of repair. (Ord. No. 6-24-86, §§ , 2, eff. 7-2-86)

## Only Tap Water Delivers

We don't often pause to consider the incredible value of a safe, reliable water supply - and the water system that delivers it - in our everyday lives. But consider what tap water does that no other water can do.

Only tap water delivers...

... public health protection.

In a world where an estimated 3 million people die every year from preventable waterborne disease, our water systems allow us to drink from virtually any public tap with a high assurance of safety. Each community water supply meets rigorous federal and state health-protective standards.

... fire protection.

A well-maintained water system is critical in protecting our communities from the ever-present threat of fire. A system that provides reliable water at an adequate pressure can be the difference between a small fire and an urban inferno. The ability to suppress fires also influences new home construction, business location decisions and insurance rates.

... support for the economy.

Businesses or housing developments do not succeed without a safe and sustainable water supply. Tap water is critical to businesses' day-to-day operations and is often a primary ingredient in the products they create. The incredible value of water is magnified during times of drought and when populations expand into arid climates.

... the overall quality of life we enjoy.

Any measure of a successful society - low mortality rates, economic diversity, productivity, and public safety - is in some way related to access to safe water. In North America, we take for granted that safe water is always accessible to drink, to wash our clothes, to water our lawns and for a myriad of other purposes. When water service is interrupted, we're all reminded of the extraordinary value of water resources and service.



The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water<sup>SM</sup>

Office of Public Affairs  
T 303.734.3410  
www.drinktap.org

## 2008 Health and Wellness Expo



The expo was a great success. For those who missed the event, mark your calendars for next year.

The exhibitors ranged from free medical screeners to financial advisors, and retail services to name a few. The turkeys roasted by our township trustees along with the catered foods made for a fabulous free dinner. The day was filled with musical entertainment and many door prizes. Looking forward to seeing you at next year's event.

*Thinking about taking a class this fall?*

**Try one of our new classes:**

**Photography  
Piano  
Scroll Saw  
Wii**

**Ceramics  
Computers  
Copy Cats  
Crochet  
Quilting  
Jewel Beading  
Line Dancing  
Pinochle or Euchre  
Bridge or Hand & Foot  
Variety Club**

**The Red Hat Society  
Yoga  
Dance Exercise  
Step Aerobics  
A.F.A.P.  
Jin Shin Jyutsu  
Norwegian Massage  
Caregiver Support  
Grief Support  
Diabetic Support  
Muscular Sclerosis Support**

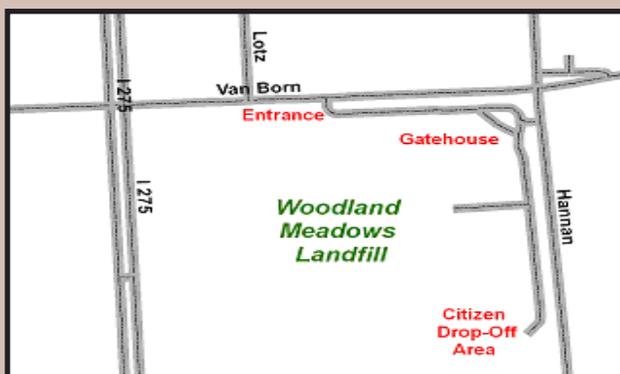
The choice is yours!  
Sign up today! Invite a friend!  
See the September newsletter or stop by the office for class times and more information!

## GUIDELINES FOR LARGE QUANTITIES OF TRASH:

Large quantities of trash or remodeling materials will **not** be picked up at curbside. As a Van Buren Township resident you have the option to utilize the Woodland Meadows Landfill located on the south side of Van Born Road, just west of Hannan Road (see map below). The citizen drop off area is located on the south side or back of the site. All vehicles entering the site must check-in at the gatehouse. Landfill hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Guidelines for utilizing the Woodland Meadows Landfill under the Van Buren resident agreement with Waste Management are listed below:

- **Starting May 1, 2008, you must obtain a free disposal punch card from the Community Services Office, located in Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road.** To obtain a punch card you must provide proof of residency (i.e. current driver's license). The punch card entitles Van Buren residents to twenty-four (24) free trips per year. Only one card per address per year will be issued by the Township.
- A valid photo ID with matching address must be presented with the punch card at time of disposal.
- This free dumping privilege **cannot** be extended to contractors or commercial vendors. Commercial vehicles will be refused entry or must pay for disposal of waste.
- **The volume of waste per trip is limited to four (4) cubic yards.** To calculate cubic yards you can use the following formula: Length (ft.) x Width (ft.) x Height (ft.) divided by 27 = cubic yards. If you exceed 4 cubic yards per trip, you will be refused entry or you must pay for disposal of the additional waste.
- Yard waste (compost, leaves, etc.) **must** be separated from household waste.
- White goods will not be accepted at the Landfill. White goods are any appliance that does or once did contain Freon (A/C Units, Refrigerators and Dehumidifiers).
- Scrap tire disposal is limited to eight (8) tires annually.
- Recycling is also available at the citizen drop-off area.



## RECYCLING AND GREEN INITIATIVES IN VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

Recycling rates and promoting "green lifestyles" continue to be a priority in Van Buren Township. To highlight the Township's commitment to environmental stewardship, a link has been added on the webpage that lists the Township's accomplishments and other outstanding businesses in our community ([http://www.vanburen-mi.org/Environmental/Whats\\_New.htm](http://www.vanburen-mi.org/Environmental/Whats_New.htm)). Also included is information about the benefits of recycling and current recovery rates in the Township.

In addition to these efforts, Van Buren Township works closely with Waste Management, Inc. to analyze and promote recycling in our community. Over the past two years recycling rates have declined over 1.4 percent. This concerns the Township because reduced recycling rates mean landfill space wasted on recyclable materials and greater impact on natural resources to produce new products. These contributors include wasted energy used to extract and process raw materials, the release of methane from landfills and reduced carbon uptake from trees that were cut and used for new products. **\*By recycling half of your household waste you can save 2,400 pounds of CO2 a year, which is equivalent to using 120 gallons of gasoline!**

Although the Township is concerned about the decreased recycling recovery, we are hopeful that Waste Management's addition of new recyclable materials will increase recovery rates. The following items have been added to Waste Management's recyclables list:

- Plastics (#1-7), **\*NO** containers that once held hazardous materials.
- ALL paper (color and white), **\*NO** self adhesive or window envelopes, paper towels, tissue, paper cups, etc.
- Telephone books and paperback books, **\*NO** hardcover books.

Additional items collected are listed in the Recycling Guidelines section and are also available by following the recycling link on the Township's homepage (<http://www.vanburen-mi.org>). If you would like to recycle and do not have a recycling bin, you can call the Community Services Department at (734) 699-8926 to order one.

## Haunted Forest

**Thursday, October 30, Friday, October 31,  
Saturday, November 1**

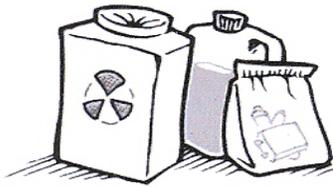


**8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.**



Please contact the Parks and Recreation Department for more information at (734) 699-8921.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day



**What:** FREE one day drop-off for Van Buren Township residents

**When:** **October 11, 2008 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Where:** The Environmental Quality Company east parking lot  
49350 North I-94 Service Drive

**Why:** To dispose of household hazardous waste in a safe and environmentally friendly manner



Below is a list of both acceptable and unacceptable items for collection. All products should be tightly sealed to prevent spillage while transporting to the facility and all containers brought to the collection must be left at the collection. Products will not be accepted in milk jugs because the plastic is thin and punctures easily.

### Acceptable Items

#### Kitchen/Bathroom

Bug Sprays  
Floor Care Products  
Furniture Polishes  
Metal Polish w/Solvent  
Medicines  
Nail Polish  
Cleaning Products

#### Miscellaneous

Household Batteries  
Fluorescent Light Bulbs  
Artist Paints/Mediums  
Dry Cleaning Solvents  
Fiberglass Epoxy  
Solvents  
Lighter Fluids  
Pool Chemicals

#### Garage

Transmission Fluid  
Auto Batteries  
Battery Acid  
Brake Fluids  
Car Waxes  
Diesel Fuel  
Fuel Oil  
Antifreeze  
Gasoline  
Kerosene  
Motor Oil

#### Garden

Fungicides  
Herbicides  
Insecticides  
Pesticides  
Fertilizers  
Rat Poison

#### Workshop

Paints (All)  
Paint Thinners  
Varnish & Stains  
Wood Preservatives  
Gun Cleaning  
Cutting Oils  
Turpentine  
Aerosol Cans

### Unacceptable Items

Explosives  
Propane Tanks  
Industrial Waste  
Tires  
Medical Waste  
Smoke Alarms  
Asbestos  
Fire Extinguishers

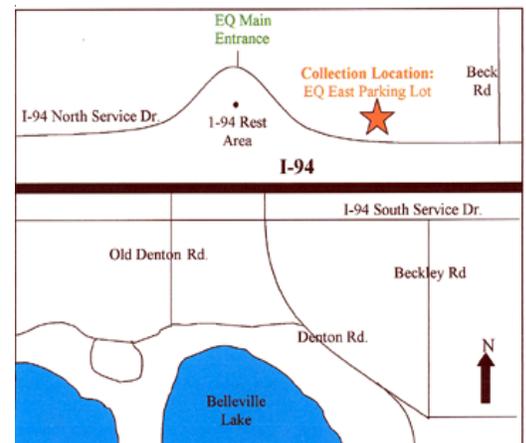


#### Sponsored by:

**The Environmental  
Quality Company**

**Put household  
HAZARDOUS WASTE  
where it belongs!**

### Drop-off Site Directions



### What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Many household products require special attention in their use, storage and disposal. A product is considered "hazardous" if it is:

- Toxic or Poisonous
- Ignitable/Flammable
- Corrosive
- Reactive (i.e., products that can explode if exposed to heat, air, water or shock)

Check the label to see if a product is hazardous. If it says **Warning, Caution, Danger, or Poison**, consider it hazardous.

Unwanted portions of hazardous products are considered to be hazardous wastes and should be treated in a careful manner to avoid accidents or polluting our environment.

For more information, please call VBT Developmental Services at (734 699-8913).

## 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.

### Set Out and Removal:

Toters, additional containers and trash should not be set out more than 24-hours/1-day in advance of your scheduled pick up day; and should be removed within 24-hours/1-day of your scheduled pick up day. Failure to remove containers or excess trash from the curb within 24-hours/1-day of your scheduled pick up day could result in a notice of violation and/or issuance of a citation under the Property Maintenance Code.

### 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.

### Large Quantities of Trash:

(See page 12)

### ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

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

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!! NO SOD - Must be taken directly to Woodland Meadows Landfill by obtaining at Landfill Pass at the Township Hall in the Community Services Office.***

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 through #7 in the recycle 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.**



Paper

**Newspapers:** Including all inserts, advertisements, and magazines that are delivered with them.  
**ALL Paper:** (color ad white), **\*NO** self adhesive or window envelopes, paper towels, tissue, paper cups, etc.  
**Brown Paper Bags:** Keep them separate from your paper.  
**Telephone Books** and paperback books, **\*NO** hardcover books.

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.**  
**October 21 - December 18 (Mini-session)**  
 (No class November 4, 27 and December 11)  
**January 13 - April 2**

Emphasis is on self control, flexibility, coordination, and self defense. This class is taught by a five 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.

\*\* Uniforms or loose clothing is recommended to wear during class. Uniforms can be purchased through the instructor. Karate shoes must be worn at all times except when sparring.

Instructor Sarah Stobbe is a 5 time national gold medalist in sparring and a national gold medalist in forms.

Van Buren Residents = \$55.00/\$45 mini session  
 Non-Residents = \$70.00/\$60 mini session

### Will Pro-rate Classes

## Youth Floor Hockey Skills Program



**Sundays, September 14 - October 19**  
**12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Ages: 7-10**

This is a non competitive program with emphasis on basic skills, teamwork and sportsmanship. No checking or high sticking will be allowed. Fundamentals will be taught the first hour; games will be played during the second hour. Hockey equipment is provided, as well as mouth pieces which are required to be worn during play.

Athletic wear is preferred clothing while playing. This program is held inside the gymnasium so gym shoes are required.

**Look for more Youth Hockey in the Spring.**

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

## Youth Football Clinic

**Saturday, September 13 - October 18**  
**(No class October 4)**



**11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
 Grades 4th - 7th



This clinic is all about the fundamentals of football. Calling all quarterbacks, running backs, linemen, defensivebacks, wide receivers, if you're between 4th and 7th grade this is the clinic for you. Come practice like the pros and get in shape for the season. If possible wear cleats. Snacks will be provided each day. Clinic held on Van Buren Township Softball Field/Quirk Park area.

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

## Youth Basketball Clinic

**Saturdays, January 10 - February 7 (5 weeks)**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Ages: 8-12**

This program is geared towards young athletes interested in basketball who are willing to work hard and learn solid basketball fundamentals. The first hour of class will be used to introduce offensive and defensive drills and techniques. The second hour of class will consist of short scrimmages. Prizes will be given to the winning team. Also, make sure that everyone is ready to play when they show up (no eating big meals shortly before class, etc.) Pizza and pop will be provided at the last class.

**Athletic attire is recommended.** There will be drills that will require some mild exertion, so the **instructors must be made aware of any medical issues** (asthma, etc.) prior to the first class.

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

## 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, and how to properly hold infants.

**Wednesday & Thursday, October 15 & 16**  
**Wednesday & Thursday, April 15 & 16**  
**6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**



**Saturday, February 21**  
**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 continue to enhance their skills. **Register with Dance Instructor, not the Recreation Department.**



**Fall Session: September 9 - December 15 (15 weeks)**  
**Winter Session: January 6 - May 15 (18 weeks)**  
**Spring Recital will be held in May**



Tuesdays:

- Kinder Jazz** 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Ages 5-6
- Kinder Ballet** 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Ages 5-6
- Kinder Tap** 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Ages 5-6
- Performance** 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. Ages 7+
- Dance Team** - Instructor's permission. This is a class for dancers looking for more challenging choreography and instruction... must be enrolled in Jr. Ballet on Wednesday.
- Teen Jazz/ Hip Hop** 7:15 - 8:00 p.m. Ages 12+

Wednesdays:

- Preschool Ballet/Tap** 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Ages 3-4
- Jr. Ballet** 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Ages 7+
- Jr. Jazz** 6:15 - 7:00 p.m. Ages 7+
- Jr. Tap** 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Ages 7+

Registration:

Please register September 3rd and 4th 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.

Prices:

- 1/2 hour classes = Fall \$93.75 (15 weeks)
- 1/2 hour classes = Winter \$112.50 (18 weeks)
- 45 min. classes = Fall \$108.75 (15 weeks)
- 45 min. classes = Winter \$130.50 (18 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.

**5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Ages: 6-14**



**September 8 - October 13**  
**October 27 - December 1**  
**January 19 - February 23**  
**March 2 - April 6**  
**(6 week classes)**



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



Just Gymnastics



**Saturdays, September 20 - November 22**  
**Saturdays, March 14 - May 16 (No class April 4)**  
**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**

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

Ages: 7 and up

Van Buren Residents = \$75  
 Non-Residents = \$90

## Fall & Winter Yoga

### Fall & Winter Schedule (6 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.giqidasoyoga.com>

### Basic Yoga: Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Good for beginners of all ages. Suitable for beginners as well as yoga practitioners. Emphasis on detailed instructions of basic alignment. Build strength and flexibility. No prior yoga experience required.

**Session 1: September 8, 15 & 22**

**Session 2: September 29, October 6 & 13**

**Session 3: October 27, November 3 & 10**

**Session 4: January 12, 19 & 26**

**Session 5: February 9, 16 & 23**

**Session 6: March 9, 16 & 23**

### Class Fees:

#### Per Session (3 classes)

Van Buren Residents = \$26 Non-Residents = \$40  
Drop-ins = \$15

*Students receive a 5% discount with valid student ID.*

**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.

## Walk Michigan

The Mackinac Island grand prize has been given away for the 2008 season but don't let that discourage you from walking your way to a healthier you.

Register with the recreation department to receive your free walking log. From there, you are on your way to a new lifestyle. Go ahead and walk as much as you want. You can walk the path at Quirk Park on nice fall days but if weather becomes an issue, the community center gymnasium is open from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. There may be other opportunities to walk in the gym but please call before arriving at the center. At the end of each month turn in your monthly walking log to the recreation department for a new walking log. Members are automatically eligible to win cool prizes via random drawings for turning in their walking logs. Winners will be called at the first of each month to redeem their prize. Membership is free and registration begins now.

## Belly Dancing

**Thursdays, September 11 - October 30**  
**7:00 - 8:15 p.m.**

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

**Thursdays, January 8 - February 26**  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.**

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

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.

## Spring/Summer Adult Softball



Registration for returning teams starts:  
**Monday, March 2**

New team registration starts:  
**Monday, March 23**



Deadline to register **April 21. Must pay in FULL!**  
Must have player contracts filled out prior to the first night of competition.

**Tuesday "D" League = \$550 2 umpires**

**Friday Co-ed League = \$500 1 umpire**

(No Co-ed game Friday, July 3)

**Leagues start the week of April 27.** Managers meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m.  
**Money must be turned in by this night.** League schedule will be completed by the end of this week.

## ADA Accessibility

The Van Buren Township Parks & Recreation Department is working toward making all our facilities, programs, services and activities accessible to everyone. Individuals requiring an auxiliary aid or accommodations should advise us of your needs at the time of registration or a minimum of 72 hours prior to the start of the service. Every effort will be made to make the facilities accessible.

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) 8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  
(Regular) 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  
(Quick Cardio) 6:25 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.

**Ongoing, Thursdays** (Regular) 8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.  
(Regular)\*\* 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  
(Express) 6:25 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.

**Ongoing, Fridays** (Regular)\*\* 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
(Regular) 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 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

## Summer/Fall Adult Softball

Registration for returning teams starts:

**Monday, June 1**

New team registration starts:

**Monday, June 22**



Deadline to register **July 28. Must pay in FULL!**  
Must have player contracts filled out prior to the first night of competition.

**Tuesday "D" League = \$550 2 umpires**

**Friday Co-ed League = \$500 1 umpire**

**Leagues start the week of August 4.** Managers meeting will be held Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 p.m.  
**Money must be turned in by this night.** League schedule will be completed by the end of this week.

## 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 17 - November 5**

**Wednesdays, January 21 - March 11**

**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 12 - December 17**

**Wednesdays, March 18 - April 22**

**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 \*\***

## 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. (10 weeks)**

**Fridays, September 19 - November 21**

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

**Mini-Session: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (6 weeks)**

**Fridays, January 9 - February 13**

**Fridays, February 27 - April 3**

**Fridays, May 1 - June 19**

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

All levels of Tai Chi are encouraged to sign up.

## 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 28** (lunch will be provided)

**Saturday, March 28** (lunch will be provided)

**Saturday, April 25** (lunch will be provided)



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

\$15.00 per person



### 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 age 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!!!**

## 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.

## 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.

She teaches you to train your own pet under her 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.**

**September 30 - November 4**

**November 11 - December 16**

**January 13 - February 17**

**February 24 - March 31**

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

**No aggressive dogs allowed.**

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

## Digital Doodlers Homeschoolers Program

**Wednesdays, October 8 - 29  
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Ages: 7-12

Students learn about digital photography, photo printing and how to create a set-up for photographing, as well as how to use a photo in artwork. This program is offered in one session of four classes each, with instruction about famous artists such as Ansel Adams, William Wegman, Dali and Chagall. Students will use a digital camera and learn how to do photo illustrating. All student work is framed with FrameDoodles.

Van Buren Residents = \$65 (Materials included)  
Non-Residents = \$80 (Materials included)

## Get Up & Get Active

April 13 - 17  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Ages: 9 and up

Hey kids! Want to have some fun over spring break? Time to get out of the house and get active. Recreation staff will take you to some very cool places. Must register for the full week.

**Romulus Athletic Center Swimming and Rock Climbing Wall** (Bring swimsuit, towel, and tennis shoes)

**Zap Zone and CiCi's Pizza - Canton**  
(Must wear tennis shoes, bring extra money for game room)

**Taylor Sportsplex - Ice Skating**  
(Can bring your own skates or rent them, renting fee included in price)

**Crosswinds Marsh Nature Detective Hike - New Boston**  
(Must wear tennis shoes)

**Detroit Zoo/Wild Adventure Ride**  
(Bring extra money for souvenirs)

Van Buren Resident = \$50 Non-Resident = \$65  
(Lunch and t-shirt included in price)

**\*\* Please let us know your child's t-shirt size when you register \*\***

**Register by Monday, April 6**

## Brunch with Santa

Performance by the Belleville Brass  
**Sunday, December 14**  
**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
Van Buren Township Hall  
Food prepared by Carlson Catering



### Cost:

Adults = \$8 Children 3 and up = \$6  
Seniors = \$6 Children under 3 = FREE

**\*\*MUST PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE \*\***  
**Ticket sales end Wednesday, December 10**

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.

## Sea Quest Kids/Advance America Boat Building & Water Safety Day

**Saturday and Sunday, September 27 & 28 (Must attend both days)**  
**9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. FREE (Lunch provided)**

Meet at Van Buren Park Boathouse.

**Must pre-register for this event by Monday, September 15**

Ahoy kids! Come out to Van Buren Park and learn skills for building a paddle/sailboat. These boats are 10' x 10' boats that can hold up to 1,100 lbs. Not only will you learn boat building skills but you can paint the boat and even ride in it around Belleville Lake. Each boat builder gets to take home their very own boat paddle!

This program has been designed so everyone can participate in building a boat. Van Buren Township Public Safety Department will instruct on proper water/boating skills and much more.

**\*\* Up to 5 participants can build one boat so bring your family and friends \*\***

Looking for volunteers to assist in building the boats. Please call (734) 699-8921 to sign up as a volunteer. Together we can make a difference. This program will teach more than just boat building skills. The Sea Quest Kids Program will broaden horizons and create numerous possibilities.

## Card Making Technique Classes

Sign up for the classes you want. Classes do not need to be taken in order. Samples, when available, will be posted on: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ClassesByDarlene/> anyone can be a member of the group.

**Instructor:** Darlene Gerick      **Level:** Beginners and above      **Age:** 12+  
**Class Time:** 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.      **Supplies Needed:** adhesive, scissors and 12 x 12 paper trimmer.  
 Van Buren Resident = \$14 per class      Non-Resident = \$17 per class

### Monday, October 6

Make 10 cards or treat toppers with a Halloween theme.

### Monday, October 13

Make a stationery set to give as a gift or to keep for yourself. Decorate 10 sheets of note paper, 10 simple cards, and 20 envelopes and create a coordinating holder for them.

### Monday, October 20

Make 10 cards with a Thanksgiving theme.

### Monday, October 27

Make 10 cards to give as a gift or to keep for yourself, in a coordinating holder. Birthday theme.

### Monday, November 3

Make 10 cards to send out for Christmas.

### Monday, November 10

Make 10 cards as a gift or to keep for yourself, in a coordinating holder.

### Monday, December 8

Make 10 cards to hold gift cards.

### Monday, January 5

Learn 5 new techniques; make 2 of each for a total of 10 cards. Techniques: Bouncing Brayer, Chalkboard, Waterfall Card, Grid, and Iris Twist.

### Monday, January 26

Make 10 cards using punches, 2 of each, for a total of 10 cards. (Stampin' Up has some new punches to try out and we will use some favorites of the past).

### Monday, February 2

Learn 5 new styles; make 2 of each, for a total of 10 cards. Styles: Criss Cross Card, Diagonal Double Pocket Card, Flap Card, Gate Fold Card, and Triangle Trifold Card.

### Monday, February 23

Learn 5 new techniques; make 2 of each, for a total of 10 cards. Techniques: Shaker Card, Glitter Window, Viewmaster Card, Tilt Card and Suspender Card.

### Monday, March 9

Make 10 cards to send out for Easter.

### Monday, March 23

Make 10 cards using punches, 2 of each, for a total of 10 cards. (Stampin' Up has some new punches to try out and we will use some favorites of the past). These cards will be different than the cards in the January 26th class.

### Monday, April 6

Learn 5 new styles; make 2 of each, for a total of 10 cards. Styles: Trifold Pocket, Tunnel Card, Pocket Card, Shadow Box, and Diorama Card.

## Open Scrap

Do you have a scrapbook that you just can't find the 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 "Scrappers" alike! Bring your supplies and work on your scrapbook album at your own pace.

**Meets the last Friday of each month  
5:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.**

**September 26**

**October 24**

**November 21**

**December 19**

**January 30**

**February 27**

**March 27**

**April 24**



**\$2 per person (pizza included)  
Childcare = \$5 per child (must be potty trained)**

**\*\* Must pre-register at least one day in advance for us to properly plan \*\***

## Not-So-Scary Pirate Forest "Takin it to the Park"

Ahoy! Little Mateys and Buccaneers. Enjoy an afternoon at our newly renovated Van Buren Park. Walking toddlers to sixth graders will enjoy storytelling, inflatables, magic, juggling, fire magic, creating wax hands, climbing on the playground, walking through the Not-so-Scary Pirate Forest and much more.

Cider and donuts will be available while supplies last.

Children will leave with a candy filled goodie bag.

**Saturday, October 4 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**\$2.00 per child Adults and children under 2 are FREE!**

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Inflatables   | 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  |
| Walking juggler/instruction by Magician/Juggler, JUST JOE                             | 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  |
| Van Buren Township Police Candy Safety  | 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  |
| Van Buren Township Fire Department "Smoke House"                                      | 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  |
| Walk through the Not-so-Scary Pirate Forest   | 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  |
| Tae Kwon Do Demonstration   | 12:15 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. |
| Tonya "Touchdown" Dallas will delight us with a fang-tastic afternoon of storytelling | 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.  |
| Make a wax hand and pirate tattoos  | 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  |
| The <b>JUST JOE Magic Show</b> - Magic, Juggling, Fire Juggling                       | 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.   |

### 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"

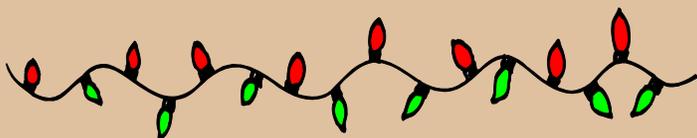
Registration forms are due by **Monday, December 15.**

Judging will take place **Wednesday, December 17.** 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.



### 2008 Holiday Arts & Crafts Show



**Saturday, December 6**  
**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, December 5, 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 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 - 6 ft. table supplied

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

**\$5 for each additional table**

## The 14th Annual Daddy/Daughter Sweetheart Dance

Daughters, share your heart with your daddy on a special Valentine Weekend! Put on your dancing shoes and twirl on over to the Community Center for an evening of dancing, light refreshments and a keepsake.

**Friday, February 13**

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

**Saturday, February 14**

**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

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

**Must register by Friday, February 6**

## Pre-Marshmallow Drop Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, April 4**

**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.

**Registration ends Monday, December 8.**

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

## Mother/Son Cosmic Bowl



**Friday, May 8**

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

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



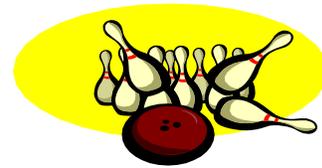
Moms and sons, spend the night bowling, eating pizza while having an awesome time! Grandmothers, aunts, big sisters are invited too. Please register early space is limited.

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  
\$10.00 for each additional adult

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

**Must register by Monday, May 4.**



## Marshmallow Drop

**Saturday, April 4**

**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.

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

**\$2 per child**

Rain Date: Sunday, April 5 - First Drop at 1:00 p.m.  
(no pancake breakfast)



Open Registration for all Camps  
begins Monday, March 2



**First Session:** June 15 - July 10 (4 weeks) No camp Friday, July 3

**Second Session:** July 20 - August 14 (4 weeks)

**Registration for 1st session ends May 18 - Registration for 2nd session ends June 29**

**\*\* Please notice registration is based on grade level for the 2008-2009 school year, not age.**

**Tot Camp: (Grades: K-1)** Held at Van Buren Park  
Van Buren Resident = \$400 Non-Resident = \$415

**Day Camp: (Grades: 2-5)** Held at Van Buren Park  
Van Buren Resident = \$400 Non-Resident = \$415

**Tween Camp: (Grades: 6-8)** Held at Van Buren Park  
Van Buren Resident = \$400 Non-Resident = \$415

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

**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.

**MUST PAY IN FULL**, only partial refunds after registration date. No refunds given a week before camp starts.

Monday, June 1 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.**

Royal Princess/Queen  
Tea Party

**Sunday, May 3 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Hear ye, hear ye! Calling all Princesses and their Queens to celebrate in a delightful day of tea and crumpets. Celebrate with others while wearing your royal apparel. All Queens/Princess mothers, daughters, grandmothers, etc... are invited to our 8th Annual Tea Party.

Enjoy tea, light refreshments and some majestic entertainment. Take home a memorable keepsake of a noble afternoon.

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

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

**Must register by Monday, April 27.**

R & R at Riggs Park  
Recycling & Reusing

In honor of Earth Day we are celebrating our environment. Inviting all families to partake in this eco-friendly day.

**Saturday, April 25**  
**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**FREE!**

**12:00 - 1:00 p.m.** - Join Abrakadoodle for a recycle craft.

**1:00 - 2:00 p.m.** - Enjoy *Mariah's Amazing Puppets*, The show "No More Litter in Oz" will send the message of reducing, reusing and recycling through a new version of the well known Wizard of Oz.

**2:00 - 3:00 p.m.** - **Park Ranger Roy** will sing fun songs about our parks. Light and healthy refreshments will be served.

## 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. - 5:50 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:50 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](http://www.vanburensoccer.com)

You must register with the Association for soccer.

### **Belleville Cougars**

(734) 697-0440 or [www.bellevillecougars.com](http://www.bellevillecougars.com)

You must register with the Belleville Cougars.

### **Belleville Area Little League**

(734) 487-9335

[www.eteamz.com/BellevilleAreaLL](http://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 run 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: Brunch with Santa, Daddy/Daughter Dance and Marshmallow Drop. For more information, please contact Jennifer Wright at (734) 699-8921 or [jwright@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:jwright@vanburen-mi.org).



Having fun at Takin It to the Streets!

Check out our Gymnasium!



Many of our classes are held in our gymnasium, plus there are also open gym times when basketball or volleyball can be played, check out our gym schedule on page 38.

### Backstop/Outfield Fencing Sponsorship

Here is your opportunity to showcase your business at the Gregg Brinkerhoff/Chuck Coleman Memorial Softball Field located behind Van Buren Township Recreation Department. Give your support to the community while advertising your business.

**Sponsor a 4' x 6' Aluminite sign (any color) for \$350.**

**\$50 renewal fee each year to keep displayed.**

Call Deputy Director of Recreation Jennifer Wright for more information and/or sponsorship form.



Gregg Brinkerhoff/Chuck Coleman Memorial Field

### S.A.F.E

#### Students Advocating for Future Empowerment

**Meets 1st & 4th Monday 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Valerie Bonner, Strategic Transitions Consultant, will train teens to be teen mentors. Help enhance your community and college application.

- Become a teen mentor to your peers (Such topics can include drug/alcohol abuse to teen suicide)
- Participate in community service projects/ special events
- Develop fun program ideas
- Learn about local decision making
- Travel to the annual Youth Symposium

Call (734) 699-8921 on how to get involved.



### Event/Program Sponsor

If you are a business or person looking to sponsor a Van Buren Township recreational event or program, please call (734) 699-8921. With your help we can provide a child who may not otherwise be able to join a recreation class an opportunity to do so at no cost to them. Also sponsoring an event is a fun way to showcase your business name.



Fun times at Takin' it to the Streets

## Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation

WWCTR offers various sports programs for those with physical challenges: Blaze Wheelchair Basketball, Blaze Sports Sled Hockey, Blaze Sports of Westland Sports Team for People with Physical Challenges Track & Field, Blaze Sports Power Soccer Program, Blaze Sports Wheelchair Hockey. For more information on these sports leagues visit the WWCTR website at [www.ctr.info](http://www.ctr.info).

The communities of Livonia, Canton, Westland, Northville, Dearborn, Wayne, Van Buren Township, Redford, Garden City, Romulus and Plymouth are pleased to enter into a partnership with Wayne County to provide recreation services for individuals with disabilities. A grant from Wayne County will allow these Western Wayne communities to collaborate to provide additional therapeutic recreation programs. The Therapeutic Recreation (WWCTR) program seeks to coordinate the various programs of the participating communities, foster collaborations and a sharing of resources. Programs include respite nights for families, field trips, swimming and activities for all ages, martial arts, t-ball and cheerleading for children, dances, craft classes and more for adults. For more information on programs and events or to be included on a mailing list for these events, please go to [www.wwctr.org](http://www.wwctr.org).

### WWCTR Christmas Dinner Dance

Celebrate the Christmas season at our special dinner/dance. We will have a traditional catered Christmas dinner and then we'll dance the night away with a professional D.J.

**Friday, December 5**  
**6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**  
**Located at Canton Summit**  
**Ages: 13 and up**

**You must pre-register by November 13. Dinner will not be available for those who do not pre-register and pay prior to the event.**

Wayne County Resident = \$15 Non-Resident = \$16

### WWCTR Free Movie Night

**Tuesdays, September 16 & November 18**  
**State Wayne Theater (35310 Michigan Ave.)**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Movie (G or PG rated) open to all individuals with disabilities and their families. Concession specials:  
 Small Popcorn = \$1 and Small Pop = \$1

Wayne County Residents = FREE  
 Non-Residents = \$0.99

### WWCTR Canoe Trip

**Saturday, September 20**  
**Rain Date: Saturday, September 27**  
**12:30 p.m. - 6:00 pm.**

**Proud Lake State Park, Meet at the Bailey Center**

**Ages: 10 and up**

Canoe for the afternoon along the Huron River from Proud Lake State Park to downtown Milford. We'll then take a break before returning. Snacks will be provided for all participants as well as transportation and canoe guides. Everyone will have a great time on the river. Those who cannot sit up without assistance will be able to sit in a kayak with a kayak captain. Family members welcome. Every canoe will have an experienced canoe captain to guide you along the river.

Volunteer Canoe Captains provided by School of Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (S.O.L.A.R.)

Wayne County Residents = \$15 Non-Residents = \$16

### Pool Party and Craft Night

Join us for an evening in the pool, and then have fun doing a craft. Snack provided. Please bring a bathing suit, towel, etc... For those who do not wish to go swimming, an alternative activity will be provided.

**Friday, November 7**  
**6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.**

Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne  
 (734) 721-7400

Wayne County Resident = \$2 Non-Resident = \$3

Pre-register by November 5, 2008

# Van Buren Township Parks

## Van Buren Park

50901 S. I-94 Service Drive

Located on the S. I-94 Service between Belleville and Rawsonville Roads.



**Amenities:** Hiking trails, 3 playstructures, picnic areas, pavilions, horse shoe pits, volleyball court, basketball court, grills, beach area, sled hill (winter only), ice rink (winter only), restroom facilities and concession area.

**Entry Fee:**

\$3.00 daily pass

\$15.00 Van Buren/Belleville Resident Annual Pass

\$20.00 Non-Resident Annual Pass

\$8.00 Seniors 55 or older Annual Pass

## Riggs Heritage Park

12945 Martinsville Road

Located on Martinsville Road off of Huron River Drive.

**Amenities:** Pavilion, restroom facilities, trails and natural scenic views.

**No entry fee**



## Quirk Park & Senior Garden

Located on Quirk Road behind Van Buren Township Hall. Parking is available at the Community Center or at the Quirk Park Pavilion located on the corner of Quirk and Ayres Roads.

**Amenities:** Playstructure, walking paths, vita course, picnic tables, grills, pavilion, soccer fields, shuffleboard, checkers and chess tables.

**No entry fee**

## French Landing Park

12090 Haggerty Road

Located on the West side of Haggerty Road just South of the S. I-94 Service Drive.



**Activities**

French Landing park offers fishing, picnic areas and a playground.

**No entry fee**

## Haggerty Neighborhood Park

Located in Haggerty Subdivision with entrances located on both Hamilton and Jackson Streets.



**Amenities:** Playstructure, swings, pavilion, picnic tables and grills.

**No entry fee**

**All Park Hours**

8:00 a.m. until Dusk - Open all year round.

## Gym Summer Schedule

|                         |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>           | Youth Hockey            | 12:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  |
|                         | Open Gym                | 4:15 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.  |
|                         | Gym closes at 5:50 p.m. |                        |
| <b>Monday</b>           | Walking                 | 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. |
|                         | Open Gym                | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 4:30 p.m. - 7:35 p.m.  |
|                         | Open Adult Gym          | 8:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.  |
| Gym closes at 8:50 p.m. |                         |                        |
| <b>Tuesday</b>          | Jazzercise              | 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  |
|                         | Open Gym                | 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 4:00 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.  |
|                         | Tae Kwon Do             | 7:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.  |
| Gym closes at 8:50 p.m. |                         |                        |
| <b>Wednesday</b>        | Walking                 | 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. |
|                         | Open Gym                | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 4:30 p.m. - 7:35 p.m.  |
|                         | Open Adult Gym          | 8:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.  |
| Gym closes at 8:50 p.m. |                         |                        |
| <b>Thursday</b>         | Jazzercise              | 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  |
|                         | Open Gym                | 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 4:00 p.m. - 6:55 p.m.  |
|                         | Tae Kwon Do             | 7:00 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.  |
|                         | Gym closes at 8:50 p.m. |                        |
| <b>Friday</b>           | Walking                 | 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. |
|                         | Open Gym                | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Jazzercise              | 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  |
|                         | Open Gym                | 7:30 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.  |
| Gym closes at 8:50 p.m. |                         |                        |
| <b>Saturday</b>         | Jazzercise              | 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. |
|                         | Gymnastics              | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
|                         | Teen Open Gym           | 4:30 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.  |
|                         | Gym closes at 5:50 p.m. |                        |

**\*\* Children 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Parents/Guardians please make certain that you are here prior to closing to pick up your child. Times are subject to change. \*\***

**If you have any questions or would like to verify gym times please call the Recreation Department at (734) 699-8921.**

## How to Register for Classes/Programs

**Walk In:**

Register at the Community Services Desk, Monday - Friday between 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:50 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. We are located at 46425 Tyler Road between Belleville and Beck Roads. Registration is taken on a first come, first serve 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.

## Open Gym Participants

Patrons who show one of the following will pay:

**Valid Driver's License showing current Van Buren Address**

\$3.00

**Current School I.D.**

\$2.00

**Non-Residents**

(Show current I.D.)

\$5.00

**Everyone MUST HAVE a picture I.D.!!**

**\*\* Any disregard of gym rules can result in being banned from the gym. \*\***

## Registration/Waiver Form

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Age, if under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (*recreation brochure will be sent electronically*): \_\_\_\_\_

**Health conditions, allergies, special precautions, necessary accommodations, or anything staff should be aware of (such as wheelchair use, seizures, diabetes, etc.)** \_\_\_\_\_

**In case of Emergency - person should be available during program hours.**

*Name*

*Relationship*

*Phone*

| Activity | Day and Time of Class | Fee |
|----------|-----------------------|-----|
|          |                       |     |
|          |                       |     |
|          |                       |     |

**# of classes** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Paid** \_\_\_\_\_ **Receipt#** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby accept all responsibility for and will not hold the Charter Township of Van Buren, Van Buren Township Board of Trustees and/or Van Buren Parks and Recreation Department or its employees liable for any loss, damage, or injury to property or any person as a result of involvement in Van Buren Township's recreation classes or programs.

In the event of sudden illness, accident, or injury which may occur while myself or my child is participating in an activity supervised by Van Buren Township employees, when neither the parents or guardian can be contacted, I hereby give my consent for emergency medical treatment as shall be necessary under the circumstances by any physician licensed under the laws of the State of Michigan.

I understand that the Township may take photographs for use in Township publications and news releases without my written consent. It is my intention that this release be as broad as Michigan Law allows releases to be. I understand that, without this document, the cost of participation would necessarily be greater, and I also acknowledge that I may obtain insurance to protect myself if I so choose.

**Signature** (Parent or Guardian, if not over 18)

Date

**Please Mail to:** Van Buren Recreation Department, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Twp., MI 48111

Prospective Instructor Information & Proposal Packets... are now available at the Recreation Department front desk. If you are interested in joining our team by teaching a special interest class, you may stop by our office to pick up a proposal packet. Fill out the packet and return to the Recreation Department. These packets will be reviewed, and contact will be made with you regarding the next process.

Why teach a class for Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department? Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department's main concentration is providing our community of all ages and abilities quality recreational opportunities in a fun and safe environment. Programs that are offered to the community focus on health and wellness, social interaction, team building skills, as well as personal/professional/cultural enhancement. Hiring qualified instructors enables us to provide the highest standards we strive for when offering these programs.

We welcome your thoughts and new ideas to increase recreational opportunities in Van Buren Township!!

### Program Cancellation or Modification

Van Buren Recreation Department reserves the right to cancel or modify a program due to low enrollment or other unforeseen circumstances. Registrants will be notified if changes occur to their respective programs.

Come visit our Parks!!  
(for more info see page 29)



Pavilion at Van Buren Park

## Refund & Registration Info

### Refund Policy

**Patron satisfaction is our most important objective.**

Full refunds will be issued if the Recreation Department cancels a program. Refunds will be given during the first week of the class/program ONLY. NO refunds after one week of classes starting. A \$10.00 administrative fee per person, per program, per season will be charged for all refunds requested by the participant. Credit Vouchers are another opportunity for a refund. \$10.00 administrative fee is waived for credit vouchers. Refunds or reduction of fees will not be given for classes missed by the participant. Refunds will be received in the mail within 4-6 weeks. No refunds for one-day programs, community events, and trips.

### Register Early!

Register for a program at least one week prior to the start of class. This will help eliminate the need to cancel class due to low enrollment. Reserve your spot today.

### EMAIL Mailing Address List

We are now in the World of Technology, and receiving information via email is becoming more popular. Here at Van Buren Township Recreation Department we are in the early stages of developing an Email Mailing Address List. If you would like to receive our recreation brochure via email, please provide your email address on the registration form. The registration form is located on page 35. Once we receive your email address we will add this information to our database. This will allow you to obtain recreation information with the click of a button.

**Charter Township of Van Buren**  
46425 Tyler Road  
Van Buren Twp, MI 48111-1299

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