



# Van Buren Lake Ledger

"Your link to recreational leisure activities and community news"

## Welcome our New Township Board



Supervisor, Paul D. White



Clerk, Leon Wright



Treasurer, Sharry A. Budd



Trustee, Phillip Hart



Trustee, Jeffrey Jahr



Trustee, Al Ostrowski



Trustee, Denise Partridge

### STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP 2009

Friends - your Township elected officials and staff are working harder than ever to manage the growing demands of our community as we all work our way through this uneasy economy. The budget horizon is challenging, with projected declines in property tax revenues and fees. We hear in the media every day about large corporations and the state government facing financial difficulties. It is no different for your Township government. We are trying to do more with less. As Supervisor, I am working with my fellow Board members and department directors to make adjustments in staffing, work assignments, and purchases, with the goal of maintaining the highest level of service possible to our residents.

There is no question that Southeast Michigan's economy will eventually recover. The question is when it will happen and what the new economy will look like. We can no longer rely solely on our automotive manufacturing base to carry us through. We must work to diversify our economy by leveraging the assets that are available in our region. Most importantly,

#### STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP

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

Visit our website at:

[www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)

## Van Buren Township Directory

### Board of Trustees

Paul D. White ([pwhite@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:pwhite@vanburen-mi.org))  
Supervisor.....699-8910

Leon Wright ([lwright@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:lwright@vanburen-mi.org))  
Clerk.....699-8909

Sharry A. Budd ([sbudd@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:sbudd@vanburen-mi.org))  
Treasurer.....699-8903

Phillip Hart  
Jeffrey Jahr  
Albert Ostrowski  
Denise Partridge  
Trustees.....699-8910

## Township Departments

### Public Safety

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

### Developmental Services

Dan Swallow, Planning & Economic  
Development Director.....699-8913  
Todd Knepper, Director of Public Works.....699-8944  
Ordinance Enforcement.....699-8913

### Community Services

Bruce Ross, Director of Parks and 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

## 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.

## 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.

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**E-Newsletters** are now available via online subscription at Van Buren Township's web site: [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org).

**What are E-Newsletters?** E-Newsletters are another form of communication provided by the Township that can be sent to your personal e-mail address that will help keep you up to date on specific Township Department news, alerts, and updates that we feel you will want to hear about.

**How do I Subscribe to E-Newsletters?** Simply go to [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) and click on "**E-Newsletter Sign-up!**" located on the right hand side of the Township home page. You will then enter your first name, last name, and e-mail address into the provided fields. Next, simply select the E-Newsletter(s) that you wish to subscribe to by checking the box next to the specific E-Newsletter that you are interested in subscribing to. Shortly thereafter you will receive a "Welcome to our newsletter" confirmation e-mail.

**How do I Unsubscribe to E-Newsletters?** To unsubscribe to any E-newsletter just go to the bottom of the E-Newsletter and click on the "To stop receiving this newsletter simply click HERE".

## SUPERVISOR'S WELCOME



Paul D. White  
Township Supervisor

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season enjoying the warmth and love of family and friends, I know I did. As Van Buren's new Township Supervisor, I have settled into the day-to-day operations of municipal government and I am excited about our future. In just a few short months, we have begun replaying Township Board Meetings after they have aired live over VBTV 12, as well as taping and playing other committee/commission meetings to bring you closer to your township government. If you would

like to participate in your township government I would encourage you to submit an application to serve on one of our various committees/commissions. An application can be obtained in the Supervisor's office or online at [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org). Since it is important to involve our children in civic activities at an early age, each Township Board Meeting is lead in the Pledge of Allegiance by a scout troop. The Downtown Development Authority is updating its plan, ordinances are being reviewed and updated, Fire Chief Candidates have been interviewed and the Township Board has awarded the contract for the construction of the water tower.

One of the first items to be addressed by the current Township Board was the budget for 2009. Budget hearings which are open to the public were held with each department and a balanced budget was approved. We must be very mindful of the fact that in this unusual economic climate and declining property values, I expect 2010 will be more difficult financially for Van Buren Township. All Township revenue has decreased much the same as yours at home. However, we continue to have a responsibility to provide services to all residents in the community. During these times of unsettled employment, increases in home foreclosures and difficulty in paying taxes, crimes begin to increase. This makes youth and senior programs more important than ever. Providing a safe place for our children and resources for our aging population may help reduce burdens that are placed on family, friends as well as public service.

Each and every department has been directed to reduce costs. The more we save this year is that much more that we will have for next year during these times of declining revenue. Together we will face each challenge and we will be a stronger and healthier community. I look forward to providing good government for us all.

Paul White, Supervisor  
Van Buren Charter Township

**STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP**

Continued from Cover Page

we have a highly skilled workforce with experience and technical expertise that can be recruited to expand emerging fields such as hybrid vehicles and alternative energy. I am encouraged every day when I speak to talented people in our community that share with me their ideas on how to get the Michigan economy moving again.

There are shining examples of individuals, companies and organizations leading the way forward, right here in Van Buren Township. Ricardo Company, whose North American headquarters is located at the intersection of Tyler and Haggerty Roads, is directly involved in developing new hybrid and electric engine technologies as well as designs for wind turbine components. J.P. Morgan Chase bank recently completed an expansion of their data center that handles financial transactions from around the globe. Panalpina, one of the world's leading providers of logistics services, just finished a new logistics center here in Van Buren. Wayne County Community College expanded their western campus to provide new high-tech classrooms and laboratories to train and re-train our workforce. The Township's food service, banking and retail sectors also continue to expand with the latest addition to the Taco Bell and Culvers restaurants, Fifth-Third Bank, Wal-Mart super center and anticipated major upgrade of the Meijer store. These are just a few of the organizations that make Van Buren a great place to live and do business, and they will help us emerge from these tough times.

Like these forward-thinking organizations, Township government strives to maintain or improve our level of service to the residents. Public safety remains the number one priority. In 2008, the Public Safety Department started staffing two new fire stations on 24-hour 7-days a week schedules. This has resulted in a reduction in response times, which is critical in life and death situations. The Township also added several new police officers to our ranks. Because of hiring the new officers, we have been able to begin operating a special investigation unit. The unit has investigated over 126 major cases, seized 43 vehicles, removed 50 guns from the streets, and forfeited over \$100,000 from drug dealers.

Additional police officers have also been added to road patrols to increase visibility and reduce response times to reach our citizens and businesses. The Traffic Unit has been recognized by the State of Michigan with awards two years in a row for their efforts to reduce accidents and make our roadways safer. In 2009, uniform officers will increase their interaction with residents, so that we can work as a team to prevent crime and solve incidents that unfortunately tend to rise during these challenging economic times.

The next largest department at the Township is the Department of Public Works. Public Works provides water and sewer services as well as maintenance of Township facilities. The Department completed several major upgrade projects in 2008. The first project was the water meter reading upgrade, which

installed new meters with wireless reading devices for most of our customers. Readings are now collected automatically by radio signals. This allows Township staff to look up real-time usage information, helping identify potential problems such as leaks, and helping our customers become more aware of their water usage patterns.

Also completed in 2008, was the award winning Sanitary Sewer Equalization Basin. The sanitary sewers in the Township flow into three different systems, which the Township has contracted with for specific capacities or flows. If for any reason, the Township exceeds those flows, we can be subject to penalties and the potential for problems such as sewer back-ups increases. This new system can detect when we reach capacity, and divert excess flows into the basin until flows decrease enough to send on to the wastewater treatment plants. Future water and sewer improvements will include the construction of a water tower and several miles of water main. These upgrades will improve water pressure in the system and help the Township control the water rates paid to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

The Department of Public Works has also been striving to reduce costs at Township Hall. New, high efficiency light fixtures were installed in several areas of the building and timers were installed on light switches. Low flow water faucets with automatic shut-offs were installed in most of the restrooms to reduce water consumption. Improvements were also made to the Township's fueling system that allow us to track gas usage by vehicle, staff person, and department. This will help us identify where we can gain efficiency and better plan for transportation costs. Energy conservation efforts through upgrades and the replacement of older equipment will continue as maintenance budgets allow.

In the Clerk's Office, the Township has completed major upgrades in voting machine technology and adjusted precinct boundaries to better balance the number of voters. The optical scan voting machines, a statewide standard, have been implemented across the Township. All registered voters were mailed new voter registration cards denoting their precinct number and locations. New precinct maps and locations were also added to the Township website for the residents' convenience. There were four elections in 2008, including the presidential election, which logged a record turnout in the Township. We want to extend a special thanks to the precinct workers that arrived early and stayed late to make these elections a success.

The Township is looking closely at technology as a way to deliver municipal services more efficiently. The Information Technology Department made significant contributions through partnerships with the other departments, while at the same time reducing overall expenditures. The IT Department collaborated

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TREASURER'S OFFICE

Greetings from the Treasurer's Office. February 28, 2009 concluded the 2008 summer and winter tax collection period for the Van Buren Township Treasurer's Office. If you were unable to submit payment for your real property taxes by the deadline, payment will need to be submitted directly to the Wayne County Treasurer's Office. Payments can be mailed to the following address:

Wayne County Treasurer  
 The International Center Building  
 400 Monroe Street - 5th Floor  
 Detroit, MI 48226

The Wayne County Treasurer's Office can be reached regarding delinquent real property taxes at (313) 224-5950. You may also access the Wayne County Treasurer's website in order to research the balance of any outstanding tax obligation you may have. The website address is as follows: [www.waynecounty.com/pta/Disclaimer.asp](http://www.waynecounty.com/pta/Disclaimer.asp). Delinquent personal property taxes levied on businesses are payable directly to the Van Buren Township Treasurer's Office.

As a result of the passage of two millage proposals by Van Buren Schools at the November 4, 2008 election, there will be a new millage levy and a revised millage levy. The following changes will be implemented on your 2009 summer tax bill:

- New levy of 2.98 mills for the construction/renovation of a new Belleville High School, not to exceed 30 years.
- Revised sinking fund millage reducing the existing 1.2603 millage to 1.13. Authorizes Van Buren Schools to use future tax levies and the existing fund balance for the repair and maintenance of existing school facilities.

Below is a table illustrating the net impact the passed millage proposals will have on your summer tax bill based on your taxable value:

Taxable Value	New High School Millage	Sinking Fund Millage Reduction	Net Impact of Millages
70,000.00	208.60	(9.12)	199.48
90,000.00	268.20	(11.73)	256.47
110,000.00	327.80	(14.33)	313.47
130,000.00	387.40	(16.94)	370.46
150,000.00	447.00	(19.55)	427.46

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

7 STEPS TO A SAFER SUMMER FOR YOUR DOG

1. Protect your dog from contact with toxic summertime chemicals: weed killers, lawn and garden treatments, insecticides, antifreeze, radiator fluid and pool additives.
2. Dogs with normally long coats that have been clipped for the summer and dogs with pink noses may be subject to sunburn.
3. Hot pavement can blister paw pads, so if you jog or take your dog for a walk, go during cooler times of the day and check the paws from time to time.
4. If your dog swims, rinse off the dog with fresh water to get rid of sand and salt that can dry the dogs skin or irritate the eyes.
5. Avoid letting your dog hang its head out the car window. Particles can lodge in their eyes or ears.
6. Always make sure your dog has access to some type of shelter, shade and plenty of water, especially if you're going away for a while.

Also, be conscientious of your neighbor. As much of a right you have to own a dog, they also have a right to enjoy a quiet neighborhood. Now that warm weather is here, people have their windows open and are outside working around the house, try keeping your dog's barking to a minimum. Muzzling your dog is not a good idea, because it's hard for the dog to pant and cool off in the hot weather. Purchase a citronella collar, which sprays a burst of citronella towards the dog's mouth area when it barks. They really don't like the taste and after a couple of times, the dog will quiet down. Citronella is harmless to dogs. They can be purchased at your local pet shop for around \$40.00 to \$90.00.

**Residents of Van Buren Township**

**Annual Drive-In Dog Clinic**



**Saturday, May 9**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**



**Van Buren Township Hall - Water/Sewer Building**  
 (Follow the signs from Tyler Road near Township Hall)

One Year Rabies Vaccination	\$16
One Year Distemper Vaccination	\$28
One Year Dog License	\$5
Senior Citizen Cost of Dog License	\$2.50

Dr. Graf and his staff from the Belleville Animal Hospital will be on site to administer all vaccines.

Please contact the Treasurer's Office at (734) 699-8903 for more information.

## CHILD SAFETY SEAT LAWS

It does not matter whether you refer to them as the “apple of your eye”, “my little princess” or any number of names. One thing is reflected by these terms of endearment; your love for a child. As parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles we do whatever we can to shelter them from what may harm them and protect them from injuries. In this busy, bustling, day and age we spend a lot of our time traveling from place to place. As such, we take our children with us and usually we drive to get there.

On July 1, 2008 a new law took effect regarding how children travel in automobiles in Michigan. The updated Michigan Child Restraint Law (257.710d, 257.710e) is as follows:

- Children under four years of age **must** be secured in a child restraint (child safety seat).
- Children ages four to eight years or those under 4 feet 9 inches **must** be secured in a child restraint.
- Children ages eight to sixteen years **must** wear a safety belt.
- All front seat drivers and passengers **must** wear a safety belt regardless of age or height.

### General child restraint/safety seat tips:

- Use a child safety seat that is age, height and weight appropriate for your child.
- The safest place for a child to be is in the middle of the back seat of a vehicle.
- A properly installed child safety seat should not move more than one inch left to right in its position.
- As of September 1, 2002 all new manufacturer vehicles have the L.A.T.C.H. (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) system to help simplify child safety seat installation. Check your owner’s manual for location and instructions for use.
- Be sure the harness is tight enough that you cannot pinch extra webbing at the shoulder.

### Here are some important details that are a little more age specific:

**Infants:** Use a rear-facing child safety seat until **at least** 1 year of age and 20 lbs.

- Use a rear-facing car seat in the back seat.
- Never place a rear facing car seat in front of an active air-bag.
- Adjust the harness clip to be at the infant’s armpit level.
- Make sure the harness is routed through the slots in the car seat so that the harness is at or below the infant’s shoulders.
- A rear facing car seat should be at no more than a 45 degree angle to help keep an infant’s airway open.

**Toddlers:** Use a forward-facing child safety seat for children **older** than one year of age and more than 20 lbs.

- Use a forward facing child safety seat until the harness no longer fits the child or the child exceeds the height and weight restrictions of the seat’s manufacturer.

- Make sure the harness is routed through the slots in the child safety seat so that the harness is above the toddler’s shoulders. Some seats require you to use the top slots when a seat is being used in a forward-facing mode. Check your manufacturers instructions.
- Adjust the harness clip so that it is at the toddler’s armpit level.
- Use a top tether if your vehicle and child safety seat are equipped with them. These help prevent the forward motion of a child’s head in a crash.

**Booster Seat:** A booster seat is used to properly position a child in a vehicle so that they may utilize a standard lap and shoulder seat belt. Booster seats are not attached to the vehicle seat like child safety seats. Use a booster seat until your child weighs between 80 and 100 lbs. and is 4 feet 9 inches tall (somewhere between 8 and 12 years of age). If you think your child is “big” enough to use a lap and shoulder seat belt without the booster seat then try the Safety Belt Fit Test.

### Safety Belt Fit Test:

1. With your child seated all the way back on the vehicle seat, check if their legs bend naturally at the front edge of the seat. If they do not, return to a booster seat.
2. Buckle the lap and shoulder belt. Check to make sure that the lap belt rests on the upper legs or hips. If it does not, return to a booster seat.
3. Be sure that the shoulder belt rests on the child’s shoulder or collarbone. If it does not, return to a booster seat.
4. Check to see if your child stays in a proper seating position for as long as you are in the vehicle. If your child changes position so that the safety belt touches their face, neck, or stomach, return them to a booster seat.

For additional information on child safety seats check the following websites:

[www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)  
[www.usa.safekids.org](http://www.usa.safekids.org)

The Van Buren Township Police Department offers child safety seat inspections for the residents of Van Buren Township free of charge. If you have questions or would like to schedule the inspection of a child safety seat please contact the Traffic Services Division at (734) 699-8904.

Officer Ryan Bidwell  
 Van Buren Township Public Safety

Officer Mark Buxton  
 Van Buren Township Public Safety

## VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP MARINE UNIT

Spring is coming soon and before you know it we will all be out enjoying the water. Here are some Rules, Laws, and Tips to make your boating safe and fun.

### **DISPLAY OF ADDRESSES**

In order to better serve you in case of an emergency we are requesting that all residents with lakeside homes display their addresses on or near their dock or shoreline, clearly visible from the lakeside. The display of addresses on a permanent dock, structure or sign is a mandatory township ordinance (Van Buren Code of Ordinances - Section 18-458 effe. 9-27-90) for all properties which have frontage on the lake.

There have been several incidents where the marine unit has been close to calls and could not respond due to homes not having their addresses properly displayed. Some of these calls include serious medicals, breaking and entering and alarm calls as well as other calls for service (vehicle lockouts, general reports). The marine unit is equipped with an AED (automatic external defibrillator), basic medical supplies, a water/fire pump and other equipment that could assist residents in many instances much faster than a road patrol car.

### **INCIDENT REPORTING**

There have been several un-reported incidents involving theft of fuel, motors and other equipment from boats and dockside fuel tanks. Please check your property on a regular basis and report all of these incidents to the police department. Even if you are not going to file an insurance claim or feel the loss was minimal it is important to report these incidents as it allows the marine unit to focus patrol on specific locations or times that these incidents are occurring.

### **NOISE ORDINANCE**

The below information is state law regulating boat noise on Michigan waters:

- A vessel's engine must have a factory-installed muffler or exhaust system for noise reduction, or another effective muffling system. Vessel operators may not hear sound signals or voices if the engine is not adequately muffled.
- Michigan law states that a vessel's muffler or exhaust system must prevent noise in excess of:
  - 90 decibels at idle from three feet away and...
  - 75 decibels measured from on shore.

Regulating excessive watercraft noise is important for everyone's enjoyment of our waters and will be strictly enforced.

### **NEW PWC (JET SKI) LAWS**

The bill (HB 6014), also known as the Ashleigh Iserman Law, was signed into law in July 2008. 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 goes into effect 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.

### **LAWS SPECIFIC TO BELLEVILLE LAKE**

- Speed limit 40 mph.
- Maintain slow no wake speed within 100 ft. of Belleville Road and Denton Road bridges.
- Obey counterclockwise operation - which means stay to the right side of the lake when operating at anything above idle speed.

### **VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP PARK**

- It is illegal to tamper with, move, hang on to or tie your watercraft up to the swim area buoys. Please keep all watercraft out of the swim area and operate at slow no wake speed within 100 ft. of the swim area.

**Here are some simple tips to make your boating experience more enjoyable:**

- **Before you leave** - Make sure your watercraft is in good condition by checking batteries, fuel lines, drain plugs. Important items that people think they don't need include - paddles, anchor, bailing bucket, prop and prop wrench, tools and a tow rope.
- **At the ramp** - The launch ramps are sometimes very congested so be patient and try to have everything ready to trailer allowing you to launch the boat in a timely manner. (Don't forget the plug).

Being a responsible boat operator means understanding the rules and knowing how to keep yourself and your passenger's safe during a day of boating. We encourage all boaters to attend a Boater's Safety Class. Please call Van Buren Parks and Recreation for information at (734) 699-8921.

Thank you,

Officer Christopher Hayes  
Van Buren Township Marine Unit

**Looking for an outing for your school class,  
club, church group, or scout troop?**

Call the **Belleville Area Museum**  
to arrange a guided tour.

(734) 697-1944

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with the Department of Public Works to implement a new computerized maintenance and management system called Cityworks. Cityworks will allow the Township to electronically manage and track assets, such as water mains and fire hydrants, and create automatic service requests to ensure that maintenance is completed appropriately and on time.

Other technology efforts included the implementation of a computerized cemetery management system, upgrade of the information network at Township Hall, and continued transition to a network-based printing and copying model, which will reduce purchases of equipment, maintenance and supplies. Additionally, residents are now able to subscribe to e-newsletters from various Township departments via the website. The IT Department continues to make improvements in 2009 that will make Township government more accessible to the residents. To further this effort in transparency, Township Commission and Committee meetings are now recorded and played on our governmental access channel, VBTv 12. We have also used the Township website to post the annual budget and other key documents so that the citizens know how their tax dollars are being spent.

The Community Services Department, which include Parks and Recreation, provides a quality blend of programming for our diverse community. In 2004, the Township received \$2 million dollars from Wayne County Parks Millage, and we are now seeing the results of this funding. Projects supporting this grant include the Senior Activity Garden (2005), restrooms at Van Buren and French Landing Parks (2006), a new Riggs Heritage Park (2008), an improved entrance to Van Buren Park (2008), and new equipment at Haggerty Park (2008). The Department has also worked diligently to secure alternative funding sources for programs through Community Development Block Grants, Belleville Rotary Club, Detroit-Wayne County Community Health, Van Buren Civic Fund and Western Wayne County Therapeutic Recreation. In 2008, Van Buren Township was recognized by the National Recreation and parks Association, Ethnic Minority Society for our "Takin it to the Streets" program. This award is only presented to ten agencies in the United States for innovative recreation programs and best management practices. Van Buren Community Services will continue to provide the best possible service to our residents in 2009.

The township also provides a wide array of activities for our mature residents. September Days Senior Center is a full service multi-purpose agency assisting persons over the age of fifty-five with their life needs. Almost one (100) programs, services and events are sponsored through September Days including; health clinics, legal services, nutrition programs, consumer protection, education and recreation. September Days services not only those who are able to come to the center but also does extensive community outreach. Daily calls and home visitations are made to those older adults who are unable to get out. Our Center is offering more services than ever before, and we strive to continually explore new classes and keep our

members updated on pertinent information for seniors. September Days membership is at an all-time high of 1,850 plus and growing each day. During these uncertain economic times and threatened federal and state government programs, watching out for our seniors and helping them achieve a high quality of life will be more important than ever.

Finally, I would like to let every resident know that your Township elected officials and staff understand what you and your families are facing during this economic slowdown. The Board has asked every department to tighten their belts and look for ways to reduce costs. Due to falling property values, many of you will see your local property taxes go down in 2009. This will allow everyone to keep a little more of your hard-earned dollars to spend on other necessities. The Board will have to make tough choices over the next few years until our region and the state of Michigan is able to get back on its feet. I am confident we will see revitalization in southeast Michigan, and I will do my very best as Supervisor to help Van Buren Township lead that renewal with responsible and managed growth.

Paul D. White  
Township Supervisor

## DIRECTOR BRUCE ROSS WINS MRPA COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AWARD



Director Bruce Ross with the Commitment to Excellence Award

At the opening ceremonies of the Michigan Recreation and Park Association Conference and Trade Show held February 3, 2009, Bruce J. Ross, Director of Parks and Recreation won the Commitment to Excellence Award. In recognition for and acknowledgement of his commitment to excellence to the parks and recreation profession. A 2009 scholarship will be awarded in his name to a college student in the parks and recreation curriculum. This is one of the highest recognitions a professional can receive from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. To date only seven individuals in Michigan Recreation and Park Association have received this award.

Gerri Jackson, MRPA Member

## September Days Senior Center

### GERMAN INTERN PROGRAM A SUCCESS AT SEPTEMBER DAYS



David von den Driesch, German Intern for September Days Senior Center

It has been our good fortune this year to have a German Intern through the World Horizons, Inc. program. World Horizons works with the Heart of Senior Citizens Center in Mt. Morris, MI to place young men from Germany at various senior centers throughout the state. David von den Driesch came here in August 2008. Lynette and Kelly Jordan have been David's host family and can attest to what a great experience it has been. World Horizons carefully screens each applicant to determine the best placement for him. They've made a perfect match in our case - David has contributed a great deal to the senior program. He teaches a Conversational German class, helps with Photography and Scroll Saw classes, delivers Focus:Hope

and commodity food to homebound seniors in the township, helps with the Meals on Wheels program, takes phone calls, works our front desk and is everyone's technical wizard when it comes to computers, cell phones, digital cameras or anything else electronic!

Over the Christmas holidays a group of us went caroling at the homes of homebound seniors. One of the seniors was an 83 year-old German immigrant who used to give us a lot of volunteering time, but is now unable to come to the center much. I wish you could have seen her face when David sang "O Tannenbaum" to her in German! She started to cry and sing with him at the same time! It really made everyone's day.

Aside from special moments like that, David's daily presence at the center has been nothing less than positive - his infectious smile puts everyone at ease. Our members have become very dependent on him to help with anything & everything. I can tell you that it is good to have someone around to handle the physical tasks involved in running the center.

David will be returning home in July to start college. We would like very much to continue the program and bring another young man in as an intern. We are looking for a host family for August 2009 through July 2010. All the host family needs to provide is room & board. We will be doing some fund raisers and are also seeking donations to provide a stipend for personal expenses. We have complete details at the center for anyone willing to help out. Give me or Lynette a call at (734) 699-8918.

Linda Combs, Director  
September Days Senior Center

### Thinking about taking a class?

#### Health Workshops

Fitness Center

Ceramics

Computers

Copy Cats

Crochet

Quilting

Jewel Beading

Line Dancing

Pinochle or Euchre

Bridge or Hand & Foot

Variety Club



#### Try one of our new classes:

Photography

Mat & Frame

Scroll Saw

Glass Fusing

Wii



#### The Red Hat Society

Yoga

Dance Exercise

Step Aerobics

A.F.E.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 Days newsletter or stop by the office for class times and more information!

## Fred C. Fischer Library Events

# Be Creative

## YOUR LIBRARY

Kids, join the Fred C. Fischer Library's Summer Reading Program and enjoy fun events and prizes. Programs of music, magic, comedy, storytelling, and puppetry will awe and amaze you.

### Read-To-Me Program (Preschoolers)

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., June 17 - July 22

### Summer Reading Program (Elementary Schoolers)

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m., June 16 - July 21

Register at the library beginning Monday, June 8.

All are welcome to attend the final summer reading program awards ceremony featuring live music from **Fiddler's Restring**, **July 21 at 11:00 a.m.**



Teens, keep busy this summer by reading books and picking up prizes along the way. Cool programs include henna tattooing, a dance party with a DJ, and a video gaming night. Programs are on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. from June 15 - July 20. Middle and High School students can stop by the library beginning June 8, to register.

## IMAGINING MICHIGAN

Adults! Summer reading is not just for kids. You too can get into the summer reading fun with a program just for you!

Between June 8 and August 1, fill out a ticket for each library book you've read or audio book you've heard, and enter to win a gift basket of your choice. Join one of the library book discussion groups for an extra chance to win a basket.



### Sirens of Chrome: The Enduring Allure of Auto Show Models

Rev your engines for a joyful ride through auto show history. 2009 Michigan Notable Book author Margery Krevsky visits the library on Thursday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m.

### Book Discussion Groups

Ages 18 and up

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

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

### Friends of the Library Events

Used Book Sales:

Saturday, May 2, 12 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, Aug 1, 12 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, Nov 7, 12 - 3 p.m.

Perennial Plant Swap:

Saturday, May 2, 12 - 2 p.m.

### Garden Walk

City gardens, country gardens, small gardens, big gardens, ponds, waterfalls, fountains - this year's Garden Walk has it all! Six exceptional gardens with one common element: a beautiful backyard! Step into any of each of these gardens, and a wonderful world awaits.

### Sunday, July 26, 11-4

Advance tickets: \$8.00

Tour day tickets: \$10.00

All proceeds benefit the library.



Gardeners, mark your calendars. Janet Macunovich will present a program at the library on Wednesday evening, July 29. Call the library for more details.

**Hours:** Monday - Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday and 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

### Museum Summer Exhibit to Feature Chairs!

Chairs play an important role in our lives, from a baby's first high chair to an office worker's computer chair to everyone's favorite comfortable arm chair at the end of a long day. Chairs are used for relaxation, dining, recreation, medical purposes, transportation. The list goes on and on.

The museum is currently making plans for our summer exhibit which will focus on these many types of chairs.

#### ***Do you have a chair you might loan for our exhibit?***

Although it is not a requirement of the display, we are especially hoping to exhibit chairs with local associations. For instance, the museum presently has a Windsor chair discovered in the attic of the museum, a rocking chair from the maternity ward of the old Belleville Hospital, and an upholstered chair from the old Denton Methodist Church. We wish we had a chair that was purchased at the former Roberts Bros. Furniture Store.

Following is a brief list of types of chairs we are looking for.  
(You may have several other suggestions)

Queen Anne chair	Soda parlor chair
Bentwood chair	Corner chair
Beauty salon/barber chair	Wicker chair
Lifeguard chair	Beach chair
Antique wheelchair	Bean bag chair
Stacking chair(s)	Adirondack chair

If you have a chair you would like to loan for the display, please call the museum at (734) 697-1944 and tell us about it.

The chair exhibit is tentatively planned to run from June 4 through the first week of September, 2009.

#### ***Mark your calendars for the:***

### ***Belleville City-Wide Yard Sale***

**September 12 & 13**

The Belleville Area Museum & Historical Society will be taking part in the Yard Sale.

We will be asking for donations of used items for the sale. When you're cleaning your garage, attic, basement, etc., this spring and summer, please set aside your used treasures for us! We will begin accepting donations at the beginning of September. For further information, call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

#### **Belleville Area Historical Society Spring Programs**

"History of the Interurban"  
Presented by: Mr. Brian Golden  
**April 16**

Churchilliana:  
Books and Documents  
Relating to Winston Churchill  
**May 16**

Presented by: Richard Marsh  
Belleville Area Historical Society  
&  
President of the  
Winston Churchill Society of Michigan

#### **Location:**

In the "Churchill Library" at Cutcombe House  
The new Ann Arbor home of BAHS members  
Richard and Mary Jo Marsh

For more information on historical society programs, call the museum at (734) 697-1944.

**During the month of March, the Belleville Area Museum presented its exhibit entitled "Patches and Patterns: A Celebration of Quilts."**



Over 100 quilts were displayed throughout the museum. The exhibit was co-sponsored by the Western Wayne County Quilting Guild and Threads & Treasures Quilt Shop.

Belleville Area Museum  
405 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111  
Phone: (734) 697-1944 Director: Diane Wilson  
**Tours By Appointment**

Summer Hours (May 1 through Labor Day):  
Monday through Friday, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.  
(Hours subject to change) **Closed Holiday weekends**  
**Admission: Adults = \$1 Children 50 cents Family = \$3**

## WHAT'S NEW WITH RECYCLING IN VBT?

In 2008, a lot of exciting things happened around Van Buren Township in regard to environmental stewardship and sustainability. These include updated recycling guidelines, increased recycling rates, overall decreased waste generation, and increased environmental education and outreach in our public schools. Ultimately, recycling more items saves natural resources for future use and conserves valuable landfill space, extending the working lifetime of our existing landfills.

### Updated Recycling Guidelines

Waste Management added several items to the list of accepted curbside recyclables. Although Waste Management is excited to accept additional items, they ask that you closely follow the recycling guidelines and do not recycle miscellaneous items not listed. New items added to the recycling guidelines are as follows:

#### Plastic Containers #1 - #7

**Accepted:** All types of plastic containers are now accepted at your curb! Look for the number on the bottom of your water bottles, milk jugs, detergent and salad dressing bottles, food trays and personal care products.



**Care:** Rinse clean, throw caps in trash and then place in recycle bin.

**Not Accepted:** Remember not to include bottles that held motor oil or other toxic fluids. Also, no flower pots or miscellaneous plastics such as toys are accepted.



#### Telephone and Paperback Books

**Accepted:** Telephone and paperback books are now accepted at the curb.



**Care:** Stuff all paper in a paper or plastic grocery bag or just tuck to one side of the recycle bin. Extra bags may be placed next to or on top of recycle bin.

**Not Accepted:** Make sure not to include hardcover books in your recycle bin!



#### Additional Types of Paper

**Accepted:** Magazines, catalogs, and colored and glossy paper are not accepted.



**Care:** Stuff all paper in a paper or plastic grocery bag or just tuck it to one side of recycle bin. Extra bags may be placed next to or on top of recycle bin.

**Not Accepted:** Make sure not to include self adhesive or window envelopes, paper towels, tissue, and paper cups.

### All Items Still Accepted at Curb Include

- Aluminum, tin and Steel Cans and Foil
- Glass Bottles and Jars - Clear ONLY
- Office Paper, Newspapers and inserts, Junk-mail, Paper Grocery Bags
- Cardboard and Cereal Boxes

A complete list of recyclable materials can be found on the Township's webpage at [http://vanburen-mi.org/Community/Compost\\_Recycling.html](http://vanburen-mi.org/Community/Compost_Recycling.html), or at the Community Services Department.

### Annual Solid Waste Report - Keep up the Good Work!

In 2008, the tonnage of waste from Van Buren Township decreased 0.2% from the preceding year. Although this decrease seems to be a step in the right direction, the amount of trash generated by each Township resident increased slightly because population projections show a decrease from 2007 to 2008. Despite the slight increase in personal trash generation, there was a 22.96% increase in recycled materials. The increase from 604.77 tons to 743.6 tons represents an overall increase in the percent of recycling/trash from 6.03% to 8.8%. Good job, and keep up the good work!

### Environmental Education and Outreach

In response to slowing recycling rates and updated recycling guidelines from Waste Management, the Environmental Department sought to increase awareness around recycling and environmental stewardship. A recycling awareness exhibit was displayed in Township Hall and an environmental education program was launched in the Township's elementary schools to promote recycling. In total, 13 lessons were taught to over 650 students. The school visits were integral in promoting environmental stewardship in the community and served as a kickoff for a recycling competition sponsored by Van Buren Township. Classrooms competed against each other to collect the most paper recycling. Winners received a pizza party, specialized environmental science lesson, and were able to create a recycling commercial that will be looped on the public access channel. A total of 115 waste management recycling bins of paper were collected during the competition. This diverted a total of 545 cubic feet of waste paper from the landfill!

Rachel Arndt  
Environmental Planning Intern

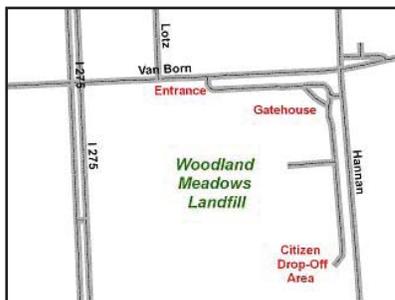
## TRASH GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

### 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:

- You **MUST** obtain a free landfill punch card from the Community Services Office, located at 46425 Tyler Road in order to utilize the landfill as a Van Buren Township resident. To obtain a landfill punch card you must provide proof of residency (i.e. current driver's license). The punch card entitles you 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.
- Each punch on the Landfill Pass is worth up to 4 cubic yards, if over 4 cubic yards per trip the card will receive an additional punch(es) based on the size of the load. To calculate cubic yards you can use the following formula: Length (ft.) x Width (ft.) x Height (ft.) divided by 27 = cubic yards.
- Yard waste (compost, leaves, ect.) 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.



### SHARPS/NEEDLES

Waste Management workers have seen an increase in loose needles in the trash. Please secure all needles/medical waste in a secure non-puncturable container, such as a laundry detergent container. **Please no loose needles in trash!**

### PET WASTE

Once the ground starts to thaw, pet owners begin to clean up the winter pet droppings. Please ensure that pet waste is double bagged and not placed loose in containers. Loose pet waste can create many health issues for our workers. Please double bag! Your efforts are much appreciated.

### PAINT DISPOSAL

Latex paints may be disposed of at normal curbside trash removal however they must be dried to a solid form. Oil based paints must be disposed of at Household Hazardous Waste Day which is held in October at the Environmental Quality facility located on the N. I-94 Service Drive. The date for this year is to be announced.

### OIL DISPOSAL

Please **DO NOT** dispose of oil at curbside. Many of the local oil change facilities will dispose of the oil for you for a nominal fee or you can also dispose of oil at Household Hazardous Waste Day in October. The date for this year is to be announced.

### BATTERY DISPOSAL

The Township accepts Alkaline, Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, and Lithium-ion batteries for recycling. There are buckets located just inside the main entrance to Township Hall where you can deposit these batteries. By recycling batteries, we can reduce the amount of metals entering our landfills and the potential for those metals to find their way into the wastewater leaving the landfills.

**THINK GREEN FROM HOME** is a RECYCLE BY MAIL program for fluorescent compact bulbs, fluorescent tubes and dry cell household batteries.

Energy Star Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) consume 75 percent less electricity than incandescent bulbs and last 10 times longer. One CFL can save \$30 in energy costs over its lifetime, reduce coal consumption by 200 pounds, and prevent more than 400 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions.

By recycling CFL's, tubes and batteries we reclaim the glass, metals, and plastics used to produce them. But recycling provides an added benefit, as these products contain heavy metals or other toxins that can contaminate the environment if disposed of in our landfill.

To purchase your Think Green From Home mail in boxes, go to [thinkgreenfromhome.com](http://thinkgreenfromhome.com).

## TRASH GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

### 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!**

### Toters and Additional Containers:

Please bag 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 all containers!**

### 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.

### 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.

Large Quantities of Trash require a Landfill Pass: (See Page 13)

### ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS:

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

### 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.

### 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.

### 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/Extra 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.

### Stolen/Extra Recycle Bins:

If your Waste Management recycle bin is stolen or missing, you may purchase a new recycle bin at the Parks and Recreation Department at Van Buren Township Hall for \$7.50.

**Please write your address on all containers!**

### 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.

## YARD WASTE GUIDELINES

### 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 a 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.

**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.**

### 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.

## 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 microwavable foods are not acceptable.

**Rinse and remove all caps.**

### Tin

**Tin Cans:** Please rinse all cans before placing them in recycle 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 and white), **\*NO** self adhesive or window envelopes, paper towels, tissue, paper cups, etc.

**Brown Paper Bag:** 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. - 9:00 p.m.**  
**April 7 - June 25**  
**July 7 - September 29 (No class August 6)**

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  
 Non-Residents = \$70

**Will pro-rate classes.**

## Youth Basketball Clinic



**Sundays, April 19 - May 17**  
**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

## Mill Coleman Football Fundamentals Summer Youth Camp

**July 20-22 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

All campers should bring water bottles, wear athletic apparel, and bring tennis shoes and football shoes.

**Fee: \$75 (includes t-shirt)**

### “Learn the game at an early age the right way”

Experience a training program where the players will receive fundamentally sound coaching, learn sportsmanship and citizenship and be able to gain insight from athlete/coaches that have played the game at very high levels. It is important that at a very young age the athletes learn to like the game of football also. We make the learning experience enjoyable, but also challenge the kids and let them know there is a lot of responsibility in the game of football. Major points of emphasis:

- Speed and agility/flexibility
- Basic fundamentals: Running, blocking, catching, and understanding the concept of tackling (Camps are non-contact!!)
- Position fundamentals: Quarterbacking, WR, RB, OL/DL, Special teams
- Competitive events
- Sportsmanship/Citizenship
- Role of Student Athlete



### Camp Instructors:

- Mill “The Thrill” Coleman is a former Farmington Hills Harrison Avenue All-American QB. Mill still holds the Michigan H.S. State record for passing yardage and touchdown.
- Staff consists of top notch H.S. coaches, former and current professional collegiate athletes, such as former Detroit Lion and starting Free Safety, Ron Rice. Former U of M star wide receiver and NFL Wide Receiver, Ron Bellamy and many more great coaches.

## 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.

**Saturday, June 20**  
**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, August 15**  
**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Ages 11 and up - pizza included.



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

# Takin' it to the Streets!

"No Child/Adult Left Inside"



**Friday, June 26**

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Van Buren Township Softball Field

**FREE! Fun for all ages!**

Inviting all children and adults to participate in this action packed day.

### Featuring...

DJ, games, inflatables, food and entertainment!

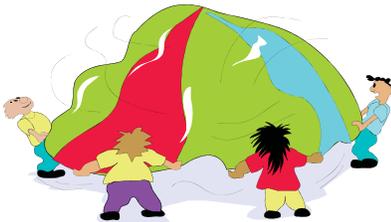
Games/Relays

Music

Popcorn

Food

Freebees



**\*\* Wear your messy clothes because you might get wet and a chance to paint on the Monster Art Mural!**

## 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



**Mondays, April 20 - June 1**

(6 weeks)

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

**Mondays, June 29 - July 27**

(4 weeks) (No class July 6)

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

**Mondays, September 14 - October 19**

(6 weeks)

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

## Summer Gymnastics



**Session 1: June 6, 13, 27**  
**Session 2: July 11, 18, August 1**  
**Session 3: August 8, 15, 22**

**Fall Session: Sept 19 - Nov 21 (10 weeks)**

### Tot Tumbling

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

11:30 - 12:00 p.m.

**Fall:** Van Buren Residents = \$65 Non-Residents = \$80

Ages 3-5

Van Buren Residents = \$20

Non-Residents = \$35

### Beginners

12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

**Fall:** Van Buren Residents = \$70 Non-Residents = \$85

Ages 6 & up

Van Buren Residents = \$25

Non-Residents = \$40

### Intermediates

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

**Fall:** Van Buren Residents = \$75 Non-Residents = \$90

Ages 6 & up

Van Buren Residents = \$30

Non-Residents = \$45

## Spring & Summer Yoga

### Spring & Summer Yoga Schedule (7 sessions)

This graceful, flowing practice blends the spirit and expression of the heart with the science of biomechanics and alignment.

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

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

- Session 1: April 6, 13 & 20
- Session 2: May 4, 11 & 18
- Session 3: June 8, 15 & 22
- Session 4: July 13, 20 & 27
- Session 5: August 10, 17 & 24
- Session 6: September 14, 21 & 28
- Session 7: October 12, 19 & 26



#### 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.

## Relay for Life

May 2 & 3  
10:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
(24 hour event)  
Belleville High School



This event is organized to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society. This is a community event with teams of walkers from schools, businesses, families, churches, clubs, etc... All you have to do is form a team of 10 or more. Try to earn money for the society using numerous fundraisers. The day of the event you and your team will take turns walking on the track for 24 hours.

**Various activities for all ages will be available throughout this event.**

**Why get involved?** "Because one in three Americans will get cancer in their lifetime." The Relay for Life gives everyone in our community an opportunity to fight back - together we will be able to make a difference in the battle against cancer.

For more information contact:

Jennifer McFarlane at  
(248) 663-3444 or email:

[jennifer.mcfarlane@cancer.org](mailto:jennifer.mcfarlane@cancer.org)



### "New Class"

## Urban Ballroom



Let instructor Dennis Radford enlighten you on Urban Ballroom Dance. Urban Ballroom dancing is a contemporary form of hand dance derived from the basic Cha Cha. A dance that takes two. Executing the Cha Cha along with turns, spins, dips and lifts. This dance fashions an urban flavor with the smoothness and elegance of each partner. It is danced on the beat of most urban music, some jazz, R & B and soul. It begins with the social or greystone position, then proceeds to the male leading his partner in a series of steps.

**Fridays, April 17 - June 19**  
Beginner ONLY: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesdays, June 2 - August 4**  
Beginner: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Intermediate: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

#### Van Buren Resident:

\$6 per class or \$50 (10 weeks)  
A \$10 savings for payment of full enrollment.

#### Non-Resident:

\$7 per class or \$60 (10 weeks)  
A \$10 savings for payment of full enrollment.

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.

**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/monthly Easy Fitness Ticket (EFT)

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

cardio



strength



stretch



## 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.

## MRPA Walk Michigan Sponsored by: Blue Cross Blue Shield

This is a free statewide non-competitive walking and fitness program for all ages through MRPA (Michigan Recreation and Park Association).

**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Starting every Wednesday, May 6 - August 5, you can simply walk your way to a healthier you while earning tickets. The more you walk, the more tickets you earn to put in a drawing to win an all expense paid trip to Mackinac Island. The trip to Mackinac Island will take place over Labor Day weekend for the annual walk across the "Big Mac."

Walk Michigan will be held **only at Quirk Park** in the morning from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and in the evening from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- Participants will not be able to start walking until Van Buren Recreation staff is present. You must check in with staff prior to walking so we can keep track of how far you walked.
- Participants can only walk up to three miles every Wednesday to earn tickets.
- Walking the whole 3 miles each Wednesday will increase your opportunity to win the trip.
- Only one winner will be drawn.

## Tai Chi Chuan & Meditation

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



6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



**Fridays, May 1 - June 19 (8 weeks)**

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

**Fridays, July 10 - August 14 (6 weeks)**

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

**Fridays, September 18 - November 20 (10 weeks)**

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

## 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, 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!!!***

## 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.**



**April 21 - May 26**  
(Held at Belleville High School in Small Gym)



**June 2 - July 7**  
**July 14 - August 18**  
(Classes held at Van Buren Park)

**No aggressive dogs allowed.**

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



## Pet First Aid



### Dog First Aid

**Thursday, May 21 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Dog First Aid is bundled with a DVD in the back cover that demonstrates how to perform many of the first aid steps described in the book and practiced in class.

### Topics covered include:

- Symptoms and care for common ailments and emergencies.
- Instructions for creating a pet first aid kit, giving medications and how to recognize emergencies.
- Tips on maintaining your pet's health and well-being.
- First aid guidance on caring for nearly 70 canine health conditions.

Van Buren Residents = \$55 Non-Residents = \$60



### Cat First Aid

**Thursday, July 23 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

The Cat First Aid class is bundled with a book and DVD in the back cover that demonstrates how to perform many of the first aid step described in the book and class.

### Topics covered include:

- Symptoms and care for common ailments and emergencies.
- Instructions for creating a pet first aid kit, giving medications and how to recognize emergencies.
- Tips on maintaining your pet's health and well-being.
- First aid guidance on caring for more than 60 feline health conditions.

Van Buren Residents = \$55 Non-Residents = \$60

## Domestic Violence and Anger Management

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



Join Social Worker Moses Boone on a weekly basis to discuss issues of domestic violence and steps to fulfill anger management. Moses has twenty-four years of diverse work experience in human services. This 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.

## 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 the following sites: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ClassesByDarlene/> and [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) group "Stampin' Up Classes by Darlene"

**Instructor:** Darlene Gerick    **Level:** Beginners and above    **Age:** 12+  
**Mondays, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.**    **Supplies Needed:** Adhesive, scissors and 12x12 paper trimmer

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.



April 20 - Learn 5 techniques; make 2 of each for a total of 10 cards. Techniques: Blurred Vision, Faux Metal, Paper Piecing, Dazzling Diamond Dust, and Faux Linen.

June 15 - Punches, Punches, Punches, create 10 new cards (2 each of 5 different designs) utilizing Stampin' Up® Punches.

May 18 - Make 10 Graduation Cards (2 each 5 different designs). Substitute one design for a Father's Day card if you choose. One design will incorporate a money holder.

July 13 - Embellish it! Create 10 cards (2 each of 5 different designs) utilizing Stampin' Up® embellishments (Ribbons, Buttons, Beads and more).

June 8 - Use Stampin' Up® tools to create cards. Make 10 cards (2 each of 5 different designs) using: the Stampin' Up® Big Shot Die-Cut Machine and Stampin' Up® exclusive dies and texturz plates, the Circle Scissors Plus, Cop-A-Dile and Crimper.

August 3 - Back by Popular Demand! 5 techniques taught again, with different layouts and stamps. Make 10 cards, (2 of each design) using the following techniques: Waterfall Card (same concept makes a great scrapbook), Split Negative, Vellum, Collage, and Chalk Backgrounds.

**Van Buren Residents = \$14    Non-Residents = \$17**

Have an idea for a Card Class or Scrapbooking Class, let me know, suggestions for the next session of classes are welcome at: [honie@comcast.net](mailto:honie@comcast.net)

## 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 Community Center 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.**

**April 24, May 29, June 26, July 31, August 28**

**\$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 \*\***

## Van Buren Community Job Fair



**Saturday, April 18**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
 Van Buren Township Hall



**Don't miss this exciting opportunity!**  
**Please bring several copies of your resume,**  
**and remember to "dress for success!"**



Come and visit a variety of agencies and learn what job offerings they have. Come prepared, there will be agencies with full time, part time and seasonal job offerings.



***Van Buren Township is not responsible for any employment decisions and transactions between participants and agencies in this event.***

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

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



**Saturday and Sunday, July 25 & 26 (Must attend both days)**

**9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Meet at Van Buren Park Boathouse.

**\$5.00 per person, Must pre-register by Monday, July 6**



Ahoy kids! Come out to Van Buren Park and learn skills for building a paddle/sailboat. These boats are 10'x10' and 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 will 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.

# Friday Family Fun Summer Music Nights

*"No Child/Adult Left Inside"*

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
FREE shows at Van Buren Park (S. I-94 Service Drive)  
\$3.00 per car park entry fee



July 10: Chain Reaction  
(Classic Rock)



July 17: Belleville Community Band

July 24: Devin Scillian & Arizona Son Band  
(Country/Folk/Bluegrass)

July 31: The Sun Messengers  
Official band of the Detroit Pistons (R & B/Jazz)

August 7: BackBeats  
(Beatles Tribute Band)

August 14: Stolen Moments  
(Smooth vocals of Jazz/Oldies/Classic sounds)

August 21: Funkee Station  
(R & B/Funk)



Why go away for the weekend when you can spend an evening at Van Buren Park listening to the cool sounds of these exciting performers? Come spend a great inexpensive time with your family and friends.

Concessions: popcorn, candy rings, chips, hot dogs, pop, water, etc...  
Gloworks products will be sold.

In case of rain, please call (734) 699-8921 for more information. If a rainout occurs, music concerts will be moved to 555 W. Columbia, Belleville High School Auditorium.

## 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 and 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.**

## R & R at Riggs Park Recycling & Reusing

In honor of Earth Day we are celebrating our environment by inviting 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 recycling 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.

## Detroit Tigers Trips

Bring the family to Comerica Park, you do not have to worry about driving or parking.  
 Just enjoy the game!

Detroit Tigers  
 Vs.  
 Seattle Mariners  
**Thursday, July 23 at 1:05 p.m.**  
 Comerica Park, Detroit



Detroit Tigers  
 Vs.  
 Tampa Bay Rays  
**Friday, August 28 at 7:05 p.m.**  
 Comerica Park, Detroit

\$25 per person charges cover transportation, admission and bus parking (80 tickets available).

\$25 per person charges cover transportation, admission and bus parking (80 tickets available).

Bus will leave Van Buren Township Community Center parking lot at 11:15 a.m. for the 1:05 p.m. game. (Ticket pick-up between 11:00 - 11:15 a.m. the day of the game).

Bus will leave Van Buren Township Community Center parking lot at 5:15 p.m. for the 7:05 p.m. game. (Ticket pick-up between 5:00 - 5:15 p.m. the day of the game).

If you are not riding the bus, tickets for the game must be picked up on July 21 at the Community Center.

If you are not riding the bus, tickets for the game must be picked up on August 26 at the Community Center.

**Tickets go on sale Monday, April 13**

Please contact the Parks & Recreation Department if you have any questions at (734) 699-8921.



## Open Registration for all Camps



**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 the City of Belleville, one camp t-shirt, games, crafts, field trips, socialization with peers, supervision from highly trained counselors, and a chance for camper 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.

Parent Orientation: Monday, June 1

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**

## Fireworks 2009

**Saturday, June 27**

*Rain-out Date: June 28*

Show starts at dusk, Beck Ball Fields



*DJ and Gloworks!!!*

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

- **Concessions Available**
- **Family Fun!**

## 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).

### Therapeutic Arts and Crafts

Make special, fun arts and crafts projects. Must pre-register to ensure you receive supplies.

**Ages: 13 & up**  
**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Session 2:**  
**Mondays, April 6 - 27**

**Session 3:**  
**Mondays, June 1 - 22**  
(No class June 29)



Located at the Bailey Center in Westland, you may also register for these classes at Van Buren Recreation Center.

**\$20 = Wayne County resident**  
**\$21 = Non-Resident**

### 3rd Annual Extravaganza Picnic

Activities will include live performances, inflated games, carnival games and much more!



**Thursday, August 20**  
**5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Nankin Mills Park, Westland**



Free to Wayne County residents  
Please call Westland Parks & Recreation (734) 722-7620.

### T-Ball and Coach Pitch

Children with special needs are invited to learn the basics of softball at the Westland Therapeutic Recreation T-ball/Coach Pitch Program. All children are encouraged to participate regardless of their level of impairment. The head coach is a certified recreation therapist with many years of experience. Program includes skill instruction, practice, and one or two inning games every Thursday night beginning May 21. Equipment (except mitts) team t-shirts and team pot luck picnic provided.



**Ages: 3-7**    **6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**  
(Games, practice, and picnic)

**Ages: 8-12**    **7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**  
(Games, practice, and picnic)



**Games/Practice: Wednesdays, May 20 - July 29**  
(No program July 1)

Jaycee Park, corner of Wildwood and Hunter, Westland, MI  
Rain location: Bailey Center Gymnasium, 36651 Ford Rd.  
Bring water bottles, mitt (optional - none will be provided), and sunscreen.

**\$50 per Wayne County Resident** or resident's sibling  
(without fundraiser).

**\$51 per Non-Resident** or sibling (without fundraiser)  
**Fundraiser: raffle ticket sale.**

**Team photos May 27 - cost of photos is extra.**  
**August 5, 2009 - Teen pot luck picnic.**

Sponsored by Plymouth Rock Lodge #47, Miracle League of Michigan, WYAA, and Westland Parks and Recreation. Scholarships available for Westland resident/program members.

## 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.

## 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 classes due to low enrollment. Reserve your spot today!

## 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.

## 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: Takin it to the Streets, Sea Quest, Tea Party, and WWCTR events. For more information, please contact Jennifer Wright at (734) 699-8921 or [jwright@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:jwright@vanburen-mi.org).

## ADA Accessibility

The Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department is working toward making all of 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.

## 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) 740-8981 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.**

## 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 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.



Family Fun Summer Music Night's at Van Buren Park

## Check our 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 30.

## 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 Jennifer Wright for more information and/or sponsorship form.



# Van Buren Township Parks

## Van Buren Park 50901 S. I-94 Service Drive

Located on the S. I-94 Service Drive 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

Located on Martinsville 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 Spring/Summer Schedule

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

(Must 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email Address (recreation brochure will be sent out 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

**Charter Township of Van Buren**

46425 Tyler Road  
Van Buren Twp., MI 48111

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**Postal Patron****VBTV 12**

With the new season comes change. The Cable Department has been working very hard to overhaul its programming capabilities. Before, with broadcasting from an analog tape-based system, we were limited to showing you only eight programs a day, Monday to Friday. Now, we have transitioned to using a new computerized digital video server.

The Cable Department is pleased to inform you that we are now able to show you more programs daily. Besides the live telecasting of the Board of Trustee's meetings, we are now also able to show you several of the township's committee and commission meetings. Taped meetings will be replayed at designated times. All programs and times listed may be subject to change.

Tune in to VBTV 12 to see what's going on in your township. Updated program schedule and other township information are posted on our video bulletin board and can also be found on the township website: [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org).

Ally Acosta McCracken  
Cable Operations Manager

**ANTHONY MULKEY ACCEPTS  
DIRECTOR POSITION**

Former Van Buren Parks Manager, Anthony Mulkey has accepted a Parks and Recreation Director's position for the City of Hyattsville, Maryland. On behalf of Van Buren Parks and Recreation, I would like to thank Mr. Mulkey for all of his effort with park development and grant work during his tenure in Van Buren. Good luck to you Mr. Mulkey!

Bruce J. Ross  
Director of Recreation

**SEMCOG Information****Carpooling to work saves money!**

Everyone is looking for ways to save money. SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, has a great idea that can save commuters nearly \$3,000 a year. Carpool to work...and find a carpool partner through MiRideshare!

MiRideshare has served Southeast Michigan commuters since 1980 with a free, safe carpool matching program. In these challenging economic times, sharing a ride to work has many advantages - it saves money, decreases commuter stress, and is good for the environment. Find a carpool partner through MiRideshare's easy-to-use online matching software. Those in the database are also eligible for incentives and prizes in addition to saving money.

Students, volunteers, employees - any commuter over the age 18 with a regular schedule whose work/school location falls within Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties - can use this service. You can carpool all the time, or just a few days a week. Carpooling is as flexible as you need it to be since you work out the details of your commute with potential partners.

And in the event of an emergency, MiRideshare offers "commuter insurance" through the Guaranteed Ride Home program. We'll get you home safely if you need to leave early or work late with free taxi rides up to six times per year.

According to the AAA, a commuter who drives alone to work (25 miles one-way) spends about \$5,800 per year on gas, maintenance, taxes, depreciation, and finance costs. That same commuter can save as much as 50 percent of these costs by carpooling with just one other person! No matter how high gas prices go, sharing a ride is a great value.

Commuters may also be able to save more once out of the ride alone commute by letting their auto insurance know about their new commute status. Many offer discounts for lower mileage usage on vehicles.

It's easy to get started. Go to [www.semco.org](http://www.semco.org) and click on MiRideshare under "Hot Topics." There, you will also find our get started video. Please call us with questions at (866) 510-POOL.

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of local government units serving 4.9 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan striving to enhance the region's quality of life. Our community is a proud member of SEMCOG.

**Don't forget to visit our website at: [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)**