



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.2 Thursday, January 11, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## Court Watching:

### Judge dismisses charges against defendant in hotel fraud case

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
 Independent Editor

Jenmond Neiltavius McCullum, 22, of Sumpter Township was charged with fraud, use of a computer to commit a crime (maximum sentence 10-20 years), and identity theft on July 16 in Van Buren Township.

He was set for his probable cause conference on Nov. 1. His live preliminary exam was set for Dec. 20. Personal bond was \$20,000.

On Dec. 20, Judge Oakley dismissed charges without prejudice part way through the preliminary exam and the prosecutor said the charges will be refiled with the witnesses needed for the testimony.

Defense attorney Kerry Martin had objected to evidence he called "heresay" and said, "You've got to have somebody here from Kalitta." Judge Oakley agreed.

One witness had testified on Dec. 20. Renson Hanna, regional manager of Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn Express, and other hotels, testified to what went on at one of his hotels from July to October 2023.

He said they have a computer program where you can check the room occupation and other details and they found a pattern of fraud. He testified airline employees could bill their company for lodging and some of those listed were fraudulent and not authorized by the airline.

The defense attorney convinced the judge there should be direct testimony on that evidence instead of the witness just saying he saw something.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Belleville City Manager Jason Smith leads the city council in determining goals for 2024 during a Jan. 2 meeting. The sheets with suggestions from council members written on them were displayed on the back wall of the meeting room and City Manager Smith read the ideas aloud. He said he would make a report on the results and put it in the next council packet.

## City Council sets goals for new year in Jan. 2 session

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
 Independent Editor

Most of Belleville City Council's 63-minute regular meeting on Jan. 2 was spent setting goals for the new year.

Led by City Manager Jason Smith, council members put their thoughts in writing on six paper sheets Smith had affixed to the wall behind the council table.

He had asked them to put the goals they want on: Police & Fire, Parks, Economic Development, Citywide Misc., Roads & Sidewalks, and DPS.

Mayor Ken Voigt wrote his goals and then wrote the goals that Mayor Pro-Tem Kelly Bates called in to him. She was absent due to illness, but was watching by Zoom.

When they were done writing everything on the sheets on the wall, Smith asked them to put colorful 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> stickers on the comments, selecting the most important.

He and Councilwoman Kissel then moved the sheets to the wall at the back of the meeting room so the public could see them better.

He said he would put all the ideas together

and issue a report for the council, sending it to councilmembers early and then putting it in the next council packet.

At the beginning of the session, Councilman Jeremiah Beebe asked if Smith had consulted with the directors of those different departments for their views and Smith said he hadn't yet.

"I feel kind of funny telling the police chief what their department goals are," Councilman Beebe said, adding his overall comment would be, "Just spend less

(continued on page 3)

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## City Council

(continued from page 1)

money.”

The main goals for the police and fire departments were ordinance enforcement and recruitment, Smith said, reading off the sheet on the wall.

After the thoughts were on paper, Smith said it pretty much looks like the council mainly wants to clean up and take care of things which have been neglected over the last few years.

Goals included cleaning the gutters, senior transportation, beautifying Horizon Park, setting up a road program, and taking care of what had been deferred maintenance.

“It’s internal,” Smith said referring to the goals. “It’s how we deploy the troops.”

Mayor Voigt said he wants to see the leaf collection program reinstated, along with weekly street sweeping. He said the city cut back on those two services when it was in a period of retrenchment, but now it is recovered.

Smith said during Winterfest, he and Project Administrator Steve Jones were out on the street with shovels trying to get the leaves out of the drains.

Smith said he is certified to handle code enforcement and DPS Director Rick Rutherford can do code enforcement. He said they could assign someone to help.

“We’ve been in a reactive mode for some time and now we can become proactive,” said Councilwoman Kissel.

She wrote a goal on the Citywide page: “Social media presence – manage our narrative & prevent mis-information.”

Smith said with ordinance enforcement, you take the low-hanging fruit first, such as having trash all over. He said then you can get into the more involved infractions.

He said there is a plan to walk around downtown this spring to see what needs work. He said in his past jobs, he has given the residents an ample opportunity to clean up before enforcement.

In other business at the Jan. 2 meeting, the council:

- Approved accounts payable in the amount of \$61,555.97 and the following departmental purchase in excess of \$500: to Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Association, \$1,500 for 2024 membership dues;

- Heard Smith report the new radar speed sign has been delivered and the city won’t have to borrow Van Buren Township’s sign any more. He also reported the car parts for the 2023 scout car repair have arrived and it is a three-day job. He also said the interview with an experienced police officer will be the next day and the FEMA funds came in and the city will write a check for \$330,000 to R&R for the new fire truck, withholding a small amount for a piece that is yet to come;
- Learned the requested extension for

the annual audit was approved by the state and the city has until May to complete it. The system was tied up with a computer problem. Smith also announced the CapCon for the Michigan Municipal League (MML) will run March 12-13 at the Lansing Center and he plans on going. He said it is a worthwhile event to attend for those on the council, as well, with lots of information and contacts with legislators;

- Heard Smith recommend getting the MML attorney to come in to give “The Essentials of Local Government” session for a joint meeting of the City Council,

Planning Commission, and Downtown Development Authority. It takes from 1 ½ to 3 hours and the cost is \$1,800 total, including travel, which would be divided among the three groups. Also he announced the old generator and old dump truck are in an auction ending Jan. 17;

- Heard Councilwoman Kissel announce that her son, fire fighter Garrett Kissel, has offered to make photo badges for council members. All they have to do it give him their favorite photos, she said;
- Learned the firewall for the city internet service is ordered and Smith said they hope

to have it that week. He said the internet work by the new company the city hired will begin the next day; and

- Heard Councilman Jeremiah Beebe ask about the water being so expensive in the city. “We charge a lot of money for water,” he said, noting this is hard on seniors and those on fixed incomes. Smith said something weird is going on in the digital water readings with the same round numbers coming up every month on some readings. He said DPS Director Rick Rutherford and he are keeping an eye on it, but there has not been a full audit.

## Sumpter OKs \$6,534.93 repair to lift station generator

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Sumpter Township Public Works Director John Danci told the township board at its regular meeting on Dec. 12 that a backup generator for a lift station at the corner of Willis and Rawsonville roads was leaking coolant and needs to be repaired.

He presented a proposal for \$6,534.93 from Cummins, the company that installed it in 2004 and maintains it. He said \$2,600 is for labor and \$2,500 for actual parts. They will have to remove about 30 to 40 bolts to get to the inside and can’t just swap out parts, he said.

It will take about a week or two to repair it, he said. He said it only has 590 engine hours on it.

Director Danci said this backup generator services the last pump station out of the township that sends the sewage to Ypsilanti. He said if there is a power outage in that area, and the backup generator turns on, it will leak coolant all over the Red Rooster parking lot. He said it turns itself on for a 10-minute test each Wednesday morning, but they have turned it off completely because it leaks coolant all over the place.

He said it is a large task to take out the the backup generator on a trailer that they have and the way it has to be at the site is dangerous. He said a car nearly hit it on Thanksgiving night.

Danci said he didn’t even ask about the price of a new backup generator because he knows it is very expensive and that it will take a long time to get.

Trustee Don LaPorte said maybe the township should look at other companies and he wants to make sure the process is cost-effective.

“I would consider this critical,” said Trustee Tim Rush, recommending it be put on that night’s agenda for action. He said with just 590 hours on it, the cost for repair is a drop in the bucket.

Danci said this pump station is larger than the other pump stations in the township and if it goes down it affects a lot of people.

He said in early November Cummins did its preventive maintenance check on the

generator and it passed everything. He said it was all bolted and the coolant put in and an hour or so later, the coolant was gone.

The repair cost was put on the agenda and unanimously approved by the board.

In other action at the one-hour workshop and regular board meeting, the board:

- Approved a resolution approving three 2024 Wayne County permits, A-24044, A-24099, and A-24133;

- Approved a five-year Axon agreement at a total cost of \$15,292.80 to outfit the additional patrol unit with an Axon Fleet 3 camera system;

- Approved posting and hiring a non-union, temporary, 90-day DPW employee at the hourly rate of \$16.04 with the hour not exceeding 29 per week for the months of January, February, and March;

- Approved the ratified Michigan Association of Fire Fighters local agreement for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027, with Trustee Don LaPorte abstaining because he is a fire fighter;

- Heard township attorney Rob Young say Freedom of Information Act requests were submitted to Wayne and Washtenaw counties concerning the misplaced water line on Rawsonville Road and they had little to no response from the counties. He is focusing on attorneys at the county and drain commission. A claim may be filed concerning who made the mistake on that water line. He has taken this action since the special board meeting on Dec. 6, he said. “We’re full-court-pressing as of today,” he said;

- Heard Township Manager Anthony Burdick report that the required ARPA (American Recovery Plan Act) document was filed and will be filed again in March, trash recycling has resumed, the township hall door is secure after the alarm was set off Dec. 9 by someone trying to open it, the first interment in Martinsville Cemetery since 2015 was to take place Dec. 23, and he is asking department heads to decide what they want in the upcoming budget;

- Heard Mary Ban speak during public comment saying people have taken offense to what she said at the Nov. 28 meeting

about communication with the residents. She said the quarterly newsletter is very nice, but it is not sufficient to tell the people what’s going on. “People would like more,” she said. “I would like to have everyday comments.” She also said the roads are absolutely atrocious and they are just potholes. She said residents got their tax bills and wonder what Wayne County does for them for those taxes. She said she went to the open house at the museum and said it was very nice to see the big murals on the wall.;

- Heard Trustee Tim Rush say he was at the last meeting of the Council of Western Wayne and learned the Great Lakes Water Authority will be reimbursing communities 100% for the overages they had to pay for water for Highland Park over the last ten years. He said Sumpter is not involved with the sewer payments. He said CWW is paying \$140,000 for audits of all the CWW communities for use of coordinated air space in Southeastern Michigan. Doing the audit will be Air Space Link, a FAA contractor who has been attending CWW meetings. He said drones are coming, with drones making deliveries, taking pictures of private citizens, and if the air space is not coordinated your drone won’t leave the ground. “We’re covered,” he said referring to drones used by him and Treasurer Bart Patterson;

- Heard Trustee Peggy Morgan say she agrees with Ban and she realizes the board doesn’t care for the *Independent*, but the township had more volunteers and more bids when the township used the *Independent*. “You may not agree with what she writes,” she said. “It’s a hard copy. In the new year maybe we can switch back to the *Independent*.” Rush cut in to ask why the *Independent* isn’t writing about township events and, “You need to talk to her.” He said he remembers what the editor has done to individual board members. “It’s sad,” Morgan said to Ban. “All you can do is try”; and

- Heard LaPorte say he’ll be out on medical in January and will be absent from the January meetings.



# O P I N I O N S

## Editorial

### Fentanyl, ketamine in neighborhood sends chills

A recent 34<sup>th</sup> District Court case had testimony from a Belleville Police officer who said 56 fentanyl pills were discovered in a car he stopped at the corner of Third and North Liberty streets in Belleville. That was on May 2, 2021, but the case was just being adjudicated.

Charges against the defendant were dismissed by the judge because the defense attorney convinced her that his client didn't know the pills were in the car because he had borrowed the car from someone else. Although the defendant had scales in his pocket, pills are counted out and not distributed by weight, and no one was using drugs. There was no evidence to prove the intent of distribution. And, all the cash in his pocket was from money from the government stimulus checks since it was during the pandemic.

The police officer testified this is a very dangerous drug to the community. He told of how he and his partner carefully checked their Narcan to make sure they had it in case they touched the dangerous drug accidentally.

Another recent news release from Detroit Metro Airport said on Dec. 13 U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents intercepted 110 pounds of ketamine in a traveler's baggage.

We're sure the local police see drugs every day and we don't hear about it. But these two recent public stories send a chill to our communities because they show how close these drugs are to our families.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

We had two people come into our office on Jan. 2 to tell us a WDIV Channel 4 television camera truck was at Belleville City Hall and the newperson was talking to the city manager. It didn't seem like breaking news.

That night at the city council meeting, I asked City Manager Jason Smith about it and he said crewmembers from Channel 4 were doing mini-interviews and laying out the process for a live news "In Your Community" telecast from Belleville in early February.

He said there were many on-line votes for Belleville to be a site for the live telecast and the channel has special telecasts from different places. He said Martha Hanoian of the chamber set it up.

Jason said he believes the live telecast from Belleville will be set up in the Belleville High School Commons. He said the crew will be back in town with its drone and to do other short interviews in preparation for the February telecast.

Jason and Hanoian took WDIV personality Karen Drew and her cameraman to the Rusted Crow on the Lake, Gloria Jean Café & Bakery, and the Butcher Shop and Channel 4 will be doing a story on the Denton Road Bridge and Five Points, Smith reported.

The "Help Me Hank" personality, Hank Winchester, will also be coming to town to hang around and do a story.

\*\*\*

On Christmas Day there was a hot police pursuit through the tri-communities that started in Washtenaw County and ended in a crash near the landfill at the corner of Ecorse and Hannan roads in Van Buren Township.

That was discussed, as well, at the Jan. 2 city council meeting. Councilman Randy

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



Priest said he saw a police car turn from East Huron River Drive to Madelon Street on two wheels. He lives near that corner.

A person on Savage Road said he saw police cars going 90 mph past his house.

Belleville Police Chief Kris Faull said Belleville Police weren't involved in the chase because there was just one patrol car on duty and it was at the other end of town when the cars sped through.

Chief Faull said she was told it started with the Flock cameras finding the stolen car with the two people in it that Washtenaw was chasing. Chief Faull, who lives in rural Sumpter Township, said she was at home and her husband told her a high-speed police chase just went by their house. She called in to find out about it.

We saw them go by our house, too, on Haggerty Road in southern VBT.

Van Buren Township had an "assist other department" call listed on its dispatch log for Christmas at about 2:13 p.m. at Van Born and Hannan. Then, a while later, there was the accident at 3:57 p.m., at Haggerty/Ecorse.

\*\*\*

Chief Faull also confirmed a Dec. 20 report of sexual assault. I had been told the report came from Belleville High School and she said the call came from there, but the incident did not happen at BHS. There were two more juvenile complaints listed on the dispatch log for Belleville, one on Dec. 20 and one on Dec. 21. Chief Faull said those two calls were about kids getting hyped up

and misbehaving before winter vacation.

\*\*\*

We publish the "Court Watching" items in our paper to show our readers how our local justice system is working. Some cases go on for years. Some are closed quickly. Some go on for a long time and then are dismissed. Since the 34th District Court is dealing with a wide variety of human beings, we see a lot of interesting situations and alleged crimes.

The "Court Watching" also shows what recent crimes have been allegedly committed in our communities. Sometimes the assaults in domestic violence charges are dropped by the victim because the victim no longer wants to punish their husband or wife or grandson. Sometimes, a victim is just afraid to testify.

For years we went to court in Romulus every Wednesday and stayed for the morning to see all the local felony cases. After moving to the new courthouse and after COVID, now some cases are by Zoom and some are in person. We tried to go back to the old once a week for the felony cases, but that didn't work out. I ended up in a vacant courtroom because the judge was on Zoom that day.

It's great to watch the cases on live YouTube from my office, but Judge Martin is the only one who does that now. The others can be watched by Zoom, but often that gets turned off before the preliminary exams begin.



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**BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT**

Established Dec. 3, 1994      First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

152 Main St., Suite 9,  
Belleville, MI 48111  
**734-699-9020**  
FAX 734-699-8962

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## Letters

### Thanks for 30 years of independent journalism

Dear *Belleville Independent* and Mrs. Oztman:

This is a long-overdue letter of sincere thanks for your 30 years of dedicated service to independent journalism in our town. Because of your hard work and belief in the power of an informed community, we are better as a people.

Your pages connect us as a community, help us understand the world around us, and encourage us to take a greater role in lending a hand and lifting each other up.

Independent journalism is hard work. When it would have been easy to give up, you persevered. We are grateful with the opening of each page for the hard work you do.

We wish you all good things in 2024. May all of us do something today that pays it forward for the gift of local, impartial reporting that the Oztman family has given us as the *Independent* enters its fourth decade.

Many thanks!

Diane Marriott  
Van Buren Township

### Congratulations on 30 years of success

To the editor:

I just wanted to congratulate you and your team for 30 years of success. I have said many times that your newspaper is the greatest force that keeps this tri-community together. Without you, we would have ceased to be a tri-community a long time ago.

Your tireless discipline and hard work covering three communities while processing that information weekly for 30 continuous years is hard to imagine. I am not sure anyone has accomplished such a feat.

Thank you again for all your efforts these many years.

Kevin McNamara  
Van Buren Township

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To the editor:

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We need you to honor this BHS graduate with the Distinguished Graduate 2024 Award by nominating them for the award. Nominations are due by Jan. 31, 2024.

The Distinguished Graduate Program was enacted by the Van Buren School Board of Education on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997. This award recognizes honorable and worthy graduates who have brought distinction to the school by serving their community, our state or our country.

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<https://www.vanburenschools.net/o/belleville-high/page/distinguished-graduates> or at the Belleville Library. You can also contact Karen at (734) 635-1208 to have a nomination form mailed to you.

The Facebook Group Link is:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DistinguishedGrad/BHS>

You can view past award winners at the BHS Website. Please consider honoring your favorite person who graduated from BHS for this prestigious award.

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Belleville High School Distinguished Graduate Award Committee

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We LEGAL AMERICAN CITIZENS must come together and reverse this devastating trend by contributing funds and support to our local police departments.

GOD BLESS AMERICA  
Thank you,  
(Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker  
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## Obituaries



Cathie Gentz

### CATHIE GENTZ

(December 2, 1950 – January 4, 2024)

Cathie Gentz, longtime resident of Belleville, Michigan age, 73, passed away on January 4, 2024, at home in hospice care surrounded by family. She was born on December 2, 1950, in Wyandotte, MI, to William and Elmira (Horrigan) Pitylak. Cathie was a Legal Secretary and worked in the Washtenaw County Court for many years. She was passionate about Collie dogs and bred and raised them for years. She was an avid 4-H Member as well. Cathie loved to cook and decorate, but most of all she really loved her family.

Cathie is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Gerald Gentz; her children, Jennifer (Raymond) Deming of Belleville, MI, Michael (Sandy) Gentz of Belleville, MI, and Kristin Gentz of Belleville, MI; her grandchildren, Raymond and Jordan Deming, Matthew and Preston Gentz, Leah and Jake Hardy and Nina Hardy and Ethan Hardy; her siblings, Colleen Hegarty of Belleville, MI, William (Jill) Pitylak of Dimondale, MI, and John (Valda) Pitylak of Belleville, MI; her cousin Janie (Everett) Griffin of Ypsilanti, MI; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother Joseph Pitylak, her daughter-in-law Dawn Gentz, and a brother-in-law Jim Hegarty. According to her wishes dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI. A Celebration of her life will be planned in the future.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the family.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

### CARLEEN MAUD NEWMAN

(August 6, 1952 – December 8, 2023)

Age 71. Survived by four children Lawrence, Jorme, Nieka, and Gary. Visitation and service was January 3, 2023 at David C. Brown Funeral Home with interment at Metropolitan Memorial Gardens in Sumpter Township.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Primitivo Gutierrez III

### PRIMITIVO GUTIERREZ III

(April 5, 1925 – January 4, 2024)

Primitivo Gutierrez III, 98, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away on January 4, 2024. Primitivo, also known as Prim, was born on April 5, 1925, in San Antonio, TX. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Prim had a vibrant personality and a zest for life. He had a wide range of interests and hobbies, including sewing, painting, gardening, cooking, and bird watching. He enjoyed spending time with his loved ones and cherished the company of others. Prim was a natural storyteller and loved sharing his life adventures with those around him.

In his early years, Prim and his family traveled from Texas to Michigan, facing language barriers along the way. However, he was never afraid to learn something new and embraced the challenges that came his way. Whether it was as a child in school or as an 80-year-old man learning how to use a computer, Prim's thirst for knowledge was inspiring.

Prim served his country with honor and dedication as a WWII Navy Gunner from 1943 to 1946. His military service was a testament to his bravery and commitment to protecting his fellow countrymen.

After his military service, Prim embarked on a successful career at Ford Motor Co., where he dedicated 38 years of his life. His hard work and dedication made a lasting impact on the company and his colleagues.

He was a dedicated member of the local VFW Post 4434 where he served on the honor guard for over 15 years, attending more than 700 veteran funerals in Belleville and other local communities.

Prim's faith was deeply important to him, and he found solace and inspiration in his heart. He worshipped in his own way, finding comfort and guidance through his personal beliefs.

Prim is survived by his loving children Kathy, Linda, Gloria, Debbie, Elizabeth, Primitivo, Jeffrey, Deidre, Erin, and David; 21 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and 8 great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Sarah Jane (Bunny), and his sons Jimmy and Willie.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home. Prim's family and friends will gather to celebrate his remarkable life and bid him a fond farewell in June. His memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. May Prim Gutierrez III rest in eternal peace.



### LEONARD EUGENE SIEDLIK

(July 2, 1947 – January 3, 2024)

Age 76 of Van Buren Township. Served in U.S. Army at Fort Hood. Survived by loving partner Linda Siedlik Colstrom, 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and brother Raymond. Visitation and service at David C. Brown Funeral Home on Jan. 8.

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# Obituaries



Mickey R. Horrocks



## MICKEY R. HORROCKS

(October 9, 1951 – January 6, 2024)

Mickey R. Horrocks, age 72, passed away peacefully, Saturday, January 6, 2024, at his home in Otsego. He was born October 9, 1951, in Kalamazoo, the son of Harry and Eleanor (Linsley) Horrocks. Mickey proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy. He graduated from Ferris State University and for many years worked as a quality control engineer at Eaton and then for Mazda, until his retirement. Halfway through his retirement he went back to work for Sartorius. Mickey enjoyed the traveling his job required and found work very rewarding. Surviving are his daughter, Jennifer Horrocks; his sister, Sherry Horrocks; and nephews, Christopher and Sam Horrocks. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Thomas and Bud Horrocks. According to his wishes cremation has taken place. Burial of ashes will take place at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Augusta. Contributions in memory of Mickey may be made to Centrica Care Navigators. Messages of condolence may be posted at [www.WinkelFuneralHome.com](http://www.WinkelFuneralHome.com).

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## SHERRY ZUMBRO

(October 23, 1951 – December 23, 2023)

Sherry Zumbro, 72, of Belleville, Michigan passed away on December 23, 2023. She was born on October 23 to the late Hubert Douglas and Clarinda Arnold.

Sherry was preceded in death by her husband William (Bill) Zumbro Jr. Sherry is survived by her two daughters, Deana (Jeff) and Tabatha (Leonard), both of Belleville. She is also survived by her 4 grandchildren, Kenneth (Katherine), Terrence (Kerrie), Kiersten (Micheal) and Dawson (Stephanie) and 4 great-grandchildren Nolan, Emilia, Mila, and Terrance Jr.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation and service on Saturday, January 20, 2024 between the hours of 10-11 a.m. Service to follow from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Luncheon to follow from 12-2 p.m., all at Northridge Church, 49555 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170.



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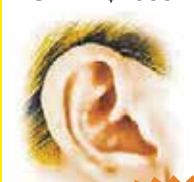
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# More Letters

## Romulus council could have done correct thing

To the editor:  
The Romulus City Council had a vacancy. Per the City Charter, the council has the power to appoint a replacement. But with

a suggestion by the city attorney and others it was thought that an application process be put in place instead.  
On 1/8/2024 the council met for a special study session. A mock application was presented to review. After much discussion on the questions on the application and wanting questions removed, (have you ever been convicted of a felony and do you have internet access were two of several that were removed, I don't understand

why) then discussion was opened to the public.  
The audience in the chamber might as well have been a UAW rally with a splash of district rep's that were not even from our area. A candidate that ran for council during the last election and lost is a UAW member. The thrust of the public comment was that this person was "next in line" to get the position. That the public had voted and since he didn't "win" but came close he should be appointed. (What about the people who didn't vote for him? How are they represented?) It might as well have been a UAW event than a council meeting.  
To the gentleman who stated that the council was "up to something" with "behind the scenes deals" ... "secret handshakes and cronyism" due to the fact that they would not just appoint that UAW member, everything you described is how the UAW started and is.

The study session was ended and the

council set up the regular meeting. During the meeting a vote was requested on the application process. A city council person who has been pushing for this person instead of the application process requested that he be appointed. With no hesitation except for two members the motion was approved.

With the world we are living in and elections tainted wouldn't it been fair to have the application process? That person could have applied and anyone else who was interested and let the process take its course to let the best person win. This person basically just stole the council seat. As I stated at the beginning the council has the power to appoint anyone. They should have done that from the beginning and not offer the possibility of an application process. Romulus City Council you failed at the chance of doing the correct thing.

Jeff Kotlarek  
Romulus



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## U.S. Flag at city fire hall is in sad disrepair

To the editor:  
Just wanted to let you know that the U.S. FLAG displayed at the firehouse on N. Liberty is in sad disrepair. It really needs to be replaced.  
Thanks,  
Pete Pitzen, chairman  
VFW Flag Committee

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## Sumpter OKs moving solar farms from Ag. District to Heavy Indust.

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the planning commission's recommendation to approve a solar farm ordinance amendment at its regular Nov. 28 meeting.

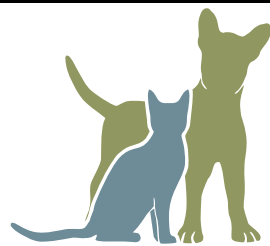
The amendment moves solar farms from Section 4.6.2 Special Land Uses in Agricultural District to I-2 Heavy Industrial District, Permitted Land Uses, Section 4.16.1(g).

In other business at the 54-minute workshop/regular meeting, the board:

- Approved the 2024 dates for township workshops and regular meetings;
- Approved the supervisor's reappointment of Kathie Steigerwald to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire Dec. 17, 2026;
- Approved the proposal from Burnham & Flower for the 2024 medical, vision, and dental employee benefits totaling \$51,703 monthly, a 7.4% increase;
- Approved the new township employment application for immediate use;
- Approved closing township hall for the employee holiday luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 13;
- Approved the updated contract for Cari Ford accounting services;
- Approved the proposed Quarter 2 budget amendments;
- Removed from the agenda a proposal to approve the updated cemetery ordinance. It is expected to be on the Dec. 12 agenda for consideration (but was not on that agenda);
- Approved with regrets the resignation of fire fighter Eric Powell as of Nov. 21;
- Approved, with regrets, the employment separation of Michael Petrowski of the DPW with the total benefits bank payout of \$5,196.66. Burdick praised the work of Petrowski, but said he has been struggling with an illness for the last six months and has used up all his benefits as of the end of November. He is looking into COBRA benefits, Burdick said, adding, Petrowski is still not diagnosed, but his doctor will not allow him to come back to work;

(continued on page 11)

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# VAN BUREN

## PARKS & RECREATION

The Holidays are over, and the weather is getting colder.... It must be time to start planning for the summer! Van Buren Township is pleased to announce that the park pavilion rental season is now underway!

Starting January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, residents of the Township may begin reserving space for their special occasion at one of our six park pavilions. Take advantage of the early rental opportunity as well as the discounted rates for our residents. Those of you not residing in Van Buren Township will have an opportunity to rent a pavilion starting March 1, 2024.

Details regarding the rental process, associated fees, and the option to register online can be found online at [vanburen-mi.org](http://vanburen-mi.org). For your convenience, you can arrange in-person pavilion rentals at the temporary Senior Center located inside Haggerty Elementary School, 13770 Haggerty Rd, Van Buren Township. You can visit us there between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. If you have any questions, please contact us at 734-699-8921.

Publish: January 11, 2024, February 1, 2024

## Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 10)

- Approved the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) obligations' requirement for City, Village, Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) compliance for reporting on Dec. 7. The amount was amended to \$294,000, up from the original \$250,000;
- Approved the TNT Tree Service proposal for \$12,450, for total tree and stump removal in Martinsville Cemetery on a 5-1 vote with Supervisor Tim Bowman voting no and Trustee Peggy Morgan absent and excused from the meeting. Supervisor Bowman did not explain his vote;
- Heard Mary Ban ask, under public comment, if Sumpter Township exists because residents have no day-to-day news about what is happening. She said the township's announced newspaper of record, *The Eagle*, available only on line, doesn't help because a lot of residents don't do on-line. She said elections are coming up next year and people will remember the poor communications it got from this board. Ban also said she would be going to the grand opening of the Belleville Area Museum on Dec. 1 and she will ask them if they have preserved Sumpter's artifacts, since it has been closed for almost four years; and
- Heard Trustee Matthew Oddy suggest the township send congratulations to the Belleville High School football team that came in runner up to the state title. "Those young men did a great job out on the field," Oddy said, noting they came up a few points short at the end.

## BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, Jan. 11** – Girls JV Basketball vs. Stevenson HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Stevenson HS, 7 p.m.
- **Friday, Jan. 12** – Girls & Boys Bowling vs. Fordson HS, 3 p.m. at Lodge Lanes
- **Tuesday, Jan. 16** – Boys Bowling vs. Dearborn HS, 3 p.m. at Lodge Lanes; Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 4 p.m.; Boys JV Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Basketball vs Wayne Memorial HS, 7 p.m.

Go Tigers!

Diane Kiessel, BHS Athletics Secretary

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## Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, Jan. 11 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m., to hold public hearing for proposed self-serve car wash at 17440 Sumpter Rd. and isite plan review of project. Also, Belleville Planning Commission at 7 p.m., with a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on an ordinance change for seasonal boat storage.

• Tuesday, Jan. 16 – Van Buren Township regular meeting at 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools organizational meeting, 7 p.m., BHS Commons. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Jan. 17 – Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 6 p.m. Also, City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 23 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.

• Wednesday, Jan. 24 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Jan. 25 – Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 6 p.m. to consider variance to relax side set back from 10 feet to 3 feet for carport.

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

• Wednesday, Feb. 7 – “Born Free and Equal: Michigan’s Colored Regiment” at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Maurice Imhoff, president of the Jackson Civil War Muster, presents the history of the 102<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Colored Troops, formed in Michigan.

• Thursday, Feb. 8 – Classic Movie Night Series at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Watch and discuss classic films presented by former *Detroit Free Press* film critic John Monaghan. Brought to you by the Friends of the Library and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

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- Stump Removal • Bucket Service

**Insured & Senior Discounts**

**(734) 431-4202**

YEAR ROUND SERVICE BY PROFESSIONALS

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR SALE

### FOR SALE FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES!

**Ready for their New Home January 17th.**  
**1 female, 5 males.**  
**Call for price.**

Cell# **734-946-4880**

ADORABLE GOLDEN DOODLE PUPPIES. 4 females. 3 months old, first shots. \$600/ea. (734)795-0681 02/01

## LAND FOR SALE

PRIME LAND. 4 Acres in Sumpter Twp. Great country living. Spacious quiet area. Very accessible play area for children. (313) 404-5552 01/11

## FREE

FREE FARM ANIMALS. Pot bellies, ducks, bunnies & chickens. Need a good home. You pick up. Call Sharon (734) 307-6609 01/18

## FOR RENT

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT in downtown Belleville. No pets, no smoking. \$700/mo. + 1 mo. security. Call Jim. (734) 787-2151 01/11

## LOST

OVERSIZED WALLET. Lost week of Dec. 18, between N. Harris Rd. & Geddes Rd. Lost from traveling auto. \$100 reward. (734) 695-0819 01/11

## WANTED

### ADVANCED H & W TOP DOLLAR \$

**Cash For Salvage & Scrap Vehicles.**  
**7 Days. Free Towing.**  
**Licensed & Insured.**  
**(734) 223-5581**  
**(517) 605-6388**

### D.K. JUNK CAR BUYERS PAY CASH

**We Work**  
**Monday – Saturday.**  
**734-368-5088**  
**734-545-5195**

WANTED – ANY SIZE MEN’S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez’s 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez’s 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

LOOKING TO BUY: Video games & game systems, blu-rays, box sets, coins, books, Bibles, & any other media. Will pay cash. J & R Collectibles, videogamesandjunk.com (248) 870-1466 01/11

“Truth is like the sun. You can shut it out for a time, but it ain’t goin’ away.”  
– Elvis Presley

## SERVICES

### A&L SERVICES

**Home Improvement & Handyman Service**  
**Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,**  
**Electrical, Plumbing,**  
**Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.**  
**Serving Belleville Since**  
**1995. Call Aaron Schultz**  
**@ 734-740-0628**

### PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

**Gutters Cleaned!**  
**Power Washing!**  
**CALL US!**  
**Local To The**  
**Belleville Area. Call**  
**(313) 740-6276.**  
**Ask For Bill.**

LARRY’S HANDYMAN SERVICE. No job too small. Interior/exterior painting, hang wallpaper, powerwashing & carpentry. (618) 267-7774 04/04

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE. Painting, roof leaks, cleaning & gutter repair, landscape maintenance & power washing. (734) 796-3628 01/11

ROBERT EMERSON PAINTING & Power Washing, Interior/Exterior. 42 years’ experience. (313) 828-8803 01/25

## HELP WANTED



PROFESSIONALS to schedule an appointment.

**INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE?**  
Opportunities are available for Experienced Agents. Training provided for New Agents. Call 734-697-1800 to schedule an appointment.

JANITORIAL POSITION for municipality building in Canton. Pleasant work environment. Mon.-Thurs. 9 p.m.-midnight. Fri., Sat., Sun. 6-9 p.m. \$17-\$18/hr. rdunn08@yahoo.com 01/18

WOMAN IN BELLEVILLE AREA to shop for elderly lady and do laundry. (734) 796-5253 01/18

### Notice to Advertisers:

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

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**bellevilleareaindependent.com**



# City of Belleville Public Notice

## POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 at 10AM**, at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle(s) will be held:

**2007 CHRYSLER ASPEN VIN: 1A8HW58287F586807**

**BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
6 MAIN STREET  
BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111**

**PUBLISH: JANUARY 11, 2024**

**BY KRISTY DOE  
BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
RECORDS CLERK**



**NEW YEAR, NEW HOME!  
THINKING OF BUYING  
OR SELLING? CALL**

**Janice Marshall**

**Cell: 734-218-3768  
janiceremera@comcast.net**



6231 N. Canton Center, Canton, MI 48187



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, December 18, 2023 - 7:30 pm**

The regular meeting of the City Council was held via a hybrid of in-person and virtual access through ZOOM.

The regular meeting of the Belleville City Council was called to order by Mayor Voigt at 7:30 p.m.

#### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Beebe	Absent
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Priest	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Mayor Voigt	Present

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

##### A. Presentations

- Proclamation – Belleville High School Football Team

i. Calvin Norman, Head Coach of the Belleville High School Football Team was present to accept the Proclamation as presented by Mayor Voigt.

- Holiday Light Contest Winners

i. Certificates were presented to the following winning addresses:

- 235 Aberdeen Ct – present to accept
- 77 Carmell – present to accept
- 336 Victorian Ln – present to accept
- 461 Waterbury Ct – present to accept
- Garden Fantasy on Main – present to accept
- 86 Bedell – not present to accept
- 184 S. Biggs St. – not present to accept
- 85 Carmell – not present to accept
- 250 Harbour Pointe Dr. – not present to accept
- 392 Light Tower Ct. – not present to accept

- IT RFP Bidder Presentations

i. PowerPoint presentations outlining services to be offered were given by the following IT companies:

- VC3
- R Associates Inc. (RAI)
- Vector Tech

ii. The Council Members elected to make a decision on which company to choose at the January 2<sup>nd</sup> regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

##### B. Council Follow Up List

- No comments.

##### C. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- No comments

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to approve the agenda as presented.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 4, 2023, Regular Meeting of the City Council

**MOTION:** Motion by Priest, supported by Bates approving the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting, held on December 4, 2023.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None.

#### 7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

A. None.

#### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

A. Special Event Application – Tootsie Roll Sale

**MOTION:** Motion by Kissel, supported by Bates to approve the Special Event Application for the Tootsie Roll Sale, as presented.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

B. Resolution # 23-040 – Appointments to Boards and Commissions

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel approving **Resolution # 23-040** to appoint Chris Donley to the DDA, and Jim Courage to the Planning Commission, and to re-appoint Mike Hawkins to the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals, and Randy Priest to the Board of Review.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### C. Sealed Bid Opening – Roof Repairs

• City Manager Smith stated that there were no bids submitted to the city, noting that Barnett's Roofing had submitted a quote, which was subsequently presented to the Council.

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to approve the cost of roof repairs as quoted by Barnett Roofing, in the amount of \$51,751.00.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### D. Information on Road Grant

• An update was provided to Council regarding a Category B Road Grant for road repairs:

i. The completed grant application was sent to MDOT, and the city is currently awaiting MDOT's approval to open the bidding period.

ii. Bidding will be open to everyone, and the grant will be based on the lowest bid received.

#### E. OSHA Update

• City Manager Smith updated the Council on a

response received from MI-OSHA, which stated that they feel that the safety and health of the city's employees are no longer in jeopardy, pending completed repair of the roof at City Hall.

F. Cameras for Ballot Box

**MOTION:** Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to approve the purchase of a camera for observation of the city's ballot box, as required by the State, in addition to an optional second camera for observation of the city's server and election storage room.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

G. Police Department Crime Stats – November 2023

• Police Chief Faull presented stats for the Police Department from November, noting that the number of calls have increased.

• Faull also updated the Council on the status of the department's prep radios.

H. Fire Department Stats – November 2023

• Firefighter Kissel presented stats for the Fire Department from November, stating that the department is currently at a record number of calls for the year.

#### I. WCA Contract Renewal

**MOTION:** Motion by Kissel, supported by Bates to approve the renewal of the city's contract with WCA for assessing services.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### 9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to approve Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures in excess of \$500, as presented.

##### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

**Motion Carried.**

#### 10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

• Stated that a quote for additional camera surveillance at City Hall will likely be available for presentation at the January 2<sup>nd</sup> regularly scheduled Council meeting.

• Stated that the city's new dump truck has arrived, and a decision now needs to be made on what to do with the former dump truck.

• Stated that FEMA has approved the final payment on the city's new fire truck.

• Noted that city administration is currently working on a refresh of the city's Parks Plan, which will provide eligibility for more grants.

• Reminded everyone that the city is still seeking

residents willing to serve on a Charter Revision Committee.

• Announced that the Clerk's office was successful in consolidating the city's two election precincts into one, which will provide many benefits to the city.

• Noted that a new firewall has been ordered, and the city is currently working on migrating to Office 365 and Azure AD.

• Stated that the Planning Commission is currently working on drafting an ordinance for seasonal boat storage within the city.

#### 11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Council Member Kissel

-- Stated that the Fire Auxiliary and Fire Department were able to provide presents to 11 children, from 2 families, this holiday season.

-- Welcomed Jim Courage to the Planning Commission.

-- Thanked City Manager Smith for continuing to answer questions and provide updates to the Council on a regular basis.

-- Wished everyone a happy holiday.

- Council Member Priest

-- Wished everyone a safe and happy holiday and new year.

- Mayor Pro-Tem Bates

-- Thanked the IT companies who presented to the Council.

-- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holiday.

#### 12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

• Thanked the Rotary Club for their decoration, and previous repair, of the gazebo in Victory Park.

• Noted that the renovation of the pump house at 1<sup>st</sup> St. and N. Liberty is moving along, adding that the Garden Club is working on a plan for landscaping at the site.

• Asked that designation of the pump house as a park be added to an upcoming meeting agenda.

• Stated that he is excited about revamping the Parks Plan, noting that the city would be able to get in on the upcoming year's grant cycle.

• Wished everyone a Merry Christmas, happy New Year, and happy holiday.

#### 13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

- None

#### 14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- Decision on I.T. service provider for the city.

#### 15. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to adjourn at 9:03 PM.

No objections were noted.

**Motion Carried.**

Submitted by Briana Hootman,

City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: 01/02/24

Posted: 01/03/24

Published: 01/04/24

## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 206 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.*

### **Sunday, Dec. 31:**

0444 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0515 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.  
0555 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.  
1035 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.  
1037 – motorist assist, Haggerty Rd./Independence  
1204 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1207 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty  
1306 – threat, Independence Ln.  
1326 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
1353 – PPO violation, Country Walk Ct.  
1455 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.  
1656 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1714 – 911 welfare check, Arthur St.  
1925 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van Born

2120 – intrusion alarm, Chandler Dr.  
2201 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

### **Monday, Jan. 1:**

0031 – shooting, E. Huron River Dr.  
0145 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.  
0350 – private property impound, Outer Dr.  
0506 – 911 welfare check, Beacon Trl.  
0522 – noise complaint, Lighthouse Dr.  
0630 – welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
0707 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0758 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.

0847 – property damage accident, Lenmoore Ave.  
0919 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
0930 – welfare check, Assembly St.  
1040 – civil matter, Assembly St.  
1050 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
1119 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1142 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1155 – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1320 – family trouble, Village Green Ln.  
1500 – assist other dept., W. Adams  
1527 – suspicious person/vehicle, circumstance, Outer Dr.

1537 – threat, Greenwood Ct.  
1635 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1853 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
1917 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.  
2007 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
xxxx – traffic offense, Van Buren St.

### **Tuesday, Jan. 2:**

0436 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Westlake Cir.  
0651 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
0746 – civil matter, Denton Rd.  
0845 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.  
1020 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Burtrig St.  
1108 – abandoned auto, E. Sadie Ln.  
1140 – fraud, Dartmoor Cir.  
1150 – larceny from auto, Westlake Cir.  
1203 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr./Old Denton Rd.

1239 – malicious destruction of property, Arthur  
xxxx – assault & battery, Denton Rd.  
xxxx – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1548 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1816 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1819 – threat, Belleville Rd.  
1931 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.  
2209 – domestic, Denton Rd.

2311 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

### **Wednesday, Jan. 3:**

0051 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
xxxx – repossession, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0747 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
0838 – animal complaint, N. Cumberland Dr.  
xxxx – repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0930 – larceny from auto, Richard Run Dr.  
1118 – personal injury accident, Ecorse Rd. / Denton Rd.

1251 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.  
1337 – welfare check, Tyler Rd./Parkwood Dr.  
1425 – abandoned auto, Truman Ave./Coolidge St.  
1440 – civil matter, Wildrye Ct.  
1513 – assist fire dept., Bayshore Dr.

1542 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.  
1606 – animal complaint, Sylvia Dr.  
1628 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1902 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.

### **Thursday, Jan. 4:**

0055 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tavistock Dr.  
0100 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
0106 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Forestdale Dr.

xxxx – repossession, Lake Villa Dr.  
0717 – fraud, Lighthouse Dr.  
0825 – animal complaint, Borgman Ave.  
0909 – suicidal person, Ruthan Dr.  
1000 – larceny, W. Huron River Dr.  
1213 – vehicle lockout, Robson Rd.  
1345 – found property/child, Denton Rd.  
1313 – civil matter, Riggs Rd.  
1355 – fraud, Parkwood St.  
1510 – assist citizen, N. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty  
1548 – assist other dept., Hoeft Rd.  
1649 – fight, Van Born Rd.  
1659 – threat, Landmark  
1718 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.  
1726 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service  
1734 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1930 – animal complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1948 – hospice death, Senate St.  
1953 – vehicle lockout, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2107 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Oak Ln.  
2120 – civil matter, Colony Ln.

### **Friday, Jan. 5:**

0040 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
0040 – domestic, Denton Rd.  
0524 – intrusion alarm, McBride Ave.  
0932 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
1119 – intrusion alarm, Savage Rd.  
1314 – fight, Edison/High  
1331 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1412 – larceny, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1417 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service  
1441 – animal complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1553 – assist other dept., Bayshore Dr.  
xxxx – assist fire dept., Parkwood Dr.  
1849 – abandoned auto, Bak Rd.  
1740 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
1747 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Gilmore

1826 – welfare check, Quirk Rd.  
1844 – 911 welfare check, Van Allen Ave.  
2030 – intrusion alarm, Amanda Dr.  
2037 – civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.  
2039 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2116 – animal complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.

### **Saturday, Jan. 6:**

0157 – assist fire dept., N. Bellridge Dr.  
0721 – breaking & entering, Sumpter Rd.  
0946 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1001 – civil matter, E. Archwood Dr.  
0954 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.  
1148 – abandoned auto, Bak Rd.  
1306 – threat, Rawsonville Rd.  
1331 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.  
1420 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1518 – civil matter, Robson Rd.  
1629 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Haggerty Rd.

1655 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service  
1813 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
1814 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.

1833 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1911 – welfare check, Jackson St.  
2152 – assist fire dept., Montague Ave.  
2226 – property damage accident, E. Huron River  
2335 – neighbor trouble, Maple Dr.

Also on this week's log are 67 traffic stops, with 23 of those on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

### **Sunday, Dec. 31:**

1238 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

1317 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./First St.  
1510 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.  
2220 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.

### **Monday, Jan. 1:**

0815 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.  
0849 – 911 welfare check, Carmell St.  
1925 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Carmell St.  
2357 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.

### **Tuesday, Jan. 2:**

0103 – assist citizen, Madelon St./E. Huron River  
1036 – animal complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1041 – threat, Loza Ln.  
1409 – warrant arrest, Main St.

### **Wednesday, Jan. 3:**

1137 – property damage accident, Main St.  
1714 – assist other dept., N. Liberty St.  
2147 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./S. Liberty

### **Thursday, Jan. 4:**

0003 – family trouble, W. Wabash Ave.  
0102 – assist other dept., Forestdale Dr.  
0255 – assist other dept., Hoeft Rd./W. Huron River Dr.

0755 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.  
1011 – hospice death, Sumpter Rd.  
1028 – larceny, E. Huron River Dr.  
1203 – harassment call, Third St.  
2146 – traffic stop, Fifth St./N. Liberty St.  
2154 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.  
2206 – welfare check, Henry St.

### **Friday, Jan. 5:**

1316 – fight, Edison Ave./High St.  
1417 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./South St.  
1715 – larceny, Savage Rd.

### **Saturday, Jan. 6:**

1939 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.

There were seven traffic stops on this week's log.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

### **Sunday, Dec. 31:**

0052 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Martinsville  
0128 – fire dept. assist, Huron Twp. PD  
0132 – suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Willis  
1105 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1125 – fire dept. assist, Huron Twp. PD  
1149 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1212 – traffic complaint/hazard, 51000 bl. Wear  
1320 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1449 – shots fired, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1628 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1837 – welfare check, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1931 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2123 – civil matter, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
2226 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2329 – motorist assist, Judd Rd./Martinsville Rd.

### **Monday, Jan. 1:**

0121 – alarm, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0140 – traffic complaint/parking, Colorado St.  
0423 – shots fired, Montana St.  
0941 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.  
1059 – alarm, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1103 – fire dept. assist, Texas St.  
1258 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1408 – 911 hang up, New Mexico St.  
1737 – follow-up investigation, 42000 bl. Willis  
2107 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
2110 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.

### **Tuesday, Jan. 2:**

0225 – mental health call, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.

0656 – property damage accident, 28000 bl. Clark  
1035 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1053 – suspicious circumstance, 18000 bl. Elwell  
1326 – 911 hang up, Montana St.  
1335 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln.  
1418 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1541 – suspicious circumstance, 40000 bl. Willow  
1837 – 911 hangup, 46000 Kozma Rd.  
2317 – fire dept. assist, 519 Washington St.

### **Wednesday, Jan. 3:**

0122 – damage to property, 45050 Judd Rd.  
0556 – property damage accident, Harris Rd. / Martinsville Rd.  
0839 – civil matter, 127 Rustic Ln.  
0919 – suspicious person, Willis Rd./Rawsonville  
1036 – animal complaint, 5634 Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1044 – suspicious circumstance, 22265 Bohn Rd.  
1304 – fraud complaint, 20435 Elwell Rd.  
1355 – alarm, 45100 Willow Rd.  
1506 – malicious destruction of property, 46181

Wear Rd.

1622 – mental health call, 27020 Martinsville Rd.  
1643 – animal complaint, 51330 Arkona Rd.  
1648 – fire dept. assist, 50900 Judd Rd.  
1724 – fire dept. assist, 21251 Haggerty Rd.  
1730 – welfare check, 20195 Karr Rd.

1847 – carrying concealed weapon violation, Sumpter Rd./Kozma Rd.

2039 – animal complaint, 49101 Judd Rd.

### **Thursday, Jan. 4:**

0513 – fire dept. assist, 342 Timberlane Dr.  
0724 – suspicious person, 7800 Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1145 – family trouble, 50801 Wear Rd.  
1223 – suspicious circumstance, 46285 Bemis Rd.  
1433 – animal complaint, 51330 Arkona Rd.  
1519 – animal complaint, 19074 Sumpter Rd.  
2038 – fire dept. assist, 453 Montana St.  
2050 – suspicious circumstance, 50700 Willow  
2146 – 911 hang up, 39567 Willis Rd.

### **Friday, Jan., 5:**

0241 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.  
0435 – noise complaint, 132 Rustic Ln.  
1101 – follow-up investigation, out of township  
1121 – harassment complaint, 50333 Willis Rd.  
1140 – citizen assist, 23501 Sumpter Rd.  
1141 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 197

Magnolia Dr.

1318 – animal complaint, 51300 Arkona Rd.  
1509 – citizen assist, 19731 Sumpter Rd.  
1806 – alarm, 4902 Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1850 – noise complaint, 773 Virginia St.  
1940 – fire dept. assist, 269 New Mexico St.  
2149 – family trouble, 17600 Martinsville Rd.  
2224 – fire dept. assist, 19807 Sumpter Rd.

### **Saturday, Jan. 6:**

0735 – suspicious circumstance, 47247 Harris Rd.  
0959 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Rawsonville Rd./Willis Rd.  
1419 – animal complaint, 292 Edgewood Dr.  
1655 – fire dept. assist, 48501 Willow Rd.  
1928 – 911 hang up, 591 Maine St.  
2335 – warrant arrest, Bemis Rd./Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week's log are 225 patrol checks, 99 traffic stops, and five misc. details.

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Jan. 10 – Ken Hospital  
Jan. 17 – Leon Wright

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

## Better Health Market, Café to close VBT store, with Jan. 14 last day

Better Health Market & Café at 10864 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township, is closing its local store at the end of business on Sunday, Jan. 14.

A new store will be opened in Toledo, according to a substitute manager at the store.

Customers said they were shocked to hear their store was closing, but there are great prices now to clear out the stock.



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## They're reading the Independent everywhere

Sara and Glenn Gonczy traveled on Royal Caribbean's Symphony of the Seas for an eight-night, southern Caribbean cruise with their *Independent*. They were celebrating their 30th birthdays and a large group of family and friends joined in. They visited Aruba, Curaçao, and Labadee, Haiti.

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

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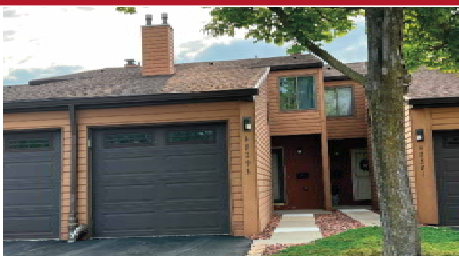
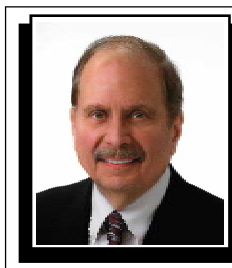
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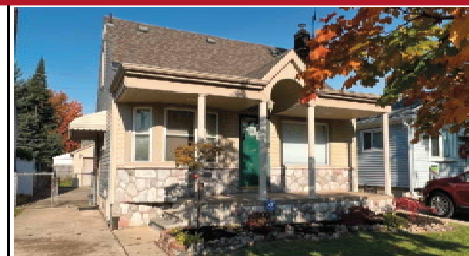
21900 BOHN, SUMPTER TWP

**THREE BEDROOM** 2 1/2 Bath Ranch featuring Hardwood Floors, 3 Seasons Sunroom plus walkout to Huge Deck. Newer Metal Roof, 2 1/2 Car Garage \$279,900



45910 PURPLE SAGE, VAN BUREN TWP

**IMMACULATE** First floor condo with 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Some Newer Carpet & Wood flooring, newer refrigerator. Living area, doorwall leading to deck \$159,900



18275 HARMAN., MELVINDALE

**STORYBOOK LOOK!** Beautiful 3 Bedroom home with Hardwood floors everywhere, Full Basement, 4 Seasons room, Large Yard and big Garage plus More. \$164,900



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3136 MILDRED, WAYNE

**IMPRESSIVE BRICK RANCH** 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, Living Room w Fireplace, Family Room, Kitchen with Corian, Full Basement, 2 1/2 Car Garage & more. \$225,000



27900 ROMINE, HURON TOWNSHIP

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**GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT IND BY METRO AIRPORT \$250,000**

**SUMPTER RD EXETER TWP 8 AC \$80,000**

**VACANT JUDD SUMPTER 2.1 AC \$45,000**

**VACANT JUDD 8.7 AC. PAVED RD \$85,000**

**HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000**

**WILLIS RD 1 AC SEWER & WATER \$60,000**

**HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 AC \$40,000**

**HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000**

**WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE 1.64 AC \$65,000**

**COLF ROAD EXETER TWP 10 AC \$100,000**

**50540 BOG RD ONE HALF ACRE \$55,000**

**7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$40,000**

**BUILDER SPECIAL 3 LOTS for \$100,000**

**SUMPTER TWP CLARK 17+AC \$199,500**

**BROWNSTOWN 27102 DEBIASI \$85,000**

**VACANT MARIO ANN ROMULUS \$38,000**

**6551 BUNTON, YPSILANTI TWP 427 X 1019 10 ACRES PAVED STREET NOW \$200,000**

**19+ ACRES BREST RD, TAYLOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY - PAVED STREET NEAR INKSTER ROAD. \$550,000**

**VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$55,000**



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