Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville & the Charter Township of Van Buren 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111 • (734) 699-9020 www.bellevilleareaindependent.com • baindependent@ameritech.net

# NBELLEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

Vol. 29.41 Thursday, October 12, 2023

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

# Moore, Groom, Evans all sentenced to prison for Egypt's murder

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

On Oct. 5, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wanda Evans sentenced to prison the last two defendants on trial for the shooting death of Jacqueline Elizabeth "Egypt" Covington in 2017 in her Hull Road home in Van Buren Township.

Timothy Eugene Moore, 37, of Toledo had originally been charged with nine counts, including first-degree murder. In July he accepted a plea deal where he would plead guilty to one count of second-degree murder and one felony firearm charge and the other charges would be dismissed.

Judge Evans sentenced him according to the agreement to 20 to 55 years in state prison for second-degree murder and two years consecutive for felony firearm. She gave him credit for a total of 1,064 days time served on the two counts. She also fined him a total of \$1,566.

The second-offender notice was withdrawn, as well.

Another defendant in the case, Shandon R Groom, 30, of Toldeo, also was sentenced by Judge Evans on Oct. 5. He had seven charges against him and six were dismissed



Timothy Eugene Moore

when he pled guilty to second-degree murder, as part of a plea deal.

Judge Evans sentenced Groom to 17 to 26 years in state prison, with credit for 752 days served. She also sentenced him to fees totaling \$1,498.

Groom and Moore are cousins



Shandon R Groom

A third defendant, Shane Lamar Evans, 34, of Sumpter Township pled guilty to second-degree murder in May and was expected to testify against the other two if it went to trial. He was sentenced to 15-25 years in prison.

On Oct. 5, eight people got up to speak



Shane Lamar Evans

in court and asked the judge to impose the most severe sentences she could.

Chuck Covington, Egypt's father, said in other states the murderers would be put to death. He said the defendants are playing the system and chose to enter pleas rather

(continued on page 19)

# VBT releases the rest of engineering funds for Denton Rd. Bridge

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees voted to release the rest of the funds set aside for engineering work on the Denton Road Bridge, at its regular meeting on Oct 3

Ron Akers, director of municipal services, said they had already released \$100,000 and now the \$317,707 is being released.

He said Wayne County engineering wants a resolution on the funds. He said funds have been OKed by the state and building construction will begin in 2024.

Consulting engineers Fishbeck said in a memo that at the May 2 meeting, the board released \$100,000 to begin preliminary

engineering work on the Denton Road Bridge. The township engineers have been progressing on the project and are coming close to this spending limit.

Fishbeck said Wayne County still has not provide the township with a contract for the work and have not provided an update on the status of the contract. In order to continue design work on the bridge and stay on the target timeline, the engineers need them to release the remaining funds of \$317,700 for the remaining work.

Paul Kammer of Fishbeck said the funds would enable them to do work that wasn't previously authorized, including Road Reconstruction and Detour Plan (\$86,000) and the Type, Size, and Location Plans

(\$45,000).

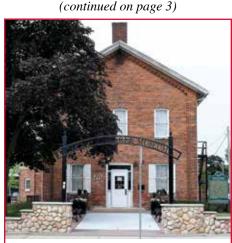
Director Akers said the hydraulic and topographic surveys have been completed, along with the environmental assessment. He said divers didn't find any fresh water mussels, as far as he knows, but the state has to confirm that.

He said they did find water willow on the causeway and that information will be finalized to determine impacts. He said engineers will have to work with DTE because of gasoline on the bridge.

Akers said they are moving toward construction beginning in 2024.

At the check-passing event at the bridge the day before, Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara said they expect bids to go out in May and the present bridge to be taken down later that year.

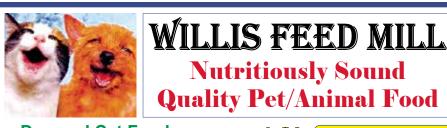
He said divers would be out looking for fresh water mussels on Oct. 3 and if they don't find any, work will proceed. If they find the mussels, they will have to move them which could take some time.



The Belleville Area Museum has been closed by Van Buren Township for 1,319 days as of today. Set for reopening in Dec.

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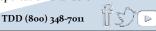


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#### Page 3

# SECOND FRONT PAGE

# VBT Board

(continued from page 1)

In other business at the half-hour meeting, the board:

- Approved all the 2023 amended and 2024 proposed township budgets as presented, following a public hearing during which there were no comments. The 2024 salary schedule was also approved. Total expenditures for the general fund budget are expected to be \$24.2 million, down from \$32.6 million in 2023. Total general fund fund balances are expected to be \$13.7 million in 2024 (57% of general operating expenses), up from the 2023 total of \$12.6 million;
- Approved the selection of Praise Sign Company for the Community Center Signage project for \$61,140, the low bid of four vendors. Supervisor McNamara said "Charter" will be dropped from the township's name on the signs because only township officials know what that means;
- Approved the Fishbeck engineering hourly annual rate increase of 4% which

will be in effect from now until June 2024. Supervisor McNamara said this is the fourth increase since 2017 and the increases are consistent with what other communities pay. He said Fishbeck is a very, very good engineering company and one of the best, or the best, in the state;

 Approved the 2024 Departmental Fee Schedule including the annual memberships for the new Community Center: individuals, \$120; family, \$240; seniors over 62 years old, \$90; and senior matinee (open-3 p.m., Mon.-Fri.), \$20. There also was a list of automatic billing memberships to be charged monthly. Non-VBT residents pay higher rates. Supervisor McNamara said he wanted the Community Center to be free at the beginning, but the rate to be charged is one-third less than other communities charge. The proposal to have an admittance fee for the museum was changed to suggest a \$5 donation for adults and \$3 for seniors and students. Also, the pavilion rental rate at Van Buren Park is being raised to match the Quirk pavilion and others; and

• Heard Director of Community Services Elizabeth Renaud thank Dave Booher of Van Buren Township for all his volunteer work at the museum. McNamara thanked him for everything he does. Booher said he has been scanning in pictures and doing other work in the museum archives.

Clerk Leon Wright and Trustees Kevin Martin and Don Boynton were absent and excused from the board meeting. The meeting was conducted with a bare quorum of four.

# VBT DDA approves commitment of \$400,000 for Tyler Rd. sidewalk

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority committed \$400,000 towards a matching grant application for pedestrian and non-motorized improvements along Tyler Road from the new community center building to Morton Taylor Road.

This was at the regular DDA meeting on Sept. 26.

At its June meeting, the DDA approved a \$47,500 proposal from Wade Trim engineers for the submittal of an application for the MDOT/SEMCOG Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant for the Tyler Road Sidewalk east of Belleville Road.

As part of the submittal of the grant, a resolution from the DDA was needed to show that funds have been committed for the project in the 2024 budget.

DDA Executive Director Merrie Coburn said the cost is just over \$1 million, including engineering and administration, so that qualifies the DDA for an \$883,437.20 grant.

Coburn said that 25% is the basic match, but the more you offer, the higher the score for the grant, so she asked for a 35% match. She said she reallocated funds in next year's budget and if the grant application is unsuccessful, she will put the funds back from where she got them in the budget.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara voiced some concerns about Coburn redoing the budget.

Coburn said the plan was to have the sidewalk from the community center to Morton Taylor and the right of way is narrow

Wade Trim determined that the south side of Tyler Road is the more preferred route for the 10-foot-wide asphalt trail and that's what the cost estimate is based on.

Supervisor McNamara said the township is looking at continuing the sidewalk from Morton Taylor, along Tyler, to Haggerty and east of I-275 and then to the trail there and further south to hook up to the Iron Belle Trail.

In other business at the Sept. 26 meeting, the DDA:

• Tabled a proposal from Jamie's Custom Concrete and Construction for \$4,985 for an 8'x8' concrete slab on the former DNR property to hold two benches and a trash receptacle to service walkers along Belleville Road and a 4'x11' concrete walkway to the slab. The DDA determined more quotes were needed for the concrete work, since Coburn said she was able to get just one quote. DDA member James Chudzinski also suggested getting information on spraying the metal legs of the benches with Rhino Liner to keep the metal from rusting;

- Approved the proposal of Grosse Ile Lawn for a total of \$9,600 for holiday lights for Harris Park and the monument triangle at Belleville and Quirk roads. A more-complicated and more-costly proposal for singing trees that looped every 16-18 minutes was rejected;
- Approved the streetscaping maintenance of changing the banner couplings and three change-outs of the banners by low-bidder MI Custom Signs. There are 70 poles and the DDA changes 35 of those three times a year and leaves the sailboats in place; and
- Went into closed-door session to discuss Just-Compensation approval for the right-of-way acquisition for the Belleville Road Widening Project. After coming back into open session, the DDA approved a motion to proceed with making the Just-Compensation Offers to the property owners plus a 20% incentive if they accept within 30 days of the offer.

# **Court watching**

# Vivaldy Morel Nganongo-Mbosso

Vivaldy Morel Nganongo-Mbosso, 35, of Ypsilanti, was present for his probable cause conference Oct. 4 on three charges of criminal sexual conduct, one charge of assault to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault, three weapons charges, and domestic violence on March 1, 2022 in Van Buren Township. Another probable cause conference was set for Oct. 25 and he was asked to surrender his passport to Van Buren police. Personal bond is \$10,000 and he is to have no contact with the victim.

#### William Oliver Wood

William Oliver Wood, 39, of Southgate, failed to appear for a probable cause hearing on Oct. 4 for a Van Buren Township case, along with three pretrials for cases in Belleville. A bench warrant was put out for his arrest.

The Van Buren case was possession of narcotic or cocaine less than 25 grams on Oct. 26, 2019. The Belleville cases were driving while license suspended-II, unregistered vehicle, and no insurance, all on July 21, 2020.

# 2024 Charter Township of Van Buren Salary Schedule

	DUE 1/1/2024
Supervisor	\$107,329.00
Clerk	\$103,095.00
Treasurer	\$103,095.00
Trustees	\$ 19,733.00
Deputy Supervisor	\$ 94,083.00
Confidential Admin Assistant, Supervisor/Assessing	\$ 65,000.00
Director of Community Services	\$100,940.00
Residential Appraiser	\$ 72,100.00
Deputy Clerk	\$ 94,083.00
Deputy Treasurer	\$100,083.00
HR Director	\$ 90,125.00
Deputy Police Chief	\$109,273.00
Police Chief	\$120,200.00
Fire Chief	\$109,273.00
Public Safety Administrator	\$ 66,950.00
Director of Public Services	\$ 92,881.00
Director of Parks	\$ 68,841.00
Director of Municipal Services	\$100,940.00
Planning/Economic Dev. Director	\$ 95,481.00
W/S Director	\$103,000.00
W/S Superintendent	\$ 79,768.00
B & G Superintendent	\$ 79,768.00
Acct. Coordinator	\$ 82,615.00
Recreation Director	\$ 68,841.00
IT Director	\$ 94,303.00
PS IT Coordinator	\$ 77,367.00
W/S GIS Coordinator	\$ 76,490.00
Community Services Programmer (2) Seniors, Recreation (proposed)	
Communications Specialist (2)	\$ 71,026.00
Elections Specialist	\$ 59,432.00
Treasury Specialist	\$ 59,432.00
Network Administrator	\$ 82,750.00
Desktop Technician	\$ 53,045.00
Dept. Fire Chief / Fire Marshal	\$ 98,345.00
Deputy Director of Community Services	\$ 79,768.00
DDA Director	\$ 82,400.00
Community Center Facility Coordinator (proposed)	\$ 57,142.00

Belleville Area Independent/October 12, 2023

Editorial

# Harvest Fest to fill Saturday with lots of activities

Those who are interested in tractors old and new - should have a great time at Belleville's tractor parade, starting at about 11 a.m. and coming up Main Street.

Brad Traskos and his son Bradley have been working to get the owners of tractors to sign up for this event, that this year will park downtown for a while so people can touch the tractors and take pictures.

The tractor parade was a part of last year's Harvest Fest and was a big success, except the route which had too much traffic. This year it will be starting at Harris Road in Sumpter and heading down Sumpter Road to Belleville's Main Street and then, after the pause, up North Liberty Street and back to Sumpter Road and home to Sumpter.

There are lots of other things going on from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. during Harvest Fest at the library and Fourth Street Place, including Coldwell Banker's annual adoption opportunities for dogs and cats from Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue.

There will be a hot dog vendor and Kona Ice truck for refreshments at a nominal fee and a harvest market for locally made bakery goods and crafts. There's DJ music and live music and a 2 p.m. Nickle Dig at the library, along with other free, hands-on, old-time activities. The library and CBC have planned new, creative events for this year's Harvest Fest. Sounds like great fun. Hope the weather cooperates.

A reader called to say he is a farmer in Van Buren Township and he has been very interested in the trees that have been cut down on township property on the northwest corner of Belleville and Tyler roads. Trees have been left standing in front, but behind them is where the wholesale cutting has taken place.

He said he went to the township hall to find out if the township had permission from the DNR to cut all those trees, since developers in the township have to count all the trees they are targeting and either replace them or pay the township money to buy new trees to put in the parks.

He said no one at the township could or would answer his questions. So, he called the DNR. He said they told him they didn't know anything about what the township was doing there, but they'd look into it.

Supervisor McNamara said at the Aug. 1 meeting when they hired a contractor to do the cutting that the cutting would improve drainage on 50 acres of the former Ford Land site the township is now seeking to

Director of Municipal Services Ron Akers also said that in September of 2021 the township received a letter from Michigan EGLE which indicated that those areas were not regulated wetlands. This letter has an expiration date of Sept. 30, 2023 and if the township fails to take steps to improve surface drainage on the property, the state may revoke their decision, he said. "In order to begin the implementation of this, township staff put out to bid services to 'clear and grub' specified areas of the site which involves the removal of trees and vegetation, grinding of the stumps, and raking of the ground," Akers said.

"The proposed clearing would leave an



approximate 25' buffer area of trees along the corner of Belleville and Tyler roads,"

Van Buren Township set a special meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 10, to approve the high bidder of two bids for a display contract for the Belleville Area Museum. It is important to get everything done by the time the museum is set to open on Dec. 1, bidders were told.

Although we went to press before the meeting, the board was expected to approve the \$244,000 contract for Niche Design of Saginaw so they could get started. Spaces to Experience from Midland bid \$212,000.

There is a big hurry now, although the museum has been closed by the township for 1,319 days (3.6 years) as of today.

So many people are disgusted with the township for shutting the community museum down completely and then sitting on it so long.

We're told the holiday trees display will open Dec. 1 and Santa will once again be welcomed inside to meet with children on two weekends in December.

We also are advised a display about Willow Run will be put in place.

We see from the schedule for Saturday's Harvest Fest, that used to include the museum, that the annual nickel dig will be at the library. It had been a mainstay at the museum until it closed down.

asked for a nickname, noting the teacher would only call the student that name if the student's parent approved. That sounds reasonable.

of the questionnaires given to students at

the beginning of school at Belleville High

School this fall so their teachers can get to

know them better. Two of the teachers asked

about the student's favorite pronouns. One

The Michigan Supreme Court has decreed

that all the courts in the state should use the preferred pronouns for defendants and others who come before them. That could get confusing. Just calling the defendant by the name on the court documents should work



Tracy Bryant, principal of Rawsonville Elementary School who was giving a report at Monday's school board meeting. said her school has a question of the week and one of them was, "Do male ostriches roar like lions?" She said the students work on the answer all week and then it's given on Friday and discussed. She said the answer to this question is: Yes.

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#### Page 5

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# Letters

# Free help for blinded **Sumpter driveways**

To the editor:

I recently met a woman who has lived in Sumpter Township since 1967. She told me how well the roads and ditches were maintained back then, and how they have slowly deteriorated over the years to the point where it had become dangerous to drive in many areas within the township, and how she had to take alternate routes in order to avoid blind intersections.

She told of numerous phone calls to the township and county about the problems; phone calls that were dismissed.

We are all familiar with those problems and have listened to our local politicians flap their jaws while posturing before the cameras. They periodically voice their outrage and claim that they're finally going to get things done; and when the county tractors make a pass on a half-mile stretch of road that doesn't even need cutting, they claim credit for the great accomplishment, pat themselves on the back, then move on to other things.

In the meantime, there are some of us who believe in getting results. If any resident within Sumpter Township finds themselves in a dangerous situation, where it is difficult seeing oncoming vehicles from their driveways, due to the over-growth of weeds, and does not have the ability or the equipment to take care of the problem themselves, please feel free to contact me at randbryce6@gmail.com or at (734) 358-2823, and the problem will be taken care of immediately, at no cost.

Randall Miller, resident Sumpter Township

# **Local governments** missed out on funds

To the editor:

Thought you ought to know about how fiscally responsible our local communities are in regard to public retirement accounts.

This report shows a list of communities that received funds from the state to cover underfunded public retirement accounts.

I thought a kudo should be mentioned in the paper letting the residents know that our communities did not receive any of these

I'm not sure if they just missed the grant deadline, but I doubt it.

Appreciative resident of Van Buren Township

Name withheld upon request

Editor's Note: The email included a Sept. 20 news release from the governor's office listing the 125 communities that got some of the \$553 million in grants distributed. They included \$26.1 million to Westland, \$8.4 million to Romulus, \$5.9 million to the city of Ypsilanti, \$4.6 million to Taylor. Nearby municipalities also receiving the grants included Flat Rock, Milan, and Plymouth. The deadline for applications was in June and the grants were announced Aug. 30.

# Thank you printing 'Orphan Violin' story

To the editor:

Thank you from all the Bird family! Much appreciated. It's an amazing story.

We have no idea how the violin got into an auction, much less two auctions in Indiana! Before my father's sister went into assisted living, she donated some instruments that different family members had played through the years. This violin was probably among the donations.

After that, we have no information. Maybe in time, we'll learn more, but for now, this is enough. It has come home to

Rosalie Bird-Doolittle Surprise, AZ

# **BHS** at-home games

- Thursday, Oct. 12 Freshman Football vs. Fordson HS, 4:30 p.m.; Freshman & JV Volleyball vs. Lincoln HS, 5 p.m.; Varsity Volleyball vs. Lincoln HS, 6:30 p.m.; JV Football vs. Fordson, 6:20 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 14 Varsity Volleyball hosting Tiger Invitational, 8 a.m.

Go Tigers! Diane Kiessel **BHS** Athletics Secretary

# **BHS Varsity Football scores**

- Aug. 25 River Rouge at Wayne State University, BHS, 35-River Rouge, 28 • Aug. 31 – BHS, 56-Livonia Stevenson, 7
- Sept. 8–BHS, 56-Livonia Churchill, 0
- Sept. 15–BHS, 53–Dearborn, 0
- Sept. 22–BHS, 42–Livonia Franklin, 3
- Sept. 29-BHS, 35-Westland John Glenn, 8, Homecoming
  - Oct. 5-BHS, 63 Wayne Memorial, 0



Oct. 30 - Chandra Warren, Tim Marsh, Amanda Riggs, Mackenzie Hunt

Oct. 31 - Rebecca Hasen Nov. 1 – Ashela Trevino

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.

# VBPS School Board told huge number of meals served at BHS

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Human Resources Director John Leroy announced at Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education that the district is having to hire more staff for food service because of the huge number of meals served at Belleville High

He said there were 1,400 meals served in one day.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said 400 meals were the usual served at BHS last year in one day, but there were 1,400 meals served in one day this year.

They discussed the new food items being offered, the new equipment, new layout in the high school cafeteria, but did not mention that this year the meals were free due to a grant from the federal government. Students can pay for other entrees, as well.

In other business at Monday's one-hourand-25-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved updates to 26 board policies that had their first readings and discussions at the Sept. 25 board meeting;
- Approved hiring Melissa Mann as a fourth-grade teacher at Savage Elementary as of Oct. 2 and approved hiring Sydney

# **Court Watching**

Queen-Amina Amyre Hill

Queen-Amina Amyre Hill, 25, of Inkster was scheduled for her probable cause conference on Oct. 4 to face charges of failure to return rented item (\$20,000 or more), possession of narcotic or cocaine less than 25 grams, and assaulting, resisting, obstructing a police officer on Sept. 7 in Van Buren Township. The probable cause conference was adjourned to Oct. 11 for possible resolution.

Daroci as a paraprofessional at Belleville High School as of Oct. 3;

- · Heard fall building presentations by principals for Rawsonville Elementary, Owen Intermediate, and McBride Middle
- Heard McBride Principal Fred Abel ask for members of the public to donate or loan instruments for the seventh and eighth grade band. He said students came into the school who hadn't been in band before in the fifth and sixth grades and now want to be in band. He asked those having instruments to call the school at (734) 697-
- Heard parent Angela Mears list several of the restaurants that are offering donations to schools when people eat at their locations and mention the schools. She said Hungry Howey offers donations

to Tyler, Savage and Edgemont during the whole month and 403 people took part in that during month of September. Applebees offers 20% of total from 4 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 19 if you mention the BHS Class of 2024; and Aubree's in Ypsilanti Township offers 20% to the Class of 2024 on Nov. 20 with

a flyer; and

• Heard Treasurer Simone Pinter refer to information given to the board that the attendance rate is up to 90% in all the schools and she complimented the district.

Trustee Kelly Owen was absent from the







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# **Obituaries**





Rick William Fitzgerald

#### WILLIAM FITZGERALD

(December 21, 1953 - September 30, 2023) Rick William Fitzgerald age, 69, resident of Belleville and formerly of Garden City and Pickney for many years passed away on September 30, 2023, at home surrounded by family. He was born on December 21, 1953, in Detroit, MI, to Jack W. and Jeanette R. (Trim) Fitzgerald. He obtained his GED while serving our country in the United States Navy. After his service to our country, he went to work as a machinist, most recently for Michigan Rod Products, before retiring. Rick loved to go hunting and fishing. He was very proud of his grandchildren. Rick was a kind man that people enjoyed being around. Most of all he loved his

Rick is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Linda Fitzgerald of Van Buren Twp., MI; his sons, Scott (Amie) Fitzgerald of Sharon, SC, and Shawn (Angela) Fitzgerald of Whitmore Lake, MI; his grandchildren Emma Fitzgerald of Plymouth, MI, Alexis Newhouse of Canton, MI, Ava Fitzgerald of Whitmore Lake, MI, Liam Fitzgerald of Whitmore Lake, MI, Tyler Pierce of Ypsilanti, MI, Dakota Pierce of Ypsilanti, MI, Kirsten Fitzgerald of Brighton, MI, Jernie Fitzgerald of Sharon, SC, and Jaxon Fitzgerald of Sharon, SC; as well as many friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Kim Goemen.

According to his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, and a celebration of life event will be planned for a future date.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Denise Brandon

#### **DENISE BRANDON**

(June 21, 1962 - September 27, 2023)

Denise Brandon lost her battle with cancer on September 27, 2023. She was born on June 21, 1962 to Douglas and Gloria (Gutekunst) Traskos.

Denise is survived by her devoted husband Bill. daughter Leslee (Kevin), grandchildren Ryan & Stella, her parents Douglas Sr. & Gloria Traskos, brothers Douglas Jr. & David (Michille), and brother/sister-in-law, David (Jan) Brandon & Phylis Brandon.

A 40-year member of the Dixboro Methodist Church, she will be remembered for her kindness and hospitality that she showed everyone she met. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.



Laura Mae (Richendollar) Aguilar

# LAURA (RICHENDOLLAR) AGUILAR

(January 29, 1963 – October 8, 2023)

Laura Mae (Richendollar) Aguilar, age 60, of Sumpter Township, MI, passed away Sunday, October 8, 2023, at her home, under hospice care, surrounded by her loving husband and family. She was born January 29, 1963, in Ann Arbor, MI, first child of James Franklin & Sharon Lee (O'Malley) Richendollar. She graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1981. She worked at Our Father's Child Day Care Center for many years, ending her time as manager. Laura also enjoyed working in the special education classroom for Van Buren Public Schools as a paraprofessional for several years. She loved music, karaoke, singing and dancing. She attended and volunteered at many Belleville High School events and activities. She also enjoyed many crafts, including making a special blanket for each of her grandchildren. She loved to shop, especially for purses and jewelry, not just for herself but her family members and friends. If you were in need of a purse, she was your go to gal. She would search her collection for one she felt would be best. She had a huge heart and was always caring for others, from her many pets to her family and friends. On the weekends and during the summer, she would most likely be hosting overnight parties with her grandchildren baking, making tik tok dance videos, playing board and card games, for which everyone got a special prize from Mo-Mo. She loved date nights with her husband, and special trips to Frankenmuth, Laura is survived by her loving husband of 16

years, Antonio Aguilar of Belleville, MI; two daughters Tara (Matthew) Minton of Fenton, MI, and Monica (Adam) Schwartz of Tucson, Arizona; five grandchildren Gabriella, Sophia, Joseph Jr., Isabella, and Alexander Golden; her father Jim Richendollar of Belleville, MI, fatherin-law Jose Aguilar of Mexico; three siblings Melvin (Margaret) Richendollar of Roseville, MI, Betty (Ronald) Small, and Anthony (Ann) Richendollar, both of Belleville, MI; nieces and nephews include Melissa (Salvador) Cisneros, Nathan and Nolan Richendollar, Brendt, BreAnne, Brittany, and Brandon (Kaitlyn) Small, Megan, Noah, Jack, Mario and Marley Richendollar, great niece and nephews, in-laws, and many more extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her mother Sharon Richendollar on September 1, 2023, her mother-in-law Amelie Guerrero on August 5, 2023, also the father of her children, Terry Lee Calhoun on July 17, 2021.

Visitation will be 1-8 PM on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

## PAUL ELRAY NOE

(October 30, 1953 – October 8, 2023)

Age 69, of Ann Arbor, formerly of Ypsilanti. Survived by son Donald; six siblings, Jerry, Debbie, Dan, Judy, Betty, Jimmy. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home. www. davidcbrownfh.com

# Sumpter board honors POW, MIA at special ceremony at meeting

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

Sumpter Township Manager Anthony Burdick, a Korean War veteran, and LeRoy Paige, a Sumpter resident who is a Vietnam vet, led a five-minute Day of Remembrance ceremony during the township board's workshop session on Sept. 26.

The event spilled over into the regular meeting, when military veterans present introduced themselves and Planning Commissioner Vince Warren presented the township with a POW/MIA flag and asked it to fly it on the third Thursday in September which was the Day of Remembrance.

Burdick asked the board to pledge the flag at the beginning of the workshop, which isn't usually done, and then asked everyone to remember the Prisoners of War and Missing in Action and those missing from all five services, plus public safety and emergency responders.

He said the Day of Remembrance started with the Vietnam War.

A special display was set up at the front of the meeting room that included a small round table with a white tablecloth, a single red rose, slice of lemon, pinch of salt, Bible, inverted drinking glass and an empty chair. Each item represented something and the empty chair said "they are missing," Burdick said.

"We will not forget," Burdick said.

Near the end of the meeting, Paige rose in response to Trustee Matthew Oddy's remarks about the MIA/POW ceremony.

Paige said 82,000 veterans are still unaccounted for since World War II. He introduced a psychotherapist from the Ann Arbor Veterans Administration hospital.

He told them of Paul Cowen, who had served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He said he was one of the first medics to hit the beach during World War II and the medics were charged with determining who they could save and who they couldn't. He said they gave shots of morphine to those suffering pain and had to turn their backs and go away from the soldiers that were too badly injured to save. And, what happened, "haunts me every day." He said people never know what scars are inside people who "fought for the freedom we enjoy each and every day."

After Warren presented the flag and the board voted to fly it as requested, Trustee Tim Rush noted that this is a ceremonial flag and the township will have to purchase a weatherized flag to fly in the future.

In other business in the one-hour-and-35-minute workshop/regular meeting, the board:

• Removed two items from the agenda – Consider directing Cari Ford to complete an internal audit review of the Community Center and Police Department" and "Consider approval of the findings and recommendations for the Treasurer's office internal control review," both put on the agenda by Burdick. A discussion was held on how they would like to see two board members, who are elected by the



people, sign off on agenda items instead of having employees make those decisions. The board directed township attorney Rob Young to check out the contract with Burdick to see if he was given this power and, if so, to alter that. It will be discussed again in the future;

- Approved the price quote of \$7,900 for the fence and overhead signage at Martinsville Cemetery as proposed by township resident and contractor, Eric Partridge;
- Approved the supervisor's reappointment of Vincent Warren to the planning commission with a term to expire Sept. 23, 2026;
- Approved, on a 4-2 vote, purchase of a smaller replacement mower for mowing / leaf collection at the Martinsville Cemetery, at a cost not to exceed \$11,362, using Martinsville Cemetery federal ARPA funds. Trustees Don LaPorte and Matt Oddy voted no;
- Approved Republic Waste's sale of the residential waste pickup contract to

Priority Waste to the year 2030 using the same obligations, routes, and times as Republic had in its contract with Sumpter. "What choice to we have?" asked attorney Young, who met with representatives of Republic and Priority, along with the township manager and financial director;

- Heard resident Mary Ban say most of the township roads are still "in the jungle" and the county is ignoring Sumpter. "I don't care what Commissioner Haidous says," she added. On another matter, she asked why they couldn't use Google Earth to assess properties, rather than coming onto properties in person. Trustee Oddy said a lot of times Google Earth pictures are not up to date, you can't see what is beneath the trees and need boots on the ground. Ban also said people are still very upset about the way the museum is being handled;
- Heard Trustee Tim Rush give the Parks & Recreation report, saying a Chili BBQ cookout is coming up, there has been discussion about the size of the pier replacement, the Turkey Shoot is not going to happen, and quarterly instead of monthly meetings will be held for the Parks and Recreation Committee. Rush said they won't need quorums for committee meetings on specific events. Burdick said the 30' wide, 20' deep pier suggested by Supervisor Tim Bowman is expensive to

do and, "It appears we have champagne taste" and it is expensive to do. He said they may have to have a bit of a hybrid and they will find a solution; and

• Heard Water/Sewer Director John Danci report he would be going to a drain committee meeting later that week to find out more about the township pipe that is in the wrong place. He said the pipe runs southeast along Rawsonville Road, south of Willis and north of Judd.

Clerk Esther Hurst was absent and excused from the board meeting.

# **Court Watching**

#### Joshua Thomas Leasure

Joshua Thomas Leasure of Holland, Ohio, was scheduled for a preliminary exam Oct. 4 on charge of fleeing a police officer in Van Buren Township on Aug. 11. Bond was \$25,000/10%. He waived his exam and was bound over to circuit court for an Oct. 11 arraignment on the information.

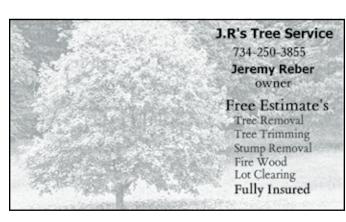
#### **Garry Decastro Scott**

Garry Decastro Scott, 60, of Ypsilanti is charged with operating while intoxicated and driving while license suspended on March 5, 2022 in Van Buren Township. He was present for his Oct. 4 probable cause conference and another probable cause conference was set for Nov. 22. Personal bond is \$5,000.











#### Page 9

# **Court Watching**

## **Christopher Lamont Ralphael Claxton Daniel Keron Seals** Robert Derek Jackson

Three co-defendants were present on Oct. 4 for their probable cause conference before Judge Green on charges of retail fraud at Meijer on Sept. 18 in Van Buren Township.

Christopher Lamont Ralphael Claxton of Westland was video-arraigned in custody on Sept. 20 on a charge of retail fraud first degree. He also is labeled a habitual offender-4th offense. Surety bond of \$1,250 was posted through a bail bondsman. His live preliminary exam is Nov. 22.

Daniel Keron Seals of Clinton, MI, was video-arraigned in custody on Sept. 20, also on a charge of retail fraud - first degree. He also is a habitual offender-4th degree. Surety bond of \$1,250 was posted through a bail bondsman. A probable cause conference was set for Oct. 11.

Robert Derek Jackson, 30, of Jonesboro, GA, was charged with retail fraud seconddegree and an additional charge of carrying a concealed weapon. He was videoarraigned in custody at the Van Buren Police Department on Sept. 21. Bond was set at \$2,000/10% which was posted in cash. His probable cause conference was set for Oct. 11.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

Section B of the Iron Belle Trail, links the trail from Section A in Washtenaw County on Rawsonville Road to Van Buren Park. A ribbon was cut for the new link on Monday by Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara, with the help of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, State Rep. Reggie Miller, members of the township board, and representatives of the DTE Foundation and Michigan Trails Fund, among others. Dingell said 71% of Michigan's Iron Belle Trail, that is 2,000 miles long between Belle Isle and Ironwood, is complete.





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On Saturday there was a big turnout for the pancake breakfast at Van Buren Township Fire Hall on Belleville Road with all donations going to HART of Huron Valley who regularly assist the VBT fire fighting efforts.

# **Court Watching**

## **Terrance Martez Townsend**

Terrance Martez Townsend, 37, of Van Buren Township, was present on Oct. 4 to face 16 charges, including five unlawful imprisonments, six felony weapons, assault, domestic violence, and three charges of child abuse-4. At his arraignment on Sept. 24, bond was set at \$100,000 cash/surety/10%. A probable cause conference was set for Oct. 18.

#### Demario Shannon Brown

Demario Shannon Brown, 22, of Romulus was scheduled for his probable cause conference on Oct. 4 to face charges of fleeing and eluding a police officer on Sept. 8 in Sumpter Township. Personal bond of \$20,000 was set at his Sept. 10 arraignment. On Oct. 4, his probable cause conference was adjourned until Nov. 1 for discovery.



On Oct. 3, Ken Voigt presented a \$2,500 check from the sale of his 2023 Goat Day T-shirts to Emergency Food Closet volunteers, from left (all wearing yellow) Steve Lazere, Laura Grenfell, and Lori Summer. The food closet is housed at Belleville First United Church located at 417 Charles St. and is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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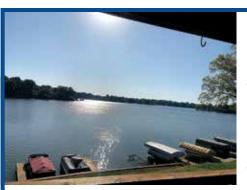
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Registration is not required, but helps us communicate to participants about any changes that may happen due to weather. To register, please visit our website at vanburen-mi.org/community/recreation

Any organization or business interested in having a station can email us at jzaenglein@vanburen-mi.org







Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Oct. 2, State Rep. Reggie Miller and State Senator Darrin Camilleri presented a ceremonial check for \$11.8 million to Van Buren Township to build a new Denton Road Bridge, noting as of Oct. 1, the check was good because the state budget now was in effect and the money was earmarked for the bridge. Present for the check-passing were, from left, Sharon Peters, president of the Belleville Area-District Library Board; Linda Priest, library board secretary; John Juriga, library board member; Van Buren Township Trustee Bryon Kelley; Belleville Mayor Pro Tem Ken Voigt; Rep. Miller; Wayne County Director of Public Services Andrew Kandrevas (standing in for County Executive Warren Evans); Senator Camilleri; Belleville Planning Commissioner Randy Priest, VBT Trustee Kevin Martin; VBT Director of Community Services Elizabeth Renaud; Haile Brown, representing Congresswoman Debbie Dingell; Wayne County Director of Engineering Sami Khaldi; and Kathleen Springer. Rep. Miller said they really have to thank President Joe Biden, since the funds are "Biden Bucks." Plans call for bids to go out in May and the present bridge to be demolished at the end of 2024. VBT Supervisor Kevin McNamara said divers will be out looking for the fresh water mussels on Oct. 3 and if they are not found, work will proceed. If they are found, it will have to be moved and that will take

# To build a better world, start in your own community!



Page 12 Belleville Area Independent/October 12, 2023

# CHARTER TWP OF VAN D CIVES SHORT ALARMS & SEAT BELTS SAVE LIVES

Courtesy of Van Buren Township Communications Dept. Van Buren Township Fire Inspector Dave Smith and his colleagues gave lessons in fire safety to Bethany Day Care children during a visit on Oct. 3.



Gary and Rose Strauss have been taking their grandson Lennox O'Brien to Frosty Boy on Main Street all season long. On Friday, Oct. 6, they marked their last visit of the season and thanked Frosty Boy for everything.

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# City of Belleville gets new garbage collection firm: Priority Waste

The city of Belleville has a new garbage and large item pickup company.

In a Nixle alert, the city advised that the new company, Priority Waste Management, will be taking over trash collection for the city residents. The company has provided two new numbers for residents to use to contact them: (586) 228-1200 and (855) 927-8365.

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If you'd like to adopt me, please go to **friendsofmichigan.org/ adoptable-cats** to submit an application! I'm neutered, microchipped, vaccinated, and negative for FIV/FeLV.

# Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

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Courtesy of Van Buren Township Communications Dept.

Page 13

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored its annual "State of the Communities" breakfast on Oct. 5 at the Belleville Yacht Club. From left are Sumpter Township Manager Anthony Burdick; Jackson Pahle, chief of staff for State Representative Reggie Miller; Haile Brown of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell's office; Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley; Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara; Merrie Coburn, chamber board member and Executive Director of the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority; Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous; Terree O'Neil-Darling, special projects manager for State Senator Darrin Camilleri; and Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak.





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Belleville Rotary members and friends spent Saturday, Sept. 30, cleaning up the island on Belleville Lake. They had to wait 45 minutes for the fog to clear before they began. They said the new owner of Paddle Belleville reached out to the club and asked if it could help. Rotarians Rachel Kozlowski, Mary Jo Suchy, Debbie Green, Elena Manalp, and Norm from Paddle Belleville were present. Other people learned about it on social media and wanted to help, including a couple that just moved to Belleville this summer. They brought their kids over to help, as well.

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- Fall Time Stories with Tanya "Touchdown" Dallas (1 pm)
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- "Stained Glass" Pumpkins
- Paper Plate Wreaths
- Paper Bag Scarecrows
- Grab and Go Crafts
- Harvest Passport
- Harvest Themed Yard Games
- Make your own coaster (Quilt Guild)
- Harvest-themed children's play area
- Nickel Dig (2-3 pm)



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K651, Aafrika Poole; D158 & P771, Kandass Baldwin; S962, Terry Booth; I410, Quality Pools Inc.; F275, Danielle E. Knopp; M567 & I427, Jennifer Miller; K667, David James; J616, Cornell Fox; N814, Randall Shropshire; C106 & Q915, Raymond Pugh; G458, Jazmene Long; Q905, Tasha Davis; G455, Lynn L. Williams; F264, Mookie Dilliard Jr.; F265, Joan Crawford

# Publish: October 12, 2023 and October 19, 2023

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# Sumpter breast cancer patient gets help with neuropathy treatment

By Henry Ford Health Team

When the doctor says, "nothing more can be done," what does a patient do? For Patty Fecker, an experienced nurse who suffered from <u>neuropathy</u> related to cancer treatment, the answer and a lesson would come from the multidisciplinary cancer team at Henry Ford Health.

The long line of resourceful physicians would hunker down to help her. The result? An 85% reduction in pain.

Patty did monthly breast self-exams for decades, and she's not a stranger to mammogram machines, having received routine screenings for more than a dozen years. After her last exam, she checked her medical records for the test results and was shocked to read, "highly suspicious for malignancy".

"Although I had been a nurse for 40 years, I hadn't worked in oncology and cancer was a death sentence," said Patty, 62, who lives in Sumpter Township.

"Waiting for a biopsy was horrible. I went through some depression, thinking I was going to die. And I learned that some websites aren't your friend – they paint an awful picture."

Because Patty could not quickly receive a biopsy, she looked for a different healthcare provider. That's when she met Jessica Schering, M.D., an oncology specialist at Henry Ford Cancer - Brownstown.

"She gave me hope and options, and she painted a much better outlook," Patty said.

Her multidisciplinary cancer team created a plan - chemotherapy to shrink the stage 2 tumor, surgery to remove the cancerous tumor and radiation treatments to kill any stray cancer cells. The director of Henry Ford Health's breast cancer program, Jessica Bensenhaver, M.D., performed Patty's surgery. Then, all her appointments were made by nurse navigators.

"They're wonderful," Patty said. "I never had to call and follow up because there was great communication throughout the system. Nurse navigators gave me a packet of all available support, including group therapy and art therapy. I realized I needed to surround myself with survivors, instead of hearing and thinking about negative

Just 30 days after the diagnosis, chemotherapy treatments began and so did a major side effect: chemo-induced peripheral neuropathy.

"Pain in my hands and feet progressively got worse after treatment. I'd walk my dogs, and I'd have to quit because my feet were always freezing. My fingers were cold, and I had pain in my fingernails. I'd sit at my desk with a heating pad wrapped around my feet. I'd wrap one hand in another heating pad and type with the other

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Patty Fecker

hand," said Patty who works remotely.

But the problem was buffered by her attitude and faith. "I've always had a good relationship with God," said Patty. "And I figured the symptoms were a small price to pay for being alive. I felt like things could be worse, so I adapted my life to what my symptoms were."

Prescription medications, vitamins, acupuncture and over-the-counter products didn't help. Although one doctor thought nothing more could be done, specialists thought otherwise.

During a six-month follow-up appointment, Patty asked Dr. Schering when the symptoms would go away. Concerned, Dr. Schering referred Patty to a specialist in neurological complications related to cancer treatment, Lisa R. Rogers, D.O., at Henry Ford Health in Wyandotte.

Dr. Rogers said, "It was demonstrated in a clinical trial that Cymbalta can be very effective for many people with chemoinduced peripheral neuropathy. However, it could not be prescribed for Patty because it was contraindicated with one of her existing medications."

Neuropathy can be debilitating for some people, causing intense shooting or burning pain, tingling, numbness or a sensation similar to frostbite, said Dr. Rogers. Worse, the condition can last for months or years.

To find a solution, Dr. Rogers tapped further into the multidisciplinary team and

referred Patty to David Henkin, M.D., a palliative medicine physician at Henry Ford Health in downtown Detroit. He is part of a group of specialists who treat chemotherapy-induced neuropathy.

"When I saw Dr. Henkin, he had already read my records and talked with Dr. Rogers and another specialist about how to get me off the one medication and get me on Cymbalta," said Patty. "I was impressed that he already had a plan. I didn't have to wait for another appointment. Dr. Henkin even called the pharmacy to make sure they understood the dose, so they wouldn't give me a hard time. I got the medication right then, and they started transitioning me the next day.

"I'm very happy with the results. I'm about 85% better now. I can walk, and my feet are no longer freezing," says Patty who enjoys gardening, camping and walking with her four rescue dogs. "Sometimes, my hands get cold, but nothing like before, and I no longer have pain in my nailbeds. I feel kind of reborn."

Through her experience, she's learned a lesson: Sometimes, you have to pursue a problem, even when you've been told there's nothing else that can be done. "I figured the original doctor knew what he was talking about after he tried several treatments, but my oncologist said I should get evaluated by Dr. Rogers," said Patty.

Happy just to be alive, Patty is determined to make the most of her life. In addition to spending time with her loved ones and friends, she's a hospice volunteer, supporting cancer patients and doing pet

She encourages patients to remain positive and surround themselves with people who have had positive outcomes. Take one day at a time. Don't sweat the small stuff. And if you have faith, rely on it.

Patty also advises women to get a yearly mammogram. The discomfort from pressure only lasts a few minutes, but the pain from cancer treatment lasts for

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# Belleville's 'Wheels for Independence' sets special meeting Nov. 13

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

A special meeting of Belleville's "Wheels for Independence" Senior Citizens Transportation Committee has been set for 5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 13, at the Brown Family Center, 678 E. Huron River Dr. The public is invited.

After an hour-long discussion on how to solve the senior transportation needs in the city at the Oct. 9 meeting, the group agreed to meet in November to assemble information and make concrete plans on how to proceed.

Wheels for Independence provided senior transportation for 27 years before COVID paused the service and then the six-foot rule was enacted and only one person could ride in

"It's been close to a year without transportation," said committee chairperson Jennifer Delano, who has been trying to work with the city to get the service in operation

She said Peoples Express does not want to work with Wheels for Independence and no longer picks up riders at the library. That ended in June, she said.

She said Peoples Express is a business and, "We aren't in business to raise money, but to offer a service."

Delano said before COVID they transported 20 to 30 seniors and disabled a week in their wheelchair lift vans. On Fridays the van was full for grocery shopping.

She said after COVID, the ridership was down to 12 to 20 a week. She said there were riders from Columbia Court, the Co-Op, two on Biggs Street and two on Loza Lane. She said now, Tuscan Manor has residents who need transport.

Committeeman Randy Priest suggested seniors shop for groceries by phone and have it delivered.

Shelly Brown-Chudzinski, who has a funeral home, said she was against seniors doing everything by phone. She said getting active keeps them alive.

Delano said they also had a lot of runs to dialysis appointments and doctors' offices and fit the grocery runs into those.

Brown-Chudzinski said the funeral home had grief care at Columbia Court and she saw how the residents needed to get out and move around and socialize.

Delano said they had three SMART vehicles at one point and an accident took the first one and it was not fixable. They took parts from the second one and the third blew an engine and it couldn't be fixed.

Belleville's Acting City Manager Steve Jones said the final vehicle couldn't be fixed because replacement engines for that vehicle are no longer being made by Ford and are not available. The \$5,000 the city council allocated for that has gone back into the general fund, he said.

He said there has been a lot of turnover at SMART and the city was waiting for a call from one person and then that person was replaced by someone else.

"Vehicles seem to be available, if we need it," Jones said.

He said he is trying to digest all the details about transportation in the city, and noted the city does not want to be in the transportation business. Former city manager Dave Robinson did not recognize the Wheels group as a legal

"Belleville is going to take care of its seniors," said Brown-Chudzinski. "There are lots of seniors."

"I was shocked to hear that Kerreen (Conley, the mayor) was a member of this committee," Jones said. "I was not aware of

Delano said the city clerk always did the paperwork for SMART and Brown-Chudzinski said that was because they claimed the money from SMART for the transportation.

Jones said that was a small amount from SMART, about \$4,000.

Delano said one of the city managers after Diana Kollmeyer took the senior transportation out of the budget.

Many options were discussed, including getting donations to buy or lease a van, and Jones said he would get copies of the former city budget numbers and other information for the next meeting.

The CDBG funds, formerly used for transportation, were used for park upgrades in the most recent budget. The next application for CDBG funds is in March, Delano said.

The transportation budget had been \$10,000 a year, after being trimmed by the city from \$20,000. Delano said she paid the annual state license fee of \$20 out of her own pocket.

Jones said there are lots of strings with a SMART van now.

Delano said when Keith Boc was DPW director the DPW was able to fix the SMART vans, but now SMART requires all repairs to be done by SMART.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

The Senior Citizens Transportation Committee, Wheels for Independence, met Monday to discuss how to get senior transportation back in the city of Belleville. From left are Shelly Brown-Chudzinski, Randy Priest, Acting City Manager Steve Jones who was guest speaker, John Juriga, Linda Priest, and Jennifer Delano.

Because of the small staff at city hall, Jones said Delano would have to do all the paperwork and she said she did do all the paperwork. Then she would give payroll to the treasurer and other work to the clerk. But the present clerk was overwhelmed by having to do police work too.

She said it had always gone through the city in the past and when there were budget problems they cut her salary. She said riders paid zero at the beginning, then it was \$1-\$4 and then \$2-\$5 to ride and now it should be raised to \$3 -\$6.

"I dread the day I ever say, 'We're done,"

Brown-Chudzinski said the committee needs to get younger members to learn what they're doing. She said there has been too much turnover at the city and at SMART.

She said the focus is on: "What it would take to get a bus."

"We have to keep going," she said, adding once they know how much money they need they could raise money. Many other ideas were offered, including going to the corporations that own Columbia Court and the Co-Op for help.

"I think we've taken the parking brake off the Wheels for Independence," said Randy





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# Page 19

The meijer

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# **Egypt**

(continued from page 1)

than face trial.

Covington stressed that he is talking only of the defendants and not to their families, since no family raises their children to be murderers.

"They know what they did," he said.
"They killed my daughter execution-style" and then left. He said they offered no words for years, instead of coming forward.

"They deserve the death penalty. At least they deserve to be in the prison system as long as possible," he said, referring to her death as a slaughter.

He said the text message said, "Oops," after the two went into the wrong door that led into his daughter's home. He said that "Oops" was his daughter's life.

Covington said the charge was first-degree murder at first. "They illegally entered my daughter's home, one armed with a gun. Why bring a gun to make a quick marijuana score? They hogtied — hogtied my daughter," he said in tears.

They used a pillow at the back of her head to deaden the sound of the shot, he said.

"They executed her and left her on the floor to die," he said. "There is no doubt they planned to kill my daughter."

Emotional statements also came from Egypt's brothers D'Wayne and Samuel Turner, sisters Katelyn and Kristin Covington, friend Sherry Hartley, and cousin Casey Carson.

D'Wayne Turner thanked the justice system, state police, and media, "who makes the public aware of what could happen to them."

Groom's retained defense attorney David Goldstein said there were some statements made that were not factually correct. He said it was said "they" murdered the victim, but there were three defendants and his client was involved in the crime that resulted in someone's death.

Goldstein said the crime was not premeditated and Groom was not the one who had caused the death. He said his client was very sorry for what happened and will abide by the plea agreement.

Groom said he was sorry for what happened and asked the family to, "Forgive me for my actions."

Moore's retained attorney Kristina Marie Joseph said no words she could ever say could even attempt to mitigate the loss of the family.

"My heart goes out to them," she said, noting the case was set for a jury trial and they were prepared to litigate several factors.

She said it was decided to have no jury trial because of the effect on the family. She said her client is 37 years old and was 31 at the time and next month he would mark three years in jail.

She said like any individual, her client has redeeming qualities. He had a job, a GED, and has supported his family and he is remorseful. She said in each step he has shown remorse and he takes full responsibility for his actions.

Moore apologized to the family and said he can't take away what happened, but he wished he could.

"There's more to the case than has come out," he said. "I felt I was pushed into a plea. I'm not a bad guy ..."

Judge Evans interrupted his statement noting that he said he did not willingly enter this plea. She reminded him she asked him questions about whether he was entering the plea without being pushed and he answered.

Attorney Joseph asked for three minutes to talk to her client and Judge Evans recessed the court for a short time.

Afterward, Judge Evans said she could

withdraw that plea and they could go to trial.

"We had many conversations on this,"

Joseph said. "He accepted a plea because he felt statements about him were untrue. ... He asks for sentencing now."

He was asked questions about the plea deal and replied he accepts it and wants sentencing now rather than a trial.

"I want to apologize," he said. "Some statements were untrue about me."

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor LaDonna Logan said the sentencing is not 100% what the family wanted but it is a good resolution.

"If he wants to withdraw his plea and go to trial, he can," Judge Evans said.

"He does not want to do so," Joseph said. Judge Evans said she would follow the settlement offer.

"To the family, there is nothing I can say to make the family feel better," Judge Evans said. She said Egypt's brother made a good point about the lessons Egypt taught to them and those lessons can be carried on.

"From the bottom of my heart, I wish you peace," Judge Evans concluded.

Egypt was found dead at 7:15 p.m. June 23, 2017, in her home in the 45000 block of Hull Road in Van Buren Township. Her hands had been bound with holiday string lights, that she used to decorate a door, and she had been shot in the head.

She lived in a duplex, and on the other side was a neighbor who ran a legal marijuana business. Evans said in court that he led the other two men to Covington's duplex and told them the neighbor had marijuana that would be easy to steal.

"I knew he was out of town," Evans said in a police interview. "I knew he was out of his house. I said, 'Go to the right.' I knew 100% no one was in that house. They went to the wrong door."

The Michigan State Police, which took over the murder from Van Buren Township Police, said there was a fourth suspect, but the person was shot and killed after the crime.

Egypt was a 2007 graduate of Belleville High School and a popular local singer. She was employed as an account manager for beer and wine distributor Rave and had worked at Johnny's on the Lake and Bayou Grill in Belleville.

To build a better world, start in your own community!

## Belleville Area Independent/October 12, 2023

# Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 13, 14, 15 – Belleville Area Council for the Arts Community Art Show at the Belleville
- Saturday, Oct. 14 Live auction to benefit the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Alexander Blue House at Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh Rd., Livonia. Information: (734) 697-3605
- Saturday, Oct. 14 Harvest Fest and Tractor Parade in downtown Belleville.
- Monday, Oct. 16 Belleville Farmers Market at the Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.
- Saturday, Oct. 21 Monster Mutt Walk sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community on Fourth Street
- Saturday, Oct. 21 Halloween party fund raiser for Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, 6 to 11 p.m., at Tri-County Sportsman League, 8640 Moon Rd., Saline. Evening of Halloween fun for those age 16+. Cost is \$40 per person and includes dinner, dancing, hayrides, bonfire, costume contest. Cash bar, raffles, games,

- psychic. Information: (734) 461-9456.
- Monday, Oct. 23 Belleville Farmers Market at the Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.
- Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27 and 28 - Sumpter Township Fall Vendor Market and Bake Sale, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Sumpter Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd. For table rentals, at \$10 each, contact Maryann Watson, (734) 461-9373
- Monday, Oct. 30 Belleville Farmers Market at the Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.
- Monday, Oct. 30 Sumpter Township Halloween Trunk or Treat, 6-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 31 Trick or Treat at businesses on Main Street in downtown Belleville, sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community between 5 and 7 p.m. Also costume contests at 6 p.m. at the Fourth Street Square.
- Thursday, Nov. 2 Blood Drive at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434 from 1 to 7 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 5 Bugles Across America starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street on the lake in the city of Belleville. The brief ceremony honors all veterans, living and dead, with a pledge to the flag, National Anthem, and Taps. Everyone welcome.

- Wednesday, Nov. 8 Drive-Through Chicken Supper at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston. \$14 for carry-outs. Cash or check only please. 4:30 p.m. until sold out. Menu: Four pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes, dinner-style biscuits and gravy, green beans, cole slaw, dinner roll, choice of pie. Call ahead for faster service, (734) 654-9020.
- Sunday, Dec. 3 Bugles Across America starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street on the lake in the city of Belleville. The brief ceremony honors all veterans, living and dead, with a pledge to the flag, National Anthem, and Taps. Everyone welcome.

# **Upcoming Meetings**

- Thursday, Oct. 12 Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 16 Belleville City Council,
- Tuesday, Oct. 17 Van Buren Township work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at
- Wednesday, Oct. 18 Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 6

- Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 23 Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS
- Tuesday, Oct. 24 Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Board of Trustees. • Wednesday, Oct. 25 – Van Buren Township
- Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m. • Tuesday, Nov. 7 - Van Buren Township
- work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at
- Wednesday, Nov. 8 Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m. • Thursday, Nov. 9 - Sumpter Township
- Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m. • Thursday, Nov. 9 - Keystone Academy
- school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission quarterly meeting, 6 • Monday, Nov. 13 - Van Buren Public
- Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 14 Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 15 Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.

# Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

# **VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS** ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Van Buren Public Schools will receive sealed bid proposals until 1:00 p.m. on November 2, 2023, for Bid Package #9 (Savage & Tyler Elementary School Renovations) and Bid Package #10 (McBride Middle School Addition & Renovation). Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately following the deadline for submission. Van Buren Public Schools will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

documents downloaded may be viewed and https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5565f9b93ad9f70800b26d32

After you create your free Building Connected account and join the project, bids and questions must be submitted https://www.buildingconnected.com/

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on October 16, 2023 at Microsoft via Teams Meeting https://tinyurl.com/3aeku52m and/or call in +1 734-887-6326 Conference ID: 649 222 193#

A Bid Security executed by a U.S. Treasury listed Surety Company acceptable to the Owner or a cashier's check in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the bid must be included along with a statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, board of directors, or the superintendent of the School District. An Iran Disclosure Statement must also be included along with a Criminal Background Disclosure Affidavit and a Non-Collusive Affidavit. Accepted bidders may be required to furnish Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price.

Documents will be available for viewing on October 12, 2023. Any questions, contact Kyle Oberdorf, Granger Construction Project Manager at: koberdorf@grangerconstruction.com

Published October 12, 2023

# **Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice**

#### **CHARTER TOWNSHIP** OF VAN BUREN **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 3, 2023**

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Zoom Meeting ID for public participation: 894 2765 4392. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk, Trustee Frazier and Trustee Kelley. Absent/Excused: Clerk Wright, Trustee Boynton and Trustee Martin. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Community Services Renaud, Deputy Director of Community Services Dohring, Director of Parks Locke, Director of Recreation Zaenglien, Fire Chief McInally, Director of Water and Sewer Lawrence, Director of Municipal Services Akers, DDA Director Coburn, Director of Planning and Economic Development Power, Director of Public Services Luckett and an audience of six.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Kelley moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Frazier moved, Kelley seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of

September 5, 2023, Prepaid List of September 7, 2023, Prepaid List of September 14, 2023, Prepaid List of September 21, 2023, Prepaid List of September 28, 2023, Voucher List of September 19, 2023 and Voucher List of October 3, 2023. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Frazier moved, Kelly seconded to open the public hearing to receive comments on the 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed General Fund Budget, the 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed Water/Sewer

Budget and the 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed Special Revenue Budgets at 6:03 p.m. Motion Carried

There were no public comments. Budd moved, Kelley seconded to close the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. CORRESPONDENCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New

Business): None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

NEW BUSINESS: Kelley moved, Frazier seconded to approve the selection of Praise Sign Company for the Community Center Signage project for \$61,140. Motion Carried.

Kelly moved, Budd seconded to approve releasing the remaining funds for the Denton Road Bridge Preliminary Engineering. Motion

Frazier moved, Kelley seconded to the Fishbeck hourly annual rate adjustment which will be in effect from now until June 2024. Motion Carried.

Kelley moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2023-25: 2024 Departmental Fee Schedule. Motion Carried. REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA

ITEMS: None. BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA

ITEMS: Supervisor McNamara thanked

Dave Booher for all the work he has put into cataloging and archiving historical items at the Belleville Area Museum.

ADJOURNMENT: Budd moved, Frazier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk Kevin McNamara, Supervisor Published: October 12, 2023

#### Page 2

# VBT planners approve preliminary site plan for Ashley Capital building

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Ashley Capital has a prospective tenant for a new building in its Crossroads Distribution Center between Ecorse and Van Born roads and the Van Buren Township Planning Commission gave preliminary site plan approval for the project at its regular meeting on Sept. 27.

The commission also approved recommending to the township board of trustees special land use for the project.

A public hearing was held before consideration of the site plan and Susan Farr, whose Haggerty Road home backs up to the Ashley propertites, spoke in opposition.

Farr said she had been fighting Ashley Capital for years. She said Haggerty Road is impassable. Recently a tire came off a semi vehicle and into her yard, almost killing her husband. She said there were 17 cars in one night that were disabled on Haggerty and many came to her door to ask for assistance.

She said Ashley took over the road from the county and nothing's been done, as the road gets more impassable. Farr suggested the commissioners look on Facebook to see what people are saying about Haggerty Road between Ecorse and Van Born. She left the meeting after her remarks.

Discussion on the two approvals was intermingled as the commission gathered information for its decisions.

Vidya Krishnan, principal planner for McKenna, said there have been traffic

concerns on Haggerty Road by residents and reconstruction is scheduled for 2024.

She said a traffic study for Ashley did not require any changes, but there will be addition of a traffic light on Haggerty, half way between Ecorse and Van Born roads, for access.

Applicant Kyle Wood, speaking for Ashley, said they have a tenant looking to lease about 400,000 square feet, the south two-thirds of the new 630,000 square foot building being planned. He said the tenant will be moving from Romulus.

Wood said the new building is almost a quarter-mile long.

He said there has been a year-long delay as Ashley worked with EGLE on the wetlands and conservation easements are being set up. He said if it goes to the Southeastern Michigan Conservation district, it would have to be open to the public with walking trails.

He said the building originally was planned to be 950,000 square feet, but they lost one-third while working with EGLE.

The conservation easement next to the ITC corridor on the property creates the need for an appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeal for setbacks.

Wood said Haggerty Road is a problem and he doesn't like Haggerty Road. He said Ashley fronted engineering costs of \$300,000 and in December Ashley was awarded state money.

He said on Aug. 2, the state gave approval to bid out the Haggerty project from Ecorse

north to Van Born. The project includes a new township water main that is expected to be put in place this winter. The road will be completely reconstructed in 2024 and there is all the money to begin, he said.

Commissioner Bernie Grant said Haggerty has been a problem for about five years and full-size semis drive on the wrong side of the road to avoid the huge potholes.

Director of Planning and Economic Development Dan Power reported Wayne County said completion would be in early 2025.

Commissioner Grant said there are oneand-a-half to two-foot deep potholes. He suggested a temporary, safe paving to make it safe in the winter.

Wood said Ashley got a grant for the road, but it isn't really a partner in the project.

He said they hope to line up completion of this new building, Building 11, with the completion of Haggerty. In the worse case scenario they would close Haggerty for six months and they would send all Ashley's traffic to Ecorse.

Commissioner Jeff Jahr asked if there is to be a traffic signal at the new intersection and Wood replied that it was part of the total project and noted in the plans.

Commissioner Jackson Pahle asked what if they didn't get that tenant and Wood said they may slow up on the construction of that building. The tenant needs to be in by Nov. 1, 2024.

Commissioner Medina Atchinson asked if it would be possible to resurface and the

township's consulting engineer said the base under the road can't hold the weight. He said if they resurfaced, it would be the same as it is now within a month and would be a waste of money.

The engineer said they could fill the potholes and grade the shoulders, but the county may not want to spend the money.

"With two-foot-deep holes, something has to happen to make it safe for cars," said Commissioner Grant. "It's embarrassing. It gets worse every year, like someone dropped bombs – craters," he said, adding he doesn't know if it's Ashley's job.

Wood said it is 45 days before the asphalt plant closes for the winter and he will talk to the county. He said his father's tire blew out on that roadway.

Director Power suggested all citizens are able to call in hazard reports to the county and he will put that number on the website.

Atchinson said trucks don't take the roads they agree to take. She said she calls Cosco.

Woods said Ashley's traffic goes to Ecorse to I-275 and has to stay on Class A roads.

Krishnan said the only company that has a restriction is Cosco. They are not to go down Belleville Road.

Wood said if they see one of Ashley's tenants going down Belleville Road to call Ashley.

In discussing details of the site plan. Ashley said they plan to install EV station infrastructure in the greenspace for future hook ups. They won't put EV stations next to the buildings because they are afraid the batteries might catch on fire and burn the building.

Ashley engineer Joe Webb said they will be moving to abandon Bell Drain on the building site. He said the drain was formerly a farm ditch created a long time ago and it ends on this property.

In other business at the three-hour-18-minute meeting, the commission:

- Held a public hearing on proposed zoning ordinance text amendments on Child Care Uses and then unanimously voted to recommend adoption by the Township Board of Trustees. The amendments grant the Board of Trustees the ability to modify minimum required separation requirements between licensed group day care homes, upon recommendation from the planning commission, based upon certain findings; and
- Heard Director Power report that Ricardo was delayed in its testing that was approved, but now is moving forward. Also, the proposed architecture change for a lot on N. Cumberland Dr. in Country Walk is still pending. Also, the Mobil station sign is still standing at the corner of Haggerty Road and the North I-94 Service Drive and it will be removed through construction. He said the site plan for the gas station was approved on Aug. 23 and the next day. Aug. 24, there were floodwaters at that site and gas was in the water and remediation needed to be taken.

Commissioner Peter Creal was absent from the meeting.



# **City of Belleville Public Notice**



**Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee** 

# REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Flag Placement for Veteran's Day 2023 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road.

We will begin placing flags on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. and need volunteers to help. Each cemetery section takes only about one hour of work.

Should you wish to volunteer, contact the City Clerk. <u>If you would like to work in a specific section, the Clerk's office must be contacted, or that section may not be guaranteed.</u>

Please consider this small sacrifice of time and join us to honor our veterans who fought to keep us free.

Briana Hootman
City Clerk/Treasurer
(734) 697-9323 ext. 7010
clerk@belleville.mi.us



PUBLISH: Oct 12, 19 & 26 and Nov 2, 2023

Sunday, Oct. 1:

Belleville Rd.

Service Dr.

Woodbury Dr.

Village Center Dr.

**Police Dispatch Log** 

There were 240 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren

Township police last week including the following.

0415 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

 $0426-suspicious\ person/vehicle/circumstance,$ 

1147 – property damage accident, Peninsular Dr.

1247 - larceny from auto, Morton Taylor Rd.

1341 – noise complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.

1352 - unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94

1411 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

1604 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

1816 - assault & battery, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.

1851 - leaving the scene of a property damage

2002 - harassment call, Country Walk Blvd.

2020 - private property/property damage accident,

2249 - road hazard, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.

0150 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

0658 - private property/property damage accident,

1455 - parking complaint, Fairfield Dr./Lancaster

1621 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

0446 - domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.

 $1206-assist\ other\ dept., Ecorse\ Rd.$ 

1314 - civil matter, S. Ponderosa Trl.

1355 - intrusion alarm, Fairbanks St.

1424 – neighbor trouble, Winchester St.

1602 – intrusion alarm, Cedarhurst Dr.

1613 - threat, Country Walk Blvd.

1826 - welfare check, Holly Ln.

0141 - noise complaint, Oak Ln.

0315 - noise complaint, Locust Dr.

1320 - fraud. Belleville Rd.

0441 - intrusion alarm, W. Schooner Dr.

0816 – 911 welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.

1353 - assist fire dept., Richard Run Dr.

1404 - intrusion alarm, McBride Ave.

1521 - harassment call, Parkwood Dr.

1553 - assault & battery, Outer Dr.

1632 - fraud, Harbour Pointe Ct.

1747 - neighbor trouble, Bak Rd.

2126 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

2148 - mental subject, Beck Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 3:

1958 - parking complaint, Oak Ln.

0024 - assist other dept., Ironwood Dr.

0450 - repossession, Kirkridge Park Dr.

0812 - repossession, Winding Pond Dr.

0857 - suicidal person, Lake Villa Dr.

1313 - parking complaint, Jackson St.

1413 - mental subject, Rawsonville Rd.

1532 - animal complaint, Belleville Rd.

1614 – intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.

 $1802-juvenile\ complaint,\ Quirk\ Rd.$ 

1940 – neighbor trouble, Rose Blvd.

1839 - assist other dept., Belleville Rd.

1642 - intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.

1710 - fraud, Westlake Cir.

2208 - disorderly, Beck Rd.

2310 - property check, Dover Ct.

0053 - assist other dept., Maple Dr.

fronwood Dr.

Wednesday, Oct. 4:

1617 - harassment call, Greenwood Ct.

1423 - property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse

1558 - assist other dept., Van Born/Briarwood Dr.

1844 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

2001 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

2045 - traffic offense, Harmony Ln./Richman Dr.

2252 - noise complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1123 - harassment call, Sylvia Dr.

1516 - threat, Riggs Rd.

1602 - harassment call, Haggerty Rd.

1536 - motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd.

accident, Rawsonville Rd.

Monday, Oct. 2:

Parkwood Dr.

Belleville Rd.

1834 – property check, Belleville Rd.

1837 – sexual assault, Brookview Dr.

1330 - civil matter, McKinley St.

1350 - welfare check, Quirk Rd.

1206 - domestic, Brookside Dr.

0502 - intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.

## Belleville Area Independent/October 12, 2023

#### 0216 - repossession, S. Ponderosa Trl. **Van Buren Township** 0459 – assist other dept., Ecorse Rd.

0523 - vehicle lockout, Denton Rd.

0541 - noise complaint, Maple Dr.

0710 - property damage accident,

Belleville/Ecorse 0810 - malicious destruction of property, Haggerty

0832 - private property/property damage accident,

0851 - 911 welfare check, Hannan Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1013 - transport prisoner, S. Wayne Rd.

1036 - assist other dept., Menlo Park Dr.

1136 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd. 1138 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1143 - assault & battery, Ecorse Rd.

1151 - mental subject, Winchester St.

1156 - assist other dept., Rawsonville/Willis 1157 - warrant arrest, Oakland County

1207 - behavioral health run, Beck Rd.

1316 - property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

/ W. Huron River Dr. 1316 - malicious destruction of property, Village

1447 - vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.

1604 – vehicle lockout, Village Green Ln.

1716 - abandoned auto, Belleville Rd./Van Born

1814 - road hazard, Morton Taylor/Ecorse 1829 - 911 welfare check, Winchester St.

2102 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

2111 - civil matter, Woodbury Dr.

2122 - assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.

2343 – warrant arrest, Quirk Rd.

Thursday, Oct. 5:

0707 - malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0853 - issue gun permit, Tyler Rd.

1141 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.

1206 - traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1212 - sexual assault, Park Estates Dr. 1231 - intrusion alarm, Timberview Ct.

1247 - parking complaint, McBride Ave. 1314 - assist other dept., Denton Rd.

1341 - traffic offense, Belleville Rd./E. I-94

Belleville ramp

1426 - malicious destruction of property, Van

Born Rd.

1532 - property damage accident, W. I-94 Belleville Rd.

1546 - civil matter, Maude Ct.

1557 - intrusion alarm, Brookside Dr.

1612 - property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275

1614 – road hazard, W. I-94/Belleville Rd.

1658 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1658 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1703 - property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck Rd.

1727 - family trouble, Parkwood Dr.

1832 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1852 - property check, Belleville Rd.

2106 - welfare check, Rose Blvd.

2239 - domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.

#### Friday, Oct. 6:

0014 - noise complaint, Denton Rd.

0018 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. /

0147 - civil matter, Belleville Rd.

0555 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

0817 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

0851 - assist fire dept., S. Schooner Dr.

0923 - lost property/child, Belleville Rd.

0956 - parking complaint, Belleville Rd.

0956 - animal complaint, Ecorse/Morton Taylor

 $1008-leaving \ the \ scene \ property \ damage \ accident,$ Ecorse Rd.

1035 - breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.

1219 - welfare check, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell

1325 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville

1500 - property damage accident, Michigan/Beck

1518 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

1601 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Bemis 1613 - private property/property damage accident,

1642 - dumping complaint, Beck Rd.

1718 – assist other dept., Hanover Dr.

1753 – weapons violation, Belleville Rd.

1819 - domestic, Winchester St.

1825 - domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.

1829 - assault & battery, Haggerty Rd.

1928 - animal complaint, Ash Dr. 2055 – shooting, Brookview Dr.

2103 - assist other dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.

2255 - property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler

Saturday, Oct. 7:

0104 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van

0319 - property damage accident, S. I-275/Ecorse

0348 - intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.

0534 - assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.

0651 - weapons violation, Van Born Rd. 0703 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

0835 - missing person, Maple Dr.

0920 - private property/property damage accident, N. Prairiegrass Ct.

Sheldon Rd.

1005 - assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.

1545 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.

1633 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1808 - welfare check, Mida Dr.

1943 - 911 welfare check, Westlake Cir.

2105 - traffic offense, Belleville Rd. 2317 - shooting, McKinley St.

Also on this week's log are 71 traffic stops, with four of them being on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

# **Belleville Police Dispatch Log**

#### Sunday, Oct. 1: 1844 - civil matter, Loza Ln.

2034 - fireworks, Edison Ave./W. Columbia Ave.

2230 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Monday, Oct. 2:

1031 - traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave./Church 1055 - traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell Rd.

1103 - abandoned auto, Main St.

1321 - mental subject, Belle Villa Blvd. 1510 – assist fire dept., Owen St.

1548 - traffic stop, Fifth St./N. Liberty St.

1808 - traffic stop, Huron River Dr.

2116 - traffic stop, South St.

2144 - assist citizen, Sumpter/Belle Villa Blvd.

2343 - intrusion alarm, Main St.

Tuesday, Oct. 3:  $0258-traffic\ stop, South\ St.$ 

0941 - traffic stop, Savage/tracks 0952 - traffic offense, Savage/tracks

0956 - abandoned auto, S. Industrial Park Dr.

1000 - traffic stop, Savage Rd./Victorian Ln.

1141 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Church

1202 - trespassing, High St. 1219 – harassment call, E. Huron River Dr.

1330 - traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.

1339 - traffic stop, Village Park 1353 - traffic stop, Savage Rd.

1404 - traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.

1413 - parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.

1441 - traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave.

1643 - parking complaint, Edgemont/E. Huron

1656 - parking complaint, S. Liberty

1850 - welfare check, E. Columbia Ave.

2018 – traffic stop, Sumpter/Hull

2037 - traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 4:

## 1025 - property damage accident, High St./Edison

1736 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.

1955 - traffic offense, Main St./E. Columbia Ave.

2214 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hull Rd. Thursday, Oct. 5:

#### 0035 - intrusion alarm, Owen St.

0646 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.

0954 - welfare check, Main St.

2008 - mental subject, Carmell St.

Friday, Oct. 6: 0044 - intrusion alarm, Owen St.

0549 - traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr. 0614 - traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell

0724 - intrusion alarm, Henry St.

0805 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Edison

0845 - traffic stop, Tuscan Manor 0857 - traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave.

1031 - traffic stop, Main St./High St.

1148 - misc. complaint, Main St. 1401 - operating while intoxicated, Main/Third

1416 - property damage accident, Main St.

 $0256-assist\ other\ dept., W.\ Columbia\ Ave.$ 

0333 - assist other dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Pointe Dr./W. Huron River Dr.

1121 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance

1449 - missing person, E. Columbia Ave.

2311 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance Denton Rd.

# Police Dispatch Log

0736 - animal complaint, Creekside Dr.

1358 - suspicious circumstance, 49000 bl. Collyer

2106 - suspicious circumstance, Birch Dr.

2157 - welfare check, Knollwood Dr.

Monday, Oct. 2:

0425 - animal complaint, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.

0918 - 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.

0937 – civil matter, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Waltz Rd.

1759 - civil matter, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

0214 - family trouble, New Mexico St.

0638 - fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0925 - suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl.

1221 - suspicious circumstance, 50000 bl. Willis

1601 - civil matter, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.

1609 - assist other agency, Rawsonville Rd. /

1644 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.

1932 - follow-up investigation, Brookview Dr.

Wednesday, Oct. 4:

0239 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.

1038 - follow-up investigation, Creekside Dr.

1106 - carrying concealed weapon violation. Rawsonville Rd./Rustic Ln.

1716 - animal bite, Oregon St. 1810 - follow-up investigation, Arbor Ln.

Thursday, Oct. 5: 0328 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.

#### (Continued on page 23)

- 2143 9111 welfare check, W. Wabash Ave.
- Saturday, Oct. 7:

1434 - warrant arrest, Main St.

2100 - domestic, N. Aberdeen Ct.

- 0715 suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bay
- 0945 intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
- 1007 traffic stop, Savage Rd./Martinsville Rd.
- 1219 private property/property damage accident.
- Victorian Ln.
- 1824 harassment call, Loza Ln.
- 1841 harassment call, Main St.
- 2000 property damage accident, W. Columbia
- 2322 suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance.

There were 21 traffic stops on this week's log.

# **Sumpter Township**

0025 - alarm, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.

1152 - warrant arrest, E. Arizona/California

1548 - animal complaint, Country Club Blvd. 1909 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2217 - disorderly person, Magnolia Dr.

0723 - fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.

1015 - animal complaint, Sherwood Rd./Oakville

1458 - neighbor dispute, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd. 1541 – welfare check, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1605 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

0757 - 911 hangup, Hampshire Dr.

 $1010-follow-up\ investigation, Magnolia\ Dr.$ 1039 - larceny, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.

1530 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

Oakville Waltz Rd.

0853 - animal complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville

2102 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

1115 - damage to property, Magnolia Dr. 1156 - civil matter, 48000 bl. Wear Rd. 1419 - suspicious person, 24000 bl. Clark Rd.

1603 - fraud complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

1612 - animal complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2305 - suspicious person, Virginia St. Tuesday, Oct. 3:

0803 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 0828 - follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Willis

Martinsville Rd. 0951 - citizens assist, out of township

1259 - suspicious circumstance, 25000 bl. Sumpter

1626 - mental health call, Washington St.

1947 - assist other agency, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

1230 - suspicious vehicle, Sumpter Rd./Willis Rd.

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# **Police Dispatch Log**

(continued from page 22)

0432 - fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1616 - welfare check, Nevada St.

1938 - follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

0650 - welfare check, Elwell Rd./Bemis Rd.

th Annual

1314 - alarm, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1334 - civil matter, Tamarack Dr.

0606 - alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1116 – damage to property, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.

1144 – neighbor dispute, Utah Ct.

1801 - fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Weimer Dr.

1929 - fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.

2149 - fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow Dr.

2340 - fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

0021 - fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1057 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd. 1250 - follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Wear

1257 - death investigation, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.

# **Sumpter Township**

2033 - fire dept. assist, Delaware St. Saturday, Oct. 7:

0203 - noise complaint, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 0206 - disorderly person, Magnolia Dr.

2018 - fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Clark Rd.

1338 - animal bite, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1559 – assist other agency, Bemis/Savage 1610 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1518 - assist citizen, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd. 1557 - extra patrol/special unit, 47000 bl. Bemis

1652 - welfare check, Delaware St.

1855 - alarm, Timberlane Dr.

1815 - suspicious vehicle, Montana St.

0857 - found property, 42000 bl. Willow Rd. 1016 - welfare check, Texas St.

1432 - family trouble, Virginia St.

1723 - damage to property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1731 – suspicious circumstance, 49000 bl Sherwood Ct.

1828 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.

1943 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.

2012 - mental health call, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

2027 - disorderly person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

2112 - fraud complaint, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week's log are 129 patrol checks, 79 traffic stops, and nine misc, details.

# Ann Arbor lawfirm offers free wills to U.S. veterans for Veteran's Day

Stimpson & Associates P.C. announces the launch of its eighth-annual "Wills for Warriors" program in celebration of Veteran's Day. This initiative, running from Nov. 13-17, will provide local veterans with a Last Will and Testament at absolutely no cost.

The team at Stimpson & Associates said it holds a deep respect for veterans and their immense contributions. Many of the firm's employees have veterans in their own lives, and the team is determined to give back to those who have honorably served our country by offering them the invaluable gift of peace of mind through estate planning.

"This program is a testament to our commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of veterans," said David Stimpson, managing partner at Stimpson & Associates, P.C.

"We've had such great feedback from those who have taken advantage of this program, and we are very excited to offer it again this year. It's the least we can do to show our gratitude."

United States veterans who wish to participate in this initiative can schedule an appointment during the week of Nov. 13-17 at the Ann Arbor office (located at 230 Collingwood Dr., Suite 150), or the Tecumseh office (located at 108 W. Chicago Blvd).

To make an appointment or to find out more about this campaign, call (734) 707-9455 or visit <u>www.stimpsonlaw.com/</u> willsforwarriors .

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