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 • mail@bellevilleareaindependent.com

# NBELLEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

Vol. 28.41 Thursday, October 13, 2022

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



Photo courtesy of Mike Musser

This is this year's Belleville High School Homecoming Court. The king and queen will be crowned at the Homecoming football game on Friday during half time. The boys, from left, are Denard Harvard Jr., Brody Hill, George Smith II, Mylan Holley, Benjamin Galindez, and Drake Clemons. The girls, from left, are Layla Acosta, Adrianna Lane, Nila Hooper, Amira Abbasi, Dasha Igonin, Morgan Bennett, and Robyn Watts.

### Van Buren Twp.: No water/sewer rate increases again this yr.

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

For the second year in a row, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved Water and Sewer Rates with no increases for the coming fiscal year.

At its 12-minute meeting on Oct. 4 the board was told by Water and Sewer Department Director Kevin Lawrence that there will be zero increase for water or

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said this is the second year in a row. He said they haven't have a chance to go out and maintain the system because of COVID and trouble getting permits. If they can't spend the money for maintenance, they won't charge the people.

The meeting was not on YouTube and was not being streamed because a key piece of

electronic equipment went down and they have to wait for it to come, according to an explanation by Supervisor McNamara. He said the meeting was on zoom and so they will be able to put it on YouTube and elsewhere from that copy of the meeting once the equipment is fixed.

He asked everyone to use their "outdoor voices" since the microphones weren't working.

In other business at the Oct. 4 meeting, the board:

• Approved the department fee schedules as presented, effective Jan. 1. Deputy Supervisor Dan Selman said this is the first step in approval of the annual budget. He said the public hearing for the budget will probably be at the next meeting. Each department's 2023 projected revenues is based on these fee schedules, McNamara

said in a memo to the board. The six changes were listed in a board memo;

- Approved lumping the new county grant with the old grant for French Landing Park improvements in an updated Intergovernmental Agreement with Wayne County Parks, as recommended by Elizabeth Renaud, director of community services. The amendment increases the grant from \$64,277 to \$99,261. The agreement also includes the size, wording, and other specifications for a sign that identifies it as a Wayne County Parks grant project;
- Removed from the agenda the personal service agreement of Yousef Saleh for the Desktop Support in Information Technology position. McNamara said the agreement fell apart earlier that day which was supposed to be his first day on the job. McNamara said Saleh said he can't begin work until 10 o'clock every day because of family obligations. "We can't have that," McNamara said. Saleh is currently a student at Henry Ford College getting his degree in CIS-Cybersecurity. He has worked as an

intern at the City of Dearborn and gained

relevant experience for this new position. In his previous position he was the Level 1 Technical Support for 1,500-plus employees with 35 connected locations;

- Heard Clerk Leon Wright say October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. He pointed out he was wearing a pink shirt;
- Was advised that the Denton Road Bridge was closed by Wayne County because it was unsafe for travel;
- Was informed that township resident Barbara Carrico wrote a letter thanking Treasurer Sharry Budd and Community Service employee Beverly Porter for going above and beyond to assist her with getting a prescription delivered. Also, Police Officer Ryan Bidwell was thanked in a letter by a motorist stranded on the side of the road who said Officer Bidwell went the "VERY-EXTRA" mile to help them obtain a tow truck; and
- Heard Treasurer Budd make a motion for adjournment, with Trustee Don Boynton seconding. McNamara said the motion is non-debatable and the meeting was adjourned.

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

### Sample Ballot

#### **OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**General Election** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 Wayne County, Michigan

D. (1)	Charter Township of		
Partisan Section	Legislative	State Boards	Judicial
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	State Senator 4th District Vote for not more than 1	Governor of Wayne State University Vote for not more than 2  Judge of Circuit Cour 3rd Circuit Incumbent Position	
Democratic Party	Darrin Camilleri Democrat	Danielle Atkinson Democrat	Vote for not more than 15
Republican Party	Houston W. James Republican	Marilyn Kelly Democrat	Yvonna C. Abraham Judge of Circuit Court
Libertarian Party	( )	Christa Murphy	Eric W. Cholack
U.S. Taxpayers Party	Penyagantative in	Republican  Craig Wilsher	Judge of Circuit Court  Melissa Anne Cox
	Representative in State Legislature 31st District	Republican  Bruce Jaquays	Judge of Circuit Court  Susan A. Dabaja
Working Class Party		Libertarian  Marc Joseph Sosnowski	Judge of Circuit Court  Wanda A. Evans
Green Party 🔾	Vote for not more than 1	U.S. Taxpayers	Judge of Circuit Court
Natural Law Party	Reggie Miller Democrat	Susan Odgers Green	Patricia Susan Fresard Judge of Circuit Court
State	Dale Biniecki Republican	0	Sheila Gibson Manning Judge of Circuit Court
Governor and	0	0	Alexis A. Glendening Judge of Circuit Court
Lieutenant Governor	State Boards	County	Susan L. Hubbard
Vote for not more than 1  Gretchen Whitmer	Member of the	County Executive	Judge of Circuit Court  Muriel Diane Hughes
Garlin D. Gilchrist II	State Board of Education	Vote for not more than 1	Judge of Circuit Court  Kelly Ann Ramsey
Democrat	Vote for not more than 2	Wassa O France	Judge of Circuit Court
Tudor M. Dixon Shane Hernandez	Pamela Pugh Democrat	Warren C. Evans Democrat	Mark Slavens Judge of Circuit Court
Republican	Mitchell Robinson Democrat	Mark Ashley Price Republican	Martha M. Snow Judge of Circuit Court
Mary Buzuma	Tamara D. Carlone Republican	) 0	Brian R. Sullivan Judge of Circuit Court
Brian Ellison Libertarian	Linda Lee Tarver	Sheriff	Darnella Williams-Claybourne
Donna Brandenburg	Republican  Donna Gundle-Krieg	Partial Term Ending	Judge of Circuit Court
Mellissa Carone	Libertarian Bill Hall	12/31/2024 Vote for not more than 1	
U.S. Taxpayers	Libertarian	Raphael Washington	
Kevin Hogan Destiny Clayton Green	Ethan Hobson U.S. Taxpayers	Democrat	C
	Mary Anne Hering Working Class	Joseph H. LeBlanc Libertarian	C
Daryl M. Simpson Doug Dern Natural Law	0	John J. Tatar U.S. Taxpayers	C
	0	0	
0	Regent of the University of Michigan	County Commissioner 11th District	
Secretary of State	Vote for not more than 2 Mike Behm	Vote for not more than 1  A. Haidous	
Vote for not more than 1	Democrat  Kathy White	Democrat  Corey James Blue	
	Democrat C	Republican	<u></u>
Jocelyn Benson Democrat	Lena Epstein Republican	0	C
Kristina Elaine Karamo Republican	Sevag Vartanian Republican	Nonpartisan Section	
Gregory Scott Stempfle Libertarian	Eric Larson Libertarian	Judicial	C
Christine C. Schwartz	Joe Sanger	Justice of Supreme Court	
U.S. Taxpayers  arry James Hutchinson, Jr.	U.S. Taxpayers  Sherry A. Wells	Vote for not more than 2	
Green	Green Kathleen Oakford	More Hearle Balden	Judge of Circuit Court
0	Natural Law	Kyra Harris Bolden	3rd Circuit
Attorney General Vote for not more than 1	0	Paul Hudson 🔾	Incumbent Position
	0	Kerry Lee Morgan	Partial Term Ending 01/01/2027
Dana Nessel Democrat	Trustee of	Brian Zahra Justice of Supreme Court	Vote for not more than 1
Matthew DePerno Republican	Michigan State University Vote for not more than 2	Richard Bernstein Justice of Supreme Court	Christopher M. Blount Judge of Circuit Court
Joseph W. McHugh, Jr.	Dennis Denno	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	Congress of Green Count
Gerald T. Van Sickle	Renee Knake Jefferson		
U.S. Taxpayers	Democrat Mike Balow		
0	Republican	Judge of Court of Appeals 1st District	
Congressional	Travis Menge Republican	Incumbent Position	
Representative in	Claranna Gelineau Libertarian	Vote for not more than 2	

Max Riekse Libertarian

Sumpter Twp.

**Ballot Only** 

Sumpter Township

Treasurer
Partial Term Ending

11/20/24

Sheena Barnes, Democrat Bart Patterson, Republican 0

udge of Court of Appeals

1st District Incumbent Position

Partial Term Ending 01/01/2027

Vote for not more than 1

Noah P. Hood Judge of Court of Appeals

Vote for not more than 1

0

Nonpartisan Section	Library Board	State	Local School District
Continued	Board Member Belleville Area District	Proposal 22-2 A proposal to amend	Van Buren Public Schools Sinking Fund
Judicial	Library Vote for not more than 4	the state constitution	Millage Proposal Shall the limitation on the amount of
Judge of Circuit Court	Vote for not more than 4	to add provisions	taxes which may be assessed against
3rd Circuit Non-Incumbent Position	Daniel R. Fleming	regarding elections	all property in Van Buren Public
Vote for not more than 5	Sharon C. Peters	This proposed constitutional	Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, be increased by
Nicholas John Hathaway	Linda Priest	amendment would:  Recognize fundamental right to	and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 1.75
Anne Marie McCarthy	Tanya Stoudemire-Phillips	vote without harassing conduct; Require military or overseas	mills (\$1.75 on each \$1,000 of taxable
Regina Triplett		<ul> <li>Require military or overseas ballots be counted if postmarked</li> </ul>	valuation) for a period of 6 years, 2023 to 2028, inclusive, to create a sinking
• • • •	0	by election day;	fund for the purchase of real estate for
Charise Anderson	0	<ul> <li>Provide voter right to verify identity with photo ID or signed</li> </ul>	sites for, and the construction or repair of, school buildings, for school security
LaKena Tennille Crespo	0	statement; Provide voter right to single	improvements, for the acquisition or
John C. Gillis	0	application to vote absentee in all	upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the
	Proposal Section	elections;	estimate of the revenue the school
	State	Require state-funded absentee-ballot drop boxes, and	district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2023 is
0	Proposal 22-1	postage for absentee applications and ballots;	approximately \$3,378,578?
0	A proposal to amend the	<ul> <li>Provide that only election officials</li> </ul>	Yes 🔾
0	state constitution to require annual public	may conduct post-election audits;	No O
Judge of Circuit Court	financial disclosure	Require nine days of early	
3rd Circuit	reports by legislators and	in-person voting;  • Allow donations to fund	
New Judgeship	other state officers and change state legislator	elections, which must be disclosed;	City of Belleville
6 Year Term Vote for not more than 1	term limit to 12 total years	Require canvass boards certify	Ballot Only
	in legislature	election results based only on the official records of votes cast.	
Kiefer Joseph Cox	This proposed constitutional	Should this proposal be adopted?	Proposed Amendment to
0	<ul> <li>amendment would:</li> <li>Require members of legislature,</li> </ul>	Siloula tilis proposal de adopteu :	the Charter of the City of
Judge of Probate Court	governor, lieutenant governor,	Yes O	Belleville by adding
Incumbent Position	secretary of state, and attorney general file annual public	No O	Section 19.16 and repealing Sections 19.3-19.5
Vote for not more than 1  Lawrence Joseph Paolucci	financial disclosure reports after		regarding marihuana
Judge of Probate Court	2023, including assets, liabilities, income sources, future	Proposal 22-3	
0	employment agreements, gifts,	A proposal to amend the state constitution to	The proposed amendment would, among other things:
Judge of Probate Court	travel reimbursements, and positions held in organizations	establish new individual	Add a section 19.16 allowing for
Non-Incumbent Position Vote for not more than 1	except religious, social, and	right to reproductive freedom, including right to	up to two (2) marihuana retailers, one (1) marihuana processor, five (5) class
Michael James McClory	political organizations.     Require legislature implement	make all decisions about	C marihuana growers, two (2) medical
0	but not limit or restrict reporting	pregnancy and abortion;	marihuana provisioning centers and two (2) designated consumption
Judge of District Court	requirements.  Replace current term limits for	allow state to regulate abortion in some cases;	marihuana establishments in the City; • Repeal sections 19.3-19.5 of the
Judge of District Court 34th District	state representatives and state	and forbid prosecution of	Charter and authorize the city to
Incumbent Position	senators with a 12-year total limit in any combination between	individuals exercising established right	enact related police power and zoning
Vote for not more than 1	house and senate, except a		regulations, except those that are unduly burdensome or unreasonably
Brian A. Oakley Judge of District Court	may be elected the number of	This proposed constitutional amendment would:	impracticable or that conflict with the
0	times allowed when that person became a candidate.	Establish new individual right to	Charter; and • Repeal any city ordinances or
Local School District	Should this proposal be adopted?	reproductive freedom, including right to make and carry out all	regulations that conflict with this
Board Member	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	decisions about pregnancy, such	Charter.
Van Buren Public	Yes 🔾	as prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, contraception,	Shall the City Charter be so amended?
School District Vote for not more than 3	No O	sterilization, abortion,	Yes 🔾
Andrew W. Frazier	0	miscarriage management, and infertility;	No 🔾
Darlene Loyer Gerick	-	<ul> <li>Allow state to regulate abortion after fetal viability, but not</li> </ul>	
	-	prohibit if medically needed to	
Terrance Goff		protect a patient's life or physical or mental health;	
Calvin H. Hawkins, Jr.		Forbid state discrimination in	
Amy T. Pearce		enforcement of this right; prohibit prosecution of an individual, or a	
0		person helping a pregnant	
0		individual, for exercising rights established by this amendment;	
0		<ul> <li>Invalidate state laws conflicting with this amendment.</li> </ul>	
		Should this proposal be adopted?	
		Yes	
		No O	

# General **★** November 8 ★

### Be sure to vote November 8

Belleville Area Independent/October 13, 2022

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

<u>Editorial</u>

### **Closing of Denton** Road Bridge is a big deal in town

The sudden closing of the Denton Road Bridge on Oct. 3 was a big shock to many, especially drivers who usually get in the right lane after driving over the Belleville Bridge for a quick way home.

One local volunteer said it took her a couple of minutes to get downtown from her North Shore Drive home and now she has to drive to the I-94 Service Drive and around to get into Belleville. She is really

The roadway into Belleville is narrowed from two lanes on the Belleville Bridge into one lane to head into the city and at 5 o'clock on a weekday that makes a big mess and some road rage sets in. People have ideas on how to deal with the traffic. We think one of the best ideas was to open up the parking lane in front of DiPietro & Day, Paddle Belleville, and the Masonic Temple. No-parking signs there would help in a big way. The traffic could head up in that right lane to High Street for a turn, while other vehicles can head into downtown on the left.

That would work faster than waiting for the county to adjust the traffic lights to make them longer or to put in a left-turn lane for N. Liberty Street.

And, some suggest letting us walk over the bridge to get to the cemetery or for the daily constitutionals so many take there.

We're going to have to deal with the closed bridge one way or another. Fireworks from a barge instead of the bridge?

### **EXTRA THINGS I KNOW**

Belleville Kiwanis Club members said they found a children's book, "A Big Night in Booville," at a Dollar Tree store. Karen Mida said they went to a number of Dollar Tree stores and bought all they could and then gave the book away to children during Saturday's Harvest Fest activities. Harvest Fest was held in Booville (Belleville in October) as you all know.

Last week when we were delivering papers we were delighted to find that the strip of Rawsonville Road from Judd Road at the south, almost to the Augusta Woods entry at the north was beautifully asphalted and striped. They just needed to put some leftturn arrows at Willis Road.

Washtenaw County is responsible for Rawsonville Road and we thank them for the nice smooth roadways. Washtenaw also had repaved Willis Road into the community of Willis not long ago.

On Saturday we heard the story of a friendly rooster who recently moved to Dewitt Street, north of the North I-94 Service Drive. He came up to people's front doors and into their yards and even went over to see some tree contractors who were trimming trees along the service drive.

When he walked into the middle of the tree trimmers, they scattered, according to a witness. Then, the rooster jumped into the cab of the tree trimmer truck.

Neighbors started to go door to door to find out where that rooster lived. We're told they found a new neighbor who had brought chickens and the rooster along with him. He has since given them to somebody else at a more rural location.

The neighbors kind of miss that rooster, although some have pictures of the handsome guy on their cell phones.

There is a lot of road rage, beeping of horns, and waving of arms in the traffic coming south on Belleville Road/Main Street in Belleville since the Denton Road Bridge was closed.

A driver said on Friday she waited 20 minutes to get through the Belleville Bridge heading south with traffic backed up to Maria's liquor store at the curve. She had taken her dogs to Van Buren Park for exercise and was trying to get home.

She suggested that a flashing left-turn light be put in place on southbound Belleville Road/Main Street so people could turn onto N. Liberty and the other light be turned off or the timing made longer. She said only five cars can get through that light now, one at a time, and one car can turn onto Liberty.

She thinks, maybe, the drivers get off I-94, which has fast traffic, and then get upset when they are mired in the slow-moving traffic into Belleville.

She said she had experience with local drivers not pulling over for fire trucks heading north through Five Points coming from the Hull Road station. They were listening to loud music with the windows rolled up, talking on cell phones, watching stuff on the internet, and even eating a Big

She said she is the mother of two fire

fighters so she is especially aware of what the fire department is doing and how vehicles need to stop to let them get through.

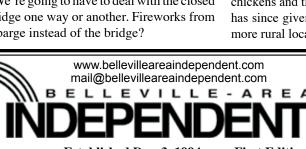
Maybe someone will get a good idea from our readers to help ease the traffic through the city during the time the Denton Road Bridge is closed.

She thought about taking some pictures of the traffic, but then thought again. She doesn't want to get shot.

Brad Traskos said there were 34 tractors that took part in the parade on Saturday and next year he's sure there will be more. He said that after the tractors left

his home on Harris Road and headed north on Sumpter Road, a few were waiting at Bemis Road to join in. He said when they got to Hull Road, at the fire hall, there were people along the roadway in chairs waiting for the tractor parade. He said when they got onto Main Street he was surprised at how many people there were waiting to see them.

Brad said the trip up Main to N. Liberty and then south to E. Huron River Drive was good, but once they got on E. Huron River Drive heading for Haggerty, it was hairraising because of the crazy drivers who passed them and cut into the parade to avoid head-on collisions. Same on Haggerty. He's considering heading north on Elwell Road next year.



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Established Dec. 3, 1994

First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

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

**Editor:** Rosemary K. Otzman Home phone (NO ADS, PLEASE!): 697-1294

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych **Sports Editor:** Bob Mytych Bookkeeper: James Otzman

**Production Manager:** James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard **Editorial Cartoonist:** Bob Mytych

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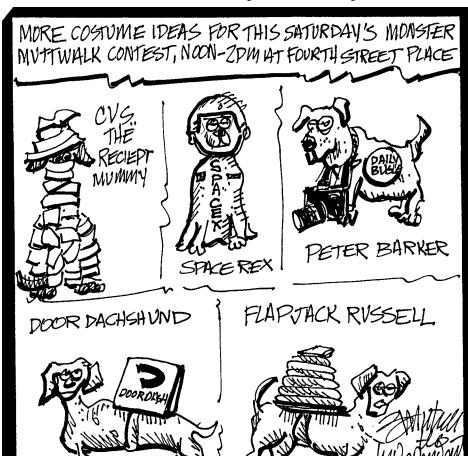
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#### Page 5

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### Letters

### Could bridge be used by pedestrians, golf carts?

To the editor:

Would it be possible to open the Denton Road Bridge just to accommodate pedestrians, bicycles, and maybe even golf carts now that they're being used more? As it stands now that project could take two or three years or more to complete.

I understand weight restrictions -- no cars, trucks, buses and so on -- but while no work is being done why can't the bridge be used to some degree by locals who might want to walk or bicycle to town?

Just wondering.

Jim Graham Belleville

### Thank you to police escorts for parade

To the editor:

Many thank you's go out to the Sumpter Police Department and the City of Belleville Police Department for the escort of our Tractor Parade. These police departments kept the parade safe from traffic.

To Chief Luke and Chief Robinson, thank you for your support.

**Brad Traskos** Sumpter Township

### We're offering \$5 haircuts all day Oct. 25

To the editor and Belleville Community:

On behalf of everyone here at the Hair Station on Main Street, I'd like to say thank you for supporting us for the past year. In a business world that has plentiful options with barbershops and salons nearly everywhere, you chose us and we're grateful.

We value you more than just someone that sits in our chair. While here, you'll feel welcome and receive the best professional service in our industry, with a goal of 100%

To celebrate our first-year anniversary, we're offering \$5 haircuts all day on Oct. 25, from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. While here, ask about our fall specials on hair color, nails, and other salon services. We can't wait to see old friends and make new ones.

# 2 Chronicles 7:14

Your wonderful salon experience awaits.

Diane Sloan The Hair Station Belleville

### **Sumpter Twp. residents:** Don't be fooled

To the editor:

#### DON'T BE FOOLED

Sumpter Township residents, don't be fooled, by my opponent Bart Patterson. Mr. Patterson, a Sumpter Township resident who is the Republican Candidate for Treasurer, that stands for WHO and

Don't be fooled, clearly residents can see on his campaign mail outs if you received one, it will show Bart Patterson endorsements where all of Sumpter Township board members, except for one Peggy Morgan.

Bart Pattterson, who also was appointed by this board in 2020 for the Planning This O.S.C.S. Commission seat. Administration is very clever, they all work together when it comes to keeping their club members close.

In 2020 Treasurer Vincent Warren lost the election for treasurer to Jim Clark who later died. Warren was then appointed treasurer. And, later lost again in the 2022 Primary Election.

Do we need another O.S.C.S, Orchestrated Scripted Club System, club member on

At a recent board meeting Bart Pattterson introduced himself as a Republican candidate for treasurer. That statement wasn't unusual, but what was unusual is when he stated that he didn't really want to run for office, only because this board asked him to.

He said, I told myself that I would never run again, but only because the board asked. He also made a statement to the board that he was not running to make ANY changes, Hmmm. Now that sounds like a BIG PROBLEM. Bart Patterson is satisfied with the way things are. This does not sound like he is the best candidate for treasurer for the people of Sumpter Township, for either side of the fence. He appears to be another chip off the same old blocks.

Mr. Patterson can't see that our township is under an umbrella of stressing with no growth and being squeezed, with BIG unhinged money overspending with no bids etc.?

This administration has shown residents on both sides of the fence, Republicans and Democrats, that they don't care about us. And as a concerned citizen, I would not trust any candidates that they endorse for any changes or growth for our stifling community. This board has no shame in the games they play. Residents, did you know that appointed Treasurer Vincent Warren, has NEVER given a TREASURER REPORT at public meetings. Why? What is most troubling is that there is no listing

(continued on page 6)

Page 6 October 13, 2022

Belleville Area Independent

### **More Letters**

(continued from page 5)

in the board packet for a treasurer's report. An executive board member duties, why would this not be implemented and recorded to the public, such an important position as to money coming in and money going out.

Robert's Rules of Order does not apply when it comes to the money, taking BIDS or BIG raises. We have policies of order that are not being executed.

This administration never speaks out about plans on new infrastructure changes with our taxpayers' dollars. There's no place in Sumpter where this board has or can say we have or we need a New Community Center for young and elderly or a New Police Department or maybe plans to build a New Township Hall in 2024.

Just recently in August this board spent over \$177 thousand dollars on a fencing removal taking higher bid vs. lower, another \$144 thousand dollars plus on Subfield and Bathrooms in our old township building, without taking bids! or to try to save money. It could have been, conversation or plans to put up new infrastructure for our Town Hall and save us money down the road. And if I might add another \$ 67 thousand dollars on upgrades for video recording equipment that we really don't need, plus a separate service fee of \$15 thousand dollars. Board approved Sept. 27, 2022 without taking any bids or trying to save any tax dollars.

Something is wrong with this picture when you see how they spend our money and who they spend it on, or surely it is not being spent on the community. Residents, if you could do the math on how much money has been spent in the last 90 days!

It's disturbing to watch this happen over and over again, especially when the residents of Sumpter came together and VOTED OUT the last administration in 2020. Because of unnecessary spending of residents' tax dollars etc., it just appears to look like this board agenda is not focused on our community or following the rules of order, but a need for higher expensive administration costs on staff for this little small town and with nothing to show.

There are no changes, things are right back! Rehiring old staff back, it's worse than it's ever been for the residents and some employees.

We the people have many things in common, on both sides of the fence. We pay our taxes, we want a healthy lifestyle and be able to provide food and shelter and have access to availability for family development etc. in our own community.

The list goes on as to what we need now and for the future. I believe together we can make changes and invest in Sumpter Township for a better community for all of us. Sumpter residents, we may not be able to change Wall Street and the White House.

(continued on page 8)



IMPORT AND DOMESTIC



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### **Obituaries**





Joseph Elmer Skolnik

#### JOSEPH ELMER SKOLNIK

(October 31, 1942 - October 7, 2022)

Joseph Elmer Skolnik, age 79, resident of Van Buren Township for 40 years, passed away on October 7, 2022, at his home. He was born on October 31, 1942, in Flint, Michigan to William John Skolnik and Rolene (Hinckley) Skolnik.

Joseph attended Cody High School and proudly served our country in the U.S. Army. He attended St. Anthony Catholic Church for many years. Joseph was retired but had various interests, which included many musical instruments. He also loved his dogs. Most of all Joseph loved his family, he was a proud family man and was always very optimistic in life.

Joseph is survived by his children, John (Cynthia) Weipert of Van Buren Township, MI, Pamela (Dave) Parmelee of Taylor, MI, Ann (Dexter) Craiger of Ypsilanti, MI; his nephew Eric William (Sarah) Skolnick of Swartz Creek, MI; his niece, Robin Skolnick of Highland, MI; his grandchildren Nicholas (Genevieve) Polifroni of Portland, Maine, Christopher Yonge of Van Buren Township, MI, Zachary (Brittany) Polifroni of Terre Haute, Indiana, Mary Polifroni of Britton, MI, Timothy (Anne) Parmelee of Granger, Indiana, Anthony (Laura) Parmelee of Ypsilanti, MI, Shannon (Steve) Ozienski of Saline, MI, Jason Craiger of Ypsilanti, MI, and Beth (Danny) Combs of Belleville, MI; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and special friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Mary Frances in 2005, and his brother

A visitation and service for Joseph were held Tuesday, October 11, 2022, from 4-8 p.m. at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11 a.m., with Fr. Bryan Shackett officiating. There was a luncheon prepared at St. Anthony Church following the mass. Burial took place at 3 p.m. at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens, 17840 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia, MI.



William Andrew Stevens

#### WILLIAM ANDREW STEVENS, SR.

(March 15, 1935 – October 6, 2022)

William Andrew Stevens, Sr., age 87, of Sumpter Township, passed away peacefully at his home on October 6, 2022. Beloved husband of the late Loretha Stevens. Loving father of Carol (Ron) Lange, Billy (Tammy) Stevens. Michael Stevens, and Barbara (Leslie) West. Dearest grandfather and great-grandfather to many loving grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. He is survived by his loving sisters. He is preceded in death by his daughter Donna Laurell, grandson Michael Anthony Collins, and parents Walter and Linnie Stevens. and several siblings. William was a longtime member of the Belleville Freewill Baptist Church. Arrangements by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home.

#### **LINDA MARIE HARGROVE**

Age 80, of Willis. Survived by sons Rick and Michael Nation; brother Ronald Henson; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

### **Positive COVID tests** total 10,942 for residents in 48111 zip code

The Wayne County Health Department announced that as of Monday, Oct. 10. positive COVID test results have totaled 10,942 for the population in the 48111 zip code. That number had been 10,867 on Monday, Sept. 26.

The number of deaths from COVID in the 48111 area grew to 144, up two since

On Monday, Oct. 10, the separate case totals released by the Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 7,582 positive cases and 95 deaths; City of Belleville, 1,179 positive cases and 16 deaths; and Sumpter Township 2,181 positive cases and 33 deaths.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Thursday, Oct. 13 Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 17 Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 18 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. workshop, 6 p.m. regular meeting
- Wednesday, Oct. 19 Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 24 Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
- Tuesday, Oct. 25 Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township board meeting, 6 p.m.

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#### Belleville Area Independent/October 13, 2022

### Minding **Your Business** with Bob Mytych



This Saturday, Oct. 15, Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue and the Belleville Central Business Community will present the seventh-annual Costumed Monster Mutt Walk getting under way at noon at Fourth Street Place with medals awarded in four categories: Scariest, Cutest, Best Mutt, and Family (family must also be in costume). The cost is \$10 plus one can of dog or cat food (bring with you). You can register in person, or in advance by calling Janet Millard of the Belleville CBC at (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m., or by email at <u>ifayemillard@att.net</u>, or on the website at www.bellevillecentralbusinesscommunity. The walk will take place on city sidewalks. See their ad in today's paper.

The Independent welcomes T-Rex Arms, LLC, a 50-yard indoor gun range, to our advertising pages. Manager Nikki Paluch and certified staff offer new and used gun sales and is a buyer of used firearms. T-Rex Arms will take care of firearm transfers, gunsmithing services, cleaning, and more. See their ad in today's paper and scan the VR Code to get to their website where you'll find details on services and the many classes they offer. Visit www. trexarmsbelleville.com and call (734) 325-7898. They're located at 44800 N. I-94

### **More Letters**

(continued from page 5)

But together we can change Sumpter Township.

Please, residents, don't be fooled by the township's board endorsements given to opponent Bart Patterson. Experiencing the same outcome, like we voted together in this last election and expected a change.

Let me be a part of the movement and the steps for changes for Sumpter Township Treasurer and follow the money TRAIL and be your EARS your VOICE and

I am your best candidate for Sumpter Township Treasurer.

Making a Difference,

Please help me help you, vote Nov. 8 Sheena Barnes for Treasurer

Sumpter Township

Service Drive.

Trunk of Treasures, a drive-in and set-up your very own mini rummage sale at your vehicle, is this Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration starts at 8 a.m. on the grounds at Belleville Presbyterian Church on Belleville Road. The cost is \$25 per parking space. Tables are allowed and vendors welcome.

The Hair Station on Main Street and owner Diane Sloan are celebrating their one-year business anniversary by offering \$5 haircuts on Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. It's a way to say thanks to the community for supporting local business. See their business card ad in today's paper for details, including their \$10 haircut when you mention their business card ad. Call (734) 796-4795.

I learned that the artists behind the painted mini pumpkins in some of the flower pots

### **More Letters**

### Why are customers paying more for less?

Has anyone else noticed --

Store-purchased sliced bread: Much thinner slices, questionable ingredients;

Store-purchased cottage cheese: Much thinner, watery;

Store-purchase stationery: Envelopes shorter in width

WHY are we customers/consumers paying MORE while receiving LESS?

A long-time resident/customer of local Belleville businesses Thank you.

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around town belong to Maxie Jo Haase and a few others from the Van Buren Township Senior Center. Cool. I still have to check out all of the decorated scarecrows downtown and watch for more painted pumpkins.

The Belleville Tigers football team improved to 7-0 this season with a 49-10 victory at Livonia Stevenson on Oct. 7. This week is Homecoming week, as the Tigers will host another undefeated team- Livonia Franklin, (7-0) on Friday, beginning at 7 p.m. Go, Tigers!

This Saturday is Harvest Festival at Crosswinds Marsh on Haggerty Road in Sumpter. The free event runs from 1 to 3 p.m. with family activities including storytelling, puppet meet-and-greets, games, a costume parade, campfire, and

hayrides along a forested trail.

This weekend also marks the 13th-annual Community Art Show at the BYC on East

### BHS at-home games

- Thursday, Oct. 13: Varsity Volleyball hosting a Quad at 4 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 14: Varsity Football vs. Livonia Franklin (Homecoming), 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 18: Freshman Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 5 p.m.; JV Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 5 p.m.; Varsity Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 20: Freshman Football vs. KLAA Crossover, 4:30 p.m.; JV Football vs. KLAA Crossover, 6:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Swim & Dive vs. Livonia Stevenson (senior player night), 6:30 p.m.

Diane Kiessel Belleville High School Athletic Secretary

Huron River Drive. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts sponsors the event that starts Friday with a reception from 7 to 9 p.m. Winners are to be announced at 7:30 p.m. Saturday public viewing is 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020.

### OCTOBER EVENTS

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THE TYRONE SHOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH @ 6PM

THE SMOKEY GREY BAND SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND @ 7PM

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### Gov. Whitmer announces \$236.6 M for EV battery plant in VBT

On Oct. 5, Governor Gretchen Whitmer joined the Michigan Economic Development Corporation in announcing \$236.6 million in Michigan Strategic Fund incentives to support a new \$1.6 billion electric vehicle battery gigafactory in Van Buren Township.

The Our Next Energy, Inc. plant, which is expected to bring 2,112 jobs, is planned for 42060 Ecorse Rd., west of Haggerty Road. It would have a capacity of 20 GWh, start with 20,000 units in 2024 and produce 200,000 units per year by 2027. It will serve as a new model for a battery plant

### TRUNK OF TREASURES **SATURDAY** October 15, 2022 9am till 3pm

**BELLEVILLE** PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 11900 Belleville Road Belleville, MI 48111

Cost: \$25 per car

Parking will be on Church grounds on Belleville Road. Registration begins at 8am. October 15.

Bring your car, or even a popup, filled with treasurers and a table. Vendors are Welcome.

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anchored by a localized supply chain, said ONE CEO Mujeeb Ijaz.

ONE is expected to get the keys to its new 659,589-square-foot facility, named ONE Circle, in January from Ashley Capital, which built the spec development and entered into a multi-year lease with the

The average hourly wage at the plant will be \$35 in year six, above the local living wage target of \$22.57, according to state officials. ONE plans to work with Focus:HOPE to develop a program that will provide skills-based training to employees.

ONE is a Novi-based battery storage company, founded in 2020, that in an effort to move away from nickel and cobalt, plans to use U.S. supply chain strategies on iron, lithium, iron phosphate, and graphite for low-cost battery chemistries for consumer and commercial electric vehicles.

Ijaz said the different chemistry allows for longer drive time, reduces fire risk, and eliminates dependence on materials such as cobalt and nickel, which are in short supply and controlled by foreign countries, such as China.

The facility will be one of the few wholly US-owned manufacturers of both LFP and anode-free cells. The new factory is expected to achieve a 45% reduction in carbon emissions by 2028 through a circular manufacturing approach, in partnership with DTE Energy, 6K Energy, and a leading North American battery recycler.

DTE Energy operates a new 100-megawatt power station across Ecorse Road from the future plant. Under a "gigafactory-to-grid" model, the utility will purchase the energy storage of finished batteries in the plant, which will be held back from delivery to automotive customers for a 30-day qualityassurance period, Ijaz said.

To support ONE's \$1.6 billion investment, the Michigan Strategic Fund approved:

A \$200 million Critical Industry

Program performance-based grant through the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve ("SOAR") Fund;

- A \$15 million Jobs for Michigan Investment Fund Loan: and
- · State Essential Services Assessment Exemption valued at \$21.6 million.

Michigan was chosen for the project over competing sites in the U.S. and Canada.

"We are excited to have a site that is being considered for this transformative clean energy manufacturing project," said Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara in a press release from the state. "We are well-positioned in a region that is widely known as the birthplace of automotive innovation. Our talented residents, our proximity to the Willow Run and Detroit Metropolitan Airports, and our strong community amenities make Van Buren Township a terrific place to do this kind of business."

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Court Watching:

### 18-year-old Westland male arraigned for running over female

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Arion Joseph Ely-Dawson, 18, of Westland was arraigned by 34th District Court Magistrate Al Hindman by video from the Van Buren Township police lockup on Oct. 5 on two charges surrounding the alleged vehicular assault on a female on Oct. 3 in Van Buren Township.

He was charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and failure to stop at a personal injury accident. His bond was set at \$25,000/10% and he is to have no contact with the victim and wear a GPS tether if released.

His probable cause conference was set for Oct. 12 before Judge Lisa Martin.

#### **Deon Deshawn Taylor**

Deon Deshawn Taylor, 28, of Inkster and previously of Sumpter Township, was present via video from the Wayne County Jail for his arraignment/probable cause conference on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon on Nov. 9, 2021 in

(continued on page 11)





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Absentee Ballots are now available and must be returned by 8 p.m. Nov. 8th. We encourage you to vote early and drop your ballot off in your Election Drop Box and track your ballot at

> \*\*Don to forget to vote the non-partisan part of your ballot!!! Paid for by Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, P O Box 1182, Belleville, MI

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Page 11





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### Court watching

(continued from page 10)

Sumpter Township. Judge Martin said Sumpter police asked for a \$6,000/10% bond, but his defense attorney Kristina Joseph said her client has medical problems and no way to post bond. Prosecutor Jane Gillis said he possibly is eligible for a misdemeanor charge. Judge Martin set personal bond at \$5,000 and adjourned his probable cause conference until April 6. Defense attorney Joseph said her client has taken care of all the warrants that had been out for him.

On April 6 he was scheduled for his probable cause conference on April 20, then adjourned until May 11. The probable cause conference was set for May 25.

On May 25, Judge Green approved a plea agreement that reduced the charge to obtaining a pistol without a license. He was sentenced to six months of non-reporting probation, forfeiture of the weapon, and a fine of \$545. After six months, there are no further problems, the charge will be dismissed.

### **Teondra Denise Davis**

Teondra Denise Davis of Van Buren Township was set for a March 23 remote



pretrial on a charge of assault or assault and battery on March 3 in Van Buren Township. She asked for a jury trial and her request was put in the pile of state files waiting for jury trial dates. The case was scheduled for review on Dec. 28. Her \$5,000 personal bond stipulates she must not enter specified premises at an Archwood apartment.

On June 26, the case was removed from the jury calendar and a final pretrial set for Aug. 3, but she failed to appear. A bench warrant was issued for her arrest on Aug.

### **April Marie Tucker**

April Marie Tucker, 42, of Ypsilanti and previously Sumpter Township, was set for her probable cause conference on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon on Dec. 4, 2020 in Van Buren Township. The probable cause conference was adjourned until April 6 so the defense attorney could get discovery. The post office said the notice to appear that was mailed was not able to be delivered. On May 5 a warrant for her arrest was entered into LEIN.

#### Jacob Bo McWhirter

Jacob Bo McWhirter of Van Buren township was charged with domestic violence on May 13, 2020 in Van Buren Township. He failed to appear for an Oct. 27, 2020 court date and a warrant signed for his arrest. He emailed the court for a new court date on Feb. 25, 2022 and he was scheduled for an April 13 pre-trial. On April 13, the case was dismissed on a motion of the defendant. Case closed.

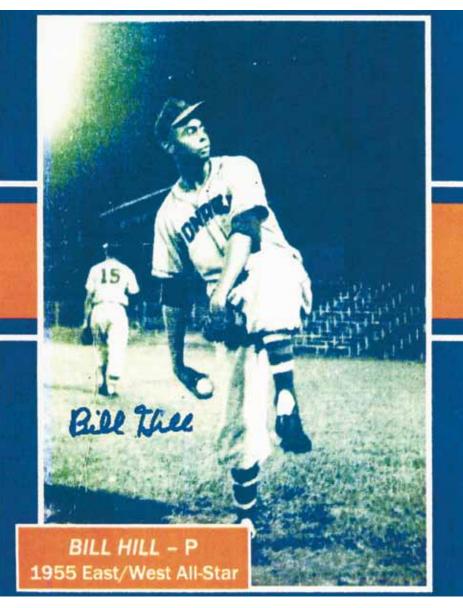
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Belleville Area Independent/October 13, 2022





William "Bill" Hill, now of Sumpter Township, had a career as an acclaimed professional baseball player. He pitched for the Negro League and signed with the Kansas City Monarchs in 1955. Bill Hill was Rookie of the Year in 1955. He also played in the East-West All Star games. In 1956 he signed with the Philadelphia Phillies' minor league club and was on his way to the majors when he hurt his arm.

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Photo courtesy of Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce McNamara, and Sumpter Township Manager Anthony Burdick. The event was held at Angel Food Catering in Van Buren Township.

Speaking at the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce's "State of the Community" event on Oct. 5 were, from left, Belleville City Manager/Police Chief David Robinson, Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak, Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin



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Five generations posed for a picture from the Alward/Hollen family. From left is grandmother Donna of Van Buren Township, great-great grandson Lennon, great-grandaughter Ciara, granddaughter La Donna, and daughter Lindie.



Five generations of the Alward/Hollen family pose for a photo with other members than were in the first picture. From left is great-great-grandson Wesley, great-granddaughter Raylynn, granddaughter LaDonna, daughter Lindie, and grandmother Donna of Van Buren Township.



Independent photo by Robert Mytych

A favorite activity for children at Belleville's Harvest Fest is the Nickle Dig, where children in age groups dig into the straw to find coins. The Nickle Dig is annually led by former Mayor Tom Fielder, who also is president of the Historical Society.



### Costumed MONSTER MUTTWALK

Saturday, October 15, 2022 12 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

The Belleville Central Business Community is partnering with Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue to host the

7th Annual Costumed Monster Mutt Walk.

The Walk will take place on city sidewalks starting from 4th Street Place. Registration will run from 12 Noon to 12:30 p.m. on 4th Street Place. The fee is \$10 plus a can of dog or cat food.

Advance registration is encouraged.

Medals will be awarded to 1st 2nd and 3rd in three categories: Scariest, Cutest and Best Mutt plus 1st Place Family (family must dress also)

In fact, it would be fun for everyone to wear a costume. Come and enjoy the annual BOOville dog walk!!

Applications are available by calling (734)558-5368 after 3:30 p.m. online at www.bellevillecentralbusinesscommunity.com or email: jfayemillard@att.net

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Rotary Club of Belleville

Road and then Main Street in the city of Belleville. Thirty-four tractors of all ages took part, under the direction of retired Van Buren Township Fire Chief Brad Traskos. The tractors rolled up Main Street to N. Liberty Street and south to E. Huron River Drive, east to Haggerty Road and then south to Harris Road in Sumpter Township, where they had begun. Then, Traskos provided lunch for all the participants. This is the first tractor parade held at Harvest Fest.

On Saturday morning the Harvest Fest

Tractor Parade came north on Sumpter

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#### **PUBLIC AUCTION**

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F259, Emmanuel Jones; E202 & L526, Georgene Axton; N813, Heather Malfitano; R930, Jeremy Debord; Q905, Tasha Davis; I419 & J616, Cornell Fox; M573, Thomas Brown, Jr.; L530, William Parker; K650, M J Rea; N817, P756 & L516, Sunshine Inc.; Q904, Jessica Travers; K670, James Broughton; K666, Teela Boone; G478 & K660, Kathy Lepard; N810, O715 & S962, Terry Booth; I411, Morgan Barbee; L500 & L501, Lisa Clark

Publish: October 13 and October 20, 2022

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#### Page 1'

### 5 candidates seek 3 seats on Van Buren Public Schools Brd. of Education

Five candidates are on the Nov. 8 ballot seeking three, four-year terms on the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

**Andrew Frazier** 

Andrew Frazier, 46, of Van Buren Township is seeking his first elective

office as a school board member. He and his wife Amy have a daughter Alyssa and son Avery.

His is a Public Transit Line Haul driver and holds a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University. Frazier served on the



Frazier served on the City of Riverview Planning Commission and Zoning Board for 10 years. He was a member of Kiwanis for the Riverview Chapter for five years and also a member of Riverview Goodfellows.

"I am running for school board for Van Buren Public Schools. As a former alum who has worked in education and has had numerous family members serve and graduate from VBPS, I believe that I possess knowledge needed to have each one of the students gain and obtain the highest quality of education to become a productive adult. As a board member not only would I serve as a voice for the community but also always vote for what's in the best interest of our students."

When asked about the most pressing issues our of our school district, Frazier wrote: "The most pressing issue of our school district is test scores. If we can't get these up, we are all in trouble. We need to make sure all of our teachers and staff are given the tools to do their jobs. Make sure all kids are placed in the programs that will help them succeed. We also have to make sure we have plans in place so we can operate safely and efficiently in the next

pandemic."

#### **Darlene Loyer Gerick**

Darlene Loyer Gerick, 55, of Van Buren Township is seeking reelection to the

school board. She ran for unsuccessfully for the office in 2016 and was appointed to a vacancy in 2017. In 2018 she ran again and was elected. She has lived in the school district for 55 years.



She is married to Ron
Gerick and they have a daughter, Marina
Gerick

Gerick currently serves as board secretary.
She holds a dual bachelor of arts degree in Computer Science and Organizational Leadership. She is Facilities Manager at Michigan Medicine – HITS.

She is a Girl Scout Leader, Girl Scout Community Support Specialist and works with her daughter on the Benches for Belleville project.

When asked why she is running for this office, she replied: "Born and raised in Belleville, I am a 1985 graduate of BHS. I left the state for college but returned to raise my family in my hometown.

"Now my child will be a second-generation Tiger grad. I am running for school board because this is my town, those are my schools. I care about our community and our children. I have been on the board since June 2017. I have attended several Michigan Association of School Board (MASB) trainings to understand the responsibilities and limitations of being a board member. I have achieve the Level-2 Award of Merit from my MASB classes.

"I am not the candidate that will be knocking on your door. I feel that we don't get enough home time, family time, or time to ourselves. I don't want to be the one who interrupts this time for you. This being said, I am here if you want to talk and/or ask me questions. You can email me <a href="loyergerick@gmail.com">loyergerick@gmail.com</a>, Facebook message me fb.me/ LoyerGerick or come up to me when you see me in the community out and about. Just please don't let that be during a BHS football game. And, definitely not when the Marching Tigers are on the field. I take my football and band very seriously."

As to the most pressing issues, Gerick

said: "Student performance is the reason we have schools. It is hard to see our scores below state averages, but our student growth scores have advanced. If a student is at a 20 percentile and the next year they are at a 40 percentile, they are still not where we want them to be, but a 20 percentile growth is huge. We need to keep that growth going. We have an upward progress on performance, and we need to keep trying new methods, empowering our teachers, keep remembering students all learn differently, and keep reaching for improvement. We need to keep offering alternative learning and programs for multiple skill sets and interests. We need to keep our students engaged in learning. We need to support our teachers and administrators in their efforts."

#### Terrance Goff

Terrance C. Goff, 50, of Van Buren Township did not return his candidate's form, but when he ran unsuccessfully for the school board in 2020, he did fill out a form and so we will give some information from that form.

Goff has lived in the school district for five years. He and his wife Kera have three daughters, Anaya, Ivana, and Hosanna.

He is a Building Inspector and a high school graduate. This is his second run for public office.

Goff had served an appointed position for a three-year term on a Farmington Hills charter school. He said, in 2020, that he recently stepped down as Parent Coordinator for the Detroit Youth Choir to pursue election on the school board. He also enjoys fitness.

"I believe that we can have the finest schools in the area and I see that our district believes that, as well," Goff said in 2020. "I want to be part of that!"

As far as his goals: "I would like to attract all families in the community to our schools / retention of our students through high school."

### Calvin Hawkins, Jr.

Calvin H. Hawkins, Jr., 58, of Van Buren Township is running for reelection to the school board. She is married to

Trunita Hawkins and their children are Paris, Deral, Angelica, Camille, Joshua, Lashez. He has lived in the school district for 25 years.

He is retired as Operation Manager at



the Ford Motor Company. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Cleary College.

He won election to a seat on the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education in 2018.

His hobbies are: fishing, league bowling.

camping, youth football and basketball coaching.

He said he is running for office because:
"Our children are our greatest resource

"Our children are our greatest resource and future leaders of this country. It's extremely important that they're prepared to lead and are given all the tools needed to succeed in life."

When asked what are the most pressing issues in our school district and what should be done about them, he replied:

"Right now it's the safety of our children and educators, as we've seen across the country and here in Michigan with Oxford. We can never be over-prepared or overtrained on safety. Now the question is how do we implement changes proactively but with great tact and care? Children's education experience should be joyful and exciting. Not full of fear and anxiety while attending school at any level. The next challenge is ensuring all our children are succeeding no matter in what social economic group they find themselves. It's imperative that the leadership is tracking these gaps and continuously developing strategies to address such gaps."

#### Amy T. Pearce

Amy T. Pearce, 49, of Van Buren Township, is school board president and she is running for reelection to the board.

She is married to Douglas, an airline pilot at Kalitta Air, LLC, and they have



three daughters. Taylor, 26, is a 2014 BHS graduate as well as a 2018 Brown University graduate who currently is working as an economist in London, England. Nicole, 24, is a 2016 BHS graduate and a 2020 University of Michigan graduate who is currently in medical school at Western Michigan University. Addison, 15, a BHS sophomore who participates in volleyball, track, and band. They have lived in the school district for 17 years.

She is Vice President of Event Production at Underwood Events, LLC out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She graduated from Brookfield Central High School in Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Marquette University (Wisconsin).

She first ran for the school board in 2018 and was elected to a four-year term.

"I previously sat on the board of the Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation and still enjoy helping them with fundraising efforts when I can. I have also served on the Executive Board of the Belleville Band Boosters since 2012 and remain very active in this role."

(continued on page 18)

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### 4 candidates seek 4 seats on Belleville Area District Library Board

Four candidates are on the Nov. 8 ballot for four open seats on the Belleville Area District Library Board.

#### **Daniel Fleming**

Daniel Fleming, 65, of Van Buren Township is making his first try at elective

### Scott and Cole.

"I've enjoyed living in the Belleville area

office. He and his wife Nancy have sons

for close to 54 years. grandmother, mother, along with myself and children have all graduated from Belleville High School," Fleming wrote.

"I have a bachelor's degree from Eastern

Michigan University in Business and Public Health & Safety. I retired in 2019 from General Motors with 38 years seniority. While at GM, I worked as a Pre-Production Launch Manager and helped manage many Pre-Production programs.

"I've been married for over 40 years to my wife and have two son, which both have graduated from local universities with bachelor degrees. I enjoy all sorts of travel both domestic and international. I also enjoy cruises and lots of camping. My hobbies are my family, friends, birding, and staying active.

"I'd bring a deep commitment to my community as Library Trustee along with a broad spectrum of skills."

He said his priority, when elected, is to serve the Belleville Library and the surrounding communities that it supports in any way possible.

#### **Sharon Claytor Peters**

Sharon Claytor Peters, 71, of Van Buren Township is running for reelection to the Belleville Area District Library Board. She serves as president.

She and her husband Melvin T. Peters. Ph.D. have two children, Shani and Haile. They have lived in the library district for 15.5 years.

She is a retired Non-Profit Executive.

with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University in 1971 and a Master of Arts from MSU in

She ran for public successfully office three times: once for

the Lansing School Board and twice for the Belleville Area District Library Board.

She has been appointed to public office. In 2021 she was appointed to the Childhood Investment Corporation by Gov. Whitmer; Council for Labor and Economic Growth by Gov. Granholm; and Assistant Secretary of State by Richard Austin.

Peters is a member of Trinity Episcopal church, Friends of Belleville Area District Library, and the Charles Wright Museum of African American History.

"I am running for another term on the Belleville Area District Library Board

(continued on page 19)

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SAFETY
E D U C A T I O N

HALLOWEEN SAFETY NIGHT

### School Board

(continued from page 17)

Her hobbies include traveling with her family and boating on beautiful Belleville Lake and Lake Charlevoix.

When asked why she is running for this office, she replied: "My past four years on the Board of Education have been filled with highs and lows. Helping to steer this district through the Covid pandemic was both exhausting and incredibly rewarding. It was certainly something we never expected to face as a board, and we came together with our staff and families to create the best learning environments possible despite the circumstances. We were able to offer unique options to our families that other districts were not even able to consider due to staffing issues. I am very proud of what we accomplished during an extremely challenging period. Now we have come to a point where we are rebuilding, both literally and figuratively. Thanks to our voters, our bond work continues, with wonderful enhancements being made to many of our buildings. Our new Early Childhood Center is thriving and welcoming our youngest learners into an environment that can truly launch them into the future. Our students are back in their buildings and finally experiencing what a 'normal' school year feels like. Sports are back. Dances are back. Clubs are back. All of the things that help our children grow both in and out of the classroom are back. My hope is to devote at least another four years to helping this rebuilding continue. We have a board that works extremely well together and represents all of the diverse areas of our community. We are not afraid to challenge each other elected to serve in, and I am excited to continue in this position for years to come.

When asked what she thinks are the

most pressing issues in the school district and what should be done about them, she replied: "This district is unique in many ways, the most important being its diverse social and economic roots in the community. We have the opportunity to bring families from all over the area together with a unified goal of providing the best learning environment for our children. This means we must welcome the voices of all of our families as we plan for the future. Does that mean we will disagree on some issues? Yes. Does that mean can still reach a common ground on the things that will have the most impact on our learners? Also, yes! Right now, we need to continue to streamline our curriculum between buildings, which is being facilitated by the addition of two district Instructional Specialists. These specialists were hired at the request of our board and continue to serve as muchneeded additions to our instructional staff. The hiring and retention of teaching and support staff is by far the most important issue we are facing right now. The hiring pool is dry, and the number of individuals entering the teaching profession is dwindling. We must start planning for this challenge now, not when our teachers retire. This means ensuring we offer competitive pay and benefits and that we empower our staff to take a collaborative role in the development and presentation of curriculum. We need to offer as many reasons as possible for our wonderful teachers to remain right here in our district. Helping to educate the community on both the bond and the upcoming sinking fund vote are crucial in reaching our staffing goals. Obtaining the bond and sinking funds to keep our



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### Page 19

### Library Board

(continued from page 18)

to continue the work I started. I am particularly proud to have had a role in selecting our excellent library professional leadership, as well as 1) steering the new library building project, 2) engaging the public support at the ballot box, 3) working every step of the way with the design team, 4) bringing in additional private support, 5) implementing the plan which has now resulted in full functioning at our new library. I want to continue to help this community resource be all it can be - our community hub."

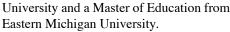
Her goals, once elected: "We are now able to enlarge and stabilize our library staff as well as the fine-tune library operations. We are embarking on updating library policies to better fix current reality. We are expanding hours to better serve the community. Additionally, I look forward to maximizing service to the tricommunity of Belleville, Sumpter, and Van Buren Township. Our library is only at the beginning stages of the role it can play in bringing together the community and expanding our cultural resources!"

#### Linda Priest

Linda Priest, 76, of Belleville is running for reelection to a four-year term on the library board. She and her husband Randy

are parents to sons Jason, Eric, and Se18h. She has lived in the library district for 22

Priest is a retired middle school science teacher. She holds a Bachelor of Science Madonna



Her first run for elective office was when she ran and was elected to the library board in 2018.

She belongs to the League of Women Voters, Belleville Yacht Club, Central United Methodist Church, Belleville Senior Transportation Board, and Friends of the Belleville Area District Library.

She said she is running for library board because, "The Belleville Library was one of the first places I went to 22 years ago when we moved to Belleville. I want to make sure the library continues to serve our community at the high level it has for all those years."

Her goals once elected are to, "Increase library use by the entire Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren communities" and, "Find new ways to be of service to library patrons."

#### Tanya Stoudemire-Phillips

Tanya Stoudemire-Phillips, 59, of Van Buren Township is running for a four-year term on the Belleville Area District Library

She is married to Adrian Phillips and their children are Kyron, Evan, and Blake Phillips. She has lived in the library district

### Detroit. Stoudemire-Phillips

ran for the District Library Board in 2014 and 2018 and was appointed to the board in 2020.

University and serves

as the Chief Deputy

CFO for the City of

Her hobbies include boating on Belleville Lake, camping, and traveling with her

She holds a Juris Doctorate and Bachelor

of Arts in Economics from Wayne State

"The reason I am running for office is because I am an experienced BADL Trustee and my professional expertise

serving as the Chief Deputy CFO for the city of Detroit make me uniquely qualified for this position. My husband and I have reared three children here and this will forever be their hometown. I am looking forward to the opportunity to continued to serve and show my appreciation to the wonderful community by being actively involved in its continued success."

When asked about her goals, she said: "Our library is a gem and one of our community's most important assets. My goal is to continue to provide sound financial advice, engage in community outreach and promote the services available at our beautiful new library. We should all be very proud of this accomplishment."



# BONECUTTER TREE EXPERTS, LLC

STORM DAMAGE & FALL DISCOUNTS! 50% DISCOUNT IF YOU KEEP WOOD/BRUSH!

- Storm Clean Up 1
- Free Estimates PROFESSIONALS

- Stump Removal Bucket Service

**(734) 431-4202** 

### Reggie Miller, Dale Biniecki running for State Rep. 31st District

Reggie Miller, Democrat, and Dale Biniecki are running for State Representative in Michigan's 31st District.

#### Reggie Miller, Democrat

Reggie Miller, 13697 Pond Bluff Dr., Van Buren Township, is running for her

first state office. She and her husband Jim have two children. Miller, 59, has lived in State Representative District 31 for 26 years.

She was elected Buren Township Trustee

2016, Miller earned an associate's in marketing and communications at Purdue University North Central, Indiana and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Cleary University, Ann Arbor, where she majored in marketing and graduated summa cum laude. She also is a graduate of Michigan Political Leadership Program at Michigan State University, from the multi-partisan progressive leadership program on effective government. She also is a graduate of the Township Governance Academy from the Michigan Township Association.

She began serving as a member of the VBT Board of Trustees in 2012 and has served as the board liaison for both the Senior Endowment Committee and the Elections Committee. She's an active member of the Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, League of Women Voters, the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. and a former member of the Lions Club.

Previously she served as the vice chair of the Public Safety Committee, executive director of the National Strawberry Festival, vice president of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, former volunteer for two homeowners' associations serving in different roles, and former Savage School volunteer in the resource room.

Miller enjoys gardening. photography, traveling, and bike riding. She and her husband are members of Trinity Episcopal Church.

"I'm running for State Representative because I believe that local government works best when focused on serving residents' needs, and I will continue to bring that same level of service and commitment to HD31 with complete passion. As a State Representative, I will continue to work hard. I am inspired to seek this seat because I am committed to helping those who live here thrive. My commitment to this area runs deep as I have dedicated my time to helping others for the past 26 years. I am ready to take my experience and be a champion for us in the Michigan statehouse. "As your hometown State Representative. I will continue to be your voice and will bring forward the issues that matter most to you. I will continue to take a commonsense approach to serving the hardworking taxpayers of our community by listening to

(continued on page 20)

### Tree Topping & Trimming Tree & Shrub Removal Insured & Senior Discounts for 19 years.

# WANTED

Documents/Emails or information, that will help attorneys suing VISTEON Corporation on behalf of Van Buren Twp, MI, which sold bonds to help Visteon Corp. build its corporate headquarters in the Township. As part of its bankruptcy, Visteon agreed to help Van Buren Twp. pay off the bonds. Now they refuse to pay. Who or what committee decided Visteon would not pay Van Buren Twp. as promised? Documents from 2008 to present are especially desired.

Information and/or documents showing Visteon originally intended to keep its promise to help Van Buren Twp. pay off the bonds; or other information related to Visteon's treatment of Van Buren Twp. is needed.

Mail documents to Attorney J. Douglas Peters PLLC at 418 Main St., Belleville, MI 48111 or Call Mr. Peters at 734-725-9056.

### FEEDING FAMILIES IN VAN BUREN, BELLEVILLE & SUMPTER

**First United Methodist Church** 



**417 Charles Street** Belleville, MI. 734-697-9288

Food distribution on Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 10AM – 1PM

### State Rep.

(continued from page 19)

their concerns. I also believe in community service work and secured grant money for the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund and have helped many residents during the pandemic with issues that ranged from unemployment, food assistance, utilities, and child-care-related issues. I will work hard for you because I have a passion for the work that I do as your public servant."

Hergoalsonceelected: "Mytoppriorities are preserving, supporting, and protecting Michigan families that include: education, environment, mental health, union support, affordable housing, seniors and veteran services, and pro-choice for women.

### Dale Edward Biniecki, Republican

Dale Edward Biniecki, 67, of 2390 Doty Rd., Monroe, has lived in the district for

his wife Reda have two daughters, Angela and Hannah, and a son Jaye. Biniecki is a retired truck owner-

all of his life. He and

retired truck owneroperator with 31 years with Teamsters 299. He earned an Associate of Science degree from Monroe

Associate of Science degree from Monroe

Community College.

He ran for precinct delegate several times and won. He was a 4-H leader for many

years and is a member of the Monroe County Republican Club.

"I am running for office in a newly formed district because I want to ensure that my community is fairly represented in Lansing. My family has lived in the 31st District for four generations and I care deeply about my friends and neighbors who live here. If elected, I will work side-by-side with my constituents to restore Michigan's 31st District to a cleaner, safer, and healthier place for our families to live."

He said, if elected, "I aim to present real solutions to some of the 31st District's

pressing issues. Our most productive farmland is disappearing due to the development of energy projects. We must protect our valuable agricultural resources by locating less-invasive areas for solar and wind installations. I aim to work for better food security, and explore locations for sustainable energy at the same time.

"Additionally, I will work for safer communities by listening to the concerns of law enforcement advocates and supporting legislation that keeps them adequately funded. Restoring resources and improving respect for law enforcement will be one of my legislative goals.

"Lastly, I favor parental advocacy and curriculum transparency in education. If elected, I will promote legislation that keeps Michigan parents in the driver's seat of their child's education. I will also make programs such as Career Technical Education and STEM a priority in order to meet the high demand for Michigan's workforce."

### Sheena Barnes, Bart Patterson vie for Sumpter Treasurer seat

Sheena D. Barnes, 62, of 28321 Sumpter Rd., New Boston, is the Democratic

candidate for Sumpter Township Treasurer. She unseated the appointed Democratic treasurer Vincent Warren in the August primary.

Warren was appointed

to the position on June 16, 2021, following

the death of elected Treasurer James Clark on June 7, 2021 from complications of COVID.

The partial term being sought runs through Nov. 20, 2024.

Barnes, who was appointed trustee in 2018 and served a partial term, also has run for Sumpter Township trustee, clerk, and treasurer.

She is the mother of Julius, Sharnice,

and Jamarnea and grandmother of five. Barnes has been the owner of Sheena Barnes BBQ Bones for 35 years and has lived in the township her whole life. She graduated from Airport High School and attended WCCC.

She is a member of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Southwestern Democratic Club, and Belleville Lake Fest. She enjoys singing, dancing, and art.

Barnes said she is running for this office "to make a difference to the stagnated board of trustees and be the eyes and ears and voice of the people."

She said her goals, once elected, are the youth, family development, applying for grants, and most of all, economic development.

"Cut out big spending," she said.

#### **Bart Patterson**

Republican candidate Bart Patterson, 23745 Sumpter Rd., Sumpter Township, did

not return a candidate's questionnaire from the *Independent*.

He has served two
years on the planning
commission. In March,
Supervisor Tim
Bowman appointed
him to the Board of
Review

When he was appointed to the commission

in August 2020, he told the township board: he had lived in the township for 24 years and had been a licensed builder for 37 years, first being licensed when he was 17 years old.

Belleville Area Independent/October 13, 2022

### Houston James, Darrin Camilleri running for State Senate, 4<sup>th</sup> District

Republican Houston W. James and Democrat Darrin Camilleri are running for State Senate in the 4<sup>th</sup> District.

#### **Houston W. James**

Houston W. James Houston W. James, 23, of 28442 Dawnridge Dr., Flat Rock,

graduated from Tiffin University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Criminal Justice (cum laude) in Homeland Security and Counter Terrorism. He is a graduate of Taylor Kennedy High School. His career experience includes working as an Congressman Don You



working as an intern for Congressman Don Young of Alaska. His club and organizations include: Perfect Spiral QB Training owner, Pheasants

(continued on page 21)

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

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

# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 4, 2022

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 Wright, Trustee Boynton, Trustee Martin, Trustee Frazier and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Community Services Renaud, Executive Assistant Dohring, Director of Water and Sewer Lawrence, Director of Municipal Services Akers, Director of Public Services Luckett, DDA Director Ireland, Director of Planning and Economic Development Power and an audience of three (3).

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Boynton moved, Miller seconded to approve the revised agenda, removing New Business Item #2 To consider approval of Yousef Saleh's Personal Service Agreement for the Desktop Support in Information Technology from the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Boynton moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Work Study Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2022, Closed Session Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2022, Prepaid List of September 22, 2022, Prepaid List of September 22, 2022, Prepaid List of September 29, 2022 and Voucher List of October 4, 2022. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None
C O R R E S P O N D E N C E /

Denton Road Bridge is closed for approximately FTRUSTEES MEETING

Denton Road Bridge is closed for approximately 6 months for safety repairs; Household

Hazardous Waste Day is Saturday, October 8 from 9 am until 2 pm at US Ecology; October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month; Van Buren Township resident Barbara Carrico wrote a letter thanking Treasurer Budd and Community Service employee Beverly Porter for going above and beyond to assist her with an issue and Officer Ryan Bidwell was thanked in a letter by a motorist stranded on the side of the road who said Bidwell went the "VERY-EXTRA" mile to

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business):** None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

help them obtain a tow truck.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Martin moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2022-23: 2023 Departmental Fee Schedules with the effective date of January 1, 2023. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2022-24: Water and Sewer Rates for the 2023 fiscal year. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve Resolution 2022-28 and amendment No. 2 to the 2019-2022 IGA with Wayne County Parks. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Budd moved; Boynton seconded to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk Kevin McNamara, Supervisor Published: October 13, 2022



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON Wednesday, October 19th, 2022 at 10 am, at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle(s) will be held:

2011 Chrysler, Town & Country, VIN: 2A4RR5DG0BR799735 2003 Honda, Accord, VIN: JHMCM56303C005149 1994 Chevrolet, Suburban, VIN: 1GNFK16K6RJ427393

DATE: October 7, 2022

BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT 6 MAIN STREET

**BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111** 

PUBLISH: October 13, 2022

BY BRIANA HOOTMAN, CITY CLERK

#### Page 21

### State Senate

(continued from page 20)

Forever, Alumni of Washington Center, Alumni of Stennis Center.

He said he is running for office because, "I want to be a senator for the people, not a politician. Being right of center politically, I feel I can bridge partisan divides to create the best policy for everyone."

Once elected his goals are to, "Address: 1. Inflation. 2. Reduce gas/energy costs (open Line 5 which also protects union jobs). 3. Provide educational transparency to parents. 4. Promote small business. 5. Expand vocational education. 6. Roads."

#### Darrin Quiroz Camilleri

Darrin Camilleri, 2964 Harrison Ave., Trenton, did not return his candidate form, but we are providing information made available by him on various sites on the ınternet

Camilleri is currently a State Representative serving District 23. He was a teacher and then ran for State Rep. and assumed office Jan. 1, 2017. His term ends Jan. 1, 2023. Now, he seeks to be the senator

for Downriver and Western Wayne County communities.

He is the son and grandson of union autoworkers and the first in his family to graduate from college. He comes from a family of immigrants and says he knows that Michgian can be a place of promise for many seeking to achieve the American Dream.

Among things he has sponsored as State Rep. was a resolution to declare Sept. 21, 2022 as Maltese American Heritage Day in the state of Michigan, which was adopted Sept. 28.

There are no incumbents in the 4<sup>th</sup> District, which includes Belleville, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, Huron Township, Romulus, Wayne, Brownstown, Southgate, Flat Rock, Trenton, Grosse Ile, Gibraltar, and Wyandotte.

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

• Friday, Oct. 14 – Canton Township hosts its second-annual Festival of Lights Community Celebration, celebrating the triumph of good over evil, 6-8 p.m. at the Heritage Park Ampitheater behind the Administration Building at 1150 Canton Center Rd. Free. Indian cultural performances, music, dancing, and free

henna designs. Indian snacks will also be available on-site for a fee.

- Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct. 14, 15, 16 Thirteenth-annual Community Art Show is sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts and being held at the Belleville Yacht Club, 831 E. Huron River Dr. Opening reception is Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. Public viewing continues on Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entry is free.
- Saturday, Oct. 15 Costumed Monster Mutt Walk is from noon to 2 p.m. at Fourth Street Place in downtown Belleville. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community and Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue. Medals awarded. Fee to enter is \$10 plus a can or dog or cat food. Call (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m. for more information.
- **Saturday, Oct. 15** Sumpter Township Fire Department open house to celebrate National Fire Prevention Week, from noon to 3 p.m. Station tour, refreshments, meet & greet, photos.
- Monday, Oct. 17 Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place.
- Monday, Oct. 17 Coffee Hour at 6:30 p.m. with State Rep. Ranjeev Puri in the meeting room "Freedom" located on the lower level of the Canton Township Administrative Building.
- Tuesday, Oct. 18 "Plastics' Pollution: Plastics Fantastic to Plastics Catastrophe" is a 6:30 p.m. presentation at the Belleville Area District Library and the public is invited. Sponsored by the library and the Belleville Rotary Club. Learn how this once-proclaimed "miracle manmade plastics product" has developed into an environmental catastrophe from Al Hodge of Hodge Plastic Group LLC. Identify how you can make an impact and reduce plastics pollution one step at a time.
- Wednesday, Oct. 19 At 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library, Janet Macunovich, author and master gardener, will present "More Mileage From Your Garden." Her first book was published in 1990 and since then she has hosted seminars and workshops in botanical gardens in several states. She will present a lineup of well-known plants and will go beyond physical attributes and how to grow it, to historical, industrial, scientific, and mythical aspects. Register on the library website or call (734) 699-3291.
- Saturday, Oct. 22 "Get to Know Tarot with Gabby" at 4 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Learn the history of tarot, the meaning of the cards, and how you can use the practice in your own life. Free mini reading at end of workshop. Gabrielle Burgess-Smith will lead. Space is limited; registration required. Call the library (734) 699-3291 or visit belleville.evanced.info/events.
- Monday, Oct. 24 Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place.
- Wednesday, Oct. 26 Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Rd., invites the public to its free Halloween Safety Night, 5-7 p.m. There will be goodie bags, photos with character, candy and special treats, children's entertainment, Halloween safety tips and fun. Information: www.wccd.edu or (734) 699-7008.

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



### Board of Trustees Notice of Public Hearing

The Charter Township will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday October 18, 2022 during its regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting at 6:00 p.m. to receive public comment on:

- The 2022 Amended and 2023 Proposed General Fund Budget
- The 2022 Amended and 2023 Proposed Water/Sewer Fund Budget
- The 2022 Amended and 2023 Proposed Special Revenue Funds Budgets
  - 1. Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
  - 2. Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) Fund
  - 3. Landfill Fund
  - 4. Belleville Area Museum
  - 5. E-9-1-1 Service Fund
  - 6. Federal Forfeiture Fund
  - 7. State Forfeiture Fund
  - 8. Long Term Debt Fund9. Capital Improvement Fund

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Copies of the Amended, Proposed and Special Revenue Funds will be available at the Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township, MI 48111 one week prior to the public hearing and is available on the Township website vanburen-mi.org.

In Compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made with advance notice to the Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Twp., MI 48111 (734) 699-8909

Posted: 10/6/22 Published: 10/13/22

### Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

There were 276 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following. Sunday, Oct. 2:

- 0017 welfare check, Haggerty Rd. 0021 - overdose, Bemis Rd.
- 0208 fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0216 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
- 0249 welfare check, E. Huron River Dr.
- 0313 noise complaint Borgman Ave.
- 0926 intrusion alarm, Mott
- 1022 welfare check, Denton Rd.
- 1157 welfare check, McKinley St./Pierce St.
- 1441 vehicle lock out, Anna Dr.
- 1624 vehicle lock out, Belleville Rd.
- 1625 trespassing, Belleville Rd. 1642 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
- 1656 suspicious person/vehicle, N. Ponderosa Trl.
- 1719 intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
- 1726 welfare check, Old Denton Rd./S. I-94 Service
- 1738 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
- 1821 property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Morton
- Tavlor Rd. 1904 – traffic offense, Stoneybrook Ct./Brookview
- 1933 family trouble, Quirk Rd.
- 2000 property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 2012 domestic, Savage Rd.
- Monday, Oct. 3:

#### 0520 - 911 welfare check, Sadie Ln.

- 0938 suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. 1125 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
- 1209 fraud, Kent Ln.
- 1214 property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
- 1231 dumping complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1251 fraud, Redwood Dr.
- 1545 vehicle lock out, Belleville Rd.
- 1600 animal complaint, Country Walk Blvd.
- 1656 property damage accident, Ecorse
- 1700 road hazard, Belleville/I-94
- 1816 abandoned auto, Florence Ln.
- 1832 personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd.
- 1850 trespassing, McKinley St.
- 1912 harassment call, Cambridge Ct.
- 2006 property damage accident, E. I-94 / Belleville
- 2315 intrusion alarm, Rolan Meadows Dr. 2325 - larceny, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 2348 breaking & entering, Alva Dr.

### Tuesday, Oct. 4:

- 0134 warrant arrest, Hannan Rd./Van Born
- Archwood Dr.
- 0834 suspicious person/vehicle, Oak Blvd.
- 0836 property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 0840 animal complaint, Maple Dr.
- 0844 abandoned auto, Florence Ln.
- 1050 property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./ Denton Rd.

0234 - 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr./E.

- 1343 911 welfare check, Borgman Ave.
- 1503 larceny, Van Buren St.
- 1507 threat, Haggerty Rd.
- 1517 motorist assist, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service
- 1530 larceny from auto, Estate Dr.
- 1605 suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / Alden Dr.
- $1629-malicious\ destruction\ of\ property,\ Ecorse\ Rd./$ Haggerty Rd.
- 1854 property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./Van Born Rd.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 5:

- 0120 suspicious person/vehicle, Meadows Cir.
- 0203 suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. 0604 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Adams
- 0630 road hazard, Haggerty Rd/E. Huron River
- 0847 leaving the scene of a property damage
- cident, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0850 found property/child, Belleville Rd. 1100 - welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
- 1143 misc. complaint, Woodbury Dr.
- 1314 welfare check, Martz Rd.
- 1510 property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N.
- -94 Service Dr. 1540 - family trouble, S. Sunset Ln.
- 1810 retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1954 juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
- 2023 trespassing, Belleville Rd. 2043 - disorderly, Belleville Rd.

- 2045 family trouble, Sadie Ln.
- 2310 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
- Thursday, Oct. 6:
- 0052 harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
- 0131 assist citizen, Denton Rd/Belleville Rd.
- 0326 welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
- 0853 vehicle lock out, Van Born
- 1014 civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.
- 1052 parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
- 1131 abandoned auto, N. Cumberland Dr. 1214 - missing person, Savage Rd.
- 1350 road hazard, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River
- 1528 animal complaint, Bemis Rd.
- 1538 suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse/Denton
- 1542 background investigation, Tyler Rd.
- 1610 assist citizen, Linda Vista St. 1700 – intrusion alarm, S. Ponderosa Trl.
- 1712 property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
- 1745 larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
- 1804 threat, Tyler Rd.
- 1807 civil matter, Haggerty
- 1812 malicious destruction of property, Dora Ct. 1827 - property check, Meadows Cir.
- 1923 PPO violation, Freedom Way
- 1957 intrusion alarm, Alden Ave.
- 2008 property check, Belleville Rd. 2040 - larceny, Denton Rd.
- 2051 911 welfare check, McKinley St.
- 2130 property check, Belleville Rd. 2130 - welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
- 2145 assist fire dept., Celestine Dr.

### Friday, Oct. 7:

- 0107 welfare check, Denton Rd.
- 0743 assist fire dept., Denton Rd. 0833 - larceny from auto, N. Bellridge Dr.
- 0833 property damage accident, Van Born / S. Lilley
- 0839 animal complaint, S. Timberview Dr.
- 0900 suspicious person/vehicle, Park Estates Dr.
- 1042 intrusion alarm, Sondra Dr. 1122 - assist other dept., Richard Run Dr.
- 1247 traffic offense, Rawsonville Rd.
- 1326 suspicious person/vehicle, Lake Point Pass
- 1353 fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1414 fraud, Holly Ln. 1428 - larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1505 civil matter, Patty Ln. 1513 - unattended death, Van Buren St. 1516 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Lake
- Villa Dr. 1533 - larceny, Ecorse Rd.
- 1533 larceny, Ecorse Rd.
- 1607 intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.
- 1625 misc. complaint, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
- 1648 suspicious person/vehicle, W. Adams
- 1652 fraud, N. Ponderosa Trl.
- 1721 intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
- 1743 assist other dept., Elwell Rd./Hull Rd.
- 1744 property damage accident, Belleville/I-94 1758 - suspicious person/vehicle, Hardwood Dr./ Arcadia Ct.
- 1852 suspicious person/vehicle, Martz Rd./Lohr
- 1905 retail fraud, Belleville Rd. 1912 - overdose, Sumpter Rd/Hull Rd.
- 1917 animal complaint, Hull Rd.
- 1940 property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
- 2023 threat, Parkwood Dr. 2027 – animal complaint, Pebblebrook Dr.
- 2031 breaking & entering, Outer Dr. 2120 - assist other dept., Greenlawn
- 2221 property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
- 2247 assist other dept., E. Main St. 2332 - hold-up alarm, Anna Dr.
- 2340 assist other dept., Quirk Rd.
- 2354 assist other dept., Wayne
- Saturday, Oct. 8:
- 0006 property damage accident, Michigan / Michigan Ave.
- 0022 suspicious person/vehicle, Wilson Ave. 0107 - suspicious person/vehicle, Buchanan St.
- 0839 suicidal person, N. I-94 Service Dr. 0906 - property damage accident, Michigan Ave.
- 1050 threat, Richard Run Dr.
- 1108 traffic offense, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service
- 1305 threat, W. Sadie Ln. 1322 - private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 1344 intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd. 1359 - assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
- 1437 911 welfare check, Van Born 1514 - larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
- 1643 suspicious person/vehicle, E. Archwood

- 1807 personal injury accident, Michigan Ave.
- 1909 domestic, Oak Ln.
- 2101 suicidal person, Fay Dr.
- 2229 assist other dept., Ecorse Rd.
- 2305 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
- 2308 suspicious person/vehicle, Holly Ln. Also on this week's log are 89 traffic stops, five of
- which were on the I-94 freeway.

### **Belleville Police Dispatch Log**

#### Sunday, Oct. 2:

- 0131 traffic stop, Main St./First St.
- 0325 traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Pk. Dr.
- 1200 warrant arrest, Loza Ln.
- 1646 intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
- 2009 harassment call, Bell Cove Ct. 2343 - family trouble, Victorian Ct.
- Monday, Oct. 3:
- 0019 suspicious person/vehicle, Savage Rd.
- 0211 traffic stop, Main St./Roys St. 0235 - suspicious person/vehicle, Fourth St.
- 0835 traffic stop, Savage Rd.
- 1326 911 welfare check, Carmell St. 1505 - traffic stop, Main St./High St. 1524 – traffic offense, S. Edgemont Ave.
- 1649 intrusion alarm, Huron River Dr.
- 1722 traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St. 1825 - traffic stop, Savage/tracks
- 1909 traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.
- 2003 traffic stop, Main St. 2107 - traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr.
- 2340 suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River

#### Tuesday, Oct. 4:

- 0228 suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia 0621 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
- 0813 traffic stop, N. Biggs Ave./E. Huron River 0927 - welfare check, N. Liberty St.
- 1101 traffic stop, Main St. 1124 - malicious destruction of property, E. Davis
- St. / South St. 1313 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
- 1511 traffic stop, Ormand/Huron River 1556 - traffic stop, Robbe St.
- 1632 traffic stop, South St./W. Wabash Ave. 1643 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
- 1936 intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave. 2015 - suspicious person/vehicle, E. Columbia
- 2348 traffic stop, Main St./Third St. 2353 - suspicious person/vehicle, Menlo Park Dr.

### Wednesday, Oct. 5:

- 0207 noise complaint, N. Liberty St.
- 1002 fraud, San Carlos St.
- 1625 assist fire dept., Potter Dr. 2155 - abandoned auto, E. Huron River Dr./S.
- Liberty St. 2318 – intrusion alarm, South St.
- 2319 traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Pk. Dr.
- Thursday, Oct. 6: 0125 - suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
- 0124 welfare check, Denton Rd./Main St. 0339 - traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.
- 0850 mental subject, San Carlos St.  $1305-family\ trouble, Carmell\ St.$
- 2055 traffic stop, Fifth St./N. Liberty St. 2112 - traffic stop, Third St./N. Liberty St.

0816 - follow up by officer, Goddard Rd.

2355 - traffic stop, Third St./N. Liberty St. Friday, Oct. 7:

Belleville

- 0006 traffic stop, N. Liberty St./E. Huron River
- 1049 traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave. 1344 - traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Savage Rd.
- 1354 traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St. 1404 - traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
- 1419 fraud, Savage Rd. 1438 - fraud, Santa Clara St.
- 1514 traffic stop, Church St./Second St. 1537 – traffic stop, South St.
- 1542 traffic stop, E. Wabash Ave./South St. 1558 - animal complaint. E. Huron River Dr.
- 1714 property damage accident, Main/Third 1743 – assist other dept., N. Liberty St.
- 1754 assist other dept., N. Aberdeen Ct. 1833 - suspicious person/vehicle, San Carlos St.
- 1943 neighbor trouble, Clarence St.
- 2121 misc. complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. 2228 - traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
- Saturday, Oct. 8: 0056 - suspicious person/vehicle, Village Park of

- $1038-traffic\ of fense,\ S.\ Liberty\ St./E.\ Columbia$
- - 1724 traffic stop, Belleville Rd./N. Liberty St.
- 1747 traffic stop, Main St.

- 2103 traffic offense, Main St./High St. 2106 - traffic offense, Main St./Fifth St.

#### Sunday, Oct. 2:

- 0037 fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 0110 suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Wear
- 0530 property damage accident, Mulberry Dr.
- 0552 fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd. 0655 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 1000 fire dept. assist, Birch Dr. 1104 - follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Fenster
- 1404 civil matter, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd. 1602 - civil matter, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
- 1913 fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 0137 welfare check, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd. 0802 - animal complaint, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- 0948 civil matter, Magnolia Dr. 1026 - animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- 1205 animal complaint, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
  - 1502 suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Willis 1542 - breaking & entering report, 45000 bl. Willis
- 1808 suspicious vehicle, 41000 bl. Wear Rd. 1849 - assist other agency, 17000 bl. Martinsville
- Tuesday, Oct. 4: 0011 - suspicious person, Birch Dr.
- 1306 alarm, 7300 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
- 1551 follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Kozma 1830 - civil matter, Timberlane Dr.
- 1856 juvenile complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 2013 suspicious vehicle, Redwood St. 2210 - fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1051 fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

(Continued on page 23)

- 1349 civil matter, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
- 1536 fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
- 1728 fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.

- 0808 traffic stop, High St./Church St.
- 0758 traffic stop, Main St.

Belleville Area Independent/October 13, 2022

- 0733 traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.

- 1150 traffic stop, N. Edgemont Ave./E. Huron
- River Dr.

- 1258 traffic stop, Main St./E. Columbia Ave.
- 1351 traffic stop, Liberty/Fourth
- 1438 assist other dept., Sumpter Rd./Owen St. 1608 - traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
- 1623 traffic stop, N. Liberty St.
- 1633 traffic stop, S. Liberty St.
- 1732 traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
- 1847 traffic stop, Church St./Third St.
- 1928 traffic stop, Main St./High St. 1933 - traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.
- 2026 traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Bedell St.
- 2032 traffic stop, Robbe St./Bedell St.
- 2050 traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Pk. Dr.
- 2125 traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Church St. 2323 - traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave. There were 51 traffic stops on this week's log.
  - **Sumpter Township**
- Police Dispatch Log
- 0152 fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 0810 fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.  $0833-911\ hang\ up,46000\ bl.$  Harris Rd.
- 1201 family trouble, Mulberry Dr. 1349 - follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Fenster
- 1632 death investigation, 45000 bl. Wear Rd. 1734 - property damage accident, Judd Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
- 1926 family trouble, Magnolia Dr. 2357 - motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd./Judd Rd. Monday, Oct. 3:
- 0919 fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln. 0946 - civil matter, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
- 1447 follow-up investigation, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1718 family trouble, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd. 1755 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.

1547 - found property, Willis Rd./Martinsville Rd.

- 1349 fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Judd Rd. 1519 – death investigation, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
- 1940 property damage accident, Sumpter/Clay
- 2212 fire dept. assist, 7900 bl. Oakville Waltz Wednesday, Oct. 5:
- 1404 assault, Stonecrest Dr. 1453 - follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Clay
- 1722 civil matter, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.





**VAN BUREN** 

PARKS & RECREATION

### TRICK OR TREAT!

Join us for a fun-filled family event on Saturday, October 22! Wear your costumes and make your way to each Halloween themed station providing candy from local area businesses and non-profits. This event is free and open to the public.

Registration is not required, but helps us communicate to participants about any changes that may happend 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







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### Is the now-closed Denton Road **Bridge a haunted place?**

After Wayne County announced last week that the Denton Road Bridge was closed for repairs until further notice, longtime residents of the Belleville area pointed out that bridge

According to reports on Google, that bridge and other sites in Van Buren Township and Willis are haunted.

#### **Denton Road Bridge**

There are two Denton Roads in the Belleville area: Old Denton Road and Denton Road. Both have many stories of haunts and spirits. At Denton Road Bridge, which crosses

by a blue light, others see her soaking wet, and carrying a baby. Pull up near the bridge at night and turn off your lights, and you might see multiple orbs floating toward your car. Soop Cemetery/Old Denton Rd.

Belleville Lake, people often see the ghost of

a woman. Some see the woman surrounded

Old Denton Road in Van Buren Township near Van Buren Park is a little stretch of road that has a lot of paranormal activity. Some see a lone figure walking along the side of the road, which vanishes into thin air as they approach. Others who dare to walk down this road hear the crying of a baby.

Elizabeth Soop was said to be a witch. She's buried in the oldest part of Soop Cemetery next to her husband, but people say that she's definitely not at rest. Many who visit her grave say that they're followed by shadowy figures, and they hear voices and footsteps. Others report orbs everywhere at night. Soop Cemetery is located at 49250 Old Denton Rd.

#### **Tyler Cemetery**

Tyler Cemetery is in Van Buren Township. This cemetery is said to be haunted by several ghosts dressed in white. You might see them walking amongst the headstones. And when you leave, if you look in your rear-view mirror, you might see them following you until you get back through the cemetery's

### **Bone Heads BBQ**

Bone Heads BBQ is just four miles from Belleville at 10256 Willis Rd. in Willis. This restaurant is reportedly one of the mosthaunted places in the entire state, but its ghosts are supposedly friendly. The mischievous ghosts make lamps in the bar swing wildly. Lights turn on after the restaurant is closed and locked for the night. Employees report hearing whispers and footsteps when no one else is around. A woman in a white dress often appears to customers in both the dining room and the ladies' restroom.

#### Robson Road

It's said that if you pull onto quiet, rural Robson Road in Van Buren Township at night, you'll experience some strange paranormal activity. Turn off your headlights and wait for a few moments. You'll see a pair of headlights hurtling toward you, then it will seem to run right over your car and pass through to the other side.

### **Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log**

(continued from page 22)

2225 - follow-up investigation, Stonecrest Dr.

2302 - family trouble, Edgewood Dr.

2335 - family trouble, Carriage Ln.

#### Thursday, Oct. 6:

0042 - family trouble, Greenmeadow Dr.

1002 - suspicious vehicle, 49000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1059 - death investigation, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.

1727 - shots fired, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

2018 - property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

2253 - family trouble, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

2347 - alarm, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

#### Friday, Oct. 7:

0326 - family trouble, New Mexico

0333 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

0620 - suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.

0822 - animal complaint, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd. 1059 - civil matter, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1353 - fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1830 - subpoena service, Carriage Ln.

1833 - civil matter, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd. 1915 – 911 hang up, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

1931 - property damage accident, 43000 bl. Judd

1940 - alarm, Texas St.

2256 - welfare check, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd. Saturday, Oct. 8:

0051 – 911 hang up, Magnolia Dr./Hickory Dr.

1118 - citizen assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.

1227 - alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1312 – 911 hang up, Alaska

1708 - civil matter, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd. 1821 - family trouble, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.

1827 - traffic complaint/hazard, Judd/Sumpter

2100 - suspicious vehicle, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

2127 - shots fired, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

2204 - fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd. Also on this week's log are 154 patrol checks, 69 traffic stops, and 14 misc. details.



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