



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 29.43 Thursday, October 26, 2023 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

VBT raises water, sewer rates for 2024-27

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved amended budgets for 2023 and proposed budgets for 2024 at its regular meeting on Oct. 17.

That includes increases in rates for water of 5.9% and sewer of 3.9%, following a study by consultants who recommended the increases. The increases were approved from 2024 through 2027.

“We’re still one of the lowest in the area,” said Supervisor Kevin McNamara.

Water/Sewer Director Kevin Lawrence said of 15 communities, VBT is the second lowest, with Taylor the lowest. He said the average bill will go up \$7.60 per quarter.

Approvals also included the amended 2023 and proposed 2024 budgets for nine special Revenue Funds Budgets and the 2024 salary schedule, with raises of 3%.

Supervisor McNamara said the general fund budget is a balanced budget, with \$24,260,000 in revenue and \$24,240,000 in expenditures.

He said the township had been in a rebuild

(continued on page 15)

Halloween for kids:

- Saturday, Oct. 28 – Van Buren Township Candy Loop at Quirk Park, 4-6 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 28 – Belleville High School Trunk or Treat, 5-7 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 29 – Trunk or Treat from 2-5 p.m. at Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus.
- Monday, Oct. 30 – Sumpter Township Halloween Trunk or Treat, 6-8 p.m., at Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd.
- Tuesday, Oct. 31 – Trick or Treat at businesses on Main Street in downtown Belleville, 5-7 p.m. Costume contest at 6 p.m. at the Fourth Street Square.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman
 Claire Degenhardt with Lily and Martha Degenhardt with Maya, of Belleville, get ready for Saturday’s Monster Mutt Walk on Fourth Street Place.



Emma Dullinger of Belleville fixes Max’s hat before costume competition at Saturday’s Monster Mutt Walk.

Monster Mutt Walk winners by category

There were 34 participants in the Monster Mutt Walk this year. The competition was held on Fourth Street Place in Belleville on Saturday afternoon. It is sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community.

Cutest

- 1st – Titan Barnabus, a Westie, owned by Tiffani Roland of Van Buren Township
- 2nd – Sofia, a Doberman, owned by Leslie Watt of Van Buren Township
- 3rd – Zeno, a Mini Poodle, owned by Amee Palazzolo of Van Buren Township

Scariest

- 1st – Anastasia, a Doberman, owned by Heather Fay, Westland
- 2nd – Kenobi, a Blue Heller Lab/Rot, owned by Jennifer Rosenthal-Richison of Whittaker

• 3rd – Bella, a Golden Retriever, owned by Don VanAssche of Sumpter Township

Best Mutt

- 1st – Trixie, a GSD/Husky, owned by Laura Tonkovich of Dearborn Heights
- 2nd – Zues, a Grayador, owned by Tina Mendenhall of Sumpter Township
- 3rd – Vivian, a Golden Retriever, owned by Kristy Ely of Romulus

Family

- 1st – Te Amo, a Pug, owned by Renee Osaer of Sumpter Township
- 2nd – Maybell, a French Bull Dog owned by Sophia Sloan of Garden

City

- 3rd -- Zoey & Holley, a Lab & Rat Terrier, owned by K. Brock



**The Belleville Area Museum
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 Van Buren Township for
 1,333 days as of today.
 Set for reopening in Dec.**



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Aerotropolis, McNamara explain new proposal for \$35 million

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Christopher Girdwood of Aerotropolis and Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara explained a proposal to the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority that would bring in \$35 million or so over 15 years to build infrastructure to encourage development.

At the regular Oct. 10 LDFA meeting, Girdwood explained that the city of Romulus and Huron Township already have taken advantage of a new kind of LDFA through Aerotropolis.

Girdwood said there are significant needs in VBT for the land north of Willow Run Airport where there are large parcels without adequate access to sewer and water and road upgrades are needed. He said it is yet to be determined whether YCUA or SHUVA could process this sewage and so the line would go along Ecorse or Beck. He said they would keep the flow off Belleville Road.

He said Romulus and Huron Township used the Aerotropolis LDFA to support their projects. It involves capturing the State Aid Tax Revenue and Local Education Operating Funds in VBT for 15 years and then it goes back to the state.

Aerotropolis would hold the money for the township.

"No harm. No foul," to the education system, Girdwood said, since the state would continue to fund the local district.

"The infrastructure you have in place cannot support development," he said.

When LDFA member Doug Peters asked just how much they are trying to raise for the projects, Girdwood said \$25 million to \$35 million would cover the entire cost.

Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak said he was not in favor of them capturing taxes meant for education. He said it would drain the State Aid fund and districts would lose.

He said the state looks at the School Aid fund to see how much to pay the districts per pupil and the districts would get less with less in the fund.

He said the district now gets \$9,150 per student and if they are looking at \$9,400 next year and see the money is down, it could say no to the higher amount and just give them \$9,350.

Supt. Kudlak said, "They have to backfill our dollars."

Supervisor McNamara said there are only five of these LDFAs and Supt. Kudlak said, "Every one is draining the fund. It's a loophole ... I know it's allowed, but it shouldn't be."

Kudlak said it shouldn't come out of the School Aid fund, adding he's not saying the project isn't good.

Girdwood said if a battery plant comes,

the township gets more tax funds.

"It doesn't have to be funded that way," Kudlak said.

"The general obligation bonds failed and you won't do that again," Girdwood said. He said the state intentionally left this to tap into. LDFAs sunset over time and the State Aid fund will grow, he said.

Kudlak said during the 15 years, the schools will get less money to pay more for salaries and other growing costs.

"The K-12 dollars should be paid on kids," Kudlak said.

LDFA member David Schreiber said he was in favor of the new proposal.

"You shouldn't have the K-12 students in the state funding this," Kudlak insisted.

Schreiber said the State Aid fund doesn't get smaller, it just doesn't grow as fast. He said the township would get development that might not happen otherwise.

"It shouldn't be out of this," Kudlak insisted.

VBT LDFA honors Doug Peters as he retires after 21 years

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Michael Dotson, chairman of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, read a proclamation honoring Doug Peters who retired after 21 years of service to the LDFA.

At its regular meeting on Oct. 10, Dotson noted that Peters has been on the LDFA for the entire time it has been in existence.

Dotson said the words cannot capture everything Peters has done to help the community.

"I am honored and privileged to be able to have served on the board with you," Dotson said. "We are going to miss you very much."

Peters said the elected officials of Van Buren Township took a great gamble when they sued a large corporation and spent \$1 million in legal fees with no guarantee.

He said the Visteon case hinged on the meaning of one word, "assist," the vague promise Visteon made to assist Van Buren Township with the bond payments, if needed.

He said the case changed when Visteon said "assist" meant they didn't have to do anything.

"They went too far," he said.

He said it was tough writing checks month after month to pay the township lawyers.

"You scared people," said Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara, describing Peters' activity to help settle the case. "You scared our lawyers... You were our knight in shining armor."

Visteon settled the case for \$12 million.

Peters said he and Leonard Armstrong

Supervisor McNamara said it will take \$25 million to \$35 million to do this and the township collects just \$1 million a year. With the LDFA there are no bonds.

"They give us the opportunity to raise this money and I don't want to turn my back on this," McNamara said.

Power said one issue might support this. He said instead of building apartments and homes which would increase the number of students needing services, building plants would bring tax money.

"You're better off not having more residents, which adds students and not tax dollars," Power said.

"We want to put up a lasting community," McNamara said.

Power reminded him that Visteon put out notices to new employees that they should move to Canton and Northville because they have great schools.

LDFA chairman Michael Dotson said the proposed LDFA overlays Grace Lake and

the present LDFA.

Girdwood said the new LDFA, which would cover all the VBT north of the freeway, would capture 50% of the school funds. It would not interfere with the present LDFA.

Dotson said tax incentives would negate the income and Girdwood said, "We ask for no tax incentives."

Peters asked how much depends on a bullish economy and Girdwood replied, "In the event a downtown happens, we just will get less."

Schreiber said Michigan just lost a large Ford plant and the southern state that got it put in infrastructure over a 20-year period. He said he doesn't know how they funded that.

"Michigan lost a 'huge development' because it didn't have infrastructure," Schreiber said.

Kudlak said he couldn't get past the idea

(continued on page 13)

were the last of the original LDFA members.

He said he will continue to be in the community and they could call on him. "If I can help, I will."

Joint Van Buren Township & Local Development Finance Authority Proclamation Honoring the Service of John Douglas Peters

Whereas, John Douglas Peters, better known by his friends and colleagues as "Doug" was born in Dover, New Hampshire on January 23, 1948; and

Whereas, Doug Peters graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology with minors in English, Political Science and Art; and graduated from the University of Toledo - College of Law in 1975 earning a Juris Doctor degree; and

Whereas, Doug Peters had an illustrious career practicing law and teaching spanning 40 years; and Doug Peters joined the legal profession given his passion for the study of the structure of institutions and the interface between law and medicine; and

Whereas, Doug Peters was the Executive Director for the federal regulatory agency for Professional Standards, an Assistant Professor at the University of Toledo School of Law, an Associate Professor of Medicine & Law at Wayne State University and an Associate and shareholder at Charfoos, Christensen & Archer; and

Whereas, Doug Peters practiced law with a concentration in obstetrical malpractice, complex litigation, class actions and multi-

district litigation; and in his career he reached successful resolutions to a myriad of prominent cases

regarding group malpractice litigation, Fen-Phen, several class action airline crashes; and Public Interest 1st Amendment cases; and

Whereas, Doug Peters has been a resident of Van Buren Township since 1976; and was an original member of the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) established in 2002 for the purpose of creating a taxing authority for the issuance of bonds to make public improvements for the development of the Visteon Village Corporate Headquarters, now known as Grace Lake Corporate Center; and

Whereas, Doug Peters has enjoyed serving the LDFA alongside its collegial and civic-minded members over its 21 year period; and his legal expertise was an invaluable resource to the Township and LDFA, providing guidance and counsel involving Visteon litigation throughout a 12-year legal battle; and Doug Peters was an integral part of the settlement team that negotiated a resolution to the Visteon case in the summer of 2023; and

Therefore be it resolved, On this the 10th day of October 2023, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees and LDFA recognize the incredible public service Doug Peters has contributed as an LDFA member; and wish him and his family the best in enjoying his retirement, exploring his interests as a collector of art and a non-fiction writer of law, medicine and art. Micheal Dotson, LDFA Chairman Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

OPINIONS

Guest Editorial

Clouds continue to hang over state's transparency laws

When there was a change in leadership in Michigan's legislature earlier this year, hope rose again in the hearts of citizens who want a more transparent state government.

Maybe, it was thought by those citizens, the time has finally come for Michigan to join almost every other state in expecting their legislature and Governor to be subject to our open records law. Maybe, they thought, adding hope upon hope, new laws would be passed requiring other government officials to respond to records requests in a timely manner without outrageous fees. But, alas, it's nearly November and there has not been even a small ray of sunshine in our state house or governor's mansion.

Michigan remains at the bottom of the bottom for government openness among the fifty states. The Center for Public Integrity gave the Great Lakes State an "F" grade in 2015. In 2020 Michigan ranked 47th out of 50 for anti-corruption measures for public officials according to the Coalition for Integrity.

News reports of former House Speaker Johnson convicted of accepting bribes and Inkster Mayor Wimberly indicted on bribery charges, along with numerous other accounts of unethical behavior on the part of elected officials in our state, illustrate the importance of openness and transparency in government.

(continued on page 5)

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The rain held off on Saturday, so the Monster Mutt Walk in Belleville could take place at noon, but the rains came later and the Van Buren Township Candy Loop was postponed for a week. The Candy Loop is now re-scheduled for 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, at Quirk Park. About 1,000 people usually come to that event.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives sent out a message last Thursday to federal firearms licensees. There was a burglary at a federal firearms licensee in Oakland County and an attempted burglary at a federal firearms licensee in Wayne County.

AFT urged federal firearm licensees to ensure the security of both their inventory and property and report all suspicious persons or activity to the local police department. They also were asked to notify ATF at 888-367-5762 if they find any of your firearms missing, lost, or stolen.

A reader brought in an Oct. 16 copy of *The Detroit Free Press* last week, asking if we knew the mayor of Belleville was in the paper. We were shown the name of Kerreen Conley on page 13B among thousands of names in tiny print. She was listed alphabetically under those taking part in the Oct. 15 Marathon Relay that was a part of the 2023 Detroit Free Press Marathon.

At the Oct. 17 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees meeting, Dan Power, Director of Planning and Economic Development, announced that the upgrading of Haggerty Road by the county will begin this fall and be complete in 2024. That means it

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



must have been approved by the Wayne County Board of Commissioners at a recent meeting.

The township is also putting in some water lines while the road is dug up.

Haggerty has a terrible surface right now, full of deep holes, and everyone will be happy to see a new road. The work will be done between Ecorse and Van Born and halfway down there will be a traffic stop and a new roadway west into the Ashley Capital property.

If you missed the Belleville Area Council for the Arts Community Art Show Oct 13-15 at the Belleville Yacht Club, you can still view the winning artwork at the Belleville Area District Library. The award-winning pieces will be on display in the library atrium until January.

Lois Mida Zilka, BHS class of 1954, has a great-grandson who started playing chess when he was 5 and now, at 6, he is regularly beating adults. He was all set to join a chess club at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Wayne, when it was canceled because not enough students signed up. Lois is looking for a chess club for her great-grandson, so if you have any ideas, let us know.

It was suggested he could play online, but his mother isn't keen on that.

The schools are in session only half a day on Halloween, Oct. 31, VBPS Curriculum

Director Jeff Moore told the school board on Monday, noting the kids are too excited in the afternoon to focus. Also, staff with CPR training will get their refreshers on Oct. 31.

Then, the next day, Nov. 1, the schools are having early release for professional development for the staff. They are getting teacher training on providing safe settings for students who experience abuse, addiction, and poverty.

Moore also told the board that the Robotics group is applying for a grant so it can do an underwater drone program like the JROTC is doing. He said he's not sure what it's all about, but he thinks they do it in the pool.

We are hearing rave reviews on all the shirts the Robotics Club members are printing for people in the community. Aaron Lang told me they didn't get one of their regular grants this year and so they need money for their projects.

They offer custom-printed logos and messages and pictures on shirts and the CBC members wore their sweatshirts with dogs on them to last Saturday's Monster Mutt Walk.

The alumni who got custom shirts at the recent all-school reunion were delighted.



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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

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Editorial

(continued from page 4)

In 2022 Michigan voters overwhelmingly supported a ballot initiative to require state elected officials to provide financial disclosure statements. In a recent study, done on behalf of the Michigan Press Association, there was more data showing Michigan voters want more information about what their elected officials are doing. Nearly 9 out of 10 Michigan adults believe that taxpayers should have access to the meeting calendars of state representatives and their correspondence with outside organizations as well as the budgets of these office holders.

Leaders from the Michigan Press Association have recently reached out to legislative leaders and Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer requesting action with specific amendments to improve the open government climate in our state.

The Michigan Press Association has drafted – and this newspaper fully supports – the following crucial measures to bolster transparency, accountability, and integrity in Michigan government:

1. Extending Michigan's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to the executive and legislative branches.

2. Requiring far more timely response to FOIA requests. Citizens and media outlets routinely endure very long and unnecessary delays in obtaining clearly public information from government agencies.

3. Preventing exorbitant fees for FOIA responses. Michigan transparency is severely restricted by often outrageously high fees public bodies attempt to charge for FOIA responses.

As citizens of Michigan, you can hold your government accountable. We urge you to contact your legislators and tell them to move forward to improve Michigan's open government laws to allow taxpayers the access they deserve when it comes to the people's business. It's high time to get Michigan out of the basement when it comes to ethics in government. We implore you to act now.

Wes Smith, President Michigan Press Association Board of Directors
Publisher, View Newspaper Group

Letters

Tree of Remembrance ceremony set for Nov. 20

To the editor:

The winter and holidays are fast approaching. The holidays are often seen as a joyous occasion and a chance to come together with friends and family, but it can also be a difficult time for anyone who is missing a deceased loved one. The thought of facing the holidays without them may cause anxiety and dread. Whether they died recently or decades ago, the holidays could bring up powerful memories that may reignite your grief. We would like to help.

The David C. Brown Funeral Home and the Brown Family Center will again be hosting our annual Tree of Remembrance Ceremony. This is a time to reflect and give honor to our loved ones as we kick off the holiday season. We invite you all on Monday, Nov. 20, to the Brown Family Center for this heartwarming ceremony. There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments beforehand inside the Family Center at 6:30 p.m. The ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. just outside the Center.

Because the ceremony itself is outside, please dress according to the weather. If you would like, plan to bring a weatherproof ornament in memory of your loved one. During the ceremony there will be a time when you can speak the name of your loved one and decorate the tree with your ornament.

So please consider gathering the family and coming out on Monday, Nov. 20, for a time of remembering your loved one. The Brown Family Center is two blocks east of the David C. Brown Funeral Home at 678 E. Huron River Dr.

Please remember that we provide free grief support throughout the year at the Brown Family Center, either individually or within a small group. Please call Patti Monroe at (734) 697-5090 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Patricia Monroe, Grief Counselor
Brown Family Center, Belleville

Ivy Rehab in Belleville was right decision

To the editor:

Recently, my doctor recommended I have physical therapy for hip and shoulder issues. I decided to go to Ivy Rehab in Belleville and it turned out to be the right decision.

Rich Fruitman and staff were not only professional and knowledgeable, but equally as import to me, they were sincerely caring and concerned.

The environment there was warm, friendly, and easy-going. Actually, it "almost" made the physical work fun.

There is no doubt in my mind should I ever need P.T. again, I will be going back to Ivy Rehab.

Thank you, Rich and staff.
Kathy Farr, Sumpter Township

Letters

Thank you to Milton's Pharmacy for help

To the editor:

I would like to thank Milton's Pharmacy for helping me with a difficult prescription. It was much appreciated.

Judy Bell
Wayne

More Letters

Thank you for reports in the *Independent*

To the editor:

Thank you for being faithful in reporting the news in the *Independent*. I feel I am right there when you tell about a meeting or event. Many thanks.

Ella Knopf

Thank you, St. Jude

To the editor:

This is a thank you to St. Jude for answering my prayers. I believe in you.

St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, keeper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Thank you, C.P.

Thank you, St. Jude

To the editor:

Thank St. Jude for answering my prayer.

St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, keeper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Thank you, A.P.

Court Watching

Dishon Deuondo Morris, 47, of Clinton Township, was scheduled for her probable cause conference on Oct. 18 at 34th District Court. She is charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), felony firearm, and domestic violence on Oct. 7 in Van Buren Township.

On Oct. 18, defense attorney Blasé Kearney said he needs digital discovery from the parking lot at the factory. He said there was an order from the prosecutor redacting the witness information. The defendant is a CPL holder, the prosecutor said. Kearney cited a Supreme Court decision that said prosecution cannot withhold such information and he wants to talk to two factory workers to see if he will call them as witnesses. He said he needs the information by Oct. 20 and Judge Martin said the prosecutor must get the information to him by that date.

The probable cause conference was adjourned to Oct. 25 when they could schedule a preliminary exam. Personal bond is \$5,000 and she is not to return to two addresses.

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

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Obituaries



Mark Stephen Backus

MARK STEPHEN BACKUS

(October 8, 1962 – October 17, 2023)

Mark Stephen Backus, age 61, of Ypsilanti, MI, passed away Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at his home. He was born October 8, 1962, in Alliance, Ohio, son of Charles and Jo Anne Backus. He was raised by his mom and step father Rocco Ciaverella. He worked for R+L Carriers for many years as a semi-truck driver. He enjoyed spending time with family in addition to collecting coins, listening to podcasts, gardening, reading his bible, camping, good jokes, and watching sports. He loved hockey and football and rooting for the Red Wings, Wolverines, and Lions. He appreciated sharing his love of cooking with his family and friends, but most of all, he loved time spent with his children and grandchildren. Whether it was camping, fishing, or being a supportive granddad at hockey, he loved making memories with his family.

Mark is survived by his two sons Jonathon Backus of Okemos, MI, and Jeremy (Brie) Backus of Pottsville, MI; 3 grandsons: Francis, Charles, and Lake; his mother Jo Anne Ciaverella of Belleville, MI; five siblings: Charles (Wendy) Backus, Julie Couturier, Janice Blackburn, Theresa Handshe, and Dr. David (Maria) Ciaverella; also numerous nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his father Charles Backus and his stepfather, Rocco Ciaverella.

Visitation will be 1-3 PM Sunday, October 22, 2023, with a 3:00 PM Funeral, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500.

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

www.davidcbrownfh.com**MARY CYNTHIA MAURICIO**

(September 1, 1944 – October 15, 2023)

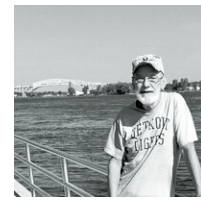
Age 79, resident of New Boston. Survived by husband Jose; children, Lynn Jarzyna, Joe Anthony Mauricio; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

ANTHONY MICHAEL HALL

(August 12, 1976 – October 17, 2023)

Age 47, of Wayne, a member of the Belleville High School class of 1994. Survived by dad Tony, mom Maria. Private interment was held. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Leo Kalniczenko

LEO KALNICZENKO

(February 12, 1945 – October 19, 2023)

Leo Kalniczenko, age 78, of Willis, MI, passed away Thursday, October 19, 2023, at Mission Point of Ypsilanti, MI. He was born February 12, 1945, in Abtenau, Austria, son of Ivan "John" & Maria (Ciok) Kalniczenko.

He came to the United States April 6, 1951, after World War II, through Ellis Island. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict, stationed in Korea. He attended St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Detroit, MI. Leo worked for General Motors for 27 years, Fisher Body Fleetwood, and retired in 1995.

He enjoyed the outdoors, fishing, camping, and riding his motorcycle. He also enjoyed watching basketball and playing pool on his iPad. Most of all, he cherished time spent with his grandkids. Mr. Kalniczenko is survived by five children: Tracey Kostamo of Wayne MI, Lisa (Bill) Hamilton of Evert, MI, Kelley (Tracy) Macy of Port Huron, MI, Nicole (Ed) Livy of Willis, MI, and Sara Roberts of Kalamazoo, MI; 14 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren. Leo was preceded in death by his parents, also his former wife Kathy Jaworski.

Visitation was October 23, 2023, followed by a funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Rev. John Negele officiated. Interment will be Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to Disabled Veterans or the American Lung Association, for COPD research, and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com



Ricky Dean Christensen

RICKY DEAN CHRISTENSEN

(October 15, 1955 – October 22, 2023)

Ricky Dean Christensen, age 68, of Ypsilanti Twp., MI, died Sunday, October 22, 2023, at Trinity Health Ann Arbor, Superior Twp., MI, with his loving family at his side. He was born October 15, 1955, in Morehead, Minnesota, the son of Obert Melvin and Leona Mae (Bentley) Christensen.

On October 26, 1992, he married Edith L Colby in Ypsilanti, MI, and she survives. Rick was employed as an Equipment Operator for many years. His family and friends will remember his love for his family, woodworking and fishing. Survivors besides his wife Edith include one daughter, Crystal Christensen; his grandson: Emil B. Christensen, who was more like a son to him; two granddaughters: Salina M. Smith and Jewel Daniels; four siblings: Dianna (Brian) Callaghan, Terry (Suzanne) Christensen, Larry Christensen and Brenda Nelson; two nephews: Roger M. Christensen and Michael Nelson; one niece, Samantha Nelson; several great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Roger Christensen. Private Family Services will be held. Janowiak Funeral Home, Ypsilanti.

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Obituaries



Paul Willis LaForest

PAUL WILLIS LaFOREST

(July 3, 1947– October 12, 2023)

Paul Willis LaForest age, 76, resident of Belleville for many years, passed away on October 12, 2023, at home. He was born on July 3, 1947, in Ishpeming, MI, to Willis and Constance (Anderson) LaForest. He graduated from Negaunee High School in 1965 and earned two master's degrees at Eastern Michigan University. Paul received his Bachelor of Teaching at Ferris State University in 1970. Paul used his knowledge and love of learning to teach at Belleville High School for 25 Years before retiring.

After retiring, he enjoyed spending the fall and winter months in St. Petersburg, FL. A member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles since 2008. He loved to be outdoors and to hunt and fish. Paul also enjoyed cars and worked with his son at their own car dealership for many years.

Paul is survived by his longtime partner Bonnie Saylor of St. Petersburg, FL. Children, Regina (Ed) Grube of Rockford, MI, and Michael LaForest of Belleville, MI; his grandchildren, Grace and Noelle Grube of Rockford, MI; siblings, Robert (Marlene) Johnson of Henderson, NV, Bruce Johnson of Negaunee, MI, and Donald (Julie) Johnson of Ishpeming, MI; and his former wife of 20 years and mother of his children, Sharon McKnight of Carleton, MI.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

According to Paul's wishes dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI, 48111. A family memorial will be planned and posted at a later date.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Beverly Jean Berec

BEVERLY JEAN BEREC

(January 12, 1938 – October 20, 2023)

Beverly Jean Berec, age 85, long-time Belleville Area resident, passed away Friday, October 20, 2023, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born January 12, 1938, in Frankfurt, MI, daughter of Carroll & Gladys Gertrude (Jennings) Adler.

She graduated from Belleville High School in 1956. She was a caterer for many years and enjoyed cooking and helping many families celebrate numerous special occasions. She was an avid Detroit Tiger and Lions fan. Beverly loved playing cards with her friends, and cherished time spent with her family.

Mrs. Berec is survived by three children: Kimberly (David) Gallant of Waterford, MI, Jeffrey (Mary) Eichold of Madison Heights, MI, and Debra (Greg) Corwin of Flat Rock, MI; 11 grandchildren: Emily (Derek) Bimer of New Boston, MI, Megan Eichold of Madison Heights, MI, Josh (Allison) Bourke of Troy, MI, Jake Bourke, Jamie (Scott) Oberto of Florida, Jeffrey (Abbra) Smither of St. Clair, MI, Jaclyn (Michael) Ullmann of Chesterfield Township, MI, Danielle (Jack) Muncie of Monroe, MI, Nicholas (Melissa) Shanks of South Rockwood, MI, Lindsay Shanks of New Boston, MI, and Maxwell (Morganne) Shanks of Flat Rock, MI; 9 great-grandchildren: Winter Oberto, Chenzia Smither, Vincent Smither, Frank Smither, Oliver Muncie, Lawson Muncie, Alicia Krantz, Maci Shanks, and Alex Barnes; a sister Nancy Peters of Florida; a sister-in-law Pat Adler of North Carolina; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Beverly was preceded in death by her husbands Larry Eichold on March 10, 1992 and Paul Berec on March 9, 2018; a son Bradley Eldridge; also her brother Larry Adler.

A Private Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to VFW Post #4434, P.O. Box 994, Belleville, MI 48112, and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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On Oct. 18, Debbie from Swift Transportation in New Boston let the Belleville Emergency Food Closet know that they had a couple of pallets of Annie's Mac 'n' Cheese that they would like to give to someone. Belleville First United Methodist Church Pastor Greg Buchner went over to the terminal, got both pallets in the minivan, and then the volunteers from the food closet, along with helpers from the WiHn (Workouts in His Name) group got it unloaded in record time. Total Mac 'n' Cheese: 3,360 boxes. The food closet thanks everyone for a fun time of getting good work done.



Maisy Shay, Belleville Area Council for the Arts 2023 scholarship recipient, reports that she is attending the School of the Art Institute of Chicago pursuing a bachelor of fine arts degree.

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Bernard Belanger, a resident of Sumpter Township for five years, is the *Independent's* new driver who delivers papers to pickup locations for readers on Wednesdays. He is retired after a career as an automotive designer. His former residence was Westland. Belanger likes to hunt, fish, and work. He loves to ride dirt bikes and motorcycles.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Oztman
Steve Cinnamon, center, presented a Thank You sign to the Belleville City Council at its meeting on Oct. 2. It was to show his appreciation for being able to use Victory Park for 22 years of car shows. With him, at left, is Allison Cinnamon Robertson and, at right, Addison Cinnamon. He said he hopes the council will see fit to hang the sign on its wall.

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- Tuesday, Nov. 7 – Van Buren Township work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 8 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 9 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission quarterly meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 13 – "Wheels for Independence" Senior Citizens Transportation Committee, 5:30 p.m., Brown Family Center. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

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If you'd like to adopt myself and Syrup, please go to friendsofmichigan.org/adoptable-cats to submit an application. We're spayed, microchipped, vaccinated, and negative for FIV/FelV.

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VBPS Board of Education agrees to 15% fund balance limit

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education on Monday unanimously approved a resolution that it wants to keep a 15% fund balance as a goal and "just spend what it takes in each year."

School Supt. Pete Kudlak explained, in a memo, that Board Policy 3202 states that the district keep an unassigned general fund balance of at least 5% of estimated expenditures.

"We have operated all knowing that this is a bare minimum and that it is not an ideal percent to function as a school district," he said.

"We do not increase this number in our policy because we do not ever want to find ourselves in violation of a board policy."

"We have had the conversation at board meetings that we want to keep about a 15% fund balance as a goal and then just spend what we take in each year. This is with the understanding that in any given year we might dip a little below the 15% line and in other years we will be a little higher," he said.

"This resolution and vote memorializes this concept and direction for the district," he said.

This action followed the auditor's report on the 2022-23 school year that showed income of about \$72 million and a fund balance of more than \$12 million, which

was 18%. That amounts to 32.92 days.

Auditor Laura Payne of Taylor & Morgan said if the fund balance is too high, the district has to file a spend-down plan and Supt. Kudlak said it is spending on food service to get the amount down.

Vice president Susan Featheringill said if it's in the board policy, they are stuck with that and you can't go below or the state will yell at them.

"There's a fine balance between having enough and not enough," Featheringill said.

Payne said the district was given an "unmodified opinion" in the audit, the highest they could give.

She reported the district had 4,330 students in 2022-23 and each earned \$9,150 in state aid.

She said athletics is not a separate fund, but a part of the general fund and when you have a winning team it costs more. The \$868,000 in expenditures includes about \$700,000 beyond the revenue.

She said they are required to report the district's \$40 million in unfunded pension and health care liability.

Also, at Monday's meeting, the board:

- Heard a report from Darnell Pace, Chartwell's Food Supervisor, and district chef Craig Ash, on the first month of their service to the district. Pace said in September 2022 there were about 365 meals served a day at BHS and in 2023 there were 1,100 and rising. He said the lunches are free now,

so that should be noted. Participation is 68.52%, up from 23.07% last year. Ash said they rely on student feedback and students most enjoy the pizza. Ash said the kitchen makes 80 full pizzas each morning and they are all gone by 11:45 a.m. They told of the innovations on the menu and said they are adding parfaits for breakfast;

- Heard reports on school improvement initiatives that the Early Childhood Center (ECC) and Tyler Elementary School are working on this year. In the spring, the building staffs will follow up with how they were able to accomplish their school improvement goals or the changes that they had to make to reach their goals;

- Approved the resignations of teachers Courtney Morrison from Edgemont on Oct. 20 after less than a year of service and Kelli Kubrak from McBride on Oct. 27 after five years of service;

- Approved hiring the following non-instructional employees: Elizabeth Charlesworth as a paraprofessional and Leigh-Anne Sanders as a teacher of four-year-olds, both at ECC as of Oct. 9; Larry Francis, Jr. as a bus driver as of Oct. 18; Serena Boykin as Student Services Practitioner at Owen as of Oct. 16; and Annette Tharp as school bus aide as of Oct. 20; and

- Heard ECC paraprofessional Tonya Charlesworth say that since the ECC doesn't have bus service for students, some 120 families have to drive their students to school and that leaves the 60 to 75 ECC employees unable to use the hard-surface parking lot. They have to park in a rocky field that has damaged cars. They were told they could park in the staff parking lot, two lots away and without a sidewalk to their location. Weather is getting bad, she said, and employees have to bring dry shoes to wear inside the school after the long trek through mud and wet grass from the staff parking area. She said she is speaking for many employees. They had been promised gravel in the field, but there is none yet and they wonder how the district will snow-blow the gravel. Board president Amy Pearce thanked her for coming to the board and told her the principal and superintendent will let her know what will be done.

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District Library announces Roys Street sidewalk finally poured

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

"The Roys Street sidewalk has been poured," reported Belleville Area District Library Director Mary Jo Suchy at the library board meeting on Oct. 10.

"The city completed work on the Roys Street sewer pipe," she said. "This pipe did not exist on any of the city's blueprints and the photographs from the library construction elevation of that site did not show any sanitary mains at the site of their underground work."

"I share a sense of relief with the city and the church that this problem has finally been solved," Director Suchy said.

"I'm happy it's been taken care of," she said, adding, "I don't have a lot of information from the city."

At a recent Belleville City Council meeting, Pastor Robert White of Belleville First Baptist Church said the problem his church has had with the drain from its baptistry and two restrooms had been solved by the city finding its unmapped pipe that was damaged by library construction.

The problem had been going on ever since library construction and the source had been identified by Pastor White and city DPW Director Rick Rutherford from the beginning, with the library construction crew denying responsibility.

The present city administration reportedly said it didn't care whose fault it was, but to just fix it.

At the 51-minute meeting on Oct. 10, the board:

- Learned the library's analog phone lines, damaged in an August storm, are still out of service to the fax machine, elevator,

and fire system. Suchy said she is exploring options for converting the elevator phone and fire phone to a cellular service;

- Heard Suchy report that six library staff members have been sidelined by COVID over the course of the past three weeks and most of them hadn't had COVID before. She said most of the cases can be attributed to a family member or general community spread. Staffing all of the public service desks has been challenging during this time, she said;

- Heard Suchy report that the update to the library website has long been on her to-do list and they are looking at multiple firms of professional library or municipal to update the site. The event calendar and room-scheduling software that is being used will be discontinued next August so

they are evaluating new products for that, as well;

- Learned the youth/teen library internet use for the 2023-24 fiscal year so far has increased 70.24% from use in the 2022-23 fiscal year at this time. The adult internet use for this fiscal year so far has increased by 21.30%. Total library visits are up 13.30%. Youth/teen programming is up 32.73%; and

- Was informed honey harvested from the bees on the roof was to be available at Harvest Fest on Oct. 14 at \$10 a bottle. Fresh energy has been brought to planning of the activities for Harvest Fest by library employees who had planned new events.

Court Watching

Jakeem Rodney Ware, 23, of Ann Arbor, was present for his Oct. 18 probable cause conference from the Washtenaw County Jail where he was incarcerated on an unrelated matter. He is charged with malicious destruction of property from \$1,000 to \$20,000 in value and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer on July 21, 2020 in Van Buren Township.

His court-appointed defense attorney Kerry Martin said he had no discovery at all and Judge Martin adjourned the probable cause conference to Oct. 25. His \$5,000 personal bond was changed to \$1,000/10% at the request of the defense attorney so he could accrue time while serving in Washtenaw County. The warrant for his arrest was recalled. He is not to return to Town and Country mobile home park.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4
10 AM - NOON
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LDFA

(continued from page 3)

that the LDFA would be holding up money that helps kids learn and was "getting funding on the backs of our children. It's ridiculous!"

"What's next?" Peters asked and Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, said, "Timing is critical. We should try to start when we can."

Power passed out maps of the proposed LDFA area, from I-94 to Van Born and Rawsonville to Hannan.

McNamara said this is a grandiose giveaway opportunity.

"I can't believe they are allowing us to do this," he said. "We're the last of the Mohicans in Southeast Michigan ... a golden diamond."

Peters said if they go to the proper people in state government, they can get money.

Kudlak suggested finding out how the southern state got its money and Girdwood said it used tobacco and alcohol taxes to fund the infrastructure.

Peters said if there's a financial crash, they can count on sin taxes since people drink more and smoke more during a crash.

Girdwood said Van Buren Township has this opportunity and its neighbors are doing it.

Dotson said it is not appropriate for this LDFA to move on this.

Girdwood said this would first go to the Aerotropolis LDFA board which would work together with the township on the expenses and revenues. Then they would send it to the LDFA corporate board for a public hearing. Then the corporate board would approve it and it would go to the VBT board.

"This proposal shouldn't have come to this board," Peters said. "We know too much."

Kudlak asked how much Aerotropolis makes on this and Girdwood said very little and there are no extra dues. He said he asked Romulus and Huron Township if they could help with legal fees and they did.

"If we get this thing through ... it could still help us out with Grace Lake," McNamara said.

Girdwood said it could be amended.

Kudlak asked if this could happen again and Girdwood said, "Yes. Do I have an interest in that? No." He said the township could have large, billion-dollar projects north of Willow Run.

McNamara said the VBT LDFA would take no action on this new proposal. He said he just wanted to roll it out for them so they would know what was going on.

In other action the LDFA approved the quarterly meeting dates for 2024 as: Jan. 9, April 9, July 9, and Oct. 8.

Court Watching

Jacob Marschall Duzan, 33, of Ypsilanti was video-arraigned while in custody by Sumpter Township/Huron Township on a bench warrant on Oct. 19 by Magistrate Al Hindman. His probable cause conference was set for Nov. 1. Bond is \$2,500/10%.

Duzan is charged with open alcohol container in vehicle, carrying a concealed weapon, and driving while license suspended on Jan. 2 in Sumpter Township.

Magistrate Hindman advised Duzan to address the outstanding amount of \$3,428 owed to the court for sentenced cases.

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BHS football ends league season with perfect 7-0 record

The Belleville High School Varsity Boys' Football team as of Friday overall had 9 wins and no losses with 7-0 in the league.

The playoff games begin at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27, with BHS vs. Ann Arbor Huron at the BHS field.

So far, these are the BHS scores this season:

- Aug. 25 – River Rouge at Wayne State University, BHS, 35-River Rouge, 28
- Aug. 31 – BHS, 56-Livonia Stevenson, 7
- Sept. 8–BHS, 56-Livonia Churchill, 0
- Sept. 15–BHS, 53–Dearborn, 0
- Sept. 22–BHS, 42–Livonia Franklin, 3
- Sept. 29–BHS, 35–Westland John Glenn, 8, Homecoming
- Oct. 5–BHS, 63 – Wayne Memorial, 0
- Oct. 13–BHS, 40 – Fordson Dearborn, 0
- Oct. 20–BHS, 42 – Northville, 0

“Trust, but verify.”
– Ronald Reagan

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WANTED – Someone to build a website for an on-line business to sell & auction items. (734) 697-5482 10/26

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VBT

(continued from page 1)

mode and now they are heading into a maintenance mode. He said they have left future capital improvement funds in place. McNamara said the township has received many grants and has been “killing” grants. He said VBT has received many upcoming

grants, including those for Haggerty Road, Belleville Road, Tyler Road sidewalks and more coming.

He said Standard & Poors gave the township a Double-A rating for credit, like Canton, Livonia, and the state of Michigan, and, “We got that before we got the Visteon settlement.”

Clerk Leon Wright said this is the first

time the board has presented an actual balanced budget.

In other business at the 45-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved the job descriptions for two full-time positions for the new Community Center: Recreation Programmer and Facilities Coordinator. The Recreation Programmer will help Recreation Director Jennifer Zanglein with oversight, education, and special needs and the Facilities Coordinator will cover maintenance of the building under Zanglein. Salaries are \$57,142 each;

- Approved the first reading of Ordinance 10-17-23 to allow the Board of Trustees to modify the required minimum separation distance between group child care home uses, as recommended by the planning commission. Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power said local municipalities have the ability to modify the 1,500’ distance separating regulated daycares. He said there is a large need for daycare in VBT, including Country Walk subdivision, where two facilities are near each other;

- Approved Special Land Use for a distribution center by Crossroads Distribution Center North 11, LLC to be located west of Haggerty Road, south of Van Born Road, as recommended by the planning commission. It is for construction of a large, warehouse-style building on 69 acres out of the 175 they have and includes an extensive conservation easement;

- Approved the Van Buren Township Support Emergency Operations Plan, which Supervisor McNamara said is, “what we do doing disasters.” It supports the Wayne County Emergency Operations Plan for use in the event of disaster or severe emergency of natural, human, wartime, technological or terrorism origin;

- Heard Trustee Kevin Martin announce that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and board members are wearing pink to support this. He said it most commonly affects women and awareness is important;

- Heard Clerk Wright announce that they recently learned that former Supervisor and Trustee Paul White’s wife Sue died on Sept. 24. Sue was always kind-hearted, he said. McNamara said they will send a message to White and all board members will sign;

- Learned the Candy Loop at Quirk Park is set for Saturday, Oct. 21, with a rain date of Saturday, Oct. 28. [It did rain on Oct. 21.] Zanglein said 800 to 1,000 people regularly attend the event. She also noted the Punkin’ Rollout at Van Buren Park sled hill is at 10 a.m., Nov. 4. “It’s weird. It’s fun,” she said, noting there were 50-75 people at the first Rollout last year. This year they have Growth Works as a sponsor and the first 150 people to attend get donuts. There also will be a 20’ inflatable pumpkin;

- Heard McNamara announce that the township’s last Forgotten Harvest food distribution is the day of this meeting. He said they started Forgotten Harvest planning to go six weeks and it turned into three years. He said there is still a need for it. He thanked all the volunteers who helped over the years during all kinds of weather; and

- Heard Clerk Wright announce that the only election for VBT voters on Nov. 7 is for those in precincts 7 and 8 for an operational millage question in the Lincoln School District. This will not cancel that night’s township board meeting.

Birthdays

Oct. 30 – Chandra Warren, Amanda Riggs, MacKenzie Hunt

Oct. 31 – Rebecca Hasen

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

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Ed and Mary Zehel, lifelong residents of Belleville, recently returned from their 20th Royal Caribbean cruise. It was a 14-night cruise to Greenland. The ports of call in Greenland were Qaqortoq, Nanortalik, and Nuuk, the capital. They also had a stop in St. John’s, Newfoundland. They enjoyed seeing icebergs, mountains, and the nice little towns.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Oct. 26** – Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, presents Larry Spark at 8 p.m. \$30. Food available. Public welcome. Information: (734) 787-1137.
- **Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27 and 28** – Sumpter Township Fall Vendor Market and Bake Sale, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., Sumpter Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd. For table rentals, at \$10 each, contact Maryann Watson, (734) 461-9373
- **Friday, Oct. 27** – Tacos & Margaritas from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. Information: (734) 941-3030.
- **Saturday, Oct. 28** – This is the rain date for the Van Buren Township Candy Loop at Quirk Park from 4 to 6 p.m. Wear your costumes. Rained out last week.
- **Saturday, Oct. 28** – Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, presents a Halloween Dance with Pickin’ Roots, \$15. Food

- available. Public welcome. Information: (734) 787-1137.
- **Sunday, Oct. 29** – Trunk or Treat, everyone welcome from 2 to 5 p.m. at Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. Information: (734) 941-3030.
 - **Monday, Oct. 30** – Belleville Farmers Market at the Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.
 - **Monday, Oct. 30** – Sumpter Township Halloween Trunk or Treat, 6-8 p.m. at Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd. Presented by Sumpter Township Community Outreach.
 - **Monday, Oct. 30** – Children’s Clothing Giveaway from God’s Closet, from 3-6 p.m. at the Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 89 S. Edgemont St. Come shop for new and gently used children’s clothes and shoes. This event is available to everyone for a small entrance fee of \$1. You can drop donated children’s clothes off at the address above on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday from 7-8 p.m., or Saturday or Sunday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.



City of Belleville Public Notice



CITY OF BELLEVILLE NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

In compliance with State Election Law 168, Section 798, a (rescheduled) test will be conducted on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI. This test will certify the program used in tabulators that process voter ballots in the Tuesday, November 7, 2023 Local General Election.

Testing will be open to the public and citizens may attend.

The City of Belleville will provide, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations with advance notice to the Clerk’s Office (734-697-9323, extension 7010).

Briana Hootman
City Clerk

Publish: October 26, 2023

Washtenaw County Elections Division Public Notice

NOTICE OF ELECTION
FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN:

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held in the Township listed above on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

At the following location:

Van Buren Township:

Precincts 7 & 8 at Belleville High School (501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, MI 48111)

Please take notice that the Lincoln Consolidated School district will be voting on the following millage proposals as presented and listed below:

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL
EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE
AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW
18.1067 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS AND
.5 MILL FOR 10 YEARS FOR
HEADLEE RESTORATION PURPOSES, IF NECESSARY

LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL
FOR PUBLIC RECREATION AND PLAYGROUNDS
.0943 MILL FOR 5 YEARS

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Township office listed above. Sample ballots can also be found at www.mi.gov/vote.

Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot or go to www.mi.gov/vote.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Published: October 26, 2023

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OF VAN BUREN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2023**

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

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Frazier moved, Boynton seconded to approve the agenda with the amendment to move New Business Item #6: To consider approval of Special Land Use for a distribution center by Crossroads Distribution Center North 11, LLC (Planning Case 23-031), to be located west of Haggerty Road, South of Van Born Road to New Business Item #1. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, Boynton seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2023, Prepaid List of October 5, 2023, Prepaid List of October 12, 2023, Voucher List of October 17, 2023 and Approval of the Van Buren Township Support Emergency Operations Plan. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month; former Supervisor and Township Trustee Paul White’s wife Sue passed away on September 24th; Candy Loop will take place this Saturday, October 21 from 4-6 p.m. at Quirk Park; the

Punkin Rollout will take place on Saturday, November 4th from 10 until noon at the Sled Hill in Van Buren Park; Tuesday, October 17 was the last day for Forgotten Harvest; the Belleville Tigers are playing a home game against the Northville Mustangs on Friday, October 20 at 7:00 and Lincoln Consolidated School District has a Special Election coming up on November 7th to vote on an operational millage.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Frazier moved, Wright seconded to approve the Special Land Use for a distribution center by Crossroads Distribution Center North 11, LLC (Planning Case 23-031), to be located west of Haggerty Road, South of Van Born Road. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2023-27: 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed General Fund Budgets and Resolution 2023-24: Salary Schedule. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Martin seconded to approve Resolution 2023-28: 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed Water and Sewer Budgets and Water Rate Fee Schedule. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Boynton seconded to approve Resolution 2023-29: 2023 Amended and 2024 Proposed Special Revenue Funds Budgets. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Boynton seconded to approve the Community Services Job Descriptions for Recreation Programmer and Facilities Coordinator. Motion Carried.

Kelley moved, Frazier seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 10-17-23: To allow the Board of Trustees to modify the required minimum separations distance between group child care home uses. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Boynton moved, Wright seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Published: October 26, 2023

Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Van Buren Public Schools will receive sealed bid proposals until **2:00 p.m. on November 9, 2023**, for **Series 3 Asbestos Abatement Services at McBride Middle School, Savage Elementary School and Tyler Elementary School**. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately following the deadline for submission. Van Buren Public Schools will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

Bid documents may be viewed and downloaded at:

<https://app.e-builder.net/public/publicLanding.aspx?QS=47668be5936549f687bbbab4b7127cc8>

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on October 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88308822659?pwd=cnk4L3JHaWdNUEI4dlc0OGZ5Ymp6QT09>

Meeting ID: 883 0882 2659

Passcode: asbestos

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,88308822659#,,,,*09554317# US

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

Documents will be available for viewing on **October 26, 2023**. Any questions, contact Jeremy Westcott at: Jeremy.Westcott@2ETC.com.

Publish: October 26, 2023

Friends of Belleville Area District Library set Used Book Sale Nov. 4, 5

The "Holiday Book Fest" is set to begin on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth St.

A members-only preview sale will take place 11 a.m. – noon for the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library. Memberships will be available at the door. The used book sale will be open to the public:

- Saturday, Nov. 4, 12-3 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 5, 1-4 p.m.

Used books will be discounted as follows: Adult and teen hardcovers 2 for \$1, paperbacks 4 for \$1; children's books 4 for \$1; audio books, Blu-rays, CDs and DVDs all 4 for \$1.

Sunday only, there will be a bag sale. Fill a bag for \$4 each.

Credit cards will be accepted.

This book sale will feature holiday fiction for all ages, non-fiction books for holiday cooking and decorating, also festive CDs and DVDs.

There will be a new area set up for Home Schooling with teaching manuals, workbooks and supplies.

Thousands of used books will be available, including adult, teen and children's fiction and non-fiction, with the different genres: biography, classics, cookbooks, fantasy, gardening, history, literature, religion, self-help, and more.

There will be a table of collectible, special-priced books including boxed sets, coffee table books, complete series, and signed copies, perfect for holiday gifts.

For more information and membership applications, see www.belleville.lib.mi.us.

**For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips. One call
does it all: 734-699-9020**
The Belleville-Area Independent



City of Belleville Public Notice



Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee **REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS**

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."
– Dr. Seuss, "Happy Birthday to You!"

Public Notice

STATE OF MICHIGAN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT – FAMILY DIVISION WAYNE COUNTY PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE CASE # 23-107340-NC

In the matter of the name change of Suzanne Maria Shirey
TO ALL PERSONS including those whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Suzanne Maria Shirey has filed a petition for name change. A name change hearing will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. at C.A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48226 before Judge Hon. Eric W. Cholack via video conference to change the name of Suzanne Maria Shirey to Suzanne Maria Lock.

Publish: October 26, 2023

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 231 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Oct. 15:

0423 – property check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0759 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0839 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0913 – family trouble, Country Walk Blvd.
1022 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1022 – intrusion alarm, Elwell Rd.
1313 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1357 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
1434 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
1641 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1904 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Nautica Dr.
2004 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2044 – assist fire dept., S. Timberview Dr.
2146 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2219 – harassment call, W. Archwood Dr.
2224 – property damage accident, N. Belleville I-94 ramp W/W. I-94
2241 – suicidal person, America
2349 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton

Monday, Oct. 16:

0051 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Monterey Dr./Alba Ct.
0558 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Colonial Rd.
0918 – shooting, Oak Ln.
0938 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0942 – threat, Pebblebrook Dr.
1040 – civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.
1057 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1217 – civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.
1307 – larceny, Union St.
1307 – assist other dept., Country Walk Ct.
1317 – fraud, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1513 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1530 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Ecorse Rd.
1555 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1622 – fraud, Purple Sage Ct.
1711 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1832 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hull Rd.
1832 – larceny from auto, Parkwood Dr.
1832 – juvenile complaint, Grove Rd.
1915 – mental subject, Walden Woods
2021 – noise complaint, Mida Dr.
2101 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2121 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2145 – harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
2232 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd./E. I-94
2340 – welfare check, Bradley Dr.

Tuesday, Oct. 17:

0108 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0356 – assist other dept., Country Walk Ct.
0740 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0729 – private property/property damage accident, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
0754 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0820 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./N. I-275 Ecorse ramp
0826 – assist fire dept., Colonial Rd.
0841 – assault & battery, N. Sunset Ln.
1401 – threat, Ecorse Rd.
1457 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1500 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1542 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1654 – welfare check, E. Huron River Dr./Edison Lake Rd.
1705 – hospice death, Stonebridge Ct.
1729 – assist other dept., Main St./Fifth St.
1806 – domestic, Daisy Blvd.
1819 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1819 – malicious destruction of property, Estate
1902 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
1842 – fraud, Hardwood Dr.
2124 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2234 – welfare check, Robbe Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 18:

0744 – civil matter, Quirk Rd.
0850 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1005 – harassment call, Fret Rd.
1010 – civil matter, Wildflower Ct.
1027 – 911 welfare check, Country Walk Ct.
1027 – harassment call, Country Walk Ct.
1140 – assist other dept., Country Ln.
1221 – property damage accident, Anna Dr.
1427 – misc. complaint, McBride Ave.
1547 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1557 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1603 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1603 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1632 – neighbor trouble, Vernon St.
1700 – juvenile complaint, Oak Blvd.
1812 – intrusion alarm, N. Timberview Dr.
1819 – juvenile complaint, Peachtree Ln.
1823 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1936 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1953 – welfare check, Bradley Dr.
2018 – road hazard, Thornwood Dr./Van Born Rd.
2322 – welfare check, Coolidge St.

Thursday, Oct. 19:

0210 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.
0218 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0545 – welfare check, Water's Edge Ln.
0735 – property damage accident, Belleville
0749 – property damage accident, WB I-94/Southport
0812 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
1112 – unattended death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1137 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Vista Dr./Laguna Dr.
1328 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
1606 – juvenile complaint, Martinsville Rd.
1515 – intrusion alarm, Winding Pond Dr.
1548 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
1547 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.
1611 – 911 welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.
1611 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.
1616 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1729 – harassment call, Rayna Ct.
1759 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
1808 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Van Born Rd.

1902 – civil matter, Bemis Rd.
2054 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2132 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
2138 – shooting, Elwell Rd.
2153 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

2247 – civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.
2250 – civil matter, N. Bellridge Dr.
2308 – Menards property check, Belleville Rd.
2311 – property damage accident, Savage Rd. / Martinsville Rd.

Friday, Oct. 20:

0027 – vagrant, Belleville Rd.
0053 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Jackson St./Hayes St.
0109 – property check, Rawsonville Rd.
0139 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd.
0325 – 911 welfare check, Maurice Dr.
0358 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
0836 – domestic, Park Estates Dr.
0910 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rolan Meadows
0920 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0952 – threat, Belleville Rd.
1123 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1146 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
1211 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
1237 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd.
1246 – misc. complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
1329 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Purple Sage Ct.
1346 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1353 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Purple Sage Ct.
1435 – civil matter, N. Sunset Ln.
1425 – misc. complaint, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
1620 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1618 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1936 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Victoria St.
1734 – fraud, Michigan Ave.
1915 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1945 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
2004 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.
2048 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Woodbury Dr.
2138 – family trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2142 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2218 – animal complaint, Old Michigan Rd.
2154 – vehicle lockout, Rawsonville Rd.
2305 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2312 – assist fire dept., Edwards Rd.
2356 – assist other dept., Michigan Ave./Denton

Saturday, Oct. 21:

0326 – assist fire dept., Kent Ln.
0501 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0621 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service
0621 – road hazard, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
0750 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
0848 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0919 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0933 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Lake Point Blvd.
1139 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1541 – breaking & entering, Van Buren St.
1614 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1635 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Quirk Rd.
1902 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martz Rd.
2036 – civil matter, Bemis Rd.
2110 – juvenile complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2231 – property damage accident, Vernon St.
Also on this week's log are 61 traffic stops, 21 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 15:

2236 – suspicious, Sumpter Rd.
2334 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.

Monday, Oct. 16:

1033 – harassment call, Main St.
1241 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.
1311 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Ln.
1519 – traffic stop, Madelon St./Roland St.
1523 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1832 – suspicious, South St.
2043 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Angola St.
2107 – traffic stop, Clarence St./E. Huron River

Tuesday, Oct. 17:

0613 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
0738 – traffic stop, Angola St./E. Huron River Dr.
1009 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
1202 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.
1211 – disorderly, Owen St.
1402 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
1425 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
1538 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1726 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Main St./Fifth St.
2358 – traffic stop, Denton Rd./Belleville Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 18:

0546 – traffic stop, Clarence St./E. Huron River
0910 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. Liberty St.
1407 – intrusion alarm, Savage Rd.
1913 – suspicious, Sumpter Rd.
1941 – vehicle lockout, W. Columbia Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 19:

1625 – juvenile complaint, N. Liberty St.
1647 – property damage accident, Charles St.
2130 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Chaney Ave.
2323 – assist other dept., Savage Rd./Victorian Ln.

Friday, Oct. 20:

0001 – 911 welfare check, N. Aberdeen Ct.
0323 – suspicious, Main St.
1221 – 911 welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
1541 – traffic stop, Savage Rd.
1549 – traffic stop, Arlene Ln./Savage Rd.
1606 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.
1620 – traffic offense, Savage/tracks
1705 – intrusion alarm, Henry St.
1751 – property damage accident, South St. / E. Wabash Ave.

1933 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
2108 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.

Saturday, Oct. 21:

0359 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
0753 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1305 – welfare check, Carmell St.
1321 – larceny, Third St.
1804 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
1844 – suspicious, Sumpter Rd.
2140 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
2311 – malicious destruction of property, Carmell

There were 20 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 15:

0400 – property damage accident, Martinsville Rd. / Harris Rd.
0732 – property damage accident, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0825 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0921 – damage to property, 20000 bl. Sherwood
1613 – citizen assist, Mulberry Dr.
1825 – traffic complaint/parking, Mulberry Dr.
1946 – suspicious circumstance, Oregon/Florida
2024 – citizen assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
2112 – welfare check, Elwell Rd./Arkona Rd.
2119 – suspicious vehicle, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2218 – weapons offense, Carriage Ln./Country Club Blvd.

Monday, Oct. 16:

0121 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0626 – alarm, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0949 – animal complaint, Hampshire Dr.
1125 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1155 – juvenile matter, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1209 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1232 – animal complaint, Lohr Rd./Willis Rd.
1359 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1536 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1537 – 911 hang up, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1542 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Martinsville
1757 – lost property, Mulberry Dr.
1937 – suspicious vehicle, Arizona St.
2100 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2128 – fire dept. assist, Oregon St.
2222 – breaking & entering report, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

2225 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2236 – suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 17:

0713 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.
0829 – follow-up investigation, out of township
0849 – animal complaint, Hampshire Dr.
1055 – alarm, 8900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1142 – larceny, 49000 bl. Willow Rd.
1215 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1420 – 911 hang up, Wear Rd./Karr Rd.
1506 – assist other agency, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Martinsville Rd.
1651 – fire dept. assist, Colorado St.
1656 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2212 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2214 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.
2320 – fire dept. assist, Knollwood Dr.

Wednesday, Oct. 18:

0619 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
0818 – property damage accident, Bemis/Haggerty
1011 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1046 – felony warrant arrest, out of township
1223 – suspicious person, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1318 – suspicious circumstance, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1408 – welfare check, New Mexico St.
1457 – mental health call, 25000 bl. Martinsville
1610 – civil matter, Knollwood Dr.
1801 – 911 hang up, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1807 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter Rd. / Harris Rd.
1831 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1904 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
2005 – suspicious person, 8700 bl. Rawsonville
2258 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Thursday, Oct. 19:
0916 – mental health call, Magnolia Dr.
1147 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1349 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.

(Continued on page 19)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1524 – breaking & entering report, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1553 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Bemis Rd.

Friday, Oct. 20:

0158 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.
0220 – suspicious vehicle, Willis Rd./Sumpter Rd.
0404 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Willis
0642 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0718 – property damage accident, Willow Rd. / Haggerty Rd.

0749 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

1149 – assist other agency, Texas St.

1151 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.

1229 – follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.

1343 – citizen assist, Magnolia Dr.

1544 – suspicious circumstance, Delaware St.

2044 – shots fired, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Oct. 21:

0010 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1149 – civil matter, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

1154 – welfare check, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.

1336 – fire dept. assist, Nevada St.

1344 – welfare check, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.

1357 – suspicious circumstance, 41000 bl. Harris

1411 – shots fired, 5600 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

1512 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

1807 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.

1848 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1916 – malicious destruction of property, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

Also on this week's log are 186 patrol checks, 83 traffic stops, and 17 misc. details.

Corrections:

Here's a picture of candidate Beebe

On page 3 of last week's *Independent*, we published the stories and pictures about the five candidates running for seats on the Belleville City Council. We made an error and missed putting in the picture for Jeremiah Beebe.

We apologize for the mistake and here's the picture.



Beebe

Quote was \$94,900

Sumpter Township contractor and resident Eric Partridge said the quote the township board approved for his work on the fence and sign for Martinsville Cemetery was actually \$94,900, not the \$7,900 quoted in our story in the Oct. 12 edition. He said the price we printed would have been quite a bargain for them, although the price the board approved was a good bargain, as well. We regret the error.

Leanna was present

We have been advised that Olivia Vitti, third-place winner in the ages 6-12 category in the Art Show pictured on last week's front page, was not present for the picture. Leanna Scott, second place winner, was in the picture. We regret the mixup and apologize.

Rosemary K. Oztman, editor

Belleville to get \$175,000 to fix roads in Harbour Pointe subdivision

The city of Belleville is among the 47 villages and small cities with populations less than 10,000 to receive road funding grants awarded the the Community Service Infrastructure Fund Category B program.

On Friday, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced the grants totalling \$8 million. The city of Belleville is scheduled to get \$175,000 for repair to Harbour Pointe, Light Tower Drive and Bay Pointe Drive, determined to be the streets with the worst surfaces in the city.

The city council is currently working on a millage proposal to upgrade all streets in the city.

Established by the Michigan Legislature in 2018, the CSIF is administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation and serves as a stop-gap program to help fund road projects in small communities.

Successful projects were selected, in part, because they are paired with planned infrastructure work, coordinated with other road agencies, focused on extending the useful life of the road, and had limited funding sources for road improvements.

"These grants will help communities across Michigan fix local roads faster to save drivers time and money," said Gov. Whitmer. "Since I took office, Michigan has fixed 20,000 lane miles of road and 1,400 bridges while supporting over 100,000 jobs, and today's funding will add to that total. Let's keep working together to fix the damn roads so people can go to work, drop their kids off at school, and run errands without blowing a tire or cracking any axle. Let's get this done to make a real difference in people's lives."

Grant awards range from \$46,000 to \$250,000 for road resurfacing, culvert replacement, pavement crack sealing, preventative maintenance, and ancillary stormwater management measures.

There are three grants in Wayne County. Besides Belleville, the city of Ecorse is getting \$250,000 for 8th Street, 10th Street and 12th Street. The city of Highland Park is getting \$250,000 for Stevens Street and Winona Street.

Enacted in 1987 and reauthorized in 1993, the Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) helps finance highway, road and street projects that are critical to the movement of people and products, and for getting workers to their jobs, materials to growers and manufacturers, and finished goods to consumers.

TEDF "Category B," or the "Community Service Infrastructure Fund," was enacted in 2018 and provided \$3 million per year through fiscal year 2023 to be allocated for road improvements in cities and villages with a population of 10,000 or fewer. In 2023, legislators approved a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$25 million to be granted over three years.

For the fiscal year 2024 program, applications were received totaling \$20 million in requests. The recommended grants, totaling \$8 million will be matched with \$13 million (61%) in other funds committed by local agencies.



Don Sherman of Van Buren Township brought his Whippet named Lily to the Monster Mutt Walk on Saturday.

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BREAK-INS CAUGHT ON CAMERA

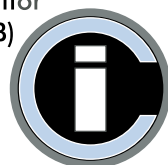


Actual hardware may vary.



Includes:

- Installation
- 4) HD Cameras (bullet or dome)
- 19" Monitor
- DVR (2TB)



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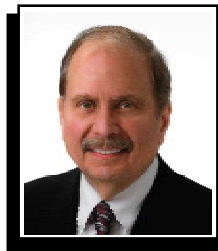
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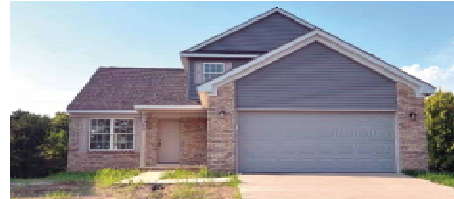
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