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Vol. 29.51 Thursday, December 21, 2023

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Victoria Commons: 235 Aberdeen Ct.



Old Belleville, 86 Bedell



Old Belleville, 184 S. Biggs



Mobile Home Parks, 77 Carmell



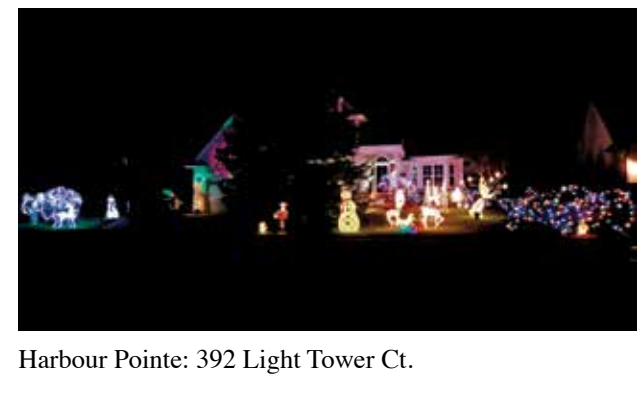
Mobile Home Parks, 85 Carmell



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Independent photos by James Otzman

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Two police departments respond to teen fight in library parking lot

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Police came from Belleville and Van Buren Township to deal with a fight that started just after 3 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, in the parking lot at the Belleville Area District Library.

Library Director Mary Jo Suchy reported what happened to members of the district library board at their regular meeting on Dec. 12.

She said there were two girls who fought and more joined in and a lot came to watch.

Library board chairperson Sharon Peters said the teen room on the second floor of the library overlooks the parking lot and teens came down to watch the fight.

Chairperson Peters said the library has footage of surveillance tapes which she viewed. She said Belleville High School Principal Nicole Crockett came to the library from the school.

When asked if there is good communication with the high school, Suchy said, "We need to make it a little more seamless."

Suchy said they want the students to enjoy the library and this altercation was a concern.

Peters said Suchy is interacting with the school to promote good results at the library and at school. She said there will be consequences both at the library and the school for those involved in the fight.

Suchy said there will be some students banned from the library for a period, which means if they come to the library, the librarians will advise them they cannot enter and if they do, the librarians will call police. She said this is the way banning has been done in the past.

Suchy said they also have instituted a temporary ban on fast food because she wants to make it slightly less of a food court and more of a library.

Peters said teens have been bringing big pizzas into the library. She asked members of the board to make an effort to come through the library after school when they can to give the staff another set of eyes.

Peters said the students generally are positive even if they are loud. Some of the adult patrons have objected to the noise, she said, and have decided not to come to the library right after school lets out. Staff members have said they'd rather have the teens at the library than walking around downtown after school.

"Teenagers are teenagers for a reason," Suchy said. "You remember what it was like to be a teenager."

"This is a library problem and should be solved by the library," said board member John Juriga.

Suchy said when there are 60 kids in the building, the sound level goes up.

Board member Joy Cichewicz, who is

a librarian in Ypsilanti, said the Novi library has hired what they call the "Teen Whisperer" to engage teens and put games out.

Juriga said Stockbridge had leased a building for kids to gather in after school to socialize and there are teachers who are there.

Peters said the Belleville library has posted a Library Monitor position for the same sort of Teen Whisperer. Suchy said that Teen Whisperer name has a nice ring to it.

At the end of the meeting, president Peters said in her most recent column for the library newsletter, she wrote about how the library has something for everyone. She said she is happy to see so many young people there.

She said some days they come after school, but they have half-days or game days, they are there earlier or longer. She said different kinds of community groups could help.

"We are providing a great service to the town and the town should help us," Peters said. "We can't do this alone."

She said it requires the engagement of the parents, as well, and not just sending their kids to the library.

Peters said the fight in the parking lot was the biggest incident so far and there have been smaller things happen.

Belleville Police Chief Kris Faull later said that three juvenile females were fighting and some tried to break it up. Chief Faull said she believes they were freshmen and a sophomore, but all were under the age of 18.

She said the girls were turned over to their parents and a juvenile diversion program at the 34th District Court. She said the library filed trespassing orders against those involved.

Chief Faull said Belleville just had one car on the road at the time and so Van Buren Township was called in to help.

She said on Dec. 13, she, Belleville Officer Bart Devos, and school representatives sat down to talk to the parents.

In other business at the Dec. 12 regular meeting, the board:

- Heard Director Suchy report that the "farm market" that the youth services department set up for Harvest Fest has been transformed into the Belleville Bakery. She said this active play area is being well used and she has seen children run right past the computers to go play in this area. They are learning colors and numbers as well as how to cooperate with others, she said. Parents and grandparents interact with their kids and there even is a tutor who uses this area to teach addition and subtraction;
- Learned that Suchy has consulted with the adult services librarians concerning

Don Sherman's generous offer to donate his automotive collection to the library. Suchy said he has been informed that the library would not be able to accept his entire collection, but would be willing to evaluate it for specific titles that could be added to the library. Suchy said she gave him contact information for the Benson Ford Research Center and the Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum. She said they further discussed having him do a library program since he possesses a wealth of automotive history and knowledge;

- Were told that the library's analog phone lines are all finally working after being knocked out during the storm and tornado last summer. They serviced the elevator and an old-fashioned fax machine that is better for certain documents;

- Learned the branch in Sumpter had a chronic plumbing problem and there was a plumbing problem at the main library as well and Jerry the plumber at Richard's Plumbing and Heating fixed them both in one day. His bill of \$775 was paid as part of the checks approved at the meeting. Also approved was a check for \$4,628 to the city of Belleville for sewer repair on Roys Street;

- Was advised to fill out the annual evaluation form for Suchy and return it to Deputy Director Hilary Savage so it can be acted upon at the next meeting. Personnel chairperson Linda Priest said they will have a committee meeting to prepare a

recommendation;

- Welcomed visitor Dr. Maria Jackson-Smith of Van Buren Township, who has been an English professor for 22 years at Wayne County Community College. She said her son graduated from Belleville High School and is in his first semester at Eastern Michigan University. Her daughter is an eighth grader at McBride. She said she is interested in getting more active in the community. She said her friend, Dr. Julie Kissel, suggested she attend the library board meeting;

- Learned the draft audit arrived that day and it will be reviewed by the Finance Committee before being brought to the board;

- Heard Suchy say that since people are constantly taking pens from the library, she has ordered pens with the library's name and phone number on them at a cost of \$998.80 so they can serve as advertising;

- Heard Peters say that jazz musician Phil Hale was great when he recently entertained at the library and now he is coming back on Jan. 10 at 7 p.m.; and

- Heard Juriga say it pleases him to see that the library has had 59,000 visits this fiscal year. He said at the recent meeting of planning commissions for the tri-community, they all agreed Belleville is a good central downtown for the tri-community, with its library, high school, and now the museum finally open.

Sumpter man sentenced to 3-20 years in prison in plot to kidnap Whitmer

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Antrim County Circuit Court Judge Charles Hamlyn sentenced Shawn Michael Fix, 41, of Sumpter Township to 3-20 years in prison. Fix's co-defendant Brian Higgins of Wisconsin was sentenced to 36 months of probation.

The two had pled guilty earlier this year to providing material support to an act of terrorism by helping to locate and surveil the governor's vacation home in a failed 2020 plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The sentence on Dec. 7 ended nearly three years of legal proceedings.

Both apologized to Whitmer before hearing their sentences.

Higgins was represented by Traverse City attorney Michael Naughton of North Coast Legal. He said his client had multiple

mental breakdowns while held in jails for 217 days.

In a sentencing memorandum, Naughton said Higgins attempted suicide multiple times. He was treated at Munson Medical Center and later released on bond to return to Wisconsin.

Judge Hamlyn said Higgins' probation will focus specifically on mental health and trauma.

But Hamlyn said Fix's actions implied he wanted to be involved in the plot, including hosting meetings at his rural Sumpter home and participating in military-style drills.

Three of Fix's and Higgins' co-defendants were found not guilty in the same court after a jury trial in September.

The trial of Eric Molitor, and brothers Michael and William Null ran more than three weeks.

Of the original 14 men that were charged in state and federal court since the plot was revealed, nine have been convicted while five have been acquitted.



Shawn Michael Fix

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Merry Christmas -- Let's make our celebrations full

Santas are everywhere in the tri-community this year. We've had Santas for children, for dogs, for a hair salon and fire hall. And, often there are free pictures with Santa.

Santa is far from the true reason for the season, but Santas seem to be very popular, at least with the adults. Often, the kids on Santa's lap aren't enthralled and cry their little eyes out, calling for someone to rescue them from the strange person who holds them.

And, the music. We've had concerts at the schools and at the churches and there was the community choral concert that everyone loved.

And, bright lights decorate houses and yards and fences throughout the area. Some of the displays have motion-activated music and the neighbors come by to hear the carols.

The community's heart is full of the Christmas season marking the birth of Jesus. There are other religious celebrations this month: Hanukkah, Yule (Pagan/Wiccan/Winter Solstice), Guru Gobind Singh's birthday (Sikh), and Kwanzaa.

Whatever you celebrate this month adds to the brightness of the season. Today's winter solstice officially welcomes us into the dark days of winter that follow.

We wish you, our reader, a very happy holiday, whatever it is you celebrate over the next few weeks. Pass along a smile when you can.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The Old Farmers Almanac points out that 123123 is the last day of this year.

We've got the rest of the story on the house on Bedell Street that got hit by a postal delivery truck. We published the pictures on our front page last week. The handicap ramp to the front door was destroyed. It was put up this summer for an elderly dog who can't make the steps any more.

The house was vacant except for the dog at about noon on Dec. 11 when the truck hit it, destroying not only the ramp, but damaging the wall inside and siding outside. The dog was not injured. The Postmaster came out to look and apparently insurance will cover the damage.

The postal truck driver, who reportedly had transferred here from California and was new on this job, said he swerved to avoid a squirrel, fell out of the truck, and the truck kept on driving. He had just turned off E. Huron River Drive.

Pete Pitzen of Belleville said he has a complaint about the Meijer pharmacy. Pete is a veteran and senior citizen and has a small plastic box that is just the right size in which to store his pill bottles.

The pill bottles he got from Meijer last week were too big. The pills are small and the pill bottles used to be small, too. But these latest bottles are HUGE, with lots of wasted space. And, worst of all, they don't fit into his plastic box.

When we were out taking pictures last week end for this week's front page, we drove around Victoria Commons at night

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



to find the winners the city council judges listed.

Some of the residents have told the DDA about the stop signs that are wearing out and need to be replaced. We agree. Many of the stop signs have no reflective surface. It's very dark in there and the stop signs pop up on you if you don't know the territory. We almost missed some, having to slam on the brakes at the last second.

Also, the streets are very tight and it would be much nicer if there was no on-street parking. Too late for that, I guess.

While we were getting to the selected houses on Saturday and Sunday nights, we saw lots of lovely holiday lights along the way that didn't get selected for a prize.

To those who did all that great lighting, thank you. We enjoyed your work greatly as we drove around.

The pictures would have been nicer with a little snow, but that came on Monday, after the pictures had all been taken.

Janet Millard, our new advertising director, called us on Monday to report she is in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital with pneumonia. We're pulling together to handle her work while she's gone, so don't hesitate to drop by or call with your advertising. We can help you.

She went home sick two days last week and then stayed home Friday and then again Monday with her illness. We think

her idea to attend Saturday's CBC Pictures with Santa was not a good idea. She said she was feeling better.

The Belleville Fire Department and Auxiliary put on a Christmas party for two families selected by the local school district. It was at the fire hall on Monday before the regular city council meeting.

Councilwoman Julie Kissel, who is a member of the auxiliary, said one family had five children and one had six, so they had 11 children total that they showered with presents.

She said it started at Fire Chief Loranger's clinic with a Giving Tree and then grew from there.

Belleville Mayor Ken Voigt, chairing his second meeting after election to the top spot, said his policy for public comment was to have the person wishing to speak come up to the podium at the front of the room. He said there was no time limit.

But, on Monday, those wishing to speak, just spoke from their seats. The only people who got up to the podium to speak were the three professionals seeking to get the contract to upgrade the internet services and keep them running.



www.bellevilleareaindependent.com
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Letters

Breakfast with Santa brings Toys for Tots

To the editor:

Thank you to everyone who made our St. Anthony Men's Club Breakfast with Santa a successful event and a great time for all.

The donations that were collected were used to purchase toys for the Toys for Tots program. Sorry that Beverly, the Singing Lady, wasn't there. She had to cancel due to an illness.

Thank you, again, and see you next year. Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

St. Anthony Men's Club
Belleville

I'd like to wish you Merry ..., but I can't

To the editor:

I know folks are wondering why I've been silent these last few months. Well I know that if I disagree with someone ... well I must be a (fill in the blank). But I remember back to a more innocent time when most people believed the saying "I might disagree with what you have to say ... but I will defend to the death your right to say it." ... Now it's more if you disagree with what I say ... you may be dead. A real shame ... and it's only getting worse.

Have a Merry ----- (can't say it cause...) and a ----- New Year, ya'll.

Vic Franzoi
Van Buren Township

Haggerty Rd. residents get special letter from county on construction

The following letter was sent on Dec. 1 to residents and property owners on Haggerty Road in Van Buren Township. It is from the Wayne County Public Services Department concerning the huge construction project about to begin in their neighborhood.

Dear Residents and Property Owners,

Construction for Haggerty Road, (from South Van Born to North Ecorse Road) is scheduled to begin on Jan. 4, 2024. The project consists of the replacement

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"And suddenly there was with the angels a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

(Luke 2:13, 14)

of an existing water main, removal and replacement of pavement, drainage structure adjustment, concrete curb patching, and placing new pavement marking. All of this is to be completed together, along with necessary related work.

Completion of the road improvements is anticipated to be Summer, 2025, while the road will be fully open to traffic by Fall, 2024 barring any unforeseen delays or inclement weather.

During construction, expect that the road may be constructed in stages. A lane in the south direction will be closed to allow for water main replacement. Haggerty Road will be closed in one direction at a time, i.e. either north or south direction to allow for the removal of existing asphalt pavement, for the underlying concrete pavement to be repaired. And for the new concrete pavement to be constructed.

The lanes where traffic can pass will then be switched so the remaining pavement repairs can be addressed. One direction of traffic will be closed at a time with sufficient diversion signs to guide the motorists. Intermittent stoppages in traffic may be encountered. Increased traffic congestion will be experienced.

Access to properties within the construction zone will be always maintained; intermittent blockage to access may be encountered while work is performed along your property.

On service day, place all your bins (garbage, recycle, yard waste) on curbside. Contractor's crew will properly place these bins on the road for the City's [township's] workers to perform the service. These bins will be placed back on curbside by the end of the day.

Emergency trucks will be allowed to pass through the construction zone without obstruction to provide the needed services.

Property owners are asked to identify and clearly stake the locations of sprinkler systems (heads, valves, and underground lines) or any other underground utilities that are not part of the MISS DIG program. Please have the sprinkler systems identified by Jan. 4, 2024. After this date the working condition of all identified sprinkler systems will be verified. Unmarked sprinkler systems damaged during the road construction will NOT be replaced as a part of this project.

Questions concerning the project may be addressed by calling Wayne County Construction Department at (734) 858-2779. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

Ali Aljawad, Project Engineer
Wayne County Department of Public Services, (734) 858-2764

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Obituaries



Shari Ann Callison

SHARI ANN CALLISON

(January 12, 1959 – December 12, 2023)

Shari Ann Callison, loving wife of James Jan Callison of Willis, MI, passed away at 5:21 p.m. December 12, 2023. She was with her loving husband of 32 years, family and dearest friends at her bedside at the University of Michigan Hospital.

Shari was 64 years young. Born January 12, 1959.

Shari was a talented hairstylist with over 40 years in the business. She worked in the Downriver, Belleville and Canton communities and became a salon owner twenty+ years ago at two locations in Canton.

Shari enjoyed playing golf, laying by the pool, occasional trips to the casinos and most of all travel to warm tropical destinations. She loved the ocean.

You couldn't find a more caring and generous person, a true friend and companion to all she befriended. For the many who became her friend knew she was special and were blessed to have her a part of their lives.

Shari loved her family most of all, her husband, one son, three step-daughters, ten grandchildren, one great-grandson, and four siblings. She was a friend, mentor, and role model. Shari was and is still beautiful.

Shari has been laid to rest at the Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock. Rest in peace, Freebird. Heaven has another angel.

FRANCIS JEWELL FRAZIER

(November 19, 1933 – December 16, 2023)

Age 90, of Van Buren Township. Survived by three children, five grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren. Visitation at Brown Funeral Home is 4-8 p.m. Thursday, with funeral at 11 a.m. Friday. Celebration of Life on Jan. 20 at Kentuckians of Michigan Heritage Hall. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Sarah Elizabeth Ann McDonald

SARAH ELIZABETH ANN McDONALD

(April 4, 1992 – December 17, 2023)

Sarah Elizabeth Ann McDonald, age 31, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Sunday, December 17, 2023, at Corewell Annapolis Hospital, Wayne, MI, after a long and courageous battle with ALS. She was born April 4, 1992, in Ypsilanti, MI, daughter of Keith Matthew & Louisa Ann (Beard) McDonald. Sarah was a preemie and had her first open heart at 20 days old and her second open heart at 18 months old. Her parents knew from the beginning that she was a fighter! She was later diagnosed with Autism and graduated from Belleville High School in 2011. She loved music and enjoyed playing the clarinet since fifth grade. She went to many concerts, including KISS, where she and her dad had backstage passes, and were able to meet the band. Sarah received her associate degree in English language from Washtenaw Community College. She also loved bowling, and collaborated on signs to display, while she would bowl with the best of the Pro bowlers in local Pro /AMS. Sarah and her dad collected signatures from some of the greatest bowlers in the world, such as Jason Belmonte and Norm Duke. Not to mention Kyle Troup, Bill O'Neil, and Jacob Buttruff. She loved drag racing and going out to Milan Dragway for the Detroit Dragway Reunion. Her favorite was attending the No Prep Kings races. A few of her favorite racers are Lizzy Musi, Kye Kelley, Ryan Martin, and especially Disco Dean!!!! Sarah enjoyed going to many of Belleville's Monday Night Car Shows. She also loved to watch wrestling. Her last dying wish was to meet Crazy Steve, and he made it happen!

Sarah is survived by her devoted and loving father Keith McDonald of Belleville, MI, her close family friend, and like a big sister, Juleen Croteau of Belleville, MI, also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her mother, Louisa McDonald in 1998.

Visitation will be 10 AM until 12 Noon Thursday, December 21, 2023, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Her funeral service will be at BE Church, 494 W. Columbia Ave. (across from Belleville High School) at 1:00 PM with Pastor Garrett Suggs officiating. Interment will be in Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI.

Memorial contributions in Sarah's name, may be made to ALS of Michigan at <https://alsofmichigan.org/donation-opportunities/> and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

DORIS JUNE OSTROM

(May 12, 1936 – December 15, 2023)

Age 87, of Romulus. Survived by son James Boone, granddaughter Erin Fisher, and sister Carol Smith. Funeral service was Dec. 20 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

**One Call Does It All . . .
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Belleville gets no sealed bids to fix city hall roof, takes Barnett's quote

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, City Manager Jason Smith announced the city had advertised for bids to replace the leaking city hall roof and received no sealed bids.

City Manager Smith said the city sought bids, which it is legally obligated to do, and since it did that and got no bids, the city was free to accept the quote it had received earlier from Barnett Roofing.

Barnett will replace the upper portion of the roof, over the police department offices, for \$26,162 and the lower portion over the council chambers for \$25,589.

Smith said Barnett will tear off the old roofing and put the new roofing in place, with flashing put in correctly where it isn't now. The roof drains also will be reset.

When Councilman Randy Priest asked why they are spending the money on the roof if they want to get a new city hall.

"We'd like to have a new city hall, but we don't know how soon that could be," said Mayor Ken Voigt, noting they had a MIOSHA complaint about the leaking roof that needed to be addressed.

"I hate spending the money, but we don't know how long we'll be here," Mayor Voigt said.

Building Official Rick Rutherford said since it is a flat roof the most its life could be is 15 years.

Council members said they would like the work to get started as soon as possible and if the weather stays warm it could be done in the winter.

Smith said a Dec. 6 letter from MIOSHA said based on the city's response to the letter regarding alleged hazardous working conditions, the state feels adequately assured that employee safety and health is not now in jeopardy from the alleged conditions and the issue is resolved.

In other business at the Dec. 18 meeting, the council:

- Presented a proclamation of appreciation to Belleville High School Coach Calvin Norman to recognize the 2023 football team's outstanding accomplishments;

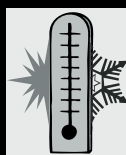
- Heard presentations from VC3, R Associates Inc. (RAI), and Vector Tech, the bidders on the IT work for the city. The vote will be taken at the Jan. 2 regular meeting of the city council;

- Presented awards to Holiday Light Contest winners;

- Approved the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale at Five Points on March 22, 23, and 24 to raise money to assist developmentally and intellectually disabled people in Michigan;

- Approved the mayor's appointments to boards and commissions: Chris Donley to the DDA with term to expire Dec. 31, 2025; James Courage to the Planning Commission, term to expire Dec. 31, 2025; Michael Hawkins reappointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals, with term to expire Dec. 31, 2026 and to the Planning Commission, with term to expire Dec. 31, 2027; and Randy Priest reappointed to the Board of Review, with term to expire Dec. 31, 2026;

(continued on page 13)



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Maria and Solomon Holmes from Abundant Harvest Church at 51185 Willis Rd., Sumpter Township, delivered 25 cases of food to the Emergency Food Closet housed at Belleville First United Church, 417 Charles St., to help feed the hungry in our community on Saturday, Dec. 16.

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The Jokinen family was presented with an award by Councilman Randy Priest for their holiday lights at 336 Victorian Ln. in Victoria Commons.

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, Dec. 21** – Girls JV Basketball vs. John Glenn HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Basketball vs. John Glenn HS, 7 p.m.
- **Friday, Dec. 22** – Girls & Boys Bowling vs. John Glenn HS, 3 p.m. at Lodge Lanes
Go Tigers!
Diane Kiessel
BHS Athletics Secretary

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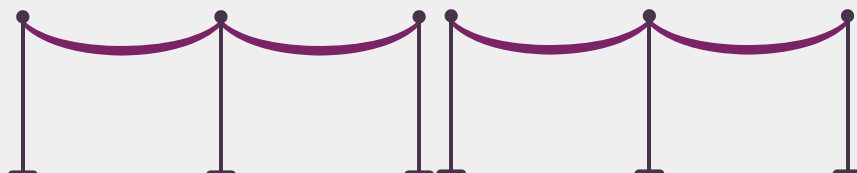
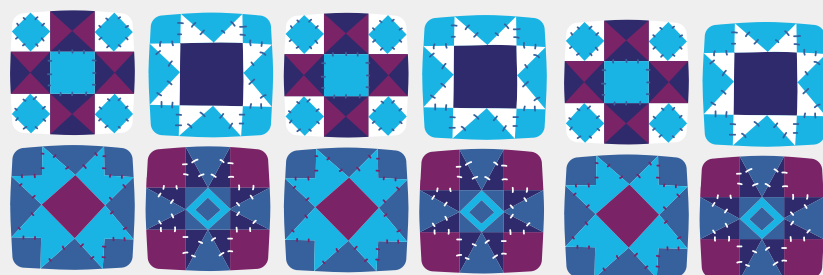
Presented By:
The Belleville Area Museum &
The Western Wayne County Quilting Guild



SAVE THE DATE

In recognition of National Quilting Month in March, the Belleville Area Museum and Western Wayne County Quilting Guild will present a month-long quilt exhibit at the Museum.

If you are interested in taking part in our quilt exhibit, please email bam@vanburen-mi.org indicating your interest in loaning a quilt.



The Belleville Area Museum is currently closed to the public but will reopen December 2023.

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK HASH BROWN



HI, MY NAME IS HASH BROWN!

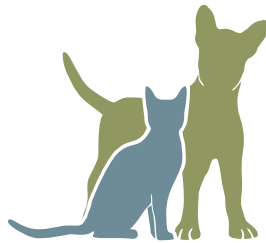
My siblings and I were born outside to a feral mom about 3 months ago. When we came to the shelter, all of us had some of the worst eye infections the staff had ever seen. My eyes were the worst out of all of us. They were so bad that the staff thought I'd have to have them removed. I'm better now, although I'll always have some scarring on my eyes. It's okay, don't fret! I still play and act like a normal kitten! Now I'm ready to find a wonderful family. I like to wrestle with my friend, Lunar, but I also like to settle in for a cat nap. I'd love to be adopted with Lunar, or go into a home with a friendly cat already there. Kittens like me need a friend during the times our humans are away. It keeps us out of trouble and not be so lonely.

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

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Sunday, Dec. 24** – Faith Denton United Methodist Church, 6020 Denton Rd., Van Buren Township, invites everyone to a candlelight service, starting at 7 p.m.
- **Sunday, Dec. 31** – The Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., invite the public to its New Year's Eve Party. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available at the Eagles and online at www.foe3996.com. Party includes catered buffet dinner, social hour, live music by Saddle Rock, and pizza at midnight.
- **Sunday, Dec. 31** – Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, presents New Year's Eve Party with Detroit Derringer. Ticket cost to be announced. Food available. Public welcome. Information: (734) 787-1137.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 10** – Teen Library Vibes from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. There is a new activity on the second Wednesday of each month. In January it is "Candy Vibes" where they will be making candy sushi. It looks like sushi but is colorful and all candy. Come to the library after school, make sushi, eat candy, hang out.

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Merry Christmas

From left: Rosemary Otzman, Janet Millard, James Otzman, Elaine Gutierrez

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Belleville Mayor Ken Voigt presented the award for the best business lights to Brian McClinton of Garden Fantasy.



The Morin family of 77 Carmell was presented with an award for their lights in the mobile home parks category. Councilwoman Julie Kissel, center, presented the award.



Dec. 22 – Gabarella Hooks
 Dec. 25 – Raelyn Crosby, Constance Genevieve Riggs
 Dec. 27 – Janet Millard, Sharry Budd

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To see a list of available yearbooks, visit vanburen-mi.org/bam

Belleville

(continued from page 8)

- Learned details of the Transportation Economic Development Fund road grant application. Smith said the city is on step 7 of the procedure and the application has been submitted to MDOT. Rutherford said the city just got approval and should go out for bids after the first of the year;
- Approved the purchase of a camera and equipment for the ballot box as required by State Proposal 2 at a cost of \$3,308, plus a second optional camera on the roof outside the door for a total cost of \$3,592;
- Received police and fire departments

statistics for November, with the total number of runs growing in both departments. Fire Chief Brian Loranger said there have been 788 calls this year to date and usually it is about 600. Fire Chief II Chris Zweng said the duty crew has helped average response time, which was 7-10 minutes and now is down to 2 minutes;

- Approved a four-year contract with WCI for assessing. The contract runs per calendar year and is expiring. The new contract has a 10% increase for 2024 and 5% increases per year for the following three years;
- Approved accounts payable of \$90,492.47 and the following departmental



The Belleville City Council presented a proclamation of appreciation to Belleville High School Head Football Coach Calvin Norman praising the work of his team during the 2023 season. From left are Council members Randy Priest and Julie Kissel, Coach Norman, Mayor Ken Voigt, and Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Bates.

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purchases in excess of \$500: to Atchinson Ford, \$1,026.08 for repair of Rescue #456 in the fire department; to Detroit Salt Company, \$3,232.28 for road salt; and to Harold J. Love & Associates, \$750 for a psych exam for Brent Mytych for the police department;

- Heard City Manager Smith report the new dump truck has arrived. He was given the OK by the council to auction off the old one. He reported FEMA approved the final payment on the new fire truck which should be on the road after the first of the year. He said they are working on a parks master plan and DOT automated cross walks at Third and Main, Third and Liberty, and other intersections. He said people are needed to be on the ballot for the charter revision;

- Heard Clerk Briana Hootman say the city's two voting precincts at St. Anthony Catholic Church are being consolidated at the same location into one precinct. New voter registration cards will be sent out to reflect the change. She said this will save the city money, since under Proposal 2 the city needs a separate tabulator for nine days previous to the election and they will be able to use one from the precincts. Also they will be able to cut from eight poll workers to four; and

- Heard Councilwoman Julie Kissel report that the fire department and auxiliary had treated two families to a Christmas party earlier that day with gifts for 11 children. She said the families were suggested by the local school.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Crazy Steve, an impact wrestler, recently came to visit Sarah McDonald of Van Buren Township who was under hospice care with ALS. Crazy Steve traveled from Tennessee to visit Sarah at her home and showered her with gifts, love, and hours of stories. And, they read the *Independent* together.

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

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More Letters

Public Crime Search now is live via CLEMIS

To the editor:

For those residents signed up for Crimemapping.com alerts, please be advised that those alerts will cease as of Dec. 31, 2023.

We are now using the new Public Crime Search application as part of our consortium membership in Oakland County's CLEMIS (Court and Law Enforcement Management Information System). Public Crime Search is a free, web-based program that allows residents to map out reported and verified criminal activity, select specific crime types and date ranges, and generate reports for specific areas. Users can choose 16+ different types of crimes.

To search and view reportable crimes specifically for Sumpter Township, take these steps:

1) Under the WHAT tab, choose the types of crimes you want to see (we recommend choosing all in the drop-down).

2) Under the WHEN tab, choose the timeframe.

3) Under the WHERE tab, choose "SUMPTER TWP" in the "filter by city" drop-down, then hit "apply."

You can also sign up for e-mail alerts anytime a crime is reported within a one-mile square radius surrounding your chosen location (*alerts can be requested for multiple locations).

The site can be accessed here: <https://experience.arcgis.com/.../a945468523494efe97f8ab2...>

Sumpter Township Police Department

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— Arthur Hays Salzberger

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NOTICE is hereby given that on JANUARY 06, 2024 at 12:00 P.M., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc. M567 & I427, Jennifer Miller; Q905, Tasha Davis; B58, Gary Kaufman; Q902, Mary Gendron; 0711, Gerald Merriweather; G458, Jazmene Long; S949, Timothy Markowski; B55, Corey Barnett; K657, Shunya Cleveland; L500 & L501, Lisa Clark; E216 & I418, Devona Johnson; T981, Chandler Cuts and Snow LLC.

Publish: December 21, 2023 and December 28, 2023

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— Henry Ford

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7 Days. Free Towing.
Licensed & Insured.
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VBT planners grant final approval for Zippy Auto Wash project

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on Dec. 13, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission granted final site plan approval for Zippy Auto Wash at 11600 Belleville Rd., on the west side of Belleville Road between Venetian Avenue and Sunrise Lane.

The commission approved the preliminary site plan and special land use on Dec. 14, 2022 and land use was approved by the township board in January 2023.

Vidya Krishnan, planner of McKenna Associates said the plans had to change to an underground wastewater detention pond instead of the surface pond planned and the township asked that the surface be changed into a lawn area. Wayne County has approved the change.

Also, she said the drive shared with the Urgent Care facility got an "F" rating for the intersection with Belleville Road, indicating "failed," but no changes are recommended there. She said the cars leaving the car wash can stack up in the drive for exit onto Belleville Road.

She said the change to the detention pond and the traffic study caused the delay, but now she recommends approval of the final site plan.

In other action at the Dec. 13 meeting, the commission:

- Approved the extension for one year of the preliminary site plan approved Dec. 14, 2022 for a roof and floor truss manufacturing facility at 5925 Beck Rd., adjoining Manns Lumber. Owner is 5M Van Buren, LLC.

(continued on page 16)



City of Belleville Public Notice





PUBLIC NOTICE

BELLEVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY NOTICE OF ANNUAL INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that the city of Belleville Downtown Development Authority will hold informational meetings in accordance with Public Act 57 of 2018, otherwise know as the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act. At that time, an updated annual synopsis of activities of the authority will be shared. These meetings will be held at Belleville City Hall, located at 6 Main, Belleville, MI 48111. Remote participation links are provided below as well.

December 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm to 5:40 pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84448354601?pwd=MjdvdWVFT0VhNU44aW4vcGVKMHNiUT09>
 Meeting ID: 844 4835 4601 Passcode: 899646

AND/OR

December 21, 2023 at 9:00 am to 9:40 am
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83001440812?pwd=S1A4Z0RYUDJhbWpIOE5jak9UMk83UT09>
 Meeting ID: 830 0144 0812 Passcode: 227484

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Jones, Project Administrator, at 734-697-9323 x. 7037 or sjones@bellevilleonthelake.com

VBT Plan

(continued from page 15)

Plans call for construction over the next two years. One more extension may be granted, if necessary;

- Approved preliminary and final site plan approval for a DTE garage addition at 8001 Haggerty Rd. containing three vehicle repair bays for housing additional vehicles in queue for repair. Wayne County has been considering the detention pond at the back of the property for a year;
- Approved the site plan amendment for the unfinished Cobblestone Creek Woodlands subdivision on the east side of Hoeft Road, east of the Cobblestone

Ridge development on the south side of West Huron River Drive. The amendment includes adding five new single-family models and elevations into the approved project plans. Applicant David Straub said he may come back to the commission in January or February to seek to amend the Planned Residential Development agreement concerning the requirement for 30% side/back entry garages;

- Approved the annual activity and public participation report, which now goes on to the township board for consideration. The commission met 25 times and held 10 formal public hearings, among other activities. Jahr asked that Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, add

the number of subcommittee meetings held and Power agreed to add that to the report;

- Approved the 2024 planning commission meeting schedule;
- Reelected the same officers: Brian Cullin, chairperson; Jeff Jahr, vice-chairperson; Medina Atchinson, secretary; Jahr, primary liaison to the Board of Zoning Appeals; and Cullin, secondary liaison to the BZA. Atchinson was absent from the meeting, but agreed in advance to serve if reelected; and
- Heard Jahr say he really liked the tri-community meeting of planning commissions held recently. Krishnan said it was hard to hear in the Belleville High School Commons meeting room (where

the school board meets). Treasurer Sharry Budd said plans are being made for the best site for the next such meeting, set for May 1. Jahr said this gives him a chance to know his peers and know who to ask if he has a question about another community. “I’m glad we did it,” Jahr said of the joint meeting.

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CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 4, 2023 - 7:30 pm

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

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Council Member Bates | Present |
| Council Member Beebe | Present |
| Council Member Fielder | Present |
| Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt | Present |
| Mayor Conley | Present |

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

- A. Presentations
 - Outgoing Mayor’s Comments
 - i. Outgoing Mayor Conley presented a speech about her years of service, thanking those who have supported her along the way.
 - Changing of the Guard – City Council
 - i. Plaques were presented to outgoing Council Member Tom Fielder and outgoing Mayor Kerreen Conley for their years of service.
 - ii. Judge Martin performed the swearing-in ceremonies for the following Council Members:
 - Council Member (2-year term) – Jeremiah Beebe
 - Council Member (2-year term) – Julie Kissel
 - Council Member (4-year term) – Randy Priest
 - Council Member (4-year term) – Kelly Bates
 - Mayor – Kenneth Voigt

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| • Roll Call of New Council | |
| Council Member Bates | Present |
| Council Member Beebe | Present |
| Council Member Kissel | Present |
| Council Member Priest | Present |
| Mayor Voigt | Present |

- Swearing In – Police Chief
 - i. Krisy Faull was sworn in by Judge Martin.
- B. Council Follow Up List
 - No comments.
- C. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items
 - Haile Brown from Congresswoman Dingell’s office presented outgoing Mayor Conley with a Congressional Record Statement recognizing her years of service.
 - Former Council Member Jesse Marcotte thanked Conley and outgoing Council Member Fielder for their years of service to the city.
 - Tyrone Hamilton noted that he moved to Belleville many years ago from Wayne, and was hesitant in doing so as he did not know anyone, but has since been very happy living in this community.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| ROLL CALL VOTE: | |
| Council Member Bates | Aye |
| Council Member Beebe | Aye |
| Council Member Kissel | Aye |
| Council Member Priest | Aye |

Mayor Voigt Aye
Motion Carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 27, 2023, Regular Meeting of the City Council

MOTION: Motion by Priest, supported by Beebe approving the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting, held on November 27, 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Council Member Bates | Aye |
| Council Member Beebe | Aye |
| Council Member Kissel | Aye |
| Council Member Priest | Aye |
| Mayor Voigt | Aye |

Motion Carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

A. None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

A. Election of Mayor Pro-Tem

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Beebe to elect Kelly Bates as Mayor Pro-Tem of the Council.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Council Member Bates | Aye |
| Council Member Beebe | Aye |
| Council Member Kissel | Aye |
| Council Member Priest | Aye |
| Mayor Voigt | Aye |

Motion Carried.

B. Resolution # 23-036 – Appointments to Boards and Commissions

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Beebe approving **Resolution # 23-036** to appoint Michael Gutteri to the DDA, and City Manager Smith to the Election Commission.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion Carried.

C. Resolution # 23-037 – 2024 City Council Meeting Schedule

MOTION: Motion by Beebe, supported by Kissel approving **Resolution # 23-037** approving the 2024 City Council Meeting Schedule.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion Carried.

D. Resolution # 23-038 – Change of Signatories

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel approving **Resolution # 23-038** approving changes to the city’s signatories.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion Carried.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to approve Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures in excess of \$500, as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion Carried.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

- Stated that the street lights on South St. are back on, noting that the outage was due to a glitch by DTE.
- Stated that the Request for Proposals for the city’s IT services is out, noting that there is one company from Michigan expected to bid. He added the the city’s current IT provider, Wise Technologies, will be retiring from on-site servicing. He also mentioned that the city is moving away from Rackspace as their e-mail service provider.
- Noted that the city is still having issues with their water read collector, stating that the reads are currently being collected through a manual process.
- Commented that he has not heard back from any other communities regarding feedback on their WDIV SkyCams.
- Announced that the deadline for Nominating Petitions and Affidavits of Identity to be on the Charter Revision Committee is April 23rd at 4 p.m. These can be obtained through the City Clerk’s office.
- Stated that he spoke to a representative it OSHA today regarding necessary repairs/adjustments that need to be made at City Hall.
- Thanked the Chamber of Commerce and Steve Jones for their planning/execution of Winterfest, noting that it was awesome.

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Council Member Beebe
 - Thanked former Council Member Fielder and former Mayor Conley for their service.
 - Welcomed Council Members Kissel and Priest.
 - Thanked all who were in attendance at the meeting, and encouraged residents to attend more meetings to share their concerns and obtain information.
 - Noted that the Belleville High School Wrestling season is getting ready to start.
 - Council Member Kissel
 - Stated she is excited to serve on the Council with the other members.
 - Noted that she received positive feedback about Winterfest.
 - Reminded everyone that the Council Members will be judging for the Holiday Lights Contest on Thursday and Friday.
 - Stated that she would like to see a working budget presented regularly, as well as a social media policy adopted by the city.
 - Offered to return to City Hall to help purge and organize documents.
 - Noted that she was invited to the Tri-Community Planners meeting.

-- Recognized her family, noting that she appreciates their support.

- Council Member Priest
 - Thanked everyone in attendance at the meeting.
 - Stated that the Winterfest and it’s corresponding parade were great.
 - Recognized Fielder and Conley for their service, noting that they have big shoes to fill.
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Bates
 - Thanked Fielder and Conley for their service, noting that it has been amazing to watch all that they have accomplished.
 - Said that Winterfest was great and had a large turnout.
- 12. MAYOR’S COMMENTS
 - Stated that it is an honor to have such a large attendance at the meeting.
 - Stated that he appreciates all that Fielder and Conley have done.
 - Said he is proud of Chief Faull, and also thanked Sergeant Schrecengost for his service over the years.
 - Stated that he enjoyed Winterfest, noting that the Chamber knocked it out of the park.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Fire Chief Lorange
 - Congratulated the Council for their service, and thanked Kerreen Conley and Tom Fielder for their years of service.
 - Noted that he is glad to have Police Chief Faull on board.
 - Police Chief Faull
 - Thanked Tom Fielder and Kerreen Conley for their years of service, and thanked the City Council for their support.
 - Kerreen Conley
 - Congratulated Chief Faull, Mayor Voigt, and the Council Members.
 - Thanked those who organized the Council Meeting and the pre-meeting reception.
 - Noted that the Belleville Area Museum has re-opened, noting that it looks great.
 - Project Manager Jones
 - Thanked everyone who attended Winterfest.
 - Thanked Conley and Fielder for their years of service.
 - Tom Fielder
 - Thanked everyone for their support and congratulated those who were sworn in.
 - Tyrone Hamilton
 - Noted that he has difficulty crossing the street near his home on N. Liberty, and asked the city to install a “Blind Person in Area” sign in the vicinity.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to adjourn at 8:21 PM.

No objections were noted.

Motion Carried.

Submitted by Briana Hootman, City Clerk/Treasurer
Approved: 12/18/23
Posted: 12/19/23
Published: 12/21/23

McBride TerrorBytes ranked ninth in state championship match

McBride First Tech Challenge Team 14670 robotics team ranked ninth in its division at the First in Michigan State Championship recently at the Macomb Community College Sports and Expo Center.

The TerrorBytes proved a consistent competitor with their alliance partners throughout match play.

Teams compete in matches paired with a

randomly selected team to form an alliance. For each match, two teams form the blue alliance and two teams form the red alliance to compete against each other.

Most interestingly, your partner for one match could very well end up as your opponent in the next. At the end of 54 matches, rankings are calculated for the six matches played by each team.



This is the McBride team: The TerrorBytes. Front row, from left, are Caleb Mootry, Kaiden Tanana, GooberPrime14670, Xavier Miah, Marko Dau. Second row, from left, Coach David McGirard, Jacob Kadwell, Issac House, Logan Marks, Malcolm Biggs, Justin Clark, Michael Stevenson, Logan Nitz, Coach Tim Miller, Caleb Carnahan.

The TerrorBytes came in at ninth for the day. Top teams then go on to play in the finals in the division, then move to the championship matches.

The season began on Sept. 10 with the world game reveal, followed by six weeks of frantic design and building of a robot to play the

season's game prior to qualifying competition.

Coaches Tim Miller and David Girard could not be more proud of the accomplishments of the team, and extend a thank you to the mentors and parents who helped make this possible.

Tim Miller

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. The BZA will meet to consider the following request:

Case # 23-061- Request for a **dimensional variance** by Kevin Farrell of Great Day Improvements on behalf of owner Alvin Marshal to construct an addition to a home to within 26.0' of a rear lot line. The subject property is located at 7267 Sadie Lane (parcel ID number 83 007 04 0005 000), located on the east side of Sadie Lane between Ecorse Road and Sophie Drive. The property is zoned R-1B – Single Family Residential District. The request is contrary to the requirements of Section 3.106(D) of the Zoning Ordinance as described below:

Section 3.106 (D) – R-1A, R-2A, R-1B, and R-1C: Single-Family Residential Districts – Dimension Regulations (via Section 7.202(A), Table 3: Accessory Structures and Buildings – All Districts - Dimensional Regulations of Accessory Buildings and Structures):

- Minimum required rear yard setback for attached accessory buildings: 35.0 feet (same as principal structure)
- Proposed rear yard setback: 26.0 feet
- Variance requested: 9.0 feet (25.71%)

Members of the public may participate in the meeting electronically per guidance provided by the Wayne County Local Public Health Department for meetings of governmental bodies held under public act 228 of 2020, effective January 1, 2022. Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – www.vanburen-mi.org by **January 8, 2024**. On the meeting webpage, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting. On the agenda for the meeting**, a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access will be provided. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel. Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

A complete **procedure for public comment by electronic means** is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments or questions about the meeting via e-mail to dpower@vanburen-mi.org.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8900 extension 9205.

Posted: December 14, 2023
Published: December 21, 2023

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold public hearings on **January 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person at Van Buren Township Hall, located at **46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111**, in the Board Room. Instructions for attending the meeting electronically are provided in this notice. The Planning Commission will consider the following items:

Case 23-069: Kimberly Younglas – Group Day Care Home – Special Land Use Review. A request by Kimberly Younglas to change an existing Day Care, Family Home to a Day Care, Group Home as defined in Section 2.102(A)(60)(b) of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance. The parcel is zoned R-1A – Single Family Residential. Day Care, Group Home is a Special Land Use in the R-1A (Single Family Residential) District, and the proposed Special Land Use requires a public hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with Article 12, Chapter 3 (Special Land Use Review) of the Zoning Ordinance. The site is located at 13657 Country Walk Boulevard (parcel ID # 83 101 03 0041 000), on Country Walk Boulevard between Camden Road and Colonial Road.

Materials for this meeting will be posted to www.vanburen-mi.org\Government\Agendas & Minutes\Planning Commission by no later than **January 8, 2024**. On the agenda for the meeting, a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access will be provided. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel. A complete procedure for public comment by electronic means is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments or questions about the meeting via e-mail to dpower@vanburen-mi.org. To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8900, extension 9205.

Posted: December 14, 2023
Published: December 21, 2023

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 209 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Dec. 10:

0114 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.
0201 – shooting, Martinsville Rd.
0849 – parking complaint, Anna Dr.
0629 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
0651 – assist fire dept., N. Ponderosa Trl.
1000 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1037 – threat, Savage Rd.
1401 – assist fire dept., Fret Rd.
1403 – private property/property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1619 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1723 – 911 welfare check, Sylvia Dr.
1855 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service
1947 – harassment call, Rawsonville Rd.
2119 – assist fire dept., Sugarbush Ln.
2133 – civil matter, W. Archwood Dr.
2246 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

Monday, Dec. 11:

0049 – family trouble, Brandi Dr.
0515 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0637 – domestic, Lancaster Dr.
0719 – larceny, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
0746 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275 ramp
0837 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Parkwood Dr.
0856 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0942 – animal complaint, Turnberry Ct.
1049 – warrant arrest, S. Wayne Rd.
1003 – PPO violation, Spruce Ln.
1004 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.
1119 – animal complaint, Victoria St.
1132 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Hayes St./Jackson St.
1154 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1226 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. Bellridge Dr.

1448 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
1718 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1825 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1912 – animal complaint, Chaney Ave.
2056 – warrant arrest, I-275/Huron
2209 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2229 – assist other dept., Water's Edge Ln.
2236 – road hazard, S. I-275/Ecorse
2318 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2345 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 12:

0007 --- mental subject, Brookside Dr.
0240 – assist other dept., Michigan Ave./Denton
XXXX – repossession, Oak Ln.
0908 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
0922 – fraud, Rickman Dr.
0923 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1049 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
1132 – civil matter, Martinsville Rd.
1429 – threat, Belleville Rd.
1450 – threat, Parkwood Dr.
1526 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1537 – 911 welfare check, Michigan Ave./Dellor
1702 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.
1715 – family trouble, Richard Run Dr.
1735 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
1915 – family trouble, Holly Ln.
XXXX – property damage accident, Kirkridge Park

condos

1926 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1957 – intrusion alarm, Salem Ct.
2033 – assist fire dept., Water's Edge Ln.
2157 – assist fire dept., Parkwood Dr.
2309 – assist other dept., Rawsonville/Martz
2332 – warrant arrest, I-275/Huron

Wednesday, Dec. 13:

0156 – mental subject, Parkwood Dr.
0610 – assist other dept., S. Haggerty
XXXX – repossession, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0903 – malicious destruction of property, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.

0945 – road hazard, W. I-94/Belleville Rd.
1038 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1056 – domestic, Maple Dr.
1239 – domestic, Denton Rd.
1314 – vehicle lockout, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1311 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1330 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
1623 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1726 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
1831 – civil matter, Ecorse Rd.
1954 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2153 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

Thursday, Dec. 14:

0057 – 911 welfare check, Lilac Ln.
0149 – hospice death, Lilac Ln.
0151 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
XXXX – repossession, Parkwood Dr.
XXXX – repossession, Parkwood Dr.
0851 – property damage accident, Rebecca Ct.
0932 – welfare check, Lake Point Blvd.
0949 – assist other dept., W. I-94/Belleville Rd.
1134 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1151 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1219 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1244 – 911 welfare check, Maple Dr.
1309 – follow up by officer, Belleville Rd.
1353 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Laguna Dr.
1453 – civil matter, McBride
1511 – assist other dept., Fourth St.
1531 – fraud, Purple Sage Ct.
1533 – threat, Sheldon Rd.
1638 – property check, Pine Dr.
1653 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service
1704 – family trouble, Pond Bluff Dr.
1831 – follow up by officer, Parkwood Dr.
1830 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
1949 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
2017 – civil matter, Prairie Ct.
2125 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2148 – mental subject, Hull Rd.
2302 – welfare check, Meadows Cir.

Friday, Dec. 15:

0000 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Beckley Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
0115 – malicious destruction of property, Arthur
0434 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0818 – property damage accident, Beck/Ecorse
0929 – warrant arrest, Oakland Co. Jail
1021 – private property/property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.
XXXX – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1116 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1209 – private property/property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1144 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1145 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
XXXX – repossession, Meadows Cir.
1354 – 911 welfare check, McBride Ave.
1643 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hannan Rd./Van Born Rd.
1732 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service
1831 – road hazard, Cherry Ln.
1824 – mental subject, Andover Dr.
1858 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1919 – 911 welfare check, Hannan Rd.
1951 – weapons violation, Birch Dr.
2045 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2147 – assist other dept., Richard Run Dr.

Saturday, Dec. 16:

0004 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0010 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Berkdale Dr.
0050 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Alba Ct.
0119 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
0201 – road hazard, Brandi Dr.
0301 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0326 – assist other dept., W. I-94/Belleville Rd.
0421 – shooting, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0754 – welfare check, Timberland Dr.
0828 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0937 – domestic, Oak Ln.
1028 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1138 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
1141 – animal complaint, Tallgrass Ct.
1213 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Walden Ct.

1302 – neighbor trouble, Sylvia Dr.
1339 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1412 – civil matter, Stonebridge Dr.
1419 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Bellridge Apartments
1637 – domestic, Lake Villa Dr.
1736 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1829 – intrusion alarm, Country Ln.
1854 – juvenile complaint, Oak Blvd.
1843 – unattended death, Ecorse Service B Dr.
1956 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ventura Dr. / Peninsular Dr.
2039 – property damage accident, Hannan
2043 – domestic, Denton Rd.
2050 – animal complaint, Village Green Ln.
2104 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ventura Dr.
2117 – domestic, Village Green Ln.
2350 – noise complaint, Jackson St.
Also on this week's log are 45 traffic stops, eight of which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 10:

0215 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
1050 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, N. Liberty St.
1500 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./South St.
1541 – civil matter, Church St.

Monday, Dec. 11:

0248 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.
0743 – assist other dept., Sumpter Rd.
1009 – warrant arrest, Michigan Ave./Belleville
1155 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
1307 – personal injury accident, Bedell St.
1428 – harassment call, Carmell St.
1509 – welfare check, Main St./Third St.
1722 – personal injury accident, Main St.
2041 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.
2208 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Ct.

Tuesday, Dec. 12:

0521 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.
0753 – parking complaint, N. Liberty/Third St.
1334 – disorderly, Third St.
1804 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
1819 – malicious destruction of property, Victorian Ln.
2009 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
2017 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
2150 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
2330 – disorderly, Main St.

Wednesday, Dec. 13:

0112 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
0134 – traffic stop, Charles St./Third St.
0748 – animal complaint, Henry St.
1238 – found property/child, Main St.

Thursday, Dec. 14:

0003 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
XXXX – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Robbe St./Madelon St.
0639 – traffic stop, South St.
0807 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1047 – 911 welfare check, Clarence St.
1450 – disorderly, W. Columbia Ave.
1509 – fight, Fourth St.
1544 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1741 – property damage accident, Main St.
2024 – private property impound, South St.
2056 – warrant arrest, Main St.

Friday, Dec. 15:

0848 – parking complaint, Main St.
1059 – overdose, Loza Ln.
1239 – 911 welfare check, N. Liberty St.
1715 – traffic stop, Church St./Third St.
1754 – traffic stop, N. Edgemont Ave. / E. Huron River Dr.
1843 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Henry St.

Saturday, Dec. 16:

0150 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.
0250 – assist other dept., Carmell St.
0424 – assist other dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
0911 – suicidal person, Sumpter Rd.
0932 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
1111 – larceny, Fourth St.
1318 – property damage accident, South St./Main

1538 – assault & battery, W. Columbia Ave.
1643 – traffic stop, Loza Ln./E. Huron River Dr.
1824 – traffic stop, High St.
1948 – property damage accident, South St.
XXXX – personal injury accident, South St.
2307 – traffic stop, Victorian Ln./Savage Rd.
There are 14 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 10:

0002 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0116 – breaking & entering report, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
0815 – alarm, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1016 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1040 – fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1318 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1737 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2008 – noise complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2221 – alarm, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Monday, Dec. 11:

0039 – animal complaint, Magnolia Dr.
0116 – noise complaint, Oregon St.
0159 – follow-up investigation, Magnolia Dr.
0351 – 911 hang up, Rustic Ln.
0627 – assault, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0647 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.
0737 – civil matter, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1011 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1042 – welfare check, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1319 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1344 – follow-up investigation, 43000 bl. Harris
1430 – fire dept. assist, Arizona St.
1547 – traffic complaint/road, Rawsonville/Bemis
1622 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Savage
2004 – motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd./Willis Rd.
2053 – follow-up investigation, Birch Dr.
2324 – follow-up investigation, 49000 bl. Willow

Tuesday, Dec. 12:

0200 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
0251 – suspicious circumstance, Delaware St.
0542 – assault, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
0957 – suspicious circumstance, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1204 – 911 hang up, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1302 – welfare check, Nevada St.
1344 – suspicious circumstance, Mulberry Dr.
1437 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1617 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1636 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Sumpter

Rd.

1652 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1947 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
2011 – follow-up investigation, 49000 bl. Arkona
2100 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Bemis

Rd. / Elwell Rd.

2201 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Wednesday, Dec. 13:

0632 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
0837 – suspicious person, Rustic Ln.

1020 – suspicious circumstance, 8200 bl.

Rawsonville Rd.

1250 – assist other agency, Tulip Dr.
1251 – mental health call, Rustic Ln.
1259 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
1447 – citizen assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.
1538 – mental health call, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1607 – civil matter, Washington St.
1659 – found property, Rustic Ln.
1805 – civil matter, Washington St.
1943 – citizen assist, Rustic Ln.
2319 – 911 hang up, Oregon St.

Thursday, Dec. 14:

0741 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
0806 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1300 – follow-up investigation, 43000 bl. Harris
1409 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Arkona
1653 – noise complaint, Virginia St.
1718 – suspicious circumstance, Hampshire Dr.
1800 – follow-up investigation, Virginia St.
1948 – death investigation, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2050 – welfare check, New Mexico St.
2143 – suspicious circumstance, Edgewood Dr.
2309 – family trouble, Arizona St.
2329 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
2359 – follow-up investigation, Arizona St.

Friday, Dec. 15:

0152 – fire dept. assist, Washington St.
(Continued on page 19)



VAN BUREN
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Denton Road Bridge Aesthetic SURVEY

As the design phase of the Denton Road Bridge replacement progresses, Van Buren Township is seeking public input in selecting the aesthetic for the bridge. Take the survey below to choose your favorite aesthetic design.

We want to hear from YOU!

Scan the QR code to pick your favorite aesthetic for the Denton Road Bridge.



Councilman Randy Priest presented the Adkins family with an award for their large lighted display at 461 Waterbury Ct. in Victoria Commons.



The Heppke family at 235 Aberdeen Ct. in Victoria Commons was presented with an award for their holiday lights by Councilman Randy Priest.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

0606 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0732 – animal complaint, New Mexico St.
1209 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1227 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1311 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
1326 – 911 hang up, Arizona St.
1520 – property damage accident, Martinsville Rd. / Birch Dr.
1556 – suspicious circumstance, 49000 bl. Willow
1607 – suspicious person, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1730 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1914 – welfare check, Birch Ct.
2138 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
2152 – 911 hang up, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
Saturday, Dec. 16:
0022 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
0122 – fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow Dr.
0229 – suspicious vehicle, Colorado St.
0236 – 911 hang up, Haggerty Rd./Willow Rd.
0518 – 911 hang up, Nevada St.
0703 – fire dept. assist, Utah St.
0745 – 911 hang up, Creekside Dr.
0831 – animal complaint, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1111 – fire dept. assist, Brookview Dr.
1234 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1452 – shots fired, Oregon St.
1633 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1648 – family trouble, Georgia St.
1736 – suspicious circumstance, 4 5000 bl. Wear
1910 – suspicious person, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1938 – family trouble, Knollwood Dr.
2256 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
2326 – assist other agency, Magnolia Dr.
Also on this week's log are 162 patrol checks, 111 traffic stops, and 19 misc. details.

Corrections:

Tammy Dohring is deputy director at Van Buren Township

On page 15 in the Dec. 14 edition of the *Independent*, we identified Tammy Dohring with the wrong title. She is Deputy Director of Community Services for Van Buren Township. We said she was Assistant Director of Community Services. We regret the error.

Also, in a Belleville Planning Commission story that started on page one and jumped to page 13 of the Nov. 23 edition, we misspelled the name of Planning Commissioner Julie Kissel, who now is also City Council Member Julie Kissel. We apologize for the error.

Also, the picture of the McBride TerrorBytes was published on page 8 last week with the wrong story and is being republished with the right story today. Apologies.

Also, in the story on page 11 about the man who died in a mobile home fire, we referred to him as a "male caregiver." The deceased man's daughter and the caregiver called us to ask for a correction. They said the caregiver should be referred to as "transwoman." We apologize.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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**The Denton Road bridge
has been closed by
Wayne County for
445 days as of today.**



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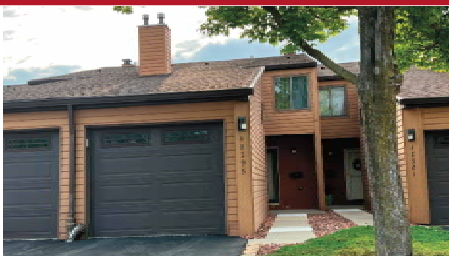
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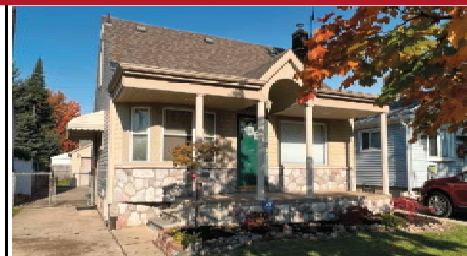
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IMPRESSIVE BRICK RANCH 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, Living Room w Fireplace, Family Room, Kitchen with Corian, Full Basement, 2 1/2 Car Garage & more. \$225,000



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