



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 29.8 Thursday, February 23, 2023

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

Derailment in VBT ties up crossings

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At about 8:32 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 16, there was a very loud, metal-on-metal grinding noise that sent people running outside their homes and businesses to see what it was.

That was along East Huron River Drive, in the eastern part of the city of Belleville and Van Buren Township all the way to Haggerty Road.

Those at the transmission shop, right next to the tracks, heard the brakes screeching and the tremendously loud bang and thought it might be a train collision with a truck. Workers went outside and walked along the train to see what had happened and found it was a derailment. They had called 911, but the dispatcher reported they already had the information.

Van Buren Township Police Chief Jason Wright said the first dispatch to police on the incident was that two trains had hit head on. This sent everyone available to the scene, running their police cars red-hot.

A father said he was delivering his children to Savage Elementary School and he was shocked when a police car went by — through the school zone — at 90 mph. He said he had never seen anything like that.

When emergency crews arrived, it was determined that a one-mile-long train operated by Norfolk Southern, heading toward Belleville, had derailed between the East Huron River Drive and Martinsville Road crossings.

Chief Wright said both ends of the train were still on the tracks, but 30 cars in the center were off the tracks. The only hazardous tanker in the train carried liquid chlorine and was unaffected. There were

(continued on page 3)



Photo courtesy Van Buren Township Public Safety Dept.

Reportedly 30 cars were off the track during the Feb. 16 train derailment in Van Buren Township, including this car carrying agricultural grain. A tanker carrying liquid chlorine was not derailed or damaged, so there was no hazmat situation.

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Derailment

(continued from page 1)

no dents or damage to the tanker and it was on the tracks. It was a part of the string of cars at both ends pulled away from the off-track cars, almost immediately after the accident he said, noting he was an eyewitness to that.

He said he saw two hoppers on their sides containing scrap metal and a car containing agricultural grain, but the rest were said to be empty. On Monday, several empty cars still remained along the tracks.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy confirmed there was no hazardous situation. There were no injuries, Chief Wright said.

On Thursday afternoon, Chief Wright said they didn't know how the accident was caused.

The East Huron River Drive crossing remained closed on Friday as cleanup continued. The Martinsville Road crossing, which had been closed for repairs anyway, remained closed. The Haggerty Road crossing, south of I-94, had been closed Thursday and then reopened.

Immediately after the derailment, Michigan Congresswoman Debbie Dingell released a statement: "My team

and I have been in touch with Supervisor Kevin McNamara, the Van Buren Fire Department, and other local officials regarding the train derailment in Van Buren Township. We are also in touch with the relevant federal authorities, including the EPA. At this time no one is aware of the release of any hazardous materials, the car carrying hazardous material has been put upright and is being removed from the area of the other derailed cars, and EPA is dispatching a team to ensure public safety. We will continue to monitor the situation very closely and remain in touch with federal, state, and local officials, and release additional information as it becomes available."

On Thursday afternoon, State Sen. Darrin Camilleri, D-Trenton, and State Rep. Reggie Miller, D-Van Buren, released a statement: "This accident is very disturbing, especially following the recent incident in Ohio. We have been in communication with the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Environment, the rail company, and other elected officials since this morning. As the situation develops, we're thankful for the crews who will be cleaning up this site."

Norfolk Southern has been the subject of public outrage after a train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio -- about 250

miles from Detroit -- caused a spill of what is reported to be five different toxic chemicals that were then allowed to burn. This sent a huge plume of smoke and gas over the community.

Residents were forced to evacuate their homes and businesses and then were told it was safe to go back. Some were re-evacuated. Residents have since complained of side effects they believe to be the result of the spill, including headaches, irritated eyes, and sick pets.

Ohio state officials insisted that testing shows the air is safe to breathe around East Palestine, where just under 5,000 people live near the Pennsylvania state line. They promised that air and water monitoring would continue.

But residents met Thursday evening in East Palestine and were unhappy that Norfolk and Southern representatives weren't there and neither were representatives from the state, leaving them to feel that they didn't care about the citizens' safety. Over the weekend, the Norfolk and Southern CEO visited the city.

Van hits train at that crossing

The *Independent* was alerted to a Feb. 4 accident on that crossing when a driver reported the flashing lights and crossing arm were not operating properly and he drove into a train at the East Huron River

Drive crossing.

He was driving a Tornado's Pizza van and hit the first or second train car. He reportedly said if he had been on the tracks a moment sooner he would have been hit by the train.

Reportedly, the van was repaired quickly and there was no injury.

Accurate Transmission, located next to the tracks at that location, reportedly shared its surveillance video of the crash with Tornado's Pizza and its insurance company and then the Van Buren Police.

Chief Wright looked at the report of the property damage accident and said there was no report of the video.

But the transmission shop told the *Independent* the video showed the arm and lights weren't working. When the train people came out to repair the signal, they said if the arm had been down it would have been bent, and it wasn't.

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Sumpter Township 2022 Employee Wages & Cost to Township

	Wages	Total Compensation
ELECTED OFFICIALS		
Bowman, Timothy P.	\$38,000.04	\$39,913.33
Hurst, Esther	\$30,000.10	\$31,269.36
Patterson, Bartley	\$2,984.63	\$3,105.94
Laporte, Donald C.	\$21,999.90	\$23,052.04
Morgan, Peggy A.	\$21,999.90	\$22,690.82
Oddy, Matthew W.	\$22,099.90	\$30,662.63
Rush, Timothy C.	\$21,999.90	\$22,699.31
TOWNSHIP MANAGER		
Burdick, Anthony W.	\$87,568.11	\$125,286.15
BUILDING DEPARTMENT		
Hall, Acheenia	\$49,213.91	\$71,885.29
CLERK'S DEPARTMENT		
Armatis, Karen E.	\$26,080.14	\$32,341.69
Hadyniak, Dawn M.	\$58,278.57	\$82,312.34
Herman, Samantha L.	\$40,998.17	\$48,240.10
COMMUNITY CENTER		
Thompson, Roderick V.	\$17,199.73	\$18,620.45
Watson, Maryann K.	\$58,945.41	\$85,087.17
FINANCE		
Bardell, Roxanne	\$11,470.85	\$23,444.39
Holtz, Scott	\$77,472.55	\$90,071.31
FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Armstrong, Timothy D.	\$11,353.09	\$11,676.19
Beaumont, James	\$1,207.09	\$1,272.87
Behrendt, David M.	\$2,385.32	\$2,522.06
Blackburn, Brian	\$4,981.55	\$5,334.78
Brown, Richard P.	\$68,555.05	\$100,756.26
Combs, Benjamin	\$6,677.72	\$6,974.10
Goode, Jamie	\$2,707.83	\$2,872.23

Ingle, Sonya	\$9,156.14	\$9,459.09
Jackson, Joseph H.	\$2,288.20	\$2,386.14
Krushlin, Jamie	\$6,342.56	\$6,580.09
Krushlin, John	\$10,812.92	\$11,075.49
Landskroener, Richard	\$2,550.76	\$2,645.94
Laporte, Donald C.	\$1,165.13	\$1,185.34
Long, Eric P.	\$3,699.68	\$3,837.92
Lunsford, Curtis	\$1,208.40	\$1,244.58
Maroti, Bela	\$979.14	\$1,057.77
McCall, Shauna R.	\$1,331.58	\$1,380.00
McHenry, Michael K.	\$14,801.11	\$15,255.59
Powell, Eric J.	\$752.29	\$769.95
Reed, Allison R.	\$1,014.14	\$1,091.73
Scott, Rachel	\$17,009.46	\$18,310.69
Sliwa, Richard J.	\$12,503.08	\$12,992.44
Smith, Taylor M.	\$127.44	\$137.19
Thompson, Walter L.	\$8,109.14	\$8,437.83
Wisniewski I, Michael W.	\$10,310.74	\$11,099.52
Wisniewski, Michael W.	\$27,963.71	\$29,234.30
Zweng, Christopher	\$3,184.25	\$3,296.48
ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT		
Gregory, Peter C.	\$68,150.36	\$75,779.98
Scott, Kevin L.	\$57,703.33	\$64,359.86
POLICE DEPARTMENT		
Balowski, Joseph F.	\$89,748.04	\$120,223.08
Benedict, Jeffrey	\$40,919.99	\$44,952.25
Cayce, James B.	\$102,962.10	\$142,389.32
Criscenti, Gino A.	\$76,916.03	\$99,324.87
Devos, Barton W.	\$79,320.54	\$100,371.83
Dufresne, Susan M.	\$53,787.98	\$82,234.76
Egerer, Elizabeth M.	\$96,071.93	\$133,228.75
Gannon, Patrick L.	\$116,673.85	\$162,567.86
Gottschalk, Colleen M.	\$79,771.48	\$110,361.06
Hammons, Nelson H.	\$22,847.18	\$28,901.83
Herrick, Christopher	\$79,901.79	\$109,057.06

Hudson, Sean M.	\$81,789.58	\$103,137.23
Johnson, Nicholas W.	\$64,647.97	\$81,066.47
Luke, Eric B.	\$126,166.20	\$169,831.12
Paquette, Malissa D.	\$79,658.86	\$90,409.68
Rodriguez, Jesiah	\$79,354.41	\$107,611.61
Salajan, George G.	\$80,098.45	\$103,832.51
Steffani, Brian J.	\$102,786.02	\$140,357.16
Toney, Kenneth	\$92,102.46	\$111,288.90
Toth, John	\$98,527.22	\$117,340.69
SUPERVISOR'S DEPARTMENT		
Rush, Timothy C.	\$8,758.19	\$9,584.07
Woodington, Karen L.	\$60,698.25	\$89,025.25
TREASURER DEPARTMENT		
Campbell, Erica M.	\$57,829.79	\$78,662.43
Harris, Ashley N.	\$33,751.81	\$36,347.54
Warren, Vincent	\$27,115.48	\$29,080.89
WATER DEPARTMENT		
Danci, John A.	\$77,519.30	\$100,672.52
Dearing, Nicholas R.	\$710.35	\$764.69
Krushlin, John	\$88,411.20	\$98,324.69
Linville, John	\$68,885.92	\$83,311.21
Lynch, Randy K.	\$69,458.25	\$95,788.53
Petrowski, Michael A.	\$69,903.29	\$98,713.09
Suciu, Ovidiu C.	\$9,387.46	\$10,105.60
Winter, Anna M.	\$51,289.77	\$67,253.22
2022 TOTAL \$4,119,830.50		
2021 TOTAL \$3,076,006.67		
Difference +\$1,043,823.83		
2022 employee total wages & cost to township had approximately 33.93% increase since 2021.		
Benefits include FICA and may include health care, dental, life insurance and pension		
Compiled by Diane Madigan.		

OPINIONS

Editorial

Train derailment brings national focus on VBT

On Saturday night at 6:15, a resident reported hearing the train signal as it was coming through the Huron River Drive crossing, west of Haggerty, heading toward Detroit. Twenty minutes later, another train blast signaled a second train was right behind it heading east. Others reported the crossing was open to traffic at 4:45 p.m. Friday.

The cleanup was almost complete from last Thursday's train derailment that brought national focus to this area since Norfolk Southern rail line had just had a mega disaster with chemicals in East Palestine, Ohio.

National news reports were saying the Van Buren Township derailment also was a hazardous waste scene. Well, it wasn't and the one car carrying liquid chlorine in the Van Buren incident did not tip over, or get damaged or dented or anything, and within hours of the derailment had been taken away with the other cars not involved in the accident.

But, was it an accident? Some national newsmakers suggest the recent rash of train derailments is payback for the U.S. destruction of Russia's North Stream Pipeline in the North Sea. Anything's possible.

We're told most of the cars in the local derailment were empty and on Monday some of them were still on the side of the track waiting to be picked up. Glad our derailment only led to a day or so of inconvenient traffic detours for our readers.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

At the Feb. 14 regular meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board, elected board member John Juriga said it had been exactly 20 years since he had heart surgery at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He said he had seven bypasses. The most bypasses ever performed are 20, he said.

"I'm glad to be alive," he told the board.

On Monday morning, one of our readers, who described himself as an Old Combat Vet, said he had been reading all the stories about the Denton Road Bridge and he had an idea about the temporary bridge that would offer public safety for the two years or so the paperwork will take.

He said the Michigan National Guard has all types of temporary bridges that don't rest on the current bridge but are anchored so they go over the bridge. He said it wouldn't cost anything and fire trucks, ambulances, tanks, and any kind of vehicle could drive over it.

He said he knows the Michigan National Guard has those and they can be put up in an hour and a half. In fact, he saw three guys put one up in 30 minutes in combat conditions.

Old Combat Vet said the Democrats are in charge in Lansing and the governor is in charge of the National Guard, so that should work out.

Another observer said he believes those bridges have no railings, so maybe it should just be for emergency vehicles including ambulances, fire trucks, and police cars. But railings could be installed, he said.

Another option. Old Combat Vet said he would have called Van Buren Township with the suggestion, but it was closed for

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



Presidents' Day.

This year the *Independent* paid \$136.71 for a reply to the Freedom of Information Act request for the salaries, plus benefits, of Sumpter Township employees for fiscal year 2022.

We can't determine how much we paid for 2021 salaries (I probably paid cash out of my pocket, since those were tough years). We paid \$92.72 for 2020 salaries, \$92.72 for 2019, \$97.72 for 2018, \$81.52 for 2017, and \$56.79 for 2016 (including charge for flash drive).

They are allowed to charge us for the time it takes to assemble the information.

Meanwhile, the other groups we FOIA'd to get the employees' pay so taxpayers could see how much their government is costing them - charged nothing.

We also print the salaries of Van Buren Township, city of Belleville, Van Buren Public Schools, Keystone Charter Academy, and Belleville Area District Library. We thank them for their generosity.

Under FOIA law, the public body has five business days to reply and can request extending that for another ten days. All responded within ten days, except for Sumpter Township which apparently took 18 days. But we didn't get it, so we patiently waited and then respectfully emailed them and asked them if it was sent, and if so, could they resend because we didn't have it. They said they sent it on

Feb. 6 (18 days). They resent it. We had it in hand 25 days after request.

For some reason, I forgot to include the library in my FOIA emails, so I finally realized that on Jan. 25 and sent it out. I got the reply two days later. Library Director Mary Jo Suchy is always right on top of things and in the past, I practically got the reply by return email.

We get many thank you's from our readers for providing this information for taxpayers. It's our money that's paying all these people and we should know what we're getting for it. And, no, federal money we're getting in grants is not free. That's just our money from another pocket.

We are informed the annual Robotics competition at Belleville High School is set for March 17-18 and they expect 3,500 people to attend. If you're not busy, you might enjoy going over to the high school and watch the students manipulate the robots they built. Entry is free.

We hear lots of calls for 911 assistance on the fire scanner, but some of the reasons people call amaze us. Recent calls included ring stuck on finger and really bad toothache.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Letters

Community invited to enjoy day, movie at DIA

To the editor:

The community is invited on Saturday April 8, to the DIA. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) has planned a bus trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) for a movie excursion that includes the following:

A. Departure for DIA, bus at Van Buren Township Hall (11 a.m.)

B. A docent-led tour of the Detroit Institute of Arts, followed by a break for lunch

C. Eliot Wilhelm introduction to the DIA Italian film "The Conformist" (2:15 p.m.)

D. Attend the film at the Detroit Film Theater (@ 3 p.m.)

E. Return: Bus departs the DIA at 5 p.m., arriving at the Van Buren Township Hall at approximately 6 p.m.

Deadline to order tickets: March 31.

Cost: The round-trip bus fare, admission to the DIA, escorted tour of the DIA, admission to the movie will be \$20 per person. BONUS: For a total of \$25 per person (an extra \$5) the Art Council will include a membership to Belleville Area Council for the Arts for 2023. Make all checks payable to the Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA).

Note: For this trip to the DIA, BACA must have a total of 30 participants. The bus holds 50 and is wheel-chair accessible. If we do not meet the required minimum of 30, the trip will be cancelled. If a wheel chair is necessary, BACA must be notified at the time the tickets are ordered because seats must be removed from the bus to accommodate the wheel chair.

Send your check and the information by March 31 as follows:

Barbara Miller
321 Main St.
Belleville, MI 48111

Reminder of bridge built under fire during WWII

To the editor:

I know it's not apples to apples, but a reminder of the hoops we are required to jump through these days. During WWII, in 1945, the 291st Engineer Combat Battalion of the Army Corps of Engineers built a 1,032-foot bridge across the Rhine, while under enemy fire, in 32 hours, capable of supporting M4 Sherman tanks.

Randy Miller, Sumpter Township

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

Belleville is a pretty good place to live

To the editor:

Anyone that knows me, knows that I am a fan of the city of Detroit. After the virus and a stroke, I don't get around much. Dave Hughes (auto repair) next to the Bake Shoppe, Country Cleaners, Kelly over at Sam's Place, Tim Horton's ... this has been my life in Belleville.

My wife Linda and I met our daughter Lena and granddaughter Madie, an engineering student U of M and GM designer, for coffee at Gloria Jean's around 11 on Saturday. A good place for coffee and conversation. Then to the Butcher Shop, surprised at the large selection. Lunch at the Bait Shop, great burger and fries, joined by Mike and Chandler Wilson, a Concordia nursing school student and soccer player.

As the day was ending, I was looking right down Denton Road. I had never noticed the hill over the bridge that will be replaced. It was a sunny day and I must have dozed off and pictured a little red covered bridge down Denton Road. You know what, Belleville is a pretty good place to live.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

Mich. Attorney General needs to step down

To the editor:

Our Attorney General is an idiot!

Nessel said on MSNBC on Tuesday afternoon (Feb. 14) that the gunman "did have a weapons offense conviction from a few years ago. He was ineligible to possess or purchase a firearm.

"So one of the things that we're going to need to know is how did he get that weapon?"

"And can we put laws in place here in Michigan to ensure that a person, such as himself, who's ineligible to own a firearm can never access one?" she said.

She has no idea how he could possibly get a weapon? She needs to step down.

Jeff Kotlarek
Romulus, MI



Feb. 26 – Laura Bratby, Stacey Bailey, Sheila Patton, Connie Chudzinski, Tammy Osier, Dore Juchartz

Feb. 27 – Dennis Davidson, Gerald McKelvey

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.

Christopher Buckner charged in Van Buren Township shooting

Christopher Isaiah Buckner, 34, of Carleton, was present by video from the Wayne County Jail for his probable cause conference before 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin on Feb. 15.

He is charged with assault with intent to murder, assault to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, possession of firearms by a felon, and four counts of weapons/felony firearm on Jan. 23 in Van Buren Township.

His defense attorney asked for an adjournment and for reduction of bond. He said the 34-year-old man had a four-year-old son that he hadn't seen since he was arrested on Feb. 1.

The probable cause conference was set for Feb. 22. The bond, which had been \$500,000/10% was reduced to \$100,000/10%. If released, he must wear a GPS tether and not have any contact with

the victim.

Van Buren Township Police reported that on Jan. 23, they responded at 6:45 a.m. to the report of a subject firing shots into a vehicle in the area of Rawsonville and Grove roads.

Deputy Chief Joshua Monte said

responding officers discovered a victim shot multiple times seated inside his vehicle. Officers were able to provide first aid to the victim who was transported to a local hospital.

The suspect was taken into custody a short-time later at his residence by Van

Buren officers assisted by deputies from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

The victim, a 31-year-old male from Van Buren Township, was hospitalized in stable condition. Deputy Chief Monte said the victim, who was specifically targeted, was familiar with this suspect.

David Miller arraigned on VBT burglary charges

David Edward Miller, 62, of Westland was present by zoom on Feb. 15 at the 34th District Court from the Washtenaw County Jail for his bench warrant arraignment by Magistrate Alan Hindman. Bond was set at \$100,000 cash or surety.

The probable cause conference will be March 1 and he is to have no contract with the Lube Shop, 10645 Belleville Rd. in Van Buren Township. He is charged with breaking and entering a building and being in possession of burglary tools on Oct. 14.

Obituaries



James Henry West, Jr.

JAMES HENRY WEST, JR.

James Henry West, Jr., age 66, of Belleville, February 7, 2023. Beloved husband of Beverly West. Loving father of James (Melissa) West and Amanda (Lance) Witt. Loving son of Patricia Haggard. Dearest grandfather of 11 and great-grandfather of 2. He is survived by his siblings Mary (Shane) Hyder, Leslie (Barb) West, Gina (John) West, and Sherril (Tracy) Williams. He is preceded in death by his father James West, Sr., granddaughter Alivia Witt, and a baby brother. James was very active in the Masons, being a three-time past master. He loved fishing, hunting, and racing. He was an avid Harley Davidson fan, having his own for 5+ years. He will be loved and missed by many. Visitation was Monday, February 13, 2023 and service was Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home. Interment at Michigan Memorial Park

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Obituaries



Elaine Stabnau

ELAINE STABNAU

(January 27, 1928 - February 15, 2023)

Elaine Stabnau (nee Graham) of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on February 15, 2023, at St. Joseph's Village in Ypsilanti.

Elaine was born in Detroit on January 27, 1928, to the late William and Mary (MacGregor) Graham. The family moved to New Boston, Michigan in the early 1930s, where they first rented the Gibbs farm on Bell Road, later moving to Craig Street. When Elaine and her older sister Grace were approaching high school age, the family moved to Belleville, as there wasn't a high school in New Boston (Huron Township) at the time.

Joining the First United Methodist Church of Belleville in 1942, Elaine enjoyed singing in the choir and remained an active member throughout her lifetime. She graduated from Belleville High School in 1946 and was married to Harvey Stabnau, also of Belleville, in 1947. Elaine balanced her professional career as a secretary with raising a family and succeeded at both. Employed by Detroit Edison and Ford Motor Company early in her career, she later worked for Andy Hotton Associates, Roberts Brothers Funeral Home, and David C. Brown Funeral Home, all located in Belleville.

Elaine's happiest times, though, were being with family and friends. The home she and Harvey built, and she lived in for 70 years, was always a welcoming place full of generous hospitality and laughter.

Elaine is survived by her four children, Jeffrey (Jacquelyn) Stabnau of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Craig (Karen) Stabnau of Missoula, Montana, Sheila Joy of Reston, Virginia, and Suzanne (Jerry) Vilicich of Rancho Palos Verdes, California. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and brothers James Graham of Belleville, and William (Susan) Graham of West Bloomfield.

Elaine was preceded in death by her husband in 2016. She was also preceded in death by her parents, sister Grace Malloy, and brother John (Jack) Graham.

Visitation will be held at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, Michigan on Tuesday, February 21 from 4-8 p.m., with funeral services Wednesday, February 22 at 11 a.m. Burial to follow at Hillside Cemetery. In memory of Elaine, donations may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Belleville, 417 Charles Street, Belleville, MI 48111, or the Make-a-Wish Team Alex WAM 300, 8600 Grand River Avenue, Suite 175, Brighton MI 48114. www.davidcbrownfh.com

BETTY JANE 'BJ' PENDLETON

(June 28, 1927 - February 13, 2023)

Age 95, of Belleville. Survived by children Dennis, Robert, Katherine; sister Dorothea, 5 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren. Funeral service was Tuesday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.
www.davidcbrownfh.com



Barbara Bechel

BARBARA BECHEL

"Well done, good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:21

Barbara Bechel was a beloved grandmother, mother and wife during her 80 years of life. She passed away quickly and peacefully in the final hours of February 12, 2023.

Barbara's life is the story of a quiet hero with a gentle nature, saving people with love and compassion. She had an unparalleled dedication to her family and strong work ethic. The bond she shared with her daughters will never end, and her love for her grandson is everlasting.

Survivors include her daughters, Diane (David) Marriott, Debra (Lawrence) Esker, and grandson Nathaniel Esker, and many close cousins and family members. She was preceded in death by her loving husband John Bechel and her parents Agnes and John Noga.

The family will receive friends from 2-6 p.m. Sunday, February 26, 2023 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial mass to honor Barbara's life at 10 a.m. Monday, February 27, 2023 at St. Mary Catholic Church, 242 North State St., Painesville, OH 44077. (Please meet at the church.) A luncheon will follow the Mass.

A private family interment will be held in Holy Cross Cemetery, Brookpark, at a later date.

Donations can be made in Barbara's honor to the John F. Bechel Scholarship Fund at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 1169 Alverda Road, Nicktown, PA 15762.

Please offer condolences at www.brunners.com.



Connie Jean Allen

CONNIE JEAN ALLEN

(July 22, 1953 - February 4, 2023)

Connie Jean Allen, a longtime Van Buren Township resident, passed away February 4, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband Gary Allen, her parents Marvin and Helen Martin, and sister Linda Bickley. She is survived by her daughter Julie E. Allen Betts of Brighton and her fiancé Al Knapp of Wayne.

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Feb. 23 - Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 6 p.m., to consider a zoning variance to allow for a split of property at more than 4x1 ratio at 21400 Elwell Rd.
- Monday, Feb. 27 - Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 - Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m.
- Monday, March 6 - Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

Goats coming back to chew Belleville lakeside, courtesy DDA, city council

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Twenty goats are scheduled to arrive on June 8 at Horizon Park in Belleville to trim the shrubbery along the lake in time for Lakefest activities.

At the Feb. 15 regular meeting of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, Randy Brown, who brought goats to the city for the last two years, said he had scheduled 15-20 goats for two weeks in August at a cost of \$3,995.

But Therese Antonelli of the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce told Brown this year's Lakefest was going to be a much larger event and asked him to move the goats up in time to clear the shoreline for the festival. He made a cellphone call and then announced the early June date.

DDA vice chairperson Kelly McWilliams complained that last year it didn't look very neat for Lakefest.

City Manager/Police Chief Dave Robinson said the city council would agree to pay half of the cost at its next meeting Feb. 21.

In other business at the two-hour, Feb. 15 meeting, the DDA:

- Removed from the agenda the demonstration of Monday.com by DDA member Ivan Ankwatsa. He was not present, so the demonstration was put off until the March meeting;
- Approved a grant application from the Central Business Community for \$4,800 to help fund promotion of eight events, with Mayor Kerreen Conley voting no. She said she is happy with increasing the amount, but not happy with the lack of a clear policy. Last year's grant was \$2,000;
- Approved a grant application for \$2,000 each for Lakefest and Winterfest. Mayor Conley said these are huge events over multiple days and they only get \$2,000 each. "None of these events are happening tomorrow," she said, indicating there is time to consider the total amount. A new policy is expected to be discussed in a committee meeting;

• Heard the list of DDA committee assignments;

• Reviewed a list of possible site furnishings for downtown and parks, including picnic tables, park benches, barricades, convertible table/benches, and trash cans;

• Heard Projects Administrator Steve Jones said he was tasked with listing what the city has in its parks and recited a long list of items and what they looked like. DDA Chairperson Alicia McGovern directed the administration to come up with a comprehensive park plan for the next meeting. Robinson said they would have recommendations for the March meeting;

• Discussed the proposed restriping of the city parking lots and pavement repair in the parking lot next to Johnny's. Chairperson McGovern said they should consider one-way traffic in the parking lot

next to Johnny's and Robinson said he is considering a recommendation to have the parking there straight, rather than slanted;

• Discussed advertising for two to three DDA-funded summer workers, who would not be a part of the youth employees. Robinson said now they have a project administrator to direct them. He said he thinks two is good. He would like someone retired or an older person;

• Discussed a proposed new even funding program and application;

• Discussed advertising in the Detroit Tigers and/or Lions program. The proposal was assigned to the Marketing Committee for a recommendation;

• Learned Scott Jones is putting up four billboards to market the city and McGovern said it is the responsibility of the DDA to help. Cost numbers have been provided to the DDA, but she would like to look for competitive numbers. The item was deferred for more information;

• Heard McGovern say she now will allow citizens' comments during discussions; and

• Heard Councilman Tom Fielder point out that the robotics competition is coming up on March 17 at Belleville High School and it brings 2,000 people who they stick around between competitions. In the past the DDA has put together a brochure suggesting places to eat that was passed out to them. Also, he suggested the rose arbor in Horizon Park (where the roses didn't grow) needs to be turned into an attractive place and the tying up of boats at Horizon Park needs to be improved.

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Children's Worship
Vacation Bible School
Fall Harvest Festival
Youth Groups (MS/HS)
Catechism Program

Upcoming Special Worship Services

Holy Thursday (4/6)

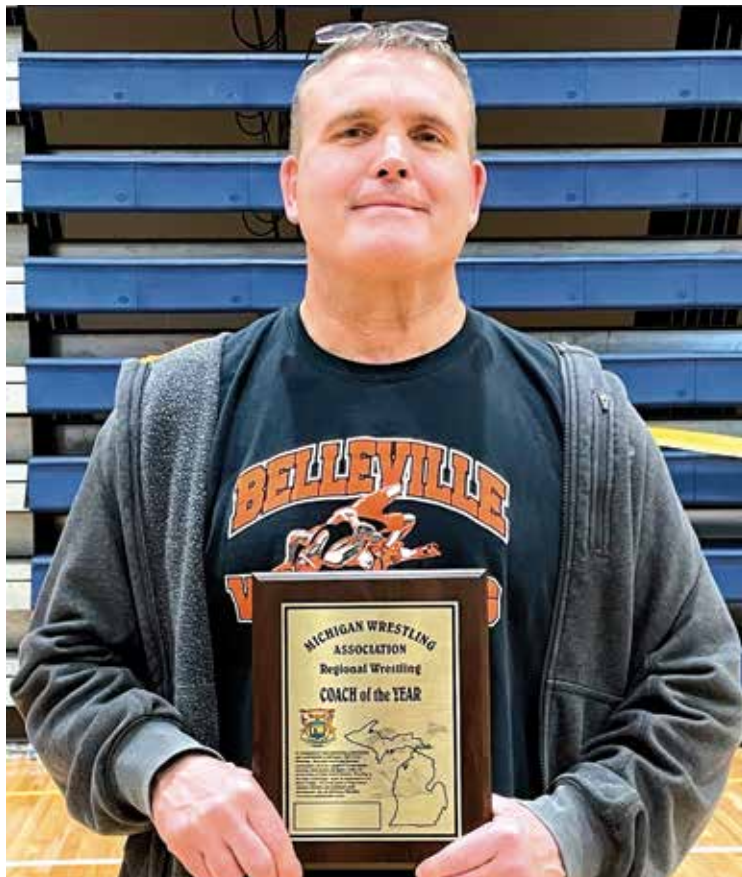
Good Friday (4/7)

Easter Sunday (4/9, egg hunt to follow)



The Belleville Area Museum
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Van Buren Township for
1,088 days as of today.
No date set for reopening.

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On Saturday Belleville High School wrestling coach Derek Phillips was named Michigan Wrestling Association Metro Regional Coach of the Year.



Belleville High School student Zeinabou Toure qualified on Saturday for Individual State Competition in Girls wrestling in the 145 weight class. State finals are March 3-4 at Ford Field.

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Wrestling State Qualifiers from Belleville High School are Demond Harrison, Austin Martin, Bernard Harrison, Connor Williams, Javen Franklin, and Ronald Jackson. State finals are March 3-4 at Ford Field.

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Davenport, Snodgrass, Garrett named to BHS Athletic Hall of Fame

Michelle Davenport, Mike Snodgrass, and Christy Garrett were named to the Belleville High School Athletic Hall of Fame at half time during the Feb. 10 varsity basketball game at BHS.

Michelle Davenport

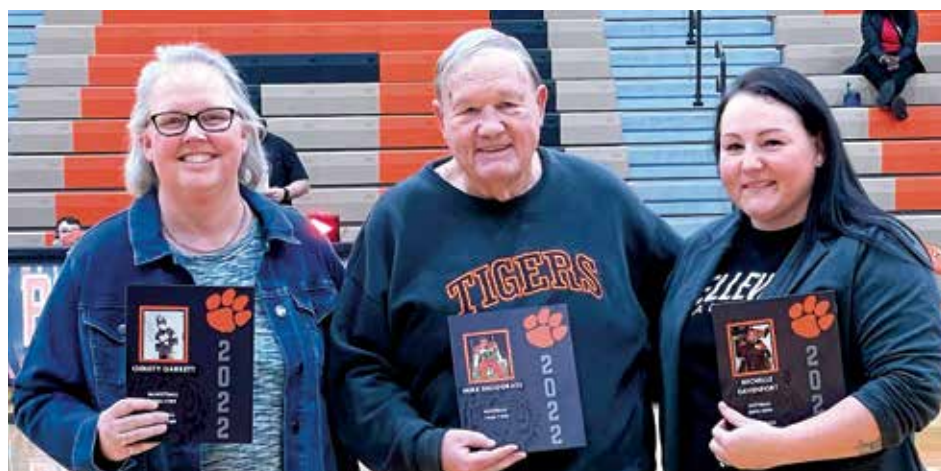
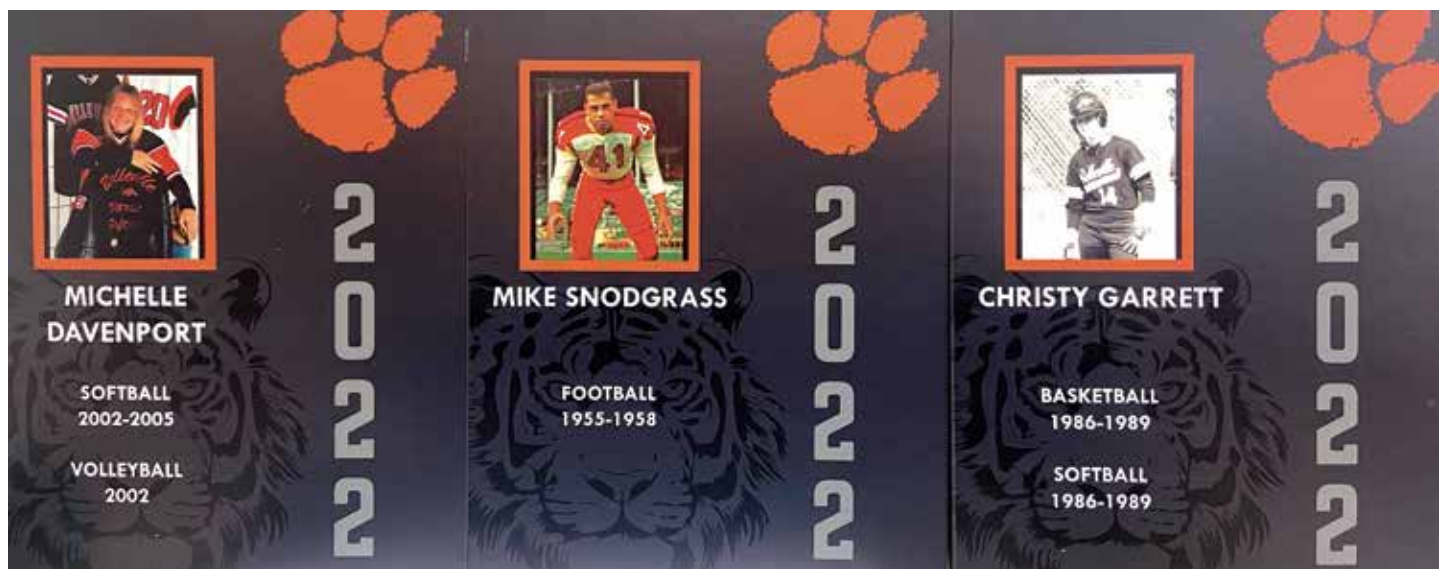
Michelle Davenport graduated in 2005. She was varsity starter in softball for four years and earned All-League and All-District honors in 2004 and 2005. She was All Region in 2005 and All State Honorable Mention as a catcher in 2005. Michelle was also part of the Michigan Softball Coaches Association All State Academic Team and holds several BHS softball records to this day.

Mike Snodgrass

Mike Snodgrass was on the 1958 football team that was considered the State Champions prior to the playoff systems being implemented. He had a distinguished career at Western Michigan University and went on to be drafted by the Green Bay Packers in 1962. Instead of playing there, he played in Canada for the Ottawa Rough Riders. (Tom Fielder accepted the honor on Mike's behalf.)

Christy Garrett

Christy Garrett graduated in 1989 and played softball and basketball while at BHS. She was a starter all four years in softball and still holds several records. She was All League in softball in 1988 and 1989, as well as All District, All Region,



The new members of the Belleville High School Hall of Fame were honored Feb. 10. From left are Christy Garrett, Mike Snodgrass (accepted on his behalf by Tom Fielder), and Michelle Davenport.

and All State in 1989. After graduation, she continued her softball career at Wayne State University.

Court Watching at 34th District Court

Jason Alan Shepherd, 47, of Van Buren Township, was arraigned at 34th District Court from his hospital bed while in custody on Feb. 16 on charges of domestic violence and assault / assault and battery on Feb. 16 in Van Buren Township. His zoom pretrial was set for March 1. Personal bond of \$5,000 was set and he must not return to his address on S. Ponderosa Trail or the trailer park or use/possess mood altering substances.

Davontay Maurice Lincoln

Davontay Maurice Lincoln of Van Buren Township was arraigned Feb. 17 on a charge of unarmed robbery on Feb. 16 in Van Buren

Township. Personal bond was set at \$5,000. A probable cause conference was set for March 1.

Bobby Gene Barnett

Bobby Gene Barnett, 54, of Van Buren Township was before Judge Martin on Feb. 15 for his probable cause conference on charges of identity theft and false pretenses from \$1,000 to \$20,000 in the city of Belleville on Aug. 10, 2020. The warrant for his arrest was canceled on Feb. 5 when Van Buren Township had him in custody. He was arraigned and personal bond was set at \$5,000. His preliminary exam was set for March 29.

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Independent photo courtesy of Elaine Gutierrez

At the Jan. 21 annual meeting of the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library the officers for 2023 were elected. Reelected to their 2022 positions were, from left, Rika Regentin, treasurer; Katerina Tyner, president; Donna Gilkey-Lavin, vice-president; Library Director Mary Jo Suchy; and Manny Lavin, secretary. The meeting had the theme of "Bee a Friend" to commemorate the first rooftop honeybee harvest. President Tyner said her goal for the year is to increase membership in the Friends. Applications can be obtained at the library or on website: www.belleville.lib.mi.us. Director Suchy gave a glowing annual report on the increased in-person programming and the record attendance at the open house, Harvest Fest and Winter Fest. She showed a power point presentation, prepared by library assistant Nikki Pickeral displaying the contents of the Belleville Library Time Capsule. The capsule has been placed in a library wall and will be opened in 50 years (2072).

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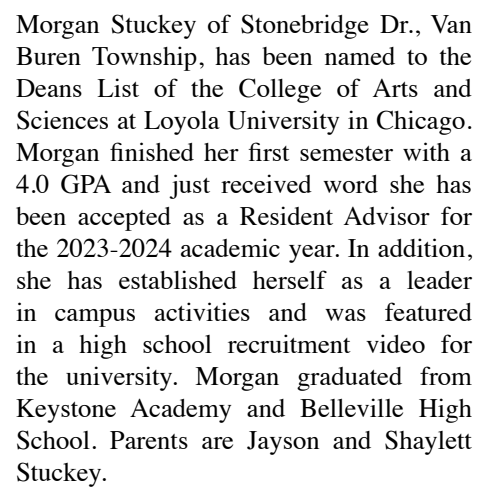
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The Pollard brothers recently celebrated a reunion. Marvin, at right, is turning 90 and lives in the Upper Peninsula. He was on his way to Florida. Jim, in the middle, from Belleville is turning 95. Richard, at left, is turning 100. He lives in Chelsea where the celebration took place.



State Rep. Reggie Miller, D-Van Buren Township, visited Rawsonville Elementary School on Jan. 30 to present a tribute for its library. The Rawsonville Media Center achieved exemplary status as a Michigan School Library for 21st Century Schools under the School Library 21 program. This program recognizes and commends performance by K-12 libraries, and the standards of the School Library 21 program indicate quality learning and student achievement. To achieve this status, Rawsonville Media Center completed at least 38 measurement criteria in the areas of learning, environment, and leadership. Rep. Miller is pictured with Principal Tracy Bryant (at left), Media Specialist Mary Ellen Vago, and Van Buren Public Schools Supt. Pete Kudlak.

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Belleville planners send recommendation for rezoning to city council

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Planning Commission held a public hearing on a proposed rezoning at its Feb. 9 meeting and then voted to recommend approval to the city council which will make the final decision.

At issue is the 3.49-acre tract at 515

Sumpter Rd., between the Senior Co-Op residence and the veterinary clinic, where Davenport Brothers proposes to build 15 houses that are being called “apartments” since Davenport plans to keep ownership of the units and rent them out.

First plans called for the project to wind around the veterinary clinic into a Van Buren Township property, but Steve Davenport told the commission that another person wants something built on the north side and so all of the housing units will be on the Belleville property.

The only family speaking at the public hearing was one that had a home in Victoria Commons and backed up to this project. A man said the notice that was taped to his door said these were single-story attached condos and now they are single-story-attached apartments.

Davenport said there is no pond planned and wastewater will be stored underground. He said this is more expensive, but is better. He said a private road will go around in the development for fire access.

City Councilman Tom Fielder who, at the last meeting said he had talked with Davenport about the development, was present at this meeting with Davenport and offered to help him hold exhibits and stand with him at the front of the room.

When Commissioner Randy Priest said the sidewalk along Sumpter Road was terrible, Councilman Fielder said the sidewalks were installed by the school district in 1964 so students could walk safely to South Middle School. He said they were asphalt.

Davenport said each unit will have a

separate water, sanitary sewer and electric connection and they will have 35' setback from the property line. A one-hour firewall will be between the units.

He said each unit will have two full baths, walk-in closets, granite countertops, and an air conditioner on the ground.

The units will be rented to anyone who can pay the lease, he said. He said Davenport will maintain the private street and the grass.

He said he didn't have the drawings yet, but would in a few days. The drawings with architectural seals are expected at the next meeting when the site plan will be considered.

“Next month we'll come back,” Davenport said. “The hurdle was the zoning and we've got that. We'll have the drawings in to you by the end of the month.”

In other business at the Feb. 9 meeting, the commission:

- Unanimously reelected Michael Hawkins as chairman of the commission and Matthew Wagner as vice chairman for the year. Hawkins was absent from the meeting;

- Set a public hearing for a proposed zoning ordinance amendment for the next meeting, March 9. City Manager/Police Chief Dave Robinson said the November election took things out of the city charter regarding recreational and medical marijuana. Terminology changes needed to be done. He had provided the ordinance as amended and asked the commission to look it over before the public hearing. Then it needs to be recommended to the city council;

- Heard Matthew McLean say he had wanted to set up a dispensary at his business at 573 E. Huron River Dr. and he was disappointed that the city gave it to a location between two parks and it was named after an ice cream shop. Steve Jones said the marijuana district has always been set in the industrial district. Several commissioners said they cannot do spot zoning for that;

- Heard Robinson say that there were a lot of steps in the ordinance amendment and he is glad they had legal counsel for that;

- Welcomed the two new commissioners, Mark Kowalski and James O'Keefe. The third new commissioner, Julie Kissel, was absent;

- Heard Commissioner John Juriga say something is showing on the roof

of the museum and when the library had something on the roof they had to pay \$100,000 to cover it up. Building Official Rick Rutherford said he would look into it. The museum and the property it is on in the city are owned by Van Buren Township;

- Heard Commissioner Priest say the city has to be connected by sidewalks and there are gaps. He offered to write grants, since he has experience.

Social media comment leads to stabbing in city of Belleville

On Saturday, Feb. 18, at about 5:30 p.m., Belleville police officers responded to 871 Sumpter Rd. on a report of a stabbing, reported Police Chief Dave Robinson in a news release.

Upon arrival, they rendered aid for stabbing injuries to a 15-year-old male victim from Sumpter Township. This juvenile was then transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor by ambulance.

While police were on the scene, the suspect returned to the scene with his mother. The suspect/arrestee is a 17-year-old male from Belleville.

Chief Robinson reported, apparently the incident started due to a social media comment the suspect made about the victim's girlfriend. The victim and several other juveniles (males/females) met up at 871 Sumpter Rd. [Belle Plaza Shopping Center] with the intention of talking with the suspect about this comment. A physical altercation ensued between the suspect and victim, when the suspect pulled a 3-4" pocket knife out and stabbed the victim in the neck, and arm. The injury to the arm was significant and the victim was rushed to the hospital by ambulance where he underwent surgery for his injuries. The victim was listed as serious – critical condition as of Saturday night.

Officers arrested and interviewed the suspect who was later transported to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center. The officers also interviewed all parties and witnesses involved.

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S&P Global Credit Rating goes from A+ to AA for Van Buren Twp.

News Release

On Jan. 24, S&P Global Ratings, raised Van Buren Township's long-term credit rating from A+ to AA. S&P Global Ratings (previously Standard & Poor's or S&P) is an American credit agency and a division of S&P Global.

One of the largest credit rating agencies, S&P is assigning letter grades to companies and countries and the debt they issue on a scale of AAA to D, indicating their degree of investment risk.

"The upgrade reflects the township's improved economy and long-term liability profile, multiple years of positive operating performance, and very strong reserves that are expected to be maintained," said Diana Cooke, S&P Global Ratings Credit Analyst.

"We assigned our 'AA' long-term rating to the township's \$7 million series 2023 general obligation limited tax."

Van Buren Township Kevin McNamara said, "In politics, the public tells you that you are doing a good job by re-electing you to office. But the financial people that know if we are doing a good job are the auditors, the New York bankers, and the rating agencies."

"This rating means that our peers believe in Van Buren Township governance and management after in-depth analysis and review," he said.

The S&P Rating increase is an assurance to the taxpayers of Van Buren Township's financial stability and ability to meet its obligations and can also affect interest rates, Supervisor McNamara added. The higher the letter grade, the lower the interest rate the issuer typically pays.

"It is almost unheard of in this economic climate to be bumped up two notches," said Nathaniel Watson, Managing Director at PFM Financial Advisors, LLC. "This is great news for Van Buren Township and a testament to its leadership and sound financial policies."

Supervisor McNamara said, "The rating directly reflects how well the board is performing, the management, the policies, the procedures we adopt, and how we follow through on all aspects of the township business."

"We implemented policies and procedures on how we managed debt, lawsuits, employee contracts, and infrastructure that were economically sustainable. We put in place plans for adjusting for economic downturns. We instituted strict policing measures to ensure consistent adherence to these policies. As a result, we are now growing the marketability of our homes and businesses."

Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved critical infrastructure, revenue, and debt plans through 2032. Other surrounding Michigan municipalities rated by S&P are Canton Township (AA), Superior Charter Township (AA) and the City of Livonia (AA Building Authority).

For more information about VBT's upgraded S&P Global Rating visit here.

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on MARCH 11, 2023 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. K650, MJ Rea; K657, Shunya Cleveland; L508, Katrina Bryant; M567 & I427, Jennifer Miller; O724, Michael Riley; R926, LC Clark; D153, Alesha Mytych; N814, Randall Shropshire; Q905, Tasha Davis; O720, Willie Murray; L516, N817 & P756, Sunshine Inc.

Publish: February 23 and March 2, 2023

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"There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that 'my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.'"

— Isaac Asimov

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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— Ruth Bader Ginsburg

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VBT planners send opinions on BYC dock to BZA for March meeting

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After an hour-long discussion on Feb. 8, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission sent its opinions on the special exception requested of the Board of Zoning Appeals for the Belleville Yacht Club dock.

The BZA was due to meet Feb. 14, but the meeting was canceled and it will meet March 14. Both the planning commission and the BZA met in January to discuss the docks and both postponed action until the planners could give their opinions to the BZA members. Then the BZA would decide whether to allow the BYC to build their docks three times the length allowed into Belleville Lake. Then, the BYC could present its site plan for review by the planning commission.

On Feb. 8, Director of Municipal Services Ron Akers filled in for Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power, who was ill.

Director Akers said the planners needed to review and comment on the special application postponed from the last meeting to help the BZA with its decision.

Akers said this is the first special exception request the township received since the Shoreline Ordinance was enacted in 2016. He pointed out that 25 items were discussed in the

staff report.

He said the planners are asked to comment to help the BZA decide on the length of the dock.

Forty feet is allowed by the ordinance and the BYC wants 120 feet.

At this point, Commissioner Medina Atchinson said that her husband and she are members of the BYC. She said she talked with the township attorney and he said she could vote on the BYC issue.

Commissioner Atchinson said she is a member of the community and member of the planning commission and her job is to make decisions for the whole community. She said she wants to "retain myself" and vote.

Commissioner Brian Cullin made a motion to allow her to vote on this issue and Commissioner Bernie Grant seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. However, there were no votes on the issue at the meeting, only discussion.

In presenting a revised site plan for discussion and review, applicant Scott Jones spoke on behalf of the BYC plans, noting there is a 100 foot no-wake zone around the dock and the busiest days of the lake are also the busiest days at the dock. He showed the lights that will be put on the docks.

Jones said there is 518 feet of water in the lake between the no wake zones. He said the narrowest point is at Potter Drive, 700 feet to their west, where it is 400 feet.

"We believe we're not impeding the safety of the lake," Jones said. He noted that the DNR proposed extending its dock at its launch site next door to the BYC and putting in a jetty to break up the wake. He said it has been approved, but is waiting for funding.

Jones said the BYC is a non-profit 501c7 and if the club dissolved, the money would be distributed to a lake charity and no member of the club would personally benefit.

The discussion began when Commissioner Grant asked in regard to the 518 feet, "How do you feel it's safe?"

Jones said that is not the narrowest on the lake, the 400 feet to the west is, and, "That's safe as well."

Grant said in the community there is concern about safety.

Jones said in Florida the intercoastal waterway is narrower than 500 feet.

Commissioner Callie Barr said they need a little bit more information on the safety. She asked if there were studies and something that takes a look over time. She said they shouldn't be making assumptions over safety. And, this is a private club.

Commissioner Barr said that at the last meeting with the commission, Jones represented that women are members. Jones replied there are seven voting members and no one is kept out by the bylaws. He read a portion of the bylaws that said they do not discriminate.

Barr said women have told her they have been unable to join the BYC. She asked if now she can tell them to apply because they can. He did not reply.

Jones said they have no fueling or repairs and

they are transient docks for the club's members.

Commissioner Cullin said the 120 feet was his concern. He looked at it from the DNR launch site next door. He said he is not a boater, but people don't know what to do on the lake and do not observe the 100 foot no-wake zone. Cullin said 40 yards is half a football field and it is two football fields across. A quarter of the lake would be taken up with dock. Jet skis sliding by there. "That 120 feet is my concern," Cullin said.

Barr asked if the BYC has considered a shorter dock length.

Jones said that is for 16 boats and that is what they need and actually they need more.

Grant said if the BZA gives an extension, it goes to EGLE (the state department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy), who potentially could deny the permit. There is a comment period for residents, he said. They are the one who design the docks. He asked Akers if that is correct and Akers said that is accurate.

Atchinson asked if it goes to both EGLE and FERC, too.

Akers said they are looking into that.

Cullin said the shoreline property belongs to the township and the water belongs to the state, "How can it be private?"

Akers said it is a privately owned dock. Under it is the township property they are allowed exclusive use if maintained.

The meeting then opened to public comment:

- Alisha Goodman of E. Huron River Drive said she is a neighbor to the BYC and appreciates the beautiful facility, but safety is an issue for her. She worries about her granddaughter and doesn't use the lake on weekends. She said a traffic study is needed. If it kept one person from dying it would be worth the cost.

- Chris Donley of W. Huron River Drive said he is an avid boater and probably uses the lake

(continued on page 16)

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



2023 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

VAN BUREN
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

**NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY
OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the Charter Township of Van Buren will be held on the following dates:

March 7th, Tuesday
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(Organizational Meeting)
No Appeals Heard at this Meeting

March 13th, Monday
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 15th, Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review **OR** by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

Letters of appeal must be received by noon MARCH 15, 2023.

Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-699-8946 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by MARCH 7, 2023.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Thursday, February 16, 2023
Thursday, February 23, 2023
Thursday, March 2, 2023



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING



The City of Belleville Board of Review will be held on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023

Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7th. A second meeting will be on Tuesday March 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
MEETINGS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Please call (734) 697-9323 ext. 7016 to set up an appointment.

The meetings will be held in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville. The purpose will be to review the assessment roll and hear any objections. Resident and non-resident taxpayers are permitted to file protests in writing without personal appearance; letters must be received by 4 pm on March 14, 2023.

Briana Hootman
City Clerk/Treasurer
Publish: February 9, 2023
February 16, 2023
February 23, 2023
March 2, 2023

VBT Plan

(continued from page 15)

more than anybody else. He said that area is the trickiest area at the DNR launch site, with people waiting to reenter. He said the new BYC dock will help push the boats out away from shore. He said people are thumbing their nose at the law and it's happening all over the lake. He said in 1998 and 2004 the DNR asked to extend their docks and it was approved by the MDEQ (now EGLE) and now they are trying to find funding. "We're just asking for the same kind of courtesy," he said.

• Michele Montour of E. Huron River Dr. said she disagrees with Jones that 518 feet of water is safe. She said it is not safe for two boats pulling tubes. She goes out onto the lake with her dog and anything out into the lake you have to go around. It's a huge safety issue, she said. She asked if they had contacted the police for their input. She said it is not a gated lake. It's for everyone.

• Corey Gibson of E. Huron River Dr. said

when Donley introduced himself he left his BYC membership off his resume. He said they should get an official survey, since different numbers are coming up. He said it's up to the requestor to provide a survey. And the DNR traffic studies referred to change over 20-30 years. He said EGLE is waiting for direction from the township. He said this is the only lake with restrictions in the state. He read part of the Ridenour letter that was printed in the Independent, noting the writer was on the committee that set up the 40 foot restriction. He suggested the township reconvene the lake committee. He said he appreciates what the BYC does for the community but this dock will benefit only the club. "I stand opposed to 120 feet."

• Angela Mears of Ryznar Drive said the BYC wanted space for 24 boats, then it was 22, and now it's 16. She said she would support an 80-foot dock. She also said people on the BYC should not vote on the issue.

• Jeffrey Riggs of Potter Drive said he also has two properties in Van Buren Township. He spoke via zoom. He said he supports the BYC in

what they do, but a lot of people are against this and there's lots of talk on social media. He said it's one thing to ask for a variance on land, but if this is approved it would set a precedent for other groups. Then it wouldn't be an all-sports lake. It would be a no-wake lake. He said he had sent a video to commissioners that showed how busy the lake was when the BYC wanted a 140-foot dock off their N. Liberty Street site in the city. That video was taken in October, he said. Then, a few years back they got a stop-work order from the township while they were extending their docks at the present location without a permit. Now, two business days before Christmas, they applied for these docks. He said it would be a 15% reduction in the navigatable channel – for a private club. He said his proposal is to deny the BYC until the DNR extension is build and then match it. He said he finds a lot of danger in the BYC plans. He said he disagrees with having a BYC member on the issue and asked if there were any other BYC members on the planning commission.

"When we see an audience like this, we get

excited," Commissioner Barr said, referring to the large number of people. She said the BZA should not grant a special exception for safety reasons.

"It would be an exception into a public resource by a private organization," she said, adding there should be no guess on safety and other would like to build out docks, too.

Commission Vice-Chairman Jeff Jahr said, in answer to Riggs' question, there is no one else on the commission that is a member of the BYC. He said a commissioner would be required to say he or she was on the BYC, if that was the case.

The commission then paused its meeting briefly while the BYC members filed out.

In other action, the commission:

• Welcomed new commissioner Jackson Pahle who takes the place of Bryon Kelley who now is a township trustee; and

• Approved the final site plan for the DTE Morton Substation at 42061 Ecorse Rd. It was noted that Wayne County's only outlying item for the project is the sidewalk bridge.

Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PRICE QUOTES

Charter Township of Van Buren

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Request for price quotes

Grounds Maintenance at Harris Park, 10151 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Twp., MI 48111.

Proposal Due Date: Time: 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023
Project: The Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is accepting quotes for the Maintenance of the DDA Streetscape along Belleville Road from the City of Belleville north to Tyler Road for:

2023 and 2024 with an option to renew in 2025

Commencement Date: Approximately May, 2023 as agreed upon by the DDA and landscaper

Specifications are attached or the proposal may be downloaded from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority website: www.vanburenDDA.com. Or a proposal may be obtained at the Downtown Development Authority Offices, 10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Submittal: Please submit quotes by e-mail to mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org or mail/deliver to the Van Buren Township DDA, 10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on March 16, 2023.

Quote Review: Quotes will be reviewed at the Regular DDA meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 during the regular meeting @ 5:30 p.m. The DDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities that are in the best interest of the DDA.

For additional contact: Van Buren Township DDA at 734-699-8941 or by e-mail @ mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org

Publish: February 16, 2023 and February 23, 2023
Paper of record and website



Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PRICE QUOTES

Charter Township of Van Buren

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Request for price quotes

DDA Streetscape along Belleville Road from the City of Belleville north to Tyler Road

Proposal Due Date: Time 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023

Project: The Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is accepting quote for the Maintenance of the DDA Streetscape along Belleville Road from the City of Belleville north to Tyler Road for:

2023 and 2024 with an option to renew in 2025

Commencement Date: Approximately May, 2023 as agreed upon by the DDA and landscaper

Specifications are attached or the proposal may be downloaded from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority website: www.vanburenDDA.com. Or a proposal may be obtained at the Downtown Development Authority Offices, 10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Submittal: Please Submit quotes by e-mail to mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org or mail/deliver to the Van Buren Township DDA, 10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111 no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on March 16, 2023.

Quote Review: Quotes will be reviewed at the Regular DDA meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. The DDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities that are in the best interest of the DDA.

For additional information contact: Merrie Coburn, Van Buren Township DDA at 734-699-8941 or by e-mail at mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org

Publish: February 16, 2023 and February 23, 2023
Paper of record and website



**Minding
Your Business**
with Bob Mytych



The Kentuckians of Michigan in Romulus will host the country music group Pickin' Roots this Saturday, Feb. 25, beginning at 7 p.m. Dinner is \$10 per person and children 12 and under are free. The location is 28391 Bredow Rd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Patriot Pride Painting is a Belleville company offering professional painting services to residential and commercial customers in the tri-community and Southeast Michigan. Owner Ronald Watson and his team are licensed and insured and will provide free estimates and veteran discounts for interior and exterior

work, including deck repairs, painting and staining, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and dry fall painting where paint additives are used when drying time needs to be fast (open ceilings quite common in commercial and industrial applications like restaurants and bars). To learn more, visit their website at www.patriotpridepaint.com and call (734) 796-5249. Be sure to see their ad in today's paper.

With spring around the corner and summer on its way, the folks at Air Doctors in Belleville want the community to know about some heating and cooling updates on the horizon. For starters, the AC industry is going through an overhaul, according to owner Brynn Cooksey. He says AC systems will experience more parts shortages, especially with refrigerants, where the price of R-22, the common refrigerant used in the industry, has gone up tremendously

in the last two years, and so the price of service calls has followed. If you have a heating and cooling system over 20 years old, Cooksey suggests that you consider replacing it as the federal government and local utility companies are offering substantial tax credits and utility rebates to consumers. Check with your bank or credit union for low interest loans and programs for qualified energy-efficient appliance replacement. Cooksey also says that the price of raw materials, inflation, worker shortages, and new federal regulations are requiring appliance manufacturers to make more efficient equipment. To learn more on how the Air Doctors can help with these issues or general heating and cooling needs, visit www.airdoctorshvacservice.com. Call (734) 740-2961 to schedule a free in-home consultation. Be sure to see their ad in today's paper for valuable coupons.

The 2023 Polar Plunge was held last Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Belleville Yacht Club and it was the best one ever for the BYC with more than 170 sign-ups and 135 people taking the plunge. This raised more than \$50,000 for Special Olympics Michigan. BYC member Ty Patton was the top individual fundraiser with \$2,607. This year's event total leads Polar Plunges from across Michigan, so far. Congratulations, BYC!

The Van Buren Eagles on Beck Road will be holding a Euchre Tournament fundraiser for Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue this Saturday, Feb. 25, from 6 to 10 p.m.

Pizza will be provided and a cash bar. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Cash prizes will be awarded.

The Belleville Senior Class of 2023 will have a Dine-to-Donate fundraiser on Wednesday, March 1, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill on Whittaker Road in Ypsilanti. Twenty percent of your bill will be donated for the senior party. A flyer for the event must be presented to your server. It is available at the Belleville High School website and is valid for dine-in, delivery, and pick up. Visit www.vanburenschools.net/bellevillehighschool and click BHS Tiger News to get to the announcement.

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

Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PRICE QUOTES

Charter Township of Van Buren

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Request for price quotes

DDA Ground Maintenance at Belleville and Ecorse Roads.

Proposal Due Date: Time: 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023

Project: The Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is accepting quotes for the Belleville and Ecorse Intersection Landscape Yearly Maintenance for:

2023 and 2024 with an option to renew in 2025

Commencement Date: Approximately May, 2023 as agreed upon by the DDA and landscaper

Specifications are attached or the proposal may be downloaded from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority website: www.vanburenDDA.com. Or a proposal may be obtained at the Downtown Development Authority Offices, 10151 Belleville Rd, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday

Submittal: Please submit quotes by e-mail to mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org or mail/deliver to the Van Buren Township DDA, 10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 no later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on March 28, 2023.

Quote Review: Quotes will be reviewed at the Regular DDA meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 during the regular meeting @ 5:30 p.m. The DDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities that are in the best interest of the DDA.

For additional information contact: Merrie Coburn, Van Buren Township DDA at 734-699-8941 or by e-mail at mcoburn-dda@vanburen-mi.org.

Publish: February 16, 2023 and February 23, 2023
Paper of record and website



City of Belleville Public Notice



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF BELLEVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Belleville's Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on proposed amendments to the City of Belleville's Zoning Ordinance regarding Marihuana.

The amendments are proposed in light of citizen-initiated amendments passed at the November 8, 2022 election allowing medical marihuana establishments and facilities in the designated Industrial Overlay district.

The Planning Commission will conduct its public hearing on March 9, 2023 at 7PM, during the regular City of Belleville Planning Commission meeting, at the Municipal Council Chambers located at 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan.

Copies of the proposed Zoning Amendment will be available for inspection by the general public at the Office of the City Clerk, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan. Written comments received before the hearing record is closed on February 9, 2023 will receive responses in the final project plan. Written comments should be sent to the City of Belleville's Director of Public Works, Rick Rutherford, at 6 Main St, Belleville, MI, 48111.

Briana Hootman
Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 2/16/2023, 2/23/2023

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 204 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Feb. 12:

0025 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
0234 – 911 welfare check, Michigan Ave./Denton
0546 – noise complaint, Parkside Dr.
0924 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1043 – threat, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1147 – intrusion alarm, Sheldon Rd.
1203 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
1254 – threat, Tallgrass Ct.
1320 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. /
Denton Rd.
1351 – intrusion alarm, Ricardo Dr.
1555 – 911 welfare check, S. Adams/W. Adams
1558 – private property impound, Huron River Dr.
1617 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1650 – abandoned auto, Landmark/Patriot Ln.
1655 – 911 welfare check, Brookside Dr.
1749 – suicidal person, Maple Dr.
1836 – mental subject, Outer Dr.
2111 – personal injury accident, McBride Ave. /
Haggerty Rd.
2130 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.

Monday, Feb. 13:

0010 – suspicious person/vehicle, Jackson St.
0045 – breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.
0239 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0710 – breaking & entering, Denton Rd.
0727 – traffic stop, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0942 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd.
0950 – 911 welfare check, Quirk Rd.
1001 – welfare check, Park Estates Dr.
1030 – traffic stop, N. I-94 Service Dr./Morton
Taylor Rd.
1031 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1053 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1058 – welfare check, Holly Ln.
1207 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /
W. I-94

1256 – fraud, Briarwood Dr.
1318 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Bemis Rd.
1343 – traffic stop, Rawsonville Rd./Grove Rd.
1558 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1617 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1706 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1728 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1755 – missing person, Mott Rd.
1811 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2007 – larceny, Pine Dr.

Tuesday, Feb. 14:

0005 – traffic stop, Haggerty Rd.
0033 – traffic stop, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Lighthouse
Dr.
0147 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
0223 – welfare check, E. Archwood Dr.
0707 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
Dr. / Independence Ln.
0816 – private property/property damage accident,
Belleville Rd.
0905 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1018 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1031 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bentley Dr.
1118 – retail fraud, Ecorse Rd.
1144 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd. /
Michigan Ave.

1147 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1231 – traffic stop, Rawsonville Rd./S. Grove Rd.
1301 – PPO violation, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1313 – private property/property damage accident,
Belleville Rd.
1357 – welfare check, Meadows Cir.
1418 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1441 – larceny, Oak Blvd.
1452 – welfare check, Holly Ln.
1543 – suicidal person, Oak Ln.
1551 – private property/property damage accident,
Michigan Ave.
1554 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd. /
Belleville Rd.
1629 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd. /
Hull Rd.
1740 – vehicle lock out, Rawsonville Rd.
1805 – threat, Borgman Rd.
1808 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1853 – Meijer property check, Belleville Rd.
1907 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, Maple Dr.
2013 – welfare check, Southport Apartments

2048 – intrusion alarm, Van Born
2236 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, Ecorse Rd.
2329 – assault & battery, Ecorse Rd.
2338 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Wednesday, Feb. 15:

0232 – noise complaint, Holly Ln.
0339 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0741 – intrusion alarm, E. Sadie Ln.
0741 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
0750 – family trouble, Locust Dr.
0926 – assist fire dept., Parkwood Dr.
1111 – breaking & entering, Chester Ct.
1127 – larceny from auto, Vernon St.
1219 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1300 – warrant arrest, S. Wayne Rd.
1321 – threat, W. Archwood Dr.
1418 – fraud, Solitude Ln.
1420 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
1438 – misc. complaint, Sheldon Rd./Van Born
1500 – suicidal person, Maple Dr.
1506 – sexual assault, Grove Rd.
1520 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1542 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1640 – domestic, Maple Dr.
1709 – animal complaint, Edison Lake Rd.
1722 – personal injury accident, W. I-94/Haggerty
1800 – property damage accident, E. I-94/Haggerty
1935 – assist citizen, Michigan Ave./Dellor St.
2014 – suicidal person, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2230 – trespassing, Rawsonville Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 16:

0152 – suicidal person, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0512 – misc. complaint, Belleville Rd.
0758 – 911 welfare check, McBride
0824 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0839 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River
1100 – trespassing, Riggs Rd.
1148 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
1657 – found property/child, Tyler Rd.
1711 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1743 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1939 – 911 welfare check, Arthur St.
2034 – civil matter, Westlake Cir.
2203 – vehicle lockout, Anna Dr.
2211 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.
2359 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.

Friday, Feb. 17:

0529 – property damage accident, E. I-94/Haggerty
0635 – private property/property damage accident,
Belleville Rd.
0836 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0845 – parking complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0848 – property damage accident, W. I-94 /
Haggerty Rd.
0911 – prisoner transport, Tyler Rd.
0921 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
0957 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1010 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. /
Rawsonville Rd.

1022 – suicidal person, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1031 – mental subject, Sondra Dir.
1154 – property damage accident, Haggerty
1154 – 911 welfare check, Michigan/Denton
1328 – threat, Van Buren St.
1341 – threat, Tyler Rd.
1400 – welfare check, Cherry Ln.
1402 – vehicle lockout, Parkwood Dr.
1618 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /
N. I-94 Service Dr.

1702 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /
N. I-94 Service Dr.
1720 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
1840 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Marlowe
1909 – civil matter, Holly Ln.
1915 – property damage accident, Hannan/Tyler
2243 – domestic, Richmond Dr.
2250 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2256 – family trouble, Westlake Cir.
2308 – domestic, Meadows Cir.

Saturday, Feb. 18:

0059 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0118 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ironwood Dr.
0137 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
0617 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0952 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1000 – 911 welfare check, Westlake Cir.
1017 – suspicious person/vehicle, Edwards Rd.
1040 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd.
1229 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1232 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, Rawsonville Rd./Grove Rd.
1358 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1410 – vehicle lockout, Denton Rd.

1456 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1506 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
1529 – animal complaint, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
1617 – welfare check, Van Born Rd.
1647 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1748 – welfare check, Tyler Rd./Morton Taylor
1826 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1831 – larceny, Tyler Rd.
1959 – animal complaint, Ventura Dr.
2112 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Also on this week's log are 35 traffic stops, three of
which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 12:

0120 – traffic stop, South St./W. Columbia Ave.
0833 – motorist assist, Main St.
0929 – assist other dept., Denton Rd./Main St.
1550 – traffic stop, N. Liberty/Second St.
1842 – traffic stop, Harbour Pointe Dr.
2032 – assist other dept., E. Columbia Ave.
2107 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
2133 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Fourth St.
2231 – breaking & entering, Henry St.

Monday, Feb. 13:

0808 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon
1208 – assist fire dept., Clarence St.
1458 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
1520 – traffic stop, South St.
1530 – traffic stop, S. Biggs Ave./Robbe St.
1547 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
1933 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.

Tuesday, Feb. 14:

0146 – traffic stop, South St./Henry St.
1430 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Main St.
1434 – traffic stop, Main St.
1459 – traffic stop, Main St.
1541 – traffic stop, South St.
1801 – traffic stop, E. Columbia/Victorian Ln.
1810 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. /
N. Liberty St.
2028 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.

Wednesday, Feb. 15:

1231 – juvenile complaint, Savage Rd.
1324 – misc. complaint, Industrial Dr.
1435 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1547 – missing person, Victorian Ln.
1800 – found property/child, Owen St.
1811 – assist citizen, Main St.
2002 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 16:

0806 – intrusion alarm, South St.
0931 – parking complaint, Main St.
1345 – fraud, Clarence St.
1434 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.
1934 – lost property/child, Main St.
2041 – traffic stop, Main St.

Friday, Feb. 17:

0304 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
0307 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0916 – traffic stop, Huron River Dr./Harbor Pt.
0948 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
1028 – traffic stop, Edison Ave./High St.
1041 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Spencer St.
1122 – traffic stop, Main St.
1433 – traffic stop, South St./Main St.
1458 – traffic stop, Fifth St./N. Liberty St.
1513 – traffic stop, South St./Main St.
1554 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /
N. Liberty St.

1713 – traffic stop, Main St./Five Points

1730 – traffic stop, First St./Main St.
1743 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Ln.

Saturday, Feb. 18:

0804 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Spencer St.
0812 – traffic stop, South St./Main St.
0953 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Ln.
1052 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
1140 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Second St.
1202 – welfare check, Main St.
1253 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1616 – traffic stop, Sumpter/tracks
1651 – traffic stop, South St./Five Points
1718 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Second St.
1632 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
2317 – threat, Belle Villa Blvd.

There are 38 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 12:

0029 – fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow Dr.
0237 – family trouble, Carriage Ln.
0326 – recovered runaway, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0450 – alarm, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0906 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
0930 – follow-up investigation, 27000 bl. Elwell
1249 – welfare check, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1359 – warrant arrest, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1409 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1424 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.
1702 – fire dept. assist, Dakota Ct.
1723 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1742 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Swan Creek
1952 – suspicious circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.
/ Bemis Rd.

2331 – fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow Dr.

Monday, Feb. 13:

0811 – fire dept. assist, Knollwood Dr.
0847 – suspicious circumstance, Country Club
Blvd. / Rustic Ln.
0914 – alarm, 21000 bl. Clemmons Ct.
0945 – citizen assist, Delaware St.
1213 – suspicious person, Birch Ct.
1224 – welfare check, Country Club Blvd.
1258 – follow-up investigation, 51000 bl. Arkona
1319 – property damage accident, 24000 bl.
Haggerty Rd.

1344 – suspicious person, Birch Ct.
1446 – welfare check, Main St.
1516 – fraud complaint, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1809 – traffic complaint/hazard, 19000 bl. Sumpter
2232 – warrant arrest, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.

Tuesday, Feb. 14:

0104 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
0133 – civil matter, E. Arizona St.
0733 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
0922 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
0959 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1030 – neighbor dispute, Rustic Ln.
1037 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
1206 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 8200 bl.

Rawsonville Rd.

1253 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1417 – animal complaint, Karr Rd./Willow Rd.
1423 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Lohr
1448 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1522 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1645 – suspicious circumstance, Wayside Dr.
1645 – family trouble, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1746 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1814 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Rymut Dr.

Wednesday, Feb. 15:

0851 – suspicious vehicle, Rawsonville/Willow
1039 – citizen assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1059 – traffic complaint/hazard, Wilmot/Judd
1230 – assist other agency, Sumpter/Harris
1244 – fire dept. assist, Virginia St.
1256 – traffic complaint/hazard, 28000 bl. Elwell
1549 – assist other agency, 24000 bl. Sumpter
1609 – larceny, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1618 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1650 – reckless driver complaint, 43000 bl. Harris
1732 – subpoena service, 44000 bl. Willis
1812 – suspicious circumstance, 21000 bl. Sumpter
Rd.

2151 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
2337 – shots fired, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 16:

0813 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0852 – subpoena service, 29000 bl. Martinsville
0852 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.
0958 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1114 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
1253 – suspicious circumstance, Indiana St.
1630 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1703 – reckless driver complaint, Karr/Judd
1902 – subpoena service, 29000 bl. Martinsville
1916 – shots fired, Rustic Ln.
2039 – welfare check, Mulberry Dr.
2253 – 911 hang up, Greenmeadow Dr.

Friday, Feb. 17:

0856 – fire dept. Assist, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.
0922 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1500 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1727 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1826 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
(Continued on page 19)



Wayne County Community College District
HEINZ C. PRECHTER
EDUCATIONAL AND *Performing Arts Center*

Your Community Showplace!

Performers Expo ★ 2023

Call for Artists

Presented by Wayne County Community College District's School of Continuing Education and the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center in partnership with NKS Events, Njia Kai event coordinator.

JURIED SHOWCASE for Michigan Talent Buyers
Saturday, March 11, 2023
Continental Breakfast and Workshop 11:00 a.m.
Showcase: 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.

Participation is free
Basic Backline and Audio provided

Send performance sample to
PerformersExpo@gmail.com by
Friday, February 24, 2023.
For more information call
734-374-3232

21000 Northline Road, Taylor, MI 48180

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1848 – civil matter, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.
2009 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2039 – shots fired, Hampshire Dr./Rustic Ln.
2138 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
2354 – suspicious vehicle, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
Saturday, Feb. 18:
0048 – harassment complaint, New Mexico St.
0204 – family trouble, Mulberry Dr.
0213 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico St.
0726 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
0848 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0854 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Indiana
1054 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd. / Martha's Dr.

1219 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1318 – civil matter, First St.
1433 – civil matter, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1717 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.
1743 – fire dept. assist, Oregon St.
1959 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2013 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
2252 – noise complaint, Utah Ct.
Also on this week's log are 126 patrol checks, 73 traffic stops and eight misc. details.

Read The Newspaper On The Web!

The Belleville-Area Independent Website is Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REMOTE 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, March 14, 2023 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 # 23-005- Request for an appeal for the interpretation of a provision of the following section of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) under Section 12.403(B)(1) of the Zoning Ordinance:

Section 3.106(D) - R-1A, R-2A, R-1B, and R-1C, Single-Family Residential Districts – Dimensional Regulations

- Max. Building Height (ft.) 30. Max. Bldg. Height (stories) 2.

The requested interpretation is whether the maximum allowable building height in the R-1A, R-2A, R-1B, and R-1C Zoning Districts is limited by one or both - height in feet and height in stories. If maximum building height is limited only by the height in feet, the number of stories would not be applicable, so long as the building height does not exceed 30 feet.

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 **March 13, 2023**. 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: 02/21/2023

Published: 02/23/2023

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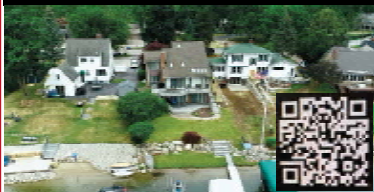
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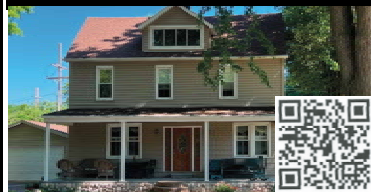
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