



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.6 Thursday, February 8, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## City Council provides full faith and credit for DDA's land purchases

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

At Monday's regular meeting, the Belleville City Council passed a resolution providing the city's full faith and credit for the Downtown Development Authority's purchase of parcels of property at 458 Main St. and 25 Fifth St. Mayor Ken Voigt was absent.

City Manager Jason Smith said to secure the deal the DDA has been asked by the property seller to have the city pledge its full faith and credit.

He explained, "Full faith and credit is a phrase used to describe one entity's unconditional guarantee or commitment to back the interest and principal of another entity's debt. The full faith and credit commitment is typically employed by a government to help lower borrowing costs of a smaller, less stable government or of a government-sponsored agency."

City Manager Smith said essentially the city promises to ensure the debt is paid up, even if it means raising taxes or issuing a bond.

"While the DDA is not truly a 'less stable' entity, and their revenues are very sound, they are a smaller, quasi-governmental organization that could, in theory, be dissolved.

"While that is not the case here in Belleville, pledging the full faith and credit of the city is a strong commitment that should anything unforeseen in the future happen, the debt would still be paid," he said.

When council members voiced concern, Assistant City Manager Steve Jones said the city is a backup anyway because of the legal language of the organization of the downtown development authority.

City Manager Smith said this full faith and credit language applies to the specific debt of the purchase of the two parcels. Jones added that the mayor had suggested this.

"Never heard of Visteon?" Mike Renaud called out from the audience. He referred to the millions of dollars Van Buren Township has had to loan the Local Development Finance Authority to pay off the bonds it took out to help Visteon develop its headquarters and then couldn't pay off the bonds because of changes that occurred.

Smith said the seller of the property requested this and if this is what it takes to seal the deal it should be considered.

In other action at the one-hour-and-17-minute meeting on Monday, the council:

- Put off until the next meeting approval of the contract with Police Chief Kristin Faull. Compensation is \$86,000 per year (\$41.346/hr.). As a working chief she will be eligible for overtime. The salary would be adjusted back to July 2023 when Chief Faull was named interim chief. The contract also spells out \$350 annual uniform allowance, retirement and health benefits and her paid time off balance will carry over at a total of 380 hours per year. Also, her professional meetings, travel, and other functions (such as training and conferences) shall be covered by the city. The employment is at-will and can be terminated by either side without cause. The council agreed to put off the vote until Mayor Voigt was present;

- Made it easier for residents to use their boats in the summer by allowing parking them in their driveways during the boating season. The amendment to the ordinance was approved by a unanimous vote of the council on a recommendation from the planning commission and some changes to make it more readable. Also, two drawings were added to help determine measurements. City Manager Smith said he and Rick Rutherford, director of public services, would enforce the ordinance with the help of police who they would "deputize." Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Bates,

(continued on page 3)



Independent photo by James Otzman

On Thursday morning, Feb. 1, a new sign was erected next to the former Douglas Carpet building at 240 Main St. in the city of Belleville. The new occupant of the building is Perspective Eyecare, moving into the city from its former longtime location at 11824 Belleville Rd. in Van Buren Township.

## VBT planners approve preliminary site plan for multi-tenant retail bldg.

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

A Sherwin Williams store is expected to be one of the tenants in the new multi-tenant retail building proposed for 10553-10571 Belleville Rd. in Van Buren Township.

At the Jan. 24 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission, the preliminary site plan was approved for the building.

Architect Ronald Chiesa said the site with six units will have two sit-down restaurants and four retail stores, including the Sherwin Williams store. He said that store gets its deliveries through the largest semi made and so they scrubbed the original plan to

have a drive-through window as part of the project because they needed the room for parking.

This project has been in the planning stages since December 2016, after developers bought a house and proposed a three-unit commercial building at 10573 Belleville Rd. The planning commission conditionally approved the preliminary site plan and the board of trustees granted special land use approval for a proposed drive-through. A final site plan was never approved.

The applicant has restarted the site plan review process, this time without a drive-

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## City Council

(continued from page 1)

who was chairing the meeting in the absence of the mayor, explained the change was based on the 220 homes in Victoria Commons having back yards that couldn't be used to pull the boats into as required by the ordinance;

- Approved a special event application for Girl Scout Cookie Booths for troop D1101 on Feb. 18 and 24 and March 2 and 24 at Fourth Street Square and March 3 and April 7 at Victory Park. Time is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and they will have drive-up booths at Victory Park. Troop leader Taiwan Harvard was present to present the application;

- Directed the city manager to negotiate the final agreement with WDIV for a television camera on the roof of city hall, with a hold-harmless agreement added. The agreement will be brought back for consideration by the city council;

- Passed a resolution approving a sergeant's pay and benefits agreement to be on a par with wages and benefits afforded to the POAM Collective Bargaining Agreement. This was negotiated by former Police Chief Dave Robinson before he left. It was not brought before the council for

action until now;

- Approved a resolution updating the Title VI Complaint Procedures for protected classes for being a subrecipient of federal highway funds as required by the state. Rutherford said the city always signs a similar agreement in order to get Act 56 state dollars;

- Discussed having a Consent Agenda, which would list items that don't need to be discussed to be approved with one motion to save time in the meeting. City Manager Smith said any item on the list can be pulled off for discussion on its own. The council agreed to give the Consent Agenda a try and Smith said he would use it for the next meeting to see how they liked it;

- Approved the digital communications policy to put in the employee handbook. The city attorney had put it into legal language. Smith said one of his colleagues ran afoul and went to the supreme court and now what needs to be in the policy is spelled out;

- Heard Police Chief Faull announce the city has hired a new officer that started that same evening. She said Mark Beaudreau had worked for Belleville before and since then he worked at Adrian and other small departments. She said the department is also in the process of hiring another officer;

- Approved paying accounts payable of

\$1,222,892.60;

- Learned city hall will be closed on Friday, Feb. 9, for internet upgrades throughout the building;

- Heard a report from Smith on seeking to get new equipment for the lights at Five Points which is very old, seeking information on necessary water meter updates, putting together a call for proposals for legal counsel, exploring getting a SAW grant to find out where all the city pipes are underground since they are not on maps, considering putting water charges older than six months on property taxes at the next meeting, consideration of 15 applicants for DPS position, working on the injury policy for non-union personnel, and efforts to get \$200,000 from the state's new budget for lake bank stabilization;

- Heard Rutherford report that during the recent snowstorm the DPS had to deal with the backup of 400 feet of sanitary sewer that was not on the city maps; and

- Heard Jones explain that the modem isn't working on the digital sign at the corner of Main and High streets and the city can't communicate with it. The original sign was installed 16 years ago and usually the life cycle for a LED sign is 10-12 years. The frame was built by Contract Welding and just the LED portion needs to be replaced. Mayor Pro-Tem Bates and Councilwoman

Julie Kissel suggested they just turn it off for now, since what is on there is from the holidays. "We may have to do that," Jones said.

### Court Watching:

## Charges dropped then refiled on Middleton, warrants issued

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Zackary Lynn Middleton, 29, of Sumpter Township was in 34<sup>th</sup> District Court via zoom from the Wayne County Jail for his probable cause conference on Sept. 21, 2022 for a felony charge of aggravated indecent exposure on Sept. 9, 2022 in Van Buren Township.

His defense attorney Roeiah Epps-Ward said she needed digital discovery, so Judge Tina Brooks Green adjourned the conference until Oct. 5. Bond was set at \$5,000/10% and he was not to enter Walmart in Belleville, if released.

On Oct. 5, 2022 his live exam was set for Nov. 16 and his attorney asked for a bond reduction. She said he paves driveways for a living and has children aged three and

(continued on page 15)

Sumpter Township 2023 Employee Wages & Cost to Township								
	Wages	Total Compensation						
<b>ELECTED OFFICIALS</b>								
Bowman, Timothy	\$39,388.56	\$40,600.73	Jackson, Joseph	\$3,182.91	\$3,406.86	Hudson, Sean	\$80,903.79	\$109,852.17
Hurst, Esther	\$31,096.21	\$32,101.97	Krushlin, Jamie	\$6,250.20	\$6,431.44	Johnson, Nicholas	\$77,451.83	\$104,758.60
Patterson, Bartley	\$31,096.21	\$32,028.53	Krushlin, John	\$12,277.40	\$12,633.44	Luke, Eric	\$144,575.49	\$209,098.53
Oddy, Matthew	\$22,903.79	\$23,618.66	Landskroener, Richard	\$1,289.00	\$1,326.39	McLendon, Larence	\$30,225.23	\$43,615.40
Rush, Timothy	\$22,803.79	\$23,568.91	Laporte, Donald	\$734.12	\$755.41	Paquette, Malissa	\$89,454.77	\$101,795.30
Morgan, Peggy	\$22,803.79	\$23,535.01	Long, Eric	\$3,621.36	\$3,726.40	Rodriguez, Jesiah	\$83,614.38	\$124,026.17
Laporte, Donald	\$22,803.79	\$23,511.01	Lunsford, Curtis	\$234.36	\$241.16	Rose, Christopher	\$36,667.68	\$53,909.64
<b>TOWNSHIP MANAGER</b>			Maroti, Bela	\$2,823.81	\$3,078.25	Salajan, George	\$96,194.59	\$132,792.78
Burdick, Anthony	\$105,718.78	\$154,690.11	McCall, Shauna	\$3,195.67	\$3,288.38	Steffani, Brian	\$110,459.67	\$161,186.87
<b>BUILDING DEPARTMENT</b>			McHenry, Michael	\$16,621.68	\$17,103.71	Toney, Kenneth	\$93,726.71	\$121,662.25
Hall, Acheenia	\$45,758.82	\$76,485.85	Powell, Eric	\$253.91	\$261.26	Toth, John	\$31,174.98	\$40,057.55
<b>CLERKS OFFICE</b>			Reed, Allison	\$2,160.96	\$2,326.27	<b>SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE</b>		
Armatis, Karen	\$71,607.53	\$101,339.52	Roupe, Ayden	\$78.87	\$81.15	Rush, Timothy	\$8,604.83	\$9,263.10
Hadyniak, Dawn	\$60,882.80	\$87,167.53	Scott, Rachel	\$19,993.26	\$20,573.09	Woodington, Karen	\$61,531.10	\$94,033.69
Herman, Samantha	\$56,508.44	\$74,058.00	Sherwood-Landskoener, A.	\$243.88	\$250.96	<b>TREASURER'S OFFICE</b>		
<b>COMMUNITY CENTER</b>			Sliwa, Richard	\$14,508.93	\$14,719.30	Campbell, Erica	\$61,236.33	\$88,419.45
Thompson, Roderick	\$23,705.50	\$25,856.77	Thompson, Walter	\$8,672.22	\$8,923.74	Harris, Ashley	\$54,374.31	\$63,519.99
Watson, Maryann	\$61,513.40	\$92,312.14	Wisniewski I, Michael	\$31,419.14	\$32,330.28	<b>WATER DEPARTMENT</b>		
<b>FINANCE</b>			Wisniewski, Michael	\$19,685.88	\$21,191.85	Danci, John	\$77,009.72	\$104,318.65
Holtz, Scott	\$85,292.33	\$101,062.19	Zweng, Christopher	\$2,447.38	\$2,518.35	Krushlin, John	\$91,918.91	\$104,775.58
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>			<b>ORDINANCE</b>			Linville, John	\$76,859.76	\$95,062.70
Armstrong, Timothy	\$12,427.31	\$12,787.70	Gregory, Peter	\$65,730.77	\$75,149.98	Lynch, Randy	\$73,258.65	\$104,499.66
Behrendt, David	\$4,554.53	\$4,686.60	Scott, Kevin	\$63,702.35	\$72,476.94	Petrowski, Michael	\$46,476.74	\$79,953.80
Blackburn, Brian	\$4,226.79	\$4,349.37	<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>			Suciu, Ovidiu	\$8,524.16	\$9,176.26
Brohl, Michael	\$1,056.76	\$1,087.40	Balowski, Joseph	\$101,472.75	\$147,422.63	Winter, Anna	\$55,727.65	\$75,376.42
Brown, Richard	\$67,844.05	\$102,791.27	Cayce, James	\$32,175.17	\$41,862.20	<b>2023 TOTAL \$4,681,526.93</b>		
Combs, Benjamin	\$9,447.17	\$9,721.14	Criscenti, Gino	\$90,193.58	\$120,868.94	<b>2022 TOTAL \$4,119,830.50</b>		
Goode, Jamie	\$17,333.32	\$17,835.97	Devos, Barton	\$95,304.55	\$128,521.00	<b>Difference + \$561,696.43</b>		
Ingle, Sonya	\$12,104.00	\$12,455.03	Dufresne, Susan	\$60,070.24	\$93,313.17			
			Egerer, Elizabeth	\$96,673.99	\$145,112.77			
			Gannon, Patrick	\$130,526.94	\$193,073.65			
			Gibson, Kevin	\$53,229.40	\$68,768.31			
			Gottschalk, Colleen	\$92,669.10	\$137,966.64			
			Hammons, Nelson	\$83,672.29	\$118,130.95			
			Herrick, Christopher	\$76,431.36	\$113,913.91			

2023 employee total wages & cost to township had approximately 13.6%% increase since 2022.

Benefits include FICA and may include health care, dental, life insurance and pensions.

Compiled by Diane Madigan.



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Should WDIV-TV put its camera on the library instead?

At Monday's meeting of the Belleville City Council, City Manager Jason Smith asked for approval to negotiate the final agreement with WDIV-TV so it could put its television camera on their roof antenna. The council also wanted to make sure the city had a hold-harmless agreement.

At an earlier meeting, council members said they wanted to make sure if the camera fell off the roof and injured someone, the city didn't want to be held responsible.

City Manager Smith said he was sure they could negotiate the hold-harmless agreement and he would bring the final agreement to the council for approval.

He said the television channel wanted the camera for weather and for views of the area for its reporting.

Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Bates, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of the mayor, asked what they would do if the city decided to demolish city hall and Smith said they could cancel the agreement.

John Juriga, an elected member of the Belleville Area District Library board, suggested the camera be put on the roof of the library instead of city hall and have it pointed out over the lake. He said it could be put in an area away from the bee hives.

The council agreed that was a good idea and told Smith to discuss it with WDIV.

Of course, they will ask the library about putting a camera on its roof.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The owners of the party store on the corner of Haggerty Road and East Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township told us they expect to be pumping fuel at their new fuel pumps as of today, Feb. 8. It's been a years-long wait for them and for the neighbors that drive to and from past the store every workday.

\*\*\*

Some of the members of the Bellevillains Robotics Club from Belleville High School visited us last week. They said the district FIRST robotics competition at BHS would be earlier than usual this year. It will be held March 7, 8, and 9 and the public is invited. Entry is free. About 40 teams are expected to participate.

The competitors have different tasks each year and find that out just in time to build their robots.

\*\*\*

People keep asking me if Jimmy Chapman is in jail after last year's highly publicized dust-up in Clare, MI, outside a meeting of Michigan Republicans. No. He is not in jail.

Chapman's next court date on the charges is a pretrial at 2 p.m., Feb. 21, before Judge Joshua M. Farrell in 80<sup>th</sup> District Court in Clare.

His misdemeanor charges are assault or assault and battery and disturbing the peace on July 8. He was scheduled for a bench warrant arraignment on Jan. 30. Next is his pretrial on Feb. 21, a second pretrial on March 20 and a jury trial on April 18. Personal bond is \$3,000.

He's invoked his right of self-representation. It's going to take a while.

\*\*\*

Belleville was on channel 4 television live

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



on Monday afternoon which caused a lot of excitement locally. The channel showed several views of Belleville from its drone and at least six identical views of the closed Denton Road bridge.

They also were over at the high school where they showed a lot of cheerleader activity following the Unified basketball game that combines special-needs players with regular players. They won over Walled Lake. The channel also showed the BHS band playing several songs, noting they still had time left so would the band please play one more song. They did. Cute shots of the students up close.

Then Help Me Hank was at a local restaurant and he said lots of people from Sumpter came to complain to him about the bad dirt roads in Sumpter. He said that has been taken care of. They showed shots of Wayne County crews dumping dirt on a road they didn't name and grading it, which took all day. I didn't see any gravel in what they dumped, so it was dirt. One resident said it would be back to having lots of ruts shortly.

At the Belleville City Council meeting Monday night there were jokes about how that day's television report said the road was in Belleville when it actually was in Sumpter.

One member of the audience said social media said that the county was working on Karr, Elwell, and Merriman roads. Maybe, so. Of course, Merriman isn't in Sumpter. Channel 4 is asking to put a camera on the

tower on city hall's roof to take pictures of Belleville for its reports. In Monroe, we're told, WDIV got permission to put its camera on a privately owned building.

\*\*\*

At Monday's meeting it was announced that the power was off on Robbe Road that evening. The city manager said he would look into that since there seems to be power outages in that area regularly and it probably had to do with an old electric system there.

During that meeting, City Manager Jason Smith said that he wanted to publicly thank Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara for being at the meeting he attended with Wayne County last week to talk about the Denton Road bridge. He said McNamara was able to get the roadwork needed at the Denton Road intersection with Main Street to be a part of the bridge construction.

Smith said the lights at Five Points went out last week and a county engineer told him the equipment at Five Points was one of the worst in Wayne County and the equipment for the lights is very, very old. He said this needs to be addressed and so he'll look into it.

He told channel 4 in an interview that he personally thinks a roundabout would be a good answer to the Five Points situation.



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# Letters

## Western Wayne County Quilt Guild meets Sat.

To the editor:

Western Wayne County Quilt Guild is meeting Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Belleville Library in the Cozadd room. The meeting runs from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring your sewing machine, supplies, and a sack lunch.

We will make baby quilt tops (kits provided) for the December Veterans Baby Shower. You are welcome to join us and see if you'd like to become a member.

Roxann Baker  
Western Wayne County Quilters

## New Romulus councilman missing

To the editor:

After all the pomp and circumstance of wanting to get the seat he "dissevered," Councilman Allen Wilson already has missed a meeting. Way to go, sir. Great way to start.

Also, it has been noticed arguments and disagreements have surfaced since Mr. Davis was given that council position. Great job, council people. Way to represent your city! I bet you wish you would have handled this a better way.

Sincerely,  
A Concerned Romulus Resident  
Name withheld upon request

## Thank you, St. Jude

To the editor:

This is a new St. Jude Prayer.

You say it seven days in a row and be specific in what miracles you are asking for.

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near kinsman to Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor to those who invoke your prayer. To you I have come from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power, to come to my urgent and needed petition.

Say three Our Father's, three Hail Mary's, three Glory B's. At this point ask St. Jude for your needed miracle. Now promise him to intercede by putting his prayer in print. It can be on the internet, newspaper, post card in the store, etc.

This prayer has come through for myself, family, and friends. I hope you try it and it comes through for you, too.

It really works.  
P.M., Believer

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies."  
- Groucho Marx

# Musings

By Janet Millard  
Independent  
Advertising Director



Jim and Shelly Chudzinski sold Express Tire (better known as Firestone locally) on Belleville Road. Sometime this month you will see the new signage for Auto-Lab Complete Car Care Centers go up on the building.

CEO Steve Wilson, vice president of store operations and marketing Katherine Villeneuve, and director of operations Mark Sullivan are the new owners of this local store. The franchise has 19 stores, and they are looking forward to continuing to bring the best service to area residents.

You only have a couple more days to participate in the first-ever Souper Bowl of Caring at the Holiday Inn Express on the N. Service Drive. Cans of soup are being collected through Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 11, for Owen Middle School's pantry. Cans of soup may be dropped off at the Holiday Inn, TownPlace Suites or the Bait Shop. If you have questions, call (734) 857-6200 or contact [hixbelleville@gmail.com](mailto:hixbelleville@gmail.com).

One of our readers mentioned that someone should inform those traveling east on Bemis that the red light at Sumpter Road is not a suggestion. Those traveling south on Sumpter Road with a green light would appreciate not having to wait for cars running the red light. Younger drivers might not be so cautious or patient, so let's be safe out there!

The Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation will hold a Winter Wonder Celebration fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. at the Belleville Yacht Club on E. Huron River Drive. The VBPSEF is a non-profit organization whose mission is to acquire and distribute resources to the Van Buren Public Schools for programs and projects that enhance and supplement Van Buren opportunities for students, staff, and community.

Go to its Facebook page for more information on how you can obtain tickets, sponsor or donate to its raffle that evening. Enjoy dinner - drinks - dancing - and gaming. Tickets are still available, but time is short.

Do you have a business item you would like to share? Call Janet at (734) 699-9020 or write to her at [jfayemillard@att.net](mailto:jfayemillard@att.net).

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# Obituaries



David H. Callihan

## DAVID H. CALLIHAN

(February 24, 1941 – January 26, 2024)

David (Dave) H. Callihan, age 82, of Belleville, Mi, passed away peacefully, Friday, January 26th, 2024, with his loving wife, Donna M. Callihan and family by his side.

Loyal and dependable, with an outstanding work ethic, Dave retired from General Motors, Willow Run plant, after starting right out of high school, and giving many years of service. Dave built and loved one of his first new cars, his Corvair! It was there, that he met his wife, Donna. They shared a love of classic cars, great music and singing along to the oldies. He could name just about every car out on the road and the consumer report, to go along with them. If anyone wanted to know the latest local news, he was sure to have the details, having watched every town meeting and read every new edition of the Belleville Independent. He kept us all informed.

During his "retirement", Dave, also, went on to work again as a School Bus driver for Van Buren Dept of Transportation. He loved driving the school buses, "expertly"! After many more years of service, he retired again, for a short time. With retirement still not working, he found purpose again, driving and serving seniors through the Van Buren Senior Center. He took pride in his outstanding driving and directional skills, saying often, he should have "just" been a race car driver. We are happy he didn't and thank him for his years of service to our community.

Dave was proud of his Irish/German heritage. He was a huge sports fan, totally loyal to Michigan State "Spartans". He was a minority, among his mainly maize and blue family, which did not bother him, even telling his Doctors that instead of red, green ran through his veins. He was also an unwavering fan of the Detroit Lions through the years. He will be remembered for his dimples, sweet tooth and Great Love of Ice cream!

He was preceded in death by his parents, Glenn and Vera (James) Callihan.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Donna M Callihan. Children, Kathy Gimson, Denise Callihan, David Scott Callihan, Erin (Jim) Johnson, Kimberly Callihan, and Jennifer Callihan. Brother, Harold (Claire) Callihan, Sister, Joyce (Les) Syring. Stepchildren, Melissa (Ron) Schubert, Melanie (Amy) Sowder, 13 Grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, and remaining family and friends.

A special Thanks to his primary physician, Dr Nada Patel and team of doctors through Trinity Health for the outstanding care, given to him.

He is loved and will be missed by his family and friends. May he rest in peace (with all the ice cream he desires)!

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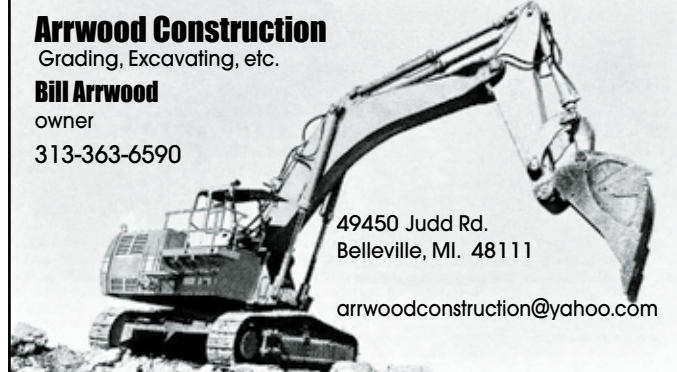
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## Obituaries



Winetta Ruth  
McKinnies

### WINETTA RUTH MCKINNIES

(February 14, 1945 – February 2, 2024)  
Winetta R. McKinnies, Age 78.

The wife of Pastor Jim McKinnies, of the Willis Baptist Church, was received into the presence of her Lord and Savior on February 2, 2024, with her loving family by her side. She was born on February 14, 1945, in Herrin, Illinois to James and Helen (LaBotte) Fuller.

On December 28, 1963, she married Jimmie D. McKinnies. Their life's journey led them to Marion, Illinois, Ashland, Kentucky, Milan and Willis, Michigan. Together, they founded the Willis Baptist Church and continue to serve.

Besides her husband she is survived by three children: Bradley (Janet) McKinnies of Milan, Rebecca "Becky" (Rev. Carl) Wood of Little River, SC., RaGina (Timothy D.) Johnson of Willis, ten grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and one sister, Marilyn (Richard) Sullins of Illinois.

Winetta was affectionately known as "Mrs. Kinnies" to her nursery children. She served as Nursery Director for over 40 years. She enjoyed having visiting missionaries and evangelists over for a delicious meal and always extended warm and inviting hospitality to all. Winetta was an accomplished seamstress, bird watcher, (especially hummingbirds), and gardener. She was selfless and loving in the way she cared for her husband and family. She was a testimony to her faith by her love for Jesus and was a faithful servant to others in Christ-like love.

We will miss her for a little bit but rejoice when we can spend eternity together!

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, 11 a.m. at Willis Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Union-Udell Cemetery. Contributions may be made to the Willis Baptist Church.

Arrangements by Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home, Milan, MI [www.ochalekstark.com](http://www.ochalekstark.com)

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Carol Jean Whitehead

### CAROL JEAN WHITEHEAD

(December 27, 1958 – January 26, 2024)

Carol Jean Whitehead of Belleville, MI and formerly of Willis, MI, age 65, passed away on January 26, 2024 of Multi System Atrophy-Cerebellar (MSA-C) at home in hospice care with her husband by her side. She was born on December 27, 1958 in Ann Arbor, MI to Kenneth and Joyce (Arquette) McLaughlin. Carol graduated from Lincoln High School, Ypsilanti, MI in 1977, then worked for Van Buren Public Schools, Belleville, MI for several years where she met her husband, Don Whitehead. After leaving Van Buren Public Schools she began her own in-home daycare in Sumpter Township called Little Hearts Childcare, LLC on Sumpter Road. Her love for children was known to everyone. She especially loved caring for the babies and loved working in the nursery at LifePointe Church Belleville, until MSA-C started taking away her ability to do that safely. Carol enjoyed collecting dolls, doing crossword puzzles, scrapbooking, and was known to be an avid soap opera fan. She attended LifePointe Church for many years. Most of all though, she loved God and her family. She will truly be missed.

Carol is survived by her loving husband of 43 years, Don Whitehead; her children, son Christopher (Monique) Whitehead of Woodstock, GA, her daughter Samantha (Ryan) Williams of Taylor, MI; her grandchildren, Jeremiah Whitehead, Selah Whitehead, Weston Williams, Walker Williams and Wilder Williams; siblings, Marvin (Pam) McLaughlin of Saline, MI, Cheryl Mallory of Belleville, MI, Donald (Diane) McLaughlin of Belleville, MI, Wanda (Steve) Carr of Dundee, MI, and Kevin (Alisa) McLaughlin of Savannah, GA; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her twin brother, Kenneth McLaughlin, Jr.

Visitation was Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 697-4500. The funeral service was at LifePointe Church, 45170 Hull Road, Belleville, MI on Wednesday, January 31, with visitation an hour before the service. Pastor Ron Schubert officiated.

In lieu of flowers, please give in memory of Carol Jean Whitehead to the Defeat MSA Alliance online at [www.DefeatMSA.org](http://www.DefeatMSA.org) or by mail to Defeat MSA Alliance, 29924 Jefferson Avenue, St. Clair Shores, MI 48082.

[www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## BHS at-home games

• **Thursday, Feb. 8** – Boys Swim & Dive vs. John Glenn HS, 6:30 p.m.

• **Friday, Feb. 9** – Boys & Girls Bowling vs. Stevenson HS, 3 p.m. at Lodge Lanes; Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Stevenson HS, 4 p.m.; Boys JV Basketball vs. Stevenson HS, 5:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Stevenson HS, 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Feb. 13** – Girls JV Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 7 p.m.

Go Tigers!

Diane Kiessel, BHS Athletics Secretary



# Obituaries



Brett Joseph LaCruze

## BRETT JOSEPH LaCRUZE

(April 2, 1960 – February 1, 2024)

His Legacy... Brett Joseph LaCruze, 63, passed away at home in Pinckney, February 1, 2024, from complications of heart failure. He was born on April 2, 1960, in Oscoda, MI to Joseph LaCruze and Marilyn (Horste) LaCruze. Brett married the love of his life, Sandra Macqueen, on July 23, 1993, in Greenfield Village, MI. Brett worked in the bowling industry for 39 years, starting at age 16. He loved his career; his life revolved around bowling. Brett was a hockey fan and had season tickets for the Red Wings. He also enjoyed watching U of M games. Brett was laid back, he enjoyed bird watching and camping with his family. Brett was deeply loved and will be greatly missed.

His Family... Brett will be missed by his wife Sandra LaCruze; daughter Alexis LaCruze; mother Marilyn (Horste) Copp; brother, Eric LaCruze; and numerous cousins in Michigan, Nevada and Florida. He is preceded in death by his father, Joseph LaCruze.

His Farewell... Brett's family and friends will gather Thursday, February 8, 2024, from 3PM-8PM, at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. Memorial contributions are suggested to Whitmore Lanes Youth Bowling. Please leave a message of comfort for Brett's family at 1-877-231-7900 or sign his guestbook at [www.borekjennings.com](http://www.borekjennings.com).



Robert L. Blackburn



## ROBERT L. BLACKBURN

(March 20, 1936 – January 30, 2024)

Robert L. Blackburn, age 87, of Belleville, affectionately known by many of his friends as "Mopar Bob," passed away January 30, 2024. He was born in Detroit on March 20, 1936. He proudly served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a skilled plumber-pipefitter for the Pipefitters Local 636 before retiring. Bob enjoyed golf, fishing, and bowling, however, his true passion lay in the world of vintage Mopar cars rebuilding and restoring original classics earning a cascade of trophies over the years. Among his prized possessions were a meticulously restored orange 1970 Challenger 440 Sixpack, a 1964 Dodge Polara, and a 1968 Charger RT; it all started however with a red 1963 Corvette convertible, 327 365 HP 4 speed.

Bob is survived by two sons, Michael Blackburn, and his children, Joshua and Shane Blackburn; Paul Blackburn (Alma) and their children Bianca and Ashley Blackburn; and daughter Karen Krzaczkowski (EJ) and grandkids Daniel, Kim and Katrina; and several step-grand and great-grand kids.

Rest in peace, Bob. May the roads in heaven be lined with the finest Mopar classics.

Visitation was held at Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., in Belleville, MI on Saturday, February 3, from 3-5 p.m. with an Honorary Flag Ceremony starting at 5 p.m.

[www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

# Gov. reappoints Brigette Robarge to Human Trafficking board

On Jan. 31, Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced the reappointment of Brigette Robarge of Belleville to the Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board.

Robarge is the lead mentor for trafficked youth at Common Ground and a member of the Joint Anti-Trafficking Task Force of Southeastern Michigan. She has advocated and walked alongside victims of crime as a support person and assisted multiple survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence.

Robarge received her bachelor of arts in social work from Eastern Michigan University. She is reappointed to represent a human trafficking survivor for a term commencing Jan. 31, 2024 and expiring Dec. 31, 2027.

The Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board was established to collect and analyze information concerning medical and mental health services available to survivors of human trafficking, identify state, federal and local agencies that are involved with issues relating to human trafficking, and coordinate the

dissemination of information concerning medical and mental health services available to survivors of human trafficking in this state.

The Board may establish a program to improve public awareness of medical and mental health services available to survivors of human trafficking in this state. This appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

## St. Aloysius church offers Lenten Fish Fry dinners in Feb., March

St. Aloysius, 37200 Neville St., Romulus, is offering weekly Lenten Fish Fry cod dinners from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Fridays: Feb. 16 and 23, and March 1, 8, 15, and 22.

Baked or fried cod dinners are \$14, kids' meals are \$8, and pizza is \$6.

Credit and debit cards are accepted. To order curbside pickup, call (313) 439-0864.

## Car Rescue LLC Auction

Car Rescue will be holding a car auction on February 12, 2024, at 12pm at 10230 Livernois Ave., Detroit, MI 48204. The following vehicles will be available for auction:

2022 Nissan Versa  
2015 Kia Forte  
2017 Toyota Camry

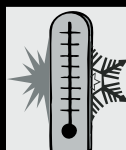
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# VBT DDA to put up 30 new advertising banners on lightpoles

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Thirty new advertising banners have been sold and will be put up on lightpoles in the Belleville Road streetscape once the proofs are approved.

This was reported by Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority Executive Director Merrie Coburn at the Jan. 23 DDA meeting.

When asked if she sold any to Belleville businesses, she said there are three so far.

She also said the township's Communications Department is working with the DDA to get a tri-community calendar in place so events aren't scheduled for the same days.

She also said she wants a flagpole installed at Harris Park and said she will seek a quote. DDA chairman Craig Atchinson

said he has a flagpole at his business and he will send a proposed vendor's name to her.

In other business at the Jan. 23 meeting, the DDA:

- Approved advertising the VBT DDA with the Belleville Area Council for the Arts at Music Lakeside, as well as advertising with the Belleville Central Business Community 2024 events. They said they paid \$3,000 to BACA last year and this year's amount was to match what the Belleville DDA gives BACA. She said the CBC amount is \$500 total for advertising in all their events, plus \$50 for Santa's coloring book;
- Was introduced to new DDA board member Jessica Thomas and informed Thomas would be sworn in at a future meeting. Coburn said because of the inclement weather the township was

closed that day and the swearing-in wasn't possible;

- Received an update on grant initiatives and the design concept status for the Belleville Road Widening Project and the Tyler Road Non-Motorized Improvements;
- Learned the township didn't get the needed letter of support from Wayne

County for the county to be the recipient of a grant for the MDOT Tyler Road sidewalk project grant. McNamara said they were working on it; and

- Heard Coburn report the DDA is putting together its first-annual Valentine storefront event where people can vote online and "create a buzz."

## Dingell announces \$9.5M for MI projects including one in VBT

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, MI-06, on Jan. 18 announced \$9.5 million from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for three projects in Michigan's sixth district, including one recipient in Van Buren Township.

The grants are to advance research and development of electric vehicle batteries and charging systems.

Her news release said the funding will lower the cost of EV batteries using inexpensive, abundant materials, improve the efficiency and convenience of public transportation, advance on-board EV charging systems, and increase EV drive range.

Funding recipients are:

- Richardo Inc. in Van Buren Township: \$4,999,817 for Innovative Integrated 3-in-

1 Inverter/On Board Charger/Auxiliary DC Converter for Electrified Vehicle Applications;

- MAHLE Powertrain LLC in Plymouth: \$3,499,162 for High Power, Ultra-Low Emissions HD H2 Engine; and

• Regents of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor: \$1,000,000 for Pultrusion of structural components made of ligninbased carbon fiber composites.

"Michigan put the world on wheels, and now we're driving the future of mobility. Electric vehicles are here, and we can't cede our global leadership to China or any other country," Dingell said. "I will continue to work in Congress to deliver federal investments in our domestic supply chains and manufacturing, research and development, innovation and technology, and the infrastructure necessary to support the transition to EVs."

Selection for award negotiations is not a commitment by the Department of Energy to issue an award or provide funding. DOE and the applicants will first undergo a negotiation and DOE may cancel award negotiations and rescind the selection for any reason.

### Birthdays

Feb. 9 – Patty Riemer  
Feb. 16 – Debbie Simpkins

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James and Betty Chase  
March 25, 1954



Ray and Betty Fleming  
April 23, 1954

## More Letters

### Two couples married for 70 years apiece

To the editor:

Faith United Methodist Church in Denton has two couples whose marriage has endured the test of time. Together they have a combined total of 140 years together.

Both couples, Betty and Ray Fleming and Betty and Jim Chase were married in 1954.

Is there really a secret to having a marriage that last over a long period of time? We can get a variety of different opinions and answers to that question, yet the reality is

no one really knows. It is different with each couple.

Here at Faith United Methodist Church, we have the privilege of witnessing two couples that demonstrate enduring love and compassion for each other and a strong faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." Love has helped these couples stay together for 70 years. May God continue to bless their unions.

Rev. Dr. Willie F. Smith, Pastor  
Faith Denton United Methodist Church

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

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

• **Thursday, Feb. 8** – Classic Movie Night Series at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library begins the new series with Alfred Hitchcock's "Shadow of a Doubt" (1943). Watch and discuss classic films presented by former *Detroit Free Press* film critic John Monaghan. Brought to you by the Friends of the Library and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Tuesday, Feb. 13** – Rotary Club of Belleville invites the public to a free presentation, "Human Trafficking is Happening in Our Community," at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Guest speaker Karen Moore, the executive director of Sanctum House, will focus her talk on this grave and pressing issue that she said is in this community. A survivor of human trafficking will share personal experiences and insights.

• **Wednesday, Feb. 14** – It's Ash Wednesday and those wishing to have the sign of the cross placed on their foreheads in ash are invited to drive up to Faith Denton United Methodist Church, 6020 Denton Rd., Van Buren Township, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and blow their horns. Pastor Willie F. Smith will come out and put the cross on their foreheads.

• **Friday, Feb. 16** -- St. Aloysius Lenten Fish Fry Cod Dinner, 4:30-7 p.m. Curbside pickup (313) 439-0864. Credit and debit cards accepted. Baked or fried, \$14; kids meals, \$8; pizza, \$6. Church is at 37200 Neville St., Romulus.

• **Saturday, Feb. 17** – Belleville Area Council for the Arts bus leaves the Van Buren Township Hall at 11 a.m. for a free ride to the Detroit Institute of Arts for the special exhibit.

• **Saturday, Feb. 17** – Wayne County Polar Plunge will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Belleville Yacht Club, 831 E. Huron River Dr., Van Buren Township. Plunge check-in and pre-plunge party leads up to the noon plunge into Belleville Lake. The annual event raises money for Special Olympics Michigan. [somi@somi.org](mailto:somi@somi.org)

• **Monday, Feb. 19** – God's Closet will hold a children's clothing shopping day from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, 89 S. Edgemont St. in Belleville, next to Edgemont Elementary School. \$1 buys you a FULL bag of children's clothing. Donations of children's clothing accepted from 7-8 p.m. on Wednesdays or 10-11 a.m. on Saturdays.

• **Thursday, Feb. 22** – "Detroit's City Walls Program: Highlighting African American History through Outdoor Murals" at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Detroit journalist and historian Ken Coleman will talk on

Detroit's City Walls program.

• **Friday, Feb. 23** -- St. Aloysius Lenten Fish Fry Cod Dinner, 4:30-7 p.m. Curbside pickup (313) 439-0864. Credit and debit

cards accepted. Baked or fried, \$14; kids meals, \$8; pizza, \$6. Church is at 37200 Neville St., Romulus.

## Notice for Seniors

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# VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

through, but with additional tenant spaces. The developer had been able to purchase the house next door to give it additional space. Now the proposed building is 10,362 square feet on two parcels. Because it is in the Belleville Road Overlay District, higher standards must be met.

After about an hour and a half of discussion, the preliminary site plan was approved with conditions.

Although cross-access to adjoining businesses is required, Belle Tire to the south will not allow cross access.

Architect Chiesa of Clinton Township and building owner Jason Kishmish of Farmington Hills were about a half hour late for the 5:30 p.m. meeting because of the inclement weather and traffic.

That time was taken up with reports from planning consultant Vidya Krishnan of McKenna Associates and engineer Paul Kammer of Fishbeck. Chiesa and Kishmish had already seen the reports.

Chiesa said it was the same type of building design as before – same color, same design -- but there is more parking in front than before.

He said they had put in the cross-site easement, but, “Belle Tire is very against this and attorneys are involved.”

Chiesa said DTE power lines need to be relocated as will be determined. And, underground lines from the transformer to the building poles will be relocated as DTE says.

He said they meet the township requirements for landscaping in front and they have met the spirit of the ordinance for the parking lot.

Chiesa said Sherwin Williams uses the largest semi trucks to deliver. It’s a sleeper and needs room.

“We did our best to meet the ordinance and this board has the power to approve that,” he said.

Chiesa said the shade trees required grow so tall and their roots break through the asphalt and so they would like smaller, ornamental trees. They have met the

number of trees required, he said.

He said the building will not change and they will bring samples in. There are two different shades of brick they are looking at before they make the final decision, he said.

Kishmish said the preliminary site plan was approved in 2018 and they worked with Wayne County on the drainage and it was tedious. He said the pandemic hit, but the financing was in place. He said for the next two years they tried to attract users.

“We finally got Sherwin Williams,” he said. “Their credit rating is better than the U.S. government right now.”

He said Sherwin Williams uses the biggest trucks so he had to give up his plan for a drive-through and it was hard to make that decision.

He said with the one-way drives, people always try to go out oneway.

“Two-way drive to me is fundamental, having a second option to exit the site,” Kishmish said.

He said they are really busy at that tire store and they are not open to the cross-site travel. He said his side made offers, but they are not going to agree. He said that the cross access is in on his side.

They said they plan to get this up and running in 2025. They said it’s similar to the Starbucks area, which worked out pretty well.

“We want a quality development and I’m here to stay,” Kishmish said.

Commissioner Bernie Grant questioned the materials to be used and Krishnan noted that they must bring samples before the planning commission.

Kishmish said that the commission doesn’t need to see that, and Krishnan said, “We have to see everything.” She told them of the builders who had to remove their siding when it didn’t comply.

Kishmish said they have stones as an alternative to mulch because it is cleaner and doesn’t need the maintenance.

He said, “We’re going to have a first-class development. We will follow your ordinances.”

Commissioner Medina Atchinson said mulch has gone into the sewer along Belleville Road.

Kishmish said Belle Tire doesn’t want to pay to change the pole and guy wire. He

said the township can require them to open it up.

Commissioner Peter Creal said the cross access to Belle Tire is not the applicant’s issue. The township decides whether to approve his development or not.

“If cross access opens up, does that create a problem for you?” asked Commissioner Jeff Jahr.

Kishmish said, “We are meeting all your ordinances. Cross access is problematic. Some communities keep it in the back.

“... If the township wants to go through issues with them, we’ve addressed everything on our plan, what we need to do... Cross access is on our plan.”\

Commission chairman Brian Cullin said he is very concerned about Belleville Road, which is a zoo. He asked what they see as curb cuts to the north of this property. He said the more driveway cuts you have, the more problem with the traffic flow.

Kishmish said he doesn’t know what’s going to happen to the north. He said he tried to buy it. He said his property had two drives and now it has one.

Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, said the township aims to consolidate driveways.

Commissioner Atchinson made the motion to approve the preliminary site plan and the motion required them to provide all the materials. She said they are still in recovery from a materials’ experience. “I’ll bring a truck to help you bring them here,” she said. She also noted he could use ornamental trees rather than shade trees and be allowed to use stone in the parking lot islands instead of mulch.

Township Treasurer Sharry Budd, who sits on the planning commission as a board liaison, seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There was some discussion about whether there would be an agenda for the Feb. 14 meeting and Atchinson asked that if there is no business could Krishnan give the commission some training.

“In my heart of hearts, I don’t know what affordable housing is,” she said, adding she’s been told that it is \$240,000.


Cullin said it would be good to have discussion at the Feb. 14 meeting, if there is no business.



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# Dingell announces \$2.2M for new taxiway at Willow Run Airport

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, MI-06, in a Jan. 30 news release announced that the Wayne County Airport Authority will

receive \$2,191,869 from the Department of Transportation for the construction of a new taxiway at Willow Run Airport.

This is the third phase of funding for the new taxiway, which consists of relocating weather-reporting equipment and FAA radio transmitters and receivers.

“Willow Run Airport is a critical juncture for commerce, cargo, and aviation,” Congresswoman Dingell said. “Keeping Willow Run strong and viable supports jobs and strengthens our regional economy, and I will continue to work with the Wayne County Airport Authority and local elected officials to invest in essential infrastructure improvements at the airport.

“With this funding from the Department of Transportation, we will continue to expand airport operations, improve passenger experience, and keep our local economy and supply chains running,” she said.

“This DOT funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is critical

to the continued construction of a new parallel taxiway at Willow Run Airport,” said Wayne County Aiport Authority CEO Chad Newton.

“Thanks to Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow and the entire Michigan congressional delegation, Willow Run is closer to improving the efficiency and safety of its primary runway.

“The Wayne County Airport Authority appreciates their tireless support of Willow Run and Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airports,” he said.

Willow Run Airport handles more than 200 million pounds of cargo annually, making it one of the nation’s largest airports for landed air freight flown by exclusively cargo aircraft.

## Free human trafficking conference set March 23 at Romulus school

Soroptimist International of Trenton believes there are three ways to help protect children — educate, empower and eradicate — and they are attacking all three.

A free human trafficking conference is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, at Summit Academy North, 18601 Middlebelt Rd., Romulus.

According to organizers, it will be aimed at equipping individuals and communities with the knowledge and tools needed to combat this crime.

Leann Hedke, superintendent of Summit Academy Schools, and Janelle Rose are co-chairwomen for the event.

The two agree this free conference is an event for educators, health care professionals, first responders, social workers, parents, and advocates who are passionate about ending human trafficking.

Keynote speaker Joyce Haskett will offer an in-depth look at sex trafficking from her own experience. A victim turned survivor, Haskett earned her social work degree from the University of Michigan while imprisoned for 17 years after shooting and killing the man who sex trafficked and beat her.

Joining Haskett is Kevin Outland, whose presentation, “The Dark Side of the Web,” will shed light on the tactics used by online predators to exploit vulnerable individuals, especially children.

Attendees can expect to leave with at least 15 ways to protect their families from internet dangers, including insights into sexual predators, social networking pitfalls, and chat room risks.

Melissa Novak, an FBI special victim specialist, is also one of the impact speakers. She will provide insights into law enforcement’s efforts to combat human trafficking.

Also, speakers Chrissy Hemphill and Tracey Cooley will address familial trafficking and the role of organizations like Sparrow Freedom Project in supporting local victims. Familial trafficking is when a family member -- father, mother, sibling, grandparent, uncle, or aunt -- or a guardian -- a foster parent or intimate partner of the parent -- facilitates the trafficking.

A question-and-answer session will follow the speeches.

Hedke said those attending will hear how major events can have an impact in the area in terms of trafficking and how victims of trafficking don’t necessarily “look a certain way.” A victim can be a coworker or friend without anyone even knowing, she said.

Attendees also will receive a complimentary lunch and networking opportunities. Those attending can register at [shorturl.at/tXUXZ](https://shorturl.at/tXUXZ).

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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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**Wednesday, February 7, 7 pm**



**“Midnight: Detroit &**

**The Underground Railroad”**

A Presentation by Billy Winkel of the  
Detroit Historical Society

**Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 pm**

**“Detroit's City Walls Program:  
Highlighting African American History  
through Outdoor Murals”**

A Presentation by Ken Coleman, Detroit  
journalist and historian

**Thursday, February 22, 7 pm**



Belleville Area District Library [www.belleville.lib.mi.us](http://www.belleville.lib.mi.us)

### St. Anthony Catholic Church Presents

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This is a great night out with your spouse to strengthen your marriage and maybe pick up a few tips along the way!

Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased by calling Joe Flange at 734-325-7057. Tickets are also available at the Church Rectory Office (734-697-1211)



# Sen. Camilleri reminds districts about financial supports for educators

State Senator Darrin Camilleri, D-Trenton, a former teacher and the chairman of the Senate Pre-K-12 Education Budget, called attention to the additional financial supports for educator compensation included in the most recent school budget and urged districts across the state to make sure they are leveraging these dollars.

He issued a news release on Monday. “We fought hard to get funding for teacher student loan forgiveness and at-risk money that can be used to bolster educator pay in our most recent school budget,” Sen. Camilleri said. “Those dollars are available now, and we want to make sure school employees and administrators across the state know about these programs and take full advantage of them.”

He said Michigan is leading the way nationally in helping improve compensation for educators to better attract and retain the best and brightest into the profession. He said just in this year’s state budget, the following funding is dedicated to these purposes:

- \$50 per pupil to directly increase educator compensation (sec. 27l) - \$63.8 million
- A program to repay the student loans of educators (sec. 27k) - \$225 million
- Directly reimbursed districts for 0.5% of educator salaries (sec. 147f) - \$48.5 million
- Scholarships for students in educator preparation programs (sec. 27a) - \$25 million
- Stipends for student teachers (sec. 27c)

- \$50 million

- Rewards for Nationally Board-Certified teachers (sec. 27m) - \$4 million
- Creation of a state funded educator mentorship program (sec. 27h) - \$50 million

Camilleri encouraged educators to ask their school districts about plans to access money to help boost staff salaries and allow them to access new benefits like student loan forgiveness. He also urged the Michigan Department of Education to ensure these

funds were being delivered to districts and used for their intended purposes.

“We’re committed to addressing the teacher shortage by compensating educators at the level they deserve – and respecting the work they do every day for Michigan’s students,” Sen. Camilleri said.

Sen. Camilleri’s district includes Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the city of Belleville.

## Durkin brothers set for March 6 joint exam for Sumpter Twp. break-in

Live preliminary exams have been set for March 6 at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court before Chief Judge Brian A. Oakley for brothers Matthew Ryan Durkin and Paul Nathaniel Durkin, who both are charged with home invasion-first degree on Nov. 19 in Sumpter Township.

Paul is also charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and felony firearm-pneumatic gun in the incident

Their joint probable cause conferences were set for Jan. 24 because the cases will be run together.

Matthew, of Brighton, has personal bond of \$25,000 and Paul, 23, of Pinckney was given \$25,000/10% bond and a \$6,250 surety bond

was posted by Wayne County Bail Bonds.

Paul’s court-appointed attorney Luther Glenn asked the judge on Jan. 10 to reduce the bond to personal bond with a tether. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Mohamed A. Mohamed objected saying Paul used a weapon on a break-in and has an extensive criminal history.

Judge Lisa Martin denied the request to modify the bond because of his extensive history. Then surety bond was posted. On Jan. 10, attorney Glenn asked to withdraw from the case and this request was granted. Vanessa Moss now is Paul’s defense attorney.

### Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

#### SEEKING DEMOLITION BIDS

##### NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENT

**Seeking Demolition Bids.** The Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, MI will receive bids for the **demolition, removal, and disposal of all structures and appurtenances, including the principal dwelling, located at 50947 and 50955 S. I-94 Service Drive (Parcels 83-074-01-0028-006 and 83-074-01-0028-008).** Bid forms and demolition work specifications are available at the Office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, from 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday or on the Township website at [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org). Bids shall be submitted to the Clerk’s Office by **11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2024** and will be publicly opened immediately following the closing of the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids and reserves the right not to award a contract. Van Buren Township is an equal opportunity employer. **This project will be funded with Van Buren Township general funds.**

Posted and Published: February 8, 2024

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Mallari, Robyn	\$73,449.30	\$7,000.00	Jordan, Christina	\$53,024.00	\$7,000.00	Komaromi, Xavier	\$17.50 Per Hour	
Layton, Amanda	\$70,680.38	\$7,000.00	Revels, John	\$53,024.00	\$7,000.00	Ortner, Loni	\$17.50 Per Hour	
Leonard, Tameka	\$68,289.71	\$7,000.00	Holowicki, Florentina	\$52,264.00	\$7,000.00	Sorrell, Yolanda	\$17.50 Per Hour	
Roberts, Alexandra	\$63,119.00	\$7,000.00	Robinson, Amanda	\$52,264.00	\$7,000.00	Volker, Stephanie	\$17.50 Per Hour	
Turner, Teri	\$60,077.65	\$7,000.00	Caruso, Emily	\$51,059.00	\$7,000.00	Walters, Johanne	\$17.50 Per Hour	
Kaminski, Tracy	\$59,425.00	\$7,000.00	Higgins, Mark	\$49,794.00	\$7,000.00	Mitchell, Theresa	\$16.93 Per Hour	\$3,750.00
Patton, Diane	\$58,482.72	\$7,000.00	Baker, Cayla	\$47,559.00		Klimek, Kayla	\$10.71 Per Hour	\$1,875.00
Brown, Emma	\$58,185.72	\$7,000.00	Laurinec, Linsey	\$47,559.00	\$8,000.00	INTERVENTION SERVICES		
Gordon, Ja’Rayl	\$57,039.00	\$7,000.00	Sarabia, Xavier	\$47,559.00		Reed, Stacey	\$77,863.83	\$7,000.00
Hutcherson, Nakeisha	\$56,904.00	\$7,000.00	Thomas, Kathleen	\$47,559.00	\$7,000.00	Rowe, Andria	\$63,837.20	\$7,000.00
Shroff, Falak	\$56,901.00	\$7,000.00	Williams, Breanna	\$47,559.00	\$8,000.00	Conti, Cynthia	\$61,830.00	\$7,000.00
Terrell-Fletcher, Monique	\$56,091.45	\$7,000.00	Horner, Jennifer	\$47,521.85	\$3,750.00	Poole, Ellen	\$61,830.00	\$7,000.00
Joye, Danielle	\$55,764.00	\$7,000.00	Ramirez, Stacey	\$46,522.26	\$3,750.00	Johnson, Glen	\$24.87 Per Hour	\$1,406.25
Nelson, Crystal	\$55,764.00	\$7,000.00	Demolen, Jennifer	\$43,240.87	\$9,500.00	SPECIAL EDUCATION		
Reaume, Megan	\$55,727.72	\$7,000.00	Zeuty, Eric	\$27,552.22	\$7,000.00	Still, Jennifer	\$49,794.00	\$7,000.00
Cheng, Stephen	\$54,372.72	\$7,000.00	Davies, Stephanie	\$18.41 Per Hour	\$3,750.00	Isaacs, Jeanne	\$17.64 Per Hour	\$3,750.00
Bulgarella, Josie	\$53,664.00	\$7,000.00	Bradley, Kimberly	\$18.10 Per Hour	\$3,750.00	Jackson, Kimberly	\$16.75 Per Hour	\$3,750.00
Brewer, Ashley	\$53,279.00	\$7,000.00	Campbell, Sandra	\$17.88 Per Hour	\$3,750.00	ADMISSIONS		
Gibson, Jessica	\$53,279.00	\$7,000.00	Heringhausen, Lisa	\$17.63 Per Hour	\$3,750.00	Lorey, Stefanie	\$23,237.83	\$1,036.56
Jeng, Amy	\$53,279.00	\$7,000.00	Adkins, Alissa	\$17.50 Per Hour		CURRICULUM & INSTR.		
Mason, Sarah	\$53,279.00	\$7,000.00	Borden, Jan	\$17.50 Per Hour		DeBoer, Deirdre	\$10,055.38	
			Burdick, Shannon	\$17.50 Per Hour		Zantop, Chelsea	\$8,812.50	
			Churchill-Acre, Vonnice	\$17.50 Per Hour		Compiled by Diane Madigan.		
			Eller, Brandon	\$17.50 Per Hour				
			Guiles, Kristin	\$17.50 Per Hour				

# Vehicle chase through VBT ends in Ypsilanti Twp. and then Sumpter

A vehicle chase of a suspected narcotics trafficker resulted in two arrests and multiple units of drugs and firearms being seized, according to the Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team (LAWNET).

At about 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, LAWNET detectives attempted to stop a vehicle driven by a 28-year-old Ypsilanti man. Police had been conducting surveillance on the man for suspected involvement in narcotics trafficking in Ypsilanti. He and the passenger of his vehicle – a 32-year-old man, also from Ypsilanti – had been followed from Detroit, possibly enroute to Ypsilanti, police said.

Police attempted a traffic stop on the suspect's vehicle on westbound I-94 near Belleville Road in Van Buren Township. This prompted the suspect to flee in his vehicle while a trooper was approaching, police said.

The vehicle was later found in Ypsilanti Township, after it had crashed into a garage. The suspects were seen by a Washtenaw County Sheriff's deputy fleeing from the vehicle and forcibly entering a residence shortly thereafter, police said.

Police made entry into the home and found the 28-year-old hiding in a bedroom with the help of a K-9 unit. The other suspect

was found hiding under a bed in the same room, police said. Both suspects had felony warrants and were lodged in the Washtenaw County Jail.

The homeowner returned to the residence, and it was determined she was the mother of one of the suspect's children, police said. A request to search the home was denied,

although a search warrant was later obtained.

Upon searching the home, police recovered about 750 grams of cocaine, 20 grams of crack cocaine, six grams of fentanyl, a Glock 9mm handgun and a Glock 19X 9mm pistol. All the items were found in a child's bedroom hidden in a dresser drawer, police said.

A second search warrant was obtained for the 28-year-old's residence in Sumpter Township, leading to the seizure of 1.2 grams of fentanyl, 215 grams of cocaine and a Draco 7.62mm, police said.

LAWNET was assisted by the Michigan State Police and the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office.

## INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

### VEHICLES FOR SALE

2012 H-D FLHTCU (Harley-Davidson). \$13,100. Ember red sunglow. Stage-one air & exhaust. Heated hand grips. Garage door opener. Day & Indoor storage covers. Road Tech GPS Mount with XM Radio Antenna. Service Manual. (734) 699-1238. Leave message. 02/08

-----  
'89 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE 5.0. New top, new radiator & new battery. No rust. 70,000 miles. \$17,800. Interested parties. (734) 325-5352 02/22

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20 FT. BAYLINER. Power steering. GPS. Has a cover. Sleeps two. Needs carb. \$2500. (734) 325-5352 02/22

### FREE

FREE BUNNIES to good home. You pick up. Call Sharon. (734) 307-6609 02/22

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"Trust, but verify."  
- Ronald Reagan

### 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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PAY CASH**  
**We Work  
Monday - Saturday.**  
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-----  
WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

-----  
WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

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The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

### SERVICES

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JANITORIAL POSITION for municipality building in Canton. Pleasant work environment. Mon.-Thurs. 9 p.m.-midnight. Fri., Sat., Sun. 6-9 p.m. \$17-\$18/hr. rdunn08@yahoo.com. 02/15

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"I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon."  
- Tom Stoppard

### Belleville High School Class of 1974 to hold 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, Aug. 17-18

The Belleville High School Class of 1974 will hold its 50th reunion on Aug. 17-18.

A dinner is planned from 5 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17, and a family picnic will be held from 1-6 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18. Bring your suit and the kiddos.

For more information and to sign up, email: [bellevillehs1974@yahoo.com](mailto:bellevillehs1974@yahoo.com).

The committee will then send, or email, the forms to classmates.

# BONECUTTERS

## TREE EXPERTS, LLC

### STORM DAMAGE & FALL DISCOUNTS!

50% DISCOUNT IF YOU KEEP WOOD/BRUSH!

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YEAR ROUND SERVICE BY PROFESSIONALS





# Court Watching

(continued from page 3)

five to support. It was noted he has issues with drinking. Judge Martin denied the request.

His preliminary exam was reset to Dec. 28, 2022. On Dec. 28 he was present by zoom from the Huron County Jail and his

defense attorney Emily Elijah said they wished to waive his exam. Judge Lisa Martin bound him over to circuit court for a Jan. 4 arraignment on the information. A calendar conference was set for Jan. 20, 2023 and then final conference for Feb. 17 and then March 17 and April 19. On May 3, 2023, he pled no contest to the charge. He failed to appear for sentencing and so

a circuit court bench warrant is out for his arrest.

On Jan. 4, 2023 he also was before Judge Martin via zoom from the Huron County Jail for other charges of operating while intoxicated with prior conviction causing serious injury, operating while license suspended/revoked/denied-serious injury, operating while intoxicated, and operating

with blood alcohol content of more than .17 on Oct. 25, 2021 in Van Buren Township.

His bench warrant arraignment at district court had been Nov. 22, 2022 and his probable cause conference Nov. 30. The probable cause conference was adjourned for discovery until Dec. 14 then adjourned again until Jan. 4, 2023. Personal bond was \$5,000.

The case was adjourned to Jan. 18 for discovery. The attorney asked the judge to amend the personal bond to \$5,000/10%, which she did. On Jan. 18, the probable cause conference was set for Feb. 8.

At that time he was present via zoom from the Huron County Jail and his live preliminary exam was set for March 22, 2023.

On March 22, 2023 the defendant was present via zoom from the Huron County Jail, but Van Buren Township Officer Daniel Svabik was not present to testify because he was having a medical procedure in Toledo. The prosecutor said he was able to testify by zoom, but the defense attorney made a motion to dismiss which was granted by Judge Martin.

Judge Martin said the medical procedure was not an emergency and the officer knew he was scheduled to testify well in advance.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Rima Yahfoufi said the People will refile before the ink is dry on the dismissal request.

On May 30, 2023 the charges were refiled and a second warrant entered into LEIN for his arrest.

## Johnnie Lee Goodman

Johnnie Lee Goodman, 31, of Troy, was before Judge Green on Sept. 21, 2022 for his probable cause conference on a charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer and domestic violence on March 23, 2020 in Van Buren Township. He also is charged with criminal sexual conduct fourth degree (force or coercion) on July 10, 2020, in Van Buren Township. The probable cause conferences were adjourned until Oct. 12, 2022.

On that date there was confusion on a plea agreement on one of the charges, so the case was adjourned until Nov. 9, 2022 by zoom to figure out the plea between defense attorney Kathy Henry and Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Suzy Taweel.

On Nov. 9, Judge Green accepted a plea agreement to reduce the criminal sexual conduct fourth degree to assault and battery, assaulting/resisting/obstructing police to "attempt to..." and dismissed the domestic violence charge. He pled no contest. Judge Green sentenced him to one year of non-reporting probation, but he must do whatever his therapist recommends. He is in a group home and therapist Cheyenne Turner has been working with him for several years. If he doesn't cooperate with his doctor's appointments, therapy, vocational program, and taking of medication, Turner is to contact the court.

## Angela Marie Gordon

Angela Marie Gordon, 45, of Van Buren Township, held her final pretrial on Sept. 21, 2022 on a charge of assault or assault & battery on Aug. 28, 2022 in Van Buren

(continued on page 16)

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION-TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the General Election will be held TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	Van Buren Township Hall	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #2	Van Buren Township Hall	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #3	Tyler Elementary School	42200 Tyler Road
Precinct #4	Wayne County Community College	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #5	Wayne County Community College	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #6	McBride Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #7	Belleville High School	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #8	Belleville High School	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #9	Savage Elementary School	42975 Savage Rd
Precinct #10	Edgemont Elementary School	125 S. Edgemont St.

**EARLY VOTING** will take place at Van Buren Township Hall on 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Saturday, February 17 until Sunday February 25 for ALL precincts.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the residents in the Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County Michigan will be voting on the following as presented and listed below: (Voters may choose one ballot style)

**REPUBLICAN PARTY PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

**OR**

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

**AND**

**VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL-** This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mils on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance, The remaining 1.3197 mils are only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the "Headlee" amendment to the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that reduction.

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the Van Buren Township Clerk's office located at 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111, by contacting the Clerk's office at 734-699-8909 or by visiting [mvic.sos.state.mi.us](http://mvic.sos.state.mi.us) where a sample ballot can be viewed.

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office

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

Leon Wright, MMC  
Van Buren Township Clerk

Posted: 1/31/24  
Published: 2/8/24

# Court Watching

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Township. The charge was dismissed when the victim did not appear.

## Ahmed Ali Al-Najaar

Ahmed Ali Al-Najaar, 19, of Erie and previously of Sumpter Township, pled guilty to double parking at his arraignment/pretrial Sept. 21, 2022 on a charge of tobacco-possession/use by minors at 10:09 p.m. Aug. 7, 2022 in the city of Belleville. The deal was offered by Assistant Prosecutor Bryn Bailey and accepted by Judge Green, who levied a \$100 fee. This will be combined with his payment plan for his other sentences at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court.

## Niya Marie Baker

Niya Marie Baker, 28, of Romulus was present for her remote arraignment / pretrial on Sept. 21 on charges of violation of a state of emergency proclamation and retail fraud on April 21, 2020 in Van Buren Township. Her defense attorney Daniel Bitar talked to Prosecutor Bailey and got a plea deal, which had Baker plea guilty to retail fraud at Walmart and the other charge was dismissed. The retail fraud charge will be deferred for three months and, if there are no other problems, will be dismissed. A fine of \$300 was levied by Judge Green.

## Scott Allen Poore

Scott Allen Poore of Leroy, MI, was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) on Sept. 12, 2022 in Sumpter Township. He was present for his probable cause conference on Sept. 28 before Judge Green. Defense attorney Vanessa Hamilton said they needed discovery so the probable cause conference was adjourned until Oct. 5. At that time, his live exam was set for Nov. 16.

On Nov. 16, the charges were dismissed without prejudice when the victim failed to show up at court.

## James Shelbrynajmatalmassaa Blake

James Shelbrynajmatalmassaa Blake, 47, of Ypsilanti is charged with malicious destruction of fire or police property and reckless driving on June 1, 2021 in Van Buren Township. He also is charged with using a self-defense spray device / dangerous weapons on June 2, 2021 in Van Buren Township.

At his probable cause hearing on Sept. 28, 2022 his attorney William Glenn said since he got the forensic exam results that said that his client was competent, he would ask for a live preliminary exam.

He failed to appear for a court session and bench warrants were issued on Oct. 19, 2022. On Oct. 24, 2022 he called the court to find out what could be done about his warrants and he was told to contact his attorney.

## Brandon Christopher Bovitz

Brandon Christopher Bovitz, 40, of Van Buren Township is charged with domestic violence and assault or assault and battery on Aug. 21, 2022 in Van Buren Township. On Sept. 28, 2022 he was present for his remote pretrial and then the case was adjourned for a final pretrial on Oct. 19.

He was free after posting bond of

\$1,000/10%. He was not to return to a West Huron River Drive address and must have no contact with the victim.

On Oct. 19 a plea deal was approved by Judge Oakley for Bovitz to plea no contest to domestic violence and the second count was to be dismissed. He was sentenced to one-year probation and have mental health, drug, and alcohol assessments. He told Judge Oakley he has been in Oakdale Recovery Center since Oct. 10 for an 18-21-day program. He said he wants to start doing the right things.

Judge Oakley fined him \$500 and said the no-contact order with the victim is in effect.

## Sandra Dale Cox

Sandra Dale Cox, 66, of Ypsilanti is charged with two counts of operating while intoxicated-third and one count of failure to stop at a property damage accident on May 3, 2018 in Van Buren Township.

She also has a charge through Western Wayne Narcotics of being in possession of a narcotic or cocaine less than 25 grams on Jan. 18, 2018.

She was present for her arraignment / probable cause conference on Sept. 28, 2022 and was arraigned on both cases. The probable cause conference was adjourned until Nov. 2 and her personal bond set at \$10,000. Her attorney David Shand said he

would try to get her into sobriety court, so Judge Green gave him extra time to get her appointments for evaluation.

On Nov. 2, attorney Shand asked to have her screened for 34<sup>th</sup> District Court sobriety court and Judge Green adjourned her probable cause conferences until Nov. 16. On Nov. 16 Cox waived her preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a Nov. 30 arraignment on the information. Final conference was set for Dec. 16 and continued to Jan. 30 and then to Feb. 27. Then it was continued to March 30. She pled guilty to operating while intoxicated-2<sup>nd</sup> and the other original

(continued on page 17)

## Public Notice

### OFFICE OF THE WAYNE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

#### BELL CREEK DRAIN

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ABANDON AND VACATE A PORTION OF A DRAIN

**DATE:** Friday, February 23, 2024  
**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** 3600 Commerce Court  
Wayne, Michigan 48184  
**QUESTIONS:** (313) 327-1023

A public meeting will be held at the above date, time and location pursuant to Section 391 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended, for the purposes of hearing objections and determining whether the portion of the Bell Creek Drain to be abandoned and vacated has ceased to be of public utility and is no longer necessary or conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare.

The descriptions of the portion of the Bell Creek Drain proposed to be abandoned and vacated can be found on the Wayne County website at: <https://www.waynecounty.com/departments/environmental/home.aspx>.

If the Drain Commissioner determines that the portion of the Drain has ceased to be of public utility and is no longer necessary or conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare and that the private rights of persons, acquired by reason of the establishment and construction of the portion of the Drain will not be interfered with or impaired by the abandonment and vacating of the portion of the Drain, the portion of the Drain will be ordered abandoned and vacated.

Proceedings conducted at this public hearing are being conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Wayne County Drain Commissioner's office located at 400 Monroe, Suite 400, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

If you have questions prior to the meeting, you may call the Drain Commissioner's Office at (313) 327-1023. Written public comments may be submitted to the Drain Commissioner's Office prior to the meeting.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Elmeka N. Steele, Esq.  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner



# Court Watching

(continued from page 16)

three charges were dismissed. She was sentenced on April 28 to a fee of \$698 and 2 years of probation with a supervision fee of \$720.

## Emani Joi Minor

Emani Joi Minor, 25, of Inkster, is charged with domestic violence on Sept. 13, 2022 in Van Buren Township. She was present for her remote pretrial on Sept. 28.

Her defense attorney Royce Nunley asked for a final pretrial where the victim must appear. Judge Green set that for Oct. 19.

It was a live pretrial before Judge Oakley.

Personal bond of \$5,000 was set at her arraignment and she is to have no contact with the victim or return to an apartment on Oak Ln.

On Oct. 19, the complaining witness failed to appear and the charge was dismissed without prejudice.

## Rebecca Ann Chapman

Rebecca Ann Chapman, 30, of Romulus

is charged with having no insurance under the insurance code and driving while license suspended on Aug. 21, 2022 in the city of Belleville.

She failed to appear on Sept. 28, 2022 for her arraignment/pretrial, so a remote show cause/arraignment/pretrial was set for Nov. 2 and she failed to appear. A bench warrant was issued.

On Dec. 5 the court asked for the warrant to be recalled and a review of the case was scheduled for Jan. 5, 2023. A remote arraignment/pretrial was set for March 8. She failed to appear so a bench warrant was issued.

On June 14 she posted bond and her arraignment/pretrial was set for July 5. At that time she pled guilty to a reduced charge of allowing unlicensed driver to drive-second and was fined \$665.

## Kristin Julia Dalsasso

Kristin Julia Dalsasso, 41, of Van Buren Township is charged with reckless driving in the city of Belleville on Feb. 23, 2019. She failed to appear for her Sept. 28, 2022

remote arraignment/pretrial, and she said she didn't recall getting a ticket. A show-cause hearing was set for Nov. 2 and then adjourned to Nov. 16.

On Nov. 16, the defense attorney said there was no discovery, but it had been sent and he wasn't told. The arraignment/pretrial was adjourned until Dec. 14 and then adjourned until Jan. 4. On Jan. 4, 2023 the charge was dismissed for insufficient evidence.

## David Louis Childs, II

David Louis Childs, II, 29, whose mobile home burned down on Utah Street in Sumpter Township last year, was present for his Oct. 5, 2022 probable cause conference on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and domestic violence on Sept. 23, 2022 in Sumpter Township. His personal bond was \$25,000.

A live exam was set for Nov. 16, 2022. Childs told Judge Martin he now lives in Garden City.

Judge Martin noted he also had a bench warrant out for failure to appear on July 11,

2022 for a driving while license suspended charge in Sumpter Township and that also was set for Nov. 16, 2022. His preliminary exam was set on Nov. 29 and his remote pretrial was held Oct. 20, 2022.

On Nov. 29, 2022 his preliminary exam was waived and he was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Dec. 13. A calendar conference was set for Jan. 12, 2023 and a pretrial for Feb. 2. On Feb. 2, he pled guilty to domestic violence and weapons-firearms and the carrying concealed weapons charge was dismissed. He was assessed \$1,081 in fees (or community service in lieu of fees) and one year of probation.

## Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Feb. 8 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 - 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 Voigt at 7:30 p.m.

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Beebe	Present
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Priest	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Mayor Voigt	Present

### 3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

- A. Presentations
  - None.
- B. Council Follow Up List
  - City Manager Smith noted that the list is being refreshed to reflect the recent goals set by the Council.
- C. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items
  - No comments.

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to approve the agenda 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.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 21, 2023, Special Meeting of the City Council

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Priest approving the minutes of the Special City Council Meeting, held on December 21, 2023.

#### 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.

B. January 2, 2024, Regular Meeting of the City Council

**MOTION:** Motion by Priest, supported by Kissel approving the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting, held on January 2, 2024.

#### 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.

### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. None.

### 7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance #24-001 – Amendment to Section 5.5 of the Zoning Code.

- Mayor Voigt presented the first reading of Ordinance #24-001 pertaining to an amendment of the Zoning Code in regards to seasonal boat storage.

### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- A. Special Event Application – Flop E Bunny
  - B. Special Event Application – Farmers Market
  - C. Special Event Application – Memorial Day Parade and Farmers Market
  - D. Special Event Application – Taste of Belleville
- MOTION:** Motion by Beebe, supported by Kissel approving the Flop E Bunny, Farmers Market, Memorial Day Parade and Farmers Market, and Taste of Belleville events, with approval of the parade contingent on submission of the parade route to the City.

#### 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.

E. Resolution #24-002 – Re-Appoints to Boards and Commissions

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to approve Resolution # 24-002, reappointing Kelly McWilliams to the DDA.

#### 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.

F. Social Media Policy

G. Injury Policy

- Council Members agreed to have a review of both the Social Media Policy and Injury Policy by the City Attorney before approving the policies.

H. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Refresh

**MOTION:** Motion by Priest, supported by Bates to approve the refreshed Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

#### 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.

I. Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Agreement

**MOTION:** Motion by Priest, supported by Beebe to approve the Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Agreement.

#### 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.

J. Review of Service Contracts

- Council reviewed the list of service contracts between the City of Belleville and various providers.

- City Manager Smith provided recommendations of which providers to seek replacements for, to which Council agreed.

### 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

- Gave a shout-out to the City's Department Heads, staff, and Reserve Police Officers.

- Stated that he has begun the groundwork on plans for construction of a new City Hall building.

- Noted that preparations for collective bargaining with the POLC have begun.

- Stated that he has been working on creating a new handbook with the Civil Service Commission.

- Noted that the GLWA will be implementing a rate increase in 2025, which will be just shy of 4%.

- Asked the Council if they would like to have a joint Special Meeting with the DDA, Planning Commission, and City Administrators in order to conduct the MML Essentials of Local Government Training on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

- Noted that the next Regular Council Meeting will contain a resolution aligning Sergeant's benefits with the POLC's current benefits.

- Exploring scheduling of a "community clean-up day" in combination with Priority Waste as a kickoff to ordinance enforcement throughout the city.

- Noted that WDIV will be conducting a live broadcast in the city at 6:30 p.m. on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Locations for the broadcast will likely include

Belleville High School and the Belleville Area Museum.

### 11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Council Member Beebe
  - Complimented City Manager Smith on pulling together loose ends.
- Council Member Kissel
  - Will be attending the SEMCOG conference on February 7<sup>th</sup> along with Council Member Priest.
  - Thanked City Manager Smith for all of his hard work.

- Council Member Priest
  - Commended the City Manager and Planning Commission on their hard work
  - Would like to have ordinance enforcement for recreational trailer storage looked at.
  - Stated that SEMCOG is excited to see some involvement from Belleville.

- Mayor Pro-Tem Bates
  - Wished everyone a Happy New Year.
  - Wished Chief Faulk a Happy Birthday.
  - Would like to explore utilizing City Hall as a warming center.

### 12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- Appreciates Smith's presentation of the contract and vendor list.
- Attended CWW meeting last Friday, at which DWHN was a presenter. He noted that they are looking for a location to have place their vehicle, as well as personnel.
- Met with Congresswoman Dingell about obtaining money for road repairs.

- Stated that he is meeting with both State Representative Reggie Miller, as well as State Senator Darrin Camilleri, separately on Friday.

- Excited about the refreshed Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which will provide us the ability to apply for more grants.

- Appreciates the attendance at the meeting.

### 13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Mike Renaud asked what the status was of the grant to renovate Victory Station.

### 14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- None.

### 15. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to adjourn at 8:52 PM.

No objections were noted.

#### Motion Carried.

Submitted by Briana Hootman,

City Clerk/Treasurer

Published: 02/08/24

## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 286 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.*

### Sunday, Jan. 28:

0135 – assist other dept., E. Columbia Ave.  
0339 – animal complaint, Lighthouse Dr.  
xxxx – repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
xxxx – repossession, Parkwood Dr.  
0846 – noise complaint, Meadows Dr.  
0853 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
0909 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.  
/ Bog Rd.  
0909 – property damage accident, SB I-275/Ecorse  
0908 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1005 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
1115 – intrusion alarm, Harmony Ln.  
1143 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.  
1158 – found property/child, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1203 – found property/child, Bradley Dr.  
1211 – motorist assist, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.  
1401 – mental subject, Robbe Rd.  
1431 – traffic offense, Huron River Dr./Edison Lake Rd.  
1503 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.  
1740 – domestic, N. Belleridge Dr.  
1853 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.  
1922 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.  
2041 – animal complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.  
2055 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2132 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Brookside Dr.  
2158 – domestic, Brandi  
2348 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

### Monday, Jan. 29:

0101 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0519 – intrusion alarm, Camden Rd.  
0531 – domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
0708 – intrusion alarm, Cedarhurst Dr.  
0726 – traffic offense, Van Born Rd./Haggerty Rd.  
0729 – animal complaint, Martinsville Rd.  
1052 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1230 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler  
xxxx – misc. complaint, Oak Ln.  
xxxx – misc. complaint, Ash Dr.  
1339 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1521 – warrant arrest, Pontiac Trail  
1501 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
1519 – misc. complaint, McBride Ave.  
1547 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
1555 – fraud, Rogers Ave.  
1713 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1841 – malicious destruction of property, Belmont  
1754 – family trouble, Savage Rd.  
1855 – intrusion alarm, Samuel Barton Dr.  
2320 – welfare check, Fay Dr.

### Tuesday, Jan. 30:

0138 – property damage accident, McBride/Quirk  
0344 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
0833 – civil matter, Fay Dr.  
0905 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.  
0911 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0927 – overdose, McBride  
0933 – prisoner transport, Haggerty Rd.  
0953 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Independence Ln.  
0956 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service  
1039 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.  
1128 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
1138 – 911 welfare check, Marina Dr.  
1208 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1258 – assist other dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1741 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Michigan Ave./Park Estates Dr.  
1827 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.  
1924 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.  
1957 – assist other dept., Greenbriar Dr./Woodwall Ct.  
2042 – sexual assault, Tyler Rd.  
2036 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Lake Point Pass

2209 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
xxxx – background investigation, Tyler Rd.  
**Wednesday, Jan. 31:**  
0822 – misc. complaints, Huron River Dr.  
xxxx – misc. complaints, Ivy  
0959 – welfare check, Senate St.  
1006 – domestic, Denton Rd./Ecorse Rd.  
xxxx – repossession, Maple Dr.  
1210 – prisoner transport, 34<sup>th</sup> District Court  
1220 – juvenile complaint, Dorchester Dr.  
1242 – larceny, Westlake Cir.  
1330 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.  
1409 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1420 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.  
1636 – animal complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck  
1727 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.  
1851 – intrusion alarm, Ironwood Dr.  
2100 – civil matter, Fay Dr.  
2144 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.  
2234 – welfare check, Locust Dr.

**Thursday, Feb. 1:**  
0204 – suicidal person, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0403 – domestic, Wheeler St.  
0911 – welfare check, Montague Ave.  
xxxx – assist other dept., Meadows Cir.  
1047 – suicidal person, Tyler Rd.  
1054 – animal complaint, Van Buren St.  
1205 – private property/property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.  
1320 – assist other dept., Dora Ct.  
1525 – harassment call, N. Woodbury Dr.  
1530 – assist other dept., EB I-94/Rawsonville Rd.  
1539 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.  
1634 – intrusion alarm, Republic Dr.  
1657 – civil matter, Haggerty Rd.  
1959 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
2157 – neighbor trouble, Daisy Blvd.  
2234 – noise complaint, Park Estates Dr.

### Friday, Feb. 2:

0341 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Oak Ln.  
0410 – intrusion alarm, Anna Dr.  
0422 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
0443 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
xxxx – repossession, Assembly St.  
xxxx – issue gun permit, Tyler Rd.  
0924 – trespassing, Rawsonville Rd.  
1004 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1015 – fraud, Independence Ln.  
Xxxx – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1224 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1310 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1302 – vehicle lockout, Denton Rd.  
1345 – fraud, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
1421 – malicious destruction of property, Haggerty  
1558 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd./N. I-275  
1615 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.  
1631 – welfare check, Tompkins St.  
1644 – threat, McBride Ave.  
1653 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1851 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
1852 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.  
1853 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.  
1858 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
1902 – road hazard, Bemis Rd./Rawsonville Rd.  
2017 – neighbor trouble, Outer Dr.  
2048 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Oak Ln.  
2241 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
2300 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.

**Saturday, Feb. 3:**  
0011 – welfare check, Outer Dr.  
0131 – noise complaint, Peninsular Dr.  
0254 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.  
0328 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
0403 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd.  
0434 – assist fire dept., Bemis Rd.  
1055 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Village Green Ln.  
1119 – fraud, S. Prairiegrass Ct.  
1131 – welfare check, Denton/Main  
1241 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.  
1314 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.  
1322 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service

1609 – intrusion alarm, Sandlwood Dr.  
1659 – 911 welfare check, Spruce Ln.  
1813 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr./Tyler Rd.  
1813 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1814 – threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1822 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd./Ecorse Rd.  
xxxx – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.  
2159 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hannan Rd.  
2227 – domestic, Paloma Dr.  
Also on this week's log are 131 traffic stops, 48 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, Jan. 28:

0129 – property damage accident, E. Columbia  
1509 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.  
1551 – traffic stop, E. Columbia/Madelon St.  
1624 – private property/property damage accident, Bait Shop  
1642 – welfare check, San Carlos St.  
**Monday, Jan. 29:**  
**Tuesday, Jan. 30:**  
0209 – assist citizen, Sumpter Rd./Bemis Rd.  
1335 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.  
1449 – property damage accident, Main St.  
1656 – malicious destruction of property, Potter Dr.  
**Wednesday, Jan. 31:**  
1006 – welfare check, Henry St.  
1209 – fraud, E. Columbia Ave.  
1559 – welfare check, Henry St.  
1755 – domestic, N. Liberty St.  
2129 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Biggs Ave.  
2147 – family trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.

### Thursday, Feb 1:

0209 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.  
1022 – malicious destruction of property, Water Works  
1531 – traffic offense, Carmell St.  
1638 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.  
1707 – juvenile complaint, Fourth St.  
2033 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Angola St.  
2330 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.  
xxxx – noise complaint, Henry St.

### Friday, Feb. 2:

1241 – warrant arrest, Main St.  
1417 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Main St./High St.  
1654 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave.

### Saturday, Feb. 3:

1047 – trespassing, Main St.  
1336 – animal complaint, Main St./Second St.  
1503 – misc. complaint, Sumpter Rd.  
1811 – retail fraud, South St.  
2024 – traffic stop, S. Huron River Dr. / Harbour Pointe Dr.  
There are seven traffic stops on this week's log.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, Jan. 28:

0106 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.  
0507 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.  
0601 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Martinsville  
0850 – family trouble, Arizona St.  
0935 – follow-up investigation, Arizona St.  
1041 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd./Dunn Rd.  
1221 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1401 – citizen assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1838 – follow-up investigation, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1908 – suspicious circumstance, Mulberry Dr.  
2001 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.  
2022 – 911 hang up, Rustic Ln.  
**Monday, Jan. 29:**  
0048 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
0150 – family trouble, California St.  
0554 – assault, California St.  
1112 – family trouble, Wayside Dr.  
1426 – suspicious circumstance, Oregon St.  
1448 – suspicious person, Rustic Ln./Edgewood

1756 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1812 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1835 – traffic complaint/hazard, Colorado St.  
1901 – shots fired, Texas St.  
1903 – property damage accident, 49000 bl. Willis  
2003 – L3504, detail – SU, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2124 – assist other agency, Sumpter/Harris  
2316 – civil matter, Delaware St.

### Tuesday, Jan. 30:

0028 – animal complaint, Hickory Dr.  
0843 – citizen assist, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.  
0946 – juvenile matter, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.  
1112 – welfare check, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1227 – civil matter, Arizona St.  
1414 – suspicious vehicle, Willis Rd./Clark Rd.  
1633 – fire dept. assist, Knollwood Dr.  
2010 – death investigation, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2023 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Bemis  
2249 – noise complaint, Oregon St.  
2304 – 911 hang up, Carriage Ln.

### Wednesday, Jan. 31:

0040 – fire dept. assist, Arizona St.  
0501 – family trouble, Colorado St.  
0605 – assist other agency, Rawsonville/Arkona  
1014 – motorist assist, Harris Rd./Haggerty Rd.  
1144 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1244 – welfare check, Nevada St.  
1257 – suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Wear  
1733 – civil matter, Oregon St.  
1754 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1910 – disorderly person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2103 – welfare check, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.

### Thursday, Feb 1:

0101 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1023 – assist other agency, Birch Dr.  
1140 – civil matter, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1203 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1228 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.  
1627 – juvenile matter, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.  
2138 – 911 hang up, Arizona St.  
2208 – suspicious vehicle, Magnolia Dr.

### Friday, Feb. 2:

0133 – shots fired, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
0212 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.  
0550 – PPO violation, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.  
0611 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.  
0732 – alarm, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
0822 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
0847 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
1233 – alarm, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1259 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.  
1314 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1759 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
1921 – disorderly person, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2033 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.  
2229 – suspicious vehicle, Martinsville/Willis Ct.

### Saturday, Feb 3:

0114 – 911 hang up, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
0636 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
0734 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
0930 – juvenile matter, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.  
1220 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
1803 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.  
1857 – 911 hang up, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1910 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
2257 – prisoner incident, Huron Twp. PD  
Also on this week's log are 204 patrol checks, 61 traffic stops, and six misc. details.

## Ash Wed.: Denton Methodist Church offers drive-up forehead ashes

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, people are invited to drive by Faith Denton United Methodist Church between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and have ashes placed on their foreheads.

Pastor Willie F. Smith said people can just drive up to the church and blow their horn and the pastor will come out and place the sign of the cross for them on their foreheads.

The church is located at 6020 Denton Rd., Van Buren Township.



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## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **February 28, 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. Members of the public may additionally 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. Instructions for attending the meeting electronically are provided in this notice. The Planning Commission will consider the following request:

**Case 23-075:** A request by applicant David Straub of M/I Homes of Michigan, LLC for preliminary approval to amend a 117.06-acre Planned Residential Development (PRD) project titled Cobblestone Creek Condominiums. The site is zoned R-1A (Single Family Residential District) and is located on the south side of Huron River Drive, east of Hoeft Road. The applicant proposes to construct 20 of the remaining available detached single-family home sites in the project as side entry garages, for a total of 35 side entry garage units of 154 detached single-family units (22.7%), as compared with 30% required at the time of approval. The area affected by this request is approximately 24 acres of property located on Shagbark Lane, Old Oak Trail, Farmbrook Lane, Laurelwood Drive, and Burlwood Lane southeast of Cobblestone Circle, containing parcel ID numbers 83 114 01 0023-000 through 83 114 01 0092-000 and 83 114 01 0103-000.

This project will be a general revision to a previously approved Planned Residential Development (PRD). Per Section 6.221(A) of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance, a PRD may be revised in accordance with the approval procedures for a PRD, which includes proceeding in the same manner as other special use applications. Special land use applications require a public hearing per the procedures outlined in Article 12, Chapter 6 of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance.

Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) beginning **February 26, 2024**. On the meeting website, 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 which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page ([www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)). 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](http://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](mailto: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: February 5, 2024  
Published: February 8, 2024





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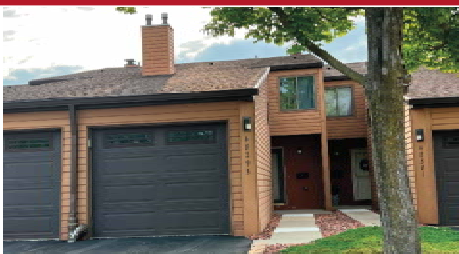
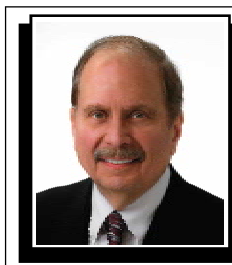
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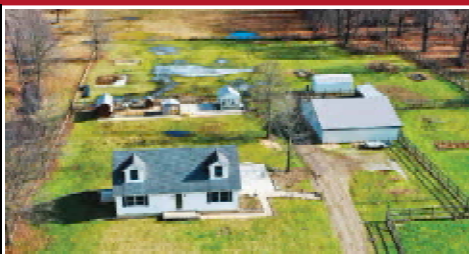
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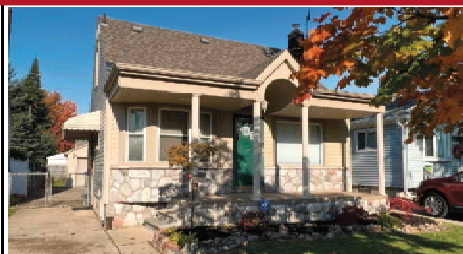
21900 BOHN, SUMPTER TWP

**THREE BEDROOM** 2 1/2 Bath Ranch featuring Hardwood Floors, 3 Seasons Sunroom plus walkout to Huge Deck. Newer Metal Roof, 2 1/2 Car Garage \$279,900



12755 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER TWP

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18275 HARMAN., MELVINDALE

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8909 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER TWP

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**3 ACRES - COMMERCIAL CORNER AT SUMPTER AND WILLOW NOW \$150,000**

**GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT IND BY METRO AIRPORT \$250,000**

**SUMPTER RD EXETER TWP 8 AC \$80,000**

**VACANT JUDD SUMPTER 2.1 AC \$45,000**

**VACANT JUDD 8.7 AC. PAVED RD \$85,000**

**HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000**

**WILLIS RD 1 AC SEWER & WATER \$60,000**

**HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 AC \$40,000**

**HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000**

**WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE 1.64 AC \$65,000**

**20728 GRIFFIN SUMPTER 1 ACRE \$45,000**

**50540 BOG RD ONE HALF ACRE \$55,000**

**7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$40,000**

**BUILDER SPECIAL 3 LOTS for \$100,000**

**SUMPTER TWP SOLD 17+AC \$199,500**

**BROWNSTOWN 27102 DEBIASI \$85,000**

**VACANT MARIO ANN ROMULUS \$38,000**

**6551 BUNTON, SUMPTER TWP 427 X 1019**

**10 ACRES PAVED STREET NOW \$200,000**

**19+ ACRES BREST RD, TAYLOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY - PAVED STREET NEAR INKSTER ROAD. \$550,000**

**VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$55,000**



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