Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville & the Charter Township of Van Buren 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111 • (734) 699-9020 www.bellevilleareaindependent.com • baindependent@ameritech.net



NBELLEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.16 Thursday, April <u>18, 2024</u>

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

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Photo courtesy of Anthony Stetzenmeyer

BHS Tiger Drama to present 'Mamma Mia' Thursday-Saturday

By Andrea VanDenBergh

Belleville High School's Tiger Drama will present the hit Broadway musical "Mamma Mia" April 18-20 at the BHS auditorium.

"Mamma Mia" is a heartwarming tale about a young girl, Sophie, as she prepares to get married and embarks on a quest to discover the identity of her father.

Her search brings three men from her mother's past to the island and the story unfolds to songs from '70s supergroup ABBA such as "Dancing Queen" and "Waterloo." ABBA stars Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus wrote the music and lyrics while the book was written by Catherine Johnson.

Tiger Drama is led by BHS teacher Jessica

"Tiger Drama is so excited to bring this high-energy, all-time-fan-favorite to the Belleville stage!" Carlin said. "Our students continue to outdo themselves with their phenomenal building, lighting, and acting skills. These kids deserve a full house so we hope to see you there!"

BHS students from freshmen to seniors participate in Tiger Drama, either on stage or behind the scenes.

Senior Madison Leads plays Sophie and she said, "Being in 'Mamma Mia' as Sophie has been the best senior experience I could have asked for. Tiger Drama continues to grow every year and I am always so impressed by the amazing talent we find."

Junior Sara Veenhuis plays Sophie's mother, Donna. She said, "I am so excited

to be Donna in our production of 'Mamma Mia.' I love the character development that Donna has throughout the show. It is incredible and an honor to play her. Everyone has worked so hard -- actors, directors, tech, and crew. Come see our amazing show!"

Shows are Thursday, April 18, at 6 p.m.; Friday, April 19, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 20, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door.

Belleville Council OKs hiring Geese Chasers for Horizon Park

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

People who come to the free concerts at Horizon Park each summer can't bring blankets to sit on because the ground is so full of goose droppings. The audience has

Permit No. 26

Belleville, MI

GAADNATS is9 egstao9 Sl

PRESORTED

to bring portable chairs.

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, assistant city manager Steve Jones, who has been a part of the Music Lakeside concerts for the past 15 years, explained the situation.

He said over that time, the city tried to address the issue and used grape seed oil, to no avail.

He recommended using Geese Chasers of SE Michigan, which Van Buren Township uses for French Landing Park and Eastern Michigan University uses for its golf

He said the company uses a couple of dogs and trains geese not to be comfortable in the park. He said the dogs push the geese

(continued on page 3)



The Denton Road bridge has been closed by Wayne County for 564 days as of today.

Postal Regulations Require This Space On The Front Page.



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council

(continued from page 1)

out of the park and off the dock into the water. They are licensed and equipped to take care of the nest and eggs. He said the cost will be shared between the city and the Downtown Development Authority. He said the DDA meets on Wednesday.

Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Bates, who was presiding at the meeting in the absence of Mayor Ken Voigt, said there are a large number of geese in Village Park and the company should be used there, as well.

Assistant city manager Jones said he wants to use them at Horizon Park first for a five-month trial to see if it works.

DPW Director Rick Rutherford said the audience can't walk without stepping into goose droppings. He said there is one person stationed at the concerts to shoo the

Councilwoman Kissel said when she walks on the sidewalk in front of Belleville High School, the geese stand on the walk and "go at me."

John Juriga said from the audience that 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley used to send defendants sentenced to work before each concert to rake it over the side of the hill, but the judge said he had to stop because it was too hard on the workers.

"Geese are everywhere," Juriga said. Someone noted Juriga lived on the lake and asked if he had geese and he said he didn't. He said it's amazing that when you throw a firecracker they don't come back.

A city resident who rescues birds asked what they will do when they rid themselves of the water fowl? Will they spend more when the hawks and eagles come? She said the city can't cope with animals.

"We live on the water," she said. "That's their nature," she said of water fowl.

Brian McClintock said in two to three weeks the goslings will be hatching unless the DNR gets out there and takes care of

They can be trained to stay away, said Fire Chief Brian Loranger. He said every private dock on the lake has kites or owls on the dock or dogs to keep the ducks and

Jones recommended the Geese Chasers' 5-month option for \$870 a month. He said if more time is needed, the city will find

"The geese will land somewhere else,"

The motion was passed to hire Geese Chasers for five months at a cost of \$870 a month, shared by the DDA and city at \$435

The proposal from Geese Chasers said, "Egg and nest destruction is included at no additional cost..."

The proposal also describes "egg addling" where "rather than removing the nest and

eggs in a single visit, we follow the protocol prescribed by the Humane Society of the United States wherein we test the eggs for viability, coat the eggs with oil to prevent embryo development and monitor the nest regularly until the geese abandon the nest."

In other business at Monday's meeting, the city council:

- Held a moment of silence in memory of the late Peggy Voigt;
- Approved the VFW/Polish Legion of American Veterans' Poppy Sale on May 2, 3, and 4 at Five Points to earn money for worthy causes in the community;
- Held public hearings on the Animals Ordinance amendment and the Five-Year Parks Plan, with no public speaking on either subject. City Manager Jason Smith said there have been no changes in the Parks Plan since it was approved in February, so now he can send it on to the DNR to open another pool of funding;
- Held the first reading of the Animals ordinance amendment, with the second reading and final adoption planned for the May 6 meeting. City Manager Smith said the number of dogs or cats allowed has been removed, cutouts added for rescue organizations or foster homes, and approval of Goat Day at Horizon Park. Also, compliance now is three months instead of 12 months;
- •Approved the second reading and adoption of the Mobile Food Vendor
- · Approved the second reading and final adoption of the Utilities ordinance amendment:
- Unanimously selected The Kelly Firm as city attorney. There had been interviews of five firms at the last meeting;
- Approved outsourcing to KCI of Grand Rapids to send out city tax bills, at a cost of \$1,399.10 each for the summer and winter taxes, including postage. A similar proposal for utility bills was not considered
- Approved accounts payable \$193,615.92 and departmental expenditures over \$500: to Elite Cleaning \$1,850 for removal of water-damaged cabinets in the public works building after the roof leaked; and to Barnett Roof and Siding, \$16,765 to fix the roof. It will be done within two weeks' time, Rutherford said, explaining there has been a delay in getting the roofing material;
- Heard City Manager Smith report that there is a water data problem and they can't open the file. He said he sent a "not-so-nice letter" to the company indicating the city may no longer do business with them. He said right now they are working on meters for a request for proposals. He said they may have to estimate bills for a while and the city could allow people to call in their readings or send in pictures of their
 - Heard Mayor Pro Tem Bates say she

would like to add recycling at the DPW vard for the trash collection contract coming up. Smith said he could add that to the request for proposals;

· Heard Juriga say there is a Yield sign at Five Points that people don't see and it needs to be lit up. Fire Chief/Dr. Loranger said so many of his employees have commented on that since his office is at that location. Police Chief Kris Faull said Poco put up a giant reflector sticker on the pole after it almost got t-boned. If that doesn't work, she said the city will ask Wayne County to put a blinking light on

· Heard, at the end of the meeting, Smith read a comment sent by Christina Davis who was attending by Zoom. Her comments were that she was against the Animals ordinance amendment. Also, a member of the audience asked about the grandfathering of the Animals ordinance and Bates said there is no grandfathering.

Planners recommend Agritourism, Sign amendments in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

On April 10, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission held two public hearings at which nobody spoke and then recommended two ordinance amendments to the township board for approval.

The first zoning ordinance amendments were to change ordinances to provide regulations for Agricultural Tourism or "Agritourism."

Vidya Krishnan, planning consultant from Mckenna Associates, said the seasonal or temporary uses now have to keep coming back to the planning commission for approval. With the amendments, once they get approval they will be able to run it and expand in the future within the guidelines of the ordinance.

Special land use remains with the property,

She said Agritourism is the accessory use of a portion of agricultural land for the sale of goods and services related to the farming operation as a means of supplemental income, including but not limited to U-pick operations, wineries and tasting rooms, corn mazes, and cider mills.

Community Supported Agriculture, also known as "community gardening," is the practice of small-scale production of plants through the rental or donation of gardening plots for community use. This too is added to the ordinance.

Truck Gardening, also known as "market gardening," is the practice of small-scale production of plants for sale directly to consumers using on-site farm stands or off-site methods such as farm markets or personal delivery service.

Scott DeBuck of DeBuck's Family Farm at 50240 Martz Road, said the farm is owned and operated by DeBuck's Brothers LLC. He said the brothers have farm-theme activities and belong to four associations and is president of one of the associations. He said they go to meetings around the world, including the United Kingdom and Australia to find the latest trends.

He said they would like to have a selfdriving tractor in the future and other

motorized rides, a carousel with farm theme rides, such as cows. Motorized rides would need planning commission approval.

He said the traffic jams they've had in the past are now under control, except in mid-October when there are crowds. He said they hire Van Buren Police and medics to help. Scott DeBuck said their Dad started the

farm with sod in 1980 and he would like to have kids feel they are driving a tractor while they hear of the history of the DeBuck

They presented a report on their activities to the commission that included a statement that they are using 113.5 acres of land at the time. The acres now used are:

- 40 acres of pumpkins;
- 20 acres of flowers;
- 5 acres of lavender;
- 5 acres of tulips (additional 5 next season), 10 total;
- 8 acres of corn maze;
- 17 acres of barnyard (activity area); and
- 5 acres of parking.

The commission unanimously approved sending the Agritourism amendments to the township board.

Then it moved to consider the Signs ordinance amendments for mixed-use zoning, with specific regulations for signs. The changes are to ensure all parts of the ordinance are one and hyperlinks are updated in both directions.

A motion was made to recommend the amendments to the township board, but Edward Burger got up to speak before the vote could be completed. He wanted to talk about the Agritourism ordinance amendment and he said he didn't hear any invitation for the public to speak on the issue.

He said there is an inherent problem with what the commission approved. He said he has 10 acres on Sumpter Road and the 200foot side yard setback is too much space to require. His property is only 314 feet wide, but is very deep. He would be unable to set up an Agritourism business on his property.

Burger said Agritourism is a growing industry and there are four such places within a 20-minute drive from Brighton.

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Belleville Area Independent/April 18, 2024

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Editorial

Peggy Voigt mourned by community

Peggy Voigt died in Florida on April 10 and the Belleville and school communities are shocked and saddened.

Her husband, Belleville Mayor Ken Voigt, has planned a service at Belleville First United Methodist Church on July 30.

Belleville City Hall will be closed that day so employees can attend the service. (Someone will have to stay at city hall for the early voting, however.)

Over the past few years, Peggy has been suffering with what was called "Long COVID" and has had treatments of many kinds, some paid by insurance and some considered experimental.

Ken said they enjoyed traveling and listening to live music over the past few years as her energy waned. Recently, with the blessing of her doctor, she and Ken went to Florida and took a cruise. They also stayed at their Florida home and enjoyed their grandchildren.

We're told she took a turn for the worse and was taken to the hospital. She was released on oxygen, but she died.

Peggy was a devoted educator with a refined demeanor and a gentle way of addressing people. At one point, we all thought she was going to be the next school superintendent, but she was swept away by nasty school politics. She persevered and continued her work in education elsewhere.

We are among the many who will miss Peggy's warm presence. God rest her soul.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Barbara Rogalle Miller let me know that she read the article in the paper about Senator Darin Camilleri's proposed bill in the state legislature which would require media centers and certified librarians in every school in the state.

She said she texted him, telling him besides being an attorney, she is a librarian, and his bill is very important. She told him she was a volunteer tutor at Belleville High School every Tuesday and Thursday last school year and the library was devoid of any activity or any librarian. She said she never saw a book being checked out or teachers bringing students in to work on any units, or anything.

Barbara said Sen. Camilleri called her and asked if she would testify to his committee on libraries. After discussion, it was decided she would submit a statement for the hearing on April 16, rather than drive to Lansing for three minutes of testimony. There are more than eight other witnesses.

Before the April 10 VBT Planning Commission meeting started, I said to Eric DeBuck that I hear they are having a tulip festival this year at the DeBuck Family Farm on Martz Road.

He smiled and said their first tulip in the inaugural tulip festival bloomed the day before on April 9. He showed me a picture of the special, bright-red tulip.

This is their first tulip in the five acres they will have open beginning April 24 and running through May 12 this year. They plan to add another five acres next year, for a total of ten. And it all started with this one beautiful tulip.

Ronald Barrington Robinson has another

"In My Opinion" interview on YouTube called "What's Going on in Sumpter Township, Michigan part 2" that was posted over the weekend and you can watch. He praised one person in the township called Randy. He said Randy spent lots of money buying equipment to cut the weeds and overgrowth around fire hydrants, along roadsides and intersections in the township to prevent accidents.

"Bless his heart, he's been out there because he cares about Sumpter Township," Barry said. The program's host John Wilson said maybe they could have a phone interview with Randy on a future program.

"I've seen Randy work," Barry said. "He keeps meticulous records and has more than 2,000 to 3,000 areas where he had been cutting trees and brush."

He said the township attorney told Randy to stop because he's a liability to the township and Wilson said he thinks it's because he's embarrassing them.

Wilson said the township could offer him indemnification to protect him and the township and Barry said, "That's too much like doing the right thing.'

We received an unsigned postcard complaining about how the writer didn't get a pair of free eclipse glasses at the library because they had run out of them. The writer said he/she had called earlier and told to come by. The writer was told it was "first-come, first-served." The angry writer accuses library personnel of giving out the

The library had ordered 500 pairs and everyone wanted free glasses. They were \$1 a pair at Menards.

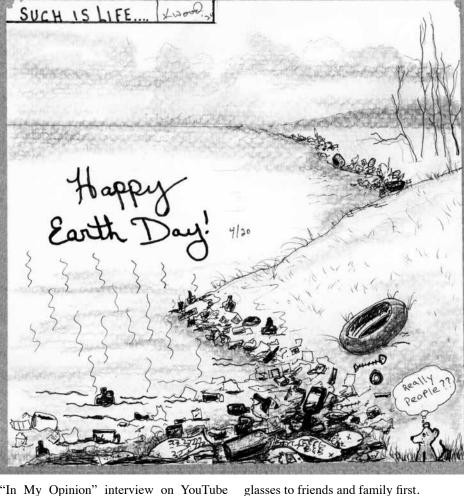
You may remember Chris Elg. He was the Van Buren Township Public Safety Director who got fired by Supervisor Cindy King more than 20 years ago after he applied for the top police job in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and told me about it. I printed the story and that was the end of him. Cindy didn't like him talking to the press.

Anyway, he is a wonderful man who has two master's degrees, started law enforcement as a NY state trooper, and served for years as a special agent in the U.S. Coast Guard, as well. He got a job in



Louisiana and then Florida and then retired. We have stayed in touch. His oldest son Eric is a teacher and the twins are still earning college degrees. Isabella is to be a librarian and Langley is into computers. That's what brings me to talk about him.

On April 10, Chris emailed me a Discrete Math Syllabus from Florida Gulf Coast University without explanation. When I contacted him, he explained that he had meant to send it to his wife, whose name also begins with "Rose..." Roseanne. Whoops. It was nice to talk to him again. He keeps up on things by reading the *Independent*.



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Letters

STOP the health clinics in schools!

To the editor:

What is the purpose of a school? IT IS TO EDUCATE. Not give health care.

I can see having a nurse that is able to put a BAND-AID on a cut or an aspirin for a headache.

But a full medical clinic should not be in a school.

As it has been shown by schools across the country, this is just a back doorway to provide birth control, abortion, and so-called "Gender Affirming Care" to minors without their parent's knowledge or consent.

We have health-care services in our community, so there is no great need for this clinic. You can find a doctor's office or an urgent care throughout our area. I realize that you have state monies available to build this clinic, but why not build a standalone building? This sole purpose is to be a predator to our children and help them decide what YOU feel is best for them. Not what their parents along with their doctors feel is best for them.

Every person on the school board ought to be ashamed of themselves. Put yourselves in a parent's shoes for a minute. How would you feel if somebody was making life-long medical decisions for your minor child without your knowledge? The school board and anybody else in a political position that voted on this are deceitfully undermining parents. This deceitfulness and back-door move disqualify you from serving our children. This shouldn't be political, but it has become that way. Politics have no place in a classroom!

The school board needs to examine what little conscience they have left and do what is right not what all your cronies are telling you to do! Let's band together and say NO to seedy back-door clinics in schools!

Joe Flange Precinct Delegate Van Buren Township

I was one who served my country, not the attorney

My name is Ken Dudek, and I am a retired Viet Nam veteran with cancer.



Due to injuries I sustained in battle, I was awarded the Bronze Star. Recently, my case was reviewed, and I was also awarded monetary compensation for these injuries.

To my dismay, an attorney was appointed to oversee this money, and this attorney has been slowly but surely accumulating fees and diminishing the amount of money I was awarded. I was the one who served my country. It was my head that those enemy bullets whizzed by. I should be able to enjoy my last days in comfort; not some attorney who contributed nothing.

Ken Dudek Sumpter Township

Come celebrate with **Distinguished Graduates**

You may already be aware that the induction ceremony for the 2024 Belleville High School Distinguished Graduates will be held on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m. in the Belleville High School Auditorium.

This year, the Distinguished Graduate Committee will host a recognition dinner prior to the 7 p.m. ceremonies. The dinner will be held at the Belleville Yacht Club (BYC) located at 831 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville 48111. We would like to invite you, your family, and any other interested individuals to attend. Details of these events are outlined below.

What: Belleville High School Distinguished Graduate Induction

When: Friday, April 26; 5-6:15 p.m. dinner for all Distinguished Graduates and others (BYC); 7 p.m. Induction Ceremony (BHS Auditorium)

We need to know of your planned attendance at the dinner by Friday, April 19. Guests will RSVP and pay for their dinner at the BYC (Distinguished Graduate Inductee - No Charge). The dinner will be buffet style and the charge will be \$32 per person. Please pay Randy Brown at the

RSVP to Falisadoll Green, assistant principal, Belleville High School, or RSVP to Randy Brown at rbrown6289@aol.com. If you have any questions, please call (734) 697-1820.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Distinguished Graduate Committee Belleville High School

Court Watching

Clifford Alan Watson, 55, of Highland was present at 34th District Court for his probable cause conference on March 27 on charges of operating while intoxicated-3rd and disorderly/obscene conduct on Oct. 7, 2018 in Van Buren Township. Another probable cause conference was set for April 10. At that time a preliminary exam was set for May 15. Defense attorney Eric Goze said because the case was from 2018 there is no digital evidence to present, but he has the paper discovery available.

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Belleville Area Independent

Obituaries



Charles Watson

CHARLES WATSON

(June 21, 1946 – April 11, 2024)

Charles Watson, age 77, longtime resident of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on April 11, 2024, at Corewell Hospital in Wayne, MI, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on June 21, 1946, in Ypsilanti, MI to Lloyd and Ruth (Atwood) Watson. After graduation from Belleville High School, Charles married and started his family. He was very active and enjoyed many hobbies. Some of these included bowling, fishing, camping, and dancing. He was very involved in the Belleville Eagles, as well. Charles is survived by his children, Charles (Stacey) Watson, of Belleville, MI, Lisa (Rob) Roe of Temperance, MI, Suzanne (Jamie Frey) Watson-King, of Belleville, MI, and David Watson of Romulus, MI; the mother of his children and former spouse, Linda Watson of New Boston, MI; his siblings, Dwayne "Bill" Watson, of Fowlerville, MI, and Steven (Karen) Watson of Saline, MI; his grandchildren, Jacqueline, Charles, Christopher, Zachery, Jaden, Noah, Alexander, Nicole, Nicolas, Jessica, Alina, David, Lyndie, John, Jimmy, Madison, Toni, Landon, and Davis; and his great-grandchildren, Wyatt, Ruby, Liam, Anna, Luna, Anthony, Gracelyn, Asher, Ayden, Carter. Oliver, Gabriel, Michael, Remington, Colton, Caroline, Elliott, Levi, and Winnie, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Alicia, and grandson Anthony.

A memorial has been planned at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111 on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 28, from 11 a.m. until the time of service of 12:30 p.m.

If you would like to help with any funeral costs, donations are greatly appreciated. There will be a donation box by the guest book at the visitation. www.davidcbrownfh.com

RACHEL MARTELL

(July 4, 1931 – April 12, 2024)

Age 92, formerly of Belleville. Survived by husband Reynaldo Martell of Van Buren Twp., five children, a sister, 20 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-greatgranddaughter. Funeral mass is 11 a.m. April 23 at St. Anthony Catholic Church.

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Jessica Jones James Morgan Manager Manager

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bituaries





Richard Byron "Dick"

ARD BYRON 'DICK' GAMBLE

(April 11, 1934 – April 10, 2024)

Richard Byron "Dick" Gamble, age 89, of Westland, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away late Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at his home, surrounded by his family.

Dick was born April 11, 1934, in Detroit, MI, son of John & Daisy (Greaves) Gamble. Dick proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. He retired from Ford Motor Company, World Headquarters, in 1991 as a writer, producer and director. He was known for his creativity as an artist including creating over 100 incredible oil paintings. He also was known for many of his inventions and for his spectacular Christmas village display that he put together every year. Dick's sense of humor and unbelievable quick wit made everyone want to be around him!

Dick is survived by his wife Marlene (nee: Poet) of 43 years; sister, Marcella "Sal" Braswell; sons, Craig Gamble, Shawn Gamble; daughter Jodi (Michael) Skruch; stepdaughters Barbara Ewing and Tracy Takacs. He also had many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Dick was pre-deceased by his son David Gamble and his grandmother who raised him, Mary Ellen Gamble.

A memorial celebration of his life is being planned and will be announced at a later date. Arrangements are by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI (734) 697-4500.

Memorial contributions in Mr. Gamble's name may be made to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154 www. angelahospice.org and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

JASON ALLEN HAWKINS

(June 25, 1976 – April 8, 2024)

Jason Allen Hawkins, "Hawk," age 47, lifelong resident of Ypsilanti. Twenty seven years of service at Rawsonville Ford. Survived by wife Amanda, three daughters, parents, two sisters. Gift of Life donor. Memorial held at Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Margaret "Peggy" Voigt

MARGARET 'PEGGY' VOIGT

(August 19, 1954 – April 10, 2024)

Margaret "Peggy" (Books) Voigt, age 69, of Belleville, MI, was called home to the Lord on April 10, 2024 with her loved ones by her side. She was born to Tom and Shirley Books at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. Peggy met the love of her life, Kenneth, at Camp Sarah Grindley in 1975. They were married on October 9, 1976. and the two were happily united for 47 years. Together, they raised a loving family with three children, Matt, Sarah, and Adam.

Peggy was an active member of the community and served in many roles within the Van Buren Public Schools for 32 years, including teacher, principal, and central office administrator. Following her retirement from VBPS, Peggy spent ten years working for Learning Sciences International, traveling the country to help turn around failing schools. Peggy was passionate about education and a fierce advocate for all

Peggy had a calming presence, a loving demeanor, and always knew the right thing to say. She was truly loved and admired by all that knew her. In recent years, she and Ken enjoyed traveling and live music.

Peggy was a good friend, and a loving wife, mom, grandma, and aunt. She especially cherished her role as grandma. Peggy is survived by her husband, Ken; children Matt (Mary Beth) Voigt, Sarah (Jason Ratkowski) Igonin, and Adam (Lindsay) Voigt; grandchildren Max, Marcus, Malachi, Maddie, and Rowan Voigt, Dasha and Luka Igonin, and Jackson and Ella Voigt; brothers Marty (Theresa) Books and Mike (Theresa) Books; and friends too numerous to count. She was preceded in death by her parents Tom and Shirley Books.

A service will take place on Tuesday, July 30th, 2024 at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St, Belleville, MI 48111. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. with a memorial

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: VBPS Legacy of Excellence Scholarship, P.O. Box 2636, Belleville, MI 48112.

Peggy's funeral arrangements are in the caring guidance of Winter Oak Funeral Home & Cremation, 1132 E. Plant Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787.

RACHEL MARTELL

(July 4, 1931 – April 12, 2024)

Age 92, formerly of Belleville. Survived by husband Reynaldo Martell of Van Buren Twp., five children, a sister, 20 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-greatgranddaughter. Funeral mass is 11 a.m. April 23 at St. Anthony Catholic Church.

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

Belleville Area Independent/April 18, 2024



Order of Eastern Star donates to those in need



Members of Order of Eastern Star collected food items for donation to the community food pantry housed at the First United Methodist Church in Belleville.

Worthy Matron, Ruth Claxton, left, presents Linda Clayton, board president of Guiding Harbor and member of Belleville Chapter of Order of Eastern Star, with a donation towards the purchase of a car seat. Guiding Harbor is a local charity assisting young female teens and foster families. Visit the Guiding Harbor website to donate.

Page 8



Noelene and Bill Green of the local chapter of Order of Eastern Star deliver items collected for the students at Rawsonville Elementary School.

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Kelly Compton won a Viewer's Choice ribbon for her two-sided quilt.

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The Westerrn Wayne County Quilting Guild and the Belleville Area Museum report 200 visitors came to their month-long quilt show, the first since COVID. They showed 131 quilts during the month of March.



Guild leader Bob Green and president Jeanne Ross sit in front of the WWCQ 2024 raffle quilt. Ticket sales of \$1 each go to the group's charity programs.



Annette Spitzley won two Viewer's Choice ribbons for her medium-size quilts.



Barb Green won a Viewer's Choice ribbon for her quilt.

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By Janet Millard Independent **Advertising Director**



The Belleville Area District Library will host a Memory Café on April 26 at 11 a.m. in Cozzad Room A. A diagnosis is not required to attend. This is a relaxed, informal, and free event for people with memory difficulties and their caregivers.

The library building has truly become the hub of the community. They are offering some great programs and also collaborating with the Belleville Council for the Arts, the Belleville Rotary Club, and others. This is in addition to providing meeting space for many local clubs and organizations. Such a blessing for everyone. Thanks to the library board of directors, Mary Jo and staff for this building that has become such an important part of all our lives.

In the BHS Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 26, the community will have the opportunity to see the best of the best our school system has to offer. Students will be inducted into the National Honor Society, and selected alumni will be recognized with the 2024 Distinguished Graduate award. The combination of the students and the special alumni is a heartwarming combination.

On April 26 and 27, Sumpter Township will hold its Spring Craft & Vendor Show plus a Bake Sale at the community center, 25501 Sumpter Rd.

Van Buren Schools, parents, and the community were able to get enough funding for 20 students to compete in the World Championship for FIRST Robotics in Houston, TX starting on April 16. We are so excited for them and this opportunity to not only compete, but to mingle with other students from throughout the States and other countries.

Entry Forms for the May 27 Memorial Day Parade are available on the Central Business Community website: www. bellevillecentralbusinesscommunity.com or by contacting me at jfayemillard@att.

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

Court Watching

John Edward Svoboda, 52, of Belleville, was video-arraigned by 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley on Feb. 28 while in custody on charges of home invasion-first degree, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder / strangulation, and assaulting / resisting / obstructing a police officer on Feb. 25 in the city of Belleville.

A probable cause conference was set for March 6 and then for March 20. The preliminary exam was held March 27 and then he was bound over to circuit court for an April 10 arraignment on the information, reset for April 12. Bond first had been set at \$50,000 cash or surety and then changed to \$10.000/10%.



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Music students honored at school board meeting

Here is the list of the district music students honored at the April 8 meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education during Music in Our Schools Month:

Ava Horchem Annabel Monczka Willow Smith **Emmaline Burger** Julian Courage Brynlee Bowden Parker Davenport EgyptRose Crawford Kaine Willis Adahlia Davis Hannah Schaffer Jamar Woods Vincent Smith Madison McGinister Isaac Watson Ella Gonzalez Kelly Montgomery Nicholas Grech Bryant McGee

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Motorcylist, SUV collide on Haggerty Road north of Bemis in VBT

At about 11:30 p.m. on April 9, the Van Buren Township Public Safety

Reckless driver forces crews to make repairs again to westbound I-94

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will make pavement repairs again on westbound I-94 between Haggerty and Belleville roads in Wayne County.

Last Saturday, crews previously closed the two right lanes for concrete repairs and then kept the right lane closed for concrete curing. Unfortunately, a reckless driver chose to avoid the traffic backups and drove on the shoulder and then into the fresh concrete, damaging the roadway.

Beginning 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 17, crews will close the two right lanes of westbound I-94 from Haggerty to Belleville roads to perform concrete pavement repairs. Work is expected to be finished by 5 p.m. Thursday, April 18. This work is weather-dependent and if necessary, may be moved to Thursday and Friday.

During work, access to the Belleville Rest Area will be open, as will the Belleville Road exit and entrance ramps.

Court Watching

A motion hearing in 34th District Court was set April 3 for Vivaldy Morel Nganongo-Mbosso, 35, of Ypsilanti who had been accused of three counts of criminal sexual conduct, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault, domestic violence, and three weapons charges on March 1, 2022 in Van Buren Township.

On Feb. 22, an order of nolle prosequi was entered and the case was dismissed. The complaining victim would not prosecute. The motion by defense attorney Shawn Smith on April 3 asked for destruction of all the biological data in the case and the arrest record, which was granted by Judge Martin

Department and Huron Valley Ambulance were dispatched to Haggerty Road, north of Bemis Road two vehicle-collision involving a motorcycle.

According to a news release from Lt. Ken Floro, the preliminary investigation revealed that a 2002 Honda motorcycle was traveling northbound on Haggerty Road when it crossed the center line near Bemis Road.

After crossing the center line, the rider of the motorcycle continued traveling in the southbound lane just north of Bemis Road as a vehicle was approaching from the north. The Honda motorcycle collided with a 2020 KIA Sorento in the southbound lane of Haggerty Road.

The driver of the Honda motorcycle was identified as Daniel Diaz, a 50-year-old Sumpter Township resident. Huron Valley Ambulance transported Diaz to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Superior Township where he is listed in critical condition.

The driver of the KIA Sorento was identified as Lotoya Jones, a 40-year-old Detroit resident. Jones was not injured in the accident and was released at the scene.

The Van Buren Township Accident Investigation Team was called to the scene to conduct a follow-up investigation, collect data, and secure physical evidence.

The accident remains under investigation and anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Dale Harrison, Officer Dave Champagne, or Lt. Floro at (734)





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District Library Board invests funds in 90-day CDs to hike interest rate

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library Board approved investing \$100,000 in 90-day CDs that would improve interest rates they are getting on savings account revenue, which is really, really low – 0.01% -- according to Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.

At its April 9 regular meeting, Director Suchy said she and Treasurer Tanya Stoudemire had a zoom meeting with Chase and found that they could get 4.5 to 4.7% interest with the staggered "ladder" program.

Stoudemire said they looked into what the bank had because she thought they should at least be getting enough interest to cover the bank fees. She said this Chase program does better than that.

She said every 90 days the \$100,000 is redeemable and can be set up to roll over automatically and be reinvested. She said this could be discussed on an annual basis by the board, but meanwhile the program would automatically do the reinvesting.

"This is good for the public," said board chairwoman Sharon Peters. "We can stretch our dollars further this way."

Director Suchy said they also received information from the bank regarding its JPMorgan Access Service. This service would give the library enhanced fraud protection services at a fee of about \$200 to \$250 a month.

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

- Heard chairwoman Peters report that the Marketing Committee met with Donna Gilkey Lavin, the chairwoman of the Friends of the Library, to talk about having some kind of event to promote the Friends. Peters said they have a lot more Friends than those who participate. She said there will be a mutually developed event and, "Whatever it is, it will be fun." She said the Friends planned to discuss it at their April 13 board meeting;
- Learned the flagpole light in the sidewalk has finally been fixed. That light wasn't being sold after it broke, just at

completion of the new library building, and it had been temporarily sealed since then and an ongoing topic of conversation and concern;

- Was informed the student art has now been put on display in the library. The Perrenial Plant Swap will be at noon on May 4, which is the same day as Free Comic Book Day and one of the days of the two-day used book sale, May 4 and 5;
- Learned National Library Week, April 8-13, started off with the solar eclipse on April 8 and ended with a family by the Music Lady, Beverly Meyer. She was joined by musical therapist Danielle Saval, who met Meyer when Saval was a child and attended one of her concerts at the library;
- Was advised the library will kick off its Seed Library at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 20, including an 11 a.m. presentation by Alex Ball of Old City Acres. A complete list of seeds available is on the library's website;
- Learned a hands-on workshop on using Canva for graph design will be from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 9, at the Sumpter Media Center, 23645 Sumpter Rd. Participants will learn how to access and use thousands of template for flyers, signs, logs, brochures, etc.; and
- Heard Suchy say the library will be closed to the public on Monday, April 29, for its annual staff in-service training day.

Farmington Hills man facing felony charges on trading card thefts

Daniel Glenn Jackson, 35, of Farmington Hills, was arrested April 4 by Wixom Police for a series of thefts of thousands of dollars in trading cards from retail outlets in Wixom, Commerce Township, and Van Buren Township.

This was reported by Rich Mueller in *Sports Collectors Daily*.

Officers in Wixom, reported they arrested Jackson after zeroing in on him as a prime suspect. On the morning of April 4, officers conducted surveillance after receiving a tip that a suspect would be attempting to steal a large quantity of cards from the Meijer store in Wixom.

As he walked out the front door, Jackson

(continued on page 16)





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Margaret Thatcher

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The Belleville-Area Independent



April 9 - Dandy Kay Maier

April 19 - Frances Ensch

April 22 - Wilda Moue

April 23 - Nora Wollweber

April 24 - Seth Chudzinski

April 25 - Shelly Chudzinski, John Riemer, Alan Riemer

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

Notice to Advertisers:

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.

BHS at-home games

- Thursday, April 18 Boys Varsity Golf vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 3 p.m.; Girls JV Tennis vs. Stevenson HS, 4 p.m.; Varsity Baseball vs. New Boston Huron HS, 4:30 p.m.; JV Softball vs. Lincoln Park HS, 4:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Sylvania Southview HS, 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 19 Girls JV Soccer vs. Plymouth HS, 4 p.m.; Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Plymouth HS, 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 20 Varsity Baseball vs. Riverview HS, 10 a.m., doubleheader
- Monday, April 22 JV Baseball vs. John Glenn HS, 4:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Brighton HS, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 23 Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 4 p.m.; Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Churchill HS, 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24 Varsity Softball vs. Dearborn HS, 4 p.m.; Girls Varsity Tennis vs. New Boston Huron HS, 4 p.m.; Varsity Baseball vs. Dearborn HS, 4:30 p.m.

Go Tigers! Diane Kiessel BHS Athletics Secretary

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, April 22 Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS
- Tuesday, April 23 Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24 Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.

Ask the Mortician Event

Have you had questions about death and/or funerals?

Are there things you want to know but are not sure about asking?



Now is your chance to have lunch and learn all the ways you can have a funeral, or just ask questions about anything funeral related.

David C. Brown Funeral Home will host this event at Sam's Restaurant in Belleville on Tuesday, May 14th from 12 pm until 2pm. Lunch will be provided, an entrée choice can be selected. Since space is limited and this is a FREE event, please RSVP to Jacqueline Dalzell at (734) 697-4500.





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Sports cards

(continued from page 13)

was arrested on charges relating to other thefts in similar locations in Southeast Michigan, including Commerce and Van Buren townships.

After Jackson was arrested, officers searched his vehicle and found what appeared to be hundreds of packs of cards, with an estimated value of more than \$18,000. Police say Jackson would wear multiple coats at once and conceal the packs in the inside pockets, then leave the store without paying.

Jackson is facing felony charges. He was booked into the Oakland County Jail April 4 after being charged in District Court 52-1 for retail fraud first and second degree and concealing stolen property. He remains in jail, with bond set at \$15,000.

He is on hold to also face charges in 34th

District Court for organized retail crime, retail fraud-first degree, and two counts of using computers to commit a crime on March 22 and the same charges again on March 29 in Van Buren Township.

Van Buren Township filed the charges on April 9, after his arrest in Wixom.

He is labeled on court documents as a habitual offender.

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City of Belleville Public Notice



POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024 at 10AM, at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle(s) will

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BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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City of Belleville Public Notice



CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 1, 2024 - 7:30 pm

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

The regular meeting of the Belleville City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Bates at 7:30

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF

2. ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Voigt Absent and Excused

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

· Presentations

i. Legal Services Presentations

Presentations by Matt Wayne of Cummings, McClorey, Davis, & Acho, PLC; Nancy Olind and Morgan McAtamney of The Kelly Firm; Odeh Meroueh and Zach Hallman of Meroueh & Hallman LLP. Council then asked about billable hours, City Manager Smith compiled the billable hours from 2023.

Motion by Beebe, Supported by Priest to take a recess. Motion Carried. The council returned to session at 8:01pm.

Presentations continued with Kerry Morgan and Mike Hurley of Pentiuk, Couvreur & Kobiljak, P.C.; and Jeremy Kennedy of Pear, Sperling, Eggan, & Daniels

The council asked questions of the firms and elected to select at firm at the April 15th meeting.

ii. Council Follow Up List

No comments on the follow-up list

iii. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No citizens spoke at this time.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda groups routine meeting discussion points into a single agenda item. In so doing, the grouped items can be approved in one action, rather than through the filing of multiple

- Approval of Minutes
- a. March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting
- Communications
- Quarterly Financial Report
- DPS Activity Report
- Special Events

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Beebe to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote

6. PUBLIC HEARING

• PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING 24-002 -AMENDING SECTION 10 - ANIMALS

Motion by Priest, Supported by Kissel to open the public hearing at 8:32pm. City Manager Smith presented the changes to the ordinance from the first reading. Chief Faull spoke about two letters received regarding the public hearing.

- · Kim from Henry Street addressed the noise from the Rooster, and asked about rescues and what would happen to her birds. · Holly from Potter Drive spoke about rabbits and
- wanting the number to increase or an exception for rescues/foster. Tina asked questions about feral animals. City
- Manager Smith advised that there is a definition of ownership to address feral animals • Councilmember Beebe spoke on how the ordinance
- shouldn't impact what's inside the home. · Crystal on Thornhill mentioned that she doesn't
- feel the ordinance is even necessary. • Matt from Henry Street said that a number isn't necessary, but the condition should be the focal point. If the animals are cared for then the number would
- The Council provided feedback on the language and that it is working to be tweaked to make it as good as possible.
- · Collette from Henry Street said that this is a neighbor dispute that has blown up to something
- · Crystal from Thornhill said that this is an issue between two neighbors that has escalated, and that the ordinance will be enforceable as written, and that is no one's business what happens inside the home.
- Kim from Henry Street addressed the issue of
- Chris from Clarence Street is against the number of dogs and cats and wanted to make sure there's an exemption for puppies and kitten.

The council closed the public hearing at 9:09pm. City Manager Smith will make the recommended changes and come back on the 15th for the public hearing with an updated draft and it will remain at the first reading.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

• Ordinance 24-002 - Amending Section 10 -Animals – First Reading

First reading - no action. The council discussed where to move the ordinance forward from here, and Mayor Pro Tem Bates recommended that the council send their thoughts to City Manager Smith by April 11th for the packet.

• Ordinance 24-003 - Creating Section 107 - Mobile Food Vendor - First Reading

City Manager Smith reviewed the ordinance with the changes from the last meeting. The council asked that we give current food trucks time to become compliant with the ordinance before issuing citations.

• Ordinance 24-004 - Amending Chapter 90 -Utilities - First Reading

upon the recommendations of the City Attorney. necessary to revise this chapter.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

· Horizon Park Goat Clearing and Establish Goat

approve the expense of \$2,247.50 for the city's half of the goat clearing purchase and set June 15th at the start of Goat Days. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Council Member Priest Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Council Member Beebe Ave Council Member Kissel

· DPS Work Order and GIS Software

City Manager Smith presented a new digital work

Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Ave Council Member Beebe Aye Council Member Kissel Ave Council Member Priest • Belleville FD CLEMIS Membership

Chief Lorange presented to council the Fire

MOTION: Motion by Priest, supported by Beebe to approve the Belleville FD CLEMIS membership.

Council Member Beebe Council Member Kissel Aye Council Member Priest Ave Mayor Pro-Tem Bates

Water Shutoff Policy

City Manager Smith presented a new water shutoff policy. Advised that this policy could go into effect immediately with immediate enforcement, immediately with no enforcement until the water collector software is upgraded, or tabled until the new software is implemented.

implement the policy with immediate effect. Motion

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

- · Accounts Payable

City Manager Smith introduced the ordinance based The ordinance hadn't been revised since 1956 and to coincide with the water shutoff policy that will be introduced later in the meeting, the attorney felt it

PUBLISH: APRIL 18, 2024

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to

order system for the Department of Public Service, which would allow for more efficient work, as well as a new GIS program that works in sync with the program. Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to purchase the CityWorks work order system and contract with Ritter GIS to establish the city's GIS program. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Department's desire to join CLEMIS for improved reporting and uniformity between FD and PD.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

MOTION: Motion by Beebe, supported by Kissel to carried by voice vote.

ACCCOUNTS **PAYABLE**

- Departmental Expenditures

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Beebe to approve the Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures. Motion carried by roll call vote. ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Priest Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Council Member Beebe Aye

Council Member Kissel Ave 10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

CM Smith provided an update.

- The City Hall roof should be completed by end · DPS Roof has significant damage, and an
- emergency expense is necessary to move forward to repair it. The cost is \$16,765. • DNR requires a 5-year park plan to have a public
- hearing so that is scheduled for April 15.
- The garbage pickup RFP is ready to go, looking to time its release to coincide with giving a new carrier
- · Labor Negotiations should begin this summer. · Working with Chief Faull to negotiate the lockup
- and dispatch contract. Undated on the Jewitt Drain maintenance work. • Hired 2 new DPS employees but one backed out.
- The position is re-posted to hire a second.
- · Audit is underway. • April 10th will be downtown for the Wayne County Economic Development briefing.
- · Announced the hazardous waste collection dates.
- · SEMCOG will be delivering some pedestrian safety materials.
- May 11th Redemption Church will be doing a Horizon Cleanup and repair of the gazebo.

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Mayor Pro-Tem Bates
- -- Echoed Council member Kissel's statements.
- · Council Member Beebe
- · Council Member Kissel
- -- Thanked the public for coming out and participating
- -- Appreciative that we're moving forward with ordinances.
- · Council Member Priest -- Excited to see the city moving forward
- 12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS
- 11. CITIZENS COMMENTS

· None. 14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

technologically.

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Beebe to adjourn the meeting at 10:03pm. Motion carried by Respectfully submitted,

Jason Smith, MPA, City Manager

Published: 04/18/24

VBT Plan

(continued from page 3)

Commissioner John Juriga said the commission only recommends and it goes to the township board for final approval. He suggested Burger go to the township board to comment to it.

Krishnan said she will look into his situation. She said he has 314-foot frontage, but the property is very deep and has the

space for Agritourism. The ordinance could be updated before being presented to the township board, she said.

The motion to approve the Signs ordinance amendments then proceeded to its conclusion and was passed.

Commission chairman Brian Cullin said Dan Power was absent from the meeting because he increased his family size with a newborn.

filled in for Power at the meeting.

Ron Akers, director of municipal services,



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Application deadline for FEMA assistance extended to May 8

At the request of the state of Michigan, FEMA has extended its deadline to apply for federal assistance.

Homeowners and renters in Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland and Wayne counties who were affected by the Aug. 24-26, 2023, severe storms, tornadoes and flooding now have until May 8, 2024, to apply.

The deadline to apply with FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration is now Wednesday, May 8.

There are several ways to apply for FEMA assistance:

- Go online to <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>.
- Use the <u>FEMA mobile app</u>.
- Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. Multilingual operators are available. If you use video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that
- Visit any Disaster Recovery Center. For locations and hours, go online to fema.gov/

For needs not covered by insurance or other sources, FEMA may be able to provide Individual Assistance grant money that does not have to be repaid for:

- Rental assistance if you need to relocate because of storm damage
- · Personal property that was damaged or destroyed by the storms

- · Lodging reimbursement if you had to stay in a hotel temporarily
- · Basic home repairs for homeowners whose primary residence was damaged by the storms
- · Other serious needs caused by the storms In addition to the assistance listed,

survivors should be aware:

- Only one application per household
- FEMA does not pay for lost or spoiled
- · By law, FEMA is not allowed to duplicate insurance payments or assistance provided by other sources When you apply with FEMA, have the

following information ready: · Phone number where you can be

- contacted
- Address at the time of the disaster • Address where you are staying now
- Social Security Number of one member of the household
 - Basic list of damage and losses
- · Bank information if you choose direct deposit for FEMA money
- Insurance Information: if you have insurance, including the policy number

If you have homeowners' or renter's insurance, you should file a claim as soon as possible. FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for losses covered by insurance. If your policy does not cover all your damage expenses, you may be eligible for federal

Remember to keep receipts from all your purchases related to the cleanup and repair.

For an accessible video on how to apply for assistance go to youtube.com/ watch?v=WZGpWI2RCNw.

For more information about the disaster recovery operation in Michigan, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4757.

City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE SEEKING RESIDENTS TO SERVE ON CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

The City of Belleville is seeking nine (9) individuals to serve on a Charter Revision Commission for the purpose of revising the City Charter. Commission Members must be a resident of the city, and at least 18 years of age.

Those interested in serving on the commission will need to file an Affidavit of Identity and Nominating Petition with the City Clerk in order to be placed on the ballot for the August 2024 Election. Petitions must be signed by not less than twenty (20) nor more than forty (40) valid registered voters of the City to qualify.

These documents may be obtained at the City Clerk's office located at the Belleville Municipal Building, 6 Main St. Both documents must be completed and submitted to the Clerk's office no later than April 23, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Please contact the City Clerk or City Manager's offices with any questions (734) 697-9323 ext. 7010 or 7006.

Briana Hootman, City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: March 21, 2024, March 28, 2024, April 4, 2024, April 11, 2024, April 18, 2024



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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 312 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following. Sunday, April 7:

0116 - disorderly, Western St.

0330 - property check, Parkwood

0847 - domestic, Denton Rd.

0928 - neighbor trouble, Anna Dr.

1207 – neighbor trouble, Alden Ave.

1300 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Harmony Ln./Lilac Ln.

1348 - trespassing, Dewitt Rd.

1350 - assist fire dept., Bradley Dr.

1431 - motorist assist, Tyler Rd.

1612 – 911 welfare, Bradley Dr.

1608 - missing person, Quirk Rd. 1701 - retail fraud, Michigan Ave.

1724 - 911 welfare, Country Walk

1807 – neighbor trouble, S. Prairiegrass

1840 - animal complaint, Richard Run Dr.

1856 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E.

1943 - welfare check, Belleville Rd.

2139 – assist fire dept., Denton Rd.

2226 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Maple Dr.

2329 - harassment call, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Monday, April 8:

0108 - noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0116 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

0525 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.

0808 - mental subject, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0957 - welfare check, Oak Ln.

xxxx - repossession, Lighthouse Dr. xxxx - welfare check, Wildbrook Dr.

1047 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Holly Ln.

1153 – intrusion alarm, Sadie Ln.

1218 – animal complaint, Jeannette Ave.

1244 - mental subject, Sadie Ln. 1352 - person property/property damage accident

1401-domestic, Independence Ln

1532 - assist other dept., Tyler Rd./Beck Rd.

xxxx - private property/property damage accident.

Cobblestone Creek Dr./W. Huron River Dr.

1557 - traffic offense, Revere Dr.

1609 - vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.

1610 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. 1646 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

1652 - civil matter, Belleville Rd.

1725 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.

1838 - animal complaint, Rawsonville Rd.

1907 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./E.

Huron River Dr.

1930 - intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.

1946 - welfare check, Zachary St.

2020 - property damage accident, Martz Rd. 2059 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.

2325 - warrant arrest, Michigan

2330 - noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.

2349 - welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.

Tuesday, April 9:

0003 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harmony Ln.

0151 - vehicle lockout, Haggerty Rd.

0304 - parking complaint, Belleville Rd. 0353 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Cedarhurst Dr.

0826 - warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.

0834 - animal complaint, Wildbrook Dr. 0837 - intrusion alarm, Lake Point Pass

0853 - misc. complaint, E. Huron River Dr.

0954 – animal complaint, Revere Dr.

0934 - civil matter, Sadie Ln.

 $xxxx-animal\ complaint, Martinsville\ Rd.$

0946 - mental subject, Sadie Ln.

1034 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

1130 - vehicle lockout, McBride Ave.

1240 – animal complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl. 1352 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Rawsonville Rd./S. Grove Rd.

1410 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Yost Rd.

1522 - welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1425 - property check, Woodbury Dr. 1447 - civil matter, Fret Rd.

1703 - lost, S. I-94 Service Dr. 1802 - missing person, Quirk Rd. 1730 – misc. complaint, Lake Villa Dr.

1849 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. 1-94 Service Dr.

1852 - animal complaint, Jackson St.

2012 - trespassing, Village Center

2033 - welfare check, Holly Ln.

2032 - animal complaint, DNR boat launch, Rawsonville

2053 - assist other dept., Rawsonville/I-94 2316 - personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd.

Wednesday, April 10:

0034 - welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0224 - civil matter, Maple Dr.

0607 - intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd. 0705 - animal complaint, Beckley Rd.

0907 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.

0920 - trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr. 0912 - welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.

0944 - private property/property damage accident,

Belleville Rd. xxxx - background check, Tyler Rd.

0953 - private property/property damage accident,

1020 - parking complaint, Belleville Rd.

1104 - warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.

1242 - assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.

1439 - parking complaint, Borgman Ave.

1521 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1551 - runaway, Quirk Rd.

1647 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

1758 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1947 - civil matter, Victoria St.

2000 - welfare check, Harbour Pointe 1959 - juvenile complaint, Haggerty Rd.

2156 - harassment call, Westlake Cir.

2056 - private property/property damage accident, Jeremy Rd.

2335 - parking complaint, Fay Dr.

2141 - 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr. 2215 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.

2306 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

2302 – 911 welfare check, Cedarhurst Dr.

2316 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Svlvia Dr. xxxx - repossession, Denton Rd.

Thursday, April 11:

0143 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Freedom

0321 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0430 - trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.

0554 – animal complaint, Martinsville Rd. 0743 - missing person, Martinsville Rd.

 $0909-warrant\ arrest, Rose\ Blvd.$ 0943 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

1039 - larceny, Maple Dr.

Rawsonville Rd.

1043 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Maple Dr.

1140 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1246 - property damage accident, Tyler Rd.

1430 - fraud, Haggerty Rd.

1437 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd. 1447 - animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr.

xxxx - parking complaint, Sumpter Rd.

1601 - juvenile complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.

1629 - disorderly, Belleville Rd. 1635 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N.

I-94 Service Dr./Morton Taylor Rd.

1914 – larceny, Bayshore Dr.

1827 - personal injury accident, Belleville Rd./N.

1910 - motorist assist, Michigan 2034 - larceny, Belleville Rd.

1945 - civil matter, Lake Villa Dr.

2016 - road hazard, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2026 - disorderly, Belleville Rd. 2101 - welfare check, Westlake Cir.

2124 - motorist assist, Belleville Rd. 2205 - personal injury accident, E. I-94/Belleville

2309 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.

2326 - noise complaint, Willow Way Friday, April 12:

0018 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

0203 - property check, Belleville Rd.

0630 - leaving the scene of the property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

0658 - assist fire dept., Van Buren St.

0657 - private property/property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0806 - vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.

0808 - lost Cedarhurst Dr.

0827 - larceny from auto, Oak Ln.

0827 - leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Denton Rd.

1024 - mental subject, Briarwood Dr.

xxxx - civil matter, Belleville Rd.

1058 - assist fire dept., Savage Rd. 1141 - intrusion alarm, Kent Ln.

1153 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. 1154 - property damage accident, Morton Taylor

1304 – assist citizen, Peninsular Dr.

1339 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Timberview Dr.

1350 - malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln. 1358 - property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

1359 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln. 1504 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1552 - motorist assist, N. I-94 Service Dr./Morton Taylor Rd.

1604 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1631 - vehicle lockout, E. Archwood Dr. 1640 – sexual assault, S. Timberview Dr.

1729 - welfare check, Lighthouse Dr. 1813 - disorderly, Quirk Rd.

1830 - larceny, Belleville Rd.

1835 - runaway, Quirk Rd. 1838 - animal complaint, Tyler Rd.

1846 - intrusion alarm, N. Timberview Dr.

1850 - juvenile complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr. 1856 - private property impound, E. Huron River 1936 - intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.

xxxx - assist fire dept., Quirk Rd. 1959 - civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.

2130 - harassment call, Bradley Dr. 2200 - family trouble, Belle Pointe Dr. 2341 - disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Saturday, April 13:

xxxx - suicidal person, Tyler Rd.

0129 - civil matter, Lake Villa Dr. 0139 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Visteon Way/Lakeshore Dr.

0251 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Village Center Dr.

0818 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./ Ecorse Rd.

0157 - intrusion alarm, Wildbrook Dr.

0836 - intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd. 0907 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.

1143 - private property/property damage accident,

1009 - fraud, Denton Rd.

Belleville Rd. 1227 - missing person, Quirk Rd. 1238 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Belleville Rd./I-94 1345 - ordinance violation - all 7300 MICR codes,

Elwell Rd./Hull Rd. 1409 - welfare check, Lighthouse Dr.

1407 - threat, Lake Point Pass

1447 - noise complaint, Montague Ave.

1542 - property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Kirkridge Park Dr.

2059 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

1706 - civil matter, Parkwood Dr. 1732 - welfare check, Lohr Rd.

1829 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd. 2006 - assist fire dept., Greenwood Dr.

2128 - misc. complaint, Victoria St.

2127 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd. 2304 - welfare check, Quirk Rd.

Also, on this week's log are 105 traffic stops, 13 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Dispatch Log

Belleville Police

0029 - neighbor trouble, N. Liberty St. 0617 - malicious destruction of property, Henry

0824 - parking complaint, city municipal lot, Fourth

St. Square 0942 - traffic stop, Sumpter Rd.

1128 - traffic stop, Henry St. 1152 - traffic stop, N. Liberty St.

1337 - traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Church St. 1830 - welfare check, Victorian Ln.

2048 - traffic stop, S. Liberty St. 2156 - traffic stop, Main St./Third St.

2254 – traffic stop, South St.

Monday, April 8:

1608 - welfare check, N. Liberty St.

1655 - traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr./N. Liberty

Fifth St./Main St.

 $2146-traffic\ stop,\ N.\ Liberty\ St./Fifth\ St.$

Tuesday, April 9:

0814 - property damage accident, Sumpter/Main

1551 - private property/property damage accident

2259 - traffic stop, Angola St./Roland St. 2310 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E

Wednesday, April 10:

1250 - civil matter, Main St.

1414 - traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Sunrise Ln. 1523 - traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr. / Edgemont

1646 - traffic stop, Main St.

2135 - mental subject, N. Liberty St. Thursday, April 11:

1341 - traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr.

1345 - traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.

2330 - harassment call, Main St. 2338 - intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

Friday, April 12:

0832 - motorist assist, Main St./Third St.

1155 - threat, W. Columbia Ave. 1438 - property dame accident, Main St./First St.

1631 - property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.

2019 - traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Fifth St. 2034 – traffic stop, Charles St./Roys St.

0017 - road hazard, Second St./Main St. 0330 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

1251 - fraud Victorian Ln. 2030 - mental subject, Astor Pl. 2338 - traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell Rd.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 7:

0338 - civil matter, Montana St.

0215 - suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1126 - follow-up investigation, 47000 bl. Willow 1325 - alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1615 - follow-up investigation, Wayside Dr.

1826 – suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Arkona

1940 - suspicious vehicle, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.

1025 - assist other agency, Willis Rd./Martinsville 1115 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1806 - civil matter, Rustic Ln.

(Continued on page 19)

1735 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance.

2057 - traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.

2329 - traffic stop, N. Edgemont/E. Huron River

0440 - traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.

0931 - welfare check, Henry St.

W. Columbia Ave.

2019 - traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.

2045 - found property/child, Main St./N. Liberty

2114 - juvenile complaint, Owen St.

Columbia Ave.

1208 – 911 welfare check, Potter Dr.

1618 - 911 welfare check, Church St.

1654 – traffic stop, Main St./Fourth St. 2044 – property damage accident, Hull Rd.

0104 - intrusion alarm, Owen St. 1334 - traffic stop, Wexford Ave./E. Huron River

1347 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr. 2320 - 911 welfare check, South St.

0420 - welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.

1108 - property check, Owen St.

1531 - 911 welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.

1711 - vehicle lockout, W. Columbia Ave.

2121 - personal injury accident, Main St./High Saturday, April 13:

0347 - road hazard, Main St./First St. 0751 - intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

There are 23 traffic stops on this week's log.

0101 - assist other agency, Rustic Ln.

1524 – 911 hangup, 5800 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

1900 - welfare check, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.

2209 - 911 hang up, Oregon St.

1137 - welfare check, Washington St.

1720 - felony warrant arrest, 8700 bl. Meadow

Monday, April 8:

1826 - civil matter, Dakota Ct.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Friday, April 19 The Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township, invites the public to a Polish Dinner at 5 p.m., Pull Tab Bingo followed by Karaoke at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 20 Earth Day 2024 at Wayne County Community College, Ted Scott Campus, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Partnered with National Wildlife Refuge System. Open to the public at no cost. Educational presentations, indoor/outdoor inflatable archery, backyard bass game, hands-on planting activity, arts and crafts, snacks available. Information: Amanda Consiglio, (734) 699-7008.
- Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 25, 26, 27 - Annual Indoor Flea Market at St. Paul's Church, 19109 Craig St., New Boston, (734) 753-9048. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to

- noon on Saturday. Antiques, collectibles, furniture, and more.
- Thursday, April 25 Chili Cookoff at the Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club membership meeting at 6 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township.
- Friday, April 26 The Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township, invites the public to a Friday night dinner at 5 p.m., meat raffle at 6:30 p.m., Karaoke & DJ at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27 - Craft & Vendor Market and Bake Sale at the Sumpter Township Community Center Gym, 23501 Sumpter Rd., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Gifts, crafts, jewelry. treasures. Rain or shine. Tables available for \$10. Contact MaryAnn Watson maryannwatson@sumptertwp.org or call (734) 461-9373.
- Sunday, April 28 Belleville Community Chorus Spring Concert, "At the Water's Edge," 5 p.m., Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville. Free. Donations accepted.

1144 – mental health call, Rawsonville/Judd

1540 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

1938 - family trouble, Rustic Ln.

2332 - family trouble, Alaska St.

0059 - noise complaint, Carriage Ln.

1049 - home invasion, Rustic Ln.

Bemis Rd.

Willow Rd.

Martinsville Rd.

Saturday, April 13:

bl. Clark Rd.

Friday, April 12:

1306 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave. 1508 - follow-up investigation, Rawsonville Rd. /

2138 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

0106 - follow-up investigation, 49000 bl. Willis

0154 – suspicious circumstance, Sumpter/Willis

1016 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1331 - follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

1547 - suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Karr

1554 - disorderly person, 46000 bl. Traskos Ave.

1737 – suspicious circumstance, 40000 bl. Judd

1958 – mental health call, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.

2125 - juvenile matter, Willis Rd./Sumpter Rd.

2208 - suspicious circumstance, Oregon St.

2331 - suspicious circumstance, Montana St.

0221 – suspicious vehicle, Colorado St.

0550 - alarm, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.

0231 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0514 - suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.

0355 - assist other agency, 24000 bl. Carleton West

0743 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 23000

2049 - suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl.

1833 - suspicious circumstance, Oregon St.

1853 - fire dept. assist, Country Club Blvd.

1942 – family trouble, Arizona St.

 $0152-911\ hangup, Rustic\ Ln.$

0537 - property damage accident, Willis/Sumpter

1035 - traffic complaint/hazard, Rawsonville Rd. /

1110 - traffic complaint/hazard, Rawsonville Rd. /

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

2221 - fire dept. assist, 2000 bl. Fenster Ave.

2222 - fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.

Tuesday, April 9:

0003 - noise complaint, Wayside Dr. 0921 - noise complaint, Arizona St.

1008 - mental health call, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.

1013 - 911 hangup, Magnolia/Butternut

1054 - civil matter, Edgewood Dr.

1116 - unauthorized driving away of auto, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1157 - fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1200 - civil matter, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.

1305 - 911 hangup, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1435 - citizen assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

1513 - traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Sumpter

1547 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Collyer Ln. 1626 - fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

1741 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 1823 - assist other agency, 10000 bl. Rawsonville

1829 - property damage accident, Sherwood/Wear

1903 - suspicious circumstance, Delaware St.

2148 - suspicious circumstance, Oregon St.

2316 - assist other agency, Savage Rd./Bemis Rd.

Wednesday, April 10:

0023 - family trouble, Rustic Ln.

0026 - 911 hangup, Stonecrest Dr.

0314 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

0818 - welfare check, 45000 bl. Willis Rd. 0849 - welfare check, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

0948 - juvenile matter, Delaware St.

1006 - animal complaint, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.

1018 - animal complaint, Wear/Martinsville

1030 - follow-up investigation, 8200 bl. Rawsonville

1159 - mental health call, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.

1303 - larceny, Kansas St.

1344 - neighbor complaint, Mulberry Dr.

1344 - fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.

1446 - follow-up investigation, Delaware St.

1547 - animal complaint, Sumpter Rd./Judd Rd. 1708 - property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

1745 - alarm, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.

1754 - civil matter, Birch Dr.

1814 - suspicious circumstance, 26000 bl. Elwell

1836 - felony warrant arrest, 20000 bl. Sherwood

1846 - fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr. 2203 - fire dept assist, Oregon St.

Thursday, April 11:

1007 - civil matter, 44000 bl. Clay Rd, 1104 - death investigation, Wayside Dr. 1044 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bontekoe Ave. 1307 - ORV complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.

1506 - traffic complaint/hazard, 42000 bl. Willow

1644 - follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

1722 - civil matter, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.

1726 - mental health call, Oregon St.

1732 - animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1841 - follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.

1933 - 911 hang up, Brookview Dr.

2017 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

2024 - suspicious circumstance, Willis/Sharon Ct.

2237 - family trouble, Magnolia Dr.

2257 - noise complaint, California St.

Also, on this week's log are 214 patrol checks, 51

traffic stops, and 13 misc. details.



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