



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.17 Thursday, April 25, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



The Belleville High School Robotics team members and supporters posed with their copies of the *Belleville-Area Independent* during their trip to the FIRST Robotics World Competition in Houston, Texas. Robotics Coach Aaron Watkins of Team 6615 shared the photo with readers. The team was surprised and delighted to be found qualified for the international competition and hurried around at the last minute to make sure they could get to Houston to compete in the April 16-21 event.

More may file:

Election candidates file in advance of April 23 deadline for Aug. 6 vote

The *Independent's* deadline for publication of this week's paper was noon on April 23, which is before the deadline to file for the Aug. 6 election, so we present a list of those who had filed by Tuesday morning.

Next week we will publish the list of those who file later in the day on Tuesday before the 4 p.m. deadline.

Those filed as of Tuesday morning are:

- U.S. Senator from Michigan: Nasser Beydoun, D, Dearborn; Jill Harper, D, Detroit; Elissa Slotkin, D, Holly; Justin Amash, R, Grand Rapids; Sherry O'Donnell, R, Stevensville; Mike Rogers, R, St. Joseph.
- Sixth U.S. Congressional House District: Debbie Dingell, D, of Ann Arbor
- 31st Michigan House District: Reggie Miller, D, of Van Buren Township and Dale Biniecki, R, of Monroe.

- 32nd Michigan House District: Jimmie Wilson, Jr., D, Ypsilanti; James Chapman, R, of Ypsilanti; Martin Church, R, of Ypsilanti; and Jonathan Hoover, R, Ypsilanti.

• Wayne County Judge of Probate Court, incumbent: David A. Perkins

• Wayne County Judge of Probate Court, non-incumbent: Daniel L. Mercier, Detroit; Todd E. Briggs, Grosse Pointe Farms; Macie Gaines, Grosse Pointe Park; and Ron L. Haywood, Detroit.

• 34th District Court Judge: Robert P. Coumts of Van Buren Township filed on March 29 and then withdrew and refiled on April 22. Todd L. Barron of Romulus and Teresa Patton of Van Buren Township, both filed on April 22.

• Van Buren Township Board of Trustees: Incumbents Supervisor Kevin McNamara, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Clerk Leon Wright,

and Trustees Bryon Kelley, Kevin Martin, and Donald Boynton, plus newcomer Will Frazier. Trustee Sherry Frazier did not file for reelection.

• Sumpter Township clerk's office refused to release the names of those who had filed by Tuesday morning without a Freedom of

Information Act request. The office said it would hold off until 4 p.m. Tuesday so everyone had a chance to file.

The primary election takes place on Tuesday, Aug. 6, and the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Belleville DDA votes to pay \$37,565 to repair Community Events sign

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting April 17 the Belleville Downtown Development Authority voted unanimously to select the Watchfire Sign bid of \$37,565 by Curb Appeal Concepts, Inc. of Shelby Township to replace the LED portion of the Community Events sign at

the corner of High and Main streets.

The sign that was installed in 2010 had failed and the DDA was unable to turn it off until one of the bidders did so without charge a month ago. The four bidders also included Metro, Johnson Sign Co., and State Electrical Co.

(continued on page 16)

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

1,700-lb. stone memorial for Officer Graham installed at Sumpter PD

On the 28th of July, 1985, a tragic incident occurred that deeply impacted the Sumpter Township community. Police Officer Roy Graham was fatally injured in the line of duty.



A drunk driver, ignoring a red light, collided with Officer Graham's patrol car at the intersection of Sumpter and Bemis roads. Officer Graham, along with his partner, Officer Dennis O'Connor -- who suffered critical injuries -- were responding to a call for help from a neighboring jurisdiction at the time.

In November 1985, Sumpter Township dedicated a park at the corner of Sumpter and Wear roads, naming it Graham Park in memory of Officer Graham's sacrifice. Additionally, the police department lobby features a memorial wall honoring him.

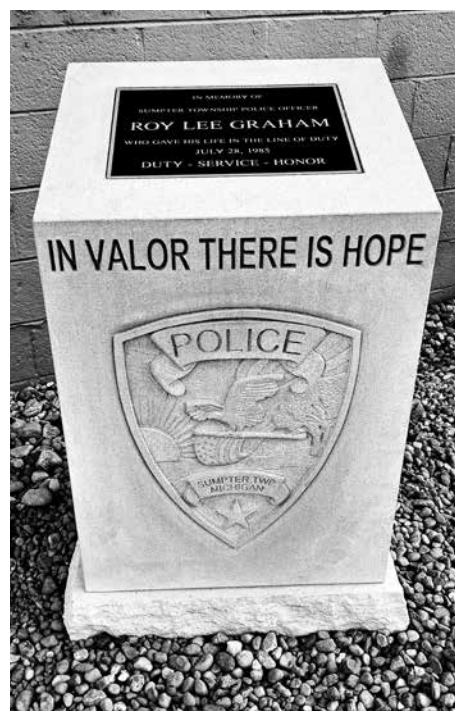
As we near the 39th anniversary of Officer Graham's end of watch, we've added a new outdoor memorial at our station that's been years in the making.

In 2013, a group of officers and staff participated in the inaugural Heroes of Hines Half Marathon/5K in Hines Park, running in honor of Officer Graham. This event has become an annual tradition for us, with all proceeds supporting the maintenance of the Wayne County First Responders Memorial inside the park. The walls of this memorial include Officer Graham and the many other law enforcement officers who've also paid the ultimate sacrifice serving Wayne County communities.

Over the years, the Sumpter Police have been awarded prize money in various categories during the race, totaling \$1,250. This and a \$1,000 grant from the Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP) in 2019 sparked the idea to create a memorial outside our station.

We quickly realized that our vision was challenging due to financial constraints. With costs estimated between \$7,000 and \$10,000 and only \$2,250 in our funds, we were demoralized but not beaten.

Our breakthrough came when we met John O'Connor and Craig Sheets of Metropolitan Stone in Carleton. Upon



discussing our project, they immediately offered to donate materials and labor, insisting on it. Their generosity was unexpected and deeply appreciated.

The project faced delays due to COVID,

but in 2022, we were able to purchase a bronze plaque and, with Craig's expertise, finalize the design of the stone monument. The intricate details of the carving, including the flag and tree leaves, were meticulously completed with hand tools.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Metropolitan Stone for their kindness and support in bringing this memorial to life.

The monument's motto, "In Valor There Is Hope," is attributed to the Roman historian Publius Cornelius Tacitus. It reflects the courage and sacrifice of law enforcement officers. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., also features this quote on its limestone walls.

Weighing nearly 1,700 lbs., the monument was installed in March with the collective effort of the Department of Public Works staff, who played a crucial role in preparing the site and positioning the stone. We are immensely thankful for their assistance in honoring Officer Graham's memory.

Sumpter Township Police Department

School board approves sex education materials for middle school

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Since the updated sex education materials for students in grades 4 through 7 is due to be taught in late April and early May, the lessons were brought to the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education on April 22 for approval.

Topics for approval usually are presented at one meeting and then the board members can think about it and question details and then vote two weeks later. This approval was in a hurry.

The board voted unanimously to approve the materials on April 22. Trustee Dionne Falconer was absent.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jeff Moore said the current HIV videos are out of date and the maturation videos are out of date and some became pretty comical to view. The videos need to be updated, he said.

"Gender identity has become a big issue, but this has not been added to the curriculum," Director Moore said. He said there were strong comments on that in the fall when input was sought in a survey.

"We're asking for approval tonight because of the starting of the units," Moore said.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak noted that parents can exclude their students from seeing the videos.

Board secretary Darlene Loyer Gerick said when she tried to access the eight videos on the link provided by Moore, she couldn't do

it. After finding another way, she was able to access the videos one by one. Moore said he would look into the problem.

Moore said the old videos, which are on DVDs, can't be found on line.

"We will do a better job with the new videos," which he said will be available on the district website.

President Pearce noted that the only sexually transmitted disease that the state requires the district to teach is HIV.

Moore said in a memo to the board that in response to the recognition of outdated materials currently in use, the sex-ed committee has worked on updating the district's resources. It hosted two review sessions, on March 20 and April 10, inviting parental input, which has been positive, he said.

In other business at Monday's regular meeting the board:

- Approved the NJROTC trip for 43 BHS students to Fort Custer Training Center in Augusta, MI, May 20-23, with transportation by school bus. The trip is financed through the JROTC account and cost to each student is \$40;

- Heard a presentation by Renea Kirek, secondary instruction specialist, to explain the new 6, 7, 8th grade middle school math curriculum that is proposed to begin in the next school year. She said the committee researching what programs are available has selected Middle School Illustrative Math Curriculum by Imagine Learning out of 13

bids. Board treasurer Simone Pinter asked if this will roll the students into high school better than the present curriculum and Kirek said it would. Moore said the curriculum for the past six years has been Discovery Tech Book and it has suffered with the quality of its support. Cost for the new program is \$210,323 over five years and there will be 10 professional development days scheduled for teachers, occurring twice a year for the next five years. This is expected to be voted on at the next school board meeting;

- Approved the Schools of Choice program for the first semester of the 2024-25 school year, with a Sept. 27 deadline to apply and unlimited number of openings;

- Approved the IDS Student Clinic Architecture Proposal as presented at the last board meeting to transform the existing 1,200-square-foot storage room and 280-square-foot office of the Media Center to provide health services to BHS students and other district students, in coordination with University of Michigan Medicine. Spaces to be included are a lobby, reception, patient intake, two exam rooms, storage room, toilet facility, laboratory, therapy office, and nourishment room. Cost is expected to be \$400,000, but there are some grants. Julien Frazier, director of special services, said this clinic will have no abortion services and no gender-diversion care. He also said state law requires all services to have parental consent. He said the health care services offered will include dental, vision, and hearing

screening, substance abuse, counseling, crisis intervention, housing and financial instability. These services are separate from the services offered by Dionisia Munoz, the district's Registered Nurse;

- Approved the June 30 retirements of Theresa Libs of Rawsonville Elementary School after 26 years of service; Deborah Mounsey of Rawsonville Elementary after 25 years of service; and Jonathan Gibson of Edgemont Elementary after 11 years of service;

- Approved the resignations of Jessica Carlin of BHS after seven years of service as of May 10 and Joseph Gaines of BHS as of June 6 after three years of service;

- Approved the retirements of non-instructional staff: Patricia Harris of McBride as of June 6 after 40 years; Franklin Key of transportation as of June 7 after 14 years; and Janet Key of transportation as of April 30 after 27 years of service;

- Approved the resignations of non-instructional staff: Gregory Martinez of Building and Grounds as of April 12 as of less than a year and Williams McMichael of Rawsonville as of April 19 after three years of service; and

- Approved the employment of non-instructional staff: Beverly Swank as a substitute bus aide in the transportation department as of April 18 and Jennifer Adams as a paraprofessional at Edgemont Elementary School as of April 29.

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Belleville DDA for 'geofencing' city

At its meeting last week, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority was presented with a suggestion from its Marketing Committee to hire Placer.AI for about \$7,000 a year to monitor your cellphones and auto GPS systems to find out where you've been and where you're going while driving through the city.

Assistant city manager Steve Jones, who serves as executive director of the city's DDA, said he didn't have a proposed contract to present to the DDA members yet, but he hoped to have it for the next meeting at 6 p.m. May 15 so they could consider it. (The DDA now meets at the Belleville Area District Library.)

Jones said Placer.AI had demonstrated what it could do with "geofencing" and monitored visitors to the downtown for a few weeks last June. He said Placer.AI reported a minimal number of people and where they were going and then the number jumped up to about 20,000 when Lakefest held its boat races.

Jones listed the places people visited and those at the April 17 meeting showed enthusiasm for having this information to market the downtown.

DDA chairwoman Alicia McGovern, who was absent April 17, had mentioned this tracking in passing last year and then the Marketing Committee, on which she sits, passed on the proposal to Jones who put it on the agenda for discussion.

We are not in support of tracking people without their knowledge or approval and the city has to have its vacant buildings filled before trying to market downtown.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

At Monday's regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education president Amy Pearce told about the death of a robotics student at the international competition in Houston, TX, which a team from BHS also attended last weekend.

Pearce said the student was from Lake Orion. She said the Lake Orion team had nominated the BHS team for a Torch Award and there is a picture of them all together on Facebook.

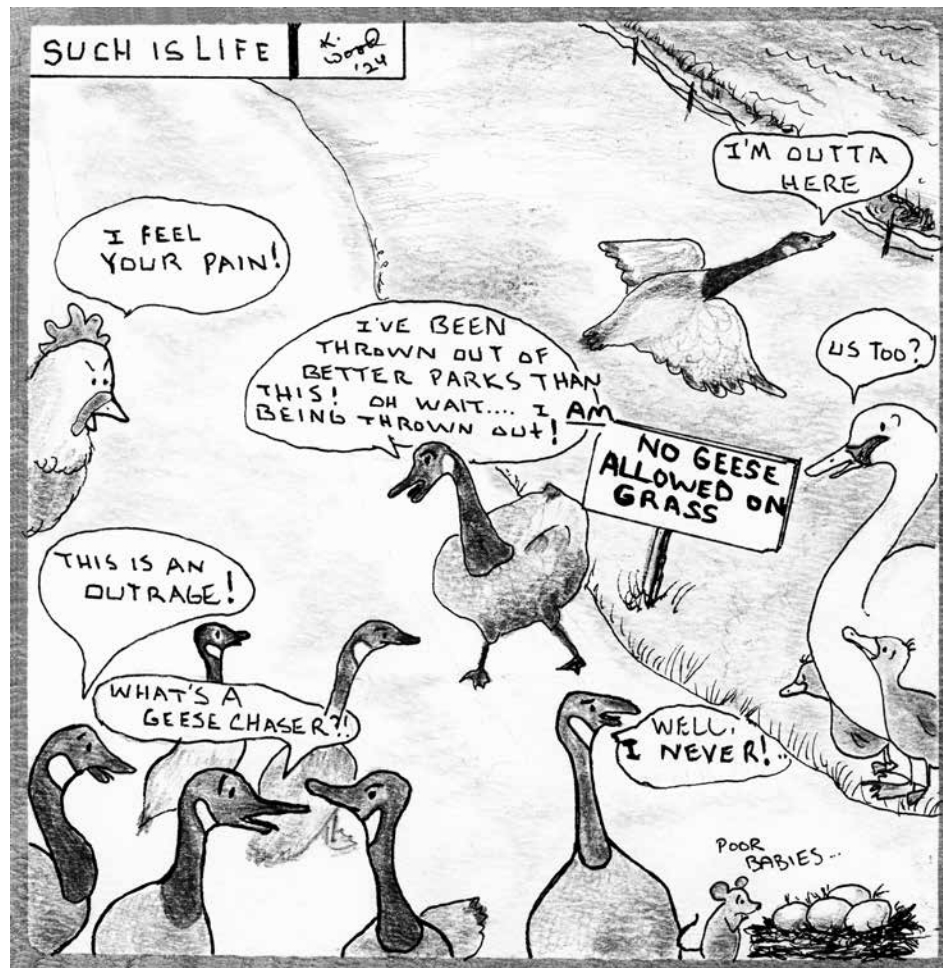
She said this district sends all their best to the Lake Orion district in dealing with its loss.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said he believed the Lake Orion student fell.

An author came into our office to tell me she was writing a book about the murder of Egypt Covington that will published by Simon and Schuster. She was interviewing local and state police, people in the bar scene, and others and wanted to interview me to tell her what I thought about the town since I've been here so long.

I declined her offer for an interview and wished her well. Anything I have to say, I say to our readers directly on our pages. Her version of the story will be interesting to read once her book is published. We've had so many versions so far.

34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley sent along a message to me that if I couldn't get a live-stream YouTube of his court session, to just let his court clerk know and she'd make sure it was on. That was very nice of him. I had mentioned that he requires his court cases to be in person, and he does, and I couldn't watch them from my



office. Now, I can and everyone can, too.

In the olden days, I went to our district court on felony day, Wednesday, and watched the cases in person until they were all done and then went back to the office. COVID happened and the new court was up and running and all that changed. Different things were tried with Zoom and YouTube and now it is a mix of procedures.

Thank you, Judge Oakley, for the message. I watched your felony day last Wednesday and enjoyed it very much. Judge Oakley is known for giving his advice to defendants that, hopefully, will change their lives so they don't have to be back before him, ever again.

At Monday's school board meeting, Trustee Calvin Hawkins said he read an article that said Michigan has more robotics teams than any other state in the union – by far. He was very impressed.

Board treasurer Simone Pinter said while she didn't go to Houston to watch the robotics teams, she was able to watch the competition on her iPad.

Also at Monday's school board meeting, several board members commented on how great the "Mamma Mia" high school musical was at the BHS auditorium. Supt. Kudlak said he has been advised that the music pit in front of the stage isn't big enough for some of the shows they'd like to do and the music director has ideas on how to expand the pit. Stay tuned for a project.

A city of Belleville resident who lives near Horizon Park said she saw that they put pesticide on the park recently. She said she has seen what that does to wildlife by disfiguring the newborns and she worries about the people that are using the park. She said she'd rather have her blanket on goose droppings than poison.

We received an email titled "Flagman's flagpole" about Pete Pitzen's flagpole that was broken in the last storm that came through. The new pole has been obtained and they needed someone to help dig out the old foundation and erect the new pole. They asked if I knew anyone in town who could help. The aging VFW members weren't able to help with that.



You may remember Pete is the VFW member at 48 S. Biggs St. in the city of Belleville who gives out free American Flags to whoever wants to fly one.

We called retired Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor, who is Pete's brother in law, to alert him and he said he'd go over and check out the situation. Gene said it would depend how much cement Pete used to anchor that pole. We'll let you know if he needs help.

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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT
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734-699-9020
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 Home phone (NO ADS, PLEASE!): 697-1294

Advertising Manager:
 Janet Millard

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 James Otzman

Office Manager: Elaine Gutierrez

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Letters

Inhumane to terrorize geese during nesting

To the editor:
 Looking over Horizon Park, it looks more like a graveyard than the usual signs of spring, with new life many have enjoyed seeing at this time of year – the first sightings of newly hatched goslings, watching them grow, and the cooperative parenting amongst the Canada Geese. Their only sin is their droppings, which can be cleaned up. Personally, it is much more disgusting to see the trash left behind by humans, especially at the pier, than the goose droppings.

Because of the summer concerts and people who'd like to bring a blanket instead of a chair, every goose had to be run off and scared enough to leave their nests, by "Geese Chasers." They advertise that they are humane, but it is extremely inhumane to terrorize and chase them away, especially during nesting season. This is the worse time to do this!

The nests and eggs of Canada Geese are federally protected for a reason. We should protect them, too.

It is nice to see nature and the cycle of life and allow the geese to have a place to be.

This did not have to be done. The concerts could be moved back to Victory Park, which is much bigger, traffic doesn't have to be disrupted, and there are no geese. Concerts used to be very nice there and not as cramped as they are in Horizon Park.

Another great option is hiring a clean-up crew. There are businesses who provide this service and could have the park very clean for the concerts.

Why isn't there an effort to see what the citizens of Belleville want? Why can't we find solutions that aren't so inhumane and cruel? I am so saddened by this and I know that many other are, too.

Pauline Iwao
 City of Belleville

Friends of Library used book sale is May 4, 5

To the editor:
 Thank you to the patrons of the Belleville Area District Library who donated used books for the "What's the Buzz?" Book Sale, starting Saturday, May 4.

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

A members-only preview sale will take place 11 a.m. – noon for the Friends of the Belleville Library. Memberships will be available at the door.

The used book sale will be open to the public:

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

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

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

Credit cards will be accepted. There will be a table of collectible, special-priced books including boxed sets, coffee-table books, complete series, and signed copies, perfect for Mother's Day gifts.

Proceeds from the sale are used to maintain the rooftop beehives, summer reading programs, participation in Lake Fest, Harvest Fest and Winter Fest, and other library programs.

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

Elaine Gutierrez
 Friends of the Belleville Area District Library

Memorial Day parade set for Monday, May 27

To the editor:
 The Belleville Central Business Community is hosting a Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 27, at 10 a.m. The parade will step off from Belleville High School on E. Columbia, turn left on Main Street, turn left on Roys and continue to the Veterans' Memorial on High Street or turn left on Church Street and disband.

We welcome residents, businesses, organizations to join us as we recognize the men and women who we lost during wars and conflicts. There is an entry form on the CBC Website: www.bellevillecentralbusinesscommunity.com but there will always be space for those who decide to come to the BHS parking lot that morning to be part of this memorial parade. We would love to see some of the kids decorate their bikes and ride along with us.

There will be a special display by a 50 flags salute on the open lots north of the light at Third Street. Please feel free to come early and/or stay late to enjoy this one-of-a-kind display honoring our veterans and military personnel.

Feel free to bring your family, veterans, and military family and take pictures next to the Eagle sign. Just to name a few of the flags: American, state, Army, Navy, Air

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More Letters

(continued from page 5)

Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, POW/MIA, WWI & II, Desert Storm, Korean, Vietnam, etc. Stick flags will be passed out.

Ray Tuck from Ypsilanti created this display and has been sharing it during parades since 2014. To quote him: "To me, this has always been to honor and respect our veterans and military personnel. It's the right thing to do."

The Belleville CBC is very grateful that he selected our parade this year as we honor our local veterans.

We are looking forward for the community to embrace this parade and attend or participate for many years to come. It is also our hope that many of you, after enjoying the parade, will then go to High Street for the VFW/PLAV ceremony that begins at 11 a.m.

Bill Wolters, president
Belleville Central Business Community

National Day of Prayer on May 2 dedicated to first responders

Open Arms Lutheran Church and Daycare invites the public to its noontime National Day of Prayer celebration on May 2 in the front parking lot of the Van Buren Township Fire Station #2 at the flagpole.

There will be a brief program with prayer and music dedicating this day locally to first responders.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

Each year our president is required to sign a proclamation encouraging all Americans to pray on this day.

Van Buren Township Fire Station #2 is located at 7981 Belleville Rd, Van Buren Township 48111. Guest may park next door at Open Arms Lutheran Church and Daycare. All first responders are invited for a free lunch afterwards at the fire station.

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Obituaries



Diane Marie Wilson

DIANE MARIE WILSON

(December 12, 1947 – April 18, 2024)
Diane Marie Wilson, age 76, of Belleville, MI, passed away peacefully at the Gilbert Residence in Ypsilanti on April 18, 2024 surrounded by loved ones. Born to Joseph and Florence (Ault) Follmer on December 12, 1947 in Detroit, Diane was the eldest of two children. She graduated from Roseville High School in 1965 and attended Eastern Michigan University, from which she graduated with a Bachelor's in English in 1984 and a Master's in Historic Preservation in 1990. In addition to serving as the director of the Belleville Area Museum from 1996 to 2011, Diane also published two historical literary works (Cornerstones - A History of Canton Township Families and Water Under the Bridge - A History of Van Buren Township) and was a part of the Belleville Central Business Community.

As an active member of the Trinity Episcopal Church for nearly 50 years, she will be remembered for her roles in teaching Sunday school, directing the Christmas pageants and starting the Trinity Strawberry Festival and restaurant. She loved reading, crossword, genealogy, and Michigan football.

Diane was preceded in death by her loving parents and leaves behind her sister, Joanne (Dave) Anstess; two daughters, Amy (Mike) Mohr and Kathleen (Greg) Patton; as well as four grandchildren, Megan and Abigail Mohr and Katelyn and Alexander Patton, whom she loved dearly and was very proud of.

A celebration of life will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI later this summer. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Gilbert Residence or the Belleville Area Museum in Diane's loving memory.
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Nan Meyer

NAN MEYER

(July 13, 1933 – April 14, 2024)

Nan Meyer, age 90, of McCormick, SC, formerly of Romulus, MI, passed away Sunday, April 14, 2024, at her home, surrounded by family. Nan was born in Taylor Township, Michigan, July 13, 1933, living most of her life in Romulus. She graduated from Romulus High School in 1952 and married her high school sweetheart. They were married for 56 years until his death.

Her career started as a PTA mother at the Hayti Elementary school on Beverly Road. In 1975 to 1985 she worked at Hayti Elementary, Halecreek, Romulus Schools, where she became Media Tech and secretary. She later became lunch-aide, and then a para-professional for the Romulus school system. She was a dedicated community worker for both the City of Romulus and Romulus Schools. After retiring she would fill in for anyone no matter what the job required. Starting in 1982, Nan worked for the City of Romulus election board as precinct chairperson. She continued to work as election inspector up until 2009. She loved her community and was just dedicated to the school system and City of Romulus.

In 2010 she moved to Nashville, Tennessee to live with her son David and his family. David was Director of Nursing for the Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville. With the help and support from his wife Donna, they were able to provide his mother with excellent medical care in her final years. In 2023, David retired and moved the family to McCormick, South Carolina, where she lived until her passing at the age of 90+.

Nan is survived by children: Kathleen (Dale) Miron of Willis, MI, Raymond (Laura) Meyer of Belding, MI, Donald (Kim) Meyer of Farwell, MI, David (Donna) Meyer of McCormick, SC, and Betty Jo (Guy) Good of Farwell, MI; 13 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; also one sister, Jan Lemmon of Romulus, MI. Mrs. Meyer was preceded in death by her husband Norman in 2008; parents Leo and Helen Senart; brothers Bud, John, Eugene, and Mickey Senart; also a sister Louise Hubbartt.

Visitation was April 18 and on April 19, 2024 followed by the funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Stephen Lounsborough officiated. Interment was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com



RICHARD CRAIG ZIMMERMAN

(April 8, 1945 – April 22, 2024)

Age 79, of Belleville. Served in U.S. Navy during the Vietnam Conflict. Survived by wife Ann Elizabeth; 3 sons Ken, Bill, John; daughter Amy; 2 grandchildren; a sister. Service at 11 a.m. April 25 at Metro Baptist Church. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Keystone Academy board puts off filling vacant position on board

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After extensive discussion at the March 14 meeting of the Keystone Academy board of directors meeting, the board agreed to wait until later in the school year to name a replacement for board president Vesta Losen, who retired after 20 years on the board as of March 1.

National Heritage Academy representative Andrew Roth said there had been preliminary plans for JC Huizinga, who organized NHA, and new NHA CEO Jason Pater to be at that evening's meeting to honor Losen. But he said she had retired as of March 1, so they decided she shouldn't come. He said Losen said she had a busy week and so he contacted the two and told them not to come.

The board voted to officially accept Losen's retirement and decided informally to continue with four board members, instead of five, for a while.

Two educators, recommended by Losen, had been interviewed at the February meeting and Roth said he would call them to ask if they are still interested and tell them the board will be interviewing others, as well.

The process to fill the board seat is to have a recommendation from the local board, which is then sent on to Bay Mills Community College, the authorizer of the Keystone Charter. After Bay Mills approves the recommendation, Keystone swears in the person as a board member.

The seat occupied by Losen was designated to be filled by an educator and so the board hopes to find another educator to fill the position. Since educators are difficult to find for school boards, Roth said Bay Mills probably would approve someone who wasn't an educator for an empty seat.

At the April 11 meeting of the board Principal Jorvanna Drain responded to the board's suggestion at a previous meeting that someone from the PTO be interviewed for a board position. Principal Drain said Christine Dare, who is a very active parent at the school, would be a good board member. Drain said Dare told her she was interested in serving on the board.

Dare was invited to come to the next board meeting at 5 p.m. May 9.

In other business at the 50-minute meeting on April 11, the board:

- Heard board vice-president Steven Harsant, who was chairing the meeting since there presently is no president, say he would like Drain to see how the board can help at the next level. He said he knows there are a lot of resources at the National Heritage Academies offices. NHA representative Roth suggested he could bring government-relations people to speak to the board, about contacting local officials and state legislators. Harsant said, "We had a person with 25 years of experience retire and we have to learn more about what is possible for us to do. "She knew everything and we have to learn," he said of Losen;
- Filled out Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms and the 2023-24 Board Satisfaction Surveys;
- Voted to close out four items on the board budget that have been completed, including the 2023 NHA Board Symposium, 20th Anniversary Celebration, and Christmas Marketing and Staff Luncheon;
- Reviewed the ARP-ESSER Safe Return to School Plan Spring 2024 Update. Roth said nothing has changed since the last report and this report goes away in the fall;
- Reviewed the monthly and year-to-date Discipline Report and the Truancy Report. There were no incidents of student assault staff member for the entire school year. The Attendance Report for 2023-24 shows average daily attendance of 93% and percent chronically absent (10% or more of enrolled days) of 27%;
- Was advised that Darius C placed third and Caleb Ujenic placed seventh in NHA's regional spelling bee;
- Learned new certified hires are a seventh grade ELA teacher and a seventh grade math teacher, who will be in place next school year; and
- Was informed open enrollment has started for the 2024-25 school year and Keystone has 42 more applications in comparison to last year at this time. With current re-enrolling and registered students, Keystone has 737 students projected to

enroll for the 2024-25 school year.

March 14 Board Meeting

At the one-hour-and-34-minute meeting on March 14, the board:

- Approved the school calendar for the 2024-25 school year. The first day of school for students is Aug. 26 and the last day is a half day on June 6. This amounts to 180 school days;
- Approved spending \$150 total for the two in the office for Office Staff Appreciation Week, April 22-26;
- Approved spending up to \$375 for the Administrative Staff Appreciation Week, which includes Principal Jorvonna Drain and four deans;
- Approved spending up to \$2,000 for the Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, May 6-10, which would allow for one food truck and one dessert truck for the 65 staff members;
- Approved the contract with auditor Alan C. Young and Associates for the upcoming audit;
- Approved joining the PTO in sponsoring the two, \$1,000 each Perseverance

Scholarships being offered to Keystone graduates who were now graduating from a high school or home school. The Keystone board will pay \$1,000 and the PTO \$1,000;

- Reviewed the ESSER III report on use of the \$1,140,232 received in federal funds. The money has to all be spent by Sept. 30.

(continued on page 17)



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SEMCOG announces eight grants including one to benefit Belleville

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, has awarded eight grants to conduct formal safety performance examinations of existing or planned roads/intersections across Southeast Michigan, including one to benefit the city of Belleville.

The road safety audits (RSAs) funded will be conducted by an independent, multi-disciplinary audit team and result in priority recommendations for safety improvements.

The only project in Wayne County is for Belleville. The segment of Main Street from Columbia Avenue to High Street

(with a focus on the Five Points and Fourth Street intersections) in the city has been selected for a road safety audit to help address the complex design of the Five Points intersection, as well as existing and anticipated non-motorized safety concerns due to the Iron Belle Trail.

“Our region has a strong coalition of partners who are committed to putting safety first and creating a safe and equitable environment for all,” said Amy O’Leary, executive director of SEMCOG.

“We are taking a systematic approach to creating safe streets in Southeast Michigan

by studying some of the locations with the greatest opportunity for impact. Each of these audits represents an opportunity to identify and implement life-saving improvements,” O’Leary said.

Other RSA projects will be in Brighton, Eastpointe, Mount Clemens, Macomb County Department of Roads, Birmingham, Lathrup Village, and Wixom.

The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded SEMCOG with a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) supplemental planning grant to establish a regional Road Safety Audit program.

SEMCOG’s RSA Program is a

competitive grant program, funding formal safety performance examinations of existing or planned roads and intersections by an independent, multi-disciplinary audit team. RSAs can be used in any phase of project development from planning and preliminary engineering, to design, to construction. They can also be used to retrofit existing locations.

The RSA program implements the Southeast Michigan Transportation Safety Plan. Project awards were selected by SEMCOG’s Regional Review Committee, comprised of local elected officials in Southeast Michigan.

Belleville Community Chorus to present ‘At the Water’s Edge’

Members of the Belleville Community Chorus invite everyone to join them on Sunday, April 28, at 5 p.m. to celebrate their 17th-annual spring concert.

The performance, titled “At the Water’s Edge,” will feature a variety of songs ranging from sea chanteys to timeless folk songs.

The concert will be performed at the Belleville United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville. Director Genevieve Welch with accompanist Judith Weed, backed by drummer Joe Laurell, and bass player Eston Keller, have a great afternoon planned for the public.

As always, the concert is free, although donations are encouraged and sponsors are welcome.

The Belleville Community Chorus offers opportunities for performance of mixed-voice choral music in a variety of styles. The chorus strives to improve its musical quality through education and commitment to a rehearsal and performance schedule. The generosity of donors and sponsors supports community activities including education, rehearsal, performance and entertainment. The Belleville Community Chorus is a 501(C)3 not-for-profit organization.



- April 21 - Jim Pappas
- April 27 - Amy Hinks, Nicholas Hinks
- April 29 - Gary Koeppel, Barbara Miller

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

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, April 25** – Chili Cook-off 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.
- **Friday, May 3** – Third-annual Community Day at 34th District Court.
- **Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5** – "What's the Buzz?" Used Book Sale will be held at the Belleville Library, 167 Fourth St., from 12-3 p.m. on Saturday and 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
- **Wednesday, May 8** – Drive-Through Chicken Supper at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston, (734) 654-9020. Pick up from 4:30 p.m. until sold out. Call orders in by 4 p.m. for faster service. Menu: four pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes, dinner-style biscuits & gravy, green beans, cole slaw, dinner roll, choice of pie. \$14 for carry-outs (cash or check only).
- **Saturday, May 18** – Ford Mercury Restorers Club of America, Swap Meet,

Car Show/Corral, site opens at 7 a.m., one day only. At the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor 48103, exit 175 off I-94 then go south three miles, free parking. Over 80 vendors; \$5 admission fee, 16 and under are free. Information on car show: (248) 444-3169.

• **Friday and Saturday, May 26-27** – Craft & Vendor Market, Bake Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Community Center Gym, 23501 Sumpter Rd. Unique gifts, crafts, jewelry, and treasures. Rain or Shine. Tables available for \$10. Contact MaryAnn Watson, (734) 461-9373. maryannwatson@sumptertwp.org

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, May 6 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 7 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 8 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 9 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 13 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS

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Sumpter OKs posting DPW position, hiring temp. in clerk's office

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting April 9, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved posting an opening for a DPW worker at the AFSCME-approved wage of \$28.83 an hour and benefits.

Although it was to be posted until April 19, Trustee Matthew Oddy asked that it be posted until May 1 to give people time to apply.

In other business at the 44-minute combined workshop/regular meeting, the board:

- Approved front counter replacements in the Treasurer's and Clerk's offices. This was added to the agenda at the last minute and Township Manager Anthony Burdick apologized for the delay since the application to be on the agenda was

submitted properly;

- Approved on a 6-1 vote the hiring of Kristina Stencel as a temporary, part-time clerk's office assistant for up to 29 hours per week at an AFSCME-approved hourly rate of \$16.04, effective April 10 to Nov. 15. Treasurer Bart Patterson cast the only no vote;

- Heard manager Burdick report that he and Finance Director Scott Holtz met with CWA to discuss rebuilding of the DPW. Burdick said there were a number of bells and whistles to help manage the process, especially with power use of the BS&A modules;

- Heard Supervisor Tim Bowman ask about how the planning commission approves use of property. He didn't like the use approved by the township board at its last meeting for the building next to the

restaurant/bar at the corner of Willis and Rawsonville roads. He said he thought something more like a 7/Eleven would be more suitable. Trustee Oddy and township attorney Rob Young explained to him that the planning commission only recommends and the township board makes the final decision. The commission's decision is based on the zoning ordinance's use or special use for that property;

- Heard Burdick detail refurbishing plans for the recycling and fuel areas. He said yellow paint, at almost \$300 a gallon, will be used. He said he would like to earmark in \$13,000 in Wayne County 2024-25 grant funds to be used for road improvements to Banotai Park. He also reported the DPW will be sprucing up the parks with trimming after the winter season and asphalt patching at township hall as a temporary fix. An Adrian firm, that Holtz knew, gave a very attractive quote for top-dressing all township parking lots, he said;

- Learned some of the Parks and Recreation people are struggling with health issues;

- Heard Public Safety Director/Police Chief Eric Luke report that three intersections are tied for two crashes each in the month of March: Harris/Martinsville, Rawsonville/Willis, and Judd/Rawsonville. Also, he said less than four weeks after first approaching CLEMIS, the fire department will be operating on CLEMIS no later than May 1. "We're happy we're going there," he said;

- Heard Trustee Tim Rush say he is authorized by the National Weather Service and he will be teaching a Sky Warn class and anyone interested should contact him. He said Sumpter is the only municipality in Michigan that is Storm Ready certified;

- Heard Treasurer Patterson note that this is the day Mary Ban will be having her knee surgery. She usually speaks under the public comment part of the meeting and, "We miss you," he said; and

- Heard Trustee Don LaPorte say he is recovered from his knee surgery and was back to work on Monday and will be back at the fire department ASAP.

ORPHAN OF THE WEEK PITA



HEY THERE FRIENDS, I'M A SWEET GIRL NAMED PITA!

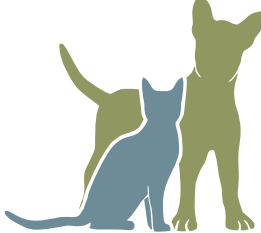
I'm a 2 year old Pitbull mix. If you follow the world of Facebook, I was dumped with my sister and parents at Crosswinds Marsh. My owner moved and left us behind. It's their loss and your gain because I am an AMAZING girl! I love other dogs, I love people, and I have a steady calm energy that could be perfect for almost any home.

I am a foster to adopt pup because I tested positive for heartworm. If you're not familiar with heartworm, don't fret! The disease is not contagious, meaning that a dog cannot catch heartworm from being near an infected dog. Heartworm disease is only spread through the bite of a mosquito. The treatment for Heartworm means that I have to really limit my activity and keep my cool vibes for the next 8 to 12 weeks. If you take me home, FMAR will be with you at every step of my treatment!

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Four BHS alumni to be named Distinguished Graduates on Friday

Four graduates of Belleville High School will be inducted as Distinguished Graduates in ceremonies at 7 p.m. Friday, April 26, in the BHS Auditorium. A group of high school students will also be inducted into the National Honor Society. The public is invited to attend.

2024 BHS Distinguished Graduate inductees are:

- Darlene Loyer-Gerrick, Class of 1985;
- Frederick Martin, Class of 2005;
- Harry Bradley Traskos, Class of 1971;

and
 • Special Posthumous Award to Arthur Joslin, Class of 1981.

The Distinguished Graduate Committee will hold a recognition dinner at 5 p.m., before the ceremony at the Belleville Yacht Club, 831 E. Huron River Dr., Van Buren Township. This is for all Distinguished Graduates and other interested individuals who register in advance. Guests will order and pay for their dinners at the BYC, with the new inductees dining without charge.

Take part in annual BACA FISH Project at Horizon Park

The Neil Griffin Community Art Project, formerly called the FISH Project, is underway.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts is inviting artists of all ages to use their creativity to paint and embellish a wooden fish or a sailboat, a new feature added this year.

Adults and children are encouraged to design a fish, or boat for the first time, to add a new piece to the past collection.

Community Art Project Directions:

1. Pick up a wooden fish or sailboat at Belleville Area District Library.
2. Paint, decoupage, add decorative pieces. Be creative!
3. Please do not use watercolors or water-soluble glue.
4. Decorate one side, then sign and date on the back.
5. Return decorated artwork to the library by Monday, June 10.
6. A donation of \$5 is recommended to support the art project, but it is not required.

The ongoing Community Art Project will again be displayed on the shoreline of Belleville Lake at Horizon Park. A commemorative plaque will be installed to honor the late Neil Griffin, who started the project in 2018. The display will remain throughout the summer until late September.

BACA's Music Lakeside will celebrate its 15th season, starting June 13. There will be 10 free summer concerts on Thursday evenings, 7-9 p.m. at Horizon Park. The audience enjoys the music along the shore by boat or relaxing in their folding chairs in the park. Each week a new food truck will

be available for refreshments.

Visit: www.bacaart.org or the Belleville Area Council for the Arts - BACA Facebook page for more information.

Court Watching

Ivory Nicole Gilyard, 32, of Ypsilanti was video-arraigned on April 18 by 34th District Court Magistrate Al Hindman while in custody of Van Buren Township Police. She is charged with three counts of child abuse-4th degree on April 16 in Van Buren Township.

Personal bond was set at \$5,000. She cannot possess any mood-altering substances include alcohol while on this bond or have contact of any kind with children until the Child Protective Services investigation is complete. A remote pretrial was set for May 1.

Kadella Josette Anderson

The arraignment/pretrial of Kadella Josette Anderson of Van Buren Township was April 17 before Judge Oakley. She is charged with assault or assault and battery on March 29 in Van Buren Township. She posted \$500 bond. The final pretrial was set for May 15 so the complaining victim could appear.

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Thomas Okubo, Belleville High School senior swimmer, spoke on behalf of his team when Coach Aaron Lang was unable to be present at the April 8 meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education. Thomas broke many school records as well as qualifying for four events at the State Championship meet. The board was honoring the winter student athletes and teams.



Varsity Head Coach Cynthia Allison coached both the boys and girls bowling teams this season. She told the school board that the boys team was KLAAs champions, Division 1 Regional Champions, and three bowlers were ranked in the state: Johnathan Hatcher, Andrew Folks, and Carson Conley. Individually for the girls team, Amber Spicer and Madison Thomas made All-Conference. Amber Spicer ranked #2 and Erin Elwartowski ranked #7 at the MHSAA Individual Regional Tournament which qualified them for the State Finals in singles. Amber Spicer went on to make the Top 16 and earned All-State status.

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The girls basketball team was coached by Jason Wilkins, who was recognized as Coach of the Year, and his team went to the Final Four at the Breslin Center. He said Daria Shelby, a four-year player, has a full scholarship at Michigan State University this fall, and Joran Mia Wright and Kennedy Brown will both be playing college basketball in the fall.

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MAY 9-11, 209 MAIN ST. Downtown Belleville. Contents of historic Roberts Brothers Funeral Home (Higgerson-Neal FH) to be sold during estate sale. <https://estatesales.net/mi/belleville/48111/4013406> 05/09

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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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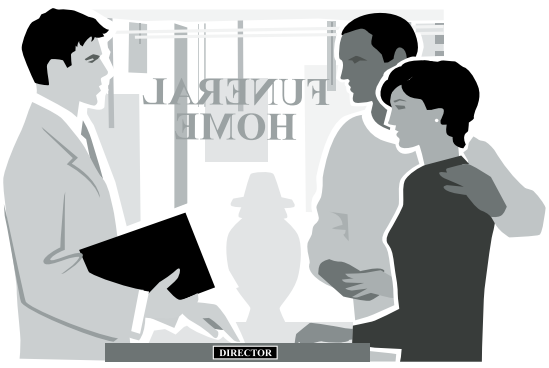
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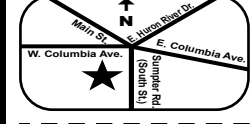


David C. Brown Funeral Home will host this event at Sam's Restaurant in Belleville on Tuesday, May 14th from 12 pm until 2pm. Lunch will be provided, an entrée choice can be selected. Since space is limited and this is a FREE event, please RSVP to Jacqueline Dalzell at (734) 697-4500.



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Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

Assistant city manager Steve Jones, who serves as DDA administrator, said Curb Appeal was the sign's original installer. He said the lifetime of an LED sign is 10 years and the Belleville sign is 15-years-ish. He said if the DDA puts it on a timer and shut it off from midnight to 5 a.m., they will get more years from the LED.

Jones said 12 tiles make up one side of the sign and there are 12 tiles on the other side. If just one tile is damaged, they can fix one tile.

This will be cellular based so the sign can be changed from "wherever we are," Jones said, adding the police and fire officials can easily put emergency or tornado warnings on the sign.

At the March meeting of the DDA, members went out to the parking lot to see demonstrations of various LED signs.

In other business at the one-and-a-half-hour meeting on April 17, the DDA:

- Approved a maximum of \$15,500 in a grant and a no-interest loan for Façade Improvement to 240 Main St., as requested by owner William Osier with the appropriate paperwork presented to the DDA within 30 days. Jones said he has talked to Osier many times on the phone and he has asked Osier to come in to clarify things, but he has yet to come in. City Manager/Police Chief Dave Robinson had suggested that Osier delay applying since the DDA rules were changing and grants were going up, so Osier just began work. DDA treasurer Sabrina Richardson-Williams said the paperwork is confusing and it needs to be redone;

- Discussed a proposal for a Placer.AI contract to track visitors to the city by their cell phones and GPS, noting where they are from and where they go back to after they are here for marketing purposes. Jones said the company "geofenced" Horizon Park, including cars that drive by, for a couple of days last June. After a few days, the traffic was sky-high, when the Lakefest festival was held with the boat races on the water. Jones said around 20,000 people were reported. They went to Johnny's, Bayou, home, Meijer, he said. He said he was told over the phone there is a \$7,000 cost a year for this and there is no contract yet to study. He said this information would be for the DDA marketing only and the police or fire departments couldn't use it. Jones said the Marketing Committee approved the expenditure for this. The proposal was referred back to the Marketing Committee and is expected to be discussed at the next DDA meeting;

- Discussed another request from the Marketing Committee that new flower planters be purchased for Main Street so they all matched each other and the black benches. Jones ordered two samples. The black one is \$86 each including the tray underneath and the grey one is \$102 each with the tray. It was noted this is too close to planting season for this year and they could talk about it in September. Jones said they would revisit this in the fall. DDA member Chris Donley said this is more like icing

on the cake and the DDA "has bigger fish to fry at this point – attracting businesses to the downtown." Kelly McWilliams of the Marketing Committee said she would like the new planters to happen, but she is more interested in the park at the Veteran's Memorial;

- Heard a 40-minute sales pitch by Mark Fisher of Today Publishing, publisher of the Van Buren Today magazine that is mailed to 20,000 addresses in the tri-community. He said while businesses pay \$1,000 a page to advertise, he had a reduced rate of \$400 per page for DDAs. When DDA members showed an interest in a pullout standalone just about Belleville, Fisher explained how that could be done. Jones said this could be discussed by the Marketing Committee and Fisher and the DDA Executive Director Merrie Coburn could be invited to the meeting. A proposal will be brought back to the full DDA;

- Heard Jones say that black curtains have been put in the windows of the hardware building that the DDA recently purchased. They have considered a special exhibit in front from the museum while the work in the back, or posters or something else to display in front. Treasurer Richardson-Williams said she wouldn't mind having a mural rather than black curtains. Part of a wall in the building needs fixing and so that is being addressed. He said Hennessey Engineers gave some ideas of what the back parking area could look like once the building there is demolished and members looked at those drawings after the meeting;

- Heard DDA member Mike Gatteri say that someone bought the U-Haul business that used to operate behind the hardware store, but the city won't let him run it on the back area, like it used to run. Jones said the hardware store had it as accessory use on the property it owned. The U-Haul business can only run in the city's IP zoning district, which is over in the Davenport industrial area; and

- Heard treasurer Richardson-Williams say the DDA needs to know the amount of rent coming from the people in the businesses along the side of the former hardware store that they now own. Jones said one was \$750 a month, another was \$682 a month and the third was similar. He said there is also the electrical, dumpster, and water fees and he will get a report for the DDA. "We've never been landlords before," Jones said.

National Heritage Academies Keystone Academy Public Notice

Public Budget Hearings

will be held for the following
Public School Academy:

Keystone
47925 Bemis Rd., Belleville
734-697-9470
May 9, 5 p.m.

Copies of the budgets for the listed Public School Academies will be available at the school office.

Published: April 25, 2024

American Fireworks Co. to present annual VBT fireworks on June 29

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

"We asked what can you give us for \$25,000?" said Van Buren Township Recreation Programmer Jennifer Zaenglein at the township's regular board meeting on April 16 in explaining how they asked for quotes on this year's holiday fireworks.

She said they had four proposals and American Fireworks was considered tops. Zaenglein said American Fireworks did the township's fireworks last year and, "It was the best show we ever put on in Van Buren Township."

The fireworks show will be Saturday June 29 at the Beck Road Ball Field, with a rain-out date of June 30. The show begins at dusk and lasts from about 22 to 25 minutes.

In other business at the 20-minute meeting on April 16, the board:

- Held a moment of silence in memory of the late Peggy Voigt;

- Approved the purchase of a new high-speed tabulation kit and additional high-speed ballot scanner for a total cost of \$46,343.22 from Dominion Voting Systems with funds to come from an amendment to the Elections -- Capital Outlay line item in the general fund. These will replace the equipment from 2017, including one that crashed and one that is not working properly. In order to process the high volume of presidential cycle absentee ballots, replacement of the equipment is necessary, said Clerk Leon Wright. In a memo to the board, Clerk Wright

said, "Dominion Voting Systems is the only vendor allowed by Wayne County and the State of Michigan so bids and price quotes are not an option"

- Removed from the agenda consideration of the first amendment to the 2019 Loan Agreement between the township and the Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA) to seek legal advice on part of it. The LDFA approved the amendment at its April 9 meeting at the request of the township;

- Heard Zaenglein announce that the township's summer camp is back and will be run out of the new Community Center for eight weeks starting June 17. Cost is \$205 per week for township residents and \$230 per week for non-residents. The township is hiring camp counselors 18 and older. She announced a couple of minigrants, including a \$450 grant from MParks to get the summer campers to Lansing for a field trip, and a Safari grant of \$2,500 through MParks for archery equipment, plus an additional \$1,000 from MDNR for a \$3,500 total to pay for archery equipment and learn the safe way of doing this indoors for all ages; and

- Heard Supervisor McNamara announce this is Telecommunications Week and he wanted to honor the Communications Department – Chloe Michaels, Mike Japowicz, Elena Manal – for all the information they get out into the community. It was noted the dispatchers are a part of this week and the township is honoring them, too.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES APRIL 16, 2024

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

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Budd moved, Kelley seconded to approve the agenda, removing New Business Item #3: To consider approval of the First Amendment to the 2019 Loan Agreement between the Township and LDFA. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Boynton moved, Martin seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2024, Prepaid List of April 4, 2024, Prepaid List of April 11, 2024, Voucher List of April 16, 2024. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: A moment of silence was held in memory

for City of Belleville Mayor's wife Peggy Voigt's passing; the VBC's 2024 Summer Camp registrations are open for kids aged 5-12 at a cost of \$205 per week for residents and \$230 per week for non-residents on the Township website; the VBC Summer Camp received a grant from MParks for transportation to Lansing; Safari club international through MParks and the DNR awarded the VBC \$3,500 for archery equipment

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wright moved, Boynton seconded to approve the purchase of a new high-speed tabulation kit and additional high-speed ballot scanner for a total cost of \$46,343.22 from Dominion Voting Systems with funds to come from an amendment to the 2024 Clerk's Department - Capital Outlay (101-215-971-000) line item from the General Fund balance. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve American Fireworks Company as the contractor for the June 29, 2024 Van Buren Township Fireworks Show with a rain out date of June 30, 2024. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: A resident informed the Board of a fence dispute that she would like help with.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Budd moved; Boynton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Published: April 25, 2024

Keystone

(continued from page 8)

Roth said, "When the money is gone, we don't know how it will effect staff." The ESSER grants have paid for grants to employees that may have kept them in the Keystone jobs;

- Heard reports from Drain on school performance, discipline, and other details;
- Heard Keystone vice president Steve Harsant, who was chairing the meeting, ask for marked shirts for board members so they could be identified by parents at public events. Roth said he would look into a proposal;
- Heard Harsant ask Principal Drain to

bring her wish list for money from the board budget for the rest of the school year, so the board could determine the best ways to allocate the funds. Drain said at the April 11 meeting that she would have her list at the May meeting;

- Watched a brief video explaining NHA operation to board members. Roth said he will show a new video each month from NHA;

• Reviewed the 100-page 2023-24 Annual Education Report written by Drain and her administrative staff. When asked by a board member what "Rigor" meant exactly, Drain replied it had to do with challenging each student enough;

- Learned Caleb U won the Keystone 3rd and 4th grade spelling bee and will advance to the NHA Regional Spelling Bee in March; and

• Heard Drain say the Young 5s through 5th graders enjoyed an assembly with Deb Pilutti, a local author, who kept the students engaged while she read one of her books and did activities with them. Keystone was able to purchase each of the students attending one of Pilutti's books.

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

Graduating senior asks school board for permission to wear cord

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Ken Farr, who will be graduating from Belleville High School with the class of 2024, stood before the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education on Monday with a request.

He said recently he and his older brother were featured in the *Independent* for both earning their Eagle Scout designations. He asked for permission to wear the cord designating his Eagle Scout rank with his cap and gown.

He said last year no one was allowed to wear such items.

"You can put all the glitter you want on your cap," he said, noting the JROTC can't wear their designation either or those with William D. Ford school high honors sash and cord.

"Now, nothing is allowed," Ken said. His father and mother, Kevin and Sarah Farr, were present to support his request to the board. His father said BHS assistant principal Falisadoll Green "will strip it off you" because she says it is not school-related.

"She took it off JROTC members last year," Ken said, referring to a witness. He said the New Tech students could wear designations on their graduation gowns, but not JROTC.

School Supt. Pete Pitzen said he would find out about this and let Ken know if he can wear his cord.

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They're reading the *Independent* Everywhere

Alan, Patricia and John Riemer of Belleville read their *Independent* at the Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence, Italy. The Palazzo Vecchio ("Old Palace") is the town hall of Florence, Italy. It overlooks the Piazza della Signoria, which holds a copy of Michelangelo's David statue, and the gallery of statues in the adjacent Loggia dei Lanzi.

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

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$55 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$60 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 295 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, April 14:

0146 – domestic, Van Born Rd.
0256 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0707 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0717 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0856 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1033 – civil matter, Oak Blvd.
xxxx – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1124 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1136 – private property, property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1148 – misc. complaint, Edwards Rd.
1157 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Haggerty Rd.
1331 – neighbor trouble, Riggs Rd.
1556 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1638 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1736 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
1933 – juvenile complaint, Arlene Ln.
2055 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.
2058 – civil matter, Mantauk Ct.
2200 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Schooner Dr.
2205 – family trouble, Westlake Cir.
2230 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
2320 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2354 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Lake Villa Dr.

Monday, April 15:

0849 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Justine St.
0944 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1030 – animal complaint, E. Sadie Ln.
1053 – assault & battery, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1113 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Lake Villa Dr.
1259 – domestic, Cross St.
1410 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1457 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Martinsville Rd.
1539 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd.
1638 – intrusion alarm, Stamford Rd.
1717 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
2119 – animal complaint, Coolidge St.
2156 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2202 – property check, Redwood Dr.
2232 – disorderly, Village Green Ln.

Tuesday, April 16:

xxxx – intrusion alarm, S. Timberview Dr.
0751 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
0755 – intrusion alarm, Edison Lake Rd.
0926 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
xxxx – misc. complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Jackson St.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Bayshore Dr.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Westlake Cir.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Savage Rd.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Hayes St.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Wildrye Ct.
1102 – threat, Alden Ave.

1112 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1158 – abandoned auto, Tyler Rd./Belleville Rd.
1223 – intrusion alarm, Venetian Ave.
1337 – welfare check, Cobblestone Creek Dr.
1429 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1648 – threat, Cranberry
1701 – fraud, Bristol
1703 – fraud, Bristol
1921 – juvenile complaint, Vine St.
1931 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Prairiegrass Ct.
2016 – welfare check, Prairiegrass Ct.
2104 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2124 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2221 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2240 – domestic, Richards Run
xxxx – welfare check, Riggs Rd.

Wednesday, April 17:

0014 – warrant arrest, Michigan/Holmes
0043 – welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0052 – disorderly, Senate St.

0439 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0842 – larceny, E. Huron River Dr.
0944 – malicious destruction of property, Pond Ridge Dr.
0942 – threat, Richard Run Dr.
1021 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1048 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1128 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1203 – civil matter, Richard Run Dr.
1217 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1232 – civil matter, Brandi Dr.
1258 – civil matter, Richard Run Dr.
1458 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1426 – misc. complaint, McBride Ave.
1426 – misc. complaint, McBride Ave.
1445 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1518 – missing person, Sadie Ln.
1544 – welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1527 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
1646 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1543 – vehicle lockout, Peninsular Dr.
1702 – parking complaint, Village Green Ln.
1803 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
2148 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2232 – malicious destruction of property, Lake Villa Dr.

2304 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.

2350 – property damage accident, E. Huron River

Thursday, April 18:

0224 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Pointe
xxxx – missing person, Vernon St.
0808 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
0940 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.
1010 – property damage accident, E. Huron River
1109 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.
1411 – family trouble, Lake Villa Dr.
1452 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Bemis
1551 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1540 – assist other dept., Oak Ln.
1553 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Independence Ln.
1555 – welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.
xxxx – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
1614 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1641 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1835 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1902 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1951 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1957 – family trouble, Oak Ln.
2124 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
2140 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
2340 – neighbor trouble, N. Bellridge Dr.
2351 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.

Friday, April 19:

0144 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Filmore St./Buchanan St.
0500 – domestic, Victoria St.
1208 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1229 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
1319 – assist other dept., Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
1322 – assist fire dept., Hannan Rd.
1531 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1546 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
xxxx – disorderly, Meadows Cir.
1912 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1953 – retail fraud, Belleville Rdd.
2006 – missing person, McBride Ave.
2037 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
2059 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
2129 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hardwood Dr.
2141 – assist other dept., Sunset Pond Cir.
2215 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2230 – warrant arrest, Ecorse Rd.
2308 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.

Saturday, April 20:

0057 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0149 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
Xxxx – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0745 – animal complaint, Van Born Rd./Morton Taylor Rd.
0737 – intrusion alarm, Hannan Rd.
0844 – assist other dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.

0937 – neighbor trouble, W. Adams
0944 – assist other dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
1017 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
1019 – assist other dept., Rawsonville Rd.
1022 – family trouble, Pond Bluff Dr.
1151 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Berkdale Dr.
1218 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1235 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
1234 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1249 – assault & battery, W. Huron River Dr.
1303 – threat, Belleville Manor
1335 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd.
1514 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1548 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.
1905 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1929 – parking complaint, Arlene Ln.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Thornwood Dr.
2033 – intrusion alarm, Cobblestone Creek Dr.
2041 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2049 – shooting, Country Walk Blvd,
2245 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Also, on this week's log are 126 traffic stops, 47 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 14:

0013 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
1433 – larceny from auto, Carmell / Belle Villa Blvd.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Main St.
1749 – welfare check, South St.
1955 – noise complaint, Carmell
2042 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Main St.
2320 – motorist assist, Main St.

Monday, April 15:

0854 – fight, W. Columbia Ave.
1006 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Third St.
1029 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
1335 – parking complaint, Oxford Ct.
1414 – motorist assist, Main St.
1418 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1442 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1454 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Martinsville Rd.
1804 – private property/property damage accident, Menlo Park Dr.
Tuesday, April 16:
0005 – traffic stop, Main St.
0740 – suicidal person, Victorian Ct.
0832 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1009 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Menlo Park Dr.
1304 – traffic offense, Village Park
1450 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1600 – property damage accident, South St.
2043 – assist other dept., South St./Henry St.
2145 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.

Wednesday, April 17:

0023 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
1148 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
1441 – assist other dept., Carmell St.
1812 – animal complaint, N. Edgemont Ave.
2018 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
2100 – welfare check, Carmell St.
2238 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Owen St.
2338 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

Thursday, April 18:

0551 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Country Walk Blvd.
1543 – property damage accident, E. Huron River
1946 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Wexford
2049 – welfare check, S. Aberdeen Ct./Victorian
2107 – property check, Victorian Ln.
2328 – property check, Clarence St.

Friday, April 19:

0014 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
0600 – property check, block Main St.
0802 – property check, Clarence St.
0805 – property check, Victorian Ln.
0815 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.
0832 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.
0935 – repossession, Carmell St.
1018 – traffic offense, Sumpter Rd.
1102 – parking complaint, Thornhill
1554 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Church St.
1651 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1740 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Harbour Pointe Dr.

1924 – property check, Lifepointe Church
2009 – fraud, Main St.
2147 – fleeing & eluding, Sunset Pond Cir.
2217 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Liberty St.

Saturday, April 20:

0126 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
0813 – animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr. / Angola St.
0959 – traffic offense, High St./Church St.
1233 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
1250 – traffic offense, South St.
1352 – traffic stop, Madelon St./E. Columbia Ave.
1407 – traffic offense, Sheldon Rd./Savage Rd.
1423 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
1743 – traffic stop, Elwell Rd./Belmont Dr.
2139 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
There are 20 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 14:

0002 – family trouble, Vermont St.
0030 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0105 – noise complaint, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
0237 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0341 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1133 – civil matter, Rustic Ln./Creekside Dr.
1825 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1907 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1957 – suspicious person, Brookview Dr.
2020 – animal complaint, Hampshire Dr.
2029 – 911 hangup, 21000 bl. Fenster Ave.
2044 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
2141 – assault, Colorado St.
2244 – welfare check, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.

Monday, April 15:

0038 – assist fire dept., 24000 bl. Carleton West
0147 – 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
0253 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0351 – fire dept. assist, Delaware St.
0437 – suspicious person, Alaska St.
0625 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willow Rd.
0632 – fire dept assist, Delaware St.
0637 – mental health call, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
0832 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Willis Rd.
0836 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
0932 – welfare check, 47i000 bl. Willis Rd.
1052 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln.
1216 – fraud complaint, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1302 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1324 – fire dept. assist, Colorado St.
1334 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.
1558 – welfare check, New Mexico St.
1559 – animal complaint, Birch Dr.
1602 – 911 hangup, Vermont St.
1651 – death investigation, 17000 bl. Martinsville
1654 – welfare check, New Mexico St.
1808 – C3355 civil matter – other, Nevada St.
1837 – civil matter, Nevada St.
1927 – mental health call, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1929 – alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1938 – fire dept. assist, Brookview Dr.
2112 – welfare check, Stonecrest Dr./Country Club
2131 – disorderly person, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
2305 – suspicious person, New Mexico St.
2340 – suspicious person, Willis Rd./Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, April 16:

0141 – suspicious person, 27000 bl. Martinsville
0349 – suspicious vehicle, Colorado St.
0351 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0359 – property damage accident, California St. / Colorado St.
0546 – civil matter, Knollwood Dr.
0753 – civil matter, Timberlane Dr.
0830 – property damage accident, 47000 bl. Bemis
0913 – harassment complaint, Hickory Dr.
1013 – follow-up investigation, Nevada St.
1038 – harassment complaint, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1131 – suspicious circumstance, Birch Dr.
1209 – harassment complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1254 – follow-up investigation, out of township
1358 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1456 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1545 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1831 – alarm, 8100 Rawsonville Rd.
2029 – noise complaint, Walnut St.

(Continued on page 19)

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POLICE WEEK MICHIGAN, BACK THE BADGE MICHIGAN & FRIENDS INVITE YOU TO THE 30TH ANNUAL

MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Candlelight Memorial Service

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 AT 7:00 PM
Michigan State Capitol, downtown Lansing, Michigan

HONORING FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS & THEIR FAMILIES

Join us as we all gather to show up as a state, demonstrating support to our 17,000 currently serving sworn Officers.

FREE TO ATTEND. FAMILIES WELCOMED. MEDIA INVITED. NO RSVP NEEDED.

Email info@policeweekmichigan.com if we can help.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

- 2240 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 2252 – noise complaint, Colorado St.
 - 2304 – civil matter, Montana St.
 - 2322 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
 - Wednesday, April 17:**
 - 0000 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.
 - 0033 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 0101 – 911 hangup, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
 - 0929 – motorist assist, Rawsonville/Arkona Rd.
 - 1344 – suspicious person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 1525 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willis Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
 - 1527 – alarm, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
 - 1605 – civil matter, Nevada St.
 - 1627 – animal complaint, Arizona St.
 - 1646 – citizen assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
 - 1709 – citizen assist, Arizona St.
 - 1854 – follow-up investigation, Arizona St.
 - 1954 – 911 hangup, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
 - 2101 – follow-up investigation, Arizona St.
 - 2139 – welfare check, Washington St.
 - 2217 – suspicious person, Arizona St.
 - 2250 – suspicious circumstance, Montana St.
 - Thursday, April 18**
 - 0005 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 0714 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
 - 1022 – civil matter, Timberlane Dr.
 - 1108 – 911 hangup, Magnolia Dr./Butternut Dr.
 - 1205 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.
 - 1339 – fire dept. assist, Vermont St.
 - 1350 – civil matter, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 1615 – 911 hangup, Montana St./California St.
 - 1700 – 911 hangup, Magnolia Dr.
 - 2053 – follow-up investigation, Washington St.
 - 0000 – disorderly person, Arizona St.
 - Friday, April 19:**
 - 0015 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 0143 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 0151 – suspicious vehicle, Sherwood Rd.
 - 0343 – 911 hangup, California St.
 - 0709 – traffic complaint/hazard, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
 - 0831 – mental health call, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 1035 – suspicious circumstance, Montana St.
 - 1141 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.
 - 1222 – suspicious circumstance, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 - 1225 – neighbor dispute, Wyoming St.
 - 1408 – property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis
 - 1411 – 911 hangup, Mulberry Dr.
 - 1431 – welfare check, 8700 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 - 1539 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
 - 1642 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 - 1724 – neighbor dispute, Colorado St.
 - 1737 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 2146 – assist other agency, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 2246 – follow-up investigation, Sumpter Rd. / Willis Rd.
 - 2340 – disorderly person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - Saturday, April 20:**
 - 0759 – animal complaint, Willis Rd./Haggerty Rd.
 - 0837 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 - 1036 – 911 hangup, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.
 - 1105 – 911 hangup, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 - 1124 – subpoena service, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
 - 1143 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 - 1527 – suspicious circumstance, Colorado St.
 - 1532 – property damage accident, 20000 bl. Karr
 - 1548 – traffic complaint/hazard, 23000 bl. Sumpter
 - 1729 – disorderly person, Rustic Ln.
 - 2243 – animal complaint, 5800 bl. Oakville Waltz
- Also on this week's log are 180 patrol checks, 65 traffic stops, and 13 misc. details.

Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent Advertising Director



The Belleville Community Chorus will be presenting its annual spring concert on Sunday, April 28, at 5 p.m. at the Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St. Entitled "The Waters Edge," there will be folk tunes, songs of mermaids, boats and journeys. You will get to enjoy story-telling tunes, a few spirituals and some solos and duets. In addition, there will be a small youth group singing "Amazing Grace" and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." Should be a fun evening and a great way to end your Sunday.

Mark your calendar now for the Veteran's Buddy Poppy sale scheduled at Five Points on May 2, 3 and 4. Have your cash ready when they come to your door, so you don't hold up the line at the light!

From noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, the Belleville Area District Library will host its annual Perennial Plant Swap on the side lawn. Better be on time or they will all be gone!

May 4 and 5 will be a busy time at the Belleville Area District Library. The used-book sale will begin on May 4 at noon and run to 3 p.m. On Sunday, May 5, the \$4 bag sale will run from 1 to 4 p.m.

Thunder Over Michigan announced that the P-51 Demonstration Team, Jack Aces, will be at the air show this year. This two-ship demo team features Louis Horschel in "Mad Max" and Ariel Luedi in "Little Witch." These P-51 Mustangs are the perfect addition to the show's Famous Fighters lineup.

REMINDER. Entry forms, with a deadline of May 10, are available for the Memorial Day Parade on May 27 at www.bellevillecentralbusinesscommunity.com

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.

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, April 25** – Varsity Softball vs. Grosse Ile HS, 4 p.m., doubleheader; Girls Varsity Tennis vs. Churchill HS, 4 p.m.; Girls JV Soccer vs. Stevenson HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Stevenson HS, 7 p.m.
- **Friday, April 26** – JV Softball vs. Pioneer HS, 4 p.m., doubleheader; Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Lincoln HS, 5:30 p.m.
- **Monday, April 29** – Girls JV Tennis vs. Franklin HS, 4 p.m.; Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. Novi HS, 5:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 30** – Boys Varsity Golf vs. Dearborn HS, 3:30 p.m. at Willow Metropark GC; Varsity Softball vs. Taylor HS, 4 p.m., doubleheader; Girls JV Tennis vs. Dearborn HS, 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, May 1** – Boys & Girls Track & Field vs. Dearborn HS, 3:30 p.m.; JV Baseball vs. Fordson HS, 4:30 p.m.

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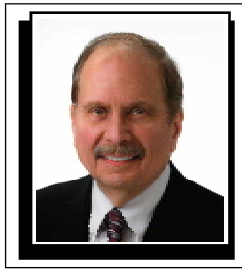
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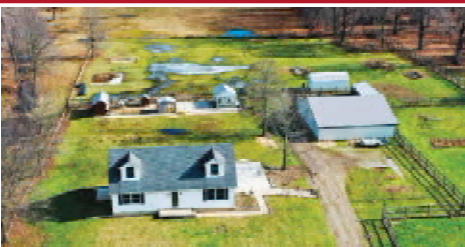
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