



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 29.20 Thursday, May 18, 2023

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

## VBT BZA OKs BYC 85.3' dock lengths on 4-3 vote

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

After about another hour of discussion on the issue, at its May 9 meeting the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals approved an exception for the Belleville Yacht Club, allowing it to have two 85.3' docks into Belleville Lake.

The Belleville Lake Shoreline ordinance limits the length to 40'.

The BZA vote was 4-3, with John Haase, Amos Grissett, Aaron Sellers, and BZA chairman John Herman voting yes. Voting no were township board liaison Trustee Kevin Martin, Planning Commission Representative Jeff Jahr, and BZA alternate member Charles Larocque.

Grissett said he changed his vote from no at the last meeting to yes at this meeting because, "I was stuck on the word 'variance,' but it was 'special exception'" being sought. "Now I understand how it will benefit the community... I kept thinking it was a variance... I changed my vote."

Each board member was asked to address the five criteria necessary for the exception to be approved. All the written and verbal comments on the issue from the public were provided to the BZA members.

The BYC's original request in December was for one dock 120' long, but that was eventually reduced to the two, 85.3' dock request that was approved.

The request came to the BZA on Jan. 10, the Planning Commission on Jan. 11 and Feb. 8, and the BZA on March 14, when there were just six members of the BZA present and members told what their votes would be and it was to be a tie. They decided not to vote until there were seven present.

The BZA presently has one vacancy on the board and one vacancy as alternate

(continued on page 16)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

At Monday's meeting of the Belleville City Council three school employees, who were part of the school's Emergency Response Team, were presented with Life Saving Awards. They saved the life of a coworker on Dec. 13 at Belleville High School. From left are Brian Roberson, Scott Wilsey, and Dionisia Munoz, RN. With them are School Resource Officer Kris Faull (who is the new Acting Police Chief as of June 1), and Brian Rupnow, whose life was saved. Rupnow collapsed in his office in the back side of the auditorium while Steve Jones and Bette Ladouceur were there and they called for help. When Roberson and Wilsey got there, Rupnow had no heart rate and was not breathing. The nurse was called and came immediately, while Roberson gave chest compressions and Wilsey had picked up the automated external defibrillator (AED) from the wall in the hall and given Rupnow a shock. When the fire department and ambulance crew arrived, Rupnow had a heart rate, was breathing on his own, and was in stable condition for transport. Rupnow said Jones and Ladouceur started the whole thing and were there when his head bounced off the floor like a melon. He said he thanks everyone "from the bottom of my five-stented heart."

## Council names acting police chief, acting city manager

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

At Monday's regular meeting, the Belleville City Council voted unanimously to appoint Police Sgt. Kris Faull as acting police chief and the city's project manager Steve Jones as acting city manager when the city manager/police chief leaves.

May 31 is the last day on the job for City Manager/Police Chief David Robinson, who has accepted the position of city manager of the city of Monroe.

After a one-hour-and-45-minute council discussion on May 11, the city council agreed to accept Robinson's recommendation to use Faull and Jones in those positions to continue the work he had started. He explained the police department

is a para-military organization and Faull has the most seniority.

The council placed them in acting positions and said it would begin advertising for the two separate positions at once. They would both be full-time positions, going back to the way it was before Robinson accepted doing them both at once.

The council members invited Faull and Jones to apply for the permanent positions that would be advertised.

The two were invited to speak to the council on Monday to confirm they were interested in adding the new responsibilities to their present jobs and to tell the council how it could help them succeed in their assignments.

Sgt. Faull said she appreciated the appointment and believes she is ready with her college degree, 23 years of service to the city which includes 15-plus years as school resource officer, and her recent promotion to sergeant, plus all the mentoring from Robinson. She said she is,

"looking forward to the next chapter in my

(continued on page 3)



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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## City Council

(continued from page 1)

life.”

She said what she needs from the council is their support.

“Every ounce of me knows I can do it,” Faull said.

When asked about the school resource officer position she holds at the school, Faull said one officer is thinking about the position and he would be very good at it.

Steve Jones said he accepts the acting position of city manager. He said he previously served more than 12 years on the planning commission, including the last ten years as chairman. He said he has been president of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and did some of the work for both at the same time. He said he has had the project manager position at the city for four months.

When asked what he needed from the council to succeed, he said he needed similar support to what Faull asked for.

Councilman Tom Fielder said Jones has his finger on more things about the city and can keep the work going that Robinson started.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said that at last Thursday’s meeting, the council asked for a job description for the two posts to be done over the weekend by Robinson and for a budget that included fully funded line items for both

positions.

Robinson said he worked hard on Friday and was able to get the council what it asked for.

Councilman Jeremiah Beebe addressed Faull and Jones: “You were picked because you’re doing really good work on the job where you are and you’re taking on more.”

He urged them to lean on folks often if they want to succeed.

“If you feel ‘I got this,’ you probably don’t,” he said.

“The key for us is communication,” said Mayor Conley.

“These are acting positions to keep the course until the positions are filled,” said Robinson. “If they are interested, I hope they both apply. I’m not going far away and will be open to phone calls, conversations. I want them to succeed and the city to succeed.

“Both Steve and Kris can stay the course ... until the final decisions,” Robinson said.

John Juriga said from the audience that he had served on the planning commission for 25 years and Jones was on the planning commission for 15 and the last 10 years as chairman. He said they usually change chairman every two years but they kept Jones on because of the good job he was doing.

Juriga said Jones is a quick learner, has excellent intelligence, lives in the city, and loves Belleville. For the last 14 years he has helped with Music Lakeside concerts, Juriga said.

Sabrina Richardson-Williams, treasurer of the Downtown Development Authority, said there

has been chatter about getting a new coordinator for the DDA.

Mayor Conley said Jones will still be the DDA coordinator. She said the city has a contractual obligation between the DDA and the city to provide that position. She said Jones in his new acting position will be full-time city manager, full-time project manager, and part-time coordinator for the DDA.

“You’re such a go-getter, I though you might do both jobs, Monroe and here,” said Richardson-Williams to Robinson.

Randy Brown asked from the audience if Faull was the first woman to serve as acting police chief and was told she was.

Mayor Conley said Faull is well-qualified and that’s why she was chosen. “It’s a benefit she is a woman,” she said.

Robinson said on Friday he was a little bit busy getting everything together that the council wanted and he thinks they’ve figured everything out for the transition.

“We have good people here and I’m not allowed to steal them,” Robinson said. “The city has a very special place in my heart. We have had a lot of achievements, but have a long way to go. The great people of the city have made this possible.”

This was Robinson’s last meeting as city manager/police chief.

At last Thursday’s meeting, Councilwoman Kelly Bates asked how much the two acting employees would get for the extra work and there was some conversation on maybe there should be something and that would be determined later.

Councilman Beebe said businesses don’t do that, but Mayor Conley said municipalities do

that. A recommendation will be made on an amount, she said.

In other business at Monday’s meeting, the council:

- Approved adjustments to Lake Fest activities on June 23, 24, 25 as detailed by chamber president Therese Antoinelli, including a petting zoo and pony ride for the children’s area. She said she found more vendors and may need to stretch the closed part of Main Street to Second Street instead of Third. Main Street will be closed Friday night for the pub crawl and movie on Main, she said. Mayor Pro-Tem Ken Voigt said they could close it all the way to Five Points, as was done for Strawberry Fest. Antoinelli said the Corvette Club of America wants to bring 50 cars so that could be a plus;
- Heard a report from Building Official Rick Rutherford about steps taken for city road improvements. Bids will be going out soon on some of the projects;
- Heard Robinson say that Norfolk Southern patched the railroad crossings that had been so bumpy. They did a job in Taylor and then they shot out to Belleville earlier that day. Mayor Conley said the Council of Western Wayne met the previous Friday and when those rough crossings were discussed, the representative said he never heard about that problem; and
- Approved accounts payable in the amount of \$172,452.15 and the departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to DeWolf & Associates, \$1,190 for first line supervision training for Sgt. Faull and Sgt. Schrecengost; to Hennessey Engineers, \$1,442 for the water reliability study, and to Mr. Muffler, \$3,443.20 for repairs to the 2017 work truck.

## City of Belleville Public Notice

### City of Belleville Chief of Police



The Belleville Police Department is accepting applications for Chief of Police.

Possession of a valid Michigan driver’s license, active certification as a Police Officer by MCOLES, a minimum of 10 years of experience in law enforcement with a minimum of 5 years of supervisor/command officer level experience with a law enforcement agency, as well as a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice, Police Science, Public Administration, Police Administration, or a related field from an accredited college or university are required. Graduation from Northwestern University or EMU School of Police Staff and Command, or the FBI National Academy is preferred.

Salary range: \$72,500 - \$80,000 annually

Must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. Citizen. Applications will be accepted beginning Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and will continue to be accepted until position is filled. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville or online at [www.bellevilleonthelake.com](http://www.bellevilleonthelake.com).

The City of Belleville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Briana Hootman  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: May 18, 25, and June 1, 2023

## City of Belleville Public Notice



### Seeking Applicants City of Belleville City Manager



The City of Belleville is accepting applications for City Manager.

A Bachelor’s Degree in Public or Business Administration or similar field of study and five or more years of progressively more responsible municipal management experience as a City Manager, department head, or equivalent are required. A Master of Public Administration (MPA) or Master of Business Administration (MBA) is preferred.

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# O P I N I O N S

## Editorial

### Clerk Leon Wright commended for teaching voting

We commend Van Buren Township Clerk Leon Wright for teaching students at Belleville High School how to vote. Year after year, for 12 years, Clerk Wright has gathered a few of his staff members together and overseen the transfer of official voting equipment from the township hall to the high school.

The student council election has real ballots that Wright has had printed with funds that have been donated. The students pick up their ballots and then use the voting equipment and become more comfortable with the process.

This year the election was on May 2 and 592 students who are freshmen, sophomores, and juniors cast their votes in this manner. He said in two of the election categories, the winning candidates won by just four votes each. He said that shows how important votes are and the students got to see that close up.

Those student voters that will be 18 by the November election were able to register to vote. There were 126 of them. And 52 signed up to work at the polls for the November election.

Wright said some of the adults who come to the polls don't know what they are doing on election day. He wants that to change. He said he is hoping to put together an Ambassadors' Program to try to get the students more involved in government. Thank you, Clerk Wright, for your service to this community.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Before last Thursday's special Belleville City Council meeting to decide how to handle filling the jobs of city manager and police chief, there was some light-hearted conversation on how Clerk Briana Hootman played a prank on her mother and how it went viral.

She put it on TikTok and there were a million views. Mayor Pro Tem Ken Voigt said he saw it on Good Morning America. Clerk Hootman said she also got two checks from TikTok, amounting to over \$50, so far.

Briana said she was in a Goodwill store about three or four months ago and saw a small, framed, picture of an old woman that cost \$2. She got to thinking and then bought the picture. She said her mother has a tabletop full of framed pictures of relatives and so Brie tucked the picture she bought in with the rest.

She said it was 24 days before her mother noticed this strange picture. She picked it up and carried it to Briana's room and asked her who this person was. Brie said her mom is very dramatic and as she raved on about the strange picture, Brie recorded her.

She said her dad is very down-to-earth and when her mom asked him why he didn't tell her there was a strange picture on the table, her dad replied, "I didn't care. I don't know who half those people are, anyway."

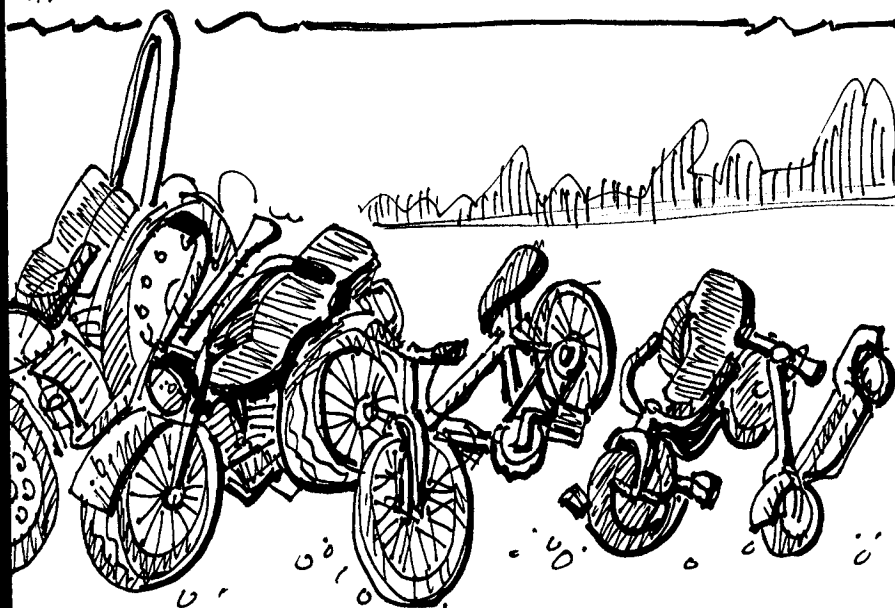
I had no idea our hard-working city clerk was such a prankster.

\*\*\*

Belleville City Manager/Police Chief David Robinson said that the offer by the U.S. Army recruiter to get soldiers to help clean up the streets in Harbour Pointe subdivision was a "facetious" comment at the last meeting.

Robinson's last day in the position he

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B. Oetzman  
5/18/2023

holds in Belleville is May 31, since he accepted the job of city manager of the city of Monroe.

Rick Rutherford, DPW director among other jobs he holds at the city of Belleville, said the street sweeper is finally fixed and was used to clean up the front "U" of streets in the subdivision and then they put gravel in the holes that were left so people can drive the streets again.

The city is working on options to get the streets redone because the current concrete was not mixed correctly at the beginning when it was poured and now is crumbling.

Mike Renaud, who lives in Harbour Pointe, said at least two families are trying to sell their homes in the subdivision, but the terrible streets are making that difficult.

\*\*\*

At the library board meeting on May 9, chairperson Sharon Peters said she was inspired by Barbara Miller's report at the last meeting of Miller's volunteering at BHS as a tutor.

Peters said she volunteers at the Early Childhood Development Center next to the high school. She said she sits in the infant room and holds babies. She said her career was in early childhood development and quality care for children.

She said she is now retired and serves as a governor's appointee to a committee in this field and she enjoys volunteering at the local state-of-the-art childhood center. She said three of the children there can't walk yet and some are toddlers. She said the most brain

development is in the first three years of life.

\*\*\*

I heard a report on the police scanner on Saturday that some teenagers were bothering a turtle who was trying to lay her eggs. Police went out to take a look. I don't know which department it was, but I felt sad for the poor turtle – on the day before Mother's Day.

\*\*\*

Perry Mackall, a former Sumpter Township resident who now lives in Kentucky, calls to check in every once in a while and tell me what he hears from sources in Sumpter. He recently called and

while we talked, I asked about his health and he told me he tripped over his dog and fell, displacing his clavicle. He said it really hurt, but he pushed the clavicle back into place. Saved him some surgery, he said. Cortisone shots in the shoulder helped with the pain.

He said his dog ran right over to him and started licking his face after he fell.

We remember during the early days of delivering our papers, we ran into Perry at Ace Hardware and he came over to the car. Our dog, who helped us deliver papers in those days, barked his head off at Perry. It was that big straw hat he wore. That dog was Bud who was given to us as a stray puppy by Sharron Russell when I worked at The View. Bud hated that Perry's hat.



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**BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT**

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## Letters

### Sumpter Twp. Chief Luke is 'REAL Deal'

To the editor:

I had occasion today to contact the Sumpter police (5-9-2023). The dispatcher said that they would be sending someone out.

Without going into too many details of this call, I soon found myself face to face with this officer at my back door. He listened as I explained what the problem was.

As he introduced himself, I found that I was speaking with our Chief of Police: Eric Luke. As I shook hands with Chief Luke, something my late father once told me suddenly came back to me. To paraphrase it, it went like this:

"Son, you're going to meet a lot of people in your life. As time goes on, you'll know within the first few minutes whether they're the real deal, or not. You'll get better and better at spotting this trait."

I spotted something today: Our Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police is, indeed, the REAL Deal. Sumpter was extremely lucky to get this man as our Chief. I enjoyed speaking with him today. He's a true, down-to-earth gentleman.

William G. Wilson, Jr.  
Sumpter Township

### Honor our veterans by flying a flag

To the editor and all Belleville residents:

Belleville VFW Post 4434 wants to send a reminder! Memorial Day, an American Holiday is just days away.

Pay respect for those who lost their lives protecting ours.

Free refurbished flags are available at 48 S. Biggs St., Belleville. Post a flag in front of your home, showing that you remember our fallen veterans.

What better way can we honor our veterans who lost their lives fighting for us? Our refurbished flags have previously been flown over veterans' graves; whether a Seaman, Airman, Marine, or Army, a Private or a General, now you can honor that fallen veteran by once again displaying his/her flag at your home.

Also, we can have your old flags properly disposed; drop them off in the labeled box on the front porch when you pick up a new one.

Pete Pitzen, chairman  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Flag Program

Want to become a Member of the VFW?  
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## Co-Op residents sign up for transportation

To the editor:

The following residents ask for Wheels for Independence transportation to be resumed for seniors and disabled. They were unable to attend the April 17 city council meeting.

1. Mary Palazzolo
2. Janice Anderson
3. Nancy Gamble
4. William Lovalg
5. Mary Smith
6. P. Delisle
7. Josie Gomez
8. Darlene Shipski
9. Diane Wheeler
10. Annie Jerdine
11. Annie Lawson
12. Virginia Wortham
13. Ruth Ann Henry
14. Delberta Combs
15. Grace Adams
16. Barbara Becher

These are the Belleville Co-Op residents who support having Wheels for Independence senior transportation.  
5/15/23

## Why can't the city solve transportation problem?

To the editor:

I do not understand. The need for senior transportation is apparent. Why can't the city of Belleville solve this important problem?

Seniors want to be independent!

Janet Miller  
Belleville

## Court Watching

**Susan Gene Johnson**

Susan Gene Johnson, 65, of Van Buren Township, was charged with littering on private property at 4:45 p.m., April 18, in the city of Belleville. She was scheduled for a remote arraignment/pretrial on May 10 at the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court at which time the charge was dismissed by a motion of the prosecuting attorney. Case closed.

**Tyler James Mexicotte**

Tyler James Mexicotte, of Southgate and previously of Belleville, was arraigned on an in-custody video bench warrant by 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Chief Judge Brian A. Oakley for a June 9, 2018 charge of operating while intoxicated in the city of Belleville. His warrant was canceled and personal bond set at \$5,000. His pretrial was set for May 24.

## VALERIE TIFFANY DUDEK

**My name is Ken Dudek and  
I'm Vietnam Veteran with  
cancer on a mission to find  
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and my search for her  
continues. Please call me at  
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## Guiding Harbor to celebrate 65 years of service in Belleville

Guiding Harbor will celebrate 65 years of services to Michigan's children at a Tea and Tour on June 3.

The afternoon event will be held at Holiday Inn Belleville. After Tea, guests will be given a tour of the Girlstown Residential Program located on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township.

Since 1958, Guiding Harbor has been committed to being a safe place for children and foster care is the common thread for all the programs.

Children enter foster care due to no fault of their own. They were abused or neglected and unsafe in their homes. It is Guiding Harbor's job to make sure that the home they are placed in is safe and meeting their ongoing needs. This includes supporting them while they heal from the trauma they have experienced.

Case management staff also provide services to the birth parents who are working to get their children back in their care. Guiding Harbor provides this service because of its commitment to the vulnerable children in Michigan.

Afternoon Tea traditionally is served as a pick-me-up between lunch and supper. It is said that Afternoon Tea was a social gathering for women. It was a place to be seen by all the right people. Women's Clubs, charities, suffragists, and alumni associations often hold Tea as a way to spread the news amongst friends. Socializing and organizing over pots of tea and light snacks was the perfect afternoon and a means to get things done.

Guiding Harbor members invite the public to join them for a cup of tea, finger sandwiches, pastries, prizes and a short program that will explore the rich 65 years of Guiding Harbor history in Belleville, followed by a tour of the Girlstown Residential Program. Tickets are available for \$35 each and can be purchased at: <https://cbo.io/tickets/guidingharbor/TeaandTour>

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## Obituaries

Roger Lawrence  
Poquette

### ROGER LAWRENCE POQUETTE

(March 14, 1946 – May 4, 2023)

Roger Lawrence Poquette age, 77, resident of Romulus for many years and formerly of Indian River, MI, passed away on May 4, 2023, at home in hospice care surrounded by family. He was born on March 14, 1946, in Cheboygan, MI to George Poquette and Georgian (Bollinger) Poquette.

After he graduated from high school, he attended Northern Michigan University and went on to work in construction as an operating engineer with over 50 years in the Union of operating engineers, local 324. Roger was a member of the Van Buren Eagles as well as the Belleville Moose #934. Roger had lots of friends and was very sociable; he truly loved to be with people and socialize and gather. He was a very hard worker and loved his work. Roger was known to say that he would be happy to leave this world with "His boots on." He truly enjoyed his line of work.

Roger is survived by his grandchildren, Kaitlyn Loewen and Josh Loewen of Macomb Twp., MI; his siblings Mary (Charles) Brown of Frankenmuth, MI, Charles Poquette of Alanson, MI, Gerald (Linda) Poquette of Portland, OR, and Martha (Bill) Switzer of Indian River, MI; his son-in-law Mark Loewen of Macomb, MI, as well as many nieces and nephews, friends and neighbors.

Roger's daughter, Jennifer Loewen, who was his caretaker during his illness, passed away unexpectedly shortly after her father. He was preceded in death by his parents, and his brother Larry Poquette.

According to his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI. A celebration of life will be Sunday, May 21, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the VFW Post #9568, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus, MI 48174.

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Gabriel George Sanders

### GABRIEL GEORGE SANDERS

(October 17, 1932 – May 8, 2023)

Gabriel George Sanders, age 90, long-time resident of Willis, MI, passed away Monday, May 8, 2023, at his home, under hospice care, surrounded by his family. He was born October 17, 1932, in Shreveport, Louisiana, son of Gabriel George Sanders, Sr. and Agnes (Chibroski) Sanders. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a member of the American Legion and the U.A.W. Local #282. He was a former member of the Ypsilanti Moose Lodge #782. In his younger years, Gabe enjoyed snowmobiling, water skiing, and riding his motorcycle. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Mr. Sanders retired from Ford Motor Company after more than 25 years of loyal service at the Rawsonville Road and Dearborn plants.

Mr. Sanders is survived by two daughters: Gail Bosker of Belleville, MI, and Lynn (Ralph) Haley of Willis, MI; son Anthony (Cheryl) Sanders of North Carolina; 6 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; also, numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife of 67 years, Shelagh Margaret (Butler) Sanders on December 4, 2020, a sister Gertrude Sivanich, also a brother Paul Sanders.

Visitation was Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 1-4 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500. Graveside Services were held Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 1 PM, at Banker's Cemetery, Hoxeyville, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to a disabled veteran's organization of the donor's choice.

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

### PATRICIA CAROLE SAMPSON

(December 22, 1939 – May 13, 2023)

Age 83, of Belleville. Survived by husband Ronald F. Sampson; five children; 18 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. Services were May 17 at David C. Brown Funeral Home. [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)



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

• **Thursday, May 18** – Salad Luncheon starts at noon at St. John's Lutheran Church, 28320 Waltz Rd., (Waltz) New Boston. Donation is \$7. Tickets available. Contact Kari at (734) 654-6366 to reserve your tickets. Sponsored by St. John's WINGS.

• **Thursday, May 18** – The Belleville Community Chorus is holding Quartermania at the Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. Doors open at 6 p.m.; fun starts at 7 p.m. Food available.

• **Saturday, May 20** – Ford Mercury Restorers Club of America Swap Meet & Car Corral at Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor (exit 175 off of I-94). One day only. Site opens at 7 a.m.

Information: (248) 444-3169

• **Monday, May 29** – Memorial Day ceremony at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville, put on by the VFW and PLAV.

• **Thursday, June 1** – "Fabulous Freeze Drying," free event from 6-8 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library, Cozadd Room. Techniques for longer shelf life, enhanced flavor, and retained nutritional value offered by Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church.

• **Sunday, June 4** – Bugles Across America starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street on the lake in the city of Belleville. The brief ceremony honors all veterans, living and dead, with a pledge to the flag, National Anthem, and Taps. Everyone welcome.

• **Monday, June 5** – Belleville Farmers Market opens for the season at Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.

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Jermain Crowell, Jr., left, and Jermain Crowell, Sr. pose for a shot at Ford Field during the state wrestling finals.

## Jermain Crowell, Jr. coached 3<sup>rd</sup>-place state wrestling champ

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Jermain Crowell, Jr., of Detroit, said he served as head wrestling coach at Stoney Creek High School in the Rochester Community School District during the latest season which ended in March.

He said one of his team members, Adam Bazzi, won third in the state Division 1 in his weight class and another member, Benito Tinaj, was a state qualifier.

Crowell, Jr. said he made history by being Stoney Creek High School's first African-American head coach.

He said he was hired on Oct. 24 and just three days later the Michigan High School Athletic Association opened an investigation of his father, Jermain Crowell, Sr., head football coach at Belleville High School, for using "undue influence."

The MHSAA suspended Coach Crowell, Sr., from football coaching in the state through the 2023-24 season. He left BHS and now has a full-time job outside of

coaching, his son said.

Crowell, Jr., said at the end of the wrestling season he was fired from his position as coach. He said he currently is a full-time valet attendant for a company called Four Star.

"I was fired by the athletic department," Crowell, Jr. reported. "Politics involved Jermain Crowell, Jr. being the first black head coach and my dad under investigation. The culture shock was just too much."

He said, "Unfortunately, sometimes sports can get messy, but it's the current situation I find myself in. I saw this coming a mile away. I have every detail in my notes."

## Court Watching

### Mystic May-Joy Mandelka

Mystic May-Joy Mandelka of Monroe, was arraigned in custody by video by 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on May 12 on a charge of domestic violence on May 11 in Sumpter Township. Her personal bond was set at \$1,000 and her pretrial was set for May 24. She is to have no contact with the victim and must not return to a Judd Road address.

### James Arthur McDonough

James Arthur McDonough, 29, of Van Buren

Township on May 5 was arraigned on a domestic violence charge on May 4 in Van Buren Township. A remote pretrial will be held May 23 and he is allowed to contact the victim regarding their child. Personal bond is \$5,000.

### John Andrew Wysocki

John Andrew Wysocki 65, of Sumpter Township, was sentenced on May 8 to a fine of \$670 and four days of community service. He had been charged with operating while intoxicated on Feb. 3 in Sumpter Township. He pled guilty to a reduced charge of operating while visibly impaired.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman  
The Belleville Area Garden Club held a well-attended plant swap at noontime on May 6 under sunny skies. The event was held at the Belleville Area District Library. From left are Marcia Warren of Van Buren Township, Sandra Martin of Sumpter Township, and Shelly Payne of Van Buren Township.

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# Library Director Suchy reports on apparent suicide at library garden

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

As part of her monthly report at the regular meeting of the Belleville Area District Library on May 9, Director Mary Jo Suchy told of the recent death at the library.

"My staff and I are deeply saddened by the apparent death by suicide that occurred on Friday evening, April 21," she wrote. "Library staff was alerted by a patron of a wounded person in the fenced-in garden off Roys Street.

"Staff called 911, and staff members who had been certified in first-aid training began to render first aid. First responders from the city of Belleville arrived and continued to administer first aid, but, unfortunately, the man succumbed to his injuries.

"I want to thank my staff as well as the police and fire departments for their skill and professionalism in a highly stressful situation," she wrote. "Additionally, Assistant Director Hilary Savage and Board President Sharon Peters arrived on the scene and demonstrated calm under pressure.

"Our library has an Employee Assistance Program for our staff, which provides short-term crisis counseling. Everyone was made aware of the phone number for this service, and I also had one of the program counselors speak with our staff at our in-service training day on May 1. The counselor discussed symptoms of trauma as well as coping techniques.

"I am also very grateful to Garrett Kissel and his crew from the Belleville Fire Department who came to the library on the Tuesday after the incident to help the staff who were on the scene to decompress and ask questions," she wrote.

"I encourage anyone who is struggling or in crisis or who knows someone who is in crisis to call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 or to visit 988lifeline.org," she concluded.

The library was closed on Saturday and Sunday, April 22 and 23, following the Friday incident.

Police Chief David Robinson identified

the deceased as Kyle Matthew Taylor, 42, of Van Buren Township. Chief Robinson reported the deceased had injuries consistent with falling or jumping from the second-story balcony of the library. He also was bleeding and unconscious when police arrived.

Those at the scene indicate a knife was involved and it appeared to be a suicide.

Chief Robinson said he would release the medical examiner's official report when it is ready.

At the library meeting, there was much discussion on the incident that was traumatic to those involved.

Joy Cichewicz, chairperson of the building committee, suggested the committee meet to consider modifications to the library terrace.

Present at the meeting was Garrett Kissel, the first fire fighter at the scene, arriving after police officer Jeff Wickham. Kissel said he spent 10 hours at the library that day and then followed up with the library staff members to make sure they were all right.

Library Director Suchy was out of town that day, attending a funeral up north with

*(continued on page 11)*



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## District Library

(continued from page 10)

former Library Director Deb Green. When she was informed of what happened, she was in touch with everyone by phone, according to reports.

Assistant Director Savage took over decisions and was there until midnight on that Friday and then made the decision to close the library on Saturday and Sunday. A biohazard cleanup was conducted on Saturday for the site outside. And John Winter from Egan's brought over pizza for workers.

"Our staff was heroic," said board

chairperson Sharon Peters. "It takes time to recover and they are recovering slowly. Aside from the man's family, the karma is with this building. In all phases of society, crazy things are happening."

Peters said Savage was supposed to be in Ireland, but her husband got sick and they couldn't go. Her mother-in-law told her there's a reason they didn't go and she was right.

"She was wonderful," Peters said of Savage. "She was the main one in charge. We acknowledge Mary Jo every week but we have to say how wonderful Savage was. She said she was just doing her job."

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## BHS Class of 1953 plans 70<sup>th</sup> reunion on Sept. 15 at Johnny's on the Lake

The Belleville High School Class of 1953 will hold its 70<sup>th</sup> reunion at 1 p.m., Friday, Sept. 15, at Johnny's on the Lake, 146 High St., in Belleville. This is the day before the annual BHS All-Class Reunion on Sept. 16.

The Class of 1953 was the class that lived through the high school fire during its senior year.

Although those organizing the reunion have been able to contact almost every class member, the following cannot be found. The public is asked to help find: Everett Center, Hubert W. Russell, Sr., Ivan Hoath, Loren Mark Morin, Ruth Kleeman Chapman, Fred Webb, and Margaret Burnett Isaacks.

To register for the event or to give information on the missing classmates, call Judy Grace Mattlin at (740) 653-7852 or Yvonne Memering Deeds at (734) 294-2799.



May 1 – Ron Duyzik  
May 16 – Sharon Tehrer  
May 18 – Ben Schonscheck  
May 19 – Josh Fleeson, Marlene Mills, James Oztzman  
May 20 – Anna Hoose  
May 21 – Judy Brothers, Selina Stillwagon  
May 23 – Ed Armatis

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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Belleville High School senior Javen Franklin has signed to Henry Ford Community College for Wrestling.

## BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, May 18** – Girls Varsity Soccer vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.
- **Friday, May 19** – Varsity Baseball vs. Lincoln HS, 4 p.m.
- **Monday, May 22** – Varsity Softball vs. KLAA Crossover doubleheader, 4 p.m.; Varsity Baseball vs. KLAA Crossover doubleheader, 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, May 24** – Varsity Softball vs. Wyandotte Roosevelt HS, 5 p.m.

Go, Tigers!

Diane Kiessel

Belleville High School Athletic Secretary

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On The Web!**

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is Online! Visit us @  
[bellevilleareaindependent.com](http://bellevilleareaindependent.com)**



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- Tools – Mechanic, Auto Body & Construction
- New & Gently Used Construction Materials - Andersen windows, pedestal sink & miscellaneous plumbing & electrical
- Outdoor Maintenance Equipment - nearly new woodchipper, rakes, shovels & pool equipment
- Home Goods – baskets, kitchen gadgets & Christmas stuff
- Older Jeep & miscellaneous Jeep parts
- Music Gear – speakers, PA, mics & stands
- New stuff coming out all weekend long as we sort through stuff!

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## Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



Dave's Treasure Trove on East Huron River Drive in Belleville has added furniture and other new items to its inventory and you can save 20% off any one item in the store with their ad coupon in today's paper. The business sells sports memorabilia, boating and fishing accessories, tools, hunting gear, guns, knives, and Lionel trains. They're open Tuesday through Saturday, from noon to 5 p.m. Call (734) 699-4438.

The 4<sup>th</sup>-annual "Splurge" Jeremy Stovall Memorial Foundation Day is coming up on Saturday June 3, from noon to 4 p.m. at Crafted Shop and Crafted Beanery on Main Street in Belleville. Enjoy carnival games, concession trucks, pop-up vendors, arts and crafts, face painting, a bounce house, silent auction, and more with proceeds benefitting the foundation for Jeremy, who was killed by a drunk driver in January of 2020. The Jeremy D. Stovall Foundation was founded to honor his life and to continue his legacy, which was to offer programs and scholarships to inspire young minds to confidently move forward in life. The scholarship program currently awards three \$1,000 Perseverance Scholarships to Belleville High School graduates annually. There are also mentoring programs available. For info on scholarships visit [www.jdstovallfoundation.org](http://www.jdstovallfoundation.org).

Ground Control Landscaping of Belleville will provide you with free estimates for

residential and commercial customers with lawn care, mulching, hedge/tree trimming, garden bed installs, hardscaping, and general spring cleanup. Call owner Matthew Barnett for a free consultation at (734) 280-2883 and see their ad in today's paper. Visit [www.groundcontrolandscapellc.com](http://www.groundcontrolandscapellc.com).

GMS Sealcoating of Belleville owner Grant Memering serves residential and commercial customers with free estimates on sealcoating and striping, crack filling, curbs, hot asphalt paving, and general cement work. They're licensed, insured and use asphalt sealcoat products that are environmentally safe. Call (734) 775-8341 and see their ad in today's paper.

K9 Behavior Rehabilitation has been helping dogs with issues since 2008. They offer one-on-one sessions and weekly pack walks. See their business card ad in today's paper and call Danny Davis at (734) 474-9230.

It's Open Cockpit Days this Sunday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport. It's a great opportunity to get up-close and personal with some of the museum's aircraft, such as the F-84F Thunderstreak, 0-2 Skymaster, AH-1J Cobra helicopter and others. Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$10 for children, and senior's 60 and up, and \$10 for students and military with respective ID's. Tickets are available at [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org). Call (734) 483-4030.

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



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## Do you have plans this Tuesday?



**Teddy the Therapy Dog** will be at the Van Buren Senior Center, and he is eager to hear your wonderful stories, memories, and enjoy a bit of hands-on interaction with our finest area treasure: **You!**

Attend **free** of charge, no advance registration is required.

Expect something big!  
May 23, 2023~  
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# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## AUCTION

### PUBLIC AUCTION

U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC

6130 Rawsonville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111  
(734) 482-1502

Notice is hereby given that on 5/31/23 at 12:00 P.M. thru 6/7/23 at 12:00 P.M.

contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold online at:

**Bid13.com**

SPACE # B37 – Donnie Thomas

Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, seasonal decorations, and tools.

Publish: May 18, 2023 and May 25, 2023

### PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on June 3rd, 2023 at 12:00 P.M., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

K650, M J Rea; L508, Katrina Bryant; R930, Jeremy Debord; T981, Chandler Cuts & Snow; I410, Quality Pools Inc.; D158 & P771, Kandass Baldwin; S962, 0715 & N810, Terry Booth; I419 & J616, Cornell Fox; K651, Aafrika Poole; I411, Morgan Barbee; M569, Adam McNabb; K673, Nicholas Adams; M567, Jennifer Miller; Q905, Tasha Davis.

Publish: May 18, 2023 and May 25, 2023

## ESTATE SALE

MAY 18, 19 & 20, 10am-5pm. Bemis & Bak Roads. House & pole barn filled. Follow the yellow signs.

05/18

## VEHICLES FOR SALE

2009 SATURN VUE, 4-door SUV. Female owned. V-6, full power, air, & sunroof. Very clean & well maintained. \$4,850. Private Owner. (734) 695-0819

05/18

1997 GMC SONOMA 2.2L, 5-speed, runs good. 175K miles. \$2,500 OBO. (734) 308-8079 after 5pm.

05/18

2011 FORD FLEX 4-DOOR WAGON. Very clean inside & out. Full power, air & new tires. \$6,500 OBO. Private owner. (734) 695-0819

05/25

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05/25

2007 SATURN, 5-speed, 4-door. Runs good. \$2,800 OBO. (734) 288-6895

06/01

## RUMMAGE SALE

ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH 409 W. Columbia Ave. Friday, May 19, 8am-4pm & Saturday, May 20, 8am-2pm.

05/18

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

4-FAMILY YARD SALE. May 18, 19, 20 & 21, 9am-5pm. 39236 Wade, Romulus. Furniture, clothing & much more.

05/18

MOVING SALE. Everything must go. Kitchenware, small appliances, men's, women's & boy's clothing. Enameling painting, furniture, gaming chair, DVDs, power, hand, garden tools & accessories. May 18, 19 & 20, 9am-5pm. 16580 Elwell.

05/18

3-FAMILY SALE. Friday, May 19, & Saturday, May 20, 9am-5pm, Sunday, May 21, 10am-3pm. 40370 Harris Road, Belleville.

05/18

COMMUNITY-WIDE YARD SALE at Rawsonville Woods Club House. June 3 & 4, 10am-6pm.

06/01

MULTIPLE HOME SALES. Willis/ Clark Roads. Follow pink signs. Carpentry, mechanical tools, home decor, furniture, vintage, collectibles, comics, hot wheels. June 1-3, 9am-6pm.

06/01

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05/25

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05/25

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05/25

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06/01

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05/25

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06/01

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05/18

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05/18

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08/31

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06/01

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05/18

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– Will Rogers

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Email: [yostsandandgravel@gmail.com](mailto:yostsandandgravel@gmail.com)

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# VBT BZA

(continued from page 1)

member. Bylaws call for seven members on the board.

Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, said the 85 feet was the existing condition in 2020 before the new construction and trip to court. It was handled by the court who told the BYC to work with the township and state officials.

BYC representative Scott Jones said there were no BYC members with him that evening, but they are very supportive of the request.

At previous meetings, a large number of BYC members accompanied Jones and filled the meeting room. When asked, Jones said there now are 300 members of BYC.

Jones said they had two and a half years with the 85' configuration without a problem. When they started to build farther out was when the township put the stop work order on the project.

When the BYC bought the former Moose

Lodge, it had the 85' dock, but the new shoreline ordinance passed and made that non-conforming.

BZA chairman Herman said after approval of the exception for the BYC, the project would still have to go to the planning commission for site plan review and the township board and the state EGLE (Energy, Great Lakes, Environment). He said the approval is not precedent-setting and each case is handled on its own merits.

Sellers said there had been zero problem with the 85' length over the past two-and-a-half years. He said he is a boater and surfs in that area often and there are no navigation issues.

Jahr said 40' is the law and the purpose of the law is to limit the size. He said this exception being considered is contrary to the purpose of the

ordinance. He said in his opinion all five issues to discuss were not met.

He said maybe in the future the 40' limit should be reconsidered and maybe 60' is more reasonable.

"I'm being asked to weigh in on the letter of the ordinance," he said.

"This will come to the planning commission at some point and we will build a nice dock, but the ordinance is not met," Jahr said.

Haase said he sees the need for a special exception and his vote continues to be a yes. The McKenna planning consultant's report said this does not set a precedent, he noted.

Trustee Martin said he was among the 17 members working on the lakeside ordinance.

He said ordinances are expected to be followed and that's why the township has ordinances. He would not approve this exception, he said.

He said one of the five issues to consider was if the present condition prevents reasonable use of the property. He said it doesn't because they have been using it for years. He said the other four items to consider are moot, since it doesn't meet all five conditions, as required. He said he would vote no.

Larocque said he's a no vote and he agrees the 40' length was set up to benefit the whole community. He said he doesn't see any special circumstances and he doesn't find all five conditions met.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS Flag Placement for Memorial Day 2023 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> (Rain date: May 27<sup>th</sup>)



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road.

We will begin placing flags on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. and need volunteers to help. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work.

**Should you wish to volunteer, contact the City Clerk. If you would like to work in a specific section, the Clerk's office must be contacted, or that section may not be guaranteed.**

Please consider this small sacrifice of time and join us to honor our veterans who fought to keep us free.

Briana Hootman  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
(734) 697-9323 ext. 7010  
clerk@belleville.mi.us



PUBLISH: May 11 & 18, 2023



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE SPECIAL BUDGET SESSION MEETING FY 2023 - 2024



The Belleville City Council will hold a Special Budget Session Meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 6 Main Street. The purpose of the meeting is to study the City's budget for fiscal year 2023 - 2024.

Briana Hootman,  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: May 18, 2023  
May 25, 2023



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE SPECIAL BUDGET SESSION MEETING DPS AND ADMINISTRATION



The Belleville City Council will hold a Special Budget Session Meeting on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 6 Main Street. The purpose of the meeting is to study the Department of Public Services and City Administration Budget.

Briana Hootman,  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: May 11, 2023  
May 18, 2023



**For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips.**

**One call does it all: 734-699-9020**

**The Belleville-Area Independent**

# City of Belleville Public Notice

## CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, May 1, 2023 - 7:30 pm**

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

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

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

#### 2. ROLL CALL

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

### 3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

#### A. Presentations

- None.

#### B. Council Follow Up List

- Council Member Bates inquired about the status of a potential left-turn light at the intersection of N. Liberty, Denton, and Main St.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt asked about the status of the Parks and Rec Master Plan update.
- Council Member Fielder asked if the street lights on South St. could be timed to turn on later, as it is now staying light out longer.

#### C. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- None.

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Fielder	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

#### Motion Carried.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 17, 2023, Regular Meeting of the City Council

**MOTION:** Motion by Fielder, supported by Beebe to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on Monday, April 17, 2023.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Fielder	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

#### Motion Carried.

### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- None.

### 7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

- None.

### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

A. Special Event Application – Memorial Day Ceremony – VFW 4434 & PLAV 167

**MOTION:** Motion by Voigt, supported by Bates to approve the annual Memorial Day Ceremony held by VFW 4434 & PLAV 167 at the Veteran's Memorial on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Fielder	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

#### Motion Carried.

#### B. DDA Budget

- The budget for the DDA was presented to the City Council, and will be up for approval at a later date along with the City's full budget.

#### C. DPW Road Assessment – Repairs

- DPS Supervisor Rutherford presented a list of streets in the City that are in need of repair. Per Council's direction, Rutherford will be creating a more in-depth and comprehensive list along with setting a plan in motion to begin the repairs.

### 9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

**MOTION:** Motion by Fielder, supported by Voigt to approve authorizing Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures as presented.

#### ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Fielder	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

#### Motion Carried.

### 10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

- City Manager Robinson informed everyone that the Assessing Department will have a change in personnel, with Mike Ditmar as the new Assessing Clerk. The department's operations will also change from Wednesdays to Mondays, with the hours of 8:30 am to 12:30 pm remaining the same.

- Announced that the DIA INSIDE/OUT installations would be installed in various locations throughout the City tomorrow.

- Stated that the City is inviting volunteers to assist in placing American flags on the graves of Veterans at Hillside Cemetery on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am. Anyone who wishes to volunteer is asked to contact the Clerk's office to sign up.

### 11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- Council Member Bates

-- Reminded everyone that the Belleville Fire Department will be hosting an open house at the Fire Station on Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, the Belleville Yacht Club will be doing clean-up work in the City on the same date.

-- Noted that both Mother's Day and Nurses' Week are coming up.

-- Thanked the City administration and the Council for having a conversation about road conditions and repairs in the City.

- Council Member Beebe

-- Thanked Rick for being receptive to the direction provided by the Council Members regarding road conditions and repairs.

- Council Member Fielder

-- Stated that he attended the most recent meeting of the Substance Abuse Disorder Board, and noted that alcohol is still the number one abused substance, with marijuana being a close second. He remarked that both substances are legal and regulated by the State.

- Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt

-- Thanked attendees for coming to the meeting.

-- Complimented the individuals who organized the Distinguished Graduate Ceremony at Belleville High School.

-- Excited about making progress on various road projects in the City.

### 12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- Mayor Conley noted that May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

- Thanked everyone who was in attendance at the meeting.

### 13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Alan Folkes noted that his children obtained 6 gold medals recently in martial arts competitions that they participated in.

- Tony Relendez, a member of the United States Army, asked to be made aware of any projects in the area that he and his fellow active-duty members could assist with.

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

- None.

### 15. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Motion by Bates, supported by Voigt to adjourn at 8:39 PM.

No objections were noted.

#### Motion Carried.

Submitted by Briana Hootman, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: 5/15/23

Posted: 5/16/23

Published: 5/18/23

## Court Watching

# Waste Management pays \$12,373 in fines for early April violations

By Rosemary K. Otzman

*Independent Editor*

At 34<sup>th</sup> District Court on May 10, attorney Sean Powers, representing Waste Management of Michigan, conferred with the Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Rima Yahfoufi and then agreed to pay reduced charges on three violations with one \$200 equipment violation dismissed.

WM will pay \$4,018 (reduced from \$5,600) for overweight and \$4,645 (reduced from \$6,640) for overweight, both on April 6, and \$3,710 (reduced from \$5,300) for overweight on April 4.

That is a total of \$12,373 in overweight charges for those two days. The violations were written by the Wayne County Sheriff's Department.

# City of Belleville Public Notice

## INVITATION TO BID

### HILLSIDE CEMETERY HMA RESURFACING BELLEVILLE WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

The City of Belleville is accepting proposals for the above-referenced project. The proposed project includes pulverization of existing asphalt and HMA resurfacing of an existing road with a total length of approximately 4200 LF, 11' wide. The anticipated start date, weather permitting, is **August 1, 2023 and complete by September 1, 2023.**

Provide (2) copies of bid proposals.

Bids are due and shall be publicly opened at the following time and location:

**Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at 2pm (EST)**

Attn: Steve Jones, Project Administrator

Belleville Clerk's Office

6 Main Street

Belleville, MI 48111

All RFI's shall be emailed to Alan J. Cruz, PE, [ajcruz@hengineers.com](mailto:ajcruz@hengineers.com). (No calls)

The deadline for Request for Information (RFI) is **Thursday, May 25, 2023, 10 am EST.**

Contract Documents will be available through BidNet starting **May 12, 2023 after 1:00pm.**

The OWNER reserves the right to waive any information or to reject any and/or all bids. Bidders may not withdraw their bid within 60 days after the date of bid opened.

The OWNER and ENGINEER will further assess the bids based on the following criteria.

1. COST EFFECTIVENESS
2. SIMILAR PAST PROJECT EXPERIENCE
3. ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN A TIMELY MANNER

The following items are required for a complete bid submittal:

1. **5% Bid Bond**
2. **Completed Itemized Bid Sheet**
3. **Completed and Signed Exhibit 'A' Proposal**

**City of Belleville**

**Steve Jones, Project Administrator**



## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 306 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.*

### Sunday, May 7:

0303 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0623 – domestic, Denton Rd.  
0732 – welfare check, N. Woodbury Dr.  
1159 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.  
1326 – animal complaint, Rawsonville Rd.  
1333 – road hazard, Greenbriar Dr.  
1351 – welfare check, Alden Ave.  
1459 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Ecorse  
1544 – assist fire dept., Michigan Ave.  
1600 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.  
1721 – welfare check, Maple Dr.  
1744 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1803 – larceny from auto, Van Buren St.  
1903 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1915 – shooting, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
2006 – domestic, Oak Ln.  
2038 – domestic, Belleville Rd.  
2103 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.  
2133 – domestic, Renton Rd.  
2138 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2219 – noise complaint, Victoria St.  
2220 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
2240 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.

### Monday, May 8:

0129 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, S. I-275/Ecorse  
0225 – welfare check, Riggs Rd.  
0359 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Marina Dr.  
0620 – larceny from auto, S. Belleridge Dr.  
0640 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
0816 – neighbor trouble, Bemis Rd.  
0824 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0847 – welfare check, Peachtree Ln.  
0858 – animal complaint, Robbe Rd.  
0928 – assault & battery, Haggerty Rd.  
1036 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.  
1051 – intrusion alarm, Chatsworth Dr.  
1053 – civil matter, Brookside Dr.  
1103 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
1118 – private property impound, Denton Rd.  
1121 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Alden Dr.  
1140 – intrusion alarm, Kouza Ct.  
1206 – road hazard, W. Huron River Dr.  
1329 – breaking & entering, Bayshore Dr.  
1421 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bayshore Dr.  
1428 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.  
1429 – parking complaint, Milton Dr.  
1435 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1522 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1529 – private property impound, Kirkridge Park  
1542 – missing person, Churchill Dr.  
1606 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler  
1613 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bayshore Dr.  
1654 – domestic, Belleville Rd.  
1655 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1657 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service  
1710 – juvenile complaint, Greenwood Dr.  
1713 – fraud, Ecorse Rd.  
1725 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.  
1740 – juvenile complaint, Tyler Rd./Jackson St.  
1820 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1914 – fraud, Brookside Dr.  
2059 – trespassing, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.  
2103 – threat, Freedom Way  
2209 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.  
2320 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.

1138 – animal complaint, Laguna Dr.  
1155 – 911 welfare check, Bemis Rd.  
1342 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1404 – parking complaint, Peninsular Dr.  
1405 – repossession, Oak Ln.  
1451 – larceny, Belleville Rd.  
1452 – private property/property damage accident, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1515 – family trouble, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1546 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1557 – trespassing, Michigan Ave.  
1559 – family trouble, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1640 – civil matter, Bristol St.  
1652 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1711 – juvenile complaint, N. Prairiegrass Ct.  
1711 – assist other dept., Woods Creek  
1714 – private property impound, S. I-94 Service  
1810 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd./Springwood Blvd.  
1843 – property check, Belleville Rd.  
1856 – larceny from auto, Van Buren St.  
1903 – intrusion alarm, Pebblebrook Dr.  
1905 – fraud, Tyler Rd.  
2038 – unattended death, Lenmoore Ave.  
2040 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
2122 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
2200 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
2324 – mental subject, Lohr Rd.  
2335 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.

1028 – intrusion alarm, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1033 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Parkwood Dr.  
1058 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.  
1116 – animal complaint, Ash Dr.  
1126 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1127 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1132 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Holly Ln.  
1313 – private property impound, Van Born Rd.  
1317 – mental subject, Denton Rd.  
1339 – traffic offense, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1432 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Bristol

1224 – private property/property damage accident, Tyler Rd.  
1238 – property check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1327 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.  
1427 – assault & battery, Quirk Rd.  
1546 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1605 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.  
1631 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.  
1639 – vehicle lockout, Parkwood Dr.  
1714 – civil matter, Lighthouse Dr.  
2004 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2304 – misc. complaint, Freedom Way  
Also on this log are 72 traffic stops, 11 of which were on the I-94 Service Dr.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, May 7:

0112 – traffic stop, South St./W. Wabash Ave.  
0127 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Huron River Dr.  
0155 – juvenile complaint, N. Liberty St./Fifth St.  
0222 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.  
0524 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Estrada Dr.  
0605 – traffic stop, Liberty St.  
0715 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.  
0726 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr./Angola  
0734 – traffic offense, Main St./N. Liberty St.  
0748 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.  
0813 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.  
0840 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.  
0854 – traffic offense, Main St./Third St.  
0906 – traffic stop, E. Wabash Ave./South St.  
0916 – traffic offense, Main St./Fifth St.  
0955 – traffic stop, Main St.  
1008 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Venetian  
1021 – traffic offense, High St./Main St.  
1037 – traffic offense, main St./Second St.  
1050 – traffic offense, Main St./First St.  
1107 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.  
1131 – traffic offense, Main St./First St.  
1139 – traffic offense, Main St./Second St.  
1204 – traffic stop, Main St./Fourth St.  
1219 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.  
1231 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Quirk  
1256 – trespassing, E. Columbia Ave.  
1426 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd.  
1503 – traffic offense, Main St./High St.  
1508 – traffic offense, Belleville/Harmony Ln.  
1517 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Denton Rd. Bridge  
1540 – traffic stop, Main St.  
1548 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.  
1556 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.  
1607 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd. / E. I-94 Belleville ramp  
1618 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.  
1623 – civil matter, Charles Ct.  
1720 – traffic stop, Main St.  
1747 – traffic stop, Main St.  
1810 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
1815 – traffic offense, Main St./High St.  
1935 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.  
2000 – follow-up by officer, Menlo Park Dr.  
2039 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Third St.  
2115 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.  
2232 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.

*(Continued on page 19)*



## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

2146 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Harbour Pointe Dr.  
2156 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
2234 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Carmell St.

### Tuesday, May 9:

0055 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.  
1153 – civil matter, Menlo Park Dr.  
1210 – welfare check, S. Edgemont Dr.  
2059 – traffic stop, South St.  
2113 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Victorian Ln.  
2126 – noise complaint, Oxford Ct./Victorian Ln.

### Wednesday, May 10:

0101 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Pk. Dr.  
0934 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd.  
1006 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.

1054 – fraud, Main St.  
1537 – property damage accident, Liberty St.  
1657 – animal complaint, Carmell St.  
1837 – 911 welfare check, Loza Ln.  
1955 – assist other dept., Greenbriar  
2005 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.  
2024 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Bedell  
2101 – juvenile complaint, Roys St.  
2147 – traffic stop, N. Edgemont/E. Huron River  
2157 – noise complaint, Bedell St.  
2245 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Aberdeen Ct.

### Thursday, May 11:

0210 – breaking & entering, Belle Villa Blvd.  
0317 – follow up by officer, Willis  
0345 – noise complaint, Bedell St.  
0808 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.  
0850 – traffic stop, Main St.  
0856 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.  
1149 – traffic stop, Fifth St./Main St.  
1212 – larceny, Menlo Park Dr.  
1552 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./South St.  
1727 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.

2020 – traffic stop, South St./Henry St.  
2212 – property damage accident, High St./Roys  
2227 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.  
2233 – juvenile complaint, High St.  
**Friday, May 12:**  
0118 – warrant arrest, Huron River Dr.  
0930 – intrusion alarm, Main St.  
1441 – fraud, Sumpter Rd.  
1531 – property damage accident, Estrada  
2007 – noise complaint, Bedell St.  
2040 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Angola  
2047 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./N. Biggs  
2357 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.

### Saturday, May 13:

0601 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.  
0804 – mental subject, Bedell St.  
0956 – noise complaint, Carmell St.  
1130 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Light Tower Ct.

1407 – property damage accident, South St.  
1533 – property damage accident, Main St.  
1628 – domestic, Carmell St.  
1957 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
2005 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Wexford  
2026 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
2034 – parking complaint, High St./Church St.  
2102 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.  
2141 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./First St.  
2221 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Sheldon Rd.  
2303 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.

There were 59 traffic stops on this week's log.

1325 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1350 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1357 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.  
1551 – follow-up investigation, 18000 bl. Elwell  
1622 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1642 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1700 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1708 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.  
1824 – assist other agency, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1829 – property damage accident, 45000 bl. Bemis  
1912 – neighbor dispute, Arizona St.  
2019 – juvenile matter, Arizona St.  
2028 – suspicious circumstance, New Mexico St.  
2124 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2124 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Bemis  
2227 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2256 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.

### Wednesday, May 10:

0146 – property damage accident, Arizona St.  
0750 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0754 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Bemis Rd.

1057 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1110 – civil matter, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.  
1120 – alarm, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1226 – follow-up investigation, 18000 bl. Elwell  
1325 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1449 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1851 – welfare check, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.  
1912 – noise complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1913 – family trouble, Second St.

### Thursday, May 11:

0014 – alarm, Kansas St.  
0241 – suspicious person, Birch Dr.  
0316 – assist other agency, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.  
0630 – recovered runaway, California/E. Arizona  
0731 – welfare check, Mulberry Dr.  
0902 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1024 – fire dept. assist, Magnolia Dr.  
1031 – 911 hang up, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1057 – animal complaint, Judd Rd./Karr Rd.  
1226 – fire dept. assist, Magnolia Dr.  
1228 – assist other agency, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1400 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.  
1416 – citizen assist, Pecan St.  
1703 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Arkona Rd.

1736 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.

1754 – fire dept. assist, 6400 bl. Oakville Waltz  
1918 – welfare check, 8900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2054 – death investigation, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2134 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
2159 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2210 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.  
2255 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

### Friday, May 12:

0037 – mental health call, Judd Rd./Carleton West  
0106 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.  
0435 – mental health call, 27000 bl. Martinsville  
1307 – larceny complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1330 – suspicious circumstance, 45000 bl. Judd  
1406 – citizen assist, Arizona St.  
1408 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1409 – follow-up investigation, 9100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1541 – traffic complaint/hazard, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.

1601 – civil matter, Redwood Ct.  
1725 – mental health call, Nevada St.  
1912 – 911 hang up, Rustic Ln.  
1949 – animal complaint, Clay Rd./Sumpter Rd.  
2021 – larceny complaint, Carriage Ln.  
2053 – suspicious circumstance, 40000 bl. Judd  
2115 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.  
2123 – 911 hang up, Wayside Dr.  
2341 – fire dept. assist, Virginia St.

### Saturday, May 13:

0216 – death investigation, 19000 bl. Crandell  
0630 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.  
0724 – welfare check, Rustic Ln.  
0936 – death investigation, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1245 – animal complaint, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1336 – animal complaint, Savage Rd./Bemis Rd.  
1445 – juvenile matter, Edgewood Dr.  
1542 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1600 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Wilmot  
1815 – traffic complaint/hazard, 19000 bl. Sumpter  
2048 – civil matter, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2157 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.  
2255 – suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.  
2318 – noise complaint, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week's log are 74 patrol checks, 30 traffic stops, and 12 misc. details.

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## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, May 7:

0020 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.  
0217 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.  
0337 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
0338 – noise complaint, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
0357 – property damage accident, 44000 bl. Willis  
0739 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.  
0822 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0918 – family trouble, Hickory Dr.  
1217 – 911 hang up, 41000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1316 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1422 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1452 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1525 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.  
1700 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1849 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1850 – property damage accident, Mulberry Dr.  
2008 – suspicious person, Knollwood Dr.  
2013 – 911 hang up, California St./Wyoming  
2103 – follow-up investigation, 9600 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2110 – harassment complaint, Colorado St.  
2116 – suspicious person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

### Monday, May 8:

0030 – citizen assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.  
0117 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0908 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Bontekoe Ave.  
1014 – suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.

1041 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1154 – suspicious vehicle, Karr Rd./Willow Rd.  
1307 – civil matter, Colorado St.  
1352 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.  
1428 – felony warrant arrest, Willis/California  
1438 – neighbor dispute, Wyoming St.  
1646 – suspicious person, 22000 bl. Martinsville  
1716 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1805 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1838 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2050 – family trouble, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2110 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
2246 – property damage accident, Willow Rd. / Martinsville Rd.  
2300 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.

### Tuesday, May 9:

0607 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Martinsville Rd.  
0615 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0641 – mental health call, Nevada St.  
0652 – follow-up investigation, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Martinsville Rd.  
0847 – welfare check, Willow Rd./Clark Rd.  
1218 – weapons offense, E. Arizona/California  
1251 – suspicious circumstance, Texas St.  
1311 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.  
1317 – breaking & entering report, Creekside Dr.

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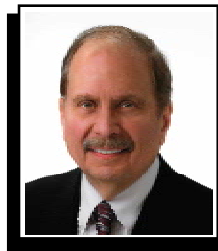
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