



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 28.30 Thursday, July 28, 2022

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

A ceremonial ribbon-cutting was held Monday morning at Van Buren Township's new \$262,590 Pickleball Courts at the corner of Denton and Beckley roads. Supervisor Kevin McNamara cut the ribbon to the township's new "Pickle Park" with the help of U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell. Six township board members attended the celebration along with contractor Mark Davenport, Community Services Director Elizabeth Renaud, Executive Assistant Tammy Dohring, Recreation Director Jennifer Zaenglein, Deputy Police Chief Joshua Monte, Belleville City Councilman/Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce president Steve Jones, Public Services Director Larry Luckett, Human Resources Director Nicole Sumpter, pickleball players, and friends. The deteriorated Harbour Club tennis courts on 0.90 acre were leased by the township for 10 years for \$1 per year from new apartment complex owners The Habitat Company and the township paid to refurbish the site into two tennis courts and four pickleball courts. A 20'x70' cantilevered shade sail and four-seated tables were added with a grant of \$43,239.40 from the Van Buren Civic Fund. Supervisor McNamara said pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports of our time and this court is the "nicest pickleball court in the area." It's also on the route of the Iron Belle Trail, he said.

## Doug Peters tells LDFA Visteon Corp. is a bad neighbor, corporate thief

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Doug Peters, vice chairman of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, told the LDFA at its regular meeting July 12 that Visteon is a bad neighbor and a corporate thief.

Van Buren Township is suing Visteon over the \$32 million the township took out in bonds to help build Visteon Village. The township contends that Visteon had agreed to pay on the bonds if the LDFA tax on the property was not enough to cover the bond obligations.

Since then, Visteon went bankrupt and sold the property and will not pay.

Van Buren Township is lending money to the LDFA for the bond obligations each March and September and so far the LDFA owes the township more than \$5 million for loans and interest.

John Delaney, who had resigned from the LDFA recently, was present at the meeting and complained about Visteon and the township lawyers and administration.

"I share John Delaney's frustration, but having been closest, it is worse for me," said Peters, a retired attorney who is known nationally for his skills. "I was there when Visteon came ... The villain here is not

(continued on page 13)



When Congresswoman Debbie Dingell said she heard pickleball was "like ping pong, only you stand on the table," Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara said the two of them should learn together. They stepped onto the court Monday morning and had some lessons before taking part in the ribbon-cutting for the park.

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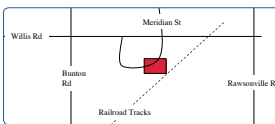
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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## McNamara: County will provide \$4.5 million for community center

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara announced at the township board's July 19 meeting that he has verbal approval that \$4.5 million in grants will be authorized to help pay for the new community center construction.

He said it had been authorized by Wayne County Executive Warren Evans and his staff, but he does not yet have the written contract. When he gets it, he said, he will call a special meeting to approve it and get it back to the county.

He said the Wayne County Commission will make the final decision.

"This is a pretty big deal," Supervisor McNamara said of the Community Center budget of \$16,988,022 and all of the money they have been able to get to help pay for it. He said the project began as a \$7 million building and now has grown to almost \$17 million.

Director of Community Services Elizabeth Renaud presented a chart showing \$705,798 has already been paid by cash to date and there will be \$2,984,099 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, \$851,924 from a Civic Fund donation, and \$1,137,000 from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, leaving remaining costs of \$11,309,201 unfunded.

McNamara said that the bond for the fire stations and the water tower property is being paid off this year and they will be able to bond for \$6 million. That leaves \$5.6 million unfunded.

After the county allocates the \$4.5 million, the township will decide how much bonding is needed and use fund balance to pay for it all.

Director Renaud explained the construction cost of the project is \$12,918,868 and then the soft costs are on top of that to reach the \$16,988,022 total. This includes professional fees and costs, permits, testing, printer, owner-controlled contingency, technology, furniture / fixtures / equipment, and related project costs.

The board unanimously approved the total budget.

In other business at the July 19 meeting, the board:

- Approved the guaranteed maximum price amendment to Frank Rewold & Son's current Community Center Construction Manager Contract for a total of \$12,918,868. Robert Stempien, Sr., vice president of Plante Moran Cresa, explained that they started bidding in May and got 102 bids, which pleased him. Kurt Ryder, estimator for Frank Rewold and Sons, said the bids were very close to the estimates. He said they expect to break ground Sept.

19 and be done on Dec. 29, 2023;

- Approved a variance from the township's engineering standards to allow expansion of an existing "dry" detention basin to serve the stormwater detention needs of the township campus including the community center addition. Although a fence is not required since the water will not be 4' and the sides of the basin are 6:1 slope, Trustee Reggie Miller and Treasurer Sharry Budd voiced concerns about curious children who might go there. McNamara said the board is saying if it's deemed dangerous they would like a fence. "It can't cost much," he said. "You're basically saying: keep an eye on it," he said to the board;

- Approved special land use for redevelopment of the Meijer store at 9701 Belleville Rd., including a drive-through pharmacy and gas station work. The garden center at the north side of the building is being cut back in size to allow for the U-shaped drive-through with stacking for eight vehicles;

- Approved scheduling an Aug. 16 hearing for the establishment of Greenbriar Subdivision Special Assessment District of \$750,000 for roadwork. The board voted to recuse Supervisor McNamara from the discussion and vote on the hearing since he is a resident of the subdivision. The subdivision has 176 parcels which will be \$4,200 per homeowner over five years with 1.5% interest. The board can only approve the SAD if those in favor remain at least 51% of the total of the homeowners following the two hearings on the subject;

- Approved a partnership with the DDA to develop a SS4A (Safe Streets and Roads for All) Action Plan grant application with the assistance of the Wade Trim Funding Scout division that would extend beyond the DDA boundaries at an estimated cost of \$15,000 total, to be proportionately divided in order for the DDA to remain compliant with PA 57 of 2018. DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland said she and McNamara met with Wayne Hoffman, Wade Trim's funding scout, and determined many projects could go out of the DDA district and there is a significant amount of money at the state and federal level available. She said they could develop an action plan and apply for a \$200,000 minimum grant and then they can apply for a \$5 million minimum grant, with a 20% match, for the same action plan. "He told me a lot of things I didn't know," McNamara said. He said after the community center is done, they can work on the DNR site and there is a lot of money out there for parks;

- Approved fireworks at River of Life Church, 16650 Sumpter Rd., on Aug. 13, with a rain date of Aug. 14, to celebrate the starting of the church 20 years ago. Pastor Eddie Marcum said his parents, Pastor and

Mrs. Paul Marcum, started the church in 2002. As part of the celebration they will be giving out free gas at a gas station and free groceries. There will be food trucks at the church for the celebration, which begins at 7 p.m.;

- Heard resident Reg Ion say there were hundreds of no-parking signs on Ecorse Road for the air show, but not one on the service drive. He suggested they let the semis through next time since it is hard to turn them around on a divided highway. When they finally got turned around, they revved off, he said, which probably meant they were upset. He said the aircraft show is only a half hour each time. McNamara said, "We will bring this up with police";

- Was informed a viewer of the meeting sent a comment asking if the community center will be free to residents. McNamara said the board will make that decision, but the intention now is for it to be free;

- Heard a lengthy comment on homeless shelters. The unnamed speaker said all the shelters in Wayne, Washtenaw, Oakland, and Macomb counties are full and backed up for three to four months. She said there is no more subsidized housing and nowhere for people to go. McNamara said the township has an ordinance that does not allow motels/hotels to house guests for more than 30 days, but the township has determined that if they are actively seeking housing, "We will be mindful." He said 50% of the township's hotels have people staying longer and some hotels are built for that. He said police will aggressively prosecute others things and go out to talk to them;

- Learned the Wayne County Fair is being held the first full week of August. Treasurer Budd asked everyone to come out and support the 4-H kids who have been working very hard; and

- Was informed that the annual Shred Day is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, in the township hall's front parking lot. Clerk Leon Wright said the clerk's office also will be open from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, for voters.

### Work-Study Session

The 45-minute work-study session before the meeting discussed the community center project and the Greenbriar special assessment district.

When Robert Stempien, senior vice president of Plante Moran Cresa, detailed the items to be done as part of the community center, he mentioned entirely re-roofing township hall.

Trustee Martin asked when it was the determination on the roofing made and when was it put into the plan?

McNamara said they are making a list of capital improvements, but the board is making the determination on the roof

that day when it approves the community center budget. He said they had determined things that needed to be done and parceled it out in bids and decided to include it in the package and not parcel it out. It would cost less by including in the project.

Martin said the first time he heard of the roof was "right now" and he said he wondered why this was the first time to hear about this capital improvement and, "You're bringing me this today."

McNamara said at budget time they will ask for capital improvements.

Clerk Leon Wright said they talked about it in prior meetings. He said there was a small leak on his side of the building and said he understands this is the first time Martin heard about it, but they decided to make it a part of the project.

Martin said it was 5:20 p.m. that very day that he first heard about the roof.

Stempien said they had somebody go up and look at the roof.

"Nobody knew we needed a roof until we started looking at it," McNamara said. He said it was good for three to ten years, but after ten years they would need a roof. He said it's been there 25 years.

The present pvc roof will be replaced with a 20-year pvc roof and they'll go for a 10-year warranty and that will equal 30 years, Stempien said.

Treasurer Budd said she can tell them the different water spots in her department the last few years has been a chore.

Martin said he's not against the roof, it's just that he's just now finding out.

"My apologies," McNamara said. He said at the upcoming budget hearing everyone will get a thick folder describing every single building the township owns.

## Van Buren Twp. rehires Ron Akers in surprise agenda item on 6-1 vote

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

On July 2, 2019, Van Buren Township Board of Trustees sent off a valued employee to his new position as Public Services Director in Ypsilanti by honoring him with a framed resolution signed by every member of the board.

Ronald A. Akers had been with the township for four years and the resolution credited him with several significant economic development projects in VBT, for an approximate total investment of \$300 million in the township and adding 1,000 new jobs in the community. The projects included Subaru, Ashley Capital's Crossroads North Distribution Center, Mayser USA's manufacturing facility,

(continued on page 12)



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Library deserves replacement millage vote

The Belleville Area District Library is seeking replacement of its operating millage that expired last year so it can continue offering its exceptional services to the community.

The ballot question has to be called a replacement because it already expired. Board members would have had to hold an election for Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter voters last fall with only this item on the ballot and they felt that expense to the voters was not necessary. Also, the turnout was due to be small.

On Aug. 2, voters in the three communities in the library district are being asked to continue their support of the library by replacing its present operating millage of 0.6864 for 15 years. There will be no tax increase over the 2021 level.

In 2010 voters approved 0.7 mills for 12 years and the Headlee Amendment reduced that to 0.6864 mill last year and that is what they are seeking on the ballot.

The beautiful new library in downtown Belleville has brought new life to our cultural center and groups of all sizes meet there, children flock there for story times and other events, and teenagers have found a welcoming after-school hangout with computers to use for getting homework done. The new Sumpter library branch is also valuable.

The millage being replaced equals more than 50% of the library's operating cost. We need to support our library. Vote yes.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The Wayne County Fair starts Monday and runs through the first week of August at the fairgrounds on Quirk Road north of the I-94 expressway in Van Buren Township.

There's no carnival on Monday, but they have a swine show at 8 a.m., horse show at 11 a.m., and sheep show at 6 p.m. The 4-H members work hard to prepare and we should support their efforts by attending the shows, if we can.

On Tuesday, Aug. 2, there are poultry and horse shows at 9 a.m. and the carnival runs from 4 to 10 p.m. Goat show is at 6 p.m. and mini-horse pull at 7 p.m. Crafters/vendors and food trucks from 1 to 10 p.m.

On Wednesday, Aug. 3, a special show, "Wayne County's Got Talent," starts at 7 p.m. In the morning there's a rabbit/cavy/pocket pet show at 8 a.m. and horse show at 9 a.m. Dairy show is at 5 p.m. and beef show at 6 p.m. More carnival and vendors.

Thursday is Kids' Day/Belleville Day, with lots of events on the midway and track. Friday has Mark Rosenthal's Animal Magic at 3, 5, and 7 p.m., plus many other events and after a full show on Saturday, including the Elvis Tribute Show at 5 p.m. and Local Hero's Band at 7:30 p.m., the fair closes for the year. Don't miss it.

\*\*\*

The ribbon cutting for the new pickleball courts at the corner of Denton and Beckley roads in Van Buren Township was held Monday morning.

After the event, we asked Supervisor Kevin McNamara how much the project cost totally – thought taxpayers would like to know.

Community Services Director Elizabeth Renaud sent me the details. She wrote:



"The cost for pickleball courts was the Board Approved \$204,475 + an additional cost of \$7,650 for a vinyl fence instead of galvanized. After the fact, we added a windscreen on for \$7,235. The shade structure (and install) was \$43,230.40 – paid for by the Van Buren Civic Fund."

When you add it all up, it comes to \$262,590.40.

\*\*\*

We saw a "Holdup Alarm" listed on the Belleville Police Dispatch Log for 11:34 p.m. Saturday, July 23, on Main Street. Police Chief Dave Robinson said, "This was a false alarm. The alarm company tried to cancel but the officer had already been there and checked the building which was secure."

\*\*\*

We received an unsigned letter from "A very concerned resident" last week saying the writer thinks, "We need a screening process to weed out such candidates from the election process." She was speaking of state senate candidate James Chapman who is running in the Aug. 2 primary on the Republican ticket. Although Chapman has served time, the law does not disqualify him from running. The writer said Chapman has cost the writer "money, discomfort, and a loss of peace of mind."

On Monday we received another letter signed "Concerned resident of the 4<sup>th</sup> District" saying pretty-much the same thing. We don't publish unsigned letters

attacking people, but we understand their concerns.

\*\*\*

Ruth Bleeker, who lives in the city of Belleville, announced that in her Monday mail delivery this week she finally got her *Belleville-Area Independent* dated June 2.

The story is that the Belleville Post Office mistakenly sent copies of the June 2 issue for Belleville subscribers to Detroit for sorting and they disappeared—until now. We paid to mail those issues and Ruth paid for her subscription and now, finally, we got our money's worth.

Usually, our Belleville subscribers get their papers that are published on Thursday, in their Friday mail drops. Sometimes it's Saturday or Monday – but never has been seven weeks later.

\*\*\*

Dan Power, Van Buren Township's director of planning and economic development, showed pictures to demonstrate different drainage ponds at last week's regular VBT meeting. He showed pictures of the dry ponds at Tyler and Haggerty schools, that are unfenced, and the deep pond at the Walmart site, which is fenced. I was surprised to find out the two schools had ponds.

\*\*\*



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**BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT**

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## Letters

### Roy Acho: After 37 years, it's time to retire

To the editor:

After 37 years of serving the great people of Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter Township, it's time to retire. I would like to thank everyone who frequented any or all of our stores over that time. I have been blessed to make so many friends in the area over these years.

I must acknowledge the 100s of past and present employees who worked with us. They believed in our business culture, that we were a family, and we treated all of our customers with dignity and respect. Our goal was to strive for perfection and settle for excellence. Hopefully, we accomplished that.

The family taking over is very experienced in the food industry and I have all the faith in the world that they will continue what we started so many years ago. They have a number of exciting ideas to grow and expand the business. They will be retaining ALL of our current staff.

I have been humbled by the kind words over the past few months and it has been so nice to hear from friends I haven't seen in some time. I will be forever grateful to all the wonderful people who accepted our family and made moving to Belleville a great decision.

One of my greatest pleasures was working alongside my family during these nearly four decades. Growing up working in my dad's store in the 1960s was such a big part of my childhood, and I was so glad to share those same memories with my children and wife, Debbie.

Not many people have the luxury of starting a business in a town you love enough that you are willing to bring your family along for the ride. And what a ride it has been!

Roy Acho

Benito's Pizza Parlor & 5 Star Market

## Comments on VBT homelessness article

To the editor:

Below is the updated response to the *Belleville Independent* article regarding the work-study meeting on July 5, and the follow-up BOT [board of trustees] meetings I have sent out through social media. Publishing this is optional, but I wanted to share it with you to address any concerns or additional information regarding the subject.

To everyone who has contacted me over the newspaper article regarding the workgroup meeting on July 5 or had questions regarding what happened in the meeting and the following board of trustees' meeting on July 19.

[http://bellevilleareaindependent.com/vbt-board-hears...](http://bellevilleareaindependent.com/vbt-board-hears.../)

I first want to apologize for not recording the work-study meeting myself. I did not confirm that the work-study meetings do not get recorded like other meetings that the township uploads to their Youtube channel. There have been several meetings that were not zoom accessible or "issues" that several people tried to provide comment on, and I only focused on that aspect of the meeting.

In the article there were a few misquotes (not horrible, just not 100% accurate) from me. I did give my phone number to the newspaper for any questions but was not contacted. To address these corrections not only on social media, I will email the *Belleville Independent* this commentary as well. It happens, it is hard to hear, not recording with accessible transcription to reflect back on.

This work-study agenda item was created after many phone calls, emails, and requests to address the ordinance regarding hotel stay limitations that are being cited to evict individuals within the hotel. A presentation request was denied, and informed it was only via public comment to discuss the concerns. There is plenty of documentation regarding people with various needs and reasons for staying at hotels for more than 30 days. This is nothing new and not hidden from anyone.

The Zoning Code C-2 Section 3.112 (B) & Section 5.121 (C) (No guest shall establish permanent residence for more than thirty (30) days in any one (1) calendar year) ordinance is the cited reason for multiple hotel evictions.

This lack of affordable housing, lack of community investments are nothing new,

(continued on page 19)

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Aug. 2 – Kristin Fowler

Aug. 3 – Ashley Shukait

# Obituaries



Wendy Lynn Galloway

## WENDY LYNN GALLOWAY

(May 19, 1959 - July 24, 2022)

Wendy Lynn Galloway, age 63, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Sunday, July 24, 2022, at her home. She was born May 19, 1959, in Mount Clemens, MI, daughter of Harvey Gerald Galloway & Barbara Rosalie Crandall. She enjoyed cooking, baking, and time spent with her family. She loved shopping and was a Thrifting Queen. Since she became disabled, she liked to watch television, especially history and paranormal studies series. Wendy also enjoyed talking about her food and mixing her drink flavors.

Wendy is survived by her daughter Janet (KC) Galloway of Wayne, MI; two sons: Timothy (Hannah) Gullett, Jr. of Cleveland, Tennessee and Matthew Gullett of Waverly, Tennessee; grandson Sammy Hernandez-Galloway of Belleville, MI; seven grand kitties; sister Tina Galloway of South Lyon, MI; a brother Duane (Edie) Galloway of Winnsboro, Texas; uncle James Crandall of Van Buren Township, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Dignified cremation rites will be accorded to honor her wishes. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. A memorial luncheon is being planned and will be announced.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Huron Valley Humane Society and would be appreciated.

# More Letters

## I am very worried about climate change

To the editor:

I am very worried about climate change; I think it may be the most important problem in the world today. It's world-wide; it does not affect one or two nations or places. I think it is very much happening now, all over the world.

I am not certain of any one solution; but I do think that all governments and all people should face the problem and try to come up as many mitigating solutions as is possible. I want there to be a livable planet for my grandchildren and further descendants to grow up in.

Marty Wilson  
Van Buren Township

"The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money."

— Margaret Thatcher

# More Letters

## Thank you, St. Jude

To the editor:

I would like to thank St. Jude for answering my prayers daily and keeping me strong. I will continue to say my prayers.

Thank you, C.S.P.

St. Jude's Novena

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# Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Aug. 1 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 2 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. workshop, 6 p.m. regular meeting
- Monday, Aug. 8 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m.,

Administration Building

• Tuesday, Aug. 9 – Sumpter Township board meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Aug. 10 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Aug. 11 -- Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission quarterly meeting, 7 p.m.

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# Obituaries



Jared D. Rowe

## JARED D. ROWE

(April 13, 1975 - July 17, 2022)

Jared D. Rowe, age 47, of Van Buren Township, died July 17, 2022, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Superior Twp., MI. He was born April 13, 1975, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the son of Curtis Frank and Nancy Lynn (Burnette) Rowe. On April 20, 2018, he married Tonya Marie Galletta at a Disc Golf Course in Ypsilanti, MI, and she survives. Jared retired after several years of employment; working as a Chef and as a Pool Boy, which he thoroughly enjoyed. He was the founder of Belleville-Sumpter Patient Caregiver collective where he was a huge advocate and supporter of medical marijuana.

His family and friends will always remember his love of fishing, spending time up north with family and friends, his passion for playing Disc Golf and his overall generous nature to everyone he met.

Besides his loving wife, he is survived by three children: Edward, Jacob and DeVaun Rowe; his mother Nancy Rowe; two sisters Jaime (Kevin) Smith and Jenny (Matthew) Diehl; 10 nieces and nephews Alexander, Gwendolyn, Elliott, Kelsey, Hanna, Elena, Adeline, Madison, Mackenzie and Chase; one honorary grandniece, Murphy; and several aunts, uncles and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Curtis F. Rowe on February 13, 2022; three uncles Fred Rowe, Daryl Wilkie and Arthur Burke. Funeral Service was held Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Ypsilanti Ward. Burial followed in Alban Cemetery, Ypsilanti Twp., MI.

Contributions in his memory may be made to his family through a GoFundme that has been set up at <https://gofund.me/3829a8f4> Envelopes will always be available at Janowiak Funeral Home, Geer-Logan Chapel, Ypsilanti, where the family received friends on Monday, July 25, 2022, and at the church on Tuesday, July 26, until time of service.

[www.janowiakfuneralhome@comcast.net](mailto:www.janowiakfuneralhome@comcast.net)



Dianne S.  
DeBeliso-Territo

## DIANNE S. DeBELISO-TERRITO

(February 21, 1951 - July 24, 2022)

Dianne S. DeBeliso-Territo, age 71, of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, July 24, 2022, at her home. She was born February 21, 1951, in Detroit, MI, daughter of Paul & Jeanette (Davis) Weiner. She enjoyed baking cakes, and loved time spent with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Dianne is survived by her husband of 28 years, Patrick C. Territo of Belleville, MI; three bonus kids: Gina Marie (Jason) Suiter of Detroit, MI, Patrick Anthony (Tracy) Territo of Highland, and Robert Alan Territo of Tennessee; granddaughter Paula Lickly of Belleville, MI; seven bonus-grandkids; 13 great-grandchildren; two sisters Polly Forth and Becky Fenech; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; her three children: Teresa Marie DeBeliso, Paul Victor DeBeliso, and Sabrina Ann DeBeliso; also, two brothers Keith and Gary Weiner.

Visitation was 1-8 PM Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. There was a Prayer Service at 7:30 PM with Father Bryan Shackett officiating. A Memorial Mass and luncheon are being planned and will be announced. Interment will be in St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice and would be appreciated. [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)



## RICHARD H. MASON

(August 17, 1934 - July 22, 2022)

Age 87, of Ypsilanti. Survived by daughters Richelle and Carrie; "Sweetheart" Georgia; grandsons Nicholas and Tallon; great-grandchild Brooks; sister Charlotte (Cornell) Anton; brothers Phillip and Thomas. Cremation accorded. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## Positive COVID tests total 10,150 for residents in 48111 zip code

The Wayne County Health Department announced that as of Monday positive COVID test results have totaled 10,150 for the population in the 48111 zip code. That number had been 10,063 on Monday, July 18.

On Monday, July 25, the separate case totals released by the Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 7,011 positive cases which is 15% of the population, and 90 deaths; City of Belleville, 1,114 positive cases, which is 28% of the population, and 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 2025 positive cases which is 15.2% of the population, and 33 deaths.

The health department said there is a Low Overall Community Level for Wayne County, outside of Detroit.

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## More Letters

### Sumpter treasurer candidate information

Residents of Sumpter Township

I would like to introduce myself as a neighbor VINCENT WARREN. My lovely wife Cindy and I are celebrating 34 years of marriage, eight children: Vincent, Lauren, Alicia, Miranda, Evan, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Mercedes, and five grandchildren. I am the fourth-generation resident to reside in Sumpter Township since my aunt and uncle moved to the township in 1958.

I have resided in Sumpter Township for 14 years and I am 53 years of age. My children and grandchildren attend and have graduated from the Belleville/Van Buren K-12 school system.

My children have moved forward in their careers to become investment bankers, cosmetologist, auto industry employees, mental health advocate, real-estate broker, entrepreneur, and college students.

I have dedicated over 28 years of service to our nation's service men/ women and civilian community. I have obtained my master's degree in counseling (Marriage & Family) with a Baccalaureate in Liberal Arts. Cindy is completing her Doctoral program to join me in advocating for families and youth. I am currently employed as Peer Advocate for our nation's veterans at the Department of Veteran Affairs (Ann Arbor, MI). I served our country during the Persian Gulf/Desert Storm wars from 1988-1994. I discharged honorably from the U.S. Navy with a goal to advocate for our nation's veterans. I currently advocate for our nation's veterans in eight counties

in Michigan and Toledo, OH.

I currently advocate in regard to healthcare, employment, family counseling, finances and end-of-life support. I currently serve as Quartermaster (Veteran of Foreign Wars of the U.S.) Post 4434, vice president Progressive League (Sumpter Township), Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development resident facilitator, State of Michigan certified Hospice Chaplain, Scout My Future nonprofit that serves a financial support for under-privileged youth seeking to attend college on athletic scholarships, and Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club.

I ran for Township Supervisor 2016-17. I was appointed to the Sumpter Township State Tax Commission Board of Review in 2019-20. I was unanimously appointed Sumpter Township Treasurer in 2020

If retained as Sumpter Township Treasurer I will continue to cross-train staff

in the treasurer's office to ensure optimum customer service and continue to reduce water delinquencies through supporting residents with resources to pay water bills,

Continue to advocate for the residents of this community through education and information platforms. If retained as your treasurer I will serve this community with integrity and honesty, I will build on current system processes regarding

resident tax reviews, assessments, property values, perform my legal statutory duties to lead the office with a team spirit, and to effectively communicate and collaborate with local municipalities and departments to transition Sumpter Township into the 21<sup>st</sup> century operating standards.

Sincerely,  
Vincent Warren  
Sumpter Township



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Neil and Thelma Griffin

## Neil Griffin celebrates 97<sup>th</sup> birthday with family

Neil Griffin of Van Buren Township celebrated his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday with his wife of 70 years Thelma, age 89, and their family at their home on Robson Road.

A special guest at the birthday party was Millie Baker of the city of Belleville who has been friends with Neil since they were children and her late husband Bob had been Neil's classmate. Millie recently turned 96.

He was born July 23, 1925 in Toledo and graduated from Belleville High School in 1943. Then he went into the Air Force and then the Air National Guard, being in the military for 17 years.

He married Thelma in 1952 and they first lived in a small house called the "Doll House" on West Columbia Avenue in the City of Belleville. They moved briefly to Garden City and then to the home on Robson, where they have been ever since. They enjoy always having a garden.

They are the parents of three children: Sue Wilkinson of South Lyon, Conny Melchi of Hamburg, and Chuck Griffin of Redford, all of whom graduated from Belleville High School, like Dad. Now there are four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, as well.

He served as an aircraft mechanic at

Willow Run and then worked for American Airlines. He retired from Environmental Research Institute of Michigan that was at Willow Run Airport before it moved to Ann Arbor.

Both Neil and Thelma are painters and have been active members of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. One of their recent partnerships setting up the Community Art FISH project, which began in 2018. Neil cut out more than 100 wooden fish, primed the wood, and then they passed them out to other local artists to decorate and sign on the back. They prepared poles and brackets and installed them in Horizon Park each summer for the public to enjoy. They had a committee of helpers, but Neil and Thelma led the way. Each year the number of decorated fish to install grows.

They now have passed that project on to others, but reportedly they do have two fish in their bathroom on Robson.

They also have been active members of the Rowdies MG Club. One year they drove to California in an MG, heading out with one MG and coming back with two. They do everything together.



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Photo courtesy of Sandy Fry

The "VB Picklers" posed for a picture at Monday's ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new pickleball courts on Denton at Beckley roads in Van Buren Township. From left are Elmer Nagy, Leda Nagy, Stan Johnson, Sue Johnson, Ronnie Gabrys, Roger Fry, Marshella, Penny Young, Dale Zilka, Linda Luke, Dennis Felice, Karen Copeland, Sandy Fry, Sherry Felice, Connie Sell, and Ted Williams. The group plays pickleball from 8 a.m. to noon every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and everyone is welcome to join in, regardless of skill.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman  
Elmer Nagy played the National Anthem on his flute during the ribbon-cutting ceremonies Monday for Van Buren Township's new "Pickle Park."

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman  
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# VBT & Akers

(continued from page 3)

Menards, JPMC's site security upgrades, and US Signals Data Center.

He was first hired as VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development in August 2015 at a salary of \$70,000.

At the July 19 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, the personal services agreement for Akers was added to the agenda and then approved on a 6-1 vote, with Trustee Kevin Martin casting the only no vote.

He said it was because of the process Supervisor Kevin McNamara used in hiring Akers and he had nothing against Akers himself.

Akers was rehired as VBT Municipal Services Director, a new position, that will oversee the departments of Public Services, Planning and Economic Development, and Water and Sewer, at a salary of \$98,000.

McNamara said he was very excited that Akers said yes.

"We are glad he came to his senses and came back," said Trustee Sherry Frazier.

Trustee Martin said this is a new position and he wanted to know where the money was coming from.

Supervisor McNamara said they were seeking assistants in three department and there's money left in the three budgets.

Trustee Martin asked who came up with the job description and McNamara said they got the job description from Canton.

Human Resources Director Nicole Sumpter agreed they got it from Canton.

"Did you have input?" Trustee Reggie Miller asked Director Sumpter and Sumpter replied that she saw it.

Martin asked if it was taken to Akers before she saw it and Sumpter replied, "Human Resources is responsible for all job descriptions."

"Who got this from Canton?" Martin asked and Sumpter replied she did when she was told Akers was being hired.

"How did we establish the rate of pay?" Martin asked and McNamara said it was through negotiations.

"I just found out on Friday that we were doing this and would be expected to vote on Tuesday," Martin said. "Why did we just hear about it on Friday? Why not talk about it beforehand? It was pushed forward in three or four days."

McNamara said they were looking for an administrative assistant and discovered Akers was out looking for a job. He said when they say yes, they have to move. He said the next board meeting would have been on Aug. 2 but it is the day of the election so it had to be cancelled.

"He wanted to make sure he had a job before he gave his 60-day notice," McNamara said of Akers. "I try not to keep anything from you."

Treasurer Sharry Budd said McNamara contacted her and Clerk Leon Wright.

"This was kind of the job that Matt [Best] had," McNamara said. Best no longer works for the township.

Martin said the full-time elected officers were aware, but the trustees were not made aware before Friday and they were expected to vote on Tuesday.

"My problem is with the process..." Martin said. "If they needed help, why didn't we advertise ... How did we know he was available?" Martin asked.

McNamara replied that somebody said Akers was look for a job. When Martin asked who, McNamara replied that someone from another municipality contacted Van Buren Township for a reference for Akers.

Sumpter told McNamara to stop talking publicly about the details and he did and took the 6-1 vote.

During Public Comment at the end of the meeting, resident Reg Ion thanked Martin for the no vote and called the action a "shady hire."

When he was first hired in 2015, the background information given said Akers lived in Wyandotte and had graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in Public Administration and Regional Planning. He was due to finish up his graduate degrees in Public Administration and Economic Development at Wayne State University.

He has worked for Blair Township in Northwestern Michigan, Whitewater Township outside Traverse City and before coming to Van Buren Township in 2015 was serving at Genoa Township in Livingston County as zoning official.

# LDFA honors John Delaney's work after he resigns from board

John Delaney announced his resignation from the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority at a recent township board meeting and at the July 12 regular LDFA meeting members praised his work.

"He was a very devoted member of this group," said Chairman Michael Dotson.

"I have been a member since 2016, but I've been out here in the peanut gallery since day one," Delaney said from the audience.

"Thank you for working with us and helping us," Chairman Dotson said. "You're a force we really liked being here," Dotson said and then referred to his institutional memory.

Doug Peters praised Delaney's attention to detail, including budget items and the actual statute of the LDFA.

"Jeff Jahr, Sr., called me the township ombudsman and that's why I'm here," Delaney said.

Delaney explained at the board meeting that

he needed to resign because he was joining in a law suit that would be unseemly for him as an LDFA member.

He said he plans to be at every LDFA meeting to hear what's going on and offer comments.



Delaney

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# LDFA

(continued from page 1)

the administration, not our lawyers. It is Visteon.

"Visteon is a corporate thief. Visteon is running up our legal expenses on purpose... We have \$32 million worth of debt ... Visteon is a bad neighbor, a corrupt organization that tried to take advantage of our taxpayers," Peters said.

He said the township supervisor has paid close attention to the law suit.

"Our corporate lawyers are conservative gentlemen when we don't need" politeness, he said, adding the township supervisor and his staff are very aware and every time there is an attorney bill it is scrutinized and questioned.

He called Visteon an "exploitive" corporation and said it is hiding documents.

"I believe the Ford Motor Company,

Proctor and Gamble, and Dow Corning destroy documents," he said. "It's not the time to let up."

Peters said there are people in this community and in Canton that can offer insider information to help the township's case.

"Once insiders come forward to talk, others will come," he said, pointing to the U.S. House's Jan. 6 hearings. He said when one young lady stood up, then others came forward.

"We ask Visteon's former and current employees to come forward," he said.

"It's \$32 million that Visteon is asking township residents to pay on their behalf," he stated.

"A lot of times we are instructed by our lawyers not to talk because they are afraid something we say will be used against us," Peters said.

"They should pay up or leave the community," Peters said of Visteon. "Unless they act like responsible citizens, they should leave the community or be shunned."

"Visteon is insisting we produce documents," Peters said, noting that takes time for staff to search and money for attorneys to review. "Visteon is just burning up our gasoline. Every little item, digital discovery. Try to keep us so busy there's not enough time to work on our strategy.

"We have senior lawyers and more senior lawyers. A few documents dribbled out from Visteon.

"We need insiders to send us documents," Peters said. "We don't know who exactly at

Visteon decided not to pay... We need to know who that person is."

He said it's important to videotape depositions because the momentary pauses before answering a question and the facial expressions are important.

"We're going to war with a Tier 1 corporation who wants to chisel us for \$32 million. If we quit, we'll be burned for \$32 million.

"A jury will be pretty angry because the community opened its arms and gave help to Visteon and then it went into bankruptcy and we get stiffed," Peters said. "When the jury hears that, they'll be made to pay.

"We need the documents," Peters stressed.

"We need to make them pay," agreed Supervisor Kevin McNamara.

Delaney said, "Visteon, Ford, and Sovereign are playing this end game to see if we have documents. If we don't have something" they could destroy their copy. He said there have been three township supervisors since this happened and multiple trustees and their depositions should have been videotaped. He said the planning started in 2000 and it was finalized in 2003.

Peters said that Visteon needs to be able to cross/examine witnesses. He said all the key players have been *statementized* and lawyers assured him all the key witnesses have been interviewed.

"I was the last board member," Peters said. "I was in the room and I asked what if they go bankrupt? Ford will stand behind them, we were told. Then they parted. They could not legally bind Ford. I can't say that they planned this from the beginning. They may have treated us like any of their other companies."

During the meeting, the LDFA considered a report on the loan agreement with the township and a budget update.

Van Buren Township Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham was present to answer questions. In his report he noted that the loan total from the township to the LDFA now stands at \$5,191,580.42 including interest and in September another \$1 million will need to be loaned to the LDFA to cover the next semi-annual debt payment in the amount of \$985,678.13 due Oct. 1. In the proposed 2023 budget, \$600,000 is set aside for attorney fees, up from \$450,000 estimated for 2022.

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

- **Thursday, July 28** – Music in the Park at Horizon Park in Belleville brings a free concert at 7 p.m. with Brother Crowe bringing Irish rock.
- **Monday, Aug. 1** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place. Also, Main Street Car Show, 6-8 p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES -- JULY 19, 2022

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, Trustee Frazier and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Community Services Renaud, Executive Assistant Dohring, Director of Public Services Lockett, Director of Water and Sewer Lawrence, Director of Recreation Zaenglein, Director of Planning and Economic Development Power, Human Resources Director Sumpter, Downtown Development Authority Director Ireland and an audience of fourteen (14).

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

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** Budd moved, Boynton seconded to approve the agenda as amended: New Business Item #2 was moved to New Business Item #1, the Personal Service Agreement for Ron Akers was added as New Business Item #7 and a Firework Display Permit Application by River of Life Church was added as New Business #8. Motion Carried.

**ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:** Boynton moved, Budd seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Work Study Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2022, Prepaid List of July 7, 2022, Prepaid List of July 14, 2022 and Voucher List of July 19, 2022. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

### C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

The Wayne County Fair takes place August 1 through August 6 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds; Assistant DDA Director Lisa Lothringer thanked the Board for sending flowers to her mother's funeral; the Annual Shred Day will be held on Saturday July 30 from 10:00 am until 1:00pm; Absentee ballots are available at the Clerk's Office for the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Primary Election and the Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 7am until 3pm for absentee voting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business):** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Boynton moved, Frazier seconded to approve the variance from engineering standard VI.A.1b of the Van Buren Township Engineering Standards Manual to allow expansion of an existing "dry" detention basin to serve the stormwater detention needs of the Township campus including the Community Center

p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

• **Monday, Aug. 1, through Thursday, Aug. 4** – Meet Up and Eat Up, a free summer lunch program for ages 18 and younger (\$2 for adults) at Tyler Elementary School cafeteria. Lunch served from 12 to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday through Aug. 25.

• **Tuesday, Aug. 2 through Saturday, Aug. 6** – Wayne County Fair at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van

addition. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Miller seconded to approve the guaranteed maximum price amendment to Frank Rewold & Son's current Community Center Construction Manager Contract for a total of \$12,918,868. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the Community Center Project Budget for a total of \$16,988,022. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Frazier seconded to approve of the special land use for redevelopment of Meijer store (9701 Belleville Road) including a drive-thru pharmacy. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Martin seconded to recuse Supervisor McNamara from New Business Item #5: to consider approval of Resolution 2022-13: to schedule a hearing for the establishment of Greenbriar Subdivision Special Assessment District due to a conflict of interests. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2022-13: to schedule a hearing for the establishment of Greenbriar Subdivision Special Assessment District. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Boynton seconded to approve a partnership between Van Buren Township and the DDA to develop a SS4A Action Plan Grant application package with the assistance of the Wade Trim FundingScout division, that would extend beyond the DDA boundaries at an estimated cost of \$15,000 total, to be proportionately divided in order for the DDA to remain compliant with PA 57 of 2018. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the Personal Service Agreement of Ron Akers. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Boynton, Miller Frazier, Wright, Budd and McNamara. Nays: Martin. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Frazier seconded to approve the Fireworks Display Permit Application by River of Life Church for August 13<sup>th</sup> fireworks display event. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

### PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA

**ITEMS:** A resident commented on Township spending and Blue Angel Airshow traffic control procedures; there was a question on the use of ARPA funds for the Community Center, an individual on Zoom asked if the Community Center will be free for Township residents and a resident reported that Wayne County, Washtenaw County, Oakland County, and Macomb County's homeless shelters are at capacity via the Zoom public participation link.

**BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Boynton moved; Wright seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Date

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Published: July 28, 2022

Buren Township.

• **Wednesday, Aug. 3** – Wayne County's Got Talent competition is on during Wayne County Fair Week. First place is \$350, second place \$100, third place \$50. Winners in junior, teens, and adult categories.

• **Wednesday, Aug. 3** – Wayne County Community College on Haggerty Road presents a free concert at 7 p.m.: The Detroit Social Club (Blues, Motown, Soul, Pop).

• **Thursday, Aug. 4** – Music in the Park at Horizon Park in Belleville brings a free concert at 7 p.m. with U.B.U. bringing soul/R&B.

• **Sunday, Aug. 7** – Bugles Across America begins at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans' Memorial in Horizon Park on High Street in the City of Belleville. On the first Sunday of each month there is a brief ceremony to honor those who serve in the military. There is the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, and Taps. All are welcome.

• **Monday, Aug. 8** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place. Also, Main Street Car Show, 6-8 p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

## BONECUTTERS TREE EXPERTS, LLC

**STORM DAMAGE  
& SUMMER DISCOUNTS!**  
50% DISCOUNT IF YOU KEEP WOOD/BRUSH!

- Storm Clean Up
- Free Estimates
- Tree Topping & Trimming
- Tree & Shrub Removal
- Stump Removal • Bucket Service

**Insured & Senior Discounts**

**(734) 431-4202**

## MEET UP and EAT UP™

**HEALTHY FOOD TO FUEL YOUR SUMMER!**

### TYLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

**Where:** Tyler Elementary School, 42200 Tyler Rd.

**When:** August 1 through August 25

**Time:** 12 Noon-12:30 p.m. (Mon-Thurs only)

**Who:** For Ages 18 and Younger

**Price:** FREE! (Adults and Parents \$2)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



• **Wednesday, Aug. 10** – Wayne County Community College on Haggerty Road presents a free concert at 7 p.m.: Russ & Brian's Blues Brothers Tribute Band (R&B, Soul).

• **Thursday, Aug. 11** – Music in the Park at Horizon Park in Belleville brings a free concert at 7 p.m. with Nikki D & the Sisters of Thunder bringing soul/blues.

• **Monday, Aug. 15** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place. Also, Main Street Car Show, 6-8 p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

• **Thursday, Aug. 18** – Music in the Park at Horizon Park in Belleville brings a free concert at 7 p.m. with The Groove Council bringing R&B.

• **Sunday, Aug. 21** – Finder's Keepers at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township.

• **Monday, Aug. 22** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place. Also, Main Street Car Show, 6-8 p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

• **Saturday, Aug. 27** – Michigan Motor Fest, 6 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township

• **Monday, Aug. 29** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Place. Also, Main Street Car Show, 6-8 p.m., between Third and Fifth streets in downtown Belleville.

## Belleville High School All-Class Reunion set for Sept. 17 at BHS

After not having the annual event for two years because of the COVID pandemic, the Belleville High School All-Class Alumni Reunion is back on the calendar.

The event is set for Saturday, Sept. 17 at the BHS Commons. A social gathering will be held from 2:30 to 4:45 p.m. and a dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. Faculty, staff, and friends of alumni are encouraged to join alumni for the event.

Registration information is available on Facebook at Belleville HS Alumni Reunion, by email at [bellevilleallclass@gmail.com](mailto:bellevilleallclass@gmail.com) or by calling (734) 546-2950.

## Houston James one of 4 Republicans for State Senate seat on Aug. 2

Houston W. James, 23, of 28442 Dawnridge Dr., Flat Rock, returned his candidate form to the *Independent* past the deadline for inclusion in last week's issue with other candidates.

He is running as a Republican for State Senator in the 4<sup>th</sup> District.

James graduated from Tiffin University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Criminal Justice (*cum laude*) in Homeland Security and Counter Terrorism. He is a graduate of Taylor Kennedy High School. His career experience includes working as an intern for Congressman Don Young of



James

Alaska.

His club and organizations include: Perfect Spiral QB Training owner, Pheasants Forever, Alumni of Washington Center, Alumni of Stennis Center.

He said he is running for office because, "I want to be a senator for the people, not a politician. Being right of center politically, I feel I can bridge partisan divides to create the best policy for everyone."

Once elected his goals are to, "Address: 1. Inflation. 2. Reduce gas/energy costs (open Line 5 which also protects union jobs). 3. Provide educational transparency to parents. 4. Promote small business. 5. Expand vocational education. 6. Roads."

There are three other Republicans in the primary seeking to get their party's nomination for the Nov. 6 general election: James Chapman of Van Buren Township, Michael Frazier of Romulus, and Beth Socia of Flat Rock. Socia did not return her candidate form and Chapman and Frazier

were featured in last week's *Independent*.

Darrin Camilleri, D, 2964 Harrison Ave., Trenton, is unopposed for the seat as a Democrat. There are no incumbents.

The district includes Belleville, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, Huron Township, Romulus, Wayne, Brownstown, Southgate, Flat Rock, Trenton, Grosse Ile, Gibraltar, and Wyandotte.

**One Call Does It All...  
...At The Independent  
734-699-9020**

## Sydney Barrett earns Juris Doctor degree from University of Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, UT -- The University of Utah announces Sydney Barrett of Belleville was among the more than 8,000 graduates honored during the 153rd general commencement ceremony on May 5. The Class of 2022 includes students who graduated in summer 2021, fall 2021 and spring 2022.

Barrett earned a Juris Doctor degree in Spring 2022.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### JOB POSTING



## VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### Community Services - Director of Parks

**Classification:** Regular, Full-time FLSA

**Status:** Non-exempt

**Salary:** \$63,000

#### **Benefits Package:**

Health/Dental 90% Employer Paid

Blue Cross Blue Shield/

Blue Care Network

Vision

Short/Long Term Disability Insurance

Life Insurance \$50,000 PTO

Education Tuition Assistant Plan

#### **Retirement Package**

Defined Contribution with a 12% Township Contribution HCSP of \$2500 annually after a full year of employment

#### **Application Deadlines: Open Until Filled**

You are invited to apply for these positions by sending a current resume to [nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org)

For Full Details Visit our Site:

[https://www.vanburen-mi.org/how\\_do\\_i/apply\\_for\\_a\\_township\\_job.php](https://www.vanburen-mi.org/how_do_i/apply_for_a_township_job.php)

Publish: July 28, 2022; August 4, 2022; August 11, 2022; August 18, 2022; August 25, 2022

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### JOB POSTING



## VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### Community Services - Parks Maintenance

**Classification:** Part Time

**Hourly Wage:** \$18.00

#### **Application Deadlines: Open Until Filled**

You are invited to apply for these positions by sending a current resume to [nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org)

The Charter Township of Van Buren is an equal opportunity employer

The Charter Township of Van Buren, Michigan is seeking part-time year-round maintenance.

For Full Details Visit Our Site below:

[https://www.vanburen-mi.org/how\\_do\\_i/apply\\_for\\_a\\_township\\_job.php](https://www.vanburen-mi.org/how_do_i/apply_for_a_township_job.php)

Publish: July 21, 2022; July 28, 2022; August 4, 2022; August 11, 2022; August 18, 2022; August 25, 2022



# Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



Perspective Eyecare will have you and your family ready for fall and back to school, college, or even back to work with a buy-one-pair of glasses and get a second pair half off at their office, located in the plaza at 11824 Belleville Rd. Choose from thousands of designer frames by Oakley, Jimmy Choo, Ann Klein, and Calvin Klein, just to name a few. Appointments for eye exams, and other services can be made by

calling (734) 699-1010 or booked online at their website at [www.perspectiveeyecare.com](http://www.perspectiveeyecare.com). See their ad in today's paper.

\*\*\*

Budd's Produce has been growing locally for over 150 years on the North I-94 Service Drive near Morton Taylor with seasonal vegetables along with their famous sweet corn. They're open seven days, Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 697-9465.

\*\*\*

Temples Tree Service LLC is a local company that offers tree trimming and pruning, tree removal, stump grinding,

chipping, and general storm cleanup. Call owner Alec Temple at (734) 635-9840 and see their ad in today's paper.

\*\*\*

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue's upcoming pet adoption event that was listed in last week's paper for Aug. 13 at the Petco Pet Store in Westland has been cancelled. FMAR board member Linda Luke said this week that the shelter and its services haven't been interrupted with the recent retirement of FMAR founders Pete and Marcy LaFramboise and that she and everyone at FMAR are full steam ahead with day-to-day operations and to watch for new adoption events coming soon. For details on the adoption process

and the many ways to help and volunteer, visit the shelter's new website at [www.friendsofmichigan.org](http://www.friendsofmichigan.org).

\*\*\*

This Thursday's Music Lakeside Concert at Horizon Park features Brother Crowe (Irish Rock) beginning at 7 p.m. In case of rain, the free concert will move across the street to First United Methodist Church on Charles Street.

\*\*\*

Meet Up & Eat Up is a way to offer healthy food and free meals to children in the Van Buren School District as the Tyler Elementary School Summer Lunch Program resumes Aug. 1-25, from noon until 12:30 p.m. (Monday through Thursday) for children 18 years and younger at the school, located at 42200 Tyler Road. Children eat free while adults and parents pay \$2 each. See their ad in today's paper.

\*\*\*

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

## 4 candidates file for 4 seats on Belleville Area District Library Board

As of the 4 p.m., July 21, deadline, the following four candidates have filed with the Wayne County Clerk to seek election to four, four-year seats on the Belleville Area District Library Board in the Nov. 8 election:

- Tanya Stoudemire-Phillips
- Linda Priest
- Daniel R. Fleming
- Sharon C. Peters

Stoudemire-Phillips, Priest, and Peters serve on the current board and are running for reelection. Fleming is a first-time candidate running for the seat of Mary Jane Dawson, who did not file for reelection.

### School Board candidates

Candidates for three, four-year terms on the Van Buren Public School Board of Education in the Nov. 8 election had until 4 p.m., Tuesday, July 26, to file with the Van Buren Township clerk's office. The *Independent* deadline for the week was at noon, so here are the candidates who have filed by 10 a.m. Tuesday:

- Terrance Goff
- Andrew Frazier
- Darlene Loyer Gerick
- Calvin Hawkins, Jr.
- Amy Pearce

Gerick, Hawkins, and Pearce are serving on the current board and have filed for reelection. Goff and Frazier are new candidates. All the candidates so far live in Van Buren Township.

Other candidates had time to file before deadline and we will include them in a final story next week. Candidates have until July 29 to withdraw.

**One Call Does It All . . .  
... At the Independent  
699-9020**

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION-TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the General Election will be held TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

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

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

All polling place are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk's Office prior to Election Day.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the residents in the Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County Michigan will be voting on the following as presented and listed below:

**GOVERNOR, REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, STATE SENATOR 4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 31<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, COUNTY EXECUTIVE, COUNTY SHERIFF PARTIAL TERM ENDING 12/31/2024, COUNTY COMMISSIONER, DELEGATE TO COUNTY CONVENTION**

**WAYNE COUNTY PROPOSITION J- TO RENEW THE MILLAGE AUTHORIZED IN 2012, SHALL WAYNE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO CONTINUE TO LEVY THIS MILLAGE AT THE 2021 ROLLBACK RATE OF 9.358 MILS (ABOUT 94 CENTS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAXABLE VALUATION) FOR TEN MORE YEARS (2022 THROUGH 2031)**

**DISTRICT LIBRARY OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL- THIS PROPOSAL WILL ALLOW THE DISTRICT LIBRARY TO LEVY ADDITIONAL MILLAGE IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE, CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, AND TOWNSHIP OF SUMPTER FOR LIBRARY OPERATING PURPOSES. SHALL THE LIMITATION ON THE AMOUNT OF TAXES WHICH MAY BE ASSESSED AGAINST ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE BELLEVILLE AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN BE INCREASED BY \$0.6864 ON EACH \$1000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION) FOR A PERIOD OF 15 YEARS, 2022 TO 2036.**

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

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

Leon Wright, MMC  
Van Buren Township Clerk

Posted: 7/18/22  
Published: 7/28/22



## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 231 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.*

**Sunday, July 17:**  
0034 – breaking & entering, Locust Dr.  
0040 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
0149 – hospice death, Victoria St.  
0219 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0254 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hamilton St.  
0319 – suspicious person//vehicle, W. Huron River Dr. / Elwell Rd.  
0553 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0709 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0743 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beckley Rd.  
0901 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.  
0907 – welfare check, McBride Ave.  
0945 – intrusion alarm, Milton Dr.  
1107 – domestic, Maple Dr.  
1126 – harassment call, Rawsonville Rd.  
1133 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service  
1402 – domestic, Lake Villa Dr.  
1509 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beckley Rd.  
1517 – intrusion alarm, Woodgrove Dr.  
1654 – assist fire dept., Sheldon Rd.  
1709 – fight, Capitol Hills  
1854 – parking complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1858 – runaway, Quirk Rd.  
1949 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.  
2046 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty  
2051 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2109 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.  
2130 – fight, Quirk Rd.  
2243 – welfare check, E. Huron River Dr.  
2334 – welfare check, Oak Ln.  
2355 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.

**Monday, July 18:**  
0011 – noise complaint, Meadows Ln.  
0042 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0150 – warrant arrest, Oak Park  
0200 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0247 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood  
0502 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service  
0755 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.  
0846 – warrant arrest, Parkwood Dr.  
1003 – family trouble, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1232 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River  
1322 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1329 – civil matter, Martinsville Rd.  
1331 – property damage accident, W. Huron River  
1333 – welfare check, Fret Rd.  
1449 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.  
1529 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.  
1604 – fraud, Hampton Dr.  
1819 – welfare check, Savage Rd.  
1828 – welfare check, Tyler Rd./Hannan Rd.  
1907 – Meijer property check, Belleville Rd.

**Tuesday, July 19:**  
0002 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.  
0129 – narcotics crime, rest area  
0259 – assist other dept., N. Liberty St.  
0403 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0828 – private property/property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.  
0842 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0947 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.

0948 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.  
1001 – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.  
1059 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1147 – mental subject, Ponderosa Trail South  
1313 – fraud, Maple Dr.  
1409 – neighbor trouble, Filmore St.  
1425 – civil matter, E. Schooner Dr.  
1426 – prisoner transport, S. Wayne Rd.  
1447 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Jeremy  
1546 – assist fire dept., S. Prairiegrass Ct.  
1605 – property damage accident, E. Huron River  
1707 – property damage accident, E. Huron River  
1735 – welfare check, America  
1744 – 911 welfare check, Oak Ln.  
1807 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.  
1847 – property check, Belleville Rd.  
1852 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
2021 – suicidal person, Fret Rd.  
2046 – domestic, Oak Ln.  
2132 – neighbor trouble, Belleville Rd.  
2221 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.

2225 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.  
2320 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2326 – family trouble, E. Huron River Dr.  
2338 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.  
**Wednesday, July 20:**  
0006 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.  
0009 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0058 – domestic, Ash Dr.  
0256 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.  
0541 – road hazard, W. Huron River Dr./Fairview  
0620 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Hannan  
0805 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.  
0929 – abandoned auto, Belleville Rd.  
1005 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.  
1044 – harassment call, Gilmore St.  
1115 – civil matter, Savage Rd.  
1123 – suspicious person/vehicle, McBride Ave.  
1125 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1205 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.  
1204 – civil matter, Hannan Rd.  
1218 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.  
1322 – malicious destruction of property, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1328 – mental subject, Andover Dr.  
1547 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.  
1605 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.  
1639 – domestic, Lohr Rd.  
1644 – intrusion alarm, Belle Pointe Dr.  
1659 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
1712 – larceny, N. Timberview Dr.  
1937 – intrusion alarm, Hannan Rd.  
1953 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Rawsonville Rd.  
2244 – noise complaint, Park Estates  
2248 – assault & battery, Kent Dr.  
2307 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Sadie Ln.

**Thursday, July 21:**  
0115 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / Harmony Ln.  
0321 – domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
0529 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0733 – intrusion alarm, Hardwood Dr.  
0842 – civil matter, Cherry Ln.  
1111 – civil matter, Westlake Cir.  
1141 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.  
1153 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1216 – ordinance violation, Haggerty Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1307 – domestic, Denton Rd.  
1313 – malicious destruction of property, Bayshore  
1334 – fraud, W. Sadie Ln.  
1428 – vehicle lockout, Wayne County Fairgrounds  
1538 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.  
1605 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.  
1613 – civil matter, Outer Dr.

1634 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1655 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1656 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1702 – 911 welfare check, Renton Rd.  
1707 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1707 – parking complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1756 – PPO violation, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1842 – suspicious person/vehicle, Filmore St.  
1846 – suspicious person/vehicle, Cobblestone  
1856 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.  
2049 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lauren Ct.  
2208 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / Van Born Rd.  
2346 – intrusion alarm, Belle Pointe Dr.

**Friday, July 22:**  
0138 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.  
0511 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Allen Ave.  
0818 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.  
1049 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Huron River  
1113 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1124 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service  
1146 – trespassing, E. Huron River Dr.  
1312 – suspicious person/vehicle, Quirk Rd.  
1319 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1332 – private property impound, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1356 – welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1440 – family trouble, E. Huron River Dr.  
1454 – welfare check, Ash Dr.  
1541 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.  
1717 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.  
1721 – civil matter, Fret Rd.  
1740 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.  
1747 – fraud, Anna Dr.  
1827 – assist other dept., Egan’s

1839 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.  
1922 – harassment call, Denton Rd.  
2033 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2207 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
2356 – intrusion alarm, Walden Ct.  
**Saturday, July 23:**  
0030 – road hazard, Rawsonville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0324 – suspicious person/vehicle, Birch Dr.  
0721 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.  
1036 – abandoned auto, Cambridge Ct.  
1216 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.  
1239 – ordinance violation, Hamlin St./Kennedy Ct.  
1259 – ordinance violation, Belle Pointe Estates  
1321 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service  
1330 – neighbor trouble, Van Buren St.  
1331 – abandoned auto, N. Liberty  
1621 – property damage accident, N. Adams  
1652 – civil matter, Van Buren St.  
1653 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1659 – sexual assault, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1705 – threat, Brookview Dr.  
1718 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.  
1806 – larceny from auto, Beckley Rd.  
1850 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.  
1943 – motorist assist, Tyler Rd./Quirk Rd.  
1951 – juvenile complaint, Vernon St.  
1952 – noise complaint, Madison Dr.  
1953 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
2049 – juvenile complaint, E. Archwood Dr.  
2158 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.  
2229 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2232 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park Dr. / Ecorse Rd.  
2325 – family trouble, Oak Ln.  
2354 – intrusion alarm, Daniel Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 26 traffic stops, three of which are on the I-94 freeway.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, July 17:**  
0148 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.  
0340 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.  
1702 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.  
2317 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

**Monday, July 18:**  
0022 – suspicious person/vehicle, Estrada Dr.  
1018 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr. / N. Liberty St.  
1116 – misc. complaint, Main St.  
1128 – civil matter, Main St.  
1236 – suicidal person, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1716 – malicious destruction of property, Victorian  
2035 – traffic stop, Main St.  
2104 – suspicious person/vehicle, Owen St.  
2311 – juvenile complaint, Light Tower Dr.  
2314 – traffic stop, South St./Henry St.

**Tuesday, July 19:**  
0251 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.  
0617 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.  
0658 – intrusion alarm, Victorian Ln.  
1933 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr. / N. Liberty  
2107 – lost property/child, Main St.  
2115 – assist other dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
2359 – assist other dept., Carmell St.

**Wednesday, July 20:**  
0361 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.  
0506 – suspicious person/vehicle, Santa Clara St.  
1114 – civil matter, N. Liberty St.  
1211 – traffic stop, High St./Brain St.  
1259 – found property/child, Main St.  
1502 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River  
1507 – property damage accident, Flex Mart  
1603 – follow-up by officer, N. Liberty St.  
1823 – misc. complaint, Main St.

**Thursday, July 21:**  
0034 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.  
1054 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.  
1145 – traffic stop, S. Liberty St./E. Columbia  
1532 – motorist assist, Main/E. Huron River Dr.  
1619 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St. / Second St.  
1829 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.  
1838 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.

**Friday, July 22:**  
1530 – welfare check, N. Liberty St./Main St.  
1538 – disorderly, South St.

1823 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.  
2240 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./Church St.  
**Saturday, July 23:**  
0038 – disorderly, Carmell  
1005 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1134 – holdup alarm, Main St.  
1749 – trespassing, N. Liberty St.  
There were 14 traffic stops on this week’s log.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, July 17:**  
1003 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.  
1044 – fire dept. assist, Birch Ct.  
1059 – fire dept. assist, Country Club Blvd.  
1327 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1433 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd./Judd  
1525 – harassment complaint, Carriage Ln.  
1711 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1823 – ORV complaint, Wear Rd./Karr Rd.  
1948 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2052 – OWI arrest, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2133 – 911 hang up, California St.  
2359 – neighbor dispute, Rustic Ln.

**Monday, July 18:**  
0215 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.  
0515 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.  
0925 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1212 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1321 – citizen assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1441 – fire dept. assist, Utah St.  
1829 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd. / Harris Rd.

1845 – alarm, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2015 – ORV complaint, Elwell Rd./Willis Rd.  
2035 – suspicious circumstance, Willis Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.  
2105 – alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2120 – assist other agency, 12000 bl. Rawsonville  
2228 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2350 – juvenile complaint, First St.

**Tuesday, July 19:**  
0146 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1104 – 911 hang up, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1251 – 911 hang up, Utah St.  
1429 – welfare check, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1522 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Martinsville  
1653 – neighbor dispute, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1729 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz  
1851 – found property, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
2014 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2346 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

**Wednesday, July 20:**  
0752 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln.  
1007 – citizen assist, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1117 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1423 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
1425 – assist other agency, Rawsonville Rd. / Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1509 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.  
1736 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis  
1835 – harassment complaint, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.  
2007 – suspicious person, Willis Rd./Haggerty Rd.  
2117 – 911 hang up, Alaska St.

**Thursday, July 21:**  
1102 – fire dept. assist, Brookview Dr.  
1123 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1416 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2112 – noise complaint, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2318 – suspicious circumstance, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2323 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.

**Friday, July 22:**  
0304 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0847 – welfare check, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
0919 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1000 – family trouble, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1343 – suspicious vehicle, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1346 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1902 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1935 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
2012 – neighbor dispute, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2113 – suspicious vehicle, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

**Saturday, July 23:**  
0149 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.  
0339 – family trouble, Montana St.  
0900 – citizen assist, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.

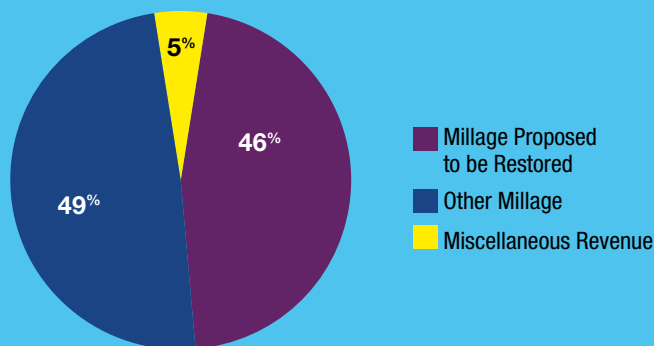
*(Continued on page 19)*



## Belleville Area District Library's Operating Millage is on the Ballot August 2, 2022

Replacement Millage August 2, 2022  
(with no tax increase over 2021 levels)

- Interactive children's area
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Paid for by: Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth Street, Belleville, MI 48111

## More Letters

(continued from page 5)

but the power dynamics at play regarding hotel evictions based on the township's harmful ordinance and enforcement is contributing to homelessness of community members, from disabled seniors to disabled children. Concerns for retaliation and further harms exist because of a lack of public health responses to socioeconomic concerns.

Housing agencies in the county, across the state, and nationally have been screaming for years that there are not enough shelters, affordable housing and rental options. This is why CERA funds, ARPA funds, hotel vouchers and many other emergency declarations and programs have been used to protect individuals at highest risks of losing housing and structural violence.

Many waitlists for shelters are closed because they are months out and no end in sight to this problem. There are no housing vouchers for Wayne County being given at this time, and no Housing Choice Waitlists are open according to Wayne Metro as of July 19. Christnet, although listed as a shelter, has been closed indefinitely since 2020. There is a new shelter in the works, but it is not open, not accessible and will fill up quickly in the Taylor area.

To clarify a quote from the newspaper "I'm paying over \$4,000 out of my pocket for one affordable housing place." I have paid over \$4,000 out of my pocket and mutual aid funds for hotels and camping supplies because there is only one non-senior affordable housing unit within the township that accepts vouchers, with a waiting list from months to over a year and a half and the subsidized housing program is suspended indefinitely according to Parkwood Manor staff.

<https://housing.state.mi.us/>.

Renting a mobile home seems simple, but there are many barriers to this simplistic "solution." Many require a security deposit, do not accept low credit scores, and will not accept past evictions even if it is because of a negligent landlord. Mobile homes only account for a small percentage of housing options in the township area, so it is not the only solution.

The hotels may not be perfect, and we can have a deeper discussion on power dynamics regarding landlords and tenant rights, but they are not on the streets, the woods, nor are they in abandoned homes. The hotel that the township is enforcing the ordinance at has a fridge and microwave in majority or all the rooms. Though it is not perfect, it should not be the main point of focus because many

people (housed or unhoused) eat out daily and prepare meals that require little to no cooking. A microwave is a source to cook food, so this argument has a little merit. Conditions in the room can yes be poor, but so that from lack of repairs from an owner, or issues from the tenant. Again, these issues are on the hotel owner, just like it would be for any other person renting to someone. Not to lean against a length of stay ordinance to let the township be their minion through their officers.

For the hotel owner, who took over regardless of the situation, then discussions should involve the current situation, various issues and address whatever needs are to actually build together a healthier community for all. I spoke with the Supervisor and deputy supervisor on Thursday July 14, for 30 minutes via zoom. It was last-minute. He was going to discuss a moratorium on the ordinance and get back to it by the following week. I still remain against an ordinance that can displace people. Full stop.

I have asked for many years for a resource center and bringing in funding for housing, mental health and substance use and various other programs. ARPA, CERA, Opioid Settlement, Community Block Grant, any of it could be used to address these issues.

In response to the comment about being paid to "fix issues." I was contracted with the township for a resource guide (public record) that I was working on already on my own and brought to the township. I did the update the following year. The township took it over after that. I was not hired or consulted/contracted to do anything else. I was paid a very small amount for the time and amount of hours that were put into that resource guide, but it was about getting resources to the community and not about the money. I knew their reach could go further to residents than my efforts alone. I do mutual aid with a few people because of the barriers and lack of resources in the area for over a decade. This isn't new/or Covid-related. It only became more public because of Covid burdens and concerns of scams to be transparent and accountable. I work in the spirit of mutual aid: solidarity, not charity.

While I appreciate the very nice words from people thanking me for speaking out and resources provided, I am not a representative, gatekeeper, or hero. I speak up and do what I can because of my privilege and not sitting complacent, while people suffer needlessly.

During the Board of Trustees' meeting on July 19, I learned that the ordinance would be on hold, but in a non-responsive approach to actually provide health and community services to individuals at the hotel, strict enforcement policies and practices that will be applied to poverty-related and quality of life offenses that will further push people into poverty while increasing trauma, economic exclusion and negative health outcomes including inequitable incarceration, morbidity, and mortality rates.

Public health, social workers, and others want to help improve the health and safety within the 48111, and ask what are our shared values to make this a "premiere community"? Do they involve all community members or just those with excessive amounts of privilege and wealth?

In solidarity and health,  
Ashley Shukait, MPH, CHES®  
Van Buren Township

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## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1140 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1159 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.

1359 – fire dept. assist, Birch Ct.

1501 – suspicious person, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1518 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1634 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1712 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

1915 – follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Fenster

2058 – mental health call, Rustic Ln.

Also on this week's log are 120 patrol checks, 36 traffic stops, and 11 misc. details.





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Home. Living Room w/Fireplace Hardwood  
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### NEW LISTING



**48911 LAGUNA, VAN BUREN**  
**ORIGINAL OWNER IMPRESSIVE UP-**  
**GRADES. 4 BEDROOMS, 3 1/2 BATHS, NEW**  
**ROOF FINISHED BASEMENT BAR-**  
**KITCHEN, PAVER PATIO & MORE \$500,000**

### A MUST SEE



**48610 W HURON RIVER, VAN BUREN**  
**BEAUTY WORTH CELEBRATING!** 3 Bed-  
rooms, 2 Updated Baths, Large Family Room, 3  
Seasons Sunroom. Spacious Living Room, Up-  
dated Kitchen 2 1/2 Car Garage. \$299,900

### WOW! 19 ACRES



**20218 MARTINSVILLE, SUMPTER TWP**  
**SELLER MOTIVATED!** 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2  
Baths, Updated Kitchen, Basement, **HUGE**  
**40X130 Horse Barn** on Paved Street. A **TOTAL**  
**OF 19+ ACRES AT \$375,000**

### VAN BUREN CONDO



**9684 SAWGRASS CT, VAN BUREN**  
**BEST LOCATION OVERLOOKING THE**  
**POND.** 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, First Floor Unit  
with Walkout Deck, Assigned Carport, Close to  
Everything and Priced to Sell at \$139,900

### NEW LISTING



**34708 ASH, HURON TWP**  
**A MOST DESIRED** 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch.  
Featuring Open Kitchen, Large Family Room  
with Fireplace Leading to the Large Indoor Pool  
2 1/2 Car Attached Garage, 1+ Acre. \$400,000

### POLE BARN & MORE



**2057 MOELLER, YPSILANTI TWP**  
**LARGE BRICK RANCH** 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2  
Baths, Large Family Room, Newer Wallside  
Windows, New Roof, Large Pole Barn with 3  
Lots on over 1 Acre. \$239,900

### CUSTOM BUILT



**3136 MILDRED, WAYNE**  
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Room, Big Living Room with Fireplace, Natural  
Maple Kitchen, 22X12 Florida Room. Large  
Basement with 2nd Fireplace. \$275,000.

### ALLEN PARK



**6794 ROBINSON, ALLEN PARK**  
**ALLEN PARK** Updated 3 Bedroom, Remode-  
led Kitchen (2019), Refinished Hardwood  
Floors and New Wood Floors in Kitchen, New  
Roof on House (2013) Full Basement, \$162,900

### SUPERSIZED



**35772 HAWTHORNE, ROMULUS**  
**SUPERSIZED** 2,596 Sq Ft 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath  
Colonial. Family Room, Living Room, Fireplace  
and Huge 14x28 Master Bedroom. Basement, 2 1/  
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**VACANT JUDD SUMPTER SECLUDED 8.7**  
**AC. PAVED ST HURON SCHOOL \$85,000.**

**44297 DUNN 15.7 AC WOW JUST \$115,000**

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**CORNER WEAR AND HAGGERTY**

**VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$70,000**

**CORNER WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE**  
**SEWER & WATER 1.64 ACRES \$65,000**

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

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**AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED \$40,000**  
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**VACANT MARIO ANN C ROMULUS \$40,000**

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