



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 29.31 Thursday, August 3, 2023

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Retired Sumpter Police Chief James Pierce, Jr. dies July 26



Retired Sumpter Police Chief
James Pierce, Jr.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Retired Sumpter Township Police Chief James Pierce of Van Buren Township died July 26 at the age of 73. He had served in law enforcement for more than 45 years.

Chief Pierce served as Sumpter Police Commander for two years under his best friend Police Chief Melvin Turner before being named police chief in 2006, a position he held for ten years.

He was a Navy veteran, third-degree Tae Kwon Do Black Belt who taught karate, and retired as sergeant from the Detroit Police Department after 30 years of service, including 10 years as Mayor

Coleman Young's personal security officer. After retiring, he briefly served as a deputy sheriff in the Wayne County Sheriff's Department before coming to Sumpter.

After retiring from Sumpter, he was not ready to give up police work and returned to the City of Detroit Police Department in the Police Assistant Training Division. He finally retired from police work in 2018.

After his death, a posting on the Sumpter Township Police Facebook page said: "Chief Pierce was a strong believer in family. He treated each of us as members of his family and changed the dynamic of the police department. He was proud to be the Chief of Police of Sumpter Township

and equally proud of the men and women who make up the department.

"Chief Pierce created many opportunities for members of the department to excel through education and promotions, laying the foundation for our present balanced command staff and the robust, responsive, and efficient department we have today... Rest easy. We'll take it from here."

Chief Pierce often talked about the motorcycle trips he loved to take with his beloved wife Regina. They had belonged to several motorcycle clubs.

Services were Wednesday at the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville. The full obituary is on page 7.

Court Watching:

Texas man bound over in VBT shooting death of semi-truck driver

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

After an hour-long preliminary exam on July 24, 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green found there was probable cause to bind over long-distance truck driver Mark Anthony Shaw, 39, of Missouri City, TX to circuit court on a charge of shooting another long-distance truck driver from California in a Van Buren Township alley on June 28.

His arraignment on the information was set for July 31 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit. He is charged with first-degree murder and felony firearm in the death of Stafford Segree, 47, of Van Nuys, CA.

Before the exam began, Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Ryan Elsey submitted the report by Assistant Wayne County Medical Examiner Dr. Nicole Croon on the June 30 autopsy. She reported Segree's entrance and exit wounds were on his neck with stippling around the wound. Death was caused by a gunshot wound to the neck and manner of death was homicide.

Judge Green and defense attorney Christopher Quinn stipulated the written report could be entered for the exam only.

There were to be three witnesses, but the prosecution decided there was no need for the owner of the trucking company to be flown in from California to testify and his affidavit was enough.

First witness was Van Buren Township Police Sgt. Ryan McCormick who testified he had been with the department for 17 years. He said he was dispatched to a call just before 1 p.m. on June 29 to check on a semi truck with broken windows parked in the alley at 10850 Belleville Rd.

He described the area as a shopping plaza with a mix of businesses on the west side of Belleville Road. He said there was a parking lot in front and dumpsters behind with a semi truck and truck just to the north.

He said he noticed glass on the ground on the passenger side windows, which were not intact. The windows were broken on both the passenger and driver's side.

"I saw an individual leaning over to the

right on the driver's side. I was able to unlock the passenger door and he appeared to be deceased," Sgt. McCormick testified. He said there was an amount of blood on the man's chest and shirt and on the floor as well.

He was able to get identification for the driver. He also found a shell casing on the ground on the driver's side of the truck.

Prosecutor Elsey displayed body camera pictures of the truck, the shell casing, and the body in the truck upon arrival as exhibits 2, 3, and 4.

Sgt. McCormick said the sign on the truck was BLVD Moving and he used the DOT number on the tractor. He said he made contact with the company's owner, David Finbres in California. Finbres was able to provide video from when the truck was parked through the camera facing outward on the top of the windshield of the truck.

Sgt. McCormick testified that the owner provided access to his system, which is cloud-based, and McCormick and the prosecutor could log in with a password. There were 59 individual video files between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. on June 28.

Prosecutor Elsey asked Judge Green if it was all right to show 12 minutes of videos in one-minute sections and he was given permission. The clips he showed started at 9:42 p.m. and showed the truck pulling up behind another truck. The license plate of

the other truck was visible.

At 9:44 a person came from the other truck and walked to the driver's side window. At 9:46 he ran to his truck and then came back. At 9:46 he walks back to his truck and at 9:48 he walks back slowly to the driver's side. At 9:49, he walks back to his truck and a hand brushes his face. At 9:50 his truck drives away. At 10:18, the truck drives up on the right of the victim's

(continued on page 19)



**The Belleville Area Museum
has been closed by
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Set for reopening in Dec.**

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council considers ways to fund \$3-4M in streetwork

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Belleville City Council is considering how to fund the upgrading of all the streets within the city, with costs in the area of \$3-4 million.

At a special meeting on July 26, the council listened to a report and discussed the issue for more than an hour, before ending that discussion and interviewing another candidate for city manager.

Kari Blanchett, managing director of PFM Financial Advisors of Ann Arbor, laid out what is owed by the city and what ways money can be raised for road repairs. She presented a chart showing the details for the options of voted bonds, special assessment bonds, and Michigan Transportation Fund bonds. There were 10-, 15-, and 20-year terms for \$3 million and the chart showed millages in the area of 3 to 4 mills.

"Nobody would want to buy a home in Harbour Pointe because the roads are terrible," said Councilman Jeremiah Beebe, who lives on another city street that also needs repairs, Church Street.

"Nobody wants more taxes," he said.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ken Voigt said all the roads in the city have been evaluated and the really critical repairs are estimated at \$800,000.

Acting City Manager Steve Jones said he thinks they should bond for the whole thing.

"It's not going to go away," he said of the deteriorating roads in the city. He said it would take \$3-4 million to do the other places, too.

Phase 1 of Harbour Pointe was estimated at around \$620,000, but now it would be around \$700,000. This is the "U" formed by the streets going in and out of the subdivision.

Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt said the city could add \$700,000 to the total with the people of the city assessed for the rest.

Mayor Kereen Conley said one of the Downtown Development Authority bonds drops off in 2029. She suggested going for \$3 million.

"Prices are going up monthly," Voigt said, referring to construction costs.

"We need to come up with a number – three or four million," Mayor Conley said.

Blanchett of PFM said she could run some numbers for them to consider.

Councilman Tom Fielder asked how much they needed to pave all the roads. He said there could be special assessment districts for those areas that need more work.

Councilman Beebe asked how much would it take to make all the roads in Belleville fall into the "good" or "better" categories of road evaluation.

Mayor Conley asked what about five years from now? Those not really bad now could

be really bad then.

Voigt said, to give the council members some history, in 1972 the roads in the city were done and they are over 50 years old. Since then the Harbour Pointe and Victoria Commons subdivisions were constructed and paved.

Council members agreed it wouldn't be fair to have all the members of the community taxed to fix just the deteriorating roads in the two subdivisions.

"We just went in and filled holes in Victoria Commons," DPW Director Rick Rutherford reported.

Fielder suggested the council throw in money from the State Transportation Funds to reduce the total needed.

Blanchett said she could work up average cost for a typical house.

Mayor Conley said that should be for one issuance of bonds for \$3 million. Councilman Beebe said also for \$3.5 million and \$4 million. He asked Voigt where he would get the \$700,000 to throw in.

Voigt said they could scrape it together, such as from the fund balance, general fund, and road funds.

Mayor Conley said the marijuana funds coming in would be good used to offset road repairs to help the community. She said a use for those funds has not been set.

Blanchett said financial consultants want at least 20% of the budget in the fund balance. Council members noted they have been saving for a new building.

Blanchett said the amount in the "Rainy Day fund," the fund balance, influences interest rates.

She said she would be back at the Aug. 21 meeting and will get additional information

to them before that meeting so council members could review it.

Mayor Conley said roadwork wouldn't be able to begin until next year, but they could get contractors in place late this year. Beebe said he would like Blanchett to set up a timeline.

Blanchett said it's better to know the cost of the project before you bond.

"You don't want bonds for 14 mills," she said. Blanchett added that some communities are getting such projects fully grant-funded and grants are an option.

James Krizan, candidate

The council then gave an initial interview to James Krizan, current city manager of Lincoln Park, to fill the Belleville city manager position which is vacant. He told the council after they graduated from Eastern Michigan University, his girlfriend, now his wife, moved to Belleville and he visited the city often. Then they lived here together and enjoyed the walkability of the community. They now live in Allen Park. He holds a master's degree in public administration from EMU.

When he asked the council about their process to fill the city manager position, Mayor Conley said seven rounds of applications have come through since they posted the position. After the initial interview, the next step is a questionnaire of 32 questions which they give to the finalist applicants, allowing 10 days for completion.

She said there were another two interviews set for July 31.

"We hope to finalize a candidate soon!" Mayor Conley stated, adding that they are able to take some time because they have

two capable people in acting positions now.

After he left the meeting, the council agreed to put Krizan on the finalist list and send him a questionnaire. He would have 10 days to complete it.

For the July 31 special council meeting, set for interviews were Ryan Madis, who has completed the questionnaire and would be holding his second interview, and Steve Jones, acting city manager, who would have an initial interview since he recently applied. He was given a questionnaire and said he could complete it by July 31.

Madis is village manager of Ortonville with a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Western Michigan University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan.

The two interviews were held on July 31 and then the council set other meetings to wrap up the selection process.

A 6:30 p.m. special meeting was set for Aug. 7 before the regular meeting to give the second interview to Krizan after his questionnaire is complete. The mayor will be present by zoom, since she will be on vacation, and Councilman Tom Fielder will be fishing in Canada and would have no internet available. The alternate for that meeting, in case he was not available on Aug. 7, was Aug. 8 at 6 p.m.

There are several vacations for council members in August, so the next meeting on the issue was to be late in the month.

The council set a date for the decision on the city manager for a 6 p.m., Aug. 28, special meeting. Council members were to come with their top two candidates selected to begin the discussion.

VBT DDA reconsiders Christmas lights

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the end of its July 25 regular meeting, Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority chairman Craig Atchinson asked if the board would like to revisit Christmas lights.

The item was not on the agenda, but chairman Atchinson said the \$12,000 cost paid for Christmas lights disturbed him. He asked if board members wouldn't like to revisit that and look at something different.

He said in the past they bought a Christmas display from Frankenmuth and the items were destroyed.

Board members said they liked the Christmas lights which gave everyone a good feeling.

The board didn't take any formal action but directed Executive Director Merrie Coburn to get some pricing.

Atchinson asked the board to think of other ideas to create a focal point at the park.

Board members said they are not opposed to holiday lighting but want to make sure the DDA is checking pricing before the board is asked to approve a contract with a company.

In other business at the July 25 meeting, the DDA board:

- Voted to change the meeting time until the end of the year to 3 p.m., from the previous 5:30 p.m. The meeting time is at the discretion of the chairman. Because of having problems with getting a quorum and having to wait a half hour to begin for two meetings in a row, the July 26 meeting was held at 3 p.m. and they had a quorum by 3:02 p.m. Joyce Rochowiak said because of her greenhouse business she wouldn't be able to come at 3 p.m. from

April through July because she'd be selling flowers, but other months she could make it. Victor Delibera said it was important for all members to be able to come and their businesses should not be interfered with;

- Approved the low quote of five of Superior Concrete at \$10,250 to clean and reseal all existing stamped concrete on the DDA property located at 10151 Belleville Rd. The original contractor, Norway Landscape, did the work two years ago. Its cost for this year was \$13,900, so at the June meeting the board tabled action and asked for additional quotes;

- Approved the 2023 amended and 2024 proposed DDA budgets, which now are passed on to the township board to consider during budget sessions in August and approval by the end of the year. The DDA's finance committee met on

(continued on page 16)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Letter writer comes up with appealing idea

Don Wisner, who has written thoughtful letters to the editor in the past, has come up with an idea that should appeal to Van Buren Township taxpayers.

Wisner, of Van Buren Township, got to thinking about residents having to pay for trash removal after 30 years of having free pickup because the township was nice enough to serve as a host community to Waste Management's landfill.

See Wisner's letter on page 5 where he spells out his thinking. Makes sense to us. What do you think?

Residents were told that WM no longer wished to spend the money on rising fuel costs, employees, and trucks to pick up the trash, so the residents must pay for pickup. The township negotiated a contract with costs for one year to be put on the property taxes for payment. Costs are sure to increase in future years.

But, with the millions of dollars being given to the township by WM for tipping fees, why couldn't that WM money be used to pay the company for residential pickups, he asks.

We are sure township officials have plans for the WM tipping fees that are tucked away in the fund balance.

Wisner has prepared a list of township board members and how to contact them and put that at the end of his letter. It's very healthy for our government for residents to think things out on their own and act. Let the board know what you think.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

I am so sad to hear of the death of Sumpter Police Chief Jim Pierce, who was always so friendly and accommodating with information. Last time I saw him and his wife was in the hallway at Van Buren Township Hall. We were on our way to different meetings.

He told me about his dog, a huge dog, that he would walk throughout the Country Pond subdivision where they lived. He came home one day and couldn't open the front door. His dog had died lying next to the door, waiting for his master to come home. That was devastating. It was winter and the local veterinarian kept the dog in the freezer until spring when it could be buried. He loved that dog.

One time he showed me a picture of him in his younger days when he was undercover in Macomb County. That's when he was with the Detroit Police Department. The guy he showed me had a huge Afro and a loud outfit, which brought smiles. Great under cover.

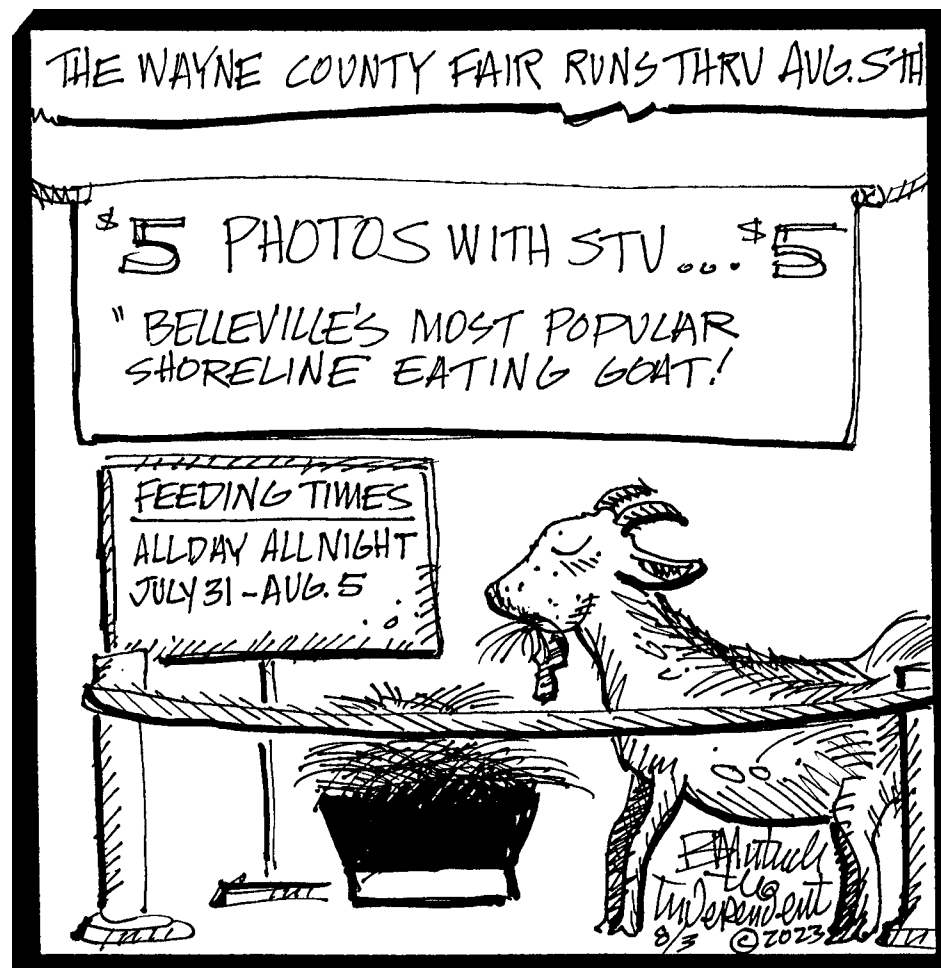
I've been very blessed to get to know Chief Pierce and I'm sorry he has left us.

A young father with two young children asked if anyone was talking about having a festival with a parade in the morning, like the city of Belleville used to have with Strawberry Festival.

He said he would like his children to be able to watch the parade and see the Belleville High School Marching Band go by playing its music.

Lakefest didn't lend itself to a parade because the street was taken up with vendors. Winterfest has featured the nighttime parade since someone came up with the bright idea of a lighted parade, like they have in Romulus, a few years ago.

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



We lost power at our home in Van Buren Township last week for little over a day and with that we lost our Comcast internet service. Once we got our power back, our Comcast was still out, but I was able to use my laptop because my son Jim has installed Starlink and hooked me up.

Starlink became available in this area in the spring and Jim's been on the waiting list for Elon Musk's SpaceX service for several years. Our plan is to disconnect from Comcast as soon as we can.

A lady who lives in Sumpter told me that she lost power briefly at her home and it came back, but the Comcast still was down. Since Sumpter loses power so often, it's a great area for Starlink, which services people from satellites in space far above the Earth, including the jungles and deserts.

A reader told me she had to take her daughter to the doctor for antibiotics when she got a severe rash after swimming in Sherwood Pond in Sumpter Township. The township is considering an ordinance banning swimming in the pond.


Belleville's building official Rick Rutherford said Monday that the work being done on the little "house" at 100 N. Liberty St. is being done by BYC without charge to the city. The roof has been replaced with a new roof and windows are coming. The building is a former sewage treatment facility in the days when Belleville drained its sewage into Belleville Lake.

and it even had curtains on the windows. But lately it has been neglected. It's owned by the city and has been discussed many times at city meetings. Officials are happy that BYC is stepping up to help.

Rutherford also told us that the large generator next to the little shopping mall on South Street is in its second year of being there. It is linked up to the electrical grid for a large area, he said, bigger than just Belleville, and is used by DTE when more power is needed for that region.

The malicious destruction of property entry on Belleville's dispatch log at 8:31 a.m., July 27, at the cemetery was a cracked tombstone, explained Belleville Acting Police Chief Kris Faull.

Sometimes candidates for city manager in Belleville ask the council questions, including on Monday when Ryan Madis asked about the council's goals. One of the goals mentioned by Mayor Kerreen Conley was to move city hall to a new location. She said they did buy venetian blinds for the council meeting room, because the afternoon sunlight was blinding council members, and Mayor Pro-Tem Ken Voigt did buy a new clock for the wall, but there are to be no other renovations – and the clock will be taken to the new location, wherever it is.



www.bellevilleareaindependent.com
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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

**152 Main St., Suite 9,
Belleville, MI 48111**

734-699-9020

FAX 734-699-8962

Established Dec. 3, 1994

First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

**The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper
published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.**

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone **(NO ADS, PLEASE!)**: 697-1294

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

Sports Editor: Bob Mytych

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager: James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard

Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

Talking trash in Van Buren Township

To the editor:

I NEED TO TALK SOME TRASH!

Trash pickup that is, in Van Buren Twp.

Van Buren Twp has been on a media blitz saying, as of this month (7/23) "Trash Pickup" as a covered/free benefit for VBT property owners would be ending, period. The only options I saw offered were, what type of trash pickup options did property owners wish to pay for and how would this new, chargeable trash service be billed (added to property taxes or water bill, etc).

I need to explain about the covered trash pickup benefit for property owners in VBT that originated about 30 years ago as part of the host community agreement with the Waste Management landfill located east of I-275, west of Hannan, between Ecorse and Van Born.

Then VBT Supervisor David Jacokes (served two terms from 1988-1996) negotiated the host agreement to include free trash, recycle, yard waste pickup as well as free drop off at the landfill for all VBT residents. The current VBT administration has voiced that Waste Management has NO desire to renew the free trash benefit in the new/renewal, negotiated VBT host agreement. The only part of the trash benefit that survived the negotiations is no charge/free drop off by VBT residents at the WM landfill.

As I understand it, currently each property owner will be billed \$168 this year on their property tax bill! ... as well as an undetermined dollar amount every year following this year.

BUT, BUT, BUT WAIT, YES, WAIT JUST A MINUTE ...

The WM landfill pays millions of dollars in "Tipping Fees" to Van Buren Township EACH YEAR! For about the last six years the tipping fees were held until the infamous Visteon bankruptcy lawsuit (see attachments) was settled. Well, it's now been settled! Which opens up a whole new conversation "WHY" a portion of the millions of WM landfill "Tipping Fees" are not even being considered to underwrite the cost of trash pickup in Van Buren Township!

In my opinion, paid trash pickup in VBT belongs in the "Same Lane" as the WM landfill. WM no longer desires to underwrite the cost of trash pickup for VBT residents. OK, so, why not use a portion of the tipping fees to pay for trash pick up for VBT residents?

WHY is this even a topic? This is not rocket science. In my opinion, the WM landfill, the tipping fees (revenue brought in to VBT), and paying for trash pickup all belong together. Paid trash pickup service, for the host community (VBT) should be, first and foremost use of the revenue generated from the WM landfill.

It's feeling more like some hokis/pokis or sleight-of-hand.

If there's enough interest, a date can be scheduled to attend a Board of Trustees meeting in August/September.

If you're in a similar mindset with my thoughts, this topic needs to go viral in VBT neighborhoods.

Kevin McNamara, VBT Supervisor, certainly deserves a "courtesy" phone call @ (734) 699-8910 and/or email at kmcnamara@vanburen-mi.org.

Fax number: (734) 699-8952

The other voting Board of Trustees members are as follows:

- Leon Wright, Twp. Clerk. (734) 699-8909 email: lwright@vanburen-mi.org

- Sharry Budd, Twp. Treasurer. (734) 699-8902; email: sbudd@vanburen-mi.org

- Bryon Kelley, Twp. Trustee. email: bkelly@vanburen-mi.org

- Kevin Martin, Twp. Trustee. email: kmartin@vanburen-mi.org

- Donald Boynton Jr., Twp. Trustee. email: dboynton@vanburen-mi.org

- Sherry Frazier, Twp. Trustee. email: sfrazier@vanburen-mi.org

Reference article: *Belleville-Area Independent*, July 6, 2023: "VBT announces \$12M settlement agreement with Visteon."

Don Wisner, Van Buren Township
dwiz734@gmail.com

Willow Run Patriots to hold first meeting

To the editor:

A new community group is in the forming process, Willow Run Patriots. The first meeting will be held at the Belleville Area District Library on Aug. 14, 2023 beginning at 4 p.m.

The first meeting will begin with a showing of the movie "2000 Mules." Other subjects will include local history, not limited to the Willow Run bomber plant/airport, Huron River milling history and its ties to the Underground Railroad, local, state and national politics. There will also be a discussion on the Republican party in Michigan.

I will also report to the electorate from the position of precinct delegate, and I wish to thank those who voted for me in the last election. Please show up and hear what I have to speak on. There will be a Q&A.

James Chapman
10th precinct delegate

Victory Park sales sites for Citywide Yard Sales, Sept. 9 & 10

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Obituaries



Charles "Chuck"
Stewart

CHARLES 'CHUCK' STEWART

(May 30, 1949 – July 27, 2023)

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of Charles "Chuck" Stewart, a loving and devoted husband, father, brother, and a friend to all whose lives he touched. A courageous and adventurous spirit, he was born on May 30, 1949 in Trenton, Michigan, and passed away on July 27, 2023, in Edinburg, Texas.

He graduated from Belleville High School, Class of 1967, and was in the Spanish Club. He served in the Army in Vietnam.

Chuck was a skilled pilot. He spent a great deal of time mentoring young Christians and building the faith worldwide. He was a true testament to the saying, "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."

Chuck is survived by his beloved wife, Lou, and their children, Karen Phipps, William Stewart, Jose Dacasa and Daniel Dacasa; two brothers Scott Stewart and Kelly Stewart; three sisters Jennifer Nitz, April Klein, Kathleen Siterlet; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by parents William P. Stewart and Dorothy May Archer; and brothers Raymond Stewart (Judi), Samuel Stewart, and J.B. Stewart and youngest sister Victoria Ginotti (Jim).

He was laid to rest at the Rio Grande Valley State Veterans Cemetery, Mission, Texas.

Correction: The correct name is 'Rusted Crow'

On page 5 in last week's paper, we incorrectly called the Rusted Crow restaurant the "Rustic" Crow" in the headline and outline. The letter is correct. We regret the error.

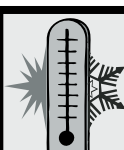
Rosemary Otzman, editor

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Aug. 7 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 8 – Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 9 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 10 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission quarterly meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 14, – Van Buren Township budget review meeting starts at 8 a.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building.
- Tuesday, Aug. 15 – Van Buren Township work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 21 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 22 – Van Buren Township

Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m.

- Wednesday, Aug. 23 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 28 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building.
- Tuesday, Sept. 5 – Van Buren Township work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at 6 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.



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Obituaries



Brenda Joy Davis

BRENDA JOY DAVIS

(September 14, 1940 – July 24, 2023)

Brenda Joy Davis (Dennis), 82, of Belleville was called home to be with her Lord on July 24, 2023.

Brenda was born September 14, 1940 in Ypsilanti, Michigan, the daughter of Floyd O. Dennis and Florence P. (Smith) Dennis. Brenda loved her family and loved spending time with them. Christmas was always special to her, and for many years Christmas Eve was set aside at her place, handing out presents to her kids and grandkids.

She loved the Lord and was a member of the Cornerstone Christian Church and was very active with hosting Tuesday evening Bible studies at her Columbia Court apartment building. Brenda lived up to her middle name as she would spread Joy everywhere she went. She easily made friends and could make everyone laugh. She loved cooking and often would cook meals to share with her friends. She loved calling out Bingo on Fridays and was always ready to go downstairs to play Euchre. When up in her apartment you would find her working her puzzle books.

She will be greatly missed by her daughter Cathy and son-in-law Mike Dakin, her son Tim and daughter-in-law Sherri Couch, daughter-in-law Carolyn Couch, father of her children Richmond Couch, her grandchildren Michael (Betsy) Dakin, Cherie (Mike) Reddick, Joshua Dakin, Aimee (Brett) Gallian, Timothy Jr. (Kelly) Couch, Jillanne (Arthur) Tackett, Jerri-Lynne (Seth) McDonald, Thomas Couch, and Steven Couch Jr. She is also survived by many great- and great-great-grandchildren, her nieces and nephews, her Pastor Dave and wife Katie Ervin, her church family and many, many dear friends.

Brenda was preceded in death by her parents, her son Steven Couch, grandson Scott Couch, her three sisters Patsy Dennis, Barbara Fain, Joyce Rose and her brother Floyd Dennis Jr.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 5, at Hillcrest Bible Church at 11:30 am. With her grandson-in-law Seth McDonald to officiate. A second memorial service will be held Saturday, August 12, in the community room at Columbia Court Apartments at 11:00 a.m. with her Pastor Dave Ervin to officiate. She will be buried in Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

RONALD A. SPRAGG

(April 13, 1946 – July 29, 2023)

Age 77 of Ypsilanti, after battle with cancer. Survived by wife Janet, 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 3 siblings. Memorial service at 11 a.m., Aug. 19, at Ypsilanti Missionary Baptist Church, 7180 S. Huron River Dr. Luncheon to follow.



Chief James Pierce, Jr.



CHIEF JAMES PIERCE, JR. (ret.)

(January 12, 1950 - July 26, 2023)

Chief James Pierce Jr. (retired) was born January 12, 1950 in Detroit, MI to James and Marilyn Pierce. In 1969 he met Regina Reed and after a whirlwind romance, they were married on March 21, 1970 and went on to have two sons, James and Jalani.

James, who served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged from service in December of 1971, was a 3rd degree Tae Kwon Do black belt and taught karate through the Metropolitan Combative Arts Dojo.

Jim has served in law enforcement for over 45 years. He began his career as a City of Detroit police officer in August of 1973. During his career, he worked on Chief's Staff, Internal Affairs, Gaming Division and Executive Protection where he served as Mayor Coleman Young's personal security for 10 years. He retired from the City of Detroit police department as a sergeant in 2003. He then briefly served as a deputy sheriff for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department.

Following his time as deputy sheriff, Jim took the position of police commander with the Sumpter Township Police Department and after serving as police commander for two years, he was appointed as the Sumpter Township police chief in 2006. He retired from the department in February 2016. After a short time of retirement, he decided he was not quite ready to give up police work and returned to the City of Detroit police department in the Police Assistant Training Division. Jim officially retired from police work in 2018.

Jim, who enjoyed watching horror and science fiction movies with his grandchildren, was also an avid motorcyclist. He was a member of the Forces of Magnitude motorcycle club in the early seventies and after officially retiring, he joined the Tuskegee Airmen motorcycle club in 2019. He enjoyed riding his Royal Blue 2017 Harley Davidson Trike with the motorcycle club and taking adventures with the love of his life, Regina.

On July 26, 2023 Jim departed this life with his wife and family by his side. He was preceded in death by his son, Jalani, in 1995 and his grandson Monte in 2022.

Jim leaves to cherish his memory his adoring wife of 53 years, Regina; sister Zandrea Walker; son James-Rafael (Misty); grandchildren Kyana-Jalani, Rafael-Antonio (Becca), Makaliah-Regina, Tyson-Jalani, James-Kolby, Yasmin-Denise; great-grandsons Ezekiel-James and Jayden-Isaiah; sister-in-law Renee Peterson; nieces Christine (Victor) Ubokudom and Chanay Peterson; nephews Che Peterson and Rayan Beane; and best friend and "brother" Melvin Turner.

A visitation took place on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111. A funeral was held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at Bethany Bible Church, 801 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI. Pastor Erica Hall served as Celebrant. A burial followed at Grand Lawn Memorial Park and Cemetery, 23501 Grand River Ave., Detroit, MI 48219.

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State Rep. Reggie Miller responds to recall efforts over hate crime bill

Recall petitions have been filed against at least six Democratic representatives in the Michigan Legislature, including Rep. Reggie Miller, D-31, of Van Buren Township. Two Republicans also have been targeted.

"This recall is in response to my support for HB 4474, bipartisan legislation that seeks to limit hate crimes in our state," Rep. Miller said in a news release.

"While there has been a large amount of misinformation surrounding this bill, I firmly stand by my vote. This recall is the latest in a slew of attempts by radical groups to undermine democracy and the voices of the citizens who elected me to represent and advocate for our community," Miller said.

"I'm very proud of all that we have accomplished in just six months since taking office such as repealing the retirement tax, expanding the working families tax credit, and passing the most comprehensive budget in Michigan's history which included over \$15 million for local infrastructure projects such as the Denton Road Bridge and Causeway Repair and the Milan Wastewater Treatment Plant.

"I am saddened and angered to see such blatant disrespect and disregard for democracy evidenced through this recall



Miller

attempt," the news release continued. "While Michigan's recall law is an important option available to citizens to hold representatives accountable for wrongdoing, it is not intended to overturn the will of the majority of voters.

"I'm humbled by the outpouring of support we've received in response to this baseless attack. This will not distract me from my service on behalf of Wayne, Washtenaw, Lenawee and Monroe counties," she concluded.

Former Van Buren Township Trustee Reggie Miller was elected state representative in November and began serving in January of 2023.

Her news release was submitted by Jackson Pahle, Miller's chief of staff. Pahle also was recently appointed a member of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission.

According to reports in *Bridge Michigan*, six first-term House Democrats and two Republicans are facing recall efforts over votes they've taken on gun reform, hate crimes and confirming legislative leadership.

House Democrats announced on July 17 that five lawmakers — Reps. Betsy Coffia of Traverse City, Sharon MacDonell of Troy, Jennifer Conlin of Ann Arbor, Reggie Miller of Van Buren Township and Jaime Churches of Wyandotte — had recalls filed against them.

Republican Rep. Cam Cavitt of Cheboygan confirmed he also received a recall petition for supporting a procedural vote to name Rep. Joe Tate, D-Detroit, as House speaker.

Later, another Democrat, Noah Arbit of West Bloomfield and another Republican, Donni Steele of Orion, were added to the recall list.

Recall petitions targeting Democrats focus on their support of hot-button issues: Coffia and MacDonell for "red flag" gun legislation signed this spring by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer; Conlin, Miller and Churches for the expansion of the state hate crimes law to include LGBTQ residents.

The petitions were filed by local Republican activists or past candidates for office in the sitting lawmakers' districts.

On Aug. 1, Michigan's Board of State Canvassers was set to meet to determine whether the petitions can proceed. Before organizers can begin collecting signatures, the board must review whether the recall language is clear, factual and addresses conduct that occurred while the lawmakers were in office.

In a statement, House Speaker Tate said House Democrats are taking the recall threats seriously and will "fully support and defend those targeted."

If even one of those recalls makes it to the ballot, it could jeopardize Democrats' newly won control of the House, the

Bridge report said. There currently are 56 Democrats and 54 Republicans in the House.

A public official facing recall would need to fend off challenges from opposing political parties at the next scheduled election, and the winner would serve out the rest of the term.

But Michigan recall rules make it hard to oust a sitting lawmaker. To get the recall efforts on local ballots, organizers would have to collect thousands of signatures in 60 days — enough to match or exceed the 25% of total votes for governor in each district in the 2022 election.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Aug. 3** – Music Lakeside, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, Belleville. Entertainment by "The Smoke Jones Detroit Band." In case of rain concerts are held at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St.
- **Saturday, Aug. 5** – "Collie Day in the Park," 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Lower Huron Metro Park in Belleville. Hosted by Greater Brighton Collie Club and Tri-County Collie Rescue. All welcome. Information: (248) 408-0238
- **Saturday, Aug. 5** – Comic Fest outside the Belleville Area District Library from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for all ages. Hosting artists at Artists' Alley, games, prizes, and fun workshops. Looking for

artists to join in.

- **Sunday, Aug. 6** – 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, Aug. 7** – Belleville Farmers Market at the Fourth Street Place and Square. Fresh produce, vendors, and crafters, 4-7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.
- **Monday, Aug. 7** – Egan's Pub Main Street Car Show, Mondays (weather permitting), June - September. 5-8 p.m. Main Street between Third and Fifth streets
- **Tuesday, Aug. 8** – Music Bingo at the James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. Doors open at 6 p.m. and fun starts at 6:30. \$5 per player. (734) 941-3030

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Photo courtesy Belleville Fire Department

On July 26, the Belleville Fire Department surprised Moving the Mitten with some tasty treats. This is a new program rolled out by the fire department to show thanks to the local city of Belleville businesses. Each month fire department staff including firefighters Kissel and Gay will be stopping at a random downtown business with treats from one of the local sweetshops just to say, "Hi" and "Thank you."



Birth Announcement

Johnathan Theodore Saksewski

Johnathan Theodore Saksewski made his debut on July 23, 2023 at 01:36 a.m. in Traverse City. He weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and is 20-1/4 inches long. He is the first child of Jason (formerly of Belleville) and Deborah. MiMi Chris Saksewski is so proud of her new love! Johnathan's maternal grandparents, Dr. Frederick Lawrence and Deborah Lawrence, reside in Cedar, MI and welcome their second grandson.

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Crain's Detroit Business honors Jennifer Dale of Van Buren Township

Jennifer L Dale, a 20-year resident of Van Buren Township, is one of those named a 2023 honoree as *Crain's Detroit Business* Most Notable Leaders in Fundraising.



Crain's said these fundraising pros have a special knack for raising awareness, cultivating donor relationships, and completing successful campaigns that help their organizations thrive.

The honorees featured in this report

were nominated by their peers, companies, friends and family members, then selected by *Crain's Detroit Business* editors based on their career accomplishments, track record of success and contributions to their industry and community.

Dale is Director of Community Outreach and Philanthropy for Angela Hospice.

Dale's husband Dominic is the Chemistry Manager for DTE's Fermi II Nuclear Power Plant.

In addition to being board president of the Michigan Society for Healthcare

Planning & Marketing and a member of The Parade Company's Distinguished Clown Corp, Dale is board secretary for the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She is a graduate of Western Michigan University and Eastern Michigan University.

Dale said she is privileged and touched by this honor.

"I am extremely lucky for nearly 30 years as a professional fundraiser, I am blessed to do something I not only enjoy doing every day, but am passionate about as well.

I get to see what impact the dollars I raise does for individuals, communities and the outstanding organizations I work for and with. It is truly the best job in the world."

In her first year at Angela Hospice, Dale and her team procured more than 2,000 new donors, who gave over \$430,000 in the previous fiscal year. She also reshaped the Legacy Giving Society for planned giving donors, resulting in 10 additional new members. Dale oversees and leads a team of six responsible for bringing in nearly \$1.5 million annually.

Court Watching

Martin Dean Fields

Martin Dean Fields, 51, of Van Buren Township was video-arraigned while in custody at the Van Buren police department on July 28 by 34th District Court Judge Lisa

Martin. He is charged with two counts of criminal sexual conduct-2nd degree on July 27 in Van Buren Township. His probable cause conference was set for Aug. 9 and his bond set at \$5,000/10%. There is to be no contact with the victim.

William Henry Trotter

William Henry Trotter, 52, of Trenton, was video-arraigned on July 28 from the Van Buren Township police department on a bench warrant. He is charged with operating while intoxicated-3rd and driving

while license suspended-2nd on Oct. 9 in the city of Belleville. Judge Martin set \$10,000 personal bond and a probable cause conference for Aug. 9. He is not to be released without being on an alcohol tether.



- Aug. 3 – Ashley Shukait
- Aug. 5 – Anna Loranger, Cynthia Menyhert
- Aug. 6 – Diane Eissinger, Donna Hogue
- Aug. 7 – Carol Sam, Gary Marshall
- Aug. 8 – Amy DeClercq, LeRoy Paige, Shana Tooley
- Aug. 9 – Maria Holmes, Priscilla Rice, Genevieve Johnson

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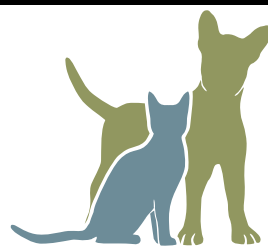


Photo courtesy of Elena Manalp and Van Buren Township

The Drop in and Play event on July 27 at Quirk Park had lots of kids having fun. The REAL team worked with the younger children and everyone had fun. There is one more event from 9 to 11 a.m. on Aug. 10 at Quirk Park. The event is free to the public and designed for elementary-aged children. It's put on by Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation and the activities are sponsored by Growth Works.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

The Wayne County Fair is running until Saturday night at the fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township. In the goat barn on Monday, Jennie Jerome of Grosse Pointe holds Hazel, a two-week-old goat. With her are McKenzie Hunsaker, left, and Gianna Pedron, 6, both of Melvindale. They are members of the 4 Season 4-H Club.



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Photos courtesy of Elaine Gutierrez

Family members and friends of Thelma Griffin and the late Neil Griffin gathered at the Belleville Area Council for the Arts Music Lakeside performance on July 27 to dedicate the Fish Project at Horizon Park to Neil Griffin. BACA has renamed it the Neil Griffin Community Art Project in his honor. Neil implemented the community art concept in 2018 and every year it has continues to grow. On stage, Steve Jones, master of ceremonies and past president of BACA, welcomed the guests and gave a tribute to Neil Griffin. Rhonda Dutton (center), current BACA president, presented a plaque to Thelma Griffin. Neil's image has been engraved on the plaque by local artist and lifetime BACA member Steve Paulsen.

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COMMUNITY YARD SALE. UAW #898, 8975 Textile, Ypsilanti. Sept. 9, 9am-5pm. Spaces available for rent. Vendors welcome. Call (734) 482-8320 08/17

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DOUBLE BIKE RACK, \$15, Tasco Binoculars 8-15x50, \$20, floor lamp w/shade, \$15, end table-doors open in front, \$30, Teak cabinet w/shelves for storage, \$70. (734) 740-3771 08/03

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



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Court Watching**Heather Lynn Kline**

Heather Lynn Kline, 31, of Romulus, pled guilty on July 26 to malicious use of telecommunication services on Dec. 27 in the city of Belleville. 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin fined her \$200 and agreed to a delayed sentence of three months when the charge will be dismissed if there are no further problems. There is to be no contact with the victim.

Shawn Michael Norris

Shawn Michael Norris, 41, of Belleville was video-arraigned while in custody on July 31 on a bench warrant charge of

failure to appear in court on charges of disorderly person on June 28, 2022 in the city of Belleville and driving while license suspended and operating while intoxicated on Dec. 20, 2022, both in the city of Belleville.

His pretrial on the charges was set for Aug. 10 and bond set at \$5,000/10% on the disorderly person charge and \$5,000 personal bond on the other two charges.

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— Dr. Seuss, "Happy Birthday to You!"

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CLASSIFIED ADS****AUCTION****PUBLIC AUCTION**

NOTICE is hereby given that on AUGUST 12, 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; T981, Chandler Cuts & Snow; D158 & P771, Kandass Baldwin; 0715 & N810, Terry Booth; L525, Shannan Green; 0724, Michael Riley; H376, American Building Services; K670, James Broughton; Q902, Mary Gendron; K657, Shunya Cleveland; E202 & L526, Georgene Axton; N813, Heather Malfitano.

Publish: July 27, 2023 and August 3, 2023

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Publish: August 3, 2023 and August 10, 2023

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VBT DDA

(continued from page 3)

July 17 to finalize the budget. Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara said that Executive Director Coburn will get a 3% raise, following the AFSCME contract. She said she was hired at \$80,000 and this will move her to \$82,400. The only major expenses anticipated for 2023 are the already expensed \$1.137 million for the multi-use theater in the community center and the right-of-way acquisitions for the Belleville Road Widening Project, which are anticipated more than \$575,000. Income for 2024 is expected to be slightly higher than in 2023 because of the rise in taxable value. “We’re in good shape,” said chairman Atchinson, noting that the ending balance is more than \$5 million, which is “fantastic” ;

- Approved the building-use application of The Sweetest Delivery for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. Vershion Butler of Van Buren Township said the meeting will bring together women of deceased children to discuss ways they are using to recover. Butler said a minister and clinical psychiatrist will be on hand. Coburn said the DDA charges \$25 to use the building with a \$100 damage deposit that is returned if there is no damage. She said she would come in to open and close the building, although the locks allow that to be done by computer. The DDA said for her to use her discretion and there is no need for her to be there;

- Approved the scope of work proposed by Wade Trim engineers for not to exceed \$47,500 for submittal of the MDOT/SEMCOG Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant. This is for development of a consistent pedestrian pathway along Tyler Road east of Belleville Road. This project will develop a 1.5-mile, non-motorized path within the DDA district to enable safe pedestrian and bike travel from residential neighborhoods on the eastern side of the township to the new community center. The proposed project will complement the recently awarded Safer Streets for All grant of \$384,900 to the township for the sidewalk gaps on Tyler Road west of Haggerty;

- Heard Coburn report she had talked with Ken Voigt of Belleville about the suggestion the DDA offer poles in its streetscape to give enough room for all the Belleville High School seniors to have their banners hung at once, starting in Belleville and running into Van Buren Township.

She said Voigt told her there were 225 banners, 18”x48”, and the cost of \$10 each has been covered by the Belleville Yacht Club. There is a question of who would hang the banners in the township, since in Belleville volunteers do that. She said Voigt suggested the DDA might also partner with the Belleville Area Council for the Arts for their art banners, which are \$5 each. Atchinson also suggested businesses might want to advertise on banners on poles in front of their businesses. Coburn said she is looking into it;

- Learned the DTE gas line through the DDA’s landscaping at Ecorse and Belleville roads has been discussed with DTE and DTE said it would restore the landscaping to its original design. This project to bring a second gas line into the township is due to be complete by October;

- Heard Coburn report that Wade Trim is working to complete the design concept changes suggested and also working to create an overlay rendering of what the Belleville Road Widening Project will look like when complete. She has been advised that funding for the project made it out of committee and in the House bill the amount was only for \$500,000. Staff will continue discussion with Wayne County for the possibility of advance construction for future years of TEDFC funding;

- Was advised people have asked for benches to be put along the streetscape between Harmony Lane and the bridge for walkers, possibly on the former DNR

property;

- Heard Coburn say she is bringing a food truck to Harris Park every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and the food is really good; and

- Heard DDA member Rochowiak say the Belleville Rotary will have its annual fund-raising Rubber Ducky Race on Aug. 17. She said she and other Rotarians are selling tickets at \$5 each for 1,100 plastic, yellow ducks. If it is stormy and they can’t be in the lake, the Rotary holds a raffle.

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Court Watching

Fred Davis, Jr.

Fred Davis, Jr., 56, of Ypsilanti, was present in court via zoom from the Oakland County Jail on July 26 for probable cause conferences on charges of retail fraud and police officer assault on July 26, 2020 and another charge of receiving and concealing a stolen vehicle and receiving and concealing stolen property from \$1,000 to \$20,000 in value on March 21, 2023 both in Van Buren Township. Both cases were in warrant status. He waived his preliminary exam at 34th District Court and was bound over to circuit court for an Aug. 2 arraignment on the information.

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Get The Scoop Ice Cream Shop at 644 East Huron River Dr. in Belleville is hosting free Movie Nights on weekends in

\$5 Ice Cream Sundaes **\$2.50 Single Ice Cream Scoop**

Get The Scoop

Movie Nights

TRANSFORMERS - RISE OF THE BEASTS
Friday, August 4

JOHN WICK - CHAPTER 4
Saturday, August 5

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August. This Friday, Aug. 4, the featured film is "Transformers - Rise of the Beasts" and this Saturday's movie is "John Wick - Chapter 4." Things get started at 9:30 p.m. each night. Movie night specials include single scoops of ice cream for just \$2.50 and ice cream sundaes for \$5.

The Van Buren Lake Dawgs baseball club is holding baseball tryouts on Wednesday, Aug. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Lifepointe Church on Hull Road next to the Van Buren Fire Station. RSVPs can be called in to Coach Kevin at (313) 587-2168 or Coach Mike at (734) 740-0020. Visit their Facebook page at Lake Dawgs Baseball Club.

APS Residential Services is family owned and operated since 2007 and serves the Belleville community by specializing in bathroom and basement remodeling. See their ad in today's paper and scan in the QR Code to get to their website for more info, reviews, and a list of services. Call (800) 264-7120.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts' Music Lakeside Concert Series at Horizon

Park continues Thursday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m. with The Smoke Jones Detroit Band. The free concerts are held rain or shine and will move into the Belleville First United Methodist Church across the street in case of bad weather. Next week, Temperance Tonic is the featured band. Food trucks will also be there.

The Wayne County Fair runs through this Saturday on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township. Thursday is Kid's Day followed by an Off-Road Derby and ATV Racing in the evening. This Friday it's Night of Destruction with Unique Motor Sports, beginning at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, the Mid Michigan Mini-Tractor Pull begins at 7:30 p.m. Enjoy daily activities such as carnival, crafts/vendors, food trucks, animal showings, and much more.

Fall sports at Belleville High School start up on Monday, Aug. 7 with cross country, football, girls' golf, swimming and volleyball, and boys' soccer and tennis. Be on the lookout for cross country runners along the streets of the city as they prepare for the upcoming season.

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

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Court Watching

Dennis Austin Thick

Dennis Austin Thick, 53, of Belleville was video-arraigned in custody at Van Buren Township police department on July 31 on charges of stalking and disturbing the peace on July 28 in Van Buren Township. 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin set his personal bond at \$10,000 and his pretrial for Aug. 9 before Judge Brian Oakley. He is not to be released without a GPS tether and must not return to 9800 Belleville Rd. or an address on Peninsular.

Laura Elaine Chestnut

Laura Elaine Chestnut, 29, of Taylor and previously of Sumpter Township, was video-arraigned on a bench warrant while in custody on July 31 on a charge of failure to appear in court on a registration/plate violation and driving while license not valid on April 13 in the city of Belleville. Her remote pretrial was set for Aug. 10 and her personal bond set at \$5,000.

Mackenzie Alexander Chandler

Mackenzie Alexander Chandler, 23, of Van Buren Township was video-arraigned July 31 while in custody on charges of breaking and entering of a building with intent and larceny between \$200 and \$1,000 on July 29 in Van Buren Township. Judge Martin set his probable cause conference for Aug. 9 and personal bond at \$5,000.

"You can observe a lot just by watching."
— Yogi Berra

Hringrás endurnýjanlegar orku Renewable energy cycle

Uppgefnir verður þegar súlin hitar yfirlitðri
hljófur og myndast þá raki loft. Loftið kólnar
og þurrkast og fellur þá niður sem jarðvegi
og jökli. Jarðvegi og jökli gegna því hlutverk
þess að safna hitan niður um gegndæpan
berggrunninn og hitan þegar það niðurst
kólnarinnast í þerfukjörnum.

Hitit jarðhitavann er sátt með jarðvarmanum
og egnit í heilich aldurvirkjun 11 raf- og
heilavarmannafæðu. Jarðhitavanninn er sátt
dröf niður í jökli þar sem vatnið hefur á sig.

Water that has evaporated from the ocean's
surface falls as precipitation in the highlands.
It soaks into the bedrock along with glacial
meltwater and heats up when it comes in
contact with magma intrusions.

At the Hellahotid geothermal power plant this
geothermal fluid is extracted from production
wells and used for electricity- and hot water
production. Subsequently the geothermal fluid
is reinjected into the bedrock.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Jim and Cheryl Wagner of Van Buren Township celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently with a trip to Iceland and visited many beautiful waterfalls, glaciers, and one of the largest geothermal plants.

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

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$35 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$40 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.



City of Belleville Public Notice



JOB POSTING

City of Belleville POLICE RECORDS CLERK



The City of Belleville is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Police Records Clerk in the Police Department. Successful candidate will have working knowledge of police processes, secured record maintenance and retention, excellent customer service skills, experience with general office work including proficiency in Microsoft Office and the ability to communicate effectively, verbally and in writing. CLEMIS or other law enforcement record management system experience is a plus.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid Michigan Driver's License.

Salary and benefits as per Union contract which is available on our website at www.belleville.mi.us.

A background investigation may be required as a condition of employment.

Please apply in person or submit resume with application to the Acting Police Chief at kfaull@belleville.mi.us or 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. The City of Belleville is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Kristin Faull
Acting Police Chief

Posted: July 20, 2023

Published: July 20, 2023, July 27, 2023, August 3, 2023, August 10, 2023, August 17, 2023, August 24, 2023

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 275 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, July 23:

0021 – noise complaint, Sheldon Rd.
0239 – trespassing, Ecorse Rd.
0343 – welfare check, Jefferson
0402 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0524 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Venetian
0919 – trespassing, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1110 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, McKinley St.
1455 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
1608 – civil matter, Lacy Dr.
1618 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1745 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1758 – domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1800 – domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1801 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
1802 – assist other dept., S. Lotz/Van Born
2030 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Independence Ln.

Monday, July 24:

0017 – intrusion alarm, Christina Ln.
0047 – assault & battery, Vernon St.
0141 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0433 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0737 – civil matter, Bak Rd.
0907 – animal complaint, Chandler
1108 – animal complaint, Morton Taylor Rd.
1132 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1145 – malicious destruction of property, DNR boat launch – Rawsonville Rd.
1158 – welfare check, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1213 – welfare check, N. Prairiegrass Ct.
1229 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd./McBride Ave.
1304 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Belleville Rd.
1345 – larceny, Harmony Ln.
1353 – larceny, Barkley St.
1356 – repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1459 – vehicle lockout, Quirk Rd.
1535 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1542 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1554 – parking complaint, Jackson St.
1654 – animal complaint, Martinsville Rd.
1827 – intrusion alarm, Patty Ln.
1835 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Jeremy
2009 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2039 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

2246 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Archwood Dr.
2306 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, July 25:

0253 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0316 – repossession, Ecorse Rd.
0348 – intrusion alarm, Bayshore Dr.
0522 – intrusion alarm, N. Cumberland Dr.
0542 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Stratford Dr./Churchill Dr.
0721 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
0826 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.
0829 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0834 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr./Rawsonville Rd.
1219 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Denton
1313 – traffic offense, Ecorse Rd./bypass
1323 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1359 – warrant arrest, Biddle
1412 – civil matter, Landmark
1436 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1528 – assault & battery, Jeannette Ave.
1618 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1634 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1634 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd.
1721 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1831 – welfare check, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1841 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1841 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1913 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton/tracks
2043 – road hazard, Van Born Rd./Belleville Rd.
2103 – civil matter, Edgedale Dr.

2205 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ladonna
2206 – domestic, Kent Dr.
2306 – assist other dept., Ladonna Ln.
2311 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
Wednesday, July 26:
0049 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0103 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0537 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Belleville R
0756 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rolan Meadows Dr.
0815 – disorderly, Westlake Cir.
1011 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1213 – civil matter, Lacy Dr.
1220 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd.
1352 – family trouble, Sawgrass Ct.
1359 – civil matter, Zachary St.
1514 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1518 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Chandler Dr.
1527 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1527 – civil matter, Stamford Rd.
1611 – hospice death, Brookside Dr.
1753 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Maurice Dr.

1753 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
1835 – malicious destruction of property, Purple Sage Ct.
1858 – animal complaint, Huron River Dr./Hannan
1905 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
2001 – suicidal person, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
2033 – intrusion alarm, Riggs Rd.
2101 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2219 – intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.
2257 – warrant arrest, M-59/I-94
2303 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2325 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Thursday, July 27:

0002 – sexual assault, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0039 – disorderly, Denton Rd.
0452 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
0513 – neighbor trouble, Wheeler St.
0518 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0537 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
0559 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Winchester St.
0603 – intrusion alarm, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0742 – animal complaint, E. Main St.
1003 – assist other dept., Lauren Ct.
1009 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1056 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1130 – larceny, Meadows Cir.
1202 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1240 – disorderly, Lake Villa Dr.
1252 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1320 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1430 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94
1441 – domestic, Rose Blvd.
1443 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1526 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kent Dr.

1639 – malicious destruction of property/Tyler Rd.
1754 – assist fire dept., Savage Rd.
1836 – parking complaint, Red Oak Dr.
1841 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1856 – property check, Belleville Rd.
1952 – domestic, Daisy Blvd.
2022 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2047 – property damage accident, Andover Dr.
2236 – domestic, Beck Rd.
2325 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Bellridge Dr.
2343 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
2344 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Friday, July 28:

0010 – 911 welfare check, McBride Ave.
0044 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0707 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0747 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
0750 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0852 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
0902 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
0953 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
1019 – larceny, Sumpter Rd.

1121 – mental subject, Sondra Dr.
1131 – weapons violation, Birch Dr.
1201 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Michigan Ave.
1212 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.
1250 – warrant arrest, Clark Rd.
1311 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1317 – fraud, Freeport Ct.
1331 – noise complaint, Parkwood
1337 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1441 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1447 – repossession, Lighthouse Dr.
1448 – repossession, Lighthouse Dr.
1531 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.
1551 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.
1557 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1617 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
1646 – animal complaint, Endicott St.
1647 – suicidal person, N. Timberview Dr.
1704 – assist fire dept., Daisy Blvd.
1731 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1817 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1820 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
1823 – traffic offense, Hickory Woods
1846 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.

1847 – civil matter, Oak Blvd.
1909 – neighbor trouble, Jeremy/Samantha Ave.
1918 – intrusion alarm, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1928 – traffic offense, Hickory Woods
2158 – threat, N. Timberview Dr.
2200 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
2252 – civil matter, Ormond Dr.
2321 – civil matter, Village Green Ln.

2325 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd. / E. I-94

Saturday, July 29:

0145 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Prairiegrass Ct.
0203 – trespassing, Denton Rd.
0345 – noise complaint, Park Estates Dr.
0443 – fight, Haggerty Rd.
0502 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0733 – civil matter, Lake Villa Dr.
0837 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.
1202 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Beck
1222 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
1254 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1308 – traffic offense, Tyler Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1315 – traffic offense, Tyler Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1345 – harassment call, Westlake Cir.
1434 – welfare check, Belleville Lake
1439 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Briarcliff Dr.
1457 – misc. complaint, Belleville Lake
1542 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
1548 – misc. complaint, Belleville Lake
1635 – private property impound, N. Woodbury
1656 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1824 – misc. complaint, Belleville Lake
1825 – misc. complaint, Belleville Lake
1833 – misc. complaint, Belleville Lake
1959 – disorderly, Edison Lake
2012 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2030 – domestic, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty
2119 – abandoned auto, EB Michigan Ave./bypass
2124 – welfare check, Martz Rd.
2143 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
2151 – fireworks, Rawsonville Rd.
2217 – family trouble, Fret Rd.
2247 – domestic, Tompkins St.
2322 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2337 – harassment call, Haggerty Rd.

Also on this week's log are 65 traffic stops, 11 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 23:

0136 – traffic stop, Water Works
0148 – traffic stop, Water Works
0304 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1321 – vehicle lockout, Sumpter Rd.
1647 – parking complaint, Victorian Ln.
1942 – motorist assist, Main/E. Huron River Dr.
2157 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd.
2314 – assist other dept., Menlo Park Dr.

Monday, July 24:

1023 – assist other dept., Bedell St.

1028 – larceny, S. Biggs Ave.
1130 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1336 – misc. complaint, Sumpter Rd.
1408 – parking complaint, Victorian Ln.
1644 – traffic stop, E. Columbia/Madelon St.
1835 – assist other dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1947 – traffic stop, E. Huron River/Biggs Ave.
2003 – assist other dept., Potter Dr.
2046 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Aberdeen Ct.

2308 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, July 25:

0031 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
0745 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Denton Rd.
0745 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.

0838 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
0957 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1109 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon St.
1154 – traffic stop, South St./Henry St.
1215 – traffic stop, Five Points
1229 – assist citizen, Main St./Third St.
1457 – follow up by officer, Bedell St.
1509 – larceny, Robbe St.
1708 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Third St.
1759 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1829 – larceny, Robbe St.
1829 – larceny, Robbe St.
1930 – private property/property damage accident, W. Columbia Ave.
2032 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
2142 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.

Wednesday, July 26:

0047 – private property impound, I&T
0752 – 911 welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
0827 – vehicle lockout, South St.
1130 – domestic, High St.
1429 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1459 – 911 welfare check, E. Waterbury Ct.

Thursday, July 27:

0831 – malicious destruction of property, cemetery
1159 – trespassing, S. Liberty St.
1451 – larceny, E. Waterbury Ct.
1535 – holdup alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1856 – property damage accident, Main St./Third
1921 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
2039 – property check, W. Davis St.

Friday, July 28:

0041 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./Fifth St.
0827 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./N. Liberty St.
0838 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
0910 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
0914 – warrant arrest, Main St.
0933 – domestic, Robbe St.
1223 – civil matter, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1440 – traffic stop, S. Liberty St.
1504 – traffic stop, S. Liberty St.
1731 – traffic stop, S. Liberty St./E. Columbia
1749 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.
2008 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Savage Rd.
2044 – traffic stop, Main St./E. Huron River Dr.

Saturday, July 29:

0113 – trespassing, Main St.
0825 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave./High St.
1714 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
1844 – warrant arrest, Huron River Dr.
1847 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belle Villa Blvd./Estrada Dr.
2105 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr./Harbour Pointe Dr.
2119 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.
2128 – welfare check, Victorian Ln.
2227 – noise complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
2259 – motorist assist, Savage/tracks
2259 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./E. Columbia Ave.
There were 26 traffic stops on this week's log.

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 23:

0007 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0158 – assist other agency, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0700 – fire dept. assist, Hawaii St.
0833 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0944 – follow-up investigation, Edgewood Dr.
1145 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.
1231 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1303 – death investigation, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1723 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1847 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1906 – malicious destruction of property, Mulberry Rd.
2146 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2204 – traffic complaint/hazard, New Mexico St.
2234 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.

Monday, July 24:

0047 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
0453 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0610 – misdemeanor warrant arrest, Willow Rd. / Sumpter Rd.
1114 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1702 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1740 – animal bite, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.
1807 – follow-up investigation, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1952 – family trouble, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
2359 – 911 hang up, 8700 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Tuesday, July 25:

0433 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0757 – fire dept. assist, Tulip Dr.
1018 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1056 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1158 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1306 – follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1356 – civil matter, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1411 – damage to property, Magnolia Dr.
1440 – 911 hang up, Birch Dr.
1756 – recovered stolen vehicle, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
1802 – 911 hang up, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1825 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1920 – follow-up investigation, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd.

2042 – suspicious circumstance, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2053 – neighbor dispute, Ohio St.
2101 – shots fired, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Wednesday, July 26:

0010 – fire dept. assist, Hawaii St.
0103 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
0555 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.
1728 – animal complaint, Martinsville/Mulberry Rd.
1802 – 911 hang up, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1813 – family trouble, W. Arizona St.
1818 – alarm, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2104 – civil matter, Washington St.
2155 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2218 – follow-up investigation, Washington St.

Thursday, July 27:

0017 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
0031 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0101 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0147 – 911 hang up, W. Arizona St.
0152 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln./Hampshire Rd.
0421 – civil matter, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
0547 – traffic complaint/hazard, Wear/Rawsonville Rd.
0808 – alarm, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1121 – suspicious circumstance, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1243 – fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow Dr.
1430 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1446 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1523 – suspicious circumstance, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1742 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln.
1838 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.
1900 – welfare check, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1918 – malicious destruction of property, Colorado Rd.
2226 – flee & elude police, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2332 – noise complaint, Tamarack Dr.

Friday, July 28:

0042 – civil matter, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.
0809 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
0821 – citizen assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
0839 – animal complaint, Martinsville/Judd Rd.
0942 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1000 – property damage accident, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1053 – family trouble, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1242 – assist other agency, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
1336 – felony warrant arrest, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.

1433 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.
1656 – suspicious circumstance, Mulberry Dr.
1832 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.
1849 – citizen assist, Rawsonville Rd./Willis Rd.
1902 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2305 – suspicious circumstance, Montana St.
Saturday, July 29:
0047 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0238 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0315 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0605 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0651 – welfare check, E. Arizona St.
1059 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
1232 – fire dept. assist, Willis Rd./Sherwood Rd.

1358 – suspicious vehicle, Oregon St.
1413 – citizen assist, Montana St.
1522 – follow-up investigation, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1553 – assist other agency, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1554 – trespassing complaint, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1802 – shots fired, Bemis Rd./Elwell Rd.
1827 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1931 – suspicious circumstance, Texas St.
2000 – larceny, Washington St.
2025 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
2106 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
2109 – malicious destruction of property, Vermont Rd.
2128 – suspicious circumstance, Texas St.
Also on this week's log are 127 patrol checks, 72 traffic stops, and 13 misc. details.

Court Watching

(continued from page 16)

truck. The man runs from the left of the camera down the alley and at 10:22 walks back from the alley to the driver's side of the victim's truck. At 10:24, he walked back down the alley and put something in a dumpster.

Sgt. McCormick said they found a towel in the dumpster. Video was also shown from 10:25 and 10:26 p.m.

Sgt. McCormick said after he obtained the video, police detained a truck with driver parked in gas station at Belleville Road and Michigan Avenue, from 2.5 to 3 miles away. It was after 3:30 p.m. on June 29. The license plate on the truck was the same as that in the video, Sgt. McCormick said.



Shaw

Sgt. McCormick identified the defendant in the courtroom as being the person who stepped down from the driver's seat of that truck at the gas station.

He said the driver appeared to be wearing the same attire as the driver in the video. When he was cross-examined by attorney Quinn, McCormick said, "I didn't say it was him. He had on the same clothes as in the video the night before."

Quinn asked if there was blood on his clothes and McCormick said he didn't know.

Quinn also asked about the picture of a VBT police car that was in the alley at about 9 or 10 p.m. and McCormick said the night shift starts at 1800.

"I would like to know who's in the car," Quinn said.

McCormick said at 9:48 p.m. the vehicle left and, "I don't know who's driving but he was seen on the truck's camera as leaving." He said he would find out the driver for the defense counsel.

Quinn asked about whether a gun was recovered from the defendant's truck and he said he believed there was but he didn't have information.

The second witness was Van Buren Township Detective Mike Long who testified he had been with the department for just over 20 years and had worked on four homicides in the last six years.

He said "stippling" is made by a close-range gunshot and is like tattooing. He said the gun was held too close.

Det. Long testified the casing found was

9mm and the gun found in the truck with the defendant was a 9mm Glock. Pictures showed what was found in the truck, besides the gun, and there were slides or sandals and Shaw had them on when he left his vehicle while being arrested. One fell off his foot. There also was a phone cord with an adapter that was plugged in between the sleeping area and the front.

Quinn asked if the defendant's gun matched the shell casing and Det. Long said he didn't know. He said they are waiting for a report from the Michigan State Police Crime Lab and sometimes it takes 3-4 months to get a report. He said a gun also was found in the victim's truck and it also was 9 mm. That gun also is with the MSP for a report.

Prosecutor Elsey then asked the judge to bind the defendant over to circuit court for trial. He said the gunshot was front to back and down to up, consistent with the victim being shot from the window. He said there was a heated discussion and interaction shown by the video clips.

He said at 10:18 p.m. the video showed the defendant running toward the truck and clutching something on the right side of his body. He ran back and returned with a pair of black gloves and began rummaging in the truck. He deposited a towel in the dumpster and walked away with a white phone charger. He said the video clips had shown a reflection on the front window of the defendant on the phone.

Quinn argued not to bind over. He said the case was brought too prematurely because they don't have ballistics reports and whether the defendant's gun was ever shot. He said it could be refilled later once they have the information. He said they don't know who shot what. Quinn said there is no DNA evidence.

The defense attorney said they say the defendant had the same clothes on but there was no blood. There was a large amount of blood on the alleged victim, he said. Quinn said the prosecutor has not met the goal of probable cause to bind over.

However, Judge Green ruled there was probable cause to believe the defendant may have committed the crime and she bound Shaw over to circuit court.

Shaw is remanded to custody, so no bond has been set and he remains in the Wayne County Jail.

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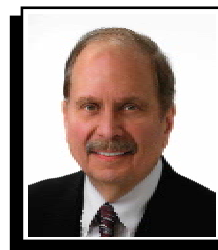
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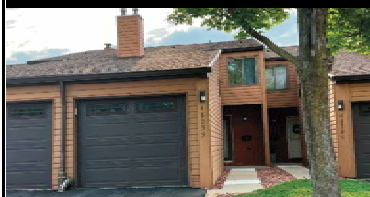
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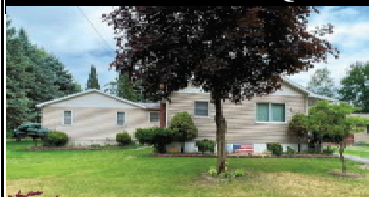
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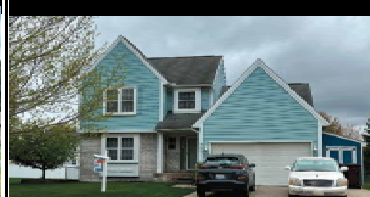
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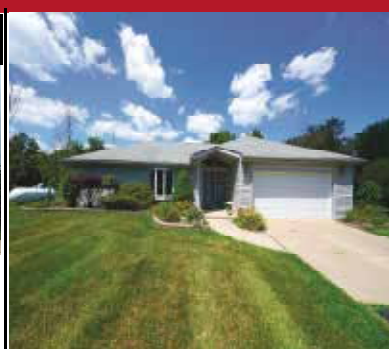


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