



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 28.2 Thursday, January 13, 2022

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

VBPS Board of Education reelects Amy Pearce as president

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At Monday's organizational meeting, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education reelected Amy Pearce as president for another year.

Board members also reelected Susan Featheringill as vice president, Darlene Loyer Gerick as secretary and Simone Pinter as treasurer. Pinter was absent from the meeting, but Pearce said she had spoken to her and she agreed to serve again.

At the end of the meeting, president Pearce said it is an honor to serve on the board and, "I appreciate the staff who works with us and the people who come to the meetings to support us."



Pearce

The board also approved the regular meeting dates, established the depository for school funds for the 2022 year (PNC Bank, Huntington Bank, and Michigan Class) and authorized investment authority for the 2022 year (superintendent and finance director).

Pearce appointed the following board members to committees for the year:

- Policy: Dionne Falconer, Pearce, and Featheringill;
- School Improvement: Kelly Owen, Gerick and Falconer;
- Health Advisory: Calvin Hawkins, Owen and Pinter;
- Facilities: Gerick, Pinter, Hawkins; and
- Finance: Pearce, Featheringill, Pinter.

Pearce pointed out that two board members are necessary for the reinstatement committee, but attendance rotates throughout the board members so there are no appointments.

At the organizational meeting, School Supt. Pete Kudlak presented folders

to board members with pictures and a resolution from RESA as part of School Board Recognition Month. A certificate from the Michigan Association of School Boards also was included.

At the Jan. 10 regular meeting that followed the organizational meeting, the board:

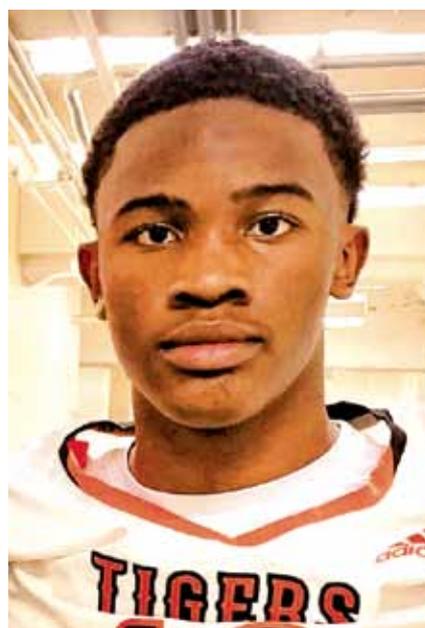
- Approved hiring teachers Chavella Knight at Edgemont Elementary School starting Dec. 17 and Joshua Stokes at McBride Middle School as of Jan. 3;

- Approved hiring the following non-instructional employees: Ayana Terry for Food Service at McBride Middle School as of Jan. 3; Stephanie Holmes for Food Service at Owen Intermediate School as of Dec. 14; Marcia Borgdorff as a paraprofessional at Rawsonville Elementary School as of Jan. 3; and Joumana Kadri for administrative assistant to the curriculum director. Curriculum Director Jeff Moore said Kadri came from Romulus and starts next week;

- Heard parent Joe Flange comment on a suggestion that the school might be closed for two weeks because of high COVID levels. He said they've all seen videos of school board meetings with chaos, but that has not happened here because the board members and the superintendent listen to the parents. He said they've tried school closings before and they failed because COVID is just like the flu, no one can stop it and closing schools doesn't stop it. He said being away from school causes students to suffer socially, educationally, and induces stress and parents who have to work are caused financial burdens. He said the community has lived through 90-plus weeks of trying to stop COVID, with a recovery rate of 99.97%. He quoted a saying that the definition of insanity is to do the same thing over and over, expecting a different response;

(continued on page 15)

National Honor



Bryce Underwood, age 14, of Belleville High School has been named MaxPreps National Freshman Player of the Year, the first Michigan player to earn the honor. Underwood led the BHS Tigers to a 13-1 record and Division 1 state title. The 6-foot-3, 190-pound quarterback threw for 2,888 yards and 39 touchdowns against just four interceptions. In a 55-33 win over Adams (Rochester) in the Division 1 state championship he completed 12 of 21 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns to claim the school's first state title. He added 64 yards on the ground and another score. Underwood is the top-rated freshman quarterback according to Recruiting Brain and already boasts multiple Division 1 offers, per 247Sports.

Sumpter fire fighters work 4 1/2 hours to put out 25 vehicle fires

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Sunday night Sumpter Township fire fighters worked four and a half hours in frigid temperatures to put out fires pushed around by driving winds in the Auto Insurance Auction yard, 8251 Rawsonville Road.

Fire Chief Rick Brown said security guards at the auction yard called in about 7:35 p.m. saying their thermal cameras showed fire in a vehicle.

Chief Brown said the fire started with three vehicles and ended up with 25 on fire,

pushed by the strong winds into vehicles with fuel leakage.

He said the yard had hydrants but it was easier to truck in water than try to find the hydrants in the dark. He said they called Augusta Township Fire Department to help bring in water.

Chief Brown said they believe a short in the wiring of a vehicle or other malfunction started the original fire and it was not of suspicious origin.

Chief Brown said it was very cold for the fire fighters, but there were no injuries.

Court Watching:

Thomas bound over for fleeing police officer, reckless driving

Christian Latriel Thomas, 27, of Van Buren Township is charged with fleeing a police officer, reckless driving, and failure to stop after a collision on Sept. 10, 2020 in Van Buren Township. His arraignment

and probable cause conference was held on Oct. 6 and his preliminary examination was set for Oct. 13. Charges had been dismissed and then refiled.

(continued on page 9)

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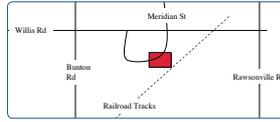
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Township ordinance officers' goal is compliance

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Sumpter Township ordinance officers show off pictures on their cameras of the way properties look before and after cleanups -- the way others would show pictures of their grandchildren.

A stretch of grassy property with no blight is a beautiful sight of which to be proud. The Google Earth picture of the same property when it was filled with rusting vehicles is alarming.

On Friday morning, the *Independent* sat down with Ordinance Officers Peter Gregory and Kevin Scott, along with their boss, Sumpter Police Det./Lt. John Toth, to hear the story of their ongoing efforts to clean up the rural township.

Det./Lt. Toth, who has taken charge of the ordinance activities, said that the three of them meet every morning to plan the day. He said they have divided the township into quadrants and each ordinance officer concentrates on one quadrant for a week and then moves to the next quadrant. They follow up on ongoing situations and are proactive when they see something amiss, he said.

Toth stressed that the goal of the ordinance department is compliance, not punishment. He said he has learned a lot from Gregory and Scott on ordinances.

He said recently 34th District Court Chief Judge Brian Oakley held a meeting to discuss ordinance court cases. Toth said each community's representatives were to explain their enforcement activities and the judge said he would hold Sumpter off until last and he would introduce them.

Toth said Judge Oakley introduced Sumpter with, "They're about compliance" and he praised the township's activities to bring compliance about, rather than just levying a fine and moving on.

Toth was asked about selective enforcement and said that does not happen. He said, for instance, they read in the *Independent* about the township supervisor having blight on his property and immediately went to see him about it. Supervisor John Morgan took care of it at once, Toth said.

Toth said sometimes people don't know how to get rid of their blight and the ordinance department can get a scrapper to come out and clean up the blight and sell the metal collected for his fee.

The township also has a new agreement with Republic Waste, which will supply ten, 30-yard dumpsters a year to the township and will pick them up and dump them without charge. Toth said the ordinance department uses those for people who do not have the financial means to clean up their problems but want to comply. One property used two of those dumpsters, Gregory said.

Toth said they also are team building and have a meeting each month with the building inspector, building department, and Karen Woodington of the supervisor's office to see what responsibility each person can assume to help with the specific cleanup projects before them.

Toth said the ordinance officers take pictures



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

These three meet each morning to plan that day's activities to clean up blight in Sumpter Township. From left is Ordinance Officer Kevin Scott, Police Det./Lt. John Toth, and Ordinance Officer Peter Gregory. They agree the goal is compliance with the ordinances and not punishment.

of everything and give them to him with information and he creates documents that are given out at the meetings so everyone is on the same page.

Toth said he asked the ordinance officers to find ten buildings that they thought needed to be demolished. He said they found ten and then got to work. He said all ten were either brought to code or demolished.

Toth said dealing with homes is a more difficult job. A house on Sumpter Road was demolished and now a new house is being built. A home on Bemis was taken down after a warning. A lot more are coming down, he said, adding just one is in court.

Gregory said they give so many chances to property owners to clean up their blight that sometimes the township exceeds the 180-day court limit to complete enforcement of a misdemeanor and they have to dismiss the original complaint and then start over. Toth said they are looking at making some civil infractions instead of misdemeanors.

They do have problems waiting for DTE to disconnect electricity and/or gas from buildings. That's the problem with the burned-out house on Willis Road that has everything ready for demolition except the shut-offs. As soon as that is done, the house will be demolished, Gregory said.

Gregory said DTE will furnish electricity to areas no matter how far out if the people will pay for it. Some buildings need to be demolished, but DTE won't cut them off because the people are still paying for it.

Peter Gregory was hired as an ordinance officer on Jan. 30, 2017 and he walks to work

from his home just around the corner on Dunn Road, property that he bought from the surveyor who owned it. He said he had been in customer service in the corporate world for 25 years. When this job came open, he started reading the township ordinances to figure out just what he could be doing and decided he could do this. He liked people and he could help them, he said.

He and his twin brother were adopted in Detroit after spending time with foster parents Teresa and Cindy Murphy in Sumpter Township. He said he went into the service, married, worked, retired, and got a new job as an ordinance officer.

He said he got a week's training from Randy Lynch and then he was on his own. He said he carried the thick book of ordinances in his truck to refer to until he was comfortable with the rules. Since ordinance enforcement was transferred to the police department, he got a tablet that makes finding and keeping information much easier.

He said he recalls people saying, "Who are you and why are you bothering me?" when he tried to enforce violations of the ordinances. He got run off porches. He started to educate people about the ordinances.

He said now he gets people thanking him for helping them clean up their properties and some are the same people who resisted his efforts at the beginning.

Gregory is proud of his marriage and his two daughters, 24 and 20, who are pursuing their educations for their careers -- one aiming to be a doctor and another in the nurse's program at University of Michigan.

Last spring the township board agreed

Gregory needed help with his ordinance duties and Kevin Scott was approved as the new ordinance officer and went to work June 1.

Scott said he had retired from being a corrections officer and one of the inmates in his prison was Candice Diaz of Sumpter who was serving 30-60 years for killing her four-year-old daughter on New Year's Day, 2018.

He said he was a dispatcher in Belleville for four years, starting in 1998, and then decided he wanted to work with kids and worked with Covenant House of Michigan, the Methodist program for wards of the state and then he served as a youth pastor.

"I never wanted to be in corrections," he said, but one day he said he heard God's voice as clear as if he was standing next to him and he said, "I need you to go to corrections."

He said he had spent more than 20 years in marshal arts and he wasn't afraid. He did what God wanted him to do. He said he has two kids, a wife of 24 years, and a granddaughter.

"I have a normal demeanor most of the time," he said, noting he grew up in the 'hoods and had a troubled youth, with drugs and other problems. He said they moved to Rawsonville Woods in the 1990s and it was so nice with all the trees and the rural atmosphere around them.

He said his motto is "No matter where you are, there you are." He said he tries to bring the best out of people and he treated the inmates with respect.

He recalls his supervisor told him, "You're too nice." When the supervisor was retiring from the state, he thanked Scott for teaching him how to handle others.

"The inmates all adore you," he said, adding whenever Scott is on a shift, it is calm and other employees want to work with him.

Scott retired from the state and he made more in that job than he will working for Sumpter, but that's all right because it never was about money, he said.

Both Gregory and Scott do more than ordinance enforcement. Last week Scott saw 15 bags of garbage that someone had dumped and he asked the DPW to help him pick it up. More shots on a picture phone showed mattresses they had just picked up from the side of the road.

Toth said there was a man who wouldn't talk to him or Gregory because he said they were trying to kill him. One time, when they came out to cite him on an ordinance matter, an ambulance came and took the man away.

Scott said that same man loves him and they are working together. Both Toth and Gregory shook their heads and agreed that Scott has taken on that project successfully.

Gregory said it's wonderful when owners thank him for helping them get property cleaned up. "You don't just throw it at them and walk away," he said, referring to citation. He is proud they say he is fair.

Gregory has worked with high school students at Trinity Episcopal Church in Belleville for 25 years and has taken them all over the world on mission trips.

He said he, too, heard God's voice telling him, "I want you to do this."

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

It's a mixed-up COVID world

It's got to be confusing a lot of people. While we are told the Omnicron variant of COVID-19 is roaring through the population and shots and boosters are absolutely necessary, we also are told it's like a light head cold, with sniffles and a sore throat.

Our friends tell us they feel fine and are quarantining for five days after a positive test. A nurse we know said people at her facility are allowed to keep working if they say they only had a little runny nose and their sore throat isn't very sore.

And if things are so bad, why are all the municipal meetings back to in-person? With masks only "recommended"?

The school district had a spike in positive cases after the holiday recess last week and officials know that was from exposures during the vacation. They are waiting to see what this week brings to try to determine if the students and school employees are getting exposed at school.

We see television reports showing long lines of cars with people waiting for COVID tests. In our community a large pile of self-tests were seen at Meijer over the weekend and Milton's Pharmacy at 248 Main St. is advertising shots and tests at its location. No lines for those.

We think people are tired of being afraid of a virus that seems to be losing its bite. A city leader said she was going to Europe and another leader is in Florida. No fears of travel for them.

It's very confusing, but it looks like the virus is losing its punch. It's about time.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

There are about 16 comments on our web site on the proposal to build an EV fuel station and restaurant at the northwest corner of Haggerty Road and the South I-94 Service Drive in Van Buren Township, as described in a front-page story of our Dec. 30 edition.

If you are interested, you can go to www.bellevilleareaindependent.com and type in "EV fuel station" in the Search box. Go to the end of the story and read the comments. Most are from neighbors who are against the proposal.

A military veteran came into the office last week to ask how to go about getting someone on a veteran's banner, such as those hanging off the light poles along Main Street in the City of Belleville.

I emailed Councilwoman Kelly Bates who is chairperson of the project. She said people could email her at the city and she would send information for next year.

Her address is council@bellevilleonthelake.com.

She said some of the banners have been damaged by the winds and they should be taken down for the year.

I believe it cost \$30 per banner and the extra after the costs of the banner goes toward maintenance of the Veterans Memorial.

Some people who are interested do not use computers so I tell them to go to city hall and leave a message for Councilwoman Bates and she'll get back to them. They won't be making the final arrangements for next year's banners until next summer and they usually go up in November. She said she would welcome having more veterans



on the banners.

One man told me he thought maybe you had to be someone special to get on a banner. I told him all veterans are special and those up on the banners or their family members just knew who to call.

Kelly said she hasn't used Facebook for eight years, but somebody puts up the announcement on Facebook in the summer.

One of our readers brought me in some old newspapers he had. He said he was originally from Scotland and family members still there send him papers. He said he thought I'd like to see them, so he loaned them to me.

One is a reprint of the original VE-Day issue of the Daily Mirror, May 8, 1945. Cost of the paper is one penny.

Other papers have aerial shots of Edinburgh and old pictures of Edinburgh. What fun. I'm taking them home to read and enjoy before I give them back.

On Tuesday morning we received a message from Belleville Deputy City Manager/Downtown Development Authority Director Tim McLean saying the DDA's strategic planning session planned for Jan. 12 was canceled since the facilitator is in the hospital with a medical issue. He said he is awaiting test results on himself, and it is very likely he would test positive for COVID. He said he will be working from home pending test results

and is available by email. He said he will work to get the strategic planning session rescheduled.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said he went to the NJROTC military ball at the Belleville High School Commons the Saturday after students came back from holiday break. He said Marine Gunny Sgt. Matthew Barr taught the students how to do it under strict guidelines and they rented dress uniforms for the event. The students did all the planning and ordered the catered food. Kudlak said they had to deal with students deciding to bring a date after saying they would be alone which fouled up the total count for the caterer and taught the students to deal with that.

One of the interesting things was the punch that they put together that tasted terrible.

At Monday's school board meeting, Darlene Gerick said they put things in the punch to stand for the service people who have suffered and died and it always tastes terrible, even though it usually has alcohol in it. That still doesn't cover up the taste.

Kudlak said the BHS event didn't have alcohol, but that punch really did taste awful.



www.bellevilleareaindependent.com
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Letters

Prudent Hope seeks donations for BHS football champs

To the editor:
 Prudent Hope is celebrating the Belleville High School Football D1 State Championship!

Prudent Hope is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization to bridge the gap and overcome barriers. Prudent Hope focuses on assisting our youth in the transition from childhood to adulthood. Our youth need guidance along the way to adulthood to become self-sufficient successful individuals. Through mentorship our youth will be educated and equipped with necessary tools to successfully achieve mental, physical, and financial health stability. Prudent Hope believes through intentional actions we will produce a society of successful self-sufficient individuals. In hopes, that one day, they themselves will gain enough stability help others in the future.

Our young men on Belleville High School's D1 Football State Championship team have invested a tremendous amount of hard work, time and dedication to achieve this accomplishment of bringing the first football state championship trophy to the City of Belleville.

In an effort to give them the celebration to show how excited we are as a community, we are asking for donations. If you are able to donate, please send money to Prudent Hope. The options are listed below:

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Dominique Yharbrough

LWV cancels Jan. 13 event at library

To the editor:

Unfortunately, due to Omicron we are cancelling The League of Women Voters' presentation on Voting Rights on Jan. 13. Both the library and the League believe it is the best to postpone it to late February or March. We will try to nail down a date this week, if possible. However, would you please put something to the effect of rescheduled TBD on the calendar so folks don't show up on Thursday evening?

I will contact you when we get a date nailed down. Right now, the only presentations we have are on zoom but we preferred to do in person at the library vs. zoom.

Donna Gilkey- Lavin
 The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County

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

Contaminated material shipping resumes

Jan. 7, 2022
 Hello from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District:

We continue to make progress with the cleanup of the Luckey Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Site. As of Dec. 31, 2021, the Corps of Engineers has safely excavated and containerized 1,499 cubic yards of FUSRAP-contaminated material for shipment under the second remediation contract. Transportation of materials for disposal at the US Ecology Wayne Disposal Facility in Belleville, MI, will resume next week.

Our highest priority during cleanup activities at the Luckey Site is to be protective of human health and the environment, ensure that work is conducted in a safe and efficient manner, and prevent the spread of contamination. We are also actively monitoring the evolving COVID-19 situation and are in regular communication with our personnel and contractors to emphasize the importance of taking appropriate actions to safeguard employee health and welfare while working during the pandemic.

For additional information about the site, please visit the project website at <https://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/FUSRAP/Luckey-Site/>. If you know someone that is interested in receiving News from the Corps updates about our progress at the site, please ask them to email fusrap@usace.army.mil to let us know.

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BHS at-home game

- **Thursday, Jan. 13:** Varsity Boys Swim & Dive vs Dearborn, 6:30pm
- **Friday, Jan. 14:** JV Girls Basketball vs Franklin, 5:30 p.m.; Varsity Girls Basketball vs Franklin, 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 18:** JV Girls Basketball vs Churchill, 5:30 p.m.; Varsity Boys Swim & Dive vs Flat Rock & Fordson, 6:30 p.m.; Varsity Girls Basketball vs Churchill, 7 p.m.

Diane Kiessel
 Belleville High School Athletic Secretary

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Destruction of rare wetland on hold after court issues new order

In a story published last week, WXYZ's Channel 7 Action News said the destruction of 12 acres of rare wetland in Van Buren Township's Woodland Meadows landfill property has been put on hold because of its investigation.

In 2020, The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy approved a permit that would allow the landfill to be expanded into the wetland, but a new court order is now in place.

Dr. Connie Boris, Wayne County Conservation District Executive Director, told Channel 7 she has been fighting to save a rare wetland on the site called a Wet Mesic Flatwood, which she said is one of only four left in Michigan.

The Wayne County Conservation District tried to challenge that decision in court and was told it had no standing in the case. The Conservation District appealed to the state's Environmental Permit Review Commission and in December it remanded the hearing back to the administrative law judge.

Dr. Boris and her lawyer Gerard Mantese

also took Waste Management to Wayne County Circuit Court, and the WM recently agreed to pause some of the construction at the wetland site in the northwest quarter of the property.

Channel 7 said according to this court order, WM agreed not to disturb part of the wetland property for six months, the time estimated for the lawsuit to be resolved, and allowed Boris to visit and photograph the site. Boris said some of the trees there are over 200 years old.

Boris says she hopes to use the next six months to work with WM to try to save the wetlands for good, for both flooding prevention and wildlife preservation.

Mia Jankowiak, Area Communications Manager for WM, gave the *Independent* the following statement: "As part of our approved wetland permit, WM has created

and restored approximately 75 acres of new wetland and preserved approximately 25 acres of existing high quality forested wetland and forested upland. Our permitted landfill expansion design addresses stormwater impacts both on and off-site to comply with both Wayne County

and EGLE surface water regulations. WM remains committed to taking care of our communities, the environment and welcomes continued collaboration with Wayne County Conservation District."

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Belleville Lacrosse is offering free indoor youth clinics during the months of January and February working with Youth Coach Forga and Belleville High School Coach Jeng.

This clinic is open to current players and new players, 4th through 8th grades. This clinic will offer stick handling, passing, and the basics of Lacrosse, the fastest game on two feet.

Clinics are set in the Belleville High School gymnasium, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15 and 22, and from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5, 12, and 19. The first clinic was held on Jan. 8.

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Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Jan. 13 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 18 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 5 p.m. workshop, 6 p.m. regular meeting. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 19 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 24 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
- Tuesday, Jan. 25 -- Sumpter Township meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 26 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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Obituaries



Robert (Bob) Lorne Ayres

ROBERT LORNE AYRES

(January 23, 1924 – December 14, 2021)
Robert (Bob) Lorne Ayres passed away on December 14, 2021 due to complications with an infection. He was born in Detroit on January 23, 1924. He grew up on a farm on Willis Road in Belleville, MI, and began in the Ford Trade School in 1941. Bob graduated from Belleville High School in 1942 where he enjoyed playing his trombone in the marching band. Bob served in the Marine Corps from 1942 to 1946, engaging in multiple island campaigns during WWII. He attended the University of Michigan and received a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1950. Bob accepted an engineering position with Ford Motor Company in the Dynamometer Department and retired in 1979.

Bob loved to sing and was a member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church choir for 60 years. In his later years, he enjoyed playing cards with his senior friends and sang with a group in Belleville. He was a member of the Ypsilanti Senior Center.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife Marion Jahn Ayers and his parents, Elsie Goodall Ayers Bayless and Lorne Ayers, and his sister Alice Aston.

He is survived by his wife Elaine Ritthaler Monroe Ayers; his daughter and son-in-law Alan and Carol Ayers Woodliff; three granddaughters Priscilla, Nicole, and Marissa; and sisters Barbara Stahl and Audrey Minick.

Bob's memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 23, 2022, which would have been his 98th birthday. The visitation will be at noon followed by a 1 o'clock service at St. Paul Lutheran Church, located at 21901 Beech St., Dearborn, MI. Memorial may be made to the St. Paul Lutheran Church music enrichment program.



Dennis James Chie

DENNIS JAMES CHIE

(December 2, 1951 – December 31, 2021)
Dennis (Denny) James Chie, age 70 of Willis, MI passed away at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI.

He was born December 2, 1951, in Willis, MI son of James and Elizabeth (Dennis) Chie. Denny graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1970.

Denny served on the board of trustees for Augusta Township from 2016-2020. He enjoyed woodworking and was a vendor at many craft shows where he always had a smile for everyone and loved chatting with people. He was a member of the Western Wayne County Conservation Association, Inc. He loved dogs, working in his woodshop and just being with his family. He always took the time to talk to people. Whether at a doctor visit or a trip to the store he would always have a kind word, a smile and a sense of humor. He was never too busy to try to brighten your day.

Denny is survived by his loving wife Judy, daughter Heather (Jason) Clark and grandsons Michael Hughes, Matthew Clark, Nathan Clark and great-grandson Caleb Hughes. Stepdaughters Dawn (Eric) Peacock, grandsons Benjamin Peacock and Gabriel Peacock, Deanna Dargis and grandsons David Dargis and Jack Dargis.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Sandra (Chie) Vine.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial service will be planned for the summer. Memorial contributions to the Michigan Humane Society would be appreciated.

COVID-19 deaths in 48111 stay at 94, positive tests at 7,097

The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the 48111 zip code remained at 94 as of Monday, Jan. 10, according to figures from the Wayne County Health Department.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 totaled 7,097 on Monday, Jan. 10, up from 6,464 on Sunday, Jan. 2. The Health Department had not posted any figures for Monday, Jan. 3, as the Independent went to press that week.

On Monday, Jan. 10, the separate totals released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 4,824 positive cases, 52 deaths; City of Belleville, 839 positive cases, 22 deaths; and Sumpter Township 1,384 positive cases, 20 deaths.

The Van Buren Public Schools had 75 positive cases on the week it came back from winter break, Jan. 4-7. That makes a total of 361 positive cases since the beginning of the school year. The district had not posted any cases for this week as the Independent went to press.

More Obituaries on page 8

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Obituaries



Roy Wilmer Leffler, III

ROY WILMER LEFFLER, III

(October 17, 1986 – December 31, 2021)

Roy Wilmer Leffler, III, age 35, died suddenly, Friday, December 31, 2021, at his home, in Van Buren Township, MI. He was born October 17, 1986, in Westland, MI, son of Roy Wilmer Jr. & Billie Jean (Layne) Leffler. Roy was a member of the Belleville High School class of 2005. He loved the outdoors; hunting, fishing, and spending time on the lake with family and friends. Roy owned and operated L & T Outdoor Services, Belleville, MI.

Lil' Roy is survived by his father Roy Leffler, Jr. of Belleville, MI; grandmother Sue Layne of Ohio; siblings: Nick Leffler and his daughter Kadence of Belleville, Judy Grodi of Ypsilanti, MI, Craig Mullett of Belleville, MI, and Eric Delamater of Detroit, MI, and their mother Linda Sole of Ypsilanti, MI, and Ashley Neal of Ypsilanti, MI; his uncle Tim (Dixie) Leffler of Belleville, MI; Chloe Spencer & Faith Randall, both of Belleville, MI, who were like daughters to him, as well as numerous extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his mother Billie Jean Leffler, grandpa Walker "Walt" Layne, also an uncle Jesse Leffler.

Visitation will be Saturday, January 15, 2022, from 2-6 p.m. with a 6 p.m. Funeral Service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Pastor Watson will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the funeral home to help defray expenses. <https://www.davidcbrownfh.com/page/payment>

BARBARA CAROL REILLY

(February 25, 1987 – January 2, 2022)

Age 34, of Belleville. Survived by daughters Jayden and Shawna of Belleville; father Dr. Tim Reilly, mother Becky DeBono grandmother, grandfather, 3 brothers, 2 sisters.

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KATHLEEN MARIE MARTINEZ

(September 11, 1960 – December 23, 2021)

Age 61, of Van Buren Township. Survived by son Ryan Lucas of NC; mother Joan Mathis of GA; sisters Kimberly, Tricia, Stephanie, Jessica. Cremation rites have been accorded.

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Frederick Thornton Withrow, Jr.

FREDERICK T. WITHROW, JR.

(October 11, 1958 – January 5, 2022)

Frederick Thornton Withrow, Jr., age 64, a longtime resident of Belleville, passed away on January 5, 2022, at home surrounded by family. He was born October 11, 1958, in Ypsilanti to Frederick Thornton Withrow, Sr., and Rita Mae (Griffith) Withrow. He attended some college and then became a commercial and residential painter. Fredrick had a great love for family which were either related, club brothers, or one of his many friends. He also loved to ride his Harley, play his guitar, and go fishing.

JR is survived by his partner, Cindy Lee Keller; his children, Jason Phillips, Jennifer Lord, and Carrie Gainey of South Carolina, Misty Keller of Wisconsin, Laura Moe and Sherry Gerhard (John Lloyd) of Michigan; his sisters Linda of St. Jacques, Michigan, Debra (Charles) Combs of Belleville, and Pamela (Michael) Lego of Belleville; and his puppies Grimm and Gizmo, as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Robert Lee Moore and William Mark Moore.

A visitation was held at the David C. Brown Funeral Home on Friday, January 7, 2022, and Saturday, with an 11 a.m. service, with Charles Combs officiating, and burial at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

In lieu of flowers, any memorial contributions would be greatly appreciated and may be made to the Pancreatic Action Network <https://www.pancan.org/>.

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Court watching

(continued from page 1)

After a preliminary exam before 34th District Court Chief Judge Brian Oakley, Thomas was bound over to circuit court for an Oct. 27 arraignment on the information. A Nov. 10 calendar conference was set and then changed to Dec. 22. A final conference was set for Jan. 31.

Van Buren Township Police Officer Jason Tront testified that he was dispatched to find a vehicle that left the scene of a 3 p.m. accident at Belleville Road and the North I-94 Service Drive. He was told the red Chevy pickup had driven to Southport Apartments and he turned into the complex and the red pickup was coming out. He said he got a good look at the driver and identified him in the courtroom.

He testified he attempted to make a traffic stop, but the truck didn't stop and turned left on the Service Drive hitting speeds of 85 mph driving to Haggerty Road and got on the eastbound ramp to I-94 and then spun around and went back to Haggerty and then east on the westbound ramp, the wrong way. Officer Tront said he stopped the chase.

The accident had minor damage and the

driver did not wish to prosecute. Police got identification from people at the accident and the picture was turned over to the detective bureau who got a name.

Van Buren Township Detective Mike Long testified he received the case from the patrol unit and posted the picture on Facebook and a police intel site and Thomas turned himself in the next day.

Hezekiah Hudson

Hezekiah Hudson, 20, formerly of Sumpter Township (now of Ypsilanti) was arraigned by Judge Martin on July 20 on a charge of reckless use of a handgun on July 18 in Van Buren Township. Judge Martin set personal bond of \$5,000 and told Hudson not to return to the Red Roof Inn at 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr. His remote zoom pretrial on the misdemeanor was set for Aug. 11, but Hudson failed to appear and a warrant for his arrest was signed and his personal bond revoked.

Judge Green had reminded Hudson that he owed a total of \$822 to the court on two previous cases and he said he would contact the court and set up a payment plan, which he did.

On Sept. 5 he was back in custody and posted \$400 cash bond. His remote pretrial was set for Oct. 13, but he failed to appear.

It was to be set for a show-cause hearing.

Hudson also is charged with malicious destruction of police property in Van Buren Township on July 31. He was due for a remote arraignment and pre-trial on Nov. 4, which he also missed.

On Nov. 23, Hudson called the court and said he is very confused and had no idea about his failure to appear and he is in the hospital now and unable to appear or handle his cases. He was advised he had to have proof of hospitalization sent to the court.

Micaiah Carlin Minor

Micaiah Carlin Minor, 19, of Canton, who had been charged with second-degree murder in the auto crash that killed a 64-year-old Van Buren Township resident, opted for a plea deal in circuit court and pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter, which could have brought him up to 15 years in prison.

On July 21, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Lawrence Talon dismissed the murder charge and scheduled sentencing for Sept. 29 after the Probation Department came up with a pre-sentencing report.

Van Buren Township Lt. Ken Floro said they did reach a plea agreement with the family in this case but the prosecutor's office did not share the specifics with him. He said, unfortunately, the wife of the victim passed away at the end of 2020 and the family advocate became her sister, who lives in Pennsylvania. She did not want to go through a trial and was cooperative with a reasonable plea.

The case has been wiped from the circuit court website.

Minor was charged in the death of John Robert McElreath, 64, on May 7, 2019 in an auto crash at the intersection of Belleville and Ecorse roads. It was alleged that Minor, an unlicensed driver was driving southbound on Belleville Road at a high rate of speed, when he disregarded a red light at Ecorse, crossed over the double-yellow lines and drove into northbound traffic, striking the victim in his car. McElreath died from his injuries in the crash. Minor was 17 at the time of the crash.

Bruce Jeanguy Levesque

Bruce Jeanguy Levesque, 25, of Van Buren Township was not present for his July 28 probable cause conference and it was adjourned to Sept. 1. Judge Oakley said this defendant had gone MIA before. He was facing two counts of criminal sexual conduct fourth-degree (incest) in Van Buren Township on May 17, 2020.

On Sept. 1, Judge Oakley set the preliminary exam for Oct. 18 or earlier if possible. Levesque is free on \$20,000 personal bond with the condition he cannot have contact with the complaining victim nor return to an address on S. Ponderosa Trail.

On Oct. 25, the live preliminary exam was held before Judge Oakley and charges were dismissed and the case closed. Judge Oakley said he found the complaining victim's testimony to be incredible.

Kevin Joseph Bonam

The probable cause conference for Kevin Joseph Bonam, 43, of Van Buren Township had been set for July 28, but the complaining witness had foot surgery and could not appear. The live preliminary exam had to be scheduled before Judge Green because she had Bonam's misdemeanor before her. Judge Green was on vacation, so the date of the live preliminary exam was later set by her for Sept. 15. On Sept. 15 all charges were dismissed without prejudice because the complaining witness wouldn't testify.

Bonam had been charged with first-degree home invasion, malicious destruction of property between \$100 and \$1,000 in value and two aggravated assaults on Sept. 22, 2020 in Van Buren Township. He had been free on \$20,000 personal bond and had to wear a tether.

Lillie Lee Heard

Judge Green dismissed most of the same charges against Bonam's co-defendant Lillie Lee Heard, 41, of Van Buren Township at her preliminary exam on May 5. Heard was due for her bench trial on the misdemeanors on Sept. 15, but the case was dismissed, along with Bonam's because the complaining witness refused to testify.

Caleb Michael Hatfield

The live preliminary exam for Caleb Michael Hatfield, 38, of Garden City and formerly of Sumpter Township was set for Sept. 1 on charges of uttering and publishing

(continued on page 10)

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Court watching

(continued from page 9)

and larceny between \$1,000 and \$20,000 on Oct. 24, 2019 in Van Buren Township. He was having difficulty hooking up to the zoom probable cause conference on July 28, so his presence was waived. He was free on \$10,000 personal bond.

On Sept. 1 the case was dismissed without prejudice at the request of the prosecution.

Devin Michael Beach

Devin Michael Beach, 24, of Sumpter Township, did not show up for his probable cause conference July 28 on a charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer in Sumpter Township on July 16 and two drunk driving charges from the Michigan State Police on June 28.

His Neighborhood Defender Service attorney James O'Donnell said he would send investigators out to find him. He said he had sent a letter and made phone calls to his client, but his phone was not working. The probable cause conference was adjourned by Judge Oakley to Sept. 1 and Beach was free on \$5,000 personal bond with a tether.

On Sept. 1, Beach was present by zoom from the Wayne County Jail, where he was being held on a tether violation. Defense attorney O'Donnell said on Aug. 4 the magistrate put him on a tether and he would like the tether reinstated. Beach told the judge that Wayne County was told Sumpter Township's Lt. Toth wanted to talk to Beach and after that they thought he was charged and took off his tether. He said then they picked him up for a tether violation.

Judge Oakley put him on \$5,000 personal bond with a GPS tether and set his probable cause conference for Sept. 15.

On Sept. 1 his Michigan State Police charges of operating with a blood content of .17 or more and operating while intoxicated were also set for a zoom pretrial on Sept. 15 with a personal bond of \$1,000.

On Sept. 15, the Van Buren Township and MSP cases were adjourned until Sept. 22. On Sept. 22, he said he was retaining counsel to cover all his cases and so his cases were adjourned until Oct. 6.

On Sept. 9, Beach was scheduled for remote pretrials on two blood alcohol content of more than .17 charges, both

on July 20, 2020; two operating with any presence of drugs on that same day; and citations for dog at large, dangerous dog misdemeanor, and no dog license, all on June 1, 2021. Those Sumpter cases all were set for remote pretrial on Oct. 14.

On Nov. 17, a final remote pretrial was set for Dec. 8 for the MSP case. He also was arraigned on new charges of fleeing a police officer in a vehicle and driving while license suspended in Sumpter Township on Oct. 5 and that was set for a probable cause conference on Dec. 8.

On Dec. 8 the preliminary exam on the Oct. 5 charge was set for Jan. 12 with defense attorney O'Donnell. Court attorney Leann Belcher took over all of Beach's misdemeanor cases and said she would sort through them. The pretrials on them were scheduled for Jan. 5.

On Jan. 5, attorney Belcher was not present and attorney Jeff Bowdich filled in for her and presented a plea deal from the prosecutor. Beach asked to have an adjournment of the cases so he could talk to his attorney of record, Belcher, before making a decision. His three cases were adjourned until Jan. 12.

He was scheduled for a probable cause conference on Oct. 6 and did not appear

because he was in custody of Sumpter Township police who arrested him at 9 a.m., Oct. 5. His attorney told Judge Oakley that he couldn't find him and then his family said he was in custody in Huron County, so he checked. Actually that turned out to be Huron Township, the lockup used by Sumpter police. Beach had been charged with felony resisting and obstruction of a police officer. His attorney asked for a live preliminary exam on the previous charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a Sumpter police officer on July 16 and that exam was set for Nov. 17. On that date he waived his exam and was scheduled for his arraignment on the information at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. His calendar conference has been set for Jan. 26 at circuit court.

Raymundo Leija

Raymundo Leija, 40, of Taylor, had his probable cause conference adjourned

until Aug. 18 on charges of receiving and concealing a stolen motor vehicle and allowing an unlicensed driver to drive on April 26 in Van Buren Township. He is free on \$2,500 personal bond.

His Neighborhood Defense Service attorney said discovery was still needed. He also said Leija's wife died and Leija is taking care of the children.

On Aug. 18, NDS defense attorney Cait DeMott Grady made a motion to dismiss the charges because she still has no discovery.

Judge Martin said Leija was arraigned July 28 and a special unit is handling the case. She denied the motion and adjourned the probable cause conference until Sept. 1.

On Sept. 1, Judge Oakley dismissed the charges without prejudice after Grady said she still had no discovery.

JANUARY EVENTS

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Parrott loses appeal on evidence to go before jury in Manistee case

On Dec. 22, the Michigan Supreme Court denied former 34th District Court Judge David M. Parrott's application for leave to appeal the Feb. 4 ruling of the Court of Appeals.

On Feb. 4, the Michigan Court of Appeals announced it had ruled against an appeal Parrott filed concerning evidence to be used in a 2018 misdemeanor drunk driving charge in Manistee County.

The 18-page Feb. 4 ruling turned down Parrott's appeal of three district court orders that: (1) prohibited the defendant from using his preliminary breath test (PBT) at trial; (2) held that the area in which defendant's vehicle was stuck was, as a matter of law, generally accessible to motor vehicles; and (3) denied defendant's motion *in limine* to exclude evidence regarding his occupation and display of his "badge."

Parrott appealed the orders to the Circuit Court, which denied his application for leave to appeal. The Appeals Court granted leave to appeal and scheduled oral arguments.

On June 3, 2020 the Michigan Court of Appeals heard the oral arguments in the operating while intoxicated case against then-Judge Parrott.

His attorney and a co-attorney were allowed to give their arguments in a session that lasted about 53 minutes.

Attorneys Liisa Speaker and Michael Nichols spoke on behalf of Judge Parrott, who was charged with driving while intoxicated on Dec. 25, 2018 in Manistee County, after he slid off the roadway at an intersection at about 6:28 p.m. and ended up stuck in an uncultivated field.

The attorneys told the court that Parrott had been able to drive in the field and hoped to get out himself. After working about 35 minutes, he called for a tow truck and the police got involved.

He was given a personal breath test at 7:26 p.m. which registered 0.109, which was leveled off at 0.10 according to police procedure. Michigan's level is 0.08 to be considered intoxicated for driving. Police took him into custody and at 8:08 p.m. a blood draw by the Michigan State Police

showed blood alcohol content of 0.152.

Speaker said time had passed from the time he ate his mashed potatoes and turkey meal, three minutes away from the accident.

She told the court the Manistee prosecutor has convinced the court to not allow an expert to mention the PBT test given at 7:26 p.m., and this being inadmissible denies Parrott a complete defense.

"The prosecutor has to bring up the PBT or it won't be in the case," Speaker said.

Nichols agreed this is a denial for Parrott to present a complete defense.

Nichols told of a report that shows how the alcohol level slowly rises in a body after a meal. The Appeals Court judge noted he was aware of the report.

Also, Parrott wanted a bench trial, but the prosecution wanted a jury trial and a jury trial was to be scheduled.

Gordon Miller of the Manistee County Prosecutor's Office was present at the session before the Court of Appeals.

He said Parrott displayed his badge, which meant he had a culpable state of mind, Assistant Prosecutor Miller said.

Miller said when Parrott asked, "Can anything be done?" it was an attempt to influence the arresting officer.

It was noted Parrott identified himself as a judge to the tow truck driver but said nothing like that to the officer.

Miller said that the defense might say that Parrott was just joking with his question and just wanted to be treated with fairness.

Nichols asked if the "badge" Miller noted was different from "identification" and Miller said he didn't know, but the police report refers to it as a badge.

"Some sort of ID?" Miller asked. "I could live with that."

"He spent 35 minutes trying to get out of the field and he was not over the limit then," Nichols said.

Miller said it was unclear to him whether Parrott was in the ditch or off the roadway.

Speaker gave citations of Supreme Court decisions on whether the field should be considered a roadway, in light of the charge of driving while intoxicated on a public road.

She questioned whether the field had "general accessibility" as required for a roadway and would an open field be generally accessible by a motor vehicle? She said the ditch was a steep embankment, deeper than most ditches, and the field was uncultivated and undeveloped. He was more than 33 and 38 feet from the two roads at the intersection, Speaker said.

The appeals judge noted one road ends in a field.

Speaker said her client had to call a tow truck and he had driven through trees and shrubs and a steep embankment.

Nichols pointed out the preliminary breath test that was low was taken at the time of the driving and the blood test at the police department or the hospital taken later was higher.

Parrott's case has been put on hold in Manistee District Court until the appeals court decision was announced.

It was on hold again until the Michigan Supreme Court considered and denied his application for leave to appeal the Court of Appeals ruling.

The brief order on Dec. 22, 2021 read: "On order of the Court, the application for leave to appeal the Feb. 4, 2021 judgment of the Court of Appeals is considered, and it is DENIED, because we are not persuaded that the questions presented should be reviewed by this Court."

It was signed by the Clerk of the Michigan Supreme Court Larry S. Royster who certified this was a true and complete copy of the order entered at the direction of the Court.

Attorney Nichols said last week that his team is meeting with Parrott to consider their options.

Meanwhile a pretrial has been set for March 23 at 85th District Court in Manistee County.



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Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Van Buren Public Schools will receive sealed bid proposals until **2:00 p.m. EST on January 25, 2022**, for the Asbestos Abatement Removal Project at Owen Intermediate School. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud in a virtual meeting immediately following the deadline for submission. The link for the virtual meeting can be found in the RFP documents. Van Buren Public Schools will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at Owen Intermediate School Main Entrance, 45201 Owen Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111, on **January 13, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. EST**.

All bids must be addressed to: Van Buren Public Schools, 555 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, Michigan 48111. Attention: James Williams, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

Bid Security, Cashier's Check, or Certified Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid must be included along with a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, board of directors, or the superintendent of the school district. A sworn and notarized Iran Disclosure Statement must also be included along with a Criminal Background Disclosure Affidavit and a Non-Collusive Affidavit. Accepted bidders may be required to furnish performance and payment bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price.

Bid documents may be viewed and downloaded at:
<http://public.2etc.com/Van%20Buren%20Public%20Schools/Owen%20Intermediate%20School%20Asbestos%20Abatement%20Specifications%202022.pdf>

Documents will be available for viewing on **January 10, 2022**. Any questions, contact Leo Wall at Environmental Testing and Consulting at Leo.Wall@2ETC.com.



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VBT seeks feedback before meeting on Sumpter Rd. Corridor

Van Buren Township is looking for more feedback on its plan to envision the future of the Sumpter Road Corridor between the city limits of the City of Belleville and Bemis Road.

Following an open-air workshop last July and several meetings of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission, a Sumpter Road Corridor Plan Subcommittee,

Toyota invests \$3.5M in American Center for Mobility in Ypsilanti

Toyota is expanding its commitment to the American Center for Mobility (ACM) with a new investment of nearly \$3.5 million in a five-year lease for exclusive on-campus facilities.

The agreement includes build-out of vehicle labs and office workspaces in new campus construction. In addition, Toyota will increase its use of ACM testing resources for development of future automated and advanced driver assistance technology.

"Toyota will further capitalize on ACM's unique combination of world-class testing facilities and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) - including customizable low-speed urban environments and a high-speed highway loop - to accelerate our technology development," said Monte Kaehr, group vice president of Toyota Motor North America's Advanced Mobility Research and Development.

"Since ACM is so close to our North American R&D headquarters in Ann Arbor, we'll continue to do our breakthrough work in mobility right here in Michigan."

township staff, and consultants McKenna Associates are looking for additional input and dialog about the plan they've developed before it is released for review by neighboring communities.

The full draft Plan can be found online at vanburenmi.org/SumpterRoadCorridor under the "Building, Planning & Economic Development" section.

"Much time has been spent drawing up a set of acceptable building, land use, and road recommendations we think reflect residents' desires to maintain the area's rural character while enabling underused spaces to be redeveloped," said VBT Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power. "We want to check back in and see what others think."

Director Power encourages residents and area stakeholders to contact him to set up time to go over the draft Sumpter Road Corridor Plan with him and provide their feedback. The plan will be reviewed and considered for distribution to neighboring communities by the planning commission at a regular meeting. The target date for this meeting is in late January or February 2022. This meeting will be held and the plan will be distributed for review by neighboring communities for roughly two months, prior to a public hearing being held to consider a recommendation for full plan adoption.

The township completed a full update to its Master Plan in 2020 but also committed to revisiting the Sumpter Road corridor in

greater detail as part of this Master Plan update. Through this effort, the township seeks to provide direction on future land use and road and non-motorized path improvements along the corridor over the next 20 years. Power said they also seek to synchronize their efforts with the City of Belleville and Sumpter Township.

Power asks members of the public to share their thoughts or request further discussion by contacting him via email at dpower@vanburen-mi.org or by calling (734) 699-8900, ext. 9392. He said all feedback collected will be put into analysis and used as recommendations for the project.

More information and future updates will be posted at vanburenmi.org/SumpterRoadCorridor

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- Will Rogers

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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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The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

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The ribbon-cutting and official grand-opening at Ivy Rehab Physical Therapy on Main Street has been changed to 5 p.m. next Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 540 Main St. Mike Kole at the Belleville Chamber said Ivy Rehab Director Richard Fruitman has been so busy logistically, they had to push the date out another week. It was scheduled for Jan. 11 and they apologize for any inconvenience. Call (734) 489-6440. On Thursday, Jan. 20, the Chamber will be cutting the ribbon at the Hair Station at 151 Main St. (formerly Barber Bob) for its official grand opening, also at 5 p.m. Call (734) 796-4795. The public is invited to both events.

Prestige Signatures and owner Deborah Harris offers mobile notary public services to the tri-community as well as Wayne and Oakland counties. They're available by appointment only seven days a week, from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Harris is licensed, bonded, a certified loan-signing agent, as well as a member of the National Notary Association. Visit www.prestigesignatures.net and call (734) 644-9523. Be sure to see the ad in today's paper.

Belleville Area Lacrosse will be offering free Youth Lacrosse Clinics this winter inside the Belleville High School Gym. Dates are Jan. 15 and the 22, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day, and Feb. 5, 12, and 19, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. Equipment is provided but you're welcome to bring your own. Registration is free and can be made by emailing Bellevillelaxbooster@gmail.com. Masks are required. The clinics are open to current and new players and will teach an introduction to the game, passing and stick handling.

Belleville Area Little League Baseball and Softball online registration is open through February for the upcoming 2022 seasons. For fees and information on the many teams available for boys and girls, visit www.vanburenlittleleague.org. Fees must be paid in full to complete registration, which includes hats, jerseys, pants, socks, and belts (baseball only).

Wayne County Health Department will be holding Saturday COVID-19 Clinics on Jan. 22 and Feb 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at McBride Middle School in Van Buren Township. The clinic is open to all and boosters will be available.

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

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Jan. 13** – The League of Women Voters' program at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library has been canceled.
- **Saturday, Jan. 15** – Friends of Belleville Area District Library invites you to attend their 2022 annual meeting at 11 a.m. in the Cozadd room at the library.
- **Saturday, Jan. 22** – Wayne County Health Department is holding a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic, open to all, plus boosters, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at McBride Middle School, 47097 McBride Ave., Van Buren Township.
- **Saturday, Jan. 29** – President's 2022 Charity Fund Raiser to benefit Ele's Place Ann Arbor, from 5 p.m. until midnight at Van Buren Eagles #3996. Tickets are \$20; open to the public. Ele's Place is a nonprofit, community-based organization with the mission to create awareness of and support for grieving children, teens and their families. Event will include entertainment by Tequila Mockingbird starting at 8 p.m. Dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. includes pulled pork and chicken, baked beans, mashed potatoes, salad, dinner rolls and butter and assorted desserts. Purchase tickets at foe3993.com/events or at the Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township.
- **Sunday, Feb. 6** – 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.

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- **Saturday, Feb. 12** – Wayne County Health Department is holding a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic, open to all, plus boosters, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at McBride Middle School, 47097 McBride Ave., Van Buren Township.
- **Sunday, March 6** – 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.
- **Friday, March 11** – Belleville Area District Library will honor donors with a special celebration at the library at 6:30 p.m. This is by invitation only.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 294 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Jan. 2:

0031 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Huron River
0219 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Service Dr./Gilmore St.
0501 – assist other dept., Belle Villa
1052 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1120 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Hannan Rd.
1133 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
1138 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Venetian Ave.
1249 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Haggerty Rd.
1318 – shooting, Fret Rd.
1412 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1417 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1420 – larceny, Riggs Rd.
1610 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1654 – trespassing, Haverhill Rd.
1655 – welfare check, Haggerty/I-94
1714 – family trouble, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1814 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Morton Taylor Rd.
1819 – assist other dept., W. Archwood Dr.
1949 – assist other dept., Eureka
1952 – property check, Belleville Rd.
2012 – road hazard, E. I-94/Haggerty Rd.
2128 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Service Dr. / Cemetery Rd.
2219 – assist other dept., Leforge

Monday, Jan. 3:

0005 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
0056 – motorist assist, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
0113 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0119 – suspicious person/vehicle, Martz Rd.
0706 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
0828 – assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
0918 – warrant arrest, Van Born Rd.
0957 – missing person, Fret Rd.
1000 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1051 – civil matter, Westlake Cir.
1101 – welfare check, S. Adams
1101 – threat, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1141 – property damage accident, Hull Rd.
1339 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.
1441 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1622 – lost property/child, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1701 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1716 – road hazard, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
1720 – welfare check, Southport Apartments
1754 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1806 – unattended death, Bemis Rd.
1910 – property check, Belleville Rd.
1943 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
2024 – threat, Parkwood Dr.
2317 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, Jan. 4:

0112 – motorist assist, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Beckley Rd.
0208 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0313 – property check, Southport Apartments
0655 – missing person, Ecorse Rd.
0732 – larceny, Denton Rd.
0755 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service
0842 – assist other dept., Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
0941 – threat, Spruce Ln.
0945 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
1023 – assist other dept., S. Ponderosa Trl.
1028 – private property impound, holly Ln.
1102 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1115 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
1122 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1242 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
1321 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
1614 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
1614 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1713 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1728 – malicious destruction of property, Robbe
1758 – property damage accident, Tyler/Hannan
1834 – property check, Belleville Rd.
1916 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1943 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

2017 – civil matter, Spruce Ln.
2025 – suspicious person/vehicle, Wheeler St.
2041 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
2046 – suicidal person, Anna Dr.
2053 – juvenile complaint, Ecorse Rd./Jeremy Rd.
2115 – civil matter, Spruce Ln.
2139 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd./Jeremy Rd.
2353 – felony assault, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Wednesday, Jan. 5:

0146 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
0512 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0601 – suspicious person/vehicle, Estate Dr.
0747 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
0829 – malicious destruction of property, Edison
Lake
0930 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.
1336 – larceny, Martinsville Rd.
1408 – harassment call, Filmore St.
1511 – animal complaint, W. Archwood Dr.
1516 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1523 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1539 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1633 – property damage accident, W. Huron River
1752 – parking complaint, Revere Dr.
1759 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
1816 – misc. complaint, N. Bellridge Dr.
1919 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / Bemis Rd.
2007 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.
2025 – property damage accident, Robson Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.
2110 – harassment call, Birch Dr.
2317 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
2323 – assist other dept., Rogers Ave.
2329 – welfare check, Lighthouse Dr.
2356 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 6:

0220 – motorist assist, N. I-94 Service Dr. / E. Archwood Dr.
0307 – breaking & entering, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0443 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rose Blvd.
0832 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
1135 – welfare check, Hayes
1304 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1319 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1509 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1521 – noise complaint, Maurice Dr.
1547 – larceny, Hull Rd.
1616 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
1642 – civil matter, Jackson St.
1707 – civil matter, Walden Blvd.
1821 – juvenile complaint, W. Adams
1823 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2007 – traffic offense, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
2045 – disorderly, Buchanan St.
2200 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2217 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2232 – suicidal person, Denton Rd.
2310 – property damage accident, E. Huron River
2340 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / W. I-94 Belleville ramp

Friday, Jan. 7:

0233 – assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
0644 – property damage accident, Denton/Ecorse
0836 – threat, Village Green Ln.
0841 – motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd./Snow Rd.
0852 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1023 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1229 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1252 – threat, Mansfield Ct.
1328 – disorderly, S. Bellridge Dr.
1337 – welfare check, Lighthouse
1409 – found property/child, Denton rd.
1415 – trespassing, Springwood Blvd.
1424 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1509 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1523 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1538 – suspicious person/vehicle, McBride Ave.
1547 – welfare check, Lake Pointe Blvd.
1629 – assist other dept., Pond Bluff Dr.
1746 – road hazard, Rawsonville Rd.
1827 – property damage accident, Tyler/Sage Cir.
1831 – assist other dept., Westlake Cir.
1851 – Menards property check, Belleville Rd.
1940 – animal complaint, Martinsville Rd.
2029 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
2036 – property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter
2159 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
2303 – leaving the scene of a property damage

accident, Cambridge Ct.
2330 – harassment call, Country Walk Blvd.
2350 – traffic offense, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
Saturday, Jan. 8:
0044 – welfare check, E. I-94/Belleville Rd.
0108 – domestic, Denton Rd.
0246 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
0343 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0432 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.
0448 – civil matter, Martz Rd.
0553 – property check, Alba Ct.
0706 – assist fire dept., S. I-275/Van Born
0735 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
0734 – unauthorized driving away of auto, America
0849 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
0920 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
1116 – family trouble, McKinley St.
1155 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck Rd./Ayres
1245 – mental subject, Rawsonville Rd.
1252 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1411 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd. / Capitol Dr.
1513 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1513 – fraud, Ryznar Dr.
1617 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1723 – civil matter, Purple Sage Ct.
2056 – suicidal person, Quirk Rd.
2232 – noise complaint, N. Prairiegrass Ct.
Also on this week's log are 81 traffic stops, three of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 2:

0447 – family trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.
1141 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd./Venetian
1227 – intrusion alarm, Henry St.
1352 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd.
1406 – traffic stop, Main St.
1603 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Denton Rd.
1635 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./N. Liberty
1746 – traffic stop, Main St./Fourth St.
2312 – warrant arrest, Michigan Ave./Belleville Rd

Monday, Jan. 3:

1144 – follow up by officer, E. Huron River Dr.
1759 – intrusion alarm, Breakwater Dr.
Tuesday, Jan. 4:
1419 – assist other dept., Main St.
1438 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
2101 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia
Wednesday, Jan. 5:
0912 – civil matter, Main St.
1019 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd.
1428 – parking complaint, E. Huron River Dr./N. Biggs St.

1552 – property damage accident, Main St.
2053 – intrusion alarm, Main St.

Thursday, Jan. 6:

0453 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.
0505 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
0817 – larceny, Robbe St.
1337 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1343 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
1357 – property damage accident, Main St.
1458 – traffic stop, E. Wabash Ave./South St.
1612 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.
1641 – parking complaint, Third/Church
1815 – traffic stop, South St./E. Columbia Ave.
1941 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
1954 – traffic stop, High St./Main St.
2004 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.
2018 – traffic stop, Main St.
2029 – traffic stop, High St./Main St.
2031 – suspicious person/vehicle, South St.
2253 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.

Friday, Jan. 7:

0542 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./N. Liberty
0554 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
1420 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1602 – neighbor trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.
1614 – civil matter, S. Edgemont Ave.
1843 – mental subject, Menlo Park Dr.

Saturday, Jan. 8:

0418 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
1459 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
1841 – family trouble, W. Wabash Ave.
2312 – welfare check, N. Liberty St./E. Huron River

There were 19 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 2:

0147 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
0349 – death investigation, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0456 – assist other agency, Sumpter Rd./Willis Rd.
0631 – fire dept. assist, Redwood St.
0729 – assist other agency, Rawsonville Rd./Wear
1434 – neighbor dispute, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1523 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
1702 – fire dept. assist, Montana St.
2005 – 911 hang up, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
2102 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
2218 – welfare check, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

Monday, Jan. 3:

0626 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
0801 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Dr.
0934 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1257 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1303 – welfare check, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1344 – suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1349 – civil matter, Arizona St.
1409 – suspicious vehicle, Haggerty Rd./Willis Rd.
1636 – property damage accident, Hampshire Dr.
1727 – traffic complaint/hazard, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

2003 – traffic complaint/hazard, 45000 bl. Wear
2116 – traffic complaint/hazard, 28000 bl. Sumpter
2148 – warrant arrest, out of township
2218 – alarm, 8500 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2332 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2359 – traffic complaint/hazard, Wear/Sumpter

Tuesday, Jan. 4:

0028 – prisoner check, out of township
0245 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0514 – death investigation, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
0800 – welfare check, Hampshire Dr.
0857 – suspicious circumstance, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Sumpter Rd.
0958 – traffic complaint/hazard, Sumpter/Wear
1255 – property damage accident, Edgewood Dr.
1440 – suspicious circumstance, 44000 bl. Paris
1535 – suspicious circumstance, 39000 bl. Wear
1632 – civil matter, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

1634 – suspicious circumstance, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1748 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Oakville Waltz Rd.
1929 – citizen assist, Wayside Dr.

Wednesday, Jan. 5:

0121 – 911 hang up, Rustic Ln.
0228 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1056 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1236 – 911 hang up, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1317 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1516 – citizen assist, 18000 bl. Wescott Dr.
1723 – fire dept. assist, Pecan St.

1755 – property damage accident, Harris Rd. / Martinsville Rd.

1937 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
2202 – fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 6:

0737 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0922 – harassment complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1228 – warrant arrest, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1233 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.
1450 – civil matter, Greenmeadow Dr.
1542 – recovered stolen vehicle, 22000 bl. Elwell
1702 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1756 – welfare check, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1917 – fire dept. assist, Texas St.
1946 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
2107 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

Friday, Jan. 7:

0843 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Dr.
0900 – property damage accident, Wear Rd./Bohn
0901 – property damage accident, Bohn Rd./Wear
0903 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
0933 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1240 – suspicious circumstance, Carriage Ln.
1630 – 911 hang up, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 8:

0309 – assault, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0709 – suspicious person, Clark Rd./S. Huron Rd.
0853 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1818 – follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

(Continued on page 15)

VBPS thanks community partners for holiday donations

At Monday's regular meeting, the Van Buren Public Schools thanked the people and organizations that gave bountiful contributions during the month of December and are "making every day a little better than the day before."

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said, "There are so many ways to say thank you to our

community for their bountiful contributions and generosity each holiday season and yet it never seems like enough. You make the holiday season brighter. Thank you to the following people, families, and businesses for their generous donations:"

Rotary Club of Belleville, Holiday Inn-Belleville, BYC, Autokiniton, Salvation

Army, Messiah Center for Hope, Finfrock Family, Ms. Al-Rachid, Trinity Episcopal Church, Eastern Stars, Vonda Derryberry, Turnbull Family, Moving The Mitten, Dale Bannon, Kelly Owen, Sandy Tinsley Family, Belleville Fire Auxiliary Team, McBride Student Council, Ace Hardware-Sumpter, Mount Hermon Baptist Church, Belleville First United Methodist Church, Faith Assembly Church of Belleville, Rhonda Cerone (Michigan Choice Realty), United Methodist Church, Open Arms Church, UAW, Van Buren Police and Fire, Christine Underwood, Brittany De Yung, Christine Sommer, Piper Family, Terry Myers, Kiwanis Club, Dos Pesos, April Warner Photography, L. George Coney Island, Denny's Hair Salon, Miami Tan, Ryan Taylor State Farm, Mary Ellen Salon,

Bethany Bible Chapel, Edward Jones Financial Services, A & W, Culver's, Lodge Lanes, Twisted Rooster, Pirate Puppies, Bladez, Fox Auto-U Pull, Debucks, Blocks, Moe's Farm Stand, Budd's Produce, Bold Construction, Joshua Claxon, Peggy Curtis, Cindy Jordan, Cindy Dolan, Golden Rhino Games.

City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 10 am**, at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle(s) will be held:

2008 Pontiac, G6, VIN: 1G2ZG57B484300219

DATE: January 10, 2022 **BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**
6 MAIN STREET
PUBLISH: January 13, 2022 **BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111**

BY BRIANA HOOTMAN,
CITY CLERK

Birthdays

Jan. 13 – Kathi Patton, Jason Flateau
Jan. 17 – Leon Wright, Henry Flateau
Jan. 19 – Jeremy Irwin

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



VAN BUREN
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR VAN BUREN PARK PAVILIONS NOS. 1 & 3 PROJECT

The Charter Township of Van Buren will receive sealed Bids for construction of the Charter Township of Van Buren Van Buren Park Pavilions Nos. 1 and 3 Project at the Office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, MI 48111 until Monday, January 24, 2022 at 2:00 p.m., local time. No Bids will be received after that time. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place. Project located at 50901 South I-94 Service Drive, Charter Township of Van Buren, MI.

Bid Documents will be available commencing January 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and must be downloaded from the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network website at www.MITN.info, in order to be listed on the official plan holders list. Obtaining Bidding Documents from any source not identified herein may result in failure to receive addenda, corrections, or other revisions that may be issued, resulting in bidders being considered non-responsive.

Sealed bids shall be submitted to the Township Clerk by the date and time specified above and shall be marked on the outside "Sealed bid for Van Buren Park Pavilions Nos. 1 and 3 Project." The Township Clerk or his designee and one Department Director shall publicly open all bids submitted at the date and time indicated on the request for bids. All bidders shall be notified of the contract award in a timely manner.

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids to waive informalities or errors in the bidding process, and to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of Van Buren Township, including bids that are not for the lowest amount. Bidding Documents are being issued from Fishbeck's Novi office. Bidders should direct questions and correspondence to that office.

Published: 1-13-22

School Board

(continued from page 1)

• Heard Moore explain a flyer he distributed to board members that lists all the special programs for college and career readiness. Board members suggested it be made available at the district library, Van Buren Township Hall, and on the website;

• Heard Finance Director Sarah Cortese said the school district's bond rating remains at an A rating and the district's bond sale is Jan. 13;

• Heard Director of Special Education Karen Johnston report that the Early Childhood Development Center opened Jan. 6 and, "The kiddos are in there." Kudlak said Becky Ross supervised the moving from Haggerty School and "did a fantastic job";

• Heard Human Resource Director Abdul Madyun say he is spending a lot of time explaining the numbers on the new pay raises which are for the calendar year not the school year as in the past. It's confusing;

• Heard Supt. Kudlak report the COVID numbers are still rising and the staff checks many times throughout the day by building. He said if they don't have enough staff, they will have to close a building, but not the whole district. He said positive tests are increasing with students everywhere. He said the 75 cases last week were from those exposed over the holiday vacation and so they are waiting to see what happens this week. He said if they do need to "pause" it will be building-specific and in two-week chunks to cool off. "It might not happen at all," he said. He said they have three substitutes showing up at each elementary school, three each at Owen and McBride, and five at the high school. He said the district raised substitute pay at the beginning of the year and it pays more than other districts; and

• Heard Kudlak say he went to a military ball at the BHS Commons on the Saturday after holiday break. He said the Junior Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) put it all together following a strict structure they learned and renting dress uniforms. "It was a lot of fun," Kudlak said.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 14)

2031 – breaking & entering report, Montana St. Also on this week's log are 145 patrol checks, 39 traffic stops, and 11 misc. details.



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5,920 SQUARE FOOT Belleville Lake Estate. 3Br, 3 1/2 Ba, 1st Fl Master, Library, Fireplace, Sunroom, Basement. 200 Ft Lakefront, 1 Acre. One of the Finest Parcels Available \$1,050,000.

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545 HIGH STREET, BELLEVILLE
EXPERIENCE UNDISTURBED LAKESIDE MORNINGS. Updated 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath Home. Living Room w/Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Full Basement 2 1/2 Car Garage \$349,900

NEW LISTING



11148 QUIRK, VAN BUREN TWP
ALLURINGLY AFFORDABLE 4 Bedroom home, 1 Bath, Newer Heating System, Whole House Generator, Vinyl Windows. 2 Car Detached Garage on One Half Acre Lot. \$173,000

LIKE NEW - FOR YOU



10574 JACKSON, VAN BUREN TWP
Larger Brick Ranch that is Gently Tucked Away from Traffic. Shows Like New, New Paint, Carpet, Granite Counter Top. 2 1/2 Car Garage. Huge Yard, Covered Deck and Shed. \$172,500

NEW LISTING



21807 TELEGRAPH, BROWNSTOWN
1,382 SQUARE FOOT RANCH with 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Family Room, Living Room, Breezeway and Large Garage on THREE lots! Flexible Town Center Zoning w Many uses \$225,000

6 ACRES & 5 BEDROOMS



10479 BEMIS, YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP
LARGE HOME with Premium Lafada Kitchen, Hardwood Floors, Granite, Ceramic and Quarry Tile Baths, 5 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, New Roof-2020 and 90+ Furnace. 2 1/2 car Garage. \$450,000

1,527 SQ FT FENCED YARD



10955 BUCHANAN, VAN BUREN
LARGE 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch in Van Buren Estates. 1,527 Square Feet, Newer Central Air. Huge 2 1/2 Car + Garage. Big Fenced Yard, Great Neighborhood and Priced to Sell at \$210,000

NEW LISTING



14081 LENMOORE, VAN BUREN TWP
COUNTRY LIVING ON ALMOST TWO ACRES. 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, Fireplace, New Roof 2018, 1,844 SF, Entertainment Room 18x36 Coverd Patio City Water and Sewer \$300,000

MOST AFFORDABLE



1705 LONDON, LINCOLN PARK
A Most Affordable Lincoln Park Home.. 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths and Partially Finished Basement. 12x18 Three Seasons Room, Large 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage Double Lot \$119,500

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43004 JUDD SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
IT'S COUNTRY LIVING at an Affordable Price. 2 Bedroom (possible 3) and 1 Bath, Updated Kitchen, Updated Bath and New Metal Roof. 1.78 Acres on Paved Street. 2 1/2 Car Garage \$179,900

BELLEVILLE RESIDENTIAL LOTS 3 LOTS ONE PRICE, TOTALING .41 ACRES WITH CITY WATER AND SEWER AT STREET. SIDE-WALKS IN AND SOME VIEWS OF BELLEVILLE LAKE \$60,000

00000 SUMPTER 243X687 3.63 AC \$40,000

COMMERCIAL CORNER OF ECORSE & WAYNE ROMULUS 4.27 ACRES \$1,000,000

VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$95,000
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VACANT VENETIAN 1/2 ACRE LOT \$60,000
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10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP \$155,000

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KARR RD 20 ACRES ZONED AG \$200,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000

44194 ROBSON, VAN BUREN. 81AC \$44,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.14 AC \$50,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 AC \$40,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000
21464 CLARK CORNER OF JUDD \$180,000
OR FOUR 2.2 ACRE SITES AT \$45,000 EACH



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