



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 31.1 Thursday, January 2, 2025

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E



Dave Stamper of Friend's Fine Floors holds up his Holiday Light Contest award.



From left, Laurie Kunz, Inez Hernandez, and Colette McClinton hold up the award from the city for Garden Fantasy on Main being a winner in its Holiday Light Contest.



The award for 336 Victorian Ln. in Victoria Commons was awarded to Elliot and Kera Jokinen and daughter.



The award for 243 Aberdeen Ct. in Victoria Commons was presented to David Anderson.



The award for 184 S. Biggs was presented to Walter Dzedzic.



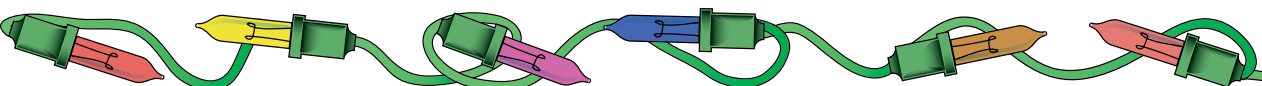
The award for 20 Menlo Park was presented.

Photos by Belleville City Manager Jason Smith



The award for 392 Light Tower Ct. was presented to Beth Ann Hutter.

Winners of Belleville's lighting competition



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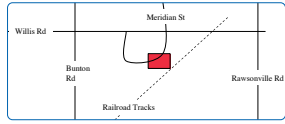
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Dee Anne Dubin walks 487 miles from France into Spain

By Ania Felder
Independent Special Writer

Dee Anne Dubin, Belleville High School class of 1995, recently finished a 487-mile walk in 37 days along the Camino from France to Spain.

Dubin, who is an international teacher, sat down with an *Independent* writer to tell the story of her walk while on leave from her teaching job in Asia.

Dubin once taught performing arts to a diverse group of students in New York. This, along with having family ancestry in Asia, inspired the educator to move from America to Asia to begin a career in international teaching. She said this was part of the inspiration for her decision to make a trip on foot from France to Spain.

Dubin said she also was inspired by the Camino which translates to “path” or “trail.” She said she learned about the Camino through a Facebook group. The Camino originated from pilgrims during the medieval period who walked to the burial place of St. James the Apostle in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

The pilgrims did the journey for Catholic religious purposes or prisoners would be forced to do it as a form of punishment. To this day many people who are devoted to various religions from all over the globe still chose to take part in the Camino to support their faith.

Some people chose to complete the walk for personal reasons and Dubin was one of those people. She said she made the decision to do this trip to become at peace with her own thoughts, relieve stress, and have moments of self reflection. The teacher emphasized that these reasons were why she chose to take this unique adventure on her own.

One of the most memorable thoughts she had on this walk came to her when she awoke early one morning after a previous day of walking while self reflecting. Dubin said her thought was “Let go of what doesn’t serve you.” This included physically, mentally, and emotionally.

To prepare for the 37 day walk in Europe that lasted from Sept. 29 to Oct. 31st, she packed a backpack weighing 20 pounds. It contained 15 items, including two hiking outfits, a pair of pajamas, a poncho, sunhat, rain socks, a winter hat, coat, gloves, two

headbands, bandaids, vaseline, gel pads, toiletries, medicine, and more. She did not pack any food or water for the expedition. Water and foods like cheese and Hummus can be purchased for \$3 during the Camino walk. They needed to be restocked every two to three days. Most of her clothing was washed by hand.

To begin, Dubin traveled from Belleville to France on an 11-hour flight.

When she reached France she got on a train that took her to where the Pilgrim Office was located in St. Jean Pied de Port. This is in a French town where Camino walkers register to participate in the walk free of charge. During registration the walkers are also given a free credentials book. This book is used to receive stamps from all the locations the walkers have reached in order to prove they have walked at least 100 kilometers (62 miles).

Dubin completed 778 km (483 miles).

The travelers can get their books stamped at restaurants, albergues (hotels), cafes, and churches. Once the travelers have everything stamped they are rewarded with a certificate as evidence that they had completed the long journey.

Dubin began walking the path in France on Sept. 29, with no prior training. She said the first week of walking was difficult. Dubin began having foot arch issues and received a blister from walking on road pavement. Despite these hardships Dubin said she did not once consider quitting.

After getting past the challenging first week, her body quickly learned to adapt to the repetitive walking. Dubin walked between seven and eight hours a day for 17 miles, on six days each week. She took an occasional 15-minute rest once or twice



Joy Dubin of Van Buren Township, left, with her daughter De Anne.

a day. She said she tried to avoid walking on streets and preferred walking on dirt roads to reduce foot cramps. At the end of the walk each night she stayed in a hostel. She described foot pains at the end of each walk. She said she contracted no illnesses nor suffered any severe injuries from walking the trail.

She said the weather experienced on the Camino was windy, cool, and sunny.

“I chose to do the walk at the perfect time, at the end of September, when the weather in Spain is nice,” she said.

And, the landscape? Dubin described most of her trip as walking through small villages and flat farmland. There were only one or two restaurants she passed each day, which typically only served foods like sandwiches, toast, and a Spanish omelet similar to a quiche. When lucky, a village would also have a store, and she could stop in to restock food.

“The culture in Spain is very relaxed,” she said. She said the residents who lived in the many different villages she passed through in Spain, were polite and helpful in providing assistance by giving her

directions and being very considerate of language barriers.

“Between 2 and 4 p.m., all the stores close for siesta (nap) time and reopen at a later time,” she said. “Most stores were not open on Sundays or only open up until 12 p.m., so I’d have to remember to go before then.”

Not only did the educator learn about Spain’s culture, but she also met a versatile group of travelers, who happened to be walking the same pathway or staying in the same hostels. She said this included people of all ages, coming from places all over the world including South Korea, Australia, Spain locals, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, and a few other Americans.

Dubin said some of these traveling acquaintances completed the Camino on bikes, horses, or just walked like she did, however, they were not permitted to travel using any electric vehicles.

During the trip, despite speaking different languages, the travelers were able to communicate with each other by saying the phrase “Buen Camino” meaning “Good path,” “Happy trails,” or “Have a good journey.”

Towards the end of the journey Dubin hiked through the Galician Mountains in western Spain. Her long walk ended on Oct. 31 in Santiago. There she was greeted by bagpipe players and received her final stamp, certifying that she had completed the long Camino walk. As a souvenir from this interesting odyssey, Dubin brought back to America a shell which is a symbol that represents the Camino, in reference to its culture being known for water and seafood. This symbol was placed on signs for travelers to follow to guide them in the correct direction throughout their travel.

Dubin said she cried and felt emotional on the last day, when officially completing the five-week trip.

She said she feels her walking stamina has improved. The teacher credits living and teaching internationally for helping her become more open to taking risks, becoming more creative, and more efficient with problem-solving skills than she was before.

Because of these improved traits, Dubin said, “I’m okay with not speaking the language and being somewhere where I’m the outsider.”

Dubin’s said her goal is to share her experience with exploration of a new culture and self discovery with her community here in Belleville in hopes of inspiring others to take risks and not be afraid of learning about things that are outside of their norm.

“Sharing this story I know will inspire somebody, and that’s what’s really exciting,” she said.

After the interview in Belleville, Dubin headed back overseas.



OPINIONS

Editorial

Look forward to what 2025 might bring to 48111

Now we are into 2025 and can look forward to what the new year may bring to the tri-communities of Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter.

In Belleville, officials are planning a new clock for Fourth Street Square since the old one doesn't work anymore and would cost too much to repair. The Bayou Grill in the Fourth Street Square is for sale and so there may be a new place to eat in Belleville, as well.

Also, the mayor wants the DDA to rebuild the deck on the lake at Horizon Park since it is dangerous and for someone to fix the intersection at the Belleville/Denton Road bridges on Main Street. Lots of street work coming, as well.

In Van Buren Township, the work on the tearing down and building up of the Denton Road Bridge has begun and will continue throughout the year, but plans call for it to be finished in 2026. The water beneath the bridge is cordoned off, so Belleville Lake may be divided for boaters this year.

Van Buren is also working on plans for new infrastructure in the northwest corner of the township to provide what new development will need. Also, VBT is planning new housing developments in the Morton Taylor/Tyler area, along with the paving of Morton Taylor from Tyler north to the end of Walden Woods.

Sumpter has revamped its Parks & Rec committee in order to get some activities again in the township. Happy New Year.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I was sorry to hear of the Dec. 26 passing of Rick Dawson, who had been so active in our Belleville community. Over the 30 years of covering the city as a reporter, I knew him first as an air traffic controller at Metro Airport after doing that job in the military in South Vietnam.

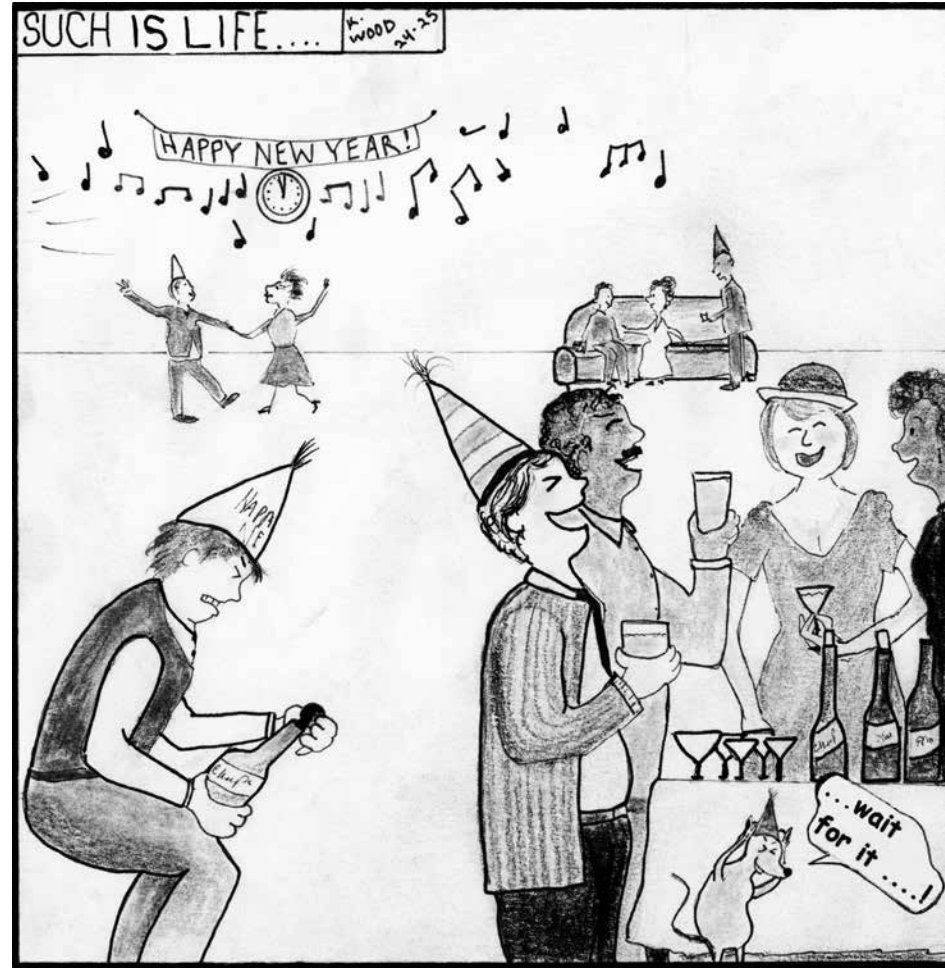
In our city, he served on several committees and commissions and then on the city council, where he worked on pushing through the development of the district library. He was influential in putting his wife MJ on the committee to work on the library and she worked hard for years getting things legalized and then serving as the president of the library board for many years.

He died on their 26th wedding anniversary. MJ said he died in his recliner and his dog put his head on Rick's lap to say goodbye.

Rick was very active in the VFW and PLAV posts as a veteran who wanted to help other veterans. He was part of the honor guard at veteran funerals until he couldn't do it anymore. But he still attended veteran Bob Krouse's funeral on Dec. 5. At the funeral I hugged Rick and asked how he was doing and he said, "Not very well," but still he was there to honor his friend. That was the last time I saw him.

I will miss Rick - and Bob. I saw them both at least once a month for the 20 years or so the Bugles Across America event has been held at the Veterans Monument at Horizon Park. They, and a handful of other veterans and their wives, held that Bugles event no matter what.

I hope the younger veterans coming into the VFW and PLAV keep those organizations going to help other veterans.



I often think how hard it must be for a young man to step into a military environment and go far from home while protecting our country. It changes them and there are things they see that can't be unseen. I bless every veteran who takes on that burden for our country.

Over the Christmas holiday, we heard a report on the fire department scanner about an emergency call from someone who said a cat was crying from underneath the family's pool cover and it apparently was trapped in the freezing water. Now, that's sad. I didn't catch where this was happening, but you would think the family would fish the cat out itself without calling the fire department.

Sometimes we hear 911 being called for a ring stuck on a finger or another minor problem that could have been solved without help from firefighters.

We've read about some communities voting to charge non-residents for emergency services in vehicle accidents and we can understand them wanting to get help with the costs, but that is unfortunate.

Many years ago, Van Buren Township board had a recommendation to charge residents for fire calls and it was immediately turned down.

Most of a municipality's fire department runs are for health problems, not fires. Once the ambulance arrives there are charges for service, but the 911 calls for

sore throats and accidental falls and some other calls are provided without charge by the fire departments.

At a recent Rotary Club meeting, Keith Bruder reported that the lights on the bottom part of the gazebo are working fine, but the ones on the roof aren't. He said they will have to get up on the roof next summer and work on the lights there.

Keith is the Rotary member who takes responsibility for the gazebo lights each year. He drives by regularly to make sure they are working well and fixes them if they aren't. And, he lives in Willis. He's really disappointed in the roof this year.

People who drive by the park at night, however, really appreciate his work on the lights because they are really pretty. Thank you, Keith.

Mayor Voigt officially thanked the Rotary Club for the lights on the gazebo at the end of the city council's last meeting of the year.

Best wishes to all for a Happy New Year and all the blessings possible, putting behind us the problems of the old year and looking ahead with hope.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT
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Deadline for news & ads (see below) is Noon of every Monday. Deadline for ads smaller than 1/2 page is Noon Monday, and all advertising 1/2 page or larger is Noon Friday, with the exception of certain holiday weeks. Classified ad deadline is Noon of every Tuesday.

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Letters
Friends of Library to hold annual meeting

To the editor:
 Mark your calendars: Jan. 25, 11 a.m.
 The Friends of the Belleville Area District Library will be holding its annual membership meeting, celebrating 40 years since its inception. The program, "Building a Bridge," will portray the progress of the Friends from the past to the future. Luncheon refreshments, door prizes, and tours of the library and current art exhibit will be included in the celebration. Members and the public are invited to attend.
 There will be a short business meeting to give annual reports and elect officers for 2025. The following slate of officers has been approved by the current board. The proposed officers are Donna Gilkey-Lavin, president; Katerina Tyner, vice-president; Cheryl Owen, secretary; and Manny Lavin, treasurer. Any additional nominations will be taken from the floor. Each attending member of the Friends will have one vote.

Friends of the Belleville Area District Library Board

Musings
 By Janet Millard
 Independent Advertising Director 

Happy New Year. Since we have had early deadlines for the paper for two weeks, (the last two Fridays have been our Tuesdays) it is good to say that we finally have a real Friday. Hope you are looking forward to the new year as much as we are here at the *Independent*. Celebrating our 30th year is certainly an accomplishment.

January also brings us some new advertisers. First is A-1 Quality Mobile Home Services who have a business card in today's paper. I personally have known Warren for many years when his wife Linda was part of the crafters during Strawberry Festival on Main Street with Linda's Lighthouse Beads.

Then on Jan. 9, Simple Alternatives will be adding a business card. Now you will know what that sign means on Sumpter Road. It changed names when Janowicz sold their funeral homes to Nie Funeral Home in Ann Arbor. Scott Beard, who worked for Janowicz, is the manager / director for Simple Alternatives and will be your local source for cost-saving cremations.

I certainly hope you have been paying attention to the HealthMarket ads that have been running with deadlines for changes in your health insurance. We are so fortunate to have the office right here on Main Street to handle all our insurance needs.

January and February are pretty slow with everyone trying to figure out how they spent so much for Christmas and getting all those bills paid! Not a whole lot of shopping going on. I'm hoping the weather stays good for us, but with the deadline being the 27th for the Jan. 2 paper, it could turn on me. Anyway stay warm and if you made any of those new year resolutions, good luck! I don't even pretend anymore.

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

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Jan. 6 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 9 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 13 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education organizational meeting, 7:30 p.m., BHS Commons
- Tuesday, Jan. 14 – Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA), 2 p.m.

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Obituaries



Matthew Euler Colie

MATTHEW EULER COLIE

(January 20, 1948 – December 24, 2024)

Matthew Euler Colie, age 76, of Huron Township, MI, passed away Tuesday, December 24, 2024, at his home. He was born January 20, 1948, in South Orange, New Jersey, son of Frances Carolyn (Euler) and Edward Martin Colie II.

Matt enjoyed theatre and singing in high school, among many things. He was a member of the Islanders theatre group. He continued his education earning his master's in marine and mechanical engineering. He retired from Chrysler Corporation. Matt took advantage of early retirement, bought a motorcoach, and took his wife anywhere they could drive. They were active members of the GMC Motorhomes International. He was also a member of Connecting Consciousness, past Commodore of West Shore Sail Club and founding member of East River Folk Society. Matt and Mary were active square dancers in the Jumpin Jim Dandies for many years. Matt loved his grandkids, whom he affectionately referred to as the "littles" and cherished time spent with them. Besides theatre, sailing, dancing, and traveling, Matt's biggest pastime was spending time with his wife and best friend, Mary.

Mr. Colie is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary (Voorhaar), son Christian (Danielle) Colie of Taylor, MI, daughter Daisy (Erick) Tracer of Southfield, MI, 6 grandchildren, his dogs Minnie & Maxie, also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, colleagues, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Edward M. Colie III, also his sister Laura Kuhlmann.

A Celebration of his Life will be held at 5:00 PM on Monday, January 20, 2025, with a gathering of friends from 3 PM until the service begins, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Barry David will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Monroe Humane Society and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

Auditions for murder mystery set at VBT Community Center

Have you ever been interested in being on stage? Come check out Van Buren Community Players auditions for "Murder at the Pie Auction."

You will have fun while learning this audience-interactive play. No experience is necessary. The auditions will be open to

adults 18 and older and there is no charge to audition.

Enter through the Van Buren Community Center entrance on the east side of the building at 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. There are two nights of auditions: Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 6 and 7, from 7 until 9:45 p.m.

Both nights will have the same audition process and attendance either night is acceptable. The reading audition cuts will be provided at the audition. Character descriptions, the audition form and schedule is available at www.vanburencommunityplayers.com and will be available at auditions.

Rehearsals generally are held from 7 to 9 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (with a few exceptions) at the Van Buren Township Community Center Theater. Performances are March 8 & 9.

All auditions are preferred in person but if you are unable to attend auditions in person, video auditions will be accepted until 6 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 5. All video submissions will be reviewed after in-person auditions are complete.

Include the following in the video audition: name, email address, phone number, and the role being auditioned for. Ensure the video includes the auditioner's entire person.

Send the video audition or any questions to Director Emily Lange at: emilylange13@gmail.com.

As an upcoming note, there will be a parent informational meeting at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 26, and then auditions for "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." which is to be presented Tuesday and Wednesday, March 10 and 11.

Laura Kitzman

Dingell announces \$7.5 million to Ypsilanti to remove 1876 dam

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, MI-06, announced the city of Ypsilanti was awarded \$7.5 million from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's National Coastal Resilience Fund to restore the Huron River and improve fish passage by removing the Peninsular Dam.

Congresswoman Dingell wrote a letter of support in June for the city's grant application.

"The Peninsular Paper Dam was built in 1876 to supply power to the paper mill, but it no longer serves that purpose and has become a safety hazard," said Rep. Dingell.

"By removing the dam, we're not only enhancing public safety, but also restoring the river's ecosystem and improving condition for fish habitats.

"As co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, protecting the environment for future generations remains my top priority. This project will also bring new opportunities for recreation and tourism in Ypsilanti, strengthening our local economy."

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Obituaries



Barbara Brehmer

BARBARA BREHMER

(June 2, 1937 – December 23, 2024)
Barbara Brehmer, longtime resident of Sumpter Township, Michigan, age 87, passed away on December 23, 2024, at American House in hospice care surrounded by her family. She was born on June 2, 1937, in Wayne County, Tennessee, to Sebern and Mary (Kelley) Blackwell.

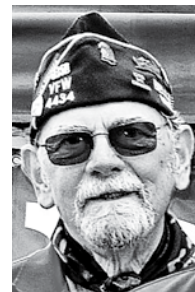
After she graduated from high school, she married and began her family. Barbara then worked at the University of Michigan as an Admissions Clerk until her retirement. She was a woman of faith and attended Gospel Baptist Church for many years. Barbara enjoyed reading in her younger years and bowling later in life. She enjoyed watching sporting events, especially for our local hometown teams. Most of all though she loved her family and spending time with the grandkids and great grandkids. She will be truly missed.

Barbara is survived by her children, Carol (Danny) O'Kelley of Sumpter Twp., MI, Linda (Kevin) Iddings of Canton, MI, Pamula Ray of Ypsilanti, MI, Todd (Evelyn) Brehmer, of Washington State and Linnell (John) Dreyer of Washington State; her siblings, Leva Nell Clements of Waynesboro, TN, and Kenneth (Linda) Blackwell of Waynesboro, TN; 8 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Daniel, and her brother Larry Blackwell.

A visitation was held at The David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, Michigan, 48111 on Friday, December 27, 2024 and Saturday, December 28, 2024, with a service. Preacher Keith Schuster of Gospel Baptist Church officiated. A private graveside burial followed at Michigan Memorial Park, 32163 W. Huron River Drive, Flat Rock, MI, 48134.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



Richard Dawson



RICHARD DAWSON

Richard Dawson of Belleville, one of the Grand Marshals of this year's Memorial Day parade, died Dec. 26, 2024 at home. It was his wife Mary Jane and his 26th wedding anniversary. Among other community service, he served on the Belleville City Council as Mayor Pro-Tem for four years and continued to serve on the city's Senior Transportation Safety Board. Dawson was a Life member of VFW Post #4434, a member of PLAV Post #167 and has served on the Veterans' Honor Guard for a number of years. He also was a member of the Belleville Yacht Club.

Funeral arrangements at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville were still under way as the *Independent* went to press.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

MARJORY ANN PRIEST

(March 4, 1935 – December 10, 2024)
Marjory was born in Flint, MI on March 4, 1935 to Howard and Sylvia Burden. She met her husband Don at Albion College and they were married June 15, 1957. Marj was an elementary school teacher in the Albion School District until 1970 when the family moved to Belleville, MI, where she mainly taught Kindergarten until her retirement. She was an active member at Belleville First United Methodist Church where she organized a Sacred Dance Group that was a special part of many church services over the years.

Marj and Don built a new home on Botsford Lane on Pickerel Lake in Springvale Township, MI, in 1989, and moved there permanently in 2005. She participated annually in the Petoskey area CROP walk for 19 years including June 2024. She kept busy crocheting baby blankets for many relatives and friends along with 4-5 each year for a group in Haiti with her local church ladies circle.

Marj was a wonderful cook/baker for her family passing along many recipes to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren (especially a variety of cookies). She was a loving, caring mother, grandmother and GG (great-grandmother) to her family.

Marj is survived by her husband Don (following 67 ½ years of marriage); daughter Julie (Mike) Skelton; son Mark (Carrie) Priest; grandchildren Jennifer (Dave) Daigneau, Scott (Megan) Skelton, Connor (Natalie) Priest, and Dani Priest; and great-grandchildren Ayla and Adelyn Daigneau, Mason and Lucy Skelton, and Penelope Priest.

According to her wishes, dignified cremation rites have been completed. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025 at 11 a.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church.

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Chief 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley, right, swears in the newly elected district court judge Teresa Patton at the Dec. 20 celebration of the retirement of Judge Tina Brooks Green. From left are Judge Lisa Martin and retiring Judge Green.

Charges dismissed against slaughter business in Sumpter

Hussain Saleh Al-Boudy, 55, of Sumpter Township was charged with two counts of violation of technical requirements on Aug. 15 concerning his slaughter business in Sumpter Township.

He was present at 34th District Court for his arraignment pre-trial in person before Chief Judge Brian A. Oakley on Sept. 10. Prosecutor Robert Young, who is the Sumpter Township attorney, asked the judge if he could speak to the defense attorney first before the case went before the judge and they left the courtroom together.

Later, defense attorney Joshua Lee Hadley told the judge they agreed to adjourn the case until 8:30 a.m., Oct. 21, for a remote arraignment/pretrial by zoom before Judge Oakley.

On Oct. 21, the case was adjourned until Dec. 10 for a clean up.

On Dec. 10 a pretrial was held and Prosecutor Young made a motion to dismiss the charges and they were dismissed. Case closed.

Al-Boudy is the person neighbors have complained to the township board about for his slaughtering of animals in the Agriculture-zoned area which includes their homes. They told the board of the odors the slaughtering produces during the hot summer months, the sounds of screaming animals, and dealing with animals that escape the slaughter.

Neighbors report the slaughtering business and sale of meat from the site continues.

2025 PAVILION RENTALS

The cold weather has settled in and now's the perfect time to start thinking warm thoughts of a summer event in the Van Buren Township Parks. Booking for the upcoming 2025 season is now open!

Starting January 7, 2025, township residents can reserve one of six park pavilions at discounted rates. Non-residents may begin renting on March 1, 2025.

Learn more or register online via the QR code or by going to the Township's website at vbtmi.gov. In-person pavilion rentals can be made at the Van Buren Community Center located at 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Visit us: Monday thru Friday from 6 AM - 8 PM, Saturday 8 AM - 6 PM, and Sunday 9 AM - 2 PM.

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Medina Atchinson and Luke Simon delivered 700 food items on Dec. 23 to the Emergency Food Closet at Belleville First United Church, 417 Charles St. Atchinson Ford, at 9800 Belleville Rd., held a Christmas Food Drive from Nov. 29 through Dec. 20. Everyone who donated a food item received a raffle ticket. Kathleen Springer won the top prize for a PS5 SLIM (DISC). Other prize winners who won an oil change from Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center were Mason Pryor, Luke Coogan, Scott Tasker, Evan Chang, Tim Parrish, Donna Hague, Lori Matelski, Janice Mitchell, and Jay Rohrback. Sixteen volunteers greeted the delivery at the church and were ready to sort, date check, and shelve the food. Many hands accomplished the task in an hour's time, said food closet director Marilyn Wood.

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From left are Tyler Elementary School teacher Nicole Gandolf; students Emely Martinez, Kyrie Anderson, Ahmad Ibrahim, and Rose DeYoung; and teacher Justin Allen.

Tyler students travel to Lansing to present at tech showcase

Students from Tyler Elementary School were among the few in Michigan selected to bring cutting-edge and innovative technology demonstrations from their classrooms to lawmakers in Lansing.

The 23rd-annual AT&T/MACUL Student Technology Showcase took place Dec. 4 in the new Heritage Hall visitors' center in the Michigan State Capitol.

Presented by the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), and underwritten by AT&T, the 2024 Student Technology Showcase featured demonstrations from students representing 25 different teams.

"The 23rd-annual Student Technology Showcase celebrated the remarkable creativity and innovation of Michigan students," said Tammy Maginity, MACUL executive director. "It was impressive to see students incorporate technology into their learning experiences and everyday lessons."

Students displayed a wide variety of technology projects that blended science, mathematics, social studies and language arts with the latest digital tools. Their work featured app development, artificial intelligence demonstrations, coding, robotics, web design, and many other technology demonstrations.

State Sen. Darrien Camilleri and Rep. Phil Green were recognized with "Excellence in Education" awards at the showcase for their commitment to connecting students with innovative technologies, and their dedication to improving the Michigan educational system.

MACUL is an organization dedicated to bringing educators from all levels together to share their knowledge and concerns regarding educational uses of computers and technology. For further information about the Showcase, visit www.macul.org or call 517-882-1403.

AT&T said it works every day to connect Michigan families and job providers faster and better than ever before.

Court Watching

Zachary Charles Wagenschutz
Zachary Charles Wagenschutz, 21, of Ypsilanti and previously of Sumpter Township was video-arraigned while in custody on Dec. 2 on charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder/strangulation and domestic violence on Nov. 28 in Sumpter Township. Personal bond was set at \$5,000 and he cannot return to the place of the offense. His probable cause conference was held Dec. 11 and his preliminary examination set for Jan. 22.

(continued on page 11)

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Court watching

(continued from page 10)

Kourtney Lajuan Fickling

Kourtney Lajuan Fickling of Van Buren Township was video-arraigned while in custody on Nov. 1, 2024 on a charge of domestic violence on Oct. 30 in Van Buren Township. Her pretrial was set for Nov. 13 and personal bond set for \$5,000. She is to have no contact with the victim except for contact involving childcare / custody.

On Nov. 13, her trial was scheduled for Dec. 16. On Dec. 4 a plea was scheduled instead. On Dec. 11 she pled guilty to the charge and the complaining victim did not wish to appear. She was fined \$700 and put on a 12-month delayed sentence. If there are no problems during her probation, the charges will be dismissed. She must do 24 hours of community service and enroll in a 26-week batterer's counseling class within 30 days. She also shall not purchase or possess any firearms.

Thilann Elias Napier

Thilann Elias Napier of Van Buren Township was charged with driving while license suspended and operating with a forged license on July 11, 2021 in Van Buren Township. He was scheduled for a remote arraignment/pretrial on Sept. 1, 2021 and he failed to appear. A warrant was issued. On Oct. 4, 2021 the warrant was canceled. He was scheduled for arraignment/pretrial on Nov. 4, 2021 and then on Dec. 1, 2021 and he failed to appear and then he failed to appear for his Jan. 19, 2022 court date and again failed to appear on May 24, 2022.

On Sept. 20, 2024 he had an in-custody video arraignment. He pled not guilty to all charges and a pretrial was scheduled for Nov. 13 and he failed to appear. A remote show-cause/arraignment/pretrial was set for Dec. 11. At that time a plea hearing was held and he pled guilty to a reduced charge of failure to display a license and was fined \$495. The forged license charge was dismissed.

Austin Michael Hussing

Austin Michael Hussing, 29, of Romulus was scheduled for trial on Dec. 5 on two charges of assault and battery on Van Buren Township police on Aug. 9. A virtual pretrial was held Nov. 7 and the trial set for Dec. 5 and then Dec. 12 before Judge Green. On Dec. 11 charges were dismissed by the township attorney. Case closed.

Gregory Lee Howell Basquin

Gregory Lee Howell Basquin of Van Buren Township was video-arraigned while in custody on Nov. 8 by Judge Oakley for a domestic violence charge on Nov. 8 in Van Buren Township. He was scheduled for a pretrial on Nov. 20. Bond was set at \$1,000 and he is to have no contact with the victim or to return to the address of the incident.

On Nov. 20, his defense attorney told a complicated story about how his client is the son of the alleged victim and he is her caretaker and is concerned about her well-being. The domestic violence charge was a result of him turning around and

(continued on page 12)

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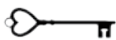
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Court watching

(continued from page 11)

bumping her, he said. Basquin was not present because he was in Harbor Oaks because of suicidal statements he made, his attorney said. Judge Oakley had advised the defendant to have no contact with the victim, but she leaves pots on the stove over heat and has other problems and he worries about her. His attorney said his client can't afford a GPS tether, as suggested, because he get \$700 every two weeks. Judge Oakley ordered him to appear on Dec. 4 by zoom for a final pretrial where the victim must appear.

He is to have no contact with the victim or return to the address of the incident.

On Nov. 20 he was present for his pretrial by zoom from Harbor Oaks where he was undergoing treatment.

On Dec. 4 the defendant told the court he is homeless. He was scheduled for his final pretrial on Dec. 18 and then it was changed to Dec. 30.

Eric Allen Brackman

Eric Allen Brackman, 50, of New Boston was charged with possession of narcotic or cocaine on April 25, 2023 in Van Buren Township. On Nov. 18, he was video-arraigned while in custody of Huron Township PD. The Van Buren bond was \$10,000/10% and the probable cause conference set for Nov. 27 and then Dec. 11.

The Huron Township charges were from Nov. 16 and were assault with intent to inflict bodily harm less than murder/strangulation, possession of methamphetamine/Ecstasy, domestic violence (third offense notice) and assault with a dangerous weapon. He was labeled a habitual offender. Bond was \$50,000/cash or surety. Probable cause conference was set for Dec. 11. Surety bond was received from Wayne County Bail Bonds.

He failed to appear at court on Dec. 11 so his bond was forfeited, a warrant was signed for his arrest and a surety show-cause hearing set for Jan. 22.

Bobby Lee McKiddy Jr.

Bobby Lee McKiddy, Jr., 40, of Westland, is charged with assault to do great physical harm less than murder / strangulation and domestic violence on Oct. 30 in Van Buren Township. He was video-arraigned while in custody on Nov. 1 and personal bond set at \$10,000 and a probable cause conference set for Nov. 13 and then Nov. 20, when he showed up on zoom very late. On Nov. 26 a bench warrant was issued and bond reset to \$10,000/10%.

The defendant was scheduled for a bond modification hearing on Dec. 5, when he was in custody of the Wayne County Sheriff. The warrant was canceled and a probable cause conference was set for Dec. 18. He is not to be released without a tether. Preliminary exam is Jan. 22.

James Daniel Patterson

James Daniel Patterson, 23, of Van Buren Township failed to appear for a probable cause conference on Oct. 10 on a charge

(continued on page 15)

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **January 22, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person at Van Buren Township Hall, located at **46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111**, in the Board Room.

Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment: Proposed amendment to the following section of the Van Buren Charter Township Zoning Ordinance:

- o Belleville Road Overlay District (BROD): Building Height and Setback Standards.
 - Article 6: Supplemental Zoning District Standard, Chapter 3: Belleville Road Overlay District, Section 6.309 Architectural and Site Design Standards. Addition of new subsection C(2)(i): Additional Building Height.

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or by e-mail at rakers@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date and all materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact the Van Buren Township Planning & Economic Development department at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you require assistance.

Posted: December 19, 2024
Published: January 02, 2025

Belleville Planning Commission works on new Master Plan

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

For more than an hour and a half on Dec. 12, the Belleville Planning Commission took part in a workshop led by Andy Aamodt of Giffels Webster planning consultants that is a step in the overall rewriting of the city's Master Plan.

Aamodt reported on results of the first public survey, which covered the workforce in the local economy. Thirty-nine people from the city of Belleville responded, along with 75 from Van Buren Township and 15 from Sumpter Township. People who work in the city, own a business in the city, or regularly visit the city were invited to participate in the online survey.

At the Dec. 12 meeting, Aamodt directed commissioners to get out their cell phones and click on a Q code to answer additional questions on the economy and related issues. The results then appeared on the screen on the wall.

The objectives from the 2006 Master Plan were discussed with some being deemed ongoing and left in. An objective to "Develop the old world tradition of the city," would be removed in the new Master Plan since commissioners agreed they didn't know what that meant.

A long discussion was held on Van Buren Township's Sumpter Road Corridor overlay district for areas which adjoin city parcels. The objective to coordinate with Van Buren Township on a joint overlay district to unite the district was supported.

Commissioners said the Sumpter Road Corridor could be discussed at the Jan. 29 joint meeting of the Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter planning commissions.

City Manager Jason Smith said the Sumpter Road Corridor is a gateway to the city and commission chairman Michael Hawkins said it is important to have coordination with Van Buren Township.

When discussing parking considerations, city manager Smith said the city really doesn't need a parking structure now, but footings have been put in place in the new parking area behind the former hardware store so a second story of parking could be put up there, if needed.

When discussing the need for the commission to be flexible, Smith said a flow chart is needed for developers, who don't have the time to sift through the zoning ordinance to find how to move forward in a project.

Smith said when he was Downtown Development Director at a different municipality, he put together such a flow chart and he showed the commission. A developer can click on the site of the proposed project and the program will give a list of what needs to be done to move forward for that zoning.

Aamodt said a new survey for public input on housing will be posted Dec. 13 or Dec. 16 as part of the step-by-step Master Plan information gathering.

In other business at the one-hour-and-52-minute meeting, the commission:

- Unanimously approved the new commission bylaws, updated by councilwoman/commissioner Julie Kissel. The bylaws will be reviewed each January to keep them up to date. Smith said the bylaws will be posted on the Boards and Commissions page online;

- Learned the city council will consider moving its meeting time to 6:30 p.m. instead of the present 7:30 p.m. Commissioners agreed 6:30 p.m. would be a good time for them to meet, as well. City manager Jason Smith said he will have a list of the meetings for 2025 at the January meeting and that meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. The commission agreed the second Thursday of each month is a good time to meet; and

- Heard commissioner Jim Courage say he would like to see a better, updated zoning map of the city.

Absent from the Dec. 12 meeting were Becky Hasen, John Juriga, and Mark Kowalski.

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- Ronald Reagan

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 194 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Dec. 15:

0016 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
0354 – road hazard, E. I-94/Haggerty Rd.
0358 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Bemis Rd.
0406 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Woodbury Dr.
1142 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1306 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1342 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1335 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Beck/Ecorse
1525 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1751 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1921 – 911 welfare check, Parkside Dr.
1950 – intrusion alarm, Martinsville Rd.
2034 – welfare check, Robson Rd.
xxxx – repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Lake Villa Dr.
2243 – suicidal person, Bemis Rd.
2244 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
2343 – disorderly, Parkside Dr.

Monday, Dec. 16:

0009 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0028 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
0120 – domestic, Richard Run Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0816 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0819 – extreme risk protection order, Alden Ave.
1030 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1038 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
1047 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
1100 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1203 – welfare check, Patriot Ln.
1336 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Robbe Rd.
1403 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1412 – domestic, Village Green Ln.
1619 – civil matter, Jeannette Ave.
1710 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1716 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Westlake
xxxx – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1856 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2056 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.

Tuesday, Dec. 17:

0338 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0652 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
0655 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, E. Huron River Dr./Martinsville Rd.
0717 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0857 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Parkside Dr.
1041 – mental subject, Bemis Rd.
1106 – mental subject, Bemis Rd.
1151 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1659 – welfare check, Tyler Rd.
xxxx – animal complaint, Lake Point Pass
1727 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Jackson St.
1801 – property damage accident, Savage Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
1843 – missing person, Tyler Rd.
1924 – mental subject, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1937 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
2001 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
2049 – shooting, Victoria St.
2201 – motorist assist, W. Huron River Dr.

Wednesday, Dec. 18:

0028 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0022 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0036 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E.

Archwood Dr.

0352 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Ecorse
0842 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0928 – welfare check, Tyler Rd.
0952 – intrusion alarm, Peninsular Dr.
1047 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.
1143 – assist other dept., E. I-94/Haggerty Rd.
1140 – civil matter, Van Born/Hannan Rd.
1201 – welfare check, Marlowe Ave.
1224 – assault & battery, Bemis Rd.
1228 – misc. complaint, E I-94/Rawsonville I-94 ramp E.
1308 – civil matter, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1411 – juvenile complaint, Haggerty Rd.
1422 – mental subject, Doree Ave.
1504 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1507 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
1728 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1858 – animal complaint, Wildflower Ct.
1834 – 911 welfare check, Locust Dr.
2019 – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.
2115 – disorderly, Peninsular Dr.
2307 – fight, Westlake Cir.

Thursday, Dec. 19:

0043 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
0142 – noise complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0527 – mental subject, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0748 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

Woodbury Dr.

0815 – suicidal person, Bemis Rd.
0857 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0856 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
1113 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Andover Dr.
1304 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1408 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harmony Ln.

1537 – intrusion alarm, Sadie Ln.

xxxx – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1726 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1742 – personal injury accident, Belleville/E. I-94
1854 – assist other dept., Park Estates Dr. / Michigan Ave.
2119 – welfare check, Farm Rd.
2132 – disorderly, Peninsular Dr.
2135 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
2239 – trespassing, Ecorse Rd.
2232 – vehicle lockout, Kahla Dr.

Friday, Dec. 20:

0456 – welfare check, N. Cumberland Dr.
0740 – larceny from auto, Country Walk Blvd.
0850 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
0857 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
0901 – larceny from auto, Briarcliff Dr.
1039 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1203 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.

1237 – assist citizen, Milton Dr.
1316 – larceny from auto, Salem Ct.
1450 – property damage accident, Tyler/Belleville
1452 – suicidal person, Chatsworth Dr.
1528 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Meadows Cir.
1532 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1540 – larceny from auto, Briarcliff Dr.

1556 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Red Oak Dr.
1719 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1845 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1839 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Cedarhurst Dr. / Stonebridge Dr.

1807 – personal injury accident, Belleville/Tyler

1917 – assist citizen, Lenmoore Ave.
1929 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1944 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1955 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2145 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2209 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
2234 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2329 – assist fire dept., Peninsular Dr.
2358 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.

Saturday, Dec. 21:

0012 – assist fire dept., Brookside Dr.
00135 – disorderly, S. Bellridge Dr.
0346 – intrusion alarm, Hanover Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Morton Taylor Rd.
0911 – intrusion alarm, Birch Dr.
0948 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1031 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1144 – civil matter, Richard Run Dr.

xxxx – animal complaint, Morton Taylor/Tyler
1258 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1258 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1333 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Quirk Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1527 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Walden Dr.
1539 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./Van Born Rd.
1549 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1611 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
1626 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Beckley Rd.

1714 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Greenwood Dr.

1712 – mental subject, Richard Run Dr.
1749 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1814 – family trouble, Lake Villa Dr.
1903 – animal complaint, Morton Taylor/Bradley
1912 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1946 – intrusion alarm, Hardwood Dr.
2015 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.

2147 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

2148 – civil matter, Village Green Ln.

2357 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Jeremy Rd.

Monday, Dec. 22:

0004 – larceny, Village Green Ln.

Also, on this week's log are 32 traffic stops, four of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 15:

1253 – assist fire dept., Main St.

Monday, Dec. 16:

0603 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1056 – harassment call, Belle Villa Blvd.
1050 – property damage accident, Breakwater Dr. / Harbour Pointe Dr.
2302 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Menlo Park Dr.

Tuesday, Dec. 17:

1027 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1050 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1104 – personal injury accident, E. Columbia Ave.
1541 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Henry St.
1541 – vehicle lockout, Third St.
1822 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave. / South St.
2325 – traffic offense, Victorian Ln./Savage Rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 18:

0645 – domestic, E. Columbia Ave.
1503 – breaking & entering, Feed Mill
1616 – traffic offense, S. Edgemont Ave.

Thursday, Dec. 19:

0823 – animal complaint, N. Biggs Ave./Potter Dr.
1429 – intrusion alarm, Oxford Ct.
1658 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

Friday, Dec. 20:

0911 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Huron River Dr.
1305 – disorderly, W. Columbia Ave.
1625 – private property/property damage accident, Main St.
xxxx – repossession, Carmell St.

Saturday, Dec. 21:

1643 – fraud, Sumpter Rd.
2211 – welfare check, Main St.

There are 64 reports on this week's log and 41 of those are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 15:

0016 – follow-up investigation, Edgewood Dr.
0039 – welfare check, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
0125 – follow-up investigation, Edgewood Dr.
0152 – noise complaint, New Mexico St.
0346 – shots fired, First St.
0734 – follow-up investigation, Hampshire Dr.
1001 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.
1012 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.

1109 – follow-up investigation, Creekside Dr.

1145 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1218 – civil matter, Montana St.
1236 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Dunn Rd.
1402 – mental health call, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1829 – property damage accident, Willow/Karr
1856 – family trouble, Colorado St.
1925 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
2020 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Karr Rd.

Monday, Dec. 16:

0813 – misdemeanor warrant arrest, Martinsville Rd. / Bemis Rd.
0833 – suspicious circumstance, 47000 bl. Bemis
1050 – alarm, 20000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1336 – follow-up investigation, Montana St.
1735 – fire dept. assist, Arbor Ln.
2156 – suspicious circumstance, Country Club Blvd.
2214 – noise complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2231 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 17:

0028 – suspicious circumstance, Timberlane Dr.
0132 – fire dept. assist, Rawsonville Rd./Willow
0528 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
0716 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Liss Rd.

0804 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0822 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
0952 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1216 – larceny complaint, Rustic Ln.
1440 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1557 – trespass complaint, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1826 – 911 hangup, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1845 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
1933 – breaking & entering report, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

2232 – welfare check, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 18:

0025 – suspicious vehicle, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
0057 – damage to property, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
0108 – noise complaint, Nevada St.
0114 – suspicious circumstance, 50000 bl. Willis
1547 – traffic complaint/hazard, Greenmeadow Dr.
1608 – property damage accident, Timberlane Dr.
1626 – follow-up investigation, Hampshire Dr.
1709 – assist other agency, Knollwood Dr.
1715 – assist other agency, Carriage Ln.
1718 – suspicious circumstance, 22000 bl. Bohn
2032 – neighbor dispute, Carriage Ln.

Thursday, Dec. 19:

0020 – assist other agency, out of township
0729 – recovered stolen vehicle, 50000 bl. Judd
0848 – welfare check, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
1006 – animal complaint, Ohio St.
1425 – civil matter, Wayside Dr.
1428 – 911 hangup, Kansas St.
1446 – alarm, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1506 – 911 hangup, Vermont St.
1516 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
1524 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1538 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1646 – 911 hangup, Birch Dr.
1732 – follow-up investigation, First St.
1758 – citizen assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1838 – welfare check, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
1954 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2158 – 911 hangup, 17000 bl. Martha's Dr.

2205 – suspicious person, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.

Friday, Dec. 20:

0834 – subpoena service, Colorado St.
0842 – subpoena service, New Mexico St.
0936 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1424 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
1631 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1814 – warrant arrest, Willis Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1824 – fraud complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1854 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
2037 – 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
2132 – fire dept. assist, Oregon St.
2245 – welfare check, Kansas St.

Saturday, Dec. 21:

0920 – family trouble, Timberlane Dr.
0938 – suspicious circumstance, Colorado St.
1029 – 911 hangup, Colorado St.
1413 – alarm, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1452 – citizen assist, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1607 – animal complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1614 – noise complaint, 49000 bl. Collyer Ln.
1655 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
1721 – family trouble, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1803 – family trouble, Indiana St.

(Continued on page 15)



Photo courtesy of Elena Manalp, Van Buren Township Communications Dept. Teddy, a two-year-old Great Pyrenees, is the winner of the Santa Paws contest, getting the most likes, comments, and shares on social media. He was one of the 27 dogs photographed with Santa as part of the VBT Downtown Development Authority event over two days at Harris Park. Teddy is owned by Leah Dunn and is a rescue dog.

Court Watching

(continued from page 12)

of unlawful driving away of an auto, 2 charges of breaking and entering of a vehicle to steal property and 2 charges of illegal entry (one reduced to "attempted"). These charges were dated on Sept. 21 in Van Buren Township.

He walked in to the counter on Dec. 4 to address his files. He failed to appear for his court date on Dec. 5 and the bench warrant is back in effect.

Curtis Thomas Harris

Curtis Thomas Harris, 46, of Detroit, is charged with driving while intoxicated and having a BAC of .17 or more on April 18, 2022 in Van Buren Township. He was sent a notice for a Sept. 25 arraignment / pretrial but the notice was sent to the wrong address. The next arraignment / pretrial notice was returned by the post office. A bench warrant was issued Oct. 31. The arraignment/ pretrial was set for Dec. 4. The defendant appeared at the court counter to pay bond of \$150 on the bond of \$1,500/10%. A remote pretrial was set for Dec. 18.

On Dec. 18, he pled guilty to a reduced charge of OWI and the BAC .17 charge was dismissed. The case was sent to probation for a recommendation and is scheduled for review on Jan. 9.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 14)

1840 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
2150 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter Rd./Willis Rd.
2234 – welfare check, Colorado St.
Also on this week's log are 211 patrol checks, 89 traffic stops, and nine misc. details.

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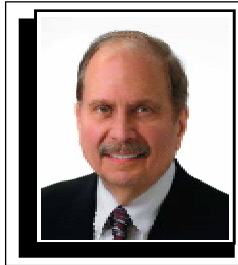
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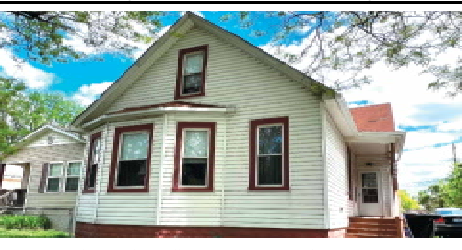
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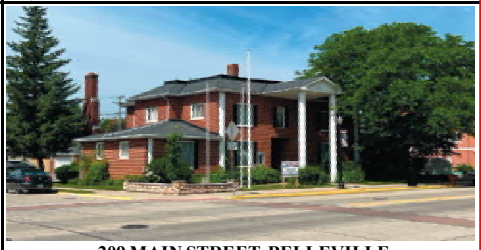
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WILLIS RD 1 AC SEWER & WATER \$60,000 WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE 1.64AC \$65,000 JUDD RD **SOLD** AC \$39,500 HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$29,900 GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 AC LT IND \$59,500 50540 BOG RD ONE HALF ACRE \$55,000

4 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE PRICED \$40,000 and \$51,000 **2 PARCELS LEFT** VACANT LOUISA DREAM LOT \$55,000 BROWNSTOWN 27102 DEBIASI \$85,000 VACANT MARIO ANN ROMULUS \$33,000

CORNER OF SHERWOOD & HIDD ROAD SUM **SOLD** FARM OR BLDG NOW \$200,000 19+ ACRES BREST RD, TAYLOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY - PAVED STREET NEAR INKSTER ROAD. \$550,000



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