



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

VBT data center due at planning commission in Feb.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At the end of the almost four-hour Jan. 14 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission, it was announced that the proposed data center would be on the Feb. 11 agenda.

The data center is proposed for 280 acres east of Haggerty Road, north of the I-94 North Service Drive, west of Hannan Road and north to I-275.

Ron Akers, director of municipal services, said if the developers follow through with the paperwork, the commission will consider specific plans for the data center.

Director Akers said DTE will be there, along with the township attorney, the fire marshal, and Panattoni, the developers.

When commissioners said they wanted to be sure the public got all the information that will be presented at the meeting, Akers said he intends to have everything posted on the Van Buren Township website by Feb. 4, a full week before the meeting so the public can study the plans.

Akers said also planned for the Feb. 11 meeting is a public hearing on a proposed EL carwash at Belleville Road and Westlake Blvd., the final site plan for the Stellantis warehouse construction on Ecorse at Denton roads, and information on cul de sac lanes.

In other business at the meeting which started just after 5:30 p.m. and ended at 9:15 p.m., the commission:

- Heard more than an hour of public comment against the proposed data center, as 24 people got up to speak. Towards the end, those who had already spoken got up to add comments;

- Held a public hearing on Mixed Residential Overlay District (MROD) and Mixed Residential District (MRD) zoning text amendments at which one person

(continued on page 3)



Photo by Dell Deaton

A Ford "urgent care" van, at right, welcomes those attending the 2026 Detroit Auto Show at Huntington Place in Detroit. The auto show runs through Sunday. With the Mobile Service van, vehicle repair comes to where the driver is at the click of a smartphone app. Atchinson Ford has put a similar van into service.

Detroit Auto Show shows how to back drivers wherever they go

Dell Deaton
Contributing Writer

Discussion of "urgent care" for cars in need while out and about may initially strike many attendees as taboo for any Detroit Auto Show.

But Ford Motor Company has leaned into that reality with its "Mobile Service Units." Ford's Customer Service and Performance Director Todd Rabourn led with that offering during the first hours of media previews on Jan. 14.

"We're competing with everybody's last, best experience," Rabourn told WJR.

It's a sense reflected throughout the show.

Largely gone is the glitz and theater atmosphere from a bygone time when this expo building went by the name Cobo Center. "Prove yourself to me!" might better apply as catch-phrase presently.

For 2026, that means driving-track setups

occupying a quarter of the main floor space.

Additionally, Jeep and Bronco models have returned with their own captive courses to challenge their metal in action with some attendees behind the wheels.

So -- was it mere coincidence that access to the "Bronco: Built Wild Experience" attraction entry queued past a fully complemented Mobile Service van?

Experience Director Rabourn simply smiled at this opening question from the *Independent* for a one-on-one in the Ford booth.

"Mobile Service can extend the customer relationship to where the customer wants to go, as customers extend their reach in their vehicles," he then said.

Service vans are currently priced somewhere between \$110,000 and \$140,000 for dealership purchase, complete. He added: "Sixty percent of what we do

main-shop can be done by Mobile Service right now." Notably, configurations do not differ by destination: Trucks out on calls in the Motor City in the wake of a five-inch snowfall between media preview days are effectively the same as those committed to the environmental (and regulatory) climate of Los Angeles.

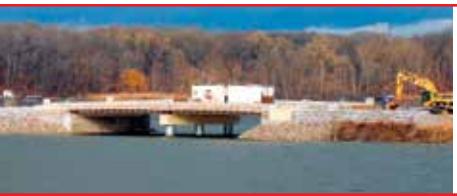
Pilot program rollout began in 2019, then scaled-up the following year. Currently, 43,000 Mobile Service vehicles are deployed across the United States.

One of them has been operating in Van Buren Township for the past three years, at Atchinson Ford.

Dealership owner Craig Atchinson spoke separately with the *Independent* from a local perspective.

"Here in Michigan, it's been building-up more quickly outside of Detroit. Growth

(continued on page 3)



The Denton Road bridge has been closed by Wayne County for 1,208 days as of today.
(That's 3.31 years or 28,992 hours)

SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

spoke. There was a long discussion later on how the zonings would work and that a developer would have to get a rezoning to use them. The commission recommended some editing of the MRD amendment. The commission voted unanimously to recommend the text amendments to the township board with the edits by township planning consultant Vidya Krishnan of McKenna Associates;

- Approved one year of temporary land use for National RV to set up an office trailer at 44700 N. I-94 Service Dr. following the Nov. 29 fire. To continue their state certificate they need an office. Akers said half of the building was completely destroyed and the entire building will be demolished. It will take four and a half weeks to demolish the building and that is expected to start this week. A few vehicles were damaged inside the building, but they were removed before Christmas. The drawings for the new building should be ready by the end of April and the schedule will depend on what Wayne County says, Akers reported. No one was present at the meeting from the dealership and the trailer is already in place at the site;

- Approved final site plan for the 2,548-square-foot addition to the existing Kirkridge Park Cooperative clubhouse facility and demolition and reconstruction

of a maintenance garage at 8205 Kirkridge Dr. A rain garden is part of the plans;

- Discussed a proposed hotel ordinance amendment and took no action pending more information from the staff. Akers said the amendment was recommended by the township's prosecuting attorney and involved allowing no guests to stay more than 30 days a calendar year unless kitchen facilities are provided. Akers said it had to do with safety and health issues when guest use hot plates. Citations would be issued to hotel owners, Akers said. Commissioner Bernie Grant said he doesn't understand the intent, unless it is that they don't want homeless to stay there. It's a touchy subject and the wording needs to be looked at. Commissioner Jackson Pahle said this is the wrong time for this with housing not available. He said it's up to the owner to tell people to leave, if he wants. Commissioner Jeff Jahr agreed the amendment wasn't well written and, "I can't understand it... What are kitchen facilities? ... It's a stupid law. It needs work... I wouldn't feel good recommending this";

- Heard resident Ashley Shukait speak on the subject of housing under public comment. She works with finding help for the unhoused community and she said there are no open shelters in Wayne County and no waitlists. She said there is a severe housing crisis. She said a former police chief demanded rosters from the hotel owners and 16 people were evicted for staying too long. She said she is horrified at the conditions of shelters in Wayne County and she would never take her children there. "It's a hotel problem, a management issue." Shukait said. "I can't get an intake in 30 days." She said they had a Keystone student who had to be sent to a shelter in Inkster. She said nothing like this is enforced anywhere else. Commissioner Jahr asked the staff to compare this ordinance to surrounding communities. "I would us to address it well," he said;

- Heard Jahr announce the Tri-Community Planning Commissioners from Van Buren, Sumpter, and Belleville will meet at 5 p.m., Jan. 29, at the Belleville High School Commons (cafeteria). The public is welcome to attend to hear discussions on issues of mutual interest.

- Heard commissioner Pahle ask for a clarification to be put in the minutes about the vote in October 2024 was that a data center could be a use of the site, but the planning commission was not told of the size of such a center. This vote should not be considered approval of a data center for this site.

The meeting delayed starting for seven minutes as chairman Cullin was en route to the meeting and was delayed by the snowstorm from his trip back from Bloomfield Hills. Commissioner Peter Creal was absent and excused from the meeting.



Keion Jackson of Sumpter Township spoke during the American Farm Bureau convention in Anaheim, CA, Jan. 9-14. Jackson is Young Farmer and Rule Development Chairman of the Wayne County Farm Bureau. He spoke about trying to get youth excited about farming and living off the land. He shared the stage with speakers from California, West Virginia, Tennessee, Massachusetts, and Indiana. Jackson owns KAAJ Farms which raises sheep and goats and raises grain at Judd and Sumpter roads. And, through his goat-grazing operation, Jackson also delivers practical, sustainable land-management solutions for public green spaces, including having his goats eat invasive plants at Belle Isle. He was accompanied on the trip to California by his mother Erica Jackson of Sumpter Township. The late Frank Rochowiak of the Wayne County Farm Bureau was his mentor.

Sumpter Township names Jamie Goode full-time fire chief

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Interim fire chief Jamie Goode was named full-time fire chief of Sumpter Township and was sworn in at the regular meeting of the Sumpter board of trustees on Jan. 13.

He replaces fire chief Richard Brown who retired at the end of December.

The board approved \$7,539.43 in personal time off and vacation payout for chief Brown.

In other business at the 32-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved assigning the utility billing clerk position to the treasurer's office. This is to be dual-supervisory in nature, working closely with the Department of Public Works director;

- Approved the supervisor's appointment of Katrina Guisgand as an alternate member of the Board of Review with a

(continued on page 11)

OPINIONS

Editorial:

People need to hear what goes on at public meetings

One of our readers said he thought his hearing must be getting bad because he couldn't hear what was being said at a Belleville City Council meeting because nobody else mentioned not being able to hear the council members speak.

Then others around him spoke up and said they didn't comment because they thought it was something wrong with them for not being able to hear.

We have that problem at the Belleville meetings, but the council said the new building will be better and they have a sound system now, but don't use it. We know.

Sumpter Township meetings are hard to hear because officials explain if they talk too loudly the sound system reacts. So, they speak softly.

In Van Buren Township the sound is pretty good unless speakers turn away from the microphones and then it's hard to hear. If you are trying to go to a meeting via channel 12, the sound is bad, with noises over the sound. YouTube is better.

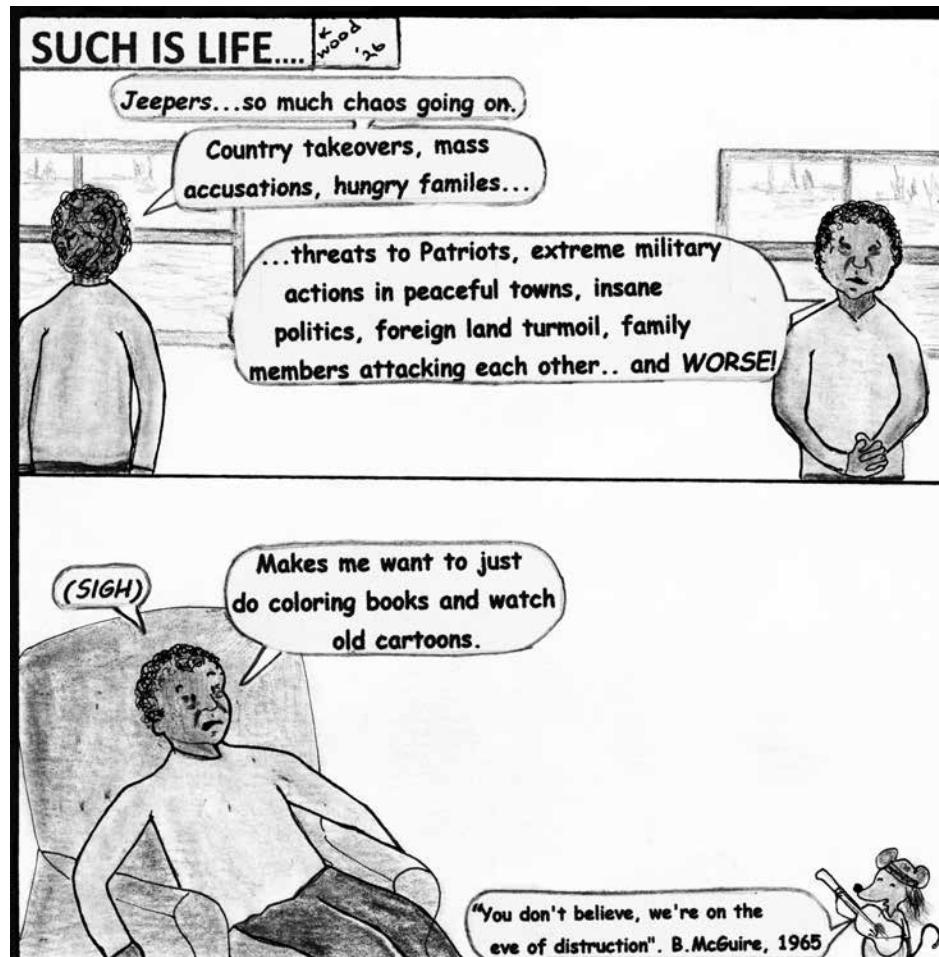
The school board meetings' acoustics are bad, but the district bought some ear devices to share with the public so they can hear when the speakers turn away from their microphones.

Most meetings are recorded so the public can see and hear them later, but when a member of the public speaks from the audience, you can't hear them because they are not near the microphone. The chairpersons should not allow that. We miss a lot.

Please, public officials, help us hear you!

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Oztman



would wait a while.

I asked Keith if he had fixed the glitch that occasionally sent him to the park on emergency trips to put part of the lighting back on and he said that will have to be done after it warms up. He said the Rotary plans to get some professionals up on the roof and affix the LED lights in place.

Keith has been in charge of the lighting of the gazebo and helps with the planting of the flowers around the gazebo each year. The Rotary even put a second set of steps in place at the gazebo and the members take good care of that part of the park. It always looks lovely.

Thank you, Rotary.

There was a story on the front page of the Detroit News on Monday about a motel being demolished in Romulus. The story told how Romulus had about 26 motels and hotels, the most for any city in the state, and that's, of course, because of the airport.

The Romulus mayor said he was glad to see that motel be demolished since it was a source of troubles and crime and the destination of many, many police visits.

He said he has been focusing on getting the hotel/motel problems solved since he came into office. He said he talks to the owners nicely and does a carrot and stick routine. He doesn't want to have to be enforcing all the rules.

I got to thinking about the newest ordinance change that Van Buren Township Planning Commission was asked to put into

effect. The commission didn't act on it, but put it aside until there is more information.

The commission was told the ordinance amendment was written by the township's prosecuting attorney and calls for guests in hotels/motels not to be allowed to stay longer than 30 days unless there was a kitchen facility.

There were all kinds of questions on this idea and a member of the audience who had been at the meeting on another issue, said she was sure the township was trying to keep the homeless from finding a place to stay when there is no other place. The commission was told that it was an issue of safety because those without kitchens will use a hot plate, which is dangerous.

But, maybe it has more to do with the crime that Romulus found in some of its establishments.

We are looking forward to seeing the statement to be prepared for the commission by the attorney on why she really wants them to limit people from staying more than a month.

The commission pretty much agreed that it would be up to the motel owner to evict his tenants if he wants to and the township shouldn't get involved with a time limitation. Should be an interesting discussion when it comes.



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Letters

Democratic Club sets meeting at VBT Hall with gov. candidate

To the editor:

The Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club is extending an open invitation to the community to join us at our January membership meeting, this Thursday, Jan. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Sheldon/Otisville Room located in the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Enter through the Van Buren Township Hall's main entrance, turn left and the Sheldon/Otisville Room will be to your right.

Genesee County Sheriff and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Chris Swanson will be our guest speaker. Please join us in giving Sheriff Swanson a warm southwestern Wayne County welcome and help us kick off the 2026 Election year with enthusiasm! Hope to see you there!

Debbie Chamberlain
 Correspondence Secretary
 Southwestern Wayne (County)
 Democratic Club
 (734) 634-3569

Deadline is Jan. 31 for Distinguished Graduates

To the editor:

The committee for the Belleville High School Distinguished Graduate Program would like to remind you of the final deadline for submissions for this year's BHS Distinguished Graduate Awards. The deadline is Jan. 31, 2026.

The Distinguished Graduate Award is an annual honor recognizing Belleville High School alumni who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in their professional field or made significant contributions to the welfare and progress of their community.

Eligible nominees must have graduated at least ten years prior to the current graduating year. Recipients, or a family representative in the case of a posthumous award, are expected to attend the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony where

the award will be formally presented. This year's ceremony is April 24, 2026.

Nomination forms are available on the Belleville High School website (vanburenchschools.net), click on Explore at the top of the page. You can request a mailed nomination form by calling Karen Mida at (734) 635-1208.

The committee is looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks!
 Karen Mida
 Committee Member

We want to start a new Lions Club in this area

To the editor:

I am Past District Governor Lion Roshni Patel representing Lions Clubs International, District 11 A1. Our district covers Wayne and Monroe counties in Michigan.

Lions Clubs International is a service organization covering 200 countries around the world. We have over 1.4 million members. Lions Club International is a nonprofit organization.

Our global causes are humanitarian, vision, environment, diabetes, disaster relief, childhood cancer, hunger, youth and much more. Wherever there is a need, there is a Lion. That is our motto.

Our District 11 A1 has 28 active clubs. However, there are none in the vicinity of Belleville, Sumpter, or Van Buren townships. There is a need in this area.

We, Lions Clubs International, would like to start a new club in the area.

We are having an informational meeting at 4 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Sumpter Senior and Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI.

Light refreshments will be provided for the attendees.

Roshni Patel
 Past Lions District Governor



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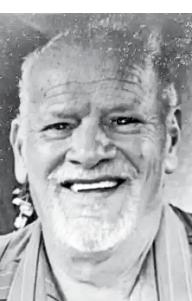
**Karen's Place has a new Nail Tech.
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Jan. 28 – Ralph Tucker
 Jan. 29 – Pete Pitzen

Do you or does someone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* and we will publish it as soon as possible.

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Obituaries



Dr. Douglas Reynolds

DR. DOUGLAS REYNOLDS

August 28, 1956 – January 17, 2026

Dr. Douglas Reynolds, our beloved Belleville Chiropractor, age 69, of Belleville, MI, passed away at home on January 17, 2026. He was born on August 28, 1956, in Ypsilanti, MI to Donald and Barbara (Clark) Reynolds. He practiced as a Chiropractor in Belleville since the 1980s. He loved his community and people in general. Douglas was always making others laugh with his bad jokes and larger-than-life personality. He was known by all in the community that he loved. In his free time, Douglas loved nothing more than spending hours on the golf course with his father and kids. Dr. Douglas had recently retired this year; he will certainly be dearly missed.

Douglas is survived by his mother Barbara Reynolds of Canton, MI; his children, Ryan (Lauren) Reynolds of Canton, MI, Daniel (McKenzie Nemeth) Reynolds of Belleville, MI, Matthew (Mona) Reynolds, of Livonia, MI, and Joy Reynolds of South Lyon, MI; his siblings Kathy (John) Blauvelt of Tennessee and Joseph (Debra) Reynolds of Florida; his grandchildren Parker, Abigail, Alissa, Kara, Carter, Michael, Myles, Isaac, Zayn, and Meila; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his father.

According to his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

Condolences and cards may be sent to the family at the address below.

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BHS at-home games

• **Friday, Jan. 23** – Co-Ed Bowling vs. Franklin, 3 p.m. at Lodge Lanes; Girls Basketball vs. Churchill JV, 5:30 p.m., and Varsity, 7 p.m.

• **Saturday, Jan. 24** -- Boys Varsity Basketball Tiger Classic vs. Jackson, 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Jan. 27** -- Boys Basketball vs. John Glenn, Freshmen at 4 p.m., JV at 5:30 p.m. and Varsity at 7 p.m.

• **Wednesday, Jan. 28** -- Wrestling (Senior Player Night) vs. Churchill, 5 p.m.

Jamie Cichowski
Athletic Secretary
Belleville High School

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Obituaries



Roy William Martin II

ROY WILLIAM MARTIN II

November 9, 1942 – January 12, 2026
 Roy William Martin II, age 83, of Willis, MI, passed away peacefully in hospice care on January 12, 2026, surrounded by his family. He was born on November 9, 1942, in Detroit, MI to Roy and Varnetta (Williams) Martin. He was employed as a technician for General Motors Corporation for many years. Roy was a funny man, who loved to joke around. He was very organized and kept all things in proper order. Roy was a gold star son raised by his loving stepfather Harold Kinzel. His pastimes included music; Roy loved to sing and was very musical indeed. He kept his kids involved in making them sing and play music with him throughout their childhood bringing many fond memories. Roy also loved to be on social media or singing, Karaoke, his nickname being "Singing Roy." A devoted husband and father who loved deeply, he will be truly missed.

Roy is survived by his loving children Cheryl (Jim) Arnold of Taylor, MI, Lori (Ron) Wilson of Taylor, MI, Candy (Jeff) Kibzey of Belleville, MI, Roy (Renee) Martin III, of Michigan Center, MI; his siblings Rick and Charles Kinzel; his grandchildren Amber, Casey, Lindsey, Chelsea, Cherakee, Ronnie Jr., Cody, Matthew, Zack, Corey, Bobbi, Shyanne, Misty, Michelle, Tina, Tim; and 26 great-grandchildren; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Lloyd (James) Martin, and his loving wife of 63 years Delores Martin.

A visitation was held at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111, on Thursday, January 15, 2026, and on Friday, January 16, 2026, from 11 a.m. until the time of service at 12:30 p.m., which was led by Jim Arnold. Burial followed at Soop Cemetery in Van Buren Township, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com

BARBARA GEORGE

April 6, 1960 - January 9, 2026
 Age 65, of Spring Hill, FL. Survived by son Craig (Tonya) Barton, daughter Brandy (Raymond) French, brother Dennis, sisters Thersa and Carol, 8 grandchildren and 6 great-grand children. Memorial services at a later date.

TERESA ANN CARNAHAN

February 23, 1936 – January 13, 2026
 Age 89, of Sumpter Township. Survived by five children, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, sister Eula. Service was Jan. 17 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

CLAUDIA LOUISE LADINA

November 30, 1950 – January 14, 2026
 Age 75, of Van Buren Township. Survived by husband Kevin Stephen Ladina, six children; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Service was Jan. 18 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

WILLIAM C. CAINCROSS

March 16, 1958 – December 2, 2025
 Age 67, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Survived by brothers Leonard Tabaka and David Caincross. In accordance with his wishes, he was cremated and will be interred alongside his mother and brother. No services will be held.

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Musings



By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director

Friends of the Belleville Area District Library will be holding their annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 11 a.m. in the library. Of course, this hard-working group is always looking for more members so here is your chance to get involved and learn all about how 2025 went and their plans for 2026. You should know by now that I, and many others, think the library is the real gem in our community. With so many fine programs for both adults and children a few more volunteers could really lessen the load. Let's get more involved in 2026

It appears that Trivia nights are really popular with this community and the Van Buren Public School Education Foundation is getting ready for another one on Friday, Feb. 20. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with Trivia starting at 7:15 p.m. Tickets of \$10 each include four rounds of play. This is a Disney Trivia Night for the whole family and there will also be a raffle for a Disney Trip for four. You may purchase raffle tickets even if you don't play the Trivia. During the night there will be raffle baskets, mini games, special prize for best dressed Disney group and pizza, drinks, and snacks available for purchase. Tickets are available for purchase so put this on your calendar for a fun night for the entire family. It will be held in the Belleville High School Commons (cafeteria) area.

Thunder Over Michigan will be on July 17, 18 and 19. This week they started announcing the performers. Since we have to go to press on Tuesday afternoon here is what we know so far: USMC MV-22 Osprey Demo Team. I'll share the rest in next week's paper.

Well, we have reached the third week of January and if I had made any resolutions they would be gone by now. It is a good thing I didn't bother. I'm hoping you are doing much better.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Jan. 26 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Wednesday, Jan. 28 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Planning commissions from the city of Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township will meet together at 5 p.m. at Belleville High School. Open to the public.
- Monday, Feb. 2 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 3 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m., with 5 p.m. work/study as needed.
- Monday, Feb. 9 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

- Wednesday, Feb. 11 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 12 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education workshop, 6 p.m., administration building. Also, Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6:30 p.m., with 5 p.m. work/study as needed.

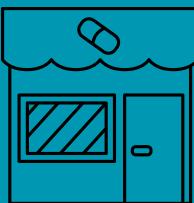
Middle Tenn. State Univ. honors Lane Kleinglass on Fall 2025 dean's list

MURFREESBORO, TN – Lane Kleinglass of Van Buren Township is among the 6,647 students who have been named to the dean's list for the Fall 2025 semester at Middle Tennessee State University.

To qualify for this distinction, an undergraduate student must maintain a current semester grade-point average of 3.5 or above and earn at least 12 semester hours.

Founded in 1911 as one of three state normal schools for teacher training, Middle Tennessee State University is one of the oldest and largest undergraduate universities in the state of Tennessee. It had a fall enrollment of more than 20,000 students.

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Willow Run Airport opens new \$63.4M taxiway

The Wayne County Airport Authority has completed a new \$63.4 million taxiway at Willow Run Airport (YIP), marking a major infrastructure milestone for the airfield.

According to a news release issued Jan. 7 and then revised, the project received \$54.6 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

The program supports airport safety, operational efficiency and capacity enhancements. The federal grants covered more than 90% of eligible items under the program.

The remaining \$8.7 million of the project funding was secured through State of Michigan grants.

"The Wayne County Airport Authority is grateful for the FAA's ongoing support and investment in our infrastructure," said

Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Chad Newton. "This funding for the new parallel taxiway at Willow Run Airport is critical to enhancing safety and efficiency."

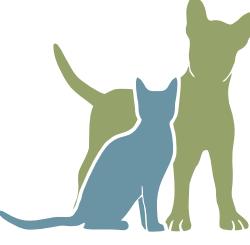
Stretching more than 7,500 feet, the newly constructed taxiway runs parallel to the main runway. The construction was completed in three phases, beginning in spring 2023 and wrapping up in October 2025.

The construction of the parallel taxiway is part of a larger overarching initiative to improve the design and operational efficiency at Willow Run. The Airport Authority also utilized a portion of the AIP funding for the relocation of FAA equipment, a project that spanned eight months and concluded in January 2025.

"With this work complete, Willow Run is even better positioned to support our cargo partners and future development," said Willow Run Airport Director Michael Fawaz. "We thank our state and federal officials for their ongoing commitment to improving Willow Run."

Willow Run Airport manages more than 200 million pounds of cargo each year, establishing itself as one of the country's leading airports dedicated to air freight transport, the news release said.

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District Library to seek temporary replacement for member who died

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library Board opened its regular meeting on Jan. 13 with a moment of silence in memory of board secretary Alma Hughes-Grubbs who died Jan. 7.

When asked how the board is going to replace that member, president Sharon Peters said that four members will be up for re-election to their four-year terms in November and so Hughes-Grubbs' seat would be added to the ballot for a two-year term.

President Peters said this January meeting was too soon to make a decision and so it can be determined in February or March.

Library director Mary Jo Suchy pointed out the law says the board "shall" appoint a replacement.

Peters suggested the bylaws committee can help determine how to do this and the board will vote on whom to appoint.

Maria Jackson-Smith and Linda Priest make up the two-member bylaws committee and president Peters is an ex-officio member and sits on all committees.

Treasurer Tanya Stoudemire recalled when a board member left the community and they needed a replacement, the board appointed her.

Peters said they could look at people who have come to meetings and shown an interest in the library board.

At the end of the meeting, when board members were sharing their experiences with Hughes-Grubbs, a box of tissues was put in the middle of the board table for their use.

"She showed so much spunk and heart," Peters said of Hughes-Grubbs. Peters said she was going to send flowers to the Jan. 23 memorial service in Detroit, and no one objected. Arrangements were made to attend the service and share rides.

In other business at the one-hour-and-32-minute meeting, the board:

- Re-elected president Peters, vice-president Priest, and treasurer Stoudemire. Elected to fill the secretary's position was Joy Cichewicz. Peters said she would make assignments to committees at the next meeting;

- Heard treasurer Stoudemire explain the details of the "clean audit" of the 2024-25 fiscal year made by Alan C. Young and

Associates:

- Heard Priest, who is chairperson of the Personnel Committee, report on the board's annual evaluation of director Mary Jo Suchy. The glowing remarks on her work ended with a committee recommendation of a salary increase of 3%. Priest said Suchy didn't want anything higher. But after discussion, Cichewicz said, "We have a stellar director" and the raise should be at least 4%. The board voted unanimously for an increase of 4%. Suchy said she would accept its decision. Her annual compensation is now \$106,724.80;

- Unanimously approved a schedule of salary increases for staff recommended by Suchy, which is at least 3% for everyone, with some step increases for others. For comparison a list of average salaries for various positions was prepared for the board based on the Detroit Suburban Librarians Roundtable 2025 report;

- Heard Suchy report that elevator testing has been completed and she signed a proposal from O'Neal Construction to install new flagpole lights. She said the health insurance for employees was changed from United HealthCare to Health Alliance Plan effective Jan. 1. She said UHC and Corewell still have not settled their differences, which led to the change to protect employees;

- Learned Friends of the Library will hold their annual meeting at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31. They will be honoring volunteers at the meeting, among giving annual reports. "This is a great opportunity to celebrate all that they do for the library," Suchy said; and

- Was informed a new temporary art exhibit has been set up by Michele Montour, head of the art committee.

Tenner, Wright named to Dean's List at Kalamazoo College

Kalamazoo College announces that Arielle Tenner and Michael Wright of Van Buren Township have earned Dean's List honors in Fall 2025.

Dean's List recognition is earned with a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

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Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 3)

term to expire Dec. 31, 2026;

- Accepted the resignation, with regrets, of police officer Jesiah Rodriguez, effective Jan. 7. In another motion, the board approved \$7,646 in personal time off and vacation payout for Rodriguez;

- Approved the SMART Municipal Credit and Community Credit contract for FY 2026;

- Approved a health insurance small group renewal package with rates taking effect Feb. 1 and running through Jan. 31, 2027;

- Heard Kay Harris speak during the

public comment period, asking the board to remove the blight from the property next door to her on Sumpter Road that was formerly run by Sammy Nassar now that he is no longer there and it appears to be abandoned;

- Heard Sammy Nassar complain that he has taken over the Hughes site on Savage Road for his used-car lot and has been there since September and done everything by the book that the township wanted and he still can't open his business. He also complained about his business neighbor there, reporting that since he cut off parking from her customers on his property she brought in two truckloads of dirt and dumped it in the county ditch to make more parking access to her bakery. He fears his property will flood. He said she thinks she is above the law, she is very racist, and she hates him. He said he called police and the county and hasn't heard back from either;

- Township attorney Rob Young, now of the law firm of Pentiuk, Couvreur & Kobiljak of Wyandotte, said the township's engineering consultant will look at it the next day, adding although the drain is Wayne County's, "You can't cause

neighbors' property to flood";

- Heard public safety director / police chief Eric Luke report the Rawsonville / Willis traffic intersection was the No. 1 spot for accidents in the township in 2025. He reported a 37% increase in felonious assaults in 2025, one homicide, and 100% increase in robberies, although other crimes were down;

- Heard fire chief Goode report his department had four structure fires and 138 calls for service in December. In 2025 there were 47 fires and 1,374 total calls. He also reported that Sumpter will get airpacks and turnout gear at a great savings as part of a grant;

- Heard clerk Don LaPorte report that Sumpter roads have become impassable because of the weather and he wrote to Wayne County for service and got no response. He put the county phone number for roads on the back table in the meeting

room plus a county portal to contact. He said 150 people called and the county called him to say they would be out. Reportedly, there were county trucks out earlier on the day of this meeting; and

- Heard clerk LaPorte say that the paving of Judd Road will be on a future township agenda for approval. He said county officials will be present at the next board meeting to discuss the project. LaPorte had asked for the paving of Judd Road between Bohn and Rawsonville roads to make safer access to fire and medical calls from the fire hall to the Rawsonville Woods area where many calls originate. It will cost the township \$1 million of the \$4 million total cost of the paving, he said. Trustee Matthew Oddy said he thinks the county should pay it all since it's a county road.

Treasurer Bart Patterson was absent and excused from the meeting.

Sumpter planners recommend rezoning for 24473 Sumpter Rd.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

After a public hearing at its regular meeting on Jan. 8, the Sumpter Township Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the township board rezoning of 24473 Sumpter Rd.

The request is to rezone from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-1 (Country Home Residential).

The recommendation for rezoning was accompanied by stipulations on whether the gas tanks were removed and whether the 125' frontage was appropriate since residential units require 150' and this would not become non-compliant.

The property owner is remodeling the present vacant structure near Grant Park to a single-family home, which is consistent with the township's master plan, said planning consultant Joe Pezzotti.

He said the site is surrounded by residential parcels and the master plan for that area seeks to preserve the agricultural area. He said it needs a septic system approved by Wayne County.

Trustee Matthew Oddy, who sits on the

planning commission as board liaison, said the building used to be a gas station and plumbing shop before that. He said it can be researched whether the tanks were removed.

He said the planning consultant can determine whether this 125' frontage is appropriate for the zoning.

During the public hearing, Jim O'Connor of Willis Road said, "He has skills. He has done amazing things with that property," referring to the property owner.

Also, during the public hearing, Kay Harris of Sumpter Road said she would like to know how to rezone from Commercial to Residential and consultant Pezzotti said anyone can apply for rezoning by requesting the change and paying the cost. If the rezoning fits in with the master plan or not determines whether the rezoning will be approved or denied, he said.

Commission chairwoman Jane Stalmack said the township has to revisit the master plan every five years to make necessary revisions to keep in line with what the people want. She said they are now in the

(continued on page 13)

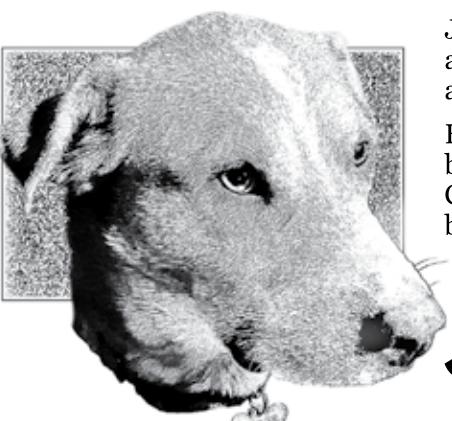
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Bench trial on VBT hazardous landfill set for Feb. 2 before Judge Cox

A bench trial before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Sean Cox on a lawsuit against Wayne Disposal, Inc. has been set for 8:30 a.m. Feb. 2.

Wayne Disposal is a hazardous landfill on the North I-94 Service Drive in Van Buren Township. Those bringing the lawsuit seek to have any radio-active waste kept from being disposed of at the site.

The case was filed Sept. 16, 2024 by Canton and Van Buren charter townships, cities of Belleville and Romulus, and the Van Buren Township Fire Chief. Wayne County joined as an intervening party.

On Oct. 10, 2024 the case was removed to federal court by Wayne Disposal and on Dec. 11, 2024 it was returned to circuit court from federal court.

There have been many motions and court dates since then. Judge Cox issued a preliminary injunction stopping the waste from the Manhattan Project era from being delivered from Niagara Falls, NY, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shifted the shipment to Texas.

On Oct. 15, 2025 the defendant made a motion to clarify the preliminary injunction order of Aug. 6, 2025 and on Oct. 20, 2025 it was granted in part and denied in part. On Oct. 30, the court was informed that an appeal to the higher court was denied.

A special conference has been set for 2:15 p.m. Jan. 21, followed by the Feb. 2 trial.

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04/03

Notice to Advertisers - private gun sales:

It is the responsibility of both the classified seller and buyer to ensure they understand all laws applicable to private gun sales in Michigan. The *Belleville-Area Independent* is not responsible for the legal compliance of classified buyers and sellers.

Notice to Advertisers:

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.

"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."
- Dr. Seuss, "Happy Birthday to You!"

Sumpter Plan

(continued from page 11)

midst of such a review.

In other business at the one-hour-and-33-minute, Jan. 8 meeting, the commission:

- Held a brief public hearing, during which nobody but the consultant spoke, on text amendments for the ordinance on Large Solar Energy Systems. There was a discussion later and trustee Oddy made a motion to table the changes until there were answers about accessory buildings. The text changes involve putting large solar farms only in Industrial zoning districts and delineating the difference between personal and commercial solar projects;

- Removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, the unfinished business of considering a proposed special land use at 40030 Willis Rd. for a veterinary surgery suite on residential property. Trustee Oddy made the motion to remove the agenda item, noting the commission did not have all the information, including

details of the private road it was on and easements. Although this was removed, discussion on the request took up most of the time the meeting was in session. Oddy said he knew of non-compliance of water mains in private roads because his parents lived on a private road for 20 or 30 years. The property owner said she had all kinds of inspections done before purchase of the property and there was never a red flag on anything. She said she and her husband saved everything and invested their savings in the home. She said she would get in writing the additional information Oddy requests from others who live on the lane;

- Agreed to set a public hearing on ordinance text amendments proposed to Article 4 Zoning District Regulations. Pezzotti said this was about special land uses concerning auto showrooms and outdoor auto sales space. The change would allow them only in Industrial zoning. The associated RVs and garden/farming businesses could remain in the special land use category, if that's what the

commission wanted, he said;

- Heard chairperson Stalmack propose a resolution against data centers in Sumpter Township. She said although none have yet been requested, there are a lot of large properties in the township. Oddy agreed that the township has a moratorium on wetlands and should have one on data centers, since it is hard to stop them once they get started; and

- Heard Oddy talk about enforcing the

ordinance concerning sheds and shipping containers. He said people are bringing in more than the one shipping container allowed and they are not painted the same as the house, as required. He said the containers are heavy and sink down in the wet soil in Sumpter, ending up sitting crooked. He said they should see what other communities are doing about that problem. He asked consultant Pezzotti to work on that.

final pre-trial set for Jan. 27.

Gregory Landon Montgomery

Gregory Landon Montgomery of Redford is charged with two counts of driving while intoxicated-3rd offense and driving while license suspended/revoke / denied on Sept. 11, 2025 in the city of Belleville. A warrant was entered into LEIN on Dec. 15, 2025. He was scheduled for arraignment/probable cause on Jan. 13, 2026 and preliminary exam on Jan. 20. The defendant failed to appear on Jan. 13.

The defendant sent an email on Jan. 15 and was scheduled for arraignment / probable cause conference on Feb. 3. Warrant stands until he appears.

Alexander Scott Meridith

Alexander Scott Meridith of Sumpter Township was charged with operating while intoxicated on Aug. 2, 2025 in Sumpter Township. He was arraigned on Nov. 13, 2025 and pled guilty to a reduced charge of operating while visibly impaired. On Jan. 13, 2026 he was sentenced to a fee of \$1,425, 12 months of probation, eight days on the 34th District Court Work Program, shall attend the Level II alcohol education program or engage in substance abuse treatment beginning within 30 days and follow all recommendations with documentation, along with other stipulations.

Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Charter Township of Van Buren Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is seeking sealed Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from qualified firms to provide **Landscaping Maintenance Services** within the DDA District boundaries of the Township.

Specifications for this RFP may be downloaded from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority website at www.vanburennda.com, or obtained in person at the Downtown Development Authority offices, located at **10151 Belleville Road, Van Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111**, between the hours of **9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday**.

Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to:

Merrie Coburn, Executive Director

Van Buren Township DDA

Phone: 734-699-8941

Email: mcoburn-dda@vbtmi.gov

Proposals must be received by the Van Buren Township DDA no later than **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026**.

Proposals will be publicly opened at **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2026**, in the Van Buren Township DDA Building Conference Room.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly labeled:

"LANDSCAPING MAINTENANCE SERVICES RFP"

and addressed to:

Downtown Development Authority
Charter Township of Van Buren
10151 Belleville Road
Van Buren Township, MI 48111

The Van Buren Township DDA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in the bidding process.

Publish: January 15, 2026 and January 22, 2026

Court Watching

Eric Allen Brackman

Eric Allen Brackman of New Boston was charged with possession of narcotics on April 25, 2023 in Van Buren Township. He was video-arraigned in custody on Nov. 18, 2024 and \$10,000 personal bond set. His preliminary examination was set for Jan. 29, 2025 on this charge and Nov. 16 assault, controlled substance, and domestic violence charges from Huron Township, but he said he did not get the notice to appear. On Dec. 12, 2024 a bench warrant was issued for failure to appear.

He was set for an examination on Jan. 29, 2025 and a bench warrant was issued for failure to appear. Bond will be \$10,000 cash, no surety. On Sept. 25, 2025, a female appeared at the counter work with application for a writ with proof of incarceration.

On Jan. 2, 2026, he was scheduled for a probable cause conference. His exam was first set for Jan. 20 and then Feb. 3.

Christopher Allan Chamberlain

Christopher Allan Chamberlain of Van Buren Township is charged with domestic violence on Dec. 27, 2025 in Van Buren Township. He was video-arraigned in custody on Dec. 29 and personal bond set at \$5,000. Pretrial was held Jan. 13 and then

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 298 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week including the following.

Sunday, Jan. 11:

0039 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
 0058 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
 0239 – 911 welfare check, Nautica Dr.
 xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 1000 – assist other dept., S. Cumberland Dr.
 1012 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
 1108 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
 1137 – animal complaint, Harmony Ln.
 1215 – fraud, Revere Dr.
 1322 – assist other dept., Alden Dr.
 1342 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
 1415 – personal injury accident, W I-94/Belleville
 1632 – threat, Stratford Dr.
 1930 – parking complaint, Mida Dr.
 1953 – warrant arrest, Michigan Ave.
 2055 – domestic, Briar Dr.
 2127 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave.
 / Deller St.
 2226 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Oak Ln.
 2310 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr.

Monday, Jan. 12:

0100 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
 0333 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd./Old Michigan Rd.
 0412 – intrusion alarm, Vista Dr.
 0532 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 0940 – parking complaint, Mida Dr.
 0957 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Westlake Cir.
 0957 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
 1046 – mental subject, S. I-94 Service Dr.
 1121 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
 1143 – civil matter, Redwood Dr.
 1214 – intrusion alarm, Robbe Rd.
 1218 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
 xxxx – disorderly, Jackson St./Tyler Rd.
 1420 – intrusion alarm, Van Buren St.
 1419 – assist fire dept., W. Huron River Dr.
 1422 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
 1450 – mental subject, Nautica Dr.
 1553 – assist other dept., W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
 1555 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
 1755 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl. / Belleville Rd.
 1820 – assault & battery, Westlake Cir.
 2240 – parking complaint, Quirk/Chatsworth Dr.
 1903 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
 2035 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
 2249 – dumping complaint, Sheldon Rd./Van Born

Tuesday, Jan. 13:

0034 – threat, Huron River Dr.
 0139 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hampton Dr.
 0147 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
 xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 xxxx – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
 0903 – animal complaint, Riggs/Martinsville
 0920 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
 xxxx – private property impound, Sumpter Rd.
 1317 – welfare check, E. Adams
 1347 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
 1348 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
 1406 – welfare check, Victoria St.
 xxxx – repossession, Haggerty
 1532 – animal complaint, Michigan Ave./Deller
 1625 – welfare check, Sylvia Dr.
 1626 – domestic, Borgman Ave.
 1646 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
 1711 – mental subject, Dewitt Rd.
 1859 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van Born Rd. / Belleville Rd.
 1851 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 1917 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
 2017 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
 2040 – misc. complaint, Parkwood Dr.
 2119 – neighbor trouble, Parkwood Dr.
 2210 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Robson Rd.

2211 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Water's Edge Ln.
 2236 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.
 2241 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Patty Ln.
 xxxx – repossession, Maple Dr.

Wednesday, Jan. 14:

0107 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
 0123 – property damage accident, Elwell/Hull
 0147 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck Rd.
 0751 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 xxxx – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
 0758 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Bemis Rd.
 0844 – welfare check, Lilac Ln.
 0857 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1223 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd.

xxxx – intrusion alarm, Water's Edge Ln.

1432 – suicidal person, W. Huron River Dr.

1506 – domestic, Holly Ln.

1514 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave.

1536 – harassment call, Spencer Ave.

1515 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Morton Taylor Rd.

1544 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty Rd.

1637 – personal injury accident, S. Adams

1720 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.

1736 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.

xxxx – property damage accident, Quirk/McBride

1913 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis

1907 – family trouble, Basswood Cir.

1912 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave.

2023 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.

2025 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.

2044 – neighbor trouble, Freedom Way

2207 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.

2346 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2355 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 15:

0421 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 0746 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 0814 – intrusion alarm, Timberview Ct.
 0836 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
 0929 – intrusion alarm, Wildbrook Dr.
 0949 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
 1006 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 1038 – welfare check, W. Huron River Dr.
 1111 – property damage accident, Huron River Dr. / Edison Lake Rd.

1127 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Revere Dr.

1207 – misc. complaint, Village Center Dr.

1221 – personal injury accident, Quirk/McBride

1239 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harmony Ln.

1314 – assist citizen, Riggs Rd.

1335 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Jackson St.

1410 – threat, Lake Villa Dr.

1412 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1413 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.

1629 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bemis Rd.

1637 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / McBride Ave.

1709 – fraud, E. Sadie Ln.

1646 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1716 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.

1729 – assist fire dept., Denton Rd.

1839 – family trouble, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1845 – private property/property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.

2024 – property damage accident, Tyler/Morton-Taylor Rd.

2210 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.

2226 – disorderly, Quirk Rd.

2304 – disorderly, Quirk Rd.

Friday, Jan. 16:

0103 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
 0447 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Alden Ave. / Haggerty Rd.
 xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
 0715 – intrusion alarm, Laguna Dr.
 0715 – animal complaint, Colonial Rd.
 0737 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
 0936 – misc. complaint, Belle Pointe Dr.
 1015 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.

1235 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1305 – misc. complaint, Belleville/Van Born

1310 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.

1342 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.

1352 – larceny, Wildflower Ct.

1353 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.

1401 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.

1422 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.

1445 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.

1558 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.

1701 – personal injury accident, S. I-94 Service

1707 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.

1719 – fraud, E. Sadie Ln.

1731 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Walden Dr.

1817 – retail fraud, Rawsonville Rd.

1829 – property damage accident, Martz Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.

1838 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.

1851 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1914 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

2030 – civil matter, Savage Rd.

2031 – assist citizen, Freedom Way

2218 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.

2351 – property check, North Shore Dr.

Saturday, Jan. 17:

0053 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

0229 – animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr.

0229 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.

xxxx – repossession, Country Walt Ct.

0445 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0655 – welfare check, S. Woodbury Dr.

0853 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Milton Dr.

xxxx – repossession, W. Huron River Dr.

0951 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.

1023 – mental subject, Rose Blvd.

1126 – road hazard, Denton Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1211 – overdose, Victoria St.

1243 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1325 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1403 – mental subject, S. Woodbury Dr.

1356 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1414 – parking complaint, Chloe Ct.

1514 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd./Bayshore Dr.

1515 – vehicle lockout, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1539 – animal complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.

1644 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.

1627 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.

1659 – property damage accident, Chandler Dr.

2140 – 911 welfare check, Martz Rd.

2318 – assist citizen, Rawsonville Rd.

Also, on this log are 101 traffic stops, 23 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 11:

Monday, Jan. 12:

0201 – intrusion alarm, South St.

1247 – disorderly, S. Industrial Park Dr.

1455 – mental subject, W. Columbia Ave.

1927 – civil matter, Brain St.

Tuesday, Jan. 13:

0004 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.

1438 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave./South St.

1619 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, South St.

1624 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.

1927 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.

2045 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave./South St.

Belleville Area Independent/January 22, 2024

2312 – parking complaint, Victorian Ln.

Wednesday, Jan. 14:

0230 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Church St.

1321 – civil matter, Main St.

1439 – leaving the scene of the property damage accident, Main St.

1643 – follow up by officer, Laguna

1702 – follow up by officer, Marina

Thursday, Jan. 15:

0735 – property damage accident, High St./Edison

1111 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.

1250 – noise complaint, N. Liberty St.

1359 – motorist assist, Haggerty/S. I-94 Service

1451 – noise complaint, N. Liberty St.

1538 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Carmell St.

1618 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.

Friday, Jan. 16:

1719 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Park Dr.

2010 – domestic, Carmell St.

2342 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Biggs Ave./Greylock St.

Saturday, Jan. 17:

0913 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

1349 – intrusion alarm, Henry St.

1824 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.

There are 76 reports on this week's log, 48 of which are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 11:

0605 – family trouble, Birch Dr.

0911 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1052 – 911 hangup, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1059 – dumping complaint, 44000 bl. Arkona

1140 – family trouble, Mulberry Dr.

1254 – 911 hangup, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1604 – welfare check, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1705 – follow-up investigation, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Monday, Jan. 12:

0327 – suspicious person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

0857 – 911 hangup, Hampshire Dr.

1342 – motorist assist, Rawsonville/Willow

1419 – suspicious person, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

1457 – family trouble, Birch Dr.

1522 – civil matter, Carriage Ln.

1522 – alarm, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1553 – citizen assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1952 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2006 – harassment complaint, Rustic Ln.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 14)

1144 – larceny complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter
1618 – mental health call, Rustic Ln.
1629 – juvenile matter, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
1933 – fraud complaint, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2049 – 911 hangup, Kansas St.

Thursday, Jan. 15:

0548 – property damage accident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0623 – harassment complaint, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

0925 – harassment complaint, 46000 bl. Bontekos Ave.

0945 – suspicious circumstance, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.

1023 – damage to property complaint, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.

1413 – family trouble, Birch Dr.

1805 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.

1830 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

1939 – motorist assist, Rawsonville/Wear Rd.

Friday, Jan. 16:

0132 – noise complaint, Birch Dr.

1009 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.

1326 – welfare check, Rustic Ln.

1546 – civil matter, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1841 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.

2020 – fraud complaint, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

2135 – family trouble, Nevada St.

2329 – civil matter, California St.

2335 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 17:

0056 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0932 – alarm, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.

1140 – welfare check, Washington St.

1402 – welfare check, Wyoming St.
1445 – suspicious circumstance, 40000 bl. Willow Rd.
2010 – fire dept. assist, Texas St.
2216 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2254 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Also on this week's log were 147 patrol checks, 64 traffic stops and eight misc. details.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Jan. 22** – Lions Club International wants to start a new club in the tri-community area. At 4 p.m. there will be an informational meeting at the Sumpter Township Senior and Community Center at 23501 Sumpter Rd., Belleville 48111. Refreshments.

• **Thursday, Jan. 22** – The Western Wayne (County) Democratic Club invites the public to a membership meeting at 6 p.m. in the Sheldon/Otisville Room in the main part of the Van Buren Township Hall. Enter at the main entrance. Special guest speaker is Genesee County Sheriff and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Chris Swanson.

• **Friday, Jan. 23** – Margaritas & Tacos, 5-7 p.m. at the Pvt. James D. Donovan/

Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus, (734) 941-3030. Proceeds to benefit the Building Fund.

• **Saturday, Jan. 24** – Gardening Made

Super Simple shares a laid-back approach to growing vegetables, from 11 a.m. until noon at the Belleville Area District Library. Hannah will explain how she stopped weeding in June, barely tended her garden, and still ended up harvesting plenty. Free to attend. No registration needed.

• **Monday, Jan. 26** – “The History of

Michigan Told in Shipwrecks” told by historian Andrew Kercher runs from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Registration not required. Free to enter.

• **Friday, Jan. 30 through Sunday,**

Feb. 1 – Downtown Plymouth hosts the 2026 Plymouth Ice Festival. More than 150 professionally carved sculptures by world-class sculptors will be on display in downtown Kellogg Park and on sidewalks throughout the downtown area. Demonstrations, warming stations, movies, entertainment, Bingo, family petting farm.

• **Saturday, Jan. 31** – Support the

work of the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library by attending their annual meeting at 11 a.m. at the library. They will be honoring many volunteers, hearing annual reports, and electing officers for the year. Members of the public are invited to attend.

• **Wednesday, Feb. 4** – Chief

meteorologist Joel Fritsma will tell all about the Michigan Storm Chasers at the

Michigan Flight Museum, 47884 D Street, Willow Run Airport. The talk begins at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6:30. (734) 483-4030. \$10 per person for non-members; museum members free with registration.

• **Friday, Feb. 20** – Van Buren Public

Schools Education Foundation is holding a Disney Trivia Night at the Belleville High School Commons (cafeteria). Doors open at 6 p.m., trivia starts at 7:15 p.m. Tickets at \$10 per person for those ages five and up include four rounds of play. This fundraiser will include a raffle for a Disney Trip, prize for trivia winner, mini games, raffle baskets, and a special prize for best-dressed Disney Group. Pizza, drinks and snacks available for purchase.

• **Saturday, Feb. 21** – The Van Buren

Community Players present “Journey into Narnia the Musical” from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 12-17 years. Free creative youth class. Explore musical theater. Build performance confidence. Sing, dance, act. At Van Buren Community Center, 46425 Tyler Rd. Information: (734) 699-8921

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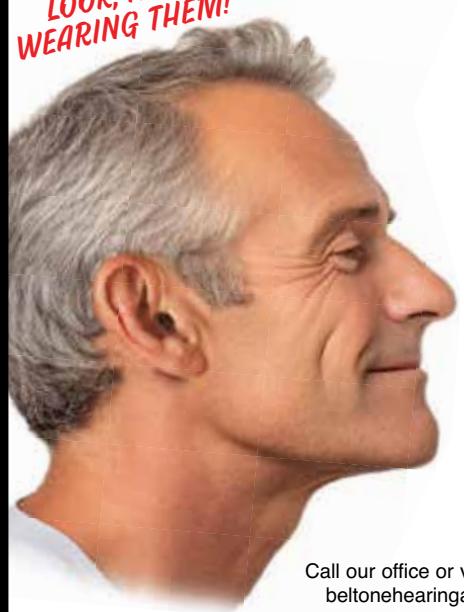
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12900 HAGGERTY VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
FOR LEASE - UPDATED OFFICE SPACE Best Area on Paved Street. 510 Sq Ft With One Large office and Second office. It's clean and Neat \$1,250 Mo



12950 HAGGERTY VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
FOR LEASE Zoned M-2 for many uses. Best location with 16,800 SqFt For Lease. 20 Foot Ceilings, Large Offices Huge Work Area. Close to I-94 & I-275. \$6,900. Mo Triple Net



28503 MARGARET LN , HURON TOWNSHIP
THIS BRICK HOME HAS IT ALL 3,828 Total Square Feet of finished living space, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Hot Tub, 14x27 Family Room, 2 + 1 Car Garages .85 Acres Short Sale \$385,000



11012 JACKSON, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
FOR LEASE IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY Super Clean, freshly painted with new flooring throughout. 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath Ranch. Two car garage. No Smoking or Pets \$1,600 mo



29515 CHARLES, ROMULUS
COMING SOON. It's Loaded with 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, 1,647 Square Feet, Fireplace, Deck and More. On 1/2 Acre with Huge Garage. 1996 Construction Just \$200,000



48620 WEAR, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
BEAUTY WORTH CELEBRATING 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths (One New) 1,690 Sq Ft on 1.3 Acres. Deck and Large Pole Barn room for a workshop and more. Extra Clean \$325,000



46083 REED, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
Amazingly Affordable 3 Bedroom One Bath Ranch with New Carpet, Large Patio, Big Garage with New Roof, Fenced Yard, City Water and Sewer on Paved Street. A Best Buy \$239,900



209 MAIN STREET, BELLEVILLE
IT'S A POSSIBLE ANYTHING! 7,000+ Square Foot Building on High Traffic Main Street. Large Rooms Everywhere Finished Basement 6 plus Car Attached Garage. \$749,000

84ACRES OAKVILLE WALTZ ASH TOWNSHIP-MONROE COUNTY. 1268 FRONTAGE ZONED LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL. NEAR I-275 Great Investment \$795,000

3 PARCELS 22530 Bohn Road Sumpter Twp One is 10.7 Acres at \$120,000 and 2.37 Acres at \$45,000 and 1.87 at \$45,000 **SHERWOOD** **SOLD** Acres \$60,000

GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT IND BY METRO AIRPORT \$250,000 **WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE** 1.64AC PAVED ROAD WATER & SEWER AT STREET \$65,000

MARIO ANN COURT ROMULUS Finest Private Area in Romulus. Perfect location with City Water and Sewer at the Street. \$35,000 **GRANT ROMULUS** 1.8 AC LT IND \$29,500

***** BELLEVILLE LAKEFRONT *** 2405 RAWSONVILLE 99X328 .74 AC \$99,900** **NORTHLINE ROMULUS** 1.1 ACRES 208 FT FRONTAGE LT INDUSTRIAL ZON \$59,900



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