



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.42 Thursday, October 17, 2024

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Winners in the ages 14-17 category are, from left, Sophia Rabaa, who won both second and third places; and Katherine Gregory, who won first place.



Second-place winner in the Upcycled category is Ed Good. First-place winner Laura Brenner and third-place winner Steven Paulsen were not present.



Winners in the ages 6-13 category were, from left, Jane Gregory, third; Leo Gregory, second; and Grace Kelley, first; standing with Belleville Area Council for the Arts president Rhonda Dutton.



Adult 2-D category, from left, Michael Swartsell, third; Nicki Pijanowski, second; and Diane Matz, first.



In the Photography category, from left, are third-place winner, Genevieve Gregory; second-place winner Gary Washington; and first-place winner Dreama Arnett.



Third-place winner for 3-D Fiber Art is Ethan Geppert. At right is first-place winner Loel Gnadt. Second-place winner Collette McClinton was not present.

Arts Council presents 60 artists, 150 entries in weekend art show

(continued on page 8)

Awards were \$200 for first, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third for adult artists and \$75 for first, \$50 for second, and \$25 for third in the children and teen artists.



The Denton Road bridge has been closed by Wayne County for 746 days as of today.

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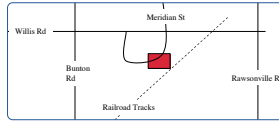
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SECOND FRONT PAGE



Taking part in the showcase, from left, were Dan and Donna Smith, Chad Brown, Madelyn Krulack, Amy Peplinski, Judy Hallberg, Carol Jacobs, Ron Brown, Belinda Patrick, Kristen and Michael Hassett, and Yi-Ru Sosnowski.

Belleville Lake Dance Company brings new ballroom to area

By Heather Krulack

There's a new dance studio in town called Belleville Lake Dance Company, located at 500 E. Huron River Dr. in Belleville.

It features an adult ballroom dance program, directed by Ron Brown, and a children's dance program, directed by Heather Krulack, the studio owner.

It is a beautiful facility with a cushioned beechwood dance floor, like the one used on the popular ABC TV show "Dancing with the Stars."

The large red brick building has a lovely ambiance with a lounge atrium with a fireplace, kitchen, and observation room. Group and private lessons are available for

all levels. Wedding couples are welcome.

Our first Ballroom Showcase was held Sept. 13 and featured the students of Ron Brown and his son Chad Brown. Students were dressed in their best and performed a variety of dances, including Waltz, Rumba, Nightclub, Tango, and Quick Step.

In addition to group and private lessons,

the dance center hosts a themed social dance party once a month with a lesson and refreshments. It is open to everyone, singles and couples, in a welcoming environment to practice their ballroom dance steps and learn something new.

For more information, visit www.bellevillelakedance.com.



Seated Bob Mercer, Jim Lamb; dancing, Darlene Devall, Lynn Harrison, Marlene Davis; seated at the table, Lonnie Devall, Leonard Silvenis, Phil Branham and standing, Jim Buck

BHS Class of 1964 holds 60th reunion at Belleville Yacht Club on Sept. 28

By Leonard Silvenis
BHS Class of 1964

The Belleville High School Class of 1964 held its 60th class reunion at Belleville Yacht Club on Saturday Sept. 28.

Tables were set up and decorated, complete with flowers and personalized nametags that included class pictures. Approximately 50 members and spouses showed up to celebrate and renew old

friendships.

Jim Ford (our principal's son) said it best: It was a great evening, low key, and perhaps the most pleasant reunion we've had so far. I'm looking forward to how much fun the 70th and 80th will be.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Joe and the rest of the committee for putting it together. I'm more aware now than I was 60 years ago of how fortunate we were to

be in this class.

The warm evening started with light showers but didn't dampen the hearts of the classmates. Our class made the goal of this reunion to set the bar high for future BHS alumni reunions, without getting crazy.

First off, it was decided that no class member would be excluded due to ticket costs (\$50). Two prepaid tickets went unclaimed because of absence.

After the meal was provided, entertainment became a major focal point. Benny and the Jets lost out in favor of a Rock & Roll Betty, a car hop complete with red-and-white-striped uniform without roller-skates. She encouraged classmates to get out and dance to '60s music, and when she only got a few takers, she brought out percussion instruments for the class

(continued on page 8)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Should school district join suit over insulin costs?

After spending time Monday discussing the low educational scores in the district and what to do about them, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education voted unanimously to join a national lawsuit over the high cost of insulin.

The board spent little time deciding whether to join the class action lawsuit because it was explained to them how unfair the high costs of insulin are. Supt. Kudlak said, "It is the right thing to do, even if we don't get the money."

It was noted that the district, which is self-insured for health care, is able to get insulin at a reduced rate from a foreign source. And, the district's health clinic at McBride is doing well. There will be 10 hours required to fill out questionnaires.

The recommendation to sue came from Thrun law firm, the district's legal counsel, which is referring Van Buren to Frantz Law Group of California.

The agreement that the superintendent will sign with Frantz won't cost the district anything until they get a judgment. The attorneys will be paid in full if there is a cash judgment and if there are other kinds of judgments, the attorney will still get paid.

Seems this is outside what school districts should be concentrating on, especially since the present goal seems to be reaching the statewide average score in education, not exceeding it. We've been covering the schools for 30 years and in the past it would have been unthinkable to think of the state average as a goal.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

At the recent Belleville Area District Library Board meeting, John Juriga said he talks about the library a lot and his family played a game recently at a get together to watch a football game.

He said every time he mentioned the library, his family took a drink and it took him a while to figure out what was going on. He said they went through four and a half bottles of wine before it was over.

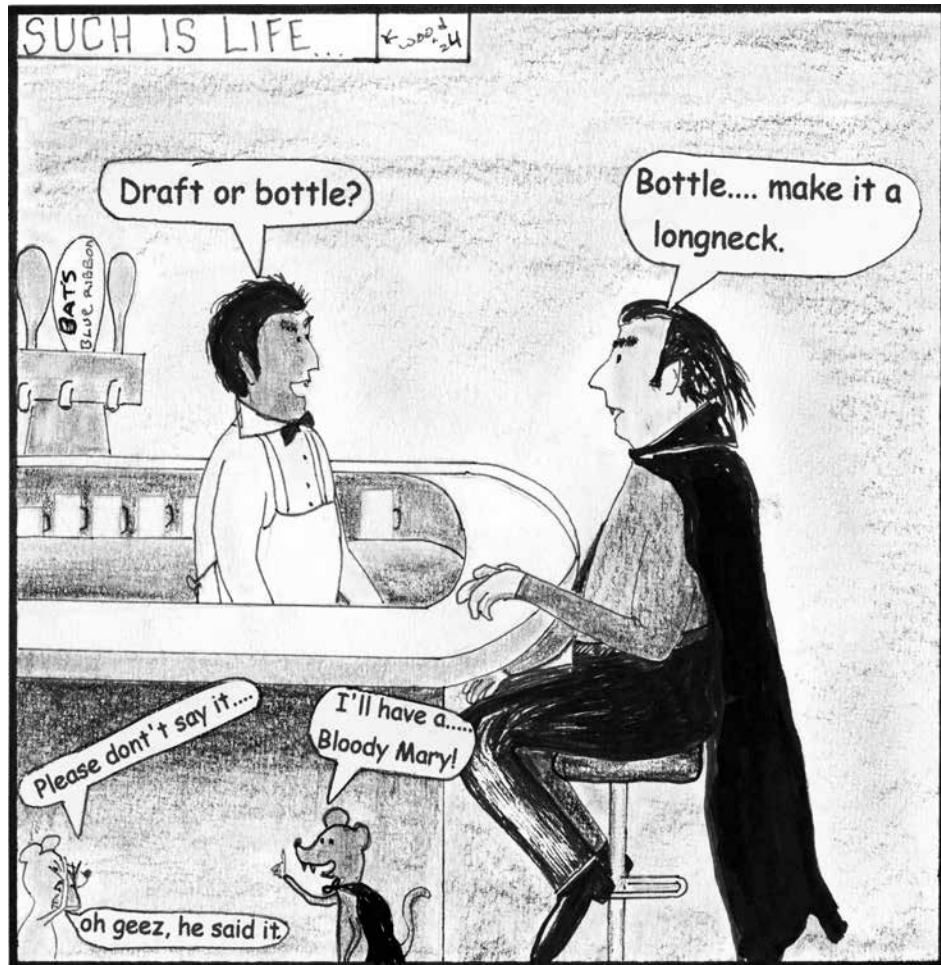
On Saturday, Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara said DTE's directional boring under the lake for the gas line at the Denton Road Bridge should take about two weeks, but then it would take until the end of the year for the pipes to be laid and the rest of the job completed. The bridge is expected to be demolished in January.

At the Oct. 7 city council meeting, city manager Jason Smith announced that access to the cemetery would be closed for a couple of days and funeral homes had been advised.

We mentioned to Supervisor McNamara that at the Oct. 8 town hall meeting at Angel Food Catering Garage that a man who did not identify himself said they looked into ownership of Republic Waste and found that 35% of its investment was by a Bill Gates entity.

McNamara said that Bill Gates is an investor in Waste Management, as well, which is Van Buren Township's other landfill.

The Hunter's Moon this week is the largest full moon of the year and should be spectacular, if it isn't cloudy. It was to appear full from Tuesday evening through



Friday morning, but the exact time of the full moon is Thursday morning at 7:26 a.m. EDT, according to NASA. It will be below the horizon at that time and we won't be able to see it until after sunset.

October's full moon is a Supermoon because it happens during perigee, the moon's closest distance to Earth.

A local resident called on Monday to tell us that the deep pothole at High and Main streets in the city of Belleville has been there for at least two years. He said he knows that since that's how long he's been complaining about it to the city officials and at the city council meetings.

I told him I remember a city council meeting where a man said that whenever he drives around that corner the jolt is so bad it really hurts his back. Our caller asked if I was the white-haired lady who sat next to him at that very meeting and I said I was.

That is a bad pothole and it does need to be fixed by the city.

At Monday's school board meeting, curriculum director Jeff Moore said that students will have half days on Thursday and Friday because of parent-teacher conferences.

He also told the story of Mike Plubursky, an IT employee, who has a second job at the prescription fill center for Meijer. He said AI fills 50,000 prescriptions daily. A part was needed by Meijer and Mike was able to bring the description to BHS where it

was made on a 3-D printer by students. He said Meijer wants to partner with the school district because of this.

Also, at Monday's school board meeting, Edgemont Elementary staff members told of the new Autism Transition Room, that works to bring students from the autism center to general education classes. This is new this year and last year Van Buren was one of only three districts in the RESA area piloting the project. Wayne Westland and Plymouth Canton also tied the project.

The autistic students in the district all go to the Edgemont center and so they are able to take advantage of the Transition Room.

BHS Principal Nicole Crockett told the board about the "engaging hooks" she is using in her school to get the students interested in the subject at hand.

She presented a chart that showed the percentage of students who took the SAT test who are proficient. It showed the BHS average to be 39.7%, compared to the state average of 51%. She said she is working to improve the BHS percentage to a minimum of 10% growth by spring.

School Supt. said to remember that the SAT test is "one snapshot in time" and doesn't represent everything that is going on.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT
 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111
734-699-9020
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 Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995
 The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
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Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager:
 James Otzman

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Letters

Vote for Nelson Po for Sumpter Supervisor

To the editor and the people of Sumpter Township:

My name is Nelson Po. I am reaching out to ask for your vote this election for supervisor of Sumpter Township. Come to vote at your precinct Nov. 5, 2024.

Sumpter has always had many options to make life more convenient and enjoyable for the residents. Instead, taxes continue to rise as our amenities quietly disappear or fall apart. There is hardly anything left in the municipality that shows appreciation to you, the citizens, for keeping the township alive.

If elected supervisor, I will press to develop a community and senior center with as many activities as can be afforded: A cafeteria, gymnasium, swimming, event hall, conference rooms, are just to name a few. I dream of a place for seniors who are having a difficult time managing their fixed incomes. We have to help our seniors. Without them, there would be no Sumpter Township.

I support reinstating the *Belleville-Area Independent* as the Sumpter Township newspaper of record.

As your elected official, I will make it my duty to keep my door open. The people of Sumpter should have the power to make positive changes. All you need is the right person to listen.

Thank you,
 Nelson S. Po, Sumpter Township
 Any comments are appreciated and you can send me a note here: NelsonPo8822@gmail.com.

Sumpter: You finally put him out of business

To the editor:

Well, Bully for you, Sumpter Township. You finally pushed Mr. Chapman out of business. You exhausted him to the point of finally just giving up the fight to stay in business.

I probably would have done a little cursing myself after what you've put him through for so many years. It's obvious

that you are aware of the ongoing situation from day one.

Sumpter Auto Repair has been the convenient, dependable, and affordable go-to for many of us. Now with Welt's Service Station gone also, you have left us with what? Good job, Team!

Anonymous, Sumpter Twp. Resident
 (This administration can be vindictive.)

Warning: Be alert for DTE Energy imposters

To the editor:

If anyone arrives at your home or business saying they are from DTE, please ask to see a badge with photo ID. If the person refuses to show their badge, do not allow them inside.

If you want to verify a worker's identity or confirm that a vehicle is an authorized company vehicle, please immediately call DTE at 800-477-4747. If the person becomes agitated or acts in a strange manner, insisting that you let them inside, call 911.

DTE Energy

Editor's Note: Newspapers report two DTE imposters killed a Rochester Hills man in his basement last Friday while supposedly checking a faulty gas line with him. They tied up his wife with duct tape. Both men identified from a Ring camera have been apprehended.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Friday, Oct. 18, and Saturday, Oct. 19** – Sumpter Township Vendor Market, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Community Center gym, 23501 Sumpter Rd. \$10 per table rental – pay at treasurer's office. Rain or shine. More information, call Sumpter Senior Coordinator Maryann Watson at (734) 461-9737 and leave a message if unavailable; or email maryannwatson@sumptertwp.org

• **Saturday, Oct. 19** – Van Buren Township Candy Loop from 4-6 p.m. at Quirk Park. Wear your costumes and make your way to each Halloween-themed station providing candy from local area businesses and non-profits. Free and open to the public. Rain date is Oct. 26.

• **Saturday, Oct. 19** – Monster Mutt Walk at Fourth Street Place in Belleville, noon-2 p.m., sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community. Fee is \$10 each plus a can of dog or cat food.

• **Saturday, Oct. 19** – Pink Ribbon Fundraising Event at Van Buren Eagles #3996, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., smoked pork chops dinner at 6 p.m., Scott Martin Band entertainment starts at 7 p.m. Join the Breast Cancer Foundation – Rogel Cancer Center at University of Michigan for an evening of food, drinks and friends, with raffles and 50/50s to raise money for the foundation. \$25 at the door or contact Lisa Ochalek, (734) 732-3809.

• **Tuesday, Oct. 22** – Trick or Treat at Wayne County Community College – Ted Scott Campus Atrium, 9555 Haggerty Rd., 5:30-7 p.m. Open to the public at no cost. Spooktacular Science Show from 6-6:30 p.m.

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Obituaries



Louis Edward Woolery

LOUIS EDWARD WOOLERY

(February 9, 1941 – October 13, 2024)
 Louis Edward Woolery, age 83, passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side. Born on February 9, 1941, in Detroit, MI to Roy and Helen (Boutilier) Woolery. Louis, a longtime Belleville-area resident worked for GM Willow Run Assembly plant and retired in 1993. In Louis' younger years he loved building Amps and other electronics. He loved taking his stepsons on family vacations up north fishing. Louis was a casino enthusiast, he enjoyed traveling to Atlantic City and Vegas. Mr. Woolery was very meticulous with manicuring and watering his lawn but most of all he loved being with his family.

Louis is survived by his wife of 40 years Susan Woolery of Belleville, MI; stepsons Ralph Ripple of Belleville, MI, and Fred (Kelli) Ripple of Britton, MI; grandchildren Matthew Cunningham, Brittany Ripple, Derrick Ripple, Zachary Ripple, and Kerriann Ripple; and 3 great-grandchildren.

Louis is preceded in death by his parents, daughters Lori Woolery and Lisa Woolery; brother Roy Woolery, Jr.; and sister Nina Sionkowski.

A visitation is planned for Thursday, October 17, 2024, from 4 to 8 p.m. Funeral Service will be Friday, October 18, 2024, at 11 a.m., with Deacon Pete Cornell officiating at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111. Burial will be at Divine Grace Cemetery (formerly St. Joseph Cemetery), 9370 Hoffman Rd., Maybee, MI 48159. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Oct. 21 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 22 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 23 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 28 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS
- Tuesday, Nov. 5 – Van Buren Township regular meeting canceled due to election.
- Monday, Nov. 11 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS.
- Tuesday, Nov. 12 – Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library board, 7:30 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 13 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 14 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

NFDA again honors Brown Funeral Home for Excellence in Service

BROOKFIELD, WI – The National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) congratulates the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville for being one of 11 Michigan funeral homes to receive a 2024 Pursuit of Excellence Award.

Brown's also is one of the only 105 funeral homes in the world that received this prestigious award in 2024.

Brown Funeral Home has been awarded this high achievement for the last 24 years.

This award is presented by NFDA annually to firms that have demonstrated a commitment to raising the bar on funeral service excellence by adhering to strict ethical and professional standards and providing outstanding service to families and communities.

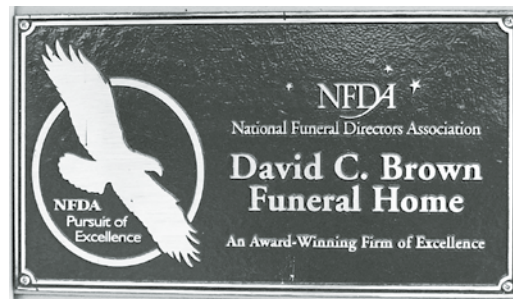
The 2024 Pursuit of Excellence Award honorees will be formally recognized by the association at the Funeral Director's

International Convention in New Orleans this month.

To earn a NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award, a funeral home must demonstrate proficiency in key areas of funeral service, including compliance with state and federal regulations; staff participation in ongoing education and professional development; offering outstanding programs and resources to bereaved families; maintaining an active level of involvement in the

community; active participation in and service to the funeral service profession; and promoting funeral home services through a variety of marketing, advertising and public relations programs. Participants are also required to adhere to a Pledge of Ethical Practices.

Information about the NFDA Pursuit of Excellence program can be found at www.nfda.org/pursuitofexcellence.



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Obituaries



Janice Marie Stough Harrold

JANICE MARIE STOUGH HARROLD
(December 30, 1954 – October 8, 2024)

Janice Marie Stough Harrold was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. Janice passed away in Spring, Texas after a courageous battle with cancer. Janice was born in Ypsilanti Michigan to parents Garlton Mozell Stough and Glenda Aline Stough.

She is survived by children Kristy Arndt (with daughter-in-law Amanda Arndt) and Randy Thomas Arndt (with daughter-in-law Gabriell Arndt); grandchildren Hailey McLemore, Derek Arndt, Reanna Morris, Ryan Arndt; and great-grandchildren Preston McLemore (and Mason McLemore), and Erick Harrold (with daughter-in-law Stephanie Council); grandchildren Jasmine Harrold, Anthony Harrold, Skylar Harrold, and EmmaLee Harrold; brothers Bill, Tom and Bob Stough and their families, as well. Janice also leaves behind many loving friends. Janice lived in several different places but always wanted to be near her children and grandchildren. She loved fishing, singing karaoke to Motown hits, playing cards, but most of all she loved spending time with her family. She loved the Detroit Tigers and Lions! Her laughter and smile could light up a room and brighten the darkest of days. She was loved by many and will be missed by all.

GARY FRANKLIN CHAVIS

(November 3, 1951 – October 6, 2024)
It is with great sadness that the family of Gary Franklin Chavis, age 72 announces his passing on October 6, 2024. Born November 3, 1951 in Detroit, Michigan and long-time resident of Ypsilanti, Gary is survived by his wife Sue and three children Thomas (Tamara) Fields, Amber (Scott) Pelphrey, and Justin Chavis. In addition to his wife and children, he is survived by 5 grandsons: Christopher, Brandon, Austin, Jordan and Clayton; a great-granddaughter Jordyn; and two dogs Jenna and Carly. Gary was preceded in death by his parents Jerome Chavis and Madge Chavis (Stinett). Gary was a true "Chevy Guy" and worked for GM for 30 years. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather who enjoyed playing chess, riding his Harley, going to the racetrack and having a nice cold beer. The family will be celebrating his life with a private event.

ELIZABETH DISNEY

(July 23, 1940 – October 13, 2024)
Age 84, of Belleville. Survived by children Connie and Sharon, a son-in-law, siblings Charlie and Carol, 4 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter. Visitation and service Oct. 17 at David C. Brown Funeral Home.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Joseph "Everette" Branson

JOSEPH 'EVERETTE' BRANSON

(April 28, 1929 – October 12, 2024)
Joseph "Everette" Branson, 95, from Belleville, Michigan, peacefully returned to the embrace of the Lord on October 12, 2024, surrounded by his family. Born on April 28, 1929, in Whitesburg, Kentucky, he was the son of Arville and Rachel Branson.

With a heavy heart, we acknowledge those who preceded him in this earthly journey: his beloved parents, his siblings Mary, Roscoe, Beulah, and Howard, his son Bennett "Ray" Branson, and his grandson Billy Ray Branson. Everette leaves behind a legacy of memories for his wife of 75 years, Hazel Branson; his sons Billy Branson and Windis Branson; his grandchildren Tiffany (Curt) Dyer and Tyler; and his precious great-grandchildren KayLynn, Brandon, Bailey, Adalyn, and Evander. He is also survived by his dear sister, Jane Smith, and his sister-in-law, Jeanette Branson, along with many nieces and nephews who held a special place in his heart.

Everette dedicated 55 years of his life to Willow Run Hydromatic, where he began crafting rings for employees' anniversary pins. Upon his well-deserved retirement, he found joy in leisurely drives, working outside and Western shows. His faith led him to become a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Ypsilanti for 64 years.

Everette will forever be remembered for his dedication and boundless love for his family. He was always present, offering support whenever called upon. His unwavering devotion to the Lord served as a guiding light for all who knew him. We find comfort in the knowledge that Everette has attained the fulfillment of God's divine promise, and we celebrate his eternal reunion with the Almighty.

A visitation took place on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, from 1 p.m. until the time of service of 3 p.m. at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111 with Pastor Joe Kennedy of Ypsilanti Baptist Church officiating. A burial in Whitesburg Kentucky on Everett's family plot will take place on Thursday, October 17, 2024. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Arts Council presents 60 artists, 150 entries in weekend art show

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presented its 15th-annual Community Art Show Oct. 11-13. More than 60 talented artists participated with some 150 entries for public viewing at the Belleville Yacht Club.

A special thank you goes to the judges of the artwork for the show: Debbie Juriga, local basketweaving artist; Susan McDowell, member of Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild; and Sharon St. Mary, former professional potter.

BACA congratulates the winners as follows:

- **2-Dimension:** 1st – Diane Matz, 2nd – Nicki Pijanowski, 3rd – Michael Swartsell
- **3D/Fiber Art:** 1st – Loel Gnadt, 2nd – Collette McClinton, 3rd – Ethan Geppert
- **Photography:** 1st – Dreama Arnett, 2nd – Gary Washington, 3rd – Genevieve Gregory
- **Upcycled:** 1st – Laura Bremmer, 2nd – Ed Good, 3rd – Steven Paulsen
- **Teens (Ages 13-17):** 1st – Katherine Gregory, 2nd – Sophia Rabaa, 3rd – Sophia Rabaa
- **Children (Ages 6-12):** 1st – Grace Kelley, 2nd – Leo Gregory, 3rd – Jane Gregory
- **People's Choice:** A Tie, Nicki Pijanowski's "Rommel" and Cynthia Price's "Jack and the Jukebox"

Winners in all seven categories were awarded ribbons and cash prizes. More photos of the winning artwork can be seen on facebook at Belleville Area Council for the Arts – BACA.

Guest judges gave ribbons to the following artists: Amy Eversole awarding Mary Gazdag; Keith Johnston choosing Michele Montour; Lisa Martin selecting Renee Turner, Mary Jo Suchy choosing Sophia Rabaa and Ken Voigt awarding Katherine Gregory.

After the awards ceremony, Howard Puchalsky, wood-carving artist, presented a sunflower carving to member Jean Morris for her years of her service as the Sunshine Committee chairperson, sending birthday greetings and handmade birthday gifts to BACA members.

Special display tables were set up for Emily Bryant, 2024 Senior Scholarship Recipient, and the W.H.A.T. (We Have Artistic Talent), local artist group.

BACA thanks the Art Show sponsors: Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous for the Wayne County Community Partnership Grant for BACA programs, Amy M. Eversole PLLC, Jean & Kerry Morris, Keith and Ginger Bruder, Karyn Chiang, Michele Montour, Thom and Cynthia Price, The Pumpkin Factory, and Wagner's Homestead Farm.

BACA appreciates and thanks the Belleville Yacht Club, Garden Fantasy on Main, and The Pumpkin Factory for their contributions to the show. Programs were printed by Johnston Enterprises and designed by Michele Montour.

The organizing committee members were Karyn Chiang, Rhonda Dutton, Kim Ensich, Elaine Gutierrez, Michele Montour, Cynthia Price, Howard Puchalsky, Cheryl Wagner, and Kathryn Wood.

Other BACA programs include cultural outings, Music Lakeside summer series, community art, and student scholarships. For more information go to website: www.bacaart.org.

Elaine Gutierrez
Belleville Area Council for the Arts

Reunion

(continued from page 3)

to play. We found that Tom Fielder was a born washboard-player.

Another BHS reunion shortcoming we wanted to overcome was a lack of bar drinks. This was amended by opening a ticketed cash bar, with free soft drinks.

The center of the night's entertainment was each other -- almost 50 friends who some if us had not seen in 60 years. We were saddened by the over 80 of us, who God chose to take back prior to today which encouraged us to contact friends while they are still with us.

And, lastly the class of 1964 wants to remember a special member of BHS who was not a class member yet because of his age. He played baseball with all of us in Belleville Little League and Babe Ruth League and left us this year: Frank Nunley, whose birthday was Oct. 1.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman
Harvest Fest in Belleville on Saturday had sunny skies and a large turnout. The tractors that were going to be in a parade from Harris Road in Sumpter to Main Street, arriving at 11 a.m. in Belleville, arrived 20 minutes earlier than expected and parked along both sides of the street from Third to Fourth streets. The library and Central Business Community had events, along with the museum.

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VBPS board approves Insulin Litigation Resolution

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, the board unanimously approved an Insulin Litigation Resolution as presented.

John Leroy, director of human resources, explained that companies across the country are deciding if they want to take part in a nationwide lawsuit against various insulin manufacturers, pharmacy benefit managers, and other defendants accused of artificially inflating insulin prices at the expense of employers and health plan entities.

Board approval was required to take part in this litigation.

He explained the background of insulin and how when it was invented in 1920 the inventor found it so valuable that he didn't

want to patent it and gave the recipe away free. Then his associates convinced him to patent it to keep the recipe intact.

Director Leroy said the lawsuit was recommended by the district's law firm Thrun who is working with a firm in California to sue three companies. It's a class-action lawsuit, he said.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the district is self-insured and the rates go up when medication is expensive. He noted their district has been able to get insulin for its clinic as a reduced rate from a foreign source.

"It's the right thing to do, even if we don't get the money," Supt. Kudlak said of the lawsuit.

Board treasurer Simone Pinter asked how school districts got into this and Leroy said 80% of Eli Liley's income is from insulin

and costs are high.

"Which makes it more egregious," Supt. Kudlak said.

In other business at the Oct. 14 meeting, the board:

- Heard Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran Realpoint, give the last quarterly report on the district's 2019 bond projects and their progress over the last five years. Between the three series of bonds, the sinking fund, and general fund a total of \$41,499,592 is being spent. He said the projects will be completed by the end of the year. Projects included construction of the Early Childhood Center; Owen renovations; Tyler, Savage, and McBride renovations; IT upgrades; and BHS band bleachers for the football field;

- Heard building presentations from Edgemont Elementary School Principal Laura Maher and staff members and BHS Principal Nicole Crockett. They were asked to present one of their school improvement initiatives that they will be working on this year and then report in the spring on the initiatives;

- Approved resignations of Joshua Bechtel, a teacher at McBride Middle School for two years, as of Sept. 13; and Jillian Leaym, a teacher at Rawsonville Elementary School for 11 years, as of Oct. 8;

- The employment of Ann Epperson

for BHS PT-Resource Room teacher as of Sept. 26; Craig Otter as BHS physical education teacher as of Sept. 30; Kathryn Pollock as teacher at Owen Intermediate School as of Oct. 4; and Rachel Taylor, as social worker at McBride;

- Approved employing the following non-instructional employees: Karen Gladston, BHS Food Service as of Sept. 20; Jacob Snyder, Owen Intermediate Food Service as of Sept. 20; Matthew Watson, bus driver as of Sept. 24; Brenda Morgan, substitute bus aide, as of Sept. 23; Tatyana Hamlet, BHS paraprofessional as of Sept. 25; Mikayla Mitchell, BHS paraprofessional as of Sept. 27; Tonyetta Dickson, bus driver as of Sept. 30; Jessica VanUden, BHS Food Service, as of Sept. 30; Matthew Bateman, Edgemont Elementary paraprofessional as of Sept. 30; and Brianna Baker, Early Childhood Center GSRP paraprofessional as of Sept. 30;

- Heard School Supt. Pete Kudlak give information on the Regional Enhancement Millage which is on the Nov. 5 ballot. He said this is a millage that benefits all the districts in Wayne County and would cost less than 2 mills when renewed. It was first passed in 1994 after Proposal A passed which meant a district couldn't get more money from their voters. But, a whole county can go out for a millage and divide it up among all the students in 32 districts for the exact same amount. It passes or fails as a county vote. If it fails in this election, there is one more time it could be on the ballot, he said;

- Heard Reg Ion, speaking from the audience, tell the board that he still hasn't heard from School Supt. Kudlak on the missing contract for the pop machines. He said he has been asking Supt. Kudlak about it for three years and three weeks and the superintendent has not come up with the contract, although he said he would;

- Heard Director Leroy announce that this is insurance season and the self-insurance is doing well and has hit its 1.01 goal. He started to make a statement and then backed up, stating, "We're actually not making money" but the district is doing well in the self-insurance project;

- Heard Kudlak report on the tri-community meeting put on by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce that had representatives from Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter, and then he

(continued on page 10)

HealthMarkets

Advertisement

Belleville is Home to HealthMarkets

By Noreen Marando

Scarecrows, corn stalks, and artwork line the streets of BOOville right now, but our Belleville Main Street has a lot to offer any time of year. Car shows, festivals, and parades are among the many types of attractions bringing people to our city. As you meander our downtown, you will also see an abundance of small businesses that are proud to call Belleville home.

One of those small businesses is HealthMarkets, which opened its Belleville office in 2020 and took over the old Credit Union building in 2023. In that time they have jumped into our community with both feet, quickly becoming a staple of our town. As they start their busy season of Open Enrollment, here is a look into the company and what they can offer our residents.

What Does HealthMarkets Do?

HealthMarkets helps people navigate the frustrating world of health insurance, Medicare, and life insurance, with a focus on education and top-tier customer service. The agency operator, Mike Gatteri, who is a Belleville resident, has been in the industry for 23 years. In addition to being a Member of our Downtown Development Authority (DDA), he has a wealth of knowledge on all insurance carriers, health plans, and even some great ways to take advantage of potential savings options in the market. Mike and the team believe in supporting Belleville in any way possible - you will oftentimes see them at every downtown event, a Friday night football game, sponsoring events and more.

The Belleville location currently has 3 licensed agents and 3 additional customer-service team members who are dedicated to providing a 5-star experience. When you

walk into their office, located at 186 Main St., you will be welcomed into a classroom-style setting, where they host events such as Medicare 101's, Life Insurance Happy Hours, and Preparing for Health Insurance in Retirement seminars. Most importantly they do all of this work at no cost to the consumer. Mike said his primary focus is always on educating the community.

What's New for 2025?

The New Year will usher in new changes for not only the Medicare industry but also the health insurance marketplace. Mike shared, "Medicare beneficiaries will see the elimination of the "donut hole" in their prescription drugs plans as a result of the Inflation Reduction Act - which is great! But this will also likely result in carriers passing along the cost of the extra coverage onto the consumer in other ways." Mike went on to share that many part D (prescription drug) plans will see an increase as high as 800%, while those that are not raising premiums, will expect to see a reduction in the list of medicines covered by their plan.

Given these changes, Mike Gatteri and the team at HealthMarkets suggest EVERYONE review their current insurance plan for the New Year. **It is estimated that as many as 85% will be better off on a new plan for 2025!** Mike and his team can make sure you are on the best plan for you, your budget, and your finances - all free of charge!

For those looking to discuss new plan options, you have until December 7th if you are on Medicare, and December 15th if you are not on Medicare to make a change. You can drop in Monday through Friday 9 am to 4 pm to set an appointment or you can call 734-252-0064 to schedule a time to come in. We would love to meet you!

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Three candidates running for 3 seats on library board Nov. 5

Joy Cichewicz of Sumpter Township and Alma Hughes-Grubbs of Van Buren Township have filed for re-election to the Belleville Area Library Board of Directors.

John Juriga of Belleville did not file for re-election and filing for that open seat was Maria Jackson-Smith of Van Buren Township.

The seats are for four years and board members serve without compensation.

Joy Cichewicz

Joy Cichewicz, 63, of Sumpter Township, has lived in the library district for 32 years.

She and her husband Rick Cichewicz have three children, Melanie Bell, Andrew Cichewicz, and Derek Cichewicz and five grandchildren with one graduated from Belleville High School and three more in the Van Buren School District.



Cichewicz

She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree, psychology major and social work minor, and from Wayne State University with a Master in Library Science.

She has been a librarian for 27 years and has been Librarian/Branch Manager at the Ypsilanti District Library – Michigan Ave. Branch for 16 years.

Cichewicz was appointed to the board when the library became a district library in 2010. She then was elected to office in 2012 and re-elected in 2016 and 2020.

She served on the Sumpter Township Planning Commission for 10 years.

She currently is president of the Kiwanis Club of Ypsilanti and a member of Washtenaw Faces Race. She enjoys crafting, dancing, gardening, and home DIY.

When asked why she was running for office, she replied: “Libraries serve an irreplaceable function in our society! They level the playing field when it comes to access to resources and technology. Library staff provide friendly assistance in learning how to use both. All public libraries provide access to the internet, books, magazines, movies, music, and heavily-used streaming and downloadable audiobooks and ebooks. In addition, libraries provide free opportunities for life-long learning, educational programs for youth, and community spaces for gatherings. One of the most important

roles that libraries play is in identifying and teaching citizens how to find sources of accurate information. In the age of ‘alternative facts’, that is a pivotal role in a civil society!

“I’ve been a librarian for 27 years and understand the importance of libraries in our community. I feel particularly qualified because of my background. One of the first library jobs I had was as a library assistant for our Fred C. Fischer Library from 1994-97. That job inspired me to become a librarian and now I am honored to give back to our community as a library board member.”

Her goals, once elected:

“My main priority is to continue to encourage everyone in our community to use our lovely library. The Belleville Area District Library has a well-trained and friendly staff. That is due to the leadership of the board in empowering our excellent director to respond to community and staff needs. Library usage has gone up dramatically since the new building opened in 2020, the year of the pandemic. Yet, there are so many of our citizens who have still not been to either the downtown library or the Sumpter Township Media Center. Come to your library and see what’s happening! I think you’ll be surprised and delighted!”

School Board

(continued from page 9)

mentioned Democratic candidates Debbie Dingell and Reggie Miller. Ion coughed loudly in the audience and called out, “Dale Biniecki is good, too,” naming the Republican candidate against Miller;

• Heard board president Amy Pearce announce that there will be a lot of pregame activity at Friday’s home football game which will celebrate seniors, over 40 before the game and 45 kids at halftime. She said Parker Doty who is just starting his senior year and is in the second year of classes at William B. Ford school, is the first student to be accepted to the work-based program. He goes to classes first and then to Mountain Machine on Rawsonville Road, where he is doing metal fabrication; and

• Heard finance director Priya Nayak announce that the audit has been completed and she is applying for a grant for water dispensers.

Alma Hughes-Grubbs

Alma Hughes-Grubbs, 68, of Van Buren Township, has lived in the library district for 23 years. She is seeking her third term on the Belleville Area District Library Board. She is divorced with no children.



Hughes-Grubbs

Her occupation is polygraph examiner and she is a retired sergeant from the Detroit Police Department. She has a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University and a Master of Science in Administration and Human Resources from Central Michigan University.

She belongs to the Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association, American Polygraph Association, and Triumph Church. When she has free time, she golfs.

When asked why she is running for this office, she replied:

“The Belleville Area District Library has been a passion since moving into this area 20 years ago. I saw the need for a much-needed new building. I believe the residents of this community deserve the very best to go forward. So, I fought until the millage passed. I’m serving and running to help win for our community.”

What are her goals once elected?

“My goals are to make sure BADL

continues to provide a high level of service, making sure that the library continues to attract the best talent for staff members. I would also like our library to last for several generations. I believe we have a very solid foundation for our youngest generation. Our investment has become the jewel of our community.”

Dr. Maria Jackson-Smith

Dr. Maria Jackson-Smith, 47, of Van Buren Township, has lived in the library district for 13 years.

She and her husband of 21 years, George Smith, Sr., have a son George Smith II, age 19, who is a 2023 graduate of Belleville High School and a current sophomore at Eastern Michigan University majoring in computer science. They also have a daughter Giselle Smith, 14, at freshman at BHS who is a two-year member of the BHS Varsity Dance Team.

Dr. Jackson-Smith also is the relative caregiver of a 4-year-old preschool student at the Early Childhood Center of Van Buren Public Schools.

Jackson-Smith earned a Bachelor’s degree in English, Language, and Literature; a Master’s degree in Written



(continued on page 11)

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I’m voting for Robert Coutts for 34th District Court Judge. I encourage you to vote for Mr. Coutts as well.”

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK

ODIE



HELLO, MY NAME IS ODIE!

My sister and I were living outside in Detroit until C.H.A.I.N.E.D. INC discovered us and brought us here to FMAR to find our forever homes! I am a very sweet boy who loves attention from people. I may be a little shy at first and I am still getting used to the outside world, but with time and patience I would make the perfect family companion. At roughly 63 pounds, I am described as a gentle giant, and would fit in perfectly with a home that has children. I have recently discovered what grass is and my favorite thing to do here is run around the grass yards with my ears flopping in the wind. I love to play with other dogs, but I do not want to share my food with them, so I would need to be the only dog in the home or monitored.

If you would like to meet me, please submit an application for me on our website <https://www.friendsofmichigan.org/adoptable-dogs>. I am neutered, up to date on all age appropriate vaccines, heartworm negative, microchipped, and on monthly flea, tick, and heartworm prevention.

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www.friendsofmichigan.org

Candidates

(continued from page 10)

Communications; a Specialist of Arts in Educational Leadership; and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership.

She a college educator of English and Literature.

This is her first run for elective office.

She is a Team Mom for the Belleville Varsity Dance Team and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She enjoys spending time with her family, tending to her flower garden in the summer months, and reading novels, short stories, and academic journals.

When asked why she is running for this office, she replied: "While this is my first experience running for elected office, I am excited to continue the important work of the Belleville Area District Library Board of Trustees. As an educator in higher education for the past 22 years, I am a proponent of literacy as a tool for personal, professional and educational fulfillment. I plan to advocate for the increased use of the library by the community at large as resource for books and other media sources and even for community meetings and events. The library belongs to the Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter communities, and I want citizens to know about and access all of those valuable resources. Many of our neighbors may not be aware of all of the resources available to them, and I intend to promote vigorously the many programs at our library."

What are your goals once elected?

"The Belleville Area District Library attracts students from the community's schools, especially students at Belleville High School. The facility serves as a safe space in which students can spend time after school completing homework, studying and conducting research and participating in programs designed specifically for them. I hope to work closely with the high school to ensure that the library continues to offer such resources since students spend a great deal of time each week in the facility. I would like to serve as a liaison between the school district and the library to promote productive use of elementary, intermediate, middle, and high students' time spent at the facility during the school year and during the summer months."

Tim Bowman, Nelson Po vie for top job in Sumpter Township

Incumbent Sumpter Township Supervisor Tim Bowman, Republican, and Nelson Po, Democrat, are facing off in the Nov. 5 general election for Sumpter Township's top job: supervisor.

This is the only board decision left for voters in Sumpter for the general election.

There were no Democrat candidates for township clerk or treasurer, so the Republicans will win the seats on Nov. 5.

Don LaPorte, an incumbent Democrat trustee, is running for clerk as a Republican to fill the seat being vacated by Clerk Esther Hurst.

Bart Patterson, incumbent treasurer, is running as a Republican for treasurer. He was appointed to the position and is running for election for the first time.

Incumbent Republican trustee Tim Rush



Po



Bowman

is running for reelection and incumbent Democrat trustee Matt Oddy is running as a Republican for reelection.

Republicans John Honey and James Frazier, who are running for the other two open trustee seats, have never run for elective office before.

District Library Board approves updated 14-pg. Personnel Policy

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A 14-page, updated Personnel Policy was unanimously approved by the Belleville Area District Library Board at its regular meeting on Oct. 8. It is to be implemented no later than Jan. 1.

The policy was last updated in 2013. Library Director Mary Jo Suchy said the personnel committee met on Sept. 27, but they had to wait until the Michigan Supreme Court acted until they could finalize the document.

She said the largest change in the policy is the new law that goes into effect in February that requires one paid hour time off for sick leave for every 30 hours of work.

The approval includes separate policies on telecommuting and paid parental leave.

"I appreciate all of the work put in by the personnel policy committee, Hilary Savage and the library's department heads in reviewing and updating the library's personnel policies," Suchy said, noting they also worked with the library attorney.

The board agreed it is important to have an updated policy to have good staff.

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

- Learned the Sumpter Media Center

was closed for a week and a half due to the reconstruction of the parking lot by Sumpter Township;

- Heard Suchy say the Library of Michigan has received final data from Wayne County and is calculating which libraries were underpaid and overpaid for penal fines. The data appears inconsistent from year to year so it is possible the Belleville library was both underpaid and overpaid over the past several years. As of the meeting she was still waiting for the 2024 penal fine payment from the county. She said it usually has been from \$35,000 to \$45,000;

- Heard Suchy announce that the library is partnering with Oakwoods Metropark, 32901 Willow Rd., New Boston, at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, for "A Seed Walk in the Park." Attendees can help collect native seeds and learn what to look for while saving seeds. The park entry fee will be waived for participants. Register for the Seed Walk in advance at <https://belleville.libcal.com/event/13259118>;

- Learned a presentation by the Alzheimer's Association of Michigan has been set for 7-8 p.m., Monday, Oct. 21, at the library. The public is invited to learn the 10 common warning signs and what to watch for in yourself and others;

- Was informed the library has expanded its "Game Day Game Day" programming to include the Thursday junior varsity home football games in addition to the Friday home games at the high school. They are continuing to adjust library procedures for game days, but this program definitely has made a difference. There are three after-school monitors to interact with the students with positive interactions, crafts, and activities;

- Heard Suchy say incoming staff is library monitor Gwen Fuller, library assistant Jaems Tabatowski-Bush, and library assistant Amber Kelly. Outgoing staff is Justin Villa and Lisa Sievert; and

- Was advised the \$250 payment on the accounts payable to Security Pest Control was for yellow jacket control. Suchy said they discovered a nest too high to reach. This was after a vendor at the farmers' market complained of a sting. Dan Fleming said there are spiders outside and above the front door and they could consider spraying. "Don't look up," he said.

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4-6 PM at Quirk Park
RAIN DATE IS OCTOBER 26



TRICK OR TREAT!

Join us for a fun-filled family event on Saturday, October 19! Wear your costumes and make your way to each Halloween-themed station providing candy from local area businesses and non-profits. This event is free and open to the public.

Registration is not required, but helps us communicate to participants about any changes that may happen due to weather. To register, please visit our website at vanburen-mi.org/community/recreation

Any organization or business interested in having a station can email us at jaenglein@vanburen-mi.org



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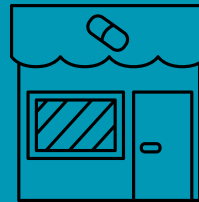
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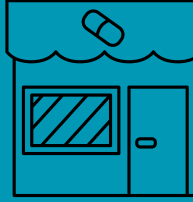
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Costumed MONSTER MUTT WALK

Saturday,
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12 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

The Belleville Central Business Community is partnering with Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue to host the **9th Annual Costumed Monster Mutt Walk.**

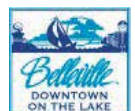
The Walk will take place on city sidewalks starting from 4th St Place. Registration will run from 12 Noon to 12:30 p.m. on 4th St Place. The fee is \$10 plus a can of dog or cat food. *Goody Bags to first 50 Registered.*

Medals will be awarded to 1st 2nd and 3rd in four categories **Scariest, Cutest, Best Mutt and Family** (family must dress also)

In fact, it would be fun for everyone to wear a costume. Come and enjoy the annual BOOville dog walk!

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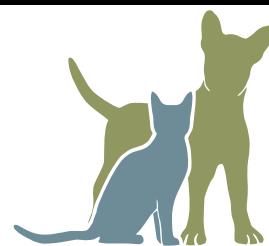
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Date: Wednesday, October 23rd

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Endorsed By:



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I am confident that, if elected, you will serve our community with fairness, integrity, and dedication. I fully support your candidacy and wish you the very best in your campaign.


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UNDERSTANDING 2024 VOTING




Absentee Voting

Absentee Voting: You can request an absentee ballot by filling out an application at mi.gov/vote, calling the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8909, or visiting the office in person. Voters can also request to be on the permanent ballot list, which means you will receive a ballot automatically for every election.



Early Voting
October 26 to
November 3

Early Voting allows voters to cast their votes in person **nine days** prior to the General Election, starting Saturday, October 26th, until Sunday, November 3rd from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This process allows voters to cast their ballot in a tabulator (including their absentee ballot) just as they would on election day. All voters early vote at Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road.



Election Day

On **Election Day**, voters must vote at their designated precinct. Do not wait until the last minute to make your plan to vote! To locate your precinct and sample ballot, visit mi.gov/vote. Voters can also find a precinct map at vanburen-mi.org. Polls are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on November 5th.



Independent photo by James Otzman
 DTE has gathered equipment at the Denton Road Bridge over Belleville Lake and will begin the underwater directional boring for its gas line. Van Buren Township Director of Municipal Services Ron Akers said DTE told him that it will take until the end of the year to complete its project. Then, the bridge is expected to be demolished in January.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman
 A large crowd turned out at the Angel Food Catering Garage in Van Buren Township on Oct. 8 for what was billed as a “citizen-led town hall to take action for a safer community.” This was inspired by the announced upcoming delivery of radioactive waste to a Van Burn Township landfill. For the first hour, Jessica Peterson of Canton presented her personal research on radioactive waste, Wayne Disposal, and its owner Republic Waste. An unidentified man said Republic Waste is a public corporation and 35% of it is owned by an entity that is Bill Gates. Later it was learned Bill Gates also has invested in Waste Management, the other landfill in Van Buren Township. The Oct. 9 hearing before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Kevin Cox on the lawsuit filed by local communities was adjourned until Oct. 16 after the communities asked for detailed historical information and Republic Waste needed time to gather it.

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2024 SWDC Voter Guide

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Forward

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so

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Wayne County Commissioner 11th District

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10/31

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RECORDING SECRETARY

The Charles B. Cozadd Rotary Foundation is looking for a Recording Secretary to take and produce minutes for its meetings. The Board generally meets in the evening four times per year for 1-2 hours per meeting. Duties for this part-time position include: preparing agendas, meeting notifications, and minutes. Pay for the 2 to 4 hours per meeting is \$25/hour plus expenses, or would consider a flat fee arrangement. Plus a list of duties, training, checklists, & templates would be provided. Submit a letter of introduction and resume electronically to cozadd@bellevillerotary.org



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JANITORIAL POSITION for large office building in Canton. Pleasant work environment. Mon - Thurs: 9 p.m.-midnight. Fri, Sat, Sun: 6-9 p.m. \$17-\$18/hr. rdunn08@yahoo.com. (734) 673-2364 10/24

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WANTED

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We Work Monday - Saturday.
734-368-5088
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WANTED! FARMLAND

Recently retired, seasoned hunter is looking for 10 to 40 acres in the greater Belleville locations. Needed for hunting coyote & deer. Please contact Pete at (734) 635-9355 to discuss use of land costs.

CRAFTERS & VENDORS - Now taking applications for the Belleville Co-op Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 9 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Please call Pam at (734) 334-7113 10/17

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

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.

VBT planners discuss 280-acre PUD site at I-94/Haggerty/Hannan

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Planning Commission spent about a half hour of its Oct. 9 regular meeting discussing a proposed 280-acre development east of Haggerty Road, north of I-94 N. Service Drive and west of Hannan Road.

Municipal Services Director Ron Akers said the developers had met twice with residents of Haggerty subdivision, to the west of the proposed industrial area and they discussed how to buffer the project from the residential area.

Representatives of Panattoni Development Co. explained the plans said there would be a 125' wide berm along Haggerty Road.

They talked to more than 100 residents during the first meeting and fewer at the second and discussed traffic, appearance, and natural resources, Director Akers said.

Developers said of the 280 acres, 60 acres is wetlands, which will not be relocated. The meeting with EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) went well, they said.

The development would impact 10 acres of wetlands, which would be mitigated along Haggerty Road. The truck traffic would enter and leave the site from the N. Service Drive and there would be no truck traffic from Haggerty. There would be auto-only traffic from the northernmost site of the project on Haggerty, developers said.

The drawing of the proposed project showed seven buildings of various sizes, but they have no tenants at this time. There is a lot of interest in the project, however, developers said.

Commissioner Bernie Grant, an architect,

said with this being so close to Haggerty Sub., developers would need to build the special buildings and warehouses to keep truck noise from the residents. A 32-foot building is in the middle of the site.

Commissioner Jeff Jahr asked if he had missed a meeting. He hadn't.

"This is the first time we've seen this," he said. "What is it?" he asked.

The developers said it was for industrial and warehousing.

Township Principal Planner Vidya Krishnan of McKenna Associates said the property is zoned M-1 and C-1 along Haggerty, with some C-2.

Director Akers said it was non-residential zoning.

"We don't have non-residential zoning," Commissioner Jahr responded.

Akers said such zoning would give the commission flexibility and planning consultants are drafting a sample ordinance.

Jahr said he has concerns with trucking and warehousing for the subdivision and for trucking on Haggerty. The project goes all the way to Hannan, but there is a block of property on Hannan that they have not obtained.

Treasurer Sharry Budd said a fairly decent crowd of neighbors, about 100, attended the first meeting and the second bunch was not as big a crowd, but they had their concerns.

Treasurer Budd said in the subdivision, houses face inner roads, so the back yards face Haggerty Road.

Krishnan said a PUD (planned unit development) doesn't exist in the township. Van Buren Township had a PUD in the past and then eliminated it. Once reinstated, it would have to be put on the master plan



A proposed 280-acre industrial/warehouse development, whose property includes 60 acres of wetlands, was projected on the screen at the Oct. 9 meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission. It is proposed for the acreage bounded by Haggerty Road on the west, the I-94 North Service Drive on the south and Hannan Road on the east. There are no tenants yet for the project which is in the planning stages.

map as PUD.

She said this would be for all big acreage, which are challenged by wetlands and other things.

"PUD is a effective development tool and the planning commission can make modifications," Krishnan said.

Jahr said he went to a planning conference and this would give more flexibility and allow the commission to make trade-offs in details of the development.

Krishnan said it's a legal document and is recorded.

Developers said they told the residents that the developers would contribute to have the sidewalk continued on the residential side of Haggerty.

Founded in California in 1986 by Carl Panattoni, Panattoni Development Co. is one of the largest privately held, full-service real estate development companies in the world. It specializes in industrial, office and build-to-suit development.

In other business at the two-hour-10-minute meeting, the commission:

- Unanimously recommended to the township board of special land use for Frank Jarbou of Symmetry Management to construct a gas station/convenience store/drive-thru restaurant on 2.25 acres of land on the northwest corner of Haggerty and Ecorse roads;

- Unanimously approved the preliminary site plan for the Symmetry gas station at the northwest corner of Haggerty and Ecorse. Jarbou said his family has owned the property for 30 years. When asked what restaurant would be in the project, he said that isn't known yet but no seating inside is planned as yet. Krishnan said it is not a truck stop although there is an island for trucks. Jarbou said their intention is to service box trucks that need diesel and it might get Amazon and Fed Ex trucks. The approval included direction for traffic studies and consideration of the island hardscape on Haggerty that is to prevent left turns onto Haggerty;

- Unanimously approved a site plan amendment to the unfinished Wildbrook Condominiums to contract single-family homes on up to three lots. The development is on the south side of Savage Road between Martinsville and Haggerty roads;

- Removed from the agenda a zoning ordinance amendment for hotels and motels because the attorney needs to make changes;

- Heard Akers announce that a draft PUD ordinance should be ready for them to review and commissioners should let him know about sections of ordinances that need updating, such as how many vehicle spaces should be required for stacking at drive-thru windows. He also said Pulte Homes will be at the first commission meeting in November to discuss its project. Also, Camping World has begun work and Belleville Retail/Sherwin Williams will be back before commission on Oct. 25; and

- Heard chairman Brian Cullin and commissioner Jahr say they went to a state planning conference. They said they went to a session on legal matters together and learned what an excellent recording secretary they have in Tina Harman. They praised her detailed minutes that are approved in a timely manner that could prove valuable in case of a lawsuit. The commission thanked her for her work.

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Having trouble finding the Belleville-Area Independent on the newsstands or just want to subscribe? Fill out the form below and send a check for \$55(in Michigan), \$60 everywhere else in the U.S. 6 month subscriptions are available for just \$27.50. To subscribe even faster, call us Monday - Friday between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (local time) at (734) 699-9020. We accept almost all credit/debit cards. We also have gift subscriptions available for any occasion. Thank you!

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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



Belleville considers master plan in joint meeting with consultants

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the beginning of a year-long project to create a new Master Plan, 11 members of the city of Belleville's boards and commissions met together Oct. 2 with three planning consultants from Giffels Webster.

Under state law, the master plan has to be renewed every five years. It is the plan for the zoning ordinances that govern the city. The city's last full rewriting of the master plan was in 2006, but it has been updated since then.

City Council had a bare quorum with Mayor Ken Voigt, and council members Julie Kissel and Randy Priest.

The Downtown Development Authority had two members present, Chris Donley and Sabrina Richardson-Williams, with Mike Gatteri by zoom.

Five members of the planning commission were present: chairman Michael Hawkins, Becky Hasen, Jim Courage, Mark Kowalski, and James O'Keefe.

Also present were principal planner Jill Bahm, Andy Aamodt, and Ava Miller of Giffels.

City Manager Jason Smith, assistant city manager Steve Jones, and clerk/treasurer Briana Hootman completed the participants.

Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Martha Hanoian was the only member of the public present, with the *Independent* observing.

Jill Bahm presented an overview of the process and a summary of the master plan. Then she and her assistants passed out pink and green sticky notes, asking participants to write the city's best attributes on five green notes and the city's weaknesses, each on a pink note.

When that was done, she stuck them on the wall in groups of like-minded thoughts.

The city's assets included the lake, walkability, and its many events.

The city's weaknesses included vacant



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Andy Aamodt of Giffels Webster planning consultants reads the comments from the green sticky notes on the wall, showing what participants liked about the city of Belleville. At right are Downtown Development Authority members Chris Donley and Sabrina Richardson-Williams and, standing, principal planner Jill Bahm.

retail buildings, traffic/sidewalks and a need for more golf carts (only 14 have registered their golf carts for driving in the city), apathy of residents, limited housing, deteriorating lakefront, nothing for young adults to do, no recreational sites within the city, and different organizations working in silos (separately, when they plan their events, which overlap each other).

Those attending were then divided into small groups to discuss the city's opportunities and threats for an hour and then consensus on emerging issues was considered.

The two-hour meeting wrapped up and the next meeting considered in the long process.



City of Belleville Public Notice



NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL

The City of Belleville intends to sell its 1999 Athey TopGun M9D Street Sweeper, VIN 1A9Y24DROXR059055. The vehicle is available for inspection at the City of Belleville DPS Yard, 370 E. Columbia Ave, Belleville, MI 48111 between 8am and 5pm.

Year: 1999

Make: Athey

Model: TopGun M9D

Engine: Series 30 Detroit Diesel

Hours: 31757

Miles: 12775

The asset is being sold "As-Is" and there are no warranties or guarantees. Those wishing to submit an offer acknowledge that they are aware of the as-is condition and accept responsibility for any repairs that may be needed.

Offers to purchase the asset can be made via e-mail to:

City of Belleville

C/O Jason Smith, City Manager

jsmith@belleville.mi.us

The offer must include the bidder's name (or business name with a point of contact name), address, phone number, offer price, statement acknowledging that the purchaser is aware the asset is being sold as-is. The offer must be submitted by the bidder, or someone within the business that is authorized to submit a bid on the company's behalf.

Incomplete offers will not be considered.

DEADLINE: October 18, 2024 at 4:00pm. No late submissions will be accepted.

Publish: October 17, 2024



City of Belleville Public Notice



POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024 at 10AM, at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicle(s) will be held:

- 2010 BUICK LACROSSE VIN: 1G4GC5EG2AF233526
- 2019 CHEVROLET MALIBU VIN: 1G1ZB5ST1KF125491
- 2005 FORD ESCAPE VIN: 1FMYU04185KA85204
- 2010 CHEVROLET EQUINOX VIN: 2CNFLGEY5A6231392

BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
6 MAIN STREET
BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111

BY KRISTY DOE
BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
RECORDS CLERK

PUBLISH: OCTOBER 17, 2024

City manager explains mess next door to Senior Co-op on Sumpter Rd.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the Oct. 10 regular meeting of the Belleville Planning Commission, city manager Jason Smith explained the mess on the Davenport Brothers Construction property next door to the senior co-op on Sumpter Road.

City Manager Smith said after the Monday, Oct. 7, city council meeting which included a complaint from a co-op resident about the worsening conditions of the property, he sent a letter to Davenports on Tuesday.

Smith said that Steve Davenport told him his family's company is demolishing buildings behind the former hardware store at Fifth Street and N. Liberty Street for the Downtown Development Authority to increase parking in the adjoining city lot.

Smith said Davenports are bringing the debris from the demolition site to their vacant property on Sumpter Road to sort out the debris for the landfill.

Smith said this property causes a constant state of distress for the neighbors and the conduits and trailers that produced other complaints have been moved off.

Building official Rick Rutherford said Davenport is waiting for a trucking company to come in to separate the stuff

from Fifth Street.

He said Davenport had site plan approval to build homes on that property but then they didn't continue and the approvals have lapsed and they have to come back before the planning commission to start over.

Rutherford said the Davenports are trying to solve several issues on the site, including water and stormwater.

He said after Davenports got site plan approval there were no permits issued because they couldn't get through their engineering problems. He said they will have to put in infrastructure.

Smith explained that once they have a site plan approval they have 12 months to break ground and ground has not been broken.

Commissioner John Juriga said the city rezoned the property to residential so they could build and now they are storing equipment and other things on the lot.

Commissioner Michael Renuad asked why something wasn't done about this sooner, since they talked about the mess on that residential property two months ago.

Rutherford said they told him they thought they had room there and could process the debris.

Commissioner Renaud said he has a friend who lives at the co-op and the mess

is right on the co-op's property line. He said the ordinance officer should move forthwith.

"We're on it," city manager Smith said. "I gave him 30 days to get it out."

In another complaint against Davenport, Smith said Steve Davenport said he doesn't remember being responsible for taking out the curb cut on Main Street when Davenports built the offices at 337 Main St.

Smith suggested it could have been agreed to with "a wink and a nod" and never put in writing, so it can't be enforced.

Commissioner Becky Hasen said she remembers Davenport architect Wayne Hoppe presenting the project in a planning commission meeting and she recalls Hoppe saying that they'd take care of it. Over the years since 2016 when the site plan was approved, she has repeatedly asked about the curb cut that is a danger to pedestrians.

Commission chairman Michael Hawkins said the curb cut work was not in the drawings and it was already there.

Rutherford said he would try to find drawings and Smith said the date on the building is 2017, so it would be before then.

Smith also spoke about an ordinance violation at 553 Main, Paddle Belleville.

He said when they talked to the business owner he said the city administration and the DDA should help him market his business not put up blockades.

Smith said Police Officer Jeffery Gueli, who is doing some ordinance work, will be sent over to cite him.

Juriga said he thinks Officer Gueli should be required to come to the planning commission meetings and Smith said Gueli is not the official ordinance officer and they have started negotiations for the new police union contract which he hopes will include Gueli as helping as ordinance officer.

It was pointed out Paddle Belleville has an A-frame sign that is allowable if it is taken in at night, but he can't use trees, bushes, and shrubs to support signs and also there is a kayak on his property in the green space that the owner thinks promotes his business.

Rutherford said the business will be sent a letter of compliance, just for the sign.

Smith said the kayak gives off an appearance of unusable junk. He said if the owner doesn't come into compliance, there will be a fine that will continue to be fined.

"We'd love to work with him," Smith said.

In other business at the 58-minute meeting, the commission:

- Discussed the commission's joint meeting on Oct. 2 with the DDA and city council concerning the rewriting of the Master Plan. The process is 12-18 months long. Giffels Webster consultants will put something on the city webpage in the next week or so to help with the Master Plan process. Andy Aamodt of Giffels Webster will be at the next commission meeting to continue the process;

- Heard Councilwoman Julie Kissel, who is a member of the commission as a liaison from the council, explain the by-law review now under way. She presented copies of the 2004 version and the 1996 Belleville and recent Traverse City by-laws that have been put together by city manager Smith, that contain the newest state laws. She said she put it all together for commissioners to review and then asked them to send her any thoughts to include; and

- Discussed identifying non-conforming properties and zoning anomalies. Smith said he is unsure if the ordinance on the website is 100% accurate. He said the city council would like to get all of the codes scanned by Municode and linked to their website. The Clear Code would have the verified planning ordinances. Smith said new developers put together their plans from the ordinances on the city website and when it's wrong they have to change their plans to comply, which costs them money. Smith said a lot of the city processes have been done verbally and they need to be in writing. Assistant city manager Steve Jones said they have to work out how to put the new stuff in and to verify that everything is up to date;

City of Belleville Public Notice

Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Flag Placement for Veteran's Day 2024
8:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 2nd
(Rain Date: Sunday, November 3rd)



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road.

We will begin placing flags on Saturday, November 2nd at 8:30 a.m. and need volunteers to help. Each cemetery section takes only about one hour of work.

Should you wish to volunteer, contact the City Clerk's Office. If you would like to work in a specific section, the Clerk's office must be contacted, or that section may not be guaranteed.

Please consider this small sacrifice of time and join us to honor our veterans who fought to keep us free.

Briana Hootman
City Clerk/Treasurer
(734) 697-9323 ext. 7010
clerk@belleville.mi.us



Michelle Bellingham
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
(734) 697-9323 ext. 7038
deputyclerk@belleville.mi.us

Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



Well, of course, the BHS Tigers won last Friday – it was Homecoming. Wayne Memorial met their maker and lost 41-0. One more game before the playoffs – Fordson at home next Friday.

The Belleville Central Business Community (See the ad in today's paper) will hold its ninth-annual Costumed Monster Mutt Walk on Saturday, Oct. 19, in Fourth Street Place from noon until 2 p.m. Registrations will be taken from noon until 12:30 p.m. so get that dog dolled-up and win a medal.

Also on Oct. 19 from noon to 2 p.m. right across the street in the Fourth Street Square there will be a book signing of "Enchanted Season" by Lance Parrish and Tom Gage. In addition there will be an Apple Pie Baking Contest. Pies prepared by local bakers will be judged and awards given for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place. We have some wonderful bakers in this area so there should be a good array of pies up for sale after the judging.

Oh, don't forget the Van Buren Township Candy Loop on Oct. 19 from 4-6 p.m. at Quirk Park. I think that will fill your Saturday!

On Tuesday, Oct. 22, from 5:30-7 p.m. Wayne County Community College-Ted Scott Campus on Haggerty Road will have a Trick or Treat. There will be haunted hallway, face painting, treats and more. Family Friendly Fun and open to the public at no cost. Call 699-7008 for more information and to register.

Can you handle one more trunk or treat? This could be the biggest one if they fill the parking lot at Walmart. It's Oct. 23, 6 to 7:30 p.m. with lots of fun and treats!

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



Oct. 10 – Jason Smith
Oct. 17 - Crystal Howard
Oct. 18 - Cyndy Jones
Oct. 19 - Mary Kowal
Oct. 21 - Reia Clark, Matthew Kubit

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION-TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the General Election will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

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

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

EARLY VOTING will take place at Van Buren Township Hall on 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Saturday, October 26 until Sunday November 3 for ALL precincts.

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

Presidential: Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States

Congressional: United States Senator and Representative in Congress 6th District

Legislative: Representative in State Legislature 31st District

State Boards: Member of the State Board of Education, Regent of the University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, and Governor of Wayne State University

County: Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk, Treasurer, Register of Deeds and County Commissioner 11th District

Township: Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, and Trustee

Judicial: Justice of Supreme Court 8 Year Term, Justice of Supreme Court Incumbent Position Partial Term Ending 01/01/2029, Judge of Court of Appeals 1st District Incumbent Position 6 Year Term, Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Incumbent Position 6 Year Term, Judge of Circuit Court 3rd Circuit Non-Incumbent Position 6 Year Term, Judge of Circuit Court Incumbent Position Partial Term Ending 01/01/2027, Judge of Probate Court Incumbent Position 6 Year Term, and Judge of District Court 34th District Non-Incumbent Position 6 Year Term

Local School District: Board Member Van Buren Public Schools OR Board Member Lincoln Consolidated Schools

District Library: Board Member Belleville Area District Library

Voters living in the Van Buren Public School District will vote on:

Intermediate School District: Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency Renewal of Regional Enhancement Millage Proposal: Pursuant to state law, the revenue raised by the proposed renewal of the enhancement millage will be collected by the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency ("Wayne RESA") and distributed on an equal per-pupil basis to local constituent school districts including eligible public school academies within the boundaries of Wayne RESA. None of the enhancement millage revenue will be distributed to Wayne RESA, and all funds shall be independently audited by the local constituent school districts and eligible public school academies as part of their annual school audits.

As a renewal of authority which expires with the 2027 levy, shall the limitation on the amount of ad valorem taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, Michigan, be increased by 1.9812 mills (\$1.98 per thousand dollars of taxable value) for a period of six (6) years, 2028 to 2033, inclusive, to provide operating funds to enhance other state and local funding for local school district operating purposes? It is estimated that 1.9812 mills would raise approximately \$108 million when first levied in 2028.

The revenue from this enhancement millage will be distributed on an equal per pupil basis to the following listed constituent school districts and the public school academies within the boundaries

(continued on page 25)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 6:

0015 – assist other dept., out of township
 0158 – citizen assist, Willis Rd./Rawsonville Rd.
 0246 – welfare check, Colorado St.
 0439 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 1051 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

1143 – traffic complaint/hazard, Martinsville Rd. / Willis Rd.
 1158 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1536 – shots fired, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1643 – assist other agency, Bemis Rd./Sumpter
 1743 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
 1749 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.
 1756 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 1833 – traffic complaint/hazard, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 2122 – flee & elude, Wear Rd./Sherwood Rd.

2145 – welfare check, Texas St.
 2255 – family trouble, Nevada St.
Monday, Oct. 7:
 0636 – 911 hangup, Utah St.
 0741 – welfare check, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
 0914 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
 1053 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
 1209 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
 1510 – mental health call, Birch Dr.
 1626 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 2020 – citizen assist, Edgewood Dr.
 2030 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.

2203 – fire dept. assist, 9500 bl. Rawsonville
 2315 – 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
 2357 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.
Tuesday, Oct. 8:
 0950 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1205 – civil matter, Ohio St.
 1305 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
 1827 – 911 hangup, Utah St.

Wednesday, Oct. 9:
 0316 – fire dept. assist, Brookview Dr.
 0649 – 911 hangup, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
 0833 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 0934 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
 0956 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
 1014 – civil matter, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 1210 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
 1411 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
 1422 – animal complaint, Karr Rd./Willow Rd.
 1700 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1708 – welfare check, Alaska St.
 1810 – traffic complaint/hazard, Rustic Ln.
 1835 – 911 hangup, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1938 – family trouble, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 2206 – 911 hangup, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

Thursday, Oct. 10:
 0131 – family trouble, New Mexico St.
 0201 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
 0837 – property damage accident, Willis Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
 0955 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.
 1154 – follow-up investigation, 51000 bl. Willis
 1158 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.
 1200 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
 1210 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
 1331 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
 1336 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.
 1354 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
 1410 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1539 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1554 – property damage accident, 7700 bl. Oakville
 Waltz Rd.

1601 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 1610 – 911 hangup, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1648 – 911 hangup, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1938 – suspicious circumstance, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 2225 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
 2338 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Friday, Oct. 11:
 0130 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
 0224 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 0701 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
 0725 – 911 hangup, Carriage Ln.
 1651 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.
 1743 – assist other agency, Rawsonville Rd. / Oakville Waltz Rd.
 1803 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
 1857 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
 2009 – welfare check, Bemis Rd./Lohr Rd.
 2023 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
 2345 – welfare check, Bemis Rd./Lohr Rd.

Saturday, Oct. 12:
 0358 – suspicious circumstance, Willis Rd. / California St.
 0935 – 911 hangup, Alaska St.
 1335 – suspicious circumstance, Country Club Blvd.
 1353 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
 1532 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1655 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
 1752 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
 1752 – animal complaint, Bemis Rd./Martinsville
 1955 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 2200 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
 Also on this week's log are 174 patrol checks, 30 traffic stops, and seven misc. details.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

(continued from page 24)

of Wayne RESA which are eligible to receive enhancement millage under the Revised School Code:

Allen Park Public Schools, Crestwood School District, School District of the City of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights School District No. 7, Detroit Public Schools Community District, Ecorse Public School District, Flat Rock Community Schools, Garden City Public Schools, Gibraltar School District, Grosse Ile Township Schools, Grosse Pointe Public School System, School District of the City of Hamtramck, School District of the City of Harper Woods, Huron School District, School District of the City of Lincoln Park, Livonia Public Schools School District, Melvindale – Northern Allen Park School District, Northville Public Schools, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Redford Union Schools, District No. 1, School District of the City of River Rouge, Riverview Community School District, Romulus Community Schools, Southgate Community School District, South Redford School District, Taylor School District, Trenton Public Schools, Van Buren Public Schools, Wayne-Westland Community School District, Westwood Community School District, Woodhaven-Brownstown School District, School District of the City of Wyandotte

Voters living in the Lincoln Consolidated School District will vote on:

Local School District: Lincoln Consolidated School District: Sinking Fund Millage Proposal:

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Lincoln Consolidated School District, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 2 mills (\$2.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2025 to 2034, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the purchase of real estate for sites for, and the construction or repair of, school buildings; for school security improvements; for the acquisition or upgrading of technology; for the acquisition of student transportation vehicles; for the acquisition of parts, supplies, and equipment used for the maintenance of student transportation vehicles; for the acquisition of eligible trucks and vans used to carry parts, equipment, and personnel for or in the maintenance of school buildings; for the acquisition of parts, supplies, and equipment used to maintain such trucks and vans; and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2025 is approximately \$2,616,487?

Intermediate School District: Special Education Millage Renewal Proposal:

This proposal will permit the intermediate school district to continue to levy special education millage previously approved by the electors. Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 2.3826 mills (\$2.3826 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Michigan, to provide funds for the education of students with a disability, be renewed for a period of 12 years, 2026 to 2037, inclusive; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2026 is approximately \$56,900,000 from local property taxes authorized herein (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2025 tax levy)?

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the Van Buren Township Clerk's office located at 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111, by contacting the Clerk's office at 734-699-8909 or by visiting mvic.sos.state.mi.us where a sample ballot can be viewed.

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office

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

Leon Wright, MMC
 Van Buren Township Clerk

BHS at-home games

- **Friday, Oct. 18** – Varsity Football vs. Fordson HS, 7 p.m., Senior Player Night
- **Tuesday, Oct. 22** – Freshman Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 5 p.m.; JV Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 5 p.m.; Varsity Volleyball vs. KLAA Crossover, 6:30 p.m. Go Tigers!

Diane Kiessel
 BHS Athletics Secretary

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 335 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Oct. 6:

0018 – breaking & entering, Truman
0238 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0346 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
0421 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.
xxxx – malicious destruction of property, Sheldon
1011 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1056 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.
1116 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1124 – 911 welfare check, Locust Dr.
1219 – assault & battery, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1427 – misc. complaint, Borgman Ave.
1642 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Bemis Rd. / Sumpter Rd.
1655 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
1659 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1937 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1815 – traffic offense, McBride
1958 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1956 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
2029 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2105 – neighbor trouble, Western St.
xxxx – suicidal person, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2121 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Quirk Rd./Belleville Rd.
2150 – harassment call, Chatsworth Dr.
2359 – noise complaint, Sadie Ln.

Monday, Oct. 7:

0027 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Morton Taylor Rd.
0131 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
0210 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Morton Taylor Rd.
0217 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0618 – intrusion alarm, Harmony Ln.
0657 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0724 – larceny from auto, Lacy Dr.
0827 – larceny, Water's Edge Ln.
0947 – civil matter, Sumpter Rd./Hull Rd.
1014 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.
1025 – private property impound, Haggerty Rd.
1104 – follow-up by officer, Hoeft Rd.
xxxx – welfare check, Buchanan St.
1140 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1323 – fraud, Bayshore Dr.
1416 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1612 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – civil matter, Tallgrass Ct.
1644 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
1702 – property damage accident, McBride
1711 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1713 – breaking & entering, N. Bellridge Dr.
1735 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1840 – animal complaint, Savage Rd.
1827 – civil matter, Ash Dr.
1913 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1931 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1959 – welfare check, Fret Rd.
2029 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2119 – juvenile complaint, Oak Ln.
2240 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 8:

0253 – intrusion alarm, Hardwood Dr.
0308 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0358 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0438 – assist fire dept., Rawsonville Rd.
xxxx – repossession, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0521 – 911 welfare check, Oak Ln.
0604 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Denton Rd.
0823 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
0943 – fraud, Oak Ln.
1012 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1019 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1206 – traffic offense, Hamilton St.

1313 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1329 – neighbor trouble, Outer Dr.
1455 – animal complaint, Elwell Rd.
1521 – civil matter, Chatsworth Dr./McBride Ave.
1630 – neighbor trouble, Renton Rd.
1656 – suicidal person, Andover Dr.
1716 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1739 – intrusion alarm, Fay Dr.
1903 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1924 – intrusion alarm, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1941 – juvenile complaint, Village Green Ln.
2026 – lost property/child, Hull Rd.
2116 – 911 welfare check, Savage Rd.
2156 – animal complaint, Hampton Dr.
2328 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Savage Rd.
2332 – road hazard, Jackson St.

Wednesday, Oct. 9:

xxxx – repossession, Martinsville Rd.
0842 – assist other dept., Michigan Ave.
0852 – harassment call, Riggs Rd.
0906 – shooting, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.
0935 – malicious destruction of property, Waters Edge
1028 – animal complaint, W. Adams
1058 – juvenile complaint, Owen
xxxx – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – juvenile complaint, Haggerty Rd.
1353 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
1424 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1450 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1503 – fraud, Pebblebrook Dr.
1557 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1605 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1620 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1612 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1652 – assist other dept., Lake Villa Dr.
1705 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1733 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.
1738 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
1842 – civil matter, Chatsworth Dr.
1817 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1845 – trespassing, Park Estates Dr.
1921 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
2016 – disorderly, Martinsville Rd.
2100 – personal injury accident, Belleville/Tyler
2106 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2158 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2351 – noise complaint, Village Green Ln.

Thursday, Oct. 10:

xxxx – overdose, Belleville Rd.
0640 – larceny from auto, Prairie Ct.
0640 – assist fire dept., W. Huron River Dr.
0737 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
0800 – larceny from auto, Parkwood Dr.
0831 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
0916 – disorderly, Ecorse Rd.
0929 – larceny from auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1010 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1127 – welfare check, Parkside Dr.
xxxx – juvenile complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1142 – unattended death, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1236 – road hazard, Martz Rd./Hoeft Rd.
1308 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hannan Rd.

1300 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
1359 – 911 welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.
1552 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1627 – animal complaint, America
1636 – breaking & entering, N. Woodbury Dr.
1701 – assault & battery, Peninsular Dr.
1737 – welfare check, Ecorse/I-275
1827 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1825 – neighbor trouble, Anna Dr.
1844 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1907 – civil matter, Chatsworth Dr.
2131 – domestic, McBride Ave.
2146 – welfare check, Sylvia Dr.
2302 – shooting, Oak Ln.
2309 – personal injury accident, Ecorse/I-275
xxxx – personal injury accident, Ecorse/I-275
2314 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.
2328 – intrusion alarm, Ricardo Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Oak Ln.

Friday, Oct. 11:

0031 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.

0631 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd./Hannan Rd.
0644 – property damage accident, Savage Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
0804 – 911 welfare check, Winchester St.
1027 – 911 welfare check, Chatsworth Dr.
1139 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1230 – fraud, Holly Ln.
1311 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1359 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Morton Taylor Rd.
1406 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1356 – assist other dept., Martinsville Rd.
1442 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
xxxx – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1552 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Lake Villa Dr.
1624 – fraud, Sumpter Rd.
1631 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1837 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
1912 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./E. I-94
1934 – follow up by officer, Morton Taylor Rd.
1919 – traffic offense, Belleville/N. I-94 Service
1943 – welfare check, Woodgrove Dr.
2113 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2115 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
2142 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2246 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.
2312 – warrant arrest, Rawsonville Rd.
2336 – PPO violation, Sunrise Ln.

Saturday, Oct. 12:

0007 – road hazard, Bemis Rd./Rawsonville Rd.
0000 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0115 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0141 – parking complaint, Parkwood Dr.
0208 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
0328 – vehicle lockout, Brandi Dr.
1002 – PPO violation, Sunrise Ln.
1038 – found property/child, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1146 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1201 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1233 – private property/property damage accident, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1455 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
1513 – intrusion alarm, Martinsville Rd.
1526 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
1623 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr./Old Denton Rd.
1702 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1808 – family trouble, Berkdale Dr.
1832 – harassment call, Vernon St.
1827 – threat, Elwell Rd.
1949 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
2030 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2104 – private property impound, Tyler Rd.
2108 – property damage accident, E. I-94/Haggerty
2123 – family trouble, Laguna Dr.
2151 – intrusion alarm, Cobblestone Ct.
2346 – property damage accident, Haggerty/E. I-94
2350 – fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Also, on this week's log are 81 traffic stops, 20 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways. There also are 49 ordinance violations -- all 7300 MICR codes.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 6:

0737 – motorist assist, Main St.
1543 – abandoned auto, N. Liberty St.
1613 – property damage accident, Main/Denton
1757 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.

Monday, Oct. 7:

0809 – property damage accident, 5 Points
0856 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Potter Dr.
1459 – threat, W. Columbia Ave.
1824 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
2008 – road hazard, Main St./Fifth St.
2038 – assist citizen, W. Columbia Ave.
2118 – assist citizen, Fourth St.
2327 – property check, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, Oct. 8:

0825 – assist other dept., Belleville/Quirk
0921 – animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr. / Potter Dr.
1243 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1649 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
xxxx – traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave.
2132 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.

Wednesday, Oct. 9:

0101 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.
2107 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
2200 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St.

Thursday, Oct. 10:

1007 – motorist assist, Main St.
1123 – fraud, Potter Dr.
1220 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
1711 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. / Sumpter Rd.

1834 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Wexford Ave.

2104 – motorist assist, Main St.

Friday, Oct. 11:

0345 – assist other dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0957 – juvenile complaint, Second St.
1439 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./High St.

1528 – civil matter, Main St.
1659 – malicious destruction of property, E. Columbia Ave.

1708 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.

1911 – traffic offense, Main St./First St.

1916 – trespassing, W. Columbia Ave.

2116 – civil matter, Main St.

2146 – 911 welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.

2215 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hull Rd.

Saturday, Oct. 12:

0021 – 911 welfare check, Loza Ln.
0038 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, South St.

1557 – property damage accident, Main St./First

2237 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.

There are 120 reports on this week's log and 78 of those are traffic stops.

Westbound I-94 lane closures started Oct. 15, run through mid-Nov.

Beginning Tuesday, Oct. 15, crews from the Michigan Department of Transportation are closing the inside lane of westbound I-94 from Belleville to Rawsonville roads during off-peak periods to complete equipment upgrades.

Beginning Oct. 15, crews are addressing equipment repairs and upgrades along the inside lane of westbound I-94.

This lane closure will be intermittent and only occur during off-peak hours, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The estimated end date is mid-November.

This work is part of the I-94 connected and automated vehicles (CAV) corridor pilot project.

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Mark Twain

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Photo courtesy Belleville High School
At last Friday's football game, Kara Tharp was announced as Homecoming Queen and Bryant McGee as King. The Belleville High School football team won the game against Wayne Memorial, 41-0.

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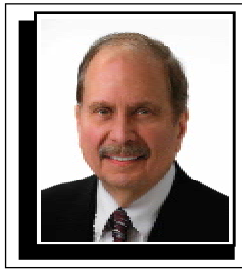
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GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT IN DBY METRO AIRPORT \$250,000
20728 GRANT, SUMPTER TWP 1 Acre, New at Street and City Water Site \$45,000
SOLD

WILLIS RD 1 AC SEWER & WATER \$60,000
WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE 1.64AC \$65,000
JUDD ROAD SUMPTER TWP 2 AC \$39,500
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$29,900
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 AC LT IN DB \$59,500
50540 BOG RD ONE HALF ACRE \$55,000

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VACANT LOUISA DREAM LOT \$55,000
BROWNSTOWN 27102 DEBIASI \$85,000
VACANT MARIO ANN ROMULUS \$33,000

CORNER OF SHERWOOD & JUDD ROAD SUMPTER TWP 1394X670 21 ACRES TO FARM OR BUILD NOW \$200,000
19+ ACRES BREST RD, TAYLOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY - PAVED STREET NEAR INKSTER ROAD. \$550,000

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AND WE'RE CELEBRATING WITH GREAT DEALS ON OUR '83 FORDS.
There is a New Dealer in Town!!

That's right! Mr. Kurt Atchinson, a community leader in Belleville, has become Ford Motor's newest Ford dealer. What is Kurt doing for memories of this event? "Pile them high and watch them fly." Every flying copier of 30000 over invoice and add a 100 bucks. "The boss said it, we'll do it!"

8.8 FINANCING on certain models
REBATES UP TO \$500 on selected models

COMMEMORATIVE TEE SHIRTS
FREE REFRESHMENTS

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PLENTY TO CHOOSE FROM

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GRAND OPENING
ATCHINSON FORD
9800 Belleville Rd. 697-9161

'83 LTD BROUGHAM \$8,406
'83 ESCORT \$5,975

8.8% FINANCING
Kurt says "Let's have memories of this event. Get something on \$1000 more invoice. Then there's the dealer and add 100 bucks. We'll do it - we'll do it!"

FREE REFRESHMENTS
Register To-Day
FREE