



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Tuesday, Nov. 4, is election day

Voters in the Van Buren Public Schools district will be voting on a bond proposal in the Tuesday, Nov. 4, election. In Van Buren Township, it is the only question on the ballot. In Sumpter Township, it depends on which school district the voter lives in, but there are no Sumpter Township questions on the ballot other than schools.



Beebe

The bond proposal is also on ballots in Ypsilanti Township and Canton Township in the areas that are part of the Van Buren Public Schools.



Kissel

In the city of Belleville, besides the bond proposal, two council seats are open and because of a technical difficulty the current council members holding those seats will not be on the ballot. Council members Jeremiah Beebe and Julie Kissel, now holding those seats, have to run as write-ins to be reelected. They are the only ones who have filed as write-in candidates.

The bond proposal will appear on the ballots with this wording:

Van Buren Public Schools Bond

Shall the Van Buren Public Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Seventy-Seven Million Dollars (\$77,000,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefore, in one or more series, for the purpose of: erecting, furnishing, and

equipping additions to school buildings and facilities; erecting, furnishing, and equipping school buildings and facilities; remodeling, furnishing and refurnishing, and equipping and re-equipping school buildings and facilities; acquiring sites; acquiring, installing, equipping and re-equipping school buildings for instructional technology; and preparing, erecting, developing, improving, and equipping playgrounds, playfields, athletic fields and facilities, structures and sites?

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the purposed bonds in 2026 is 0.38 mill (\$0.38 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a 0-mill net increase over the prior year's levy. The maximum number of years the bonds of any series may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is thirty (30) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 1.32 mills (\$1.32 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

The school district does not expect to borrow from the State to pay debt service on the bonds. The total amount of qualified bonds currently outstanding is \$65,875,000. The total amount of qualified loans currently outstanding is \$0. The estimated computed millage rate may change based on changes in certain circumstances.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Editor Emeritus

At Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, the board received information on upcoming decisions they will have to move forward
(continued on page 3)

School district prepares for passage of bond

*This Space On The Front Page
Postal Regulations Require*



Photo by Nicole VanAssche
The horses from the Wayne County Sheriff's Department Equestrian Team were present at Saturday's Trunk or Treat in the Sumpter Township Police Department parking lot.

BHS at-home game

• Saturday, Nov. 1 -- Belleville High School Varsity Football (District Semi-Final) vs. Woodhaven, at BHS, 1 p.m., gates open at noon

Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 2, 2025

Remember to turn clocks back 1 hour on Sunday morning.



The Denton Road bridge has been closed by Wayne County for 1,124 days as of today.



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

School Board

(continued from page 1)

on spending the \$77 million in bonds it hopes will pass in the Nov. 4 election.

Plante Moran Realpoint consultant Rob Kakoczki said they recommended C.M. Granger for the construction management firm to provide construction manager services at a cost of \$321,484 from the bond money for pre-construction services for each phase over the next six years, plus 2.0% of the project for work as it progresses. Project manager is Bryan Darling. Kakoczki said it will be six to 10 months before starting the first project.

Kakoczki was giving information only at this point and said the vote on the agreements would be held at the next school board meeting.

He also presented information on architectural and engineering contracts recommended. Out of seven firms bidding, The Collaborative+Acock was recommended at a lump sum fee of \$3,249,481 and reimbursable costs of \$150,000.

He said this information is to “get a jump start with the first projects” after the election approves the bond.

School board president Amy Pearce asked if this agreement would roll over to spring, implying the board would put the bonds up at another election if the question failed on Nov. 4. Kakoczki said if the district has to go to voters again in the May election, the district would have to start over with bidding and costs on the projects and these proposed agreements would not hold.

In other business at the two-and-a-half-hour meeting on Oct. 27, the board:

- Heard a presentation by Laura Payne of Taylor & Morgan PC on the district’s financial audit of the 2024-25 school year. She said the auditors have announced an unmodified audit, the highest level possible. She said the federal audit is not complete because the district – and every other district in the state – is waiting for word from the federal government that has been delayed. She said the local audit before them would be filed with the state and once word comes from the federal government, the state and federal audits will be put together and refiled with the state. She said the district has substantially completed projects for bonds 1, 2, and 3;

- Heard fall building presentations from administrators of McBride Middle School, Savage Elementary School, and Belleville High School. The low test scores at each school were shown in charts and details given on how they were working to raise the academic scores. BHS principal Nicole Crockett introduced the newly hired ninth grade principal Rebecca Lazarean. The new ninth grade Tiger Academy is aimed at keeping the ninth-grade students

together on the third floor so there can be early intervention for those with problems. Crockett said she saw a student doing cartwheels on the third floor which she had never seen done before in a hallway;

- Accepted the termination of Tyler Elementary School teacher Ashley Bishop as of Oct. 17 after serving less than a year, and accepted the resignation of Belleville High School counselor Likina Turner as of Oct. 31 after a year of service;

- Accepted the resignation of McBride paraprofessional Madison Able as of Oct. 20 after a year or service and the resignation of bus driver Elyon Israel as of Oct. 20 after less than a year of service;

- Approved hiring Kenneth Powell as a school bus driver trainee as of Oct. 15 and hiring Nicole O’Keefe as administrative assistant in the Community Education Department at a time to be determined; and

- Heard parent Angela Mears report that the recent dine to donate event at Hungry Howie’s raised \$465 for the BHS class of 2026 and the fundraiser at Chipotle raised \$810. She thanked everyone for participating. She announced an upcoming event in Washtenaw County and another Hungry Howie’s event on Nov. 19;

- Heard director of student services Julien Frazier say the Belleville Fire Department came and gave information on fire safety and the Secretary of State mobile unit is coming to show what it can do for students and give them state ID cards. He talked about the Peer to Peer program and the Unified program, including basketball tournaments;

- Heard building and grounds director James Williams said the heating project at Rawsonville Elementary that was supposed to be done under the sinking fund needs to be done and it will be brought before the board in December. He said the McBride HVAC project will be brought to the board in January;

- Heard finance director Priya Nayak say she is glad the audit is over. She said she made the \$5.3 million bond payment on Oct. 24. Payments are due in October and April;

- Heard curriculum director Jill Marvaso say she is looking at a new math program for the high school and she will make sure it’s “green,” which means aligned with everything it needs to be, including SAT and PSAT testing. She said she attended a Special Population convention in Lansing recently;

- Heard superintendent Kudlak say after COVID there was a grant for mental health and safety. He said now available is \$150,000 more, a total of \$600,000. To get this money, the school board has to waive its attorney/client privilege in emergency situations and make everything public. Also, an external investigation from the state is required. He said the board can decide at the next meeting on Nov. 10. He

said the board could decide not to take the money;

- Heard trustee Wade Fields say the robotics Lego meet for elementary students will be Nov. 8 at Belleville High School; and

- Heard board president Amy Pearce announce the Van Buren Public Schools Foundation is hosting a fund-raising Trivia Night on Nov. 14 at \$25 per person and \$200 per team. Also, on Dec. 6 the Jingle Bell Run will support the foundation.

VBT board approves \$27.4 million general fund budget for 2026

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Editor Emeritus

After months of budget meetings, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved a general fund budget for 2026 with \$27,416,739 in revenue and \$27,285,720.28 in expenses, along with the amended 2025 general fund budget. The 2026 salary schedule also was approved.

This was at the board’s regular meeting on Oct. 21. Trustees Bryon Kelley and Kevin Martin were absent.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said there will be \$158,000 surplus from this year’s budget to add to the current general fund balance of \$8 million. Combined with the landfill fund balance, the total fund balance for the general fund is \$23.9 million.

Supervisor McNamara said the township taxes are 7.272 total mills, made up of .8917 operations millage and 6.3803 mills for public safety.

The board also approved the \$11.96 million Water and Sewer budget which includes a 6% increase in water rates and 4% in sewer rates as of Jan. 1. The Water and Sewer fund balance will be \$37.8 million at the end of 2026. Department director Kevin Lawrence said there have been no rate increases for the past two years.

Proposed and amended budgets for the following special revenue funds also were approved:

- Downtown Development Authority;
- Belleville Area Museum;
- Local Development Finance Authority, \$853,100;
- Federal Forfeiture Fund, \$0;
- State Forfeiture Fund, \$2,000;
- E-911 Service Fund, \$136,500;
- Landfill Fund, \$9,481,000;
- Long-Term Debt Fund, \$775,000; and
- Capital Improvement Fund, \$475,000.

Supervisor McNamara said the museum needs a \$22,000 boiler.

In other business at the 47-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved adjusting the Cemetery Capital Outlay projected 2025 budget line item from \$20,000 to \$40,000 for survey

The Non-Affiliated Pay Approval item that had been on the agenda for approval was removed before the meeting without comment. When questioned before the meeting, Kudlak said someone asked for more comparables that afternoon and he didn’t have time to get the information before the meeting. The agenda item that gave large raises to several administrators who just got raises last spring had been discussed at the last two meetings.

work at Otis Cemetery with McNamara saying that was, “So we know who’s where.” The cost estimates for the project came in higher than expected;

- Approved a resolution covering five documents that move to MERS the Health Care Savings Program and Retiree Health Funding Vehicle. The board was told the change will allow self-guided access and management of employee accounts, along with extended beneficiary options, and options that will help navigate finding retirement plans that suit their unique needs upon retirement;

- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with Wayne County for a 2025 Local Road Improvement grant, which includes \$1.7 million from the county and \$1.7 million from the township. Expenditures are expected to be \$850,000 in 2025 and \$850,000 in 2026. The project is the paving of Morton Taylor between Tyler and Ecorse roads and filling in the sidewalk gaps along the sides. The estimate for the Morton Taylor work is \$3.7 million. If there is money left over, the township will do crack sealing and asphalt patching on Tyler Road between Belleville and Haggerty roads and ditching work on gravel roads in the township;

- Approved a resolution regarding speed limits on gravel roads in the township to test the legality of a newly passed Michigan law. The resolution asks for Wayne County to lower speed limits from 55 mph to 40 mph in 13 areas, including spans of Morton Taylor, Hull, Martinsville, Beck, Martz, Elwell, Riggs, Fret, Bak, Hoeft, Bog, and Lohr roads;

- Approved a sidewalk agreement with Van Buren Transfer Station, LLC for the Yost Road Transfer Station project. The transfer station will not be required to install sidewalks along its dead-end road until the township upgrades the road in the future;

- Approved adding Genisys Credit Union of Van Buren Township to the list of financial institutions approved for township investments. Others already approved are

(continued on page 13)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial:

Father seeks accountability, transparency

Hunter Muckel, a father who came to the Oct. 27 school board meeting to find out about why students told him the word "Christmas" was not allowed to be said at Savage Elementary School. Nobody on the school board or the superintendent wanted to talk about it and Supt. Kudlak said he would call him later.

Muckel came back to the board at its Oct. 27 meeting. He apologized for being short with Kudlak when he called. He said he talked with the music director at Savage and stated the whole Christmas carol thing is not the problem. He said he still hasn't got answers on what is the policy and who made that policy.

He said he didn't care whether they sang carols or not in their upcoming concert. What he cares about is accountability and transparency. He said the principal told him they can't have Christmas mentioned because Savage is not a religious institution, which he thought was sarcastic. She also told him they made mistakes in the past.

Muckel said history informs everything in the present and they should not be censoring. He said they should not make part of our culture taboo. Religion is rich in transforming our culture, only if we don't censor ourselves, he said.

Muckel said the carols are one thing, and he doesn't really care about them. What he cares about is that when something more important than this comes up, like health education, the parents will get clear information, not passing the buck from the principal to the school board and back again.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

We were given a copy of the Oct. 20 *Detroit Free Press* that shows the name of Kerreen Conley among the thousands listed in tiny type who took part in *The Detroit Free Press'* 48th-annual marathon over the Ambassador Bridge and through the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel on Oct. 19 in the rain. The marathon and accompanying shorter races were presented by the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union in Detroit.

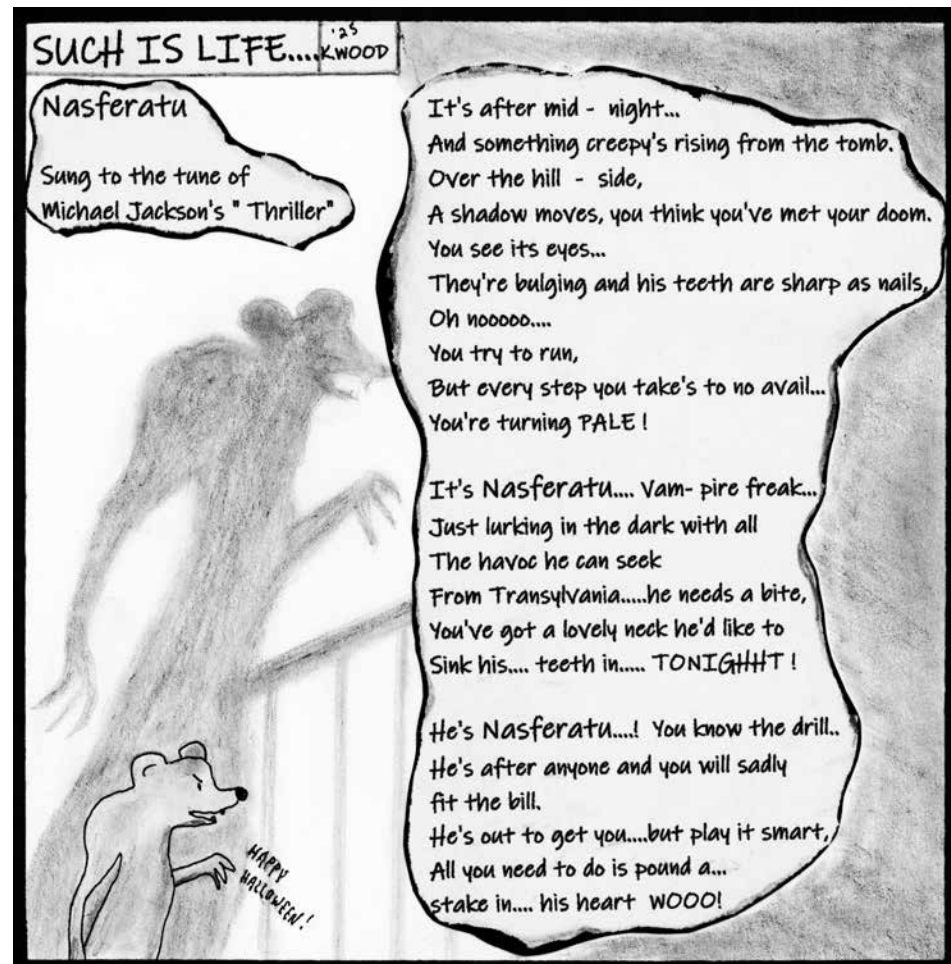
Conley is the city of Belleville's past city manager who came back later to be mayor. She takes part in marathons around the world.

When Conley decided not to run for mayor again, the voters elected Ken Voigt as mayor. He doesn't run marathons.

My son Bill was aghast that I made the error I did in last week's paper. I was writing about the final report on the MIG crash in Van Buren Township in 2023. I referred to it as a "helicopter." Well, it's a jet. And Bill told me if they tried to eject from a helicopter they would get their heads cut off. He did go on to tell me the Russians do have a jet that can fling off its rotors in an emergency, allowing those on board to eject, but the one that crashed in VBT during the Willow Run Air Show was an old MIG. My apologies for the error.

Several people have suggested we write a story on how Michigan cannot build bridges these days and show aerial shots side by side of the unfinished Denton Road Bridge and the Gordie Howe Bridge, both behind schedule. We explained we didn't have room for that in our little paper. They also suggested we mention that it took just three and a half years to build the huge Mackinac

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



Bridge. Groundbreaking for the Mackinac Bridge was May 7, 1954 and it opened to traffic on Nov. 1, 1957. It was the longest suspension bridge in the world when it opened and now is third largest in the world, but still the largest in North and South America. The work on that bridge actually went on into 1958 and took 48 months in all.

Wayne County hopes to open the Denton Road Bridge next spring and it's been more than three years already since the county closed it down over safety concerns. The Gordie Howe Bridge, between Detroit and Windsor, has been under construction since they broke ground in June 2018 and plans are for it to be done next spring.

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) announced that it has scheduled its Canadian Christmas Train to begin Nov. 19 in Montreal and run through Dec. 21 in Gleichen, Alberta. The Christmas Train that runs through Belleville in the U.S. starts Nov. 22 in Hermon, Maine, and concludes Dec. 18 in Kenmare, North Dakota. It is in Windsor on Nov. 22 and leaves there about 5:30 p.m. That's when it goes through Michigan without stopping heading to its Wisconsin stop.

There are usually quite a few local people waiting by the track the night the train is expected. It flashes by and then everybody can go home or continue to party.

This year's U.S. train will feature a new light display honoring the legacy of the Kansas City Southern Holiday Express

train, retired this year after 23 years of visiting communities on the KCS network.

At the Oct. 21 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees meeting, supervisor Kevin McNamara said he would have to present the proposed budget himself because he sent his deputy supervisor Dan Selman to a Michigan Employees' Retirement System conference to learn more about MERS and Dan came back with strep throat.

A man who lives on Alden Drive told us a man who owns a carpet store is having employees working out of a 2,000-square-foot-plus garage in his residential neighborhood. The employees use high-lows that beep, beep, beep when they back up. They cut the carpet there and someone else lives in the house part.

The man said the carpet guy has been doing that since June and he knows you can't do that because he was a landlord for 30 years.

He said the VBT ordinance officer has said he is investigating, but the man's company name and phone number are on the side of the trucks that go in and out. He's seen no tickets issued and he keeps going back and forth to different areas of township hall. Kind of upsetting.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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Letters

A vote for our schools is a vote for our community

To the editor:

As a community member who has been active in public education for over 20 years, I want to highlight the importance of our community's continuing commitment to our public schools and the children we educate. The Van Buren Public Schools Bond Proposal on the Nov. 4 ballot should matter deeply to every resident, whether you have children in the VBPS system or not. This proposal is not only about buildings, it's about giving the children of our communities the learning environment they deserve.

The district has outlined key enhancements including a new aviation and robotics center, upgraded HVAC systems, improved door hardware and safety infrastructure, a new transportation and security hub and updates to athletic facilities, just to name a few. These are essential components of a 21st-century education that prepares students for high-demand careers, keeps them safe, and provides facilities our community can be proud of. Well-maintained and modern schools lead to stronger programs, better staff retention, and higher student achievement. When we ensure our schools are updated, safe, and well-equipped, we send a message that our community values its youth and believes in their future.

While this bond request will bring in \$77 million for facility maintenance and upgrades, it will do so without raising the current tax rate. The current 2.98 millage rate will be extended, but not increased. This new bond will essentially absorb the current 30-year bond, which we are 6 years into, and extend it out to 2055 instead of ending in 2049. Through careful financial planning along with the Michigan Department of Treasury, the district has structured the proposal so that voters can continue paying exactly what they are paying now and still help generate \$77 million for our district infrastructure. The district's responsible use of taxpayer dollars has allowed us to stay among the

lowest in the area for school millages. While some of our neighbors are levying upwards of 8 to 10 mills for their schools, our district is asking our taxpayers to stay at a very reasonable 2.98 mills.

This is a rare opportunity to invest in our children's education without increasing the tax burden on our community. It is also important to understand that bond dollars are different from general operating dollars. Bond funds can only be used for capital improvements such as building repairs, safety upgrades, technology, and facility enhancements. They cannot be used for salaries, benefits, classroom supplies, or daily school operations. The district's general operating budget, funded primarily through state and local revenues, covers those ongoing expenses.

It's no secret that strong schools help maintain property values. Families seek out communities with well-maintained and high-performing schools. By supporting this bond, we are protecting our neighborhoods, our property investments, and the long-term strength of the City of Belleville, Van Buren Township and its surrounding communities. Public education is a shared responsibility. Strong schools strengthen our entire community by creating pride, stability, and opportunity.

On Nov. 4, I encourage my fellow residents to vote in favor of the Van Buren Public Schools Bond Proposal. It is an investment in our children, our homes, and our future.

Amy Pearce
Van Buren Township resident

Editor's Note: Amy Pearce also serves as president of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

Thanks to all who made Candy Loop a success

To the editor:

On behalf of the Van Buren Recreation Department, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the many local businesses, organizations, and individuals who helped make our annual Candy Loop event such a wonderful success.

We are especially grateful to the following partners for their support and participation: Atchinson Ford, Autokiniton, Burhop's Collision, Cher-She Beauty Supply, Dr. Angie's Tutoring & Learning Resource Center, Hungry Howie's of Van Buren Township, Inspirations Hair Salon, Jitterbugs Dance and Tumbling, Keystone Academy, Kiwanis, KS Media Management, Mary Kay, Milton's Pharmacy, Polish Legion of American Veterans, VFW, Soccer Stars, Social House, Verizon Wireless of Van Buren Township, Van Buren Community Players, Van Buren Police Department, Van Buren Fire Department, Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Trustees Kevin Martin, Bryon Kelley, and Will Frazier, and Michigan State Representative Reggie

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Obituaries



David C. Brown

DAVID C. BROWN

July 2, 1947 – October 27, 2025

David C. Brown, age 78, longtime Belleville area resident and supporter, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 27, 2025. He was born July 2, 1947 in Muskegon, MI, firstborn to Maurice Charles and Lillian Eleanor (Bont) Brown. He graduated from Orchard View High School, class of 1965. He married Martha Ann Redenius on October 30, 1970. He went on to earn his Pre-Mortuary Science Associate Degree in 1971 and graduated from Worsham College, Chicago, IL in 1974. He came to Belleville to work for Bus and Orlo Roberts in 1974. He opened his own business in 1982, just off of Main Street.

Dave was an active member of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association since 1978, including serving as President of the State 1998-1999. Dave's heart belonged to Belleville. He was active on the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development Authority, Cemetery Committee, Rotary, Cozadd Foundation, Myrtle, Moose, and Eagles lodges, as well as MUCC, Tri County Sportsmen's, and Huron Valley Conservation Clubs. He was strong in his faith and a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville. He loved traveling, the outdoors, hunting, and fishing. He cherished time spent with his grandchildren, supporting his community at Rotary, Monday night car shows, picnics, boating on Belleville lake, listening to Classic Rock (especially Bob Dylan), and watching the rain.

Mr. Brown is survived by his devoted wife of almost 55 years, Martha A. Brown; two daughters Amy (Kevin) Hinks, and Shelly (Jim) Chudzinski; three grandsons Nicholas and Andrew Hinks, and Seth Chudzinski; two sisters Susan Beishuizen and Sally (Lucky) Ellis; brother Daniel (Brian) Brown; three sisters-in-law Marilyn Redenius, Janet Dreger and Marie "Izzie" Preston; brother-in-law Tom (Carla) Redenius; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, friends and colleagues. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Douglas Alan Brown, and grandson Luke Charles Brown.

Visitation will be 4-8 PM Saturday, and 4-8 PM Sunday with a Time for Sharing at 6:00 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. A Funeral Mass will be at 11 AM Monday, November 3, 2025, at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville. Father Bryan Shackett will serve as Celebrant. Family will greet guests 10-11 AM at church prior to the mass. Interment will be in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

To build a better world, start in your own community!

More Letters

(continued from page 5)

Miller.

Thank you all for generously sharing your time, creativity, and, of course, plenty of candy with our community!

Our Parks and Recreation staff would also like to give a special shout-out to our amazing volunteers. We truly couldn't do it without you! Thank you to Mikki, Lily, and Sophie Smith, London Cloke, Isaiah Askew, Lauren Harris, Jacob Newby, and Matt Dohring. If you see them around town, please thank them for lending a helping hand—they truly made our day!

With sincere appreciation,
Jennifer Zaenglein
Recreation Programmer
Van Buren Recreation Department

Editor's Note: There were about 1,500 people who took part in the Oct. 18 Candy Loop. Although the skies were threatening, it did not rain on the event. Thirty businesses, organizations and elected officials passed out candy.

Monster Mutt Walk Winners Oct. 18

Cutest

1st - Andreana Pierceall, Romulus; Sassy, Mircle & Ace – Shih Tzu

2nd - Taylor Furman, VBT; Kona, Scottish Terrier

3rd - Mikinzi Eliwart, VBT; Percy, Standard Poodle

Scariest

1st - Jessie Parish, Belleville; Luke, Pit/Shepard & Amos, Bull Mastiff

2nd - Ken Voigt, Belleville; Shih Tzu Mix

3rd - Amber Collins, Belleville; Luna, Golden Retriever

Best Mutt

1st - Krista Ely, Romulus; Vivian, Golden Retriever

2nd - Shane Campbell, Belleville; Hercules, American Bully

3rd - Sophia Sloan, Belleville; Sammy, French Bulldog

Family

1st - Ann Laszczyk, Belleville; Dana, Pit Bull Mix

2nd - Rebecca Baldrige, Belleville; Wolfie, Pomeranian

3rd - Antoinette Ward, Belleville; Gracie, Yorkie

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Obituaries



Michael S. Bockmiller

MICHAEL S. BOCKMILLER

September 20, 1951 – October 1, 2025

Michael "Mike" S. Bockmiller, 74, a longtime resident of Belleville, Michigan, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, after a courageous six-month battle with small cell lung cancer.

Born on September 20, 1951, Mike spent his life working with his hands and heart -- as a truck driver, mechanic, and tradesman. He retired from JB Hunt with numerous safe driving awards, a testament to his dedication and skill on the road. Mike was very proud that he almost hit his One Million Miles driven award. Beyond his work, Mike was a devoted cat lover and found joy in simple pleasures: caring for his animals, working in his barn, and taking road trips with his beloved daughter Heidi.

Mike is survived by his three children: Shannon Booms of Eastpointe, Michigan; Michael S. Bockmiller II of Holly, Michigan; and Heidi Aiken of Mount Holly, North Carolina. He will be remembered for his quiet strength, his love of the open road, and the deep care he showed to those closest to him.

A private memorial will be held by the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a local animal shelter in honor of Mike's lifelong love for cats.

CHELSEA LEE THOM

September 19, 1983 – October 16, 2025

Chelsea Lee Thom, age 42, of Lincoln Park, formerly of Belleville and Gibraltar, passed away unexpectedly on October 16, 2025, from cardiac arrest.

Chelsea will be deeply missed by her four beloved children – Lilli, 21; Noah, 18; Charolette, 14; and Kooper, 3. She is also survived by her parents, Sharon Chie and Fred Thom; her three sisters; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins who love her dearly.

A private celebration of Chelsea's life will be held by close family.



Beverly Jean Lentz

BEVERLY JEAN LENTZ

May 13, 1957 – October 22, 2025

Beverly Jean Lentz, age 68, of Canton, MI, passed away late Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at her home. She was born May 13, 1957, daughter of Daniel & Irene Lentz. She received a master's degree from Central Michigan University. Beverly was a manager for Blue Cross & Blue Shield for many loyal years. She enjoyed time spent at the Moose Lodge and American Legion with her dad. She liked to golf and loved to travel.

Bev is survived by her fiancée Tony Hall of Rose City, MI, a brother, a sister, also numerous extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation was Sunday, October 26, and Monday, October 27, 2025, with a Funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Interment was in Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital and would be appreciated.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Nov. 3 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.; open house at 5 p.m. to discuss Recreation Plan
- Tuesday, Nov. 4 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m., and workshop at 5 p.m. as needed
- Monday, Nov. 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Tuesday, Nov. 11 – Sumpter Township board meeting moved to Nov. 12.
- Wednesday, Nov. 12 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Board of Trustees meeting, 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 13 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 17 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 18 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m., and workshop at 5 p.m. as needed. Also, Belleville Area District Library, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 19 – City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m., Belleville City Hall, 6 Main St.
- Monday, Nov. 24 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

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To everyone who came to Fred Giordano's celebration of life, my family and I would like to thank you. We don't have everybody's phone numbers who attended to thank them personally, so I hope this reaches who we can't. The support and blessings of the community mean more to us than you know. Special thanks to the Giordano and Schebel families for all your love and support through this difficult time.

Thank you,
Stacy and the kids
"The Rusted Crow"

Kirkridge clubhouse addition, new garage get first OK in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Editor Emeritus

Kirkridge Park Cooperative needs more room in its clubhouse and needs a larger maintenance garage, so it went to Van Buren Township for approval to build what it needs.

At the Oct. 22 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission, commissioners listened to township consultants and the builders and then unanimously gave approval to the preliminary site plan for the project at 8205 Kirkridge Dr.

Kirkridge will be back for its final site plan approval before construction can begin.

The request was by applicant Vanston O'Brien, Inc. on behalf of owner Supreme Management, LLC of Kirkridge Park Cooperative, to construct a 2,548-square-foot addition to the existing clubhouse, adding offices and a kitchen, and to demolish and rebuild a maintenance garage.

The multi-family condominium development is on a 28.96-acre site located on the east side of Kirkridge Street between Ecorse and Tyler roads.

Dave Brewer of O'Brien said that the meeting room is not big enough, so it hired their company to build an expansion. Also, the maintenance garage is not big enough to put the big equipment inside. He said the site will look better once they can store the equipment inside the garage. He said a courtyard for sitting outside will be a part of the project. The plans presented meet the basic needs and the budget for the project, he said.

Vidya Krishnan of McKenna Associates, township planning consultants, said that due to the limited scope of the property, the review is primarily limited to the access, circulation, parking, landscaping, architecture and trash-removal components of the proposed clubhouse.

There are already 12 more spaces than the maximum allowed in the clubhouse parking lot and the commission agreed with activities for the whole development at the building, they might need the extra spaces. That non-conforming parking was allowed to remain.

Landscaping was considered and includes 18 lilac bushes to be put on the north side of the parking lot and eight viburnum bushes on the west side.

They agreed there is no room for a

required landscape island in the parking lot.

Three rain gardens are planned in the area not serviced by the irrigation system and Krishnan said a written statement should be submitted on how the rain garden areas will be maintained to ensure that the areas don't merely become weed-infested areas.

Samples of the building materials were presented to the commission, showing that the façade will match the original building.

Paul Kammer of Fishbeck Engineering

said Kirkridge has produced a letter from Wayne County that says no permits are needed from the county for this project.

The Kirkridge project was the only action item on the agenda at the 27-minute meeting. Chairman Brian Cullin was at a state meeting in Kalamazoo and was the only commissioner absent from the meeting. Vice-chairman Jeff Jahr presided at the meeting.

Jahr announced the next city of Belleville planning commission meeting is on Nov. 13 and the next Sumpter Township planning commission meeting is also on Nov. 13.

Ron Akers, director of municipal services, reported that the city of Romulus had sent copies of its preliminary master plan for the township to review and comment upon.

Court Watching

Joseph Cory Johnson

Joseph Cory Johnson, 32, of Sumpter Township was arraigned on Aug. 20 on charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less murder (strangulation) and domestic violence – third offense notice on Aug. 18 in Sumpter Township. A probable cause conference was set for Sept. 3 and a preliminary examination for Sept. 10. The exam was held and he was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information. Calendar conference was Oct. 9. Bond was set at \$5,000/10%. Final conference is Dec. 4 and jury trial set for Dec. 18.

Jon-Solomon Solomon Smith

Jon-Solomon Solomon Smith of Van Buren Township was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and domestic violence on Aug. 16 in Van Buren Township. He was video-arraigned in custody on Aug. 19. A probable cause conference was set for Aug. 27 and a preliminary exam on Sept. 3. Personal bond is \$5,000. There is to be no contact of any kind with the victim.

On Sept. 3 the live preliminary exam was reset for Oct. 22.

He also was video-arraigned in custody on charges of driving without a valid license on April 14, 2023 and on April 26, 2023. A show cause hearing was set for Sept. 4 on those charges. Preliminary exam is Oct. 22. Personal bond is \$3,000 each.

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health markets




Photo by Nicole VanAssche

Cows pass out rubber neck chickens and the banana is LJ. On Halloween this Friday, Trick or Treat in downtown Belleville will run from 5 to 7 p.m. along Main Street which will be closed. A costume contest will be held at 6 p.m. on the Fourth Street Square.



Nov. 5 – Yvette Gorecki
Nov. 6 – Maureen Papin
Nov. 7 – Cindy Smith
Nov. 8 – Mary Thacker
Nov. 9 – Evelyn Larabell
Nov. 10 – Charity Fielder, Jim Graham,
Don Sherman

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Independent photo by James Otzman
Construction progresses on the new Tractor Supply store on the southeast corner of Sumpter and Hull roads in Van Buren Township, across Hull from the township firehall. The 22,407-square-foot building was planned to be on 5.1 acres of property that formerly was farmland. A Tractor Supply representative told the planning commission that the Van Buren Township store is the most enhanced Tractor Supply development constructed. He said they will have retail inside and outside with a sidewalk display, permanent trailer sales, and outdoor display area. The building is primarily brick and there will be five-foot sidewalks along Sumpter and Hull roads at the site. Tractor Supply agreed to buy an extra 25 feet of property needed for a required greenway buffer.

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Winnie is currently undergoing treatment for heartworm, so for now she's keeping things on the calmer side. She'll do best in a home that can provide structure, patience, and enrichment to keep her mind engaged while her body rests and heals. Once she's fully recovered, she'll be ready to enjoy a more active lifestyle with her forever family. We know this gentle girl has everything it takes to become a phenomenal family companion - loyal, loving, and eager to please. With a steady routine and a kind heart to guide her, Winnie is sure to blossom into the confident, joyful dog she was always meant to be.

If you think your home could be the safe haven Winnie's been waiting for, apply to meet her at friendsofmichigan.org/adoptable-dogs

Winnie is currently heartworm positive, and will begin her treatment soon. FMAR covers the full cost of heartworm treatment and works with Home Care Veterinary Services for the treatment. You're still encouraged to apply to adopt Winnie! We'll work closely with you to ensure her treatment continues smoothly and she gets everything she needs to thrive in her new home. Her treatment after adoption would continue through HCVS until successfully completed. Her adoption fee is \$250, which helps cover the cost of the medical care she has received.

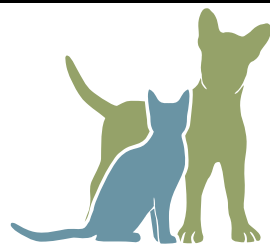
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INFLUENCES ON MICHIGAN
ARCHITECTURAL SCULPTURE**

BY JEFF MORRISON

DETROIT

JEFF MORRISON

Historian and photographer Jeff Morrison, author of "Guardians of Detroit" and "Guardians of Michigan", will present a 60-minute program featuring over 85 images of architectural sculptures influenced by Native American forms in Michigan. Attendees will learn about the symbolism of these sculptures and hear stories of the artists and architects behind them.

NOVEMBER 6 | 6:30 PM

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DISTRICT LIBRARY**

Register for a reminder text:

Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



So sad to announce that Belleville lost the crossover game to Howell HS last Friday, 36 vs. 57. However, football does go on as we continue our march to Ford Field. Our boys in black and orange will have a home game on Saturday, Nov. 1, at 1 p.m. and the first to meet the mighty claw is Brownstown Woodhaven High School. Let's fill those stands and cheer them on to victory!

Booville leaves the building on Friday night. First the Main Street candy walk from 5 to 7 p.m. Main Street should be closed to traffic by 4:30 p.m. and when all the kids have gone on to accost the local subdivisions for any candy that may be left, Egan's Pub will host an adult costume party until the wee hours on Saturday. Don't forget to stop at the 4th Street Square at 6 p.m. for the annual costume contest - goodie bags are waiting for the winners!

There still might be time to get a reservation in for the Nov. 2 Stay the Season at Simply Karma on E. Huron River Drive. You all certainly need a little pampering before the hectic season begins. See their ad in the paper.

This is also probably your last chance to get a space at Guiding Harbor's Diamonds & Demons annual fundraiser next Saturday, Nov. 8, at Diamondback. If you are unable to attend in person they have made it possible for you to get in on the bidding for some fabulous baskets by getting a virtual ticket. Just go to their website or Facebook and click on tickets. What a great idea, however, being there in person is always the most fun. Besides that, there are probably many of you who have not been in Diamondback since it was renovated into the Music Hall. I have found through the years of party planning that there is always a seat available at the last minute - people do get sick and are unable to attend. So, never say never.

We continue to add to the Church Directory. Please note that Mt. Calvary on Ecorse is now part of the listing. Which church will be next? Yours?

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Photo by Nicole VanAssche

Anita, Nicole, Liz, and Stephanie are Hocus Pocus Witches at the Sumpter Trunk or Treat event.

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VBT

(continued from page 3)

Comerica Bank, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Multi-Bank Securities, Inc., CIBC Bank, and Michigan CLASS. The list was last approved in 2011;

- Heard a brief presentation by Wayne County Sheriff's Deputy Stephanie Richards, who is community liaison for the sheriff's department. She offered the department's assistance as needed;

- Heard McNamara announce that Wayne County Commissioner Alan Wilson helped to get a newly announced \$25,000 grant from the county for the Belleville Area Council for the Arts;

- Heard clerk Leon Wright announce the Nov. 4 election with the only thing on the ballot a proposal by the Van Buren Public Schools for a millage that will continue the current 30-year millage without additional

cost. He said the township now has just two precinct locations, one at Wayne County Community College and one at the township hall. The location of a voter's site is on the voter's card that was sent out to the voter in the mail;

- Heard a resident of Crowley Road ask the township for an update on the drift racetrack being run as a business in their residential neighborhood. Ron Akers, municipal services director, said the township had a meeting with the attorney of the owners of the track two weeks earlier. A follow up is planned for Oct. 27 and then the township will consult with the prosecuting attorney. "Hopefully, we are moving forward," director Akers said. McNamara said this racetrack in that residential neighborhood, "is not acceptable";

- Heard resident Reg Ion say the flagpole at Van Buren Park has no rope and the flag is all tangled. He said he mentioned

it to an employee there. He said the park's monument also needs attention. He said he is not in favor of the school bond and there are a lot of bad things going on at the school. He said the buildings are in the best condition they have ever been, but although there are a lot of cameras, security is not good. He said they do not require clear backpacks for the students and there are no metal detectors or wands. Also, they can't sing a song with "Christmas" in it; and

- Heard McNamara comment on truancy, which he said, "is not to be tolerated." He said Van Buren Township sued and won

over the right to handle truant students in the closer district court instead of at circuit court downtown that takes a long time. The local court, within two weeks, is assigning help and counselors for the students. He said often bullying, drugs, alcohol, and mental problems are involved. He said he did not wish to comment on the school or the bond proposal.

At the beginning of the meeting, McNamara said because of electrical problems over the weekend, the township board meeting was not being broadcast live, but is on YouTube.

Court Watching

Carlos Isaiah Payne

Carlos Isaiah Payne, 29, of Van Buren Township was arraigned out-county on June 8 on charges of assault with intent to cause great physical harm less than murder (strangulation) and domestic violence on June 6 in Van Buren Township. A probable cause conference was set for June 18 and personal bond is \$5,000. A preliminary exam was set for Sept. 3. The complaining victim failed to appear and so the charges were dismissed.

Payne was video-arraigned in custody on Sept. 10 on charges of assault with intent to do great physical harm less than murder (strangulation) and domestic violence on Sept. 8 in Van Buren Township. Personal bond was set at \$5,000. A probable cause conference was set for Sept. 17 and a preliminary examination set for Sept. 24. At the time he waived the exam and was bound over to circuit court for an Oct. 8 arraignment on the information. Calendar conference is Oct. 15 and pretrial Nov. 21. Jury trial is set for Jan. 14.

Melvin Carl Foster

Melvin Carl Foster of Carleton is charged with operating while intoxicated – third offense on May 20, 2023 in the city of Belleville. He was video-arraigned in custody on July 10, 2025. His probable cause conference was July 23, and his preliminary exam held Sept. 10. He was bound over to circuit court for a Sept. 24 arraignment on the information. Personal bond is \$10,000. Pretrial is Oct. 22 and jury trial is Oct. 22

Madison Ray Welzin

Madison Ray Welzin of Sumpter Township is charged with possession of narcotic or cocaine less than 25 grams on Dec. 13, 2024 in Sumpter Township. A warrant was entered into LEIN on June 18. He was video-arraigned in custody on Aug. 29. Personal bond was set at \$1,000. His probable cause conference was held Sept. 10 and preliminary exam was scheduled for Sept. 17. At that time he pled guilty to a reduced charge of controlled substance use. The file went to probation for a recommendation. It was scheduled for review on Oct. 2. Paperwork was needed and so he was told to bring it in or a show-cause hearing will be set.

Kim Lamont French

Kim Lamont French of Belleville is charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and domestic violence – third offense notice on Aug. 28 in the city of Belleville. She was arraigned out-county on Aug. 31. Probable cause conference was set for Sept. 10 and preliminary exam for Sept. 17. Then, on Sept. 10, the probable cause conference was reset for Sept. 17. It was held and the preliminary examination held on Sept. 24 and she was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Oct. 8. A final conference is Nov. 22 and a two-day jury trial is set for Jan. 27.

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Correction of Correction:**Ruts put in Crowley Rd., not Robson Rd.**

Last week we corrected a headline from the Oct. 16 Independent that said damage was done to a yard by a truck. But the yard only got strewn with gravel from the road. It was the road that was left with big ruts. As the site of all this activity, we put Robson Road in the headline, but actually the damage was done to Crowley Road. Sorry.

This originally was in the story about the drift rack track built without permits and operating in a residential neighborhood.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

"There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that 'my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.'"

— Isaac Asimov

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

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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.

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Photo courtesy of Elena Manalp, VBT Communicaitons Dept.

People attending the Oct. 2 State of the Tri-Communities Breakfast watched the five speakers and their videos and slides in Van Buren Township's Black Box Theater before convening to the cafeteria at the VBT Community Center for a breakfast catered by Rachel Lynn Catering. The annual event is put on by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce so local leaders can give updates on their projects. Chamber president Dinara Strikis greeted those attending. Then the presentations began – 20 minutes each – by Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, Van Buren Public Schools superintendent Pete Kudlak, VBT supervisor Kevin McNamara, Belleville mayor Ken Voigt, and Sumpter Township manager Ken Marten. Marten's video about Sumpter Township featured him playing a harmonica in the background.



They're reading the *Independent* Everywhere

Dee Crowe of Van Buren Township spent a week at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, to attend the "Freedom from Religion Foundation" convention, and to enjoy a few extra days of palm trees, ocean waves, and sand. She also took her *Independent* along to read.

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

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$55 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$60 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Court Watching

Roland Juno Yharbrough

Roland Juno Yharbrough of Romulus is charged with carrying a concealed weapon, assault with a dangerous weapon, felony firearm, and domestic violence-second offense notice on Aug. 29 in Van Buren Township. He was video-arraigned in custody on Sept. 2 and a probable cause conference was set for Sept. 10. Bond of \$5,000/10% was posted and preliminary exam held Sept. 17. He was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information. Calendar conference was Oct. 1, final conference is Oct. 30, and jury trial set for Dec. 1.

Paul David Tansey

Paul David Tansey of Sumpter Township and formerly of Ypsilanti was video-arraigned in custody on Aug. 26 on a charge of domestic violence on Aug. 25 in Sumpter Township. Personal bond is \$1,000. A pretrial was held Sept. 10. A final pretrial was set for Oct. 15 and the

complaining victim must appear.

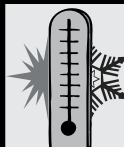
On Oct. 15, he called the court saying he didn't know of the hearing, although he had been advised, but would try to get a ride to the courthouse by 11 a.m.

No complaining victim was present so the case was dismissed.

Malik Novodni Mason

Malik Novodni Mason, 24, of Detroit was set for his arraignment/pretrial on Sept. 10 on a charge of retail fraud-second degree on March 8 in Van Buren Township. He failed to appear so a remote show-cause hearing was set for Oct. 1. He failed to appear and a warrant is out for his arrest.

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Independent photo by James Otzman

On Friday, work was under way at the Stellantis mega-warehouse site owned by Willow Run Airport on Ecorse Road between Beck and Denton roads. The 2.1 million square foot building is being built on the property north of Ecorse Road, through to the railroad tracks along Van Born Road. The construction is labeled Project Venture by Van Buren Township. There were 12,573 trees on the site and 3,247 will be preserved and 9,146 removed. There are 2,405 trees regulated by the township’s ordinance on tree removal and replacement and 1,708 regulated trees will be removed. Stellantis agreed to pay \$100,000 into the township tree fund in payment in lieu of the replacement shortfall of 1,199. A part of the property is regulated wetlands and trees cannot be removed there except for safety access. No trees can be in the Willow Run Airport runway crash zone at the southwest triangle of the 354-acre site.

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Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Van Buren Public Schools will receive sealed bid proposals until **2:00 p.m. on November 20, 2025**, for **Bid Package #1 Rawsonville Elementary School VUV Replacement**. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately following the deadline for submission. Van Buren Public Schools will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

Bid documents may be viewed and downloaded at:
<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5565f9b93ad9f70800b26d32>

After you create your free Building Connected account and join the project, all bids and questions must be submitted electronically at:
<https://www.buildingconnected.com/>

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on November 5, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via a Microsoft Teams Meeting online at <https://tinyurl.com/VBPS-Rawsonville-PreBid> and/or call in +1 734-887-6326
Conference ID: 15843091#

A Bid Security executed by a U.S. Treasury listed Surety Company acceptable to the Owner or a cashier’s check in the amount of at least five percent (5%) of the bid must be included along with a statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, board of directors, or the superintendent of the School District. An Iran Disclosure Statement must also be included along with a Criminal Background Disclosure Affidavit and a Non-Collusive Affidavit. Accepted bidders may be required to furnish Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price.

Documents will be available for viewing on **October 29, 2025**. Any questions, contact Molly Verla, Granger Construction Project Manager at: mverla@grangerconstruction.com

Published: October 30, 2025

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES - October 21, 2025

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Boynton, and Trustee Frazier. Absent/Excused: Trustee Kelley and Trustee Martin. Others in attendance: Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Public Services Luckett, Director of Water and Sewer Lawrence, Director of Municipal Services Akers, Director of Recreation Gerhart, Director of Community Services Renaud, Deputy Director of Community Services Dohring, Director of Parks Locke, Fire Chief McNally, HR Director Monia, DDA Director Coburn, Police Chief Wright, Deputy Police Chief Monte, and an audience of five.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Boynton moved, Budd seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Work Study Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2025, Prepaid List of October 9, 2025, Prepaid List of October 16, 2025, Voucher List of October 21, 2025, To consider approval of adjusting Cemetery Capital Outlay projected 2025 budget line item (101-567-971-000) from \$20,000 to \$40,000 for survey work. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: Stephanie Richards, community liaison for Wayne County Sherriff Washington’s office, brought resource guides to inform residents on everything the Sherriff’s Office does; Wednesday, October 22, the Community Center is hosting a Cider Social from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. in the Aspen Room; the Punkin Roll will take place at Van Buren Park sled hill on Saturday, November 1st from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.; there will be an election on November 4th from 7am until 8pm on a school bond proposal; voting locations have changed to either Van Buren Township Hall and Wayne County Community College; and Township Hall will be closed for all non-election related business on November 4th.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Boynton moved, Wright, seconded to approve Resolution 2025-28: 2026 Salary Schedule and Resolution 2025-29: 2025 Amended and 2026 Proposed General Fund Budgets. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2025-30: 2025 Amended and 2026 Proposed Water and Sewer Budget. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2025-31: 2025 Amended and 2026 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2025-35: MERS Health Care Savings Program and Retiree Health Funding Vehicle. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Wright seconded to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Van Buren Township and Wayne County for the 2025 Local Road Improvement Program. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2025-34: A resolution regarding speed limits on gravel roads in Van Buren Township. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Budd seconded to approve a sidewalk agreement between the Township and Van Buren Transfer Station, LLC for the Yost Road Transfer Station Project. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Boynton seconded to approve the reapproval of Township Investment Policy and Authorized Investment Institutions. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: a resident asked for an update on the drift track on Robson Road, to which Director Akers reported the Township is working on it and a resident commented that the flag pole and monument could use some maintenance at Van Buren Park.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Supervisor McNamara discussed how the township is handling truancy.

ADJOURNMENT: Wright moved, Boynton seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Publish: October 30, 2025

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Regional Democrats urge Corewell Health to maintain OBGYN unit

On Oct. 23, State Sen. Darrin Camilleri of Trenton sent out a joint news release with other Democrats, including Reps. Peter Herzberg of Westland, Reggie Miller of Van Buren Township, Matt Koleszar of Plymouth, and Dylan Wegela of Garden City.

Sen. Camilleri and Rep. Miller represent the tri-community in Lansing.

In a letter they wrote they urged Corewell Health to maintain services at critical care centers, specifically the obstetrical and gynecological unit at Corewell Health Wayne Hospital. The lawmakers expressed their support and willingness to collaborate with Corewell Health as it navigates the hardships caused by the federal administration's efforts to enact Medicaid cuts.

"As state lawmakers, we acknowledge the hardship that health care providers across Michigan are facing as our federal administration moves forward with devastating Medicaid cuts. It is imperative that as we continue to navigate these difficult times that we continue to ensure that critical programs, such as the obstetrical and gynecological unit at Corewell Wayne, remain operating and that our neighbors are ensured that these

services remain available.

"Corewell Health Wayne Hospital plays a significant role in keeping residents across our region safe and healthy. The closure of this department would have a disastrous impact on the patients that rely on the obstetrical and gynecological care provided at this hospital. Our legislature offers its support and collaboration to assist in all possible ways to prevent the labor and delivery unit from being disrupted or shut down.

"With this hospital serving some of the most vulnerable communities in Wayne County, the shutdown of critical services is something that we cannot allow to happen. It should be our mission to expand, not eliminate, the services and coverage available to our constituents, and we urge you to ensure that this department remains operational moving forward."

Court Watching

Amber Nichole Wortman

Amber Nichole Wortman, 39, of Jackson was video-arraigned in custody on July 25 on a charge of first-degree retail fraud on July 24 in Van Buren Township. A probable cause conference was set for Aug. 6 and another probable cause conference for Aug. 13 and then Aug. 27 and then Sept. 10. Personal bond is \$1,000.

On July 25, she also was video-arraigned on a charge of first-degree retail fraud on March 9 in Van Buren Township. Bond is \$5,000/10%. The probable cause conference was set for Aug. 6 and the preliminary examination Aug. 13. Then it was reset for a probable cause conference for Sept. 10 as well.

She also was video-arraigned on two new charges of retail fraud, one on April 25 and one on March 28, and arraigned on a bench warrant after failure to appear for a retail fraud charge of March 29. Bond is \$5,000/10%. Probable cause conference was Aug. 6 and another probable cause conference set for Aug. 13. Then, both were reset for Sept. 10.

On Sept. 10 the probable cause conferences were held and she was disposed on a guilty plea. She was fined \$1,777 and this was added to her payment plan. The court was notified she currently was in the Jackson County Jail on a charge of shoplifting in the 12th District Court. The notices were sent to the jail.

She is not to return to Meijer on Belleville Road.



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville - Hillside Cemetery REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

**Flag Placement for Veterans Day 2025
9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 1st
(Rain date: Nov. 8th)**



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 1st at 9:00 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. 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.

Contact information:

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



PUBLISH: Oct. 23, and 30, 2025

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 278 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week including the following.

Sunday, Oct. 19:

0131 – personal injury accident, E. I-94/Haggerty
0329 – disorderly. S. Ponderosa Trl.
xxxx – repossession, Bristol Dr.
0503 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Haggerty Rd.
0511 – disorderly, S. Ponderosa Trl.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
0711 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
0953 – intrusion alarm, Martz Rd.
1005 – PPO violation, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.
1034 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1101 – juvenile complaint, Berkdale Dr.
1231 – family trouble, Denton Rd.
1321 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1330 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1321 – welfare check, Lake Point Blvd.
1413 – fraud, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1533 – juvenile complaint, Berkdale Dr.
1615 – motorist assist, Ecorse/Belleville Rd.
1824 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.

1827 – civil matter, Westlake Cir.
1824 – assist other dept., N. Cumberland Dr.
1834 – assist fire dept., Quirk Rd.
2031 – welfare check, Berkdale Dr.
1951 – civil matter, Martinsville Rd.
2053 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2030 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
2055 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Woodbury Dr.
2047 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
2156 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
2320 – assist other dept., S. Bellridge Dr.

Monday, Oct. 20:

0011 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0213 – 911 welfare check, Water's Edge Ln.
0243 – assist other dept., Park Estates
0305 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0337 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – repossession, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0909 – sex offender registration, Maurice Dr.
0919 – sex offender registration, Outer Dr.
0927 – sex offender registration, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0936 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
0949 – threat, Harbour Pointe Ct.
0941 – sex offender registration, Sylvia Dr.
1010 – assist fire dept., Basswood Cir.
1111 – animal complaint, Burtrig St.
1105 – domestic, Denton Rd.
1212 – intrusion alarm, S. Timberview Dr.
1237 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1338 – warrant arrest, S. I-94 Service Dr./Old Denton Rd.
1420 – intrusion alarm, Chandler Dr.
1514 – civil matter, W. Huron River Dr.
1859 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Westlake Cir.
1930 – road hazard, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1935 – family trouble, Holly Ln.

Tuesday, Oct. 21:

0107 – assist other dept., N. Ponderosa Trl.
0248 – assist other dept., Ecorse Rd.
0759 – welfare check, Outer Dr.
1054 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.
1234 – larceny, Martz Rd.
1258 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Wildbrook Dr.
1359 – warrant arrest, E. I-94/Belleville Rd.
1506 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Hannan
1541 – animal complaint, Elwell Rd./Bemis Rd.
1622 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1644 – harassment call, Alden Ave.
1709 – fraud, Holly Ln.
1817 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1813 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1840 – animal complaint, Fay Dr.
2009 – property damage accident, McBride/Quirk
1953 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 22:

0034 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0113 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0159 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.

xxxx – repossession, Redwood Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Westlake Cir.
0359 – property damage accident, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0452 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0549 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1032 – parking complaint, Pinewood Ln.
1022 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1038 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1105 – threat, Parkwood
1140 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1115 – suicidal person, Lenmoore Ave.
1150 – parking complaint, Anna Dr.
1225 – suicidal person, Robson Rd.
1241 – harassment call, Purple Sage Ct.
xxxx – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
1410 – animal complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
1443 – parking complaint, Rawsonville Rd.
1459 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1526 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1857 – civil matter, Pinewood Ln.
1904 – sex offender registration, Sawgrass Ct.
1916 – sex offender registration, Sawgrass
1953 – operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville
2056 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.
2331 – motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
2337 – mental subject, Oak Ln.

Thursday, Oct. 23:

0006 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Oak Ln.
0703 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd.
0748 – sex offender registration, Purple Sage Ct.
0807 – sex offender registration, Belleville Rd.
0849 – larceny, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0947 – assist fire dept., Hanover Dr.
xxxx – mental subject, Tyler Rd.
1042 – sex offender registration, Purple Sage Ct.
1118 – sex offender registration, Parkside Dr.
1135 – sex offender registration, Outer Dr.
1148 – sex offender registration, Sage Cir./Tyler
1205 – misc. complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1224 – suicidal person, McBride
1449 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1548 – fraud, W. Archwood Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Village Green Ln.
1615 – suicidal person, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1640 – suspicious activity report, Beckley Rd.
1637 – warrant arrest, Dearborn Hgts. PD
1730 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
1826 – property damage accident, Haggerty/I-94
1945 – sex offender registration, Maurice Dr.
1950 – sex offender registration, Outer Dr.
2111 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Buchanan St.
2213 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
2343 – assist other dept., E. I-94/Haggerty Rd.

Friday, Oct. 24:

0153 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Vernon St.
xxxx – repossession, Bog Rd.
xxxx – sex offender registration, Outer Dr.
0822 – warrant arrest, Brandi Dr.
0827 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1037 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.
1116 – abandoned auto, Anna Dr./Sophie Dr.
1126 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.
1147 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1143 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martz Rd.
1147 – misc. complaint, Forestdale Dr.
1219 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1257 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1344 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia
1344 – misc. complaint, Savage
1354 – fraud, Savage Rd.
1429 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1430 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1431 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1432 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1507 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1529 – property check, Sumpter Rd.

1555 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Hanover Dr.
1554 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
xxxx – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1851 – welfare check, Lacy Dr.
1912 – family trouble, Greenbriar Dr.

Saturday, Oct. 25:

0200 – assist other dept., Fifth/Main
xxxx – repossession, Denton Rd.
0719 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0738 – unattended death, Lilac Ln.
0908 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1005 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1025 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1126 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
1220 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
1227 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1309 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1252 – assist other dept., Parkwood Dr.
1324 – larceny, E. Archwood Dr.
1336 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Harmony Ln.
1409 – civil matter, Sadie Ln.
1436 – welfare check, Daisy Blvd.
1808 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
1901 – neighbor trouble, Beck Rd.
1832 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1849 – malicious destruction of property, Holly Ln.
2033 – family trouble, Wildbrook Dr.
2141 – disorderly, Beck Rd.
2208 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2215 – intrusion alarm, Pond Bluff Dr.
2301 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Also, on this log are 96 traffic stops, one of which is on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 19:

0702 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Liberty/Main
1400 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1719 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave./Huron River Dr.

Monday, Oct. 20:

0805 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
0814 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
0941 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1212 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1300 – vehicle lockout, Main St.
1428 – property damage accident, Main St.
1457 – welfare check, Astor Pl.

Tuesday, Oct. 21:

0848 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave./South St.
xxxx – personal injury accident, E. Columbia Ave./South St.
xxxx – personal injury accident, E. Columbia Ave./South St.
1141 – malicious destruction of property, E. Wabash Ave.

1640 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
2307 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.

Wednesday, Oct. 22:

0108 – noise complaint, Light Tower Ct.
0918 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1306 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Light Tower Ct.
1326 – domestic, Anaheim St.
1416 – property damage accident, Main St.

Thursday, Oct. 23:

0958 – assist fire dept., Estrada Dr.
1225 – suicidal person, McBride
1402 – welfare check, Carmell St.
1822 – civil matter, E. Waterbury Ct.
1841 – property damage accident, Harbour Pointe Dr.

1931 – noise complaint, Harbour Pointe Dr.

Friday, Oct. 24:

0401 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
0549 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.
1223 – threat, Carmell St.
1621 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
1640 – disorderly, South St.

Saturday, Oct. 25:

xxxx – assist other dept., Fifth St./Main St.
1622 – disorderly, Sumpter Rd.

There are 69 reports on this week's log, 36 of which are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 19:

0107 – suspicious circumstance, Timberlane Dr.
0115 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Elwell
0121 – 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
0823 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Sherwood
0851 – fire dept. assist, Hawaii St.
1036 – neighbor dispute, Texas St.
1215 – traffic complaint/hazard, 49000 bl. Willis
1225 – suspicious circumstance, Hampshire Dr.
1510 – follow-up investigation, Utah St.
1522 – suspicious circumstance, 29000 bl. Elwell
1539 – welfare check, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
1555 – 911 hangup, Carriage Ln.
1636 – juvenile matter, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
2016 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2053 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2144 – civil matter, Wayside Dr.
2325 – family trouble, 48000 bl. Willow

Monday, Oct. 20:

1109 – assault, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1203 – fire dept. assist, Delaware St.
1223 – 911 hangup, 26000 bl. Martinsville
1231 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1314 – traffic complaint/hazard, 49000 bl. Willis
1514 – alarm, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1517 – alarm, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
2141 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Carleton West

Tuesday, Oct. 21:

0131 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Rustic Ln.
0433 – 911 hangup, Sherwood/Wear
0926 – follow-up investigation, out of township
0945 – assist other agency, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1252 – neighbor dispute, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1557 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Martinsville
1735 – assist other agency, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1739 – mental health call, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
1845 – follow-up investigation, 48000 bl. Harris
2143 – suspicious circumstance, 48000 bl. Sherwood
2222 – fire dept. assist, Iowa St.
2226 – down fires, Birch Dr.
2311 – 911 hangup, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.

Wednesday, Oct. 22:

0838 – 911 hangup, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1206 – 911 hangup, Nevada St.
1230 – mental health call, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1509 – follow-up investigation, Edgewood Dr.
1707 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
1735 – property damage accident, 43000 bl. Harris
1924 – suspicious vehicle, Rawsonville/Willow
2111 – harassment complaint, Walnut St.
2209 – motorist assist, Rawsonville/Judd
2215 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.
2318 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willis Ct.

Thursday, Oct. 23:

1047 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Wear
1152 – ordinance violation, 47000 bl. Bemis
1207 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1557 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.
1726 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
2138 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Harris
2228 – 911 hangup, New Mexico St.

Friday, Oct. 24:

0735 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1027 – suspicious circumstance, 47000 bl. Wear
1042 – 911 hangup, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
1131 – motorist assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1147 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
1158 – 911 hangup, Wyoming St.
1218 – 911 hangup, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
1230 – suspicious circumstance, Brookview Dr.
1301 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.

1319 – follow-up investigation, Brookview Dr.
1329 – property damage report, 17000 bl. Sumpter
1434 – felony warrant arrest, 45000 bl. Willis
1454 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Karr
1505 – animal complaint, Nevada St.
1610 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming St.
1628 – animal complaint, Colorado St.
1728 – suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Martinsville
1741 – 911 hangup, 11000 bl. Rawsonville
1804 – follow-up investigation, 27000 bl. Elwell
1953 – harassment complaint, 44000 bl. Willis
2053 – assist other agency, 21000 bl. Clark
2054 – 911 hangup, Wayside Dr.

(Continued on page 19)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

2350 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Clark
Saturday, Oct. 25:
 0108 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Bemis
 0214 – suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.
 0223 – family trouble, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
 0300 – juvenile matter, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
 0742 – suspicious circumstance, 28000 bl. Sherwood
 0910 – family trouble, Texas St.
 0918 – alarm, 488000 bl. Arkona Rd.
 0939 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
 1132 – animal complaint, Willow/Sumpter
 1246 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave.
 1313 – mental health call, Brookview Dr.

1313 – property damage accident, Virginia St.
 1448 – juvenile matter, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
 1511 – 911 hangup, Wyoming St.
 1726 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter
 1745 – follow-up investigation, out of township
 1812 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
 1834 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
 2126 – civil matter, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
 2313 – follow-up investigation, 43000 bl. Dunn
 2328 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
 Also on this week's log were 170 patrol checks, 93 traffic stops and 18 misc. details.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Friday, Oct. 31** – Halloween Downtown trick or treating, 5-7 p.m. A costume contest is at 6 p.m. at the Fourth Street Square.

• **Saturday, Nov. 1** – Now that Halloween is over, bring your old jack-o-lanterns and pumpkins to the Punkin' Roll Out and have some fun rolling them down the sled hill at Van Buren Park from 10 a.m. to noon. The pumpkin pieces at the bottom of the hill will be gathered up by volunteers and given

to local wildlife and livestock.

• **Saturday, Nov. 1 and Sunday, Nov. 2** – Friends of the Library Used Book is open to all from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Thousands of used books available at discount prices. Members-only preview sale is from 11 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Membership available at the door. Sunday only there is a bag sale. Fill a bag with books for \$4.

• **Saturday, Nov. 1** – Chili Cook-Off from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Romulus VFW Post, 39270 Huron River Dr., Romulus. Have a favorite chili recipe? Bring it to the VFW by 5 p.m. Do you love chili? Come out, sample, and vote. \$10 for five samples. Extra bowls available for purchase. Credit cards accepted.

• **Sunday, Nov. 2** – Bugles Across America starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street on the lake in Belleville. A brief ceremony honors all those who are serving or have served in the military, put on by the VFW and PLAV. The event includes a salute to the flag, singing of the "National Anthem" and a bugle playing "Taps."

• **Monday, Nov. 3** – Attend the open house from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Belleville City Hall to tell consultants what you want the city's recreation to be like. Consultants are taking comments as they write up the new Parks and Recreation master plan. You can come and go during the open house. The city council meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Nov. 4** – If you haven't voted already, vote between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. today. If you don't know where your address' voting is taking place, call your city or township clerk.

• **Wednesday, Nov. 5** – "Bravery and Innovation: Early American Heroes" is the presentation by Wendy Zielen at 7:30 p.m. at the Michigan Flight Museum, 47884 D Street, Willow Run Airport. Free to members; \$10 per person for non-members. A fascinating journey through the early days of flight, when daring pioneers pushed the boundaries of what was possible. Hear the stories, challenges, and triumphs of the men and women who proved the sky was never the limit.

• **Thursday, Nov. 6** – Annual Sauerkraut Dinner at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig St., New Boston, at 5 p.m. until sold out. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Carryout is available. Price: \$15. Information: (734) 753-9048.

• **Thursday, Nov. 6** – Historian and photographer Jeff Morrison will present "Native American Influences on Michigan Architectural Sculpture" at 6:30 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. The 60-minute program will feature more than 85 images of architectural sculptures influenced by Native American forms in Michigan. Free.

• **Friday, Nov. 7** – Hands-on workshop at 3 p.m. on Using Canva for Graphic Design at the Sumpter Media Center, 23645 Sumpter Rd. Learn to access and use thousands of templates for making flyers, signs, logos and more. Registration required. (734) 699-3291 or visit bit.ly/BADLCanva. Free.

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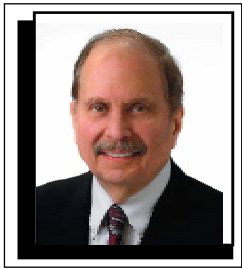
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Past Mayor City of Belleville

*Real Trends Rankings
Top 1% Nationwide*



WE DON'T CHARGE WHAT THE OTHER BROKERS CHARGE - NO DOCUMENT STORAGE FEES NO COMPLIANCE FEES NO JUNK FEES



44600 ROBSON, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
BEAUTIFUL FULL BRICK RANCH on 3 1/2 Acres and over 2,000 Square Feet. Family Room with Fireplace, Large Deck. Full Finished Basement 3 + 2 Car Garage. \$419,900



13691 BASSWOOD, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
CUSTOM BUILT Brick Ranch 3 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors, New Carpet, Lafada Kitchen, Finished Basement, 3 Car Garage, Generator, New Roof. \$584,500



28503 MARGARET LN, HURON TOWNSHIP
THIS BRICK HOME HAS IT ALL 3,828 Total Square Feet of finished living space, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Hot Tub, 14x27 Family Room, 2 + 1 Car Garages, On .85 Acres \$414,900



38111 JUDD, HURON TOWNSHIP
LARGER 2,100 SQ FT 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath Brick Ranch, Huron Twp. High End Upgrades including Hardwood Floors, 2 Fireplaces + 3 Seasons Rm, Blueberries 1+Acres \$485,000



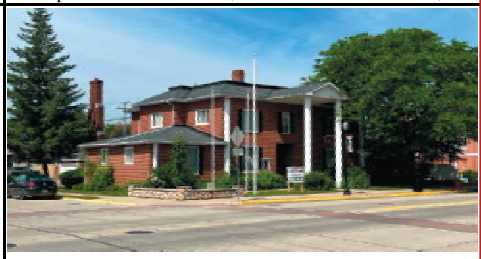
6785 BELLEVILLE RD, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
IT'S PRIVACY Plus in this secluded and large 1,761 sq ft 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch with Fireplace, Deck, 2 Car Garage and Entertainment Cabana in private back yard. \$279,900



36928 ELLIS NEW BOSTON
NO ASSOCIATION FEES, Low Taxes 1 Bedroom, New plumbing, New flooring, New kitchen, Bathroom, New water heater, 11x11 covered patio \$147,500



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



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

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

3 PARCELS 22530 Bohn Road Sumpter Twp One is 10.7 Acres at \$120,000 and 2.37 Acres at \$45,000 and 1.87 at \$45,000
39 MORROSS CIRCLE DEARBORN \$25,000

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

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

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



ATCHINSON

WHERE FORD MEETS FAMILY

9800 BELLEVILLE RD.
(734) 697-9161
WWW.ATCHINSON.NET

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BILL ENGLISH
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