



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.47 Thursday, November 21, 2024 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

Belleville hires Melissa Frierson of VBT as new DPS Director

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Melissa Frierson of Van Buren Township has been hired as the new Director of Public Service for the city of Belleville.

At the Nov. 12 meeting of the commission, city manager Jason Smith said Frierson has a fantastic track record of successes in governmental public works as well as the private sector. He said she comes highly recommended from multiple DPS directors across the state.

She was set to begin her at-will employment in Belleville on Nov. 18 and her pay is \$85,000 per year/\$40.865 per hour. Smith said her pay rate shall be adjusted on an annual basis upon the finding of a satisfactory performance review by the city manager. Her position is a salary, exempt from overtime.

She begins her employment with 120 hours of vacation leave and 40 hours of sick leave, among other provisions.

Smith acknowledged this is a Civil Service Commission hire and since the voters on Nov. 5 refused to dissolve the commission, he said the Civil Service Commission has "signed off" on this hire.

"We are very blessed to have an applicant," Smith said, noting this is a great applicant and comes highly recommended and is a VBT resident. He said she volunteers with the band and goes to band camp, and has the right skill set and right temperament to make the DPS department more efficient. He said most of her career has been in the public sector. He said she is getting extra vacation time for band camp.

Smith said she was offered more money by other municipalities who wanted her to work for them, but she likes where she is living.

Mayor Ken Voigt said she was initially recommended by the city's engineering firm. He said applicants for this position are few and "qualified applicants are as few as hen's teeth."

Frierson did not attend the Nov. 12 meeting.

She replaces prosecutive DPS director candidate Jordan Edwards who agreed to serve for the salary of \$75,000 and then backed off and had to be taken off the council agenda the night he was to be hired. He was to replace Anthony Bollini who was hired in May for \$65,000 and was later terminated. Bollini replaced Rick Rutherford, who served for many years in the DPS director position and

(continued on page 3)

Keystone Academy swears in Dare as new school board member

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Christina Dare of Sumpter Township was sworn in for a three-year term on the Keystone Academy Board of Directors at its regular meeting on Nov. 14. The term expires in June of 2027.

Dare brings board membership back to a full five. It went down to four when longtime board member Vesta Losen resigned in May.

Bay Mills Community College Board of Regents is the Public School Academy Authorizing Body and chairperson Whitney Gravelle of the Bay Mills Indian Community sent a July 7 letter of approval of Dare's appointment.

Bay Mills is located in the Upper Peninsula in Brimley, MI.

Dare was sworn in by National Heritage Academies representative Andrew Roth at the beginning of the Nov. 14 meeting and she was seated for the meeting.

Dare is a parent who was active in Keystone's parent-teacher association and

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Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

New Keystone board member Christina Dare was sworn in at the Nov. 14 board meeting. Dare stands at left with board vice-president Christine Mihaly standing at right. Seated are treasurer Charlene Derrick, left, and president Steve Harsant at right. Board secretary Kim Kowalski was absent from the meeting.



At Monday's Belleville City Council meeting, Mayor Ken Voigt presented a tumbler with a city seal on it to the city's new Department of Public Services Director Melissa Frierson. The new DPS director lives in Van Buren Township near Belleville High School and has three children, one who has graduated and two who are still in BHS.

EARLY DEADLINES
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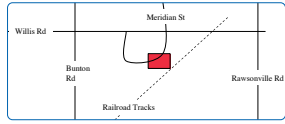
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City of Belleville

(continued from page 1)

then was demoted to a part-time position in the building department after Bollini was hired. Rutherford made about \$75,000 with benefits on top of that.

In other business at the Nov. 12 meeting, the council:

- Heard city manager Jason Smith explain the \$50,000 grant the city was awarded for equipment for an outdoor gym from the NFC Fitness Court. A matching payment is required and the city is asking the Downtown Development Authority to furnish the match and if that doesn't work the mayor said the project could be dropped. The grant furnishes exercise equipment and the city must pour the slab in addition to installation, for a project estimated at \$200,000 total to be completed in spring of 2025. The council passed a resolution needed by Nov. 14 saying it is interested in moving forward and Smith said they can't get the money without this resolution;

- Approved the low bid of COSM Tree Service of Wixom for \$23,250 for cemetery tree removal/trimming/stump grinding/ replanting of smaller trees. Smith said the local vendors are not on BidNet and all the bids have to come through BidNet. Mayor Voigt said in 1952, the city accepted ownership of Hillside Cemetery from Van Buren Township. Smith said a lot of families want shade for their loved ones and so the vendor will replant every tree removed with a tree that will grow smaller;

- Approved Winter Fest activities as part of the consent agenda for the first weekend in December, including a night parade on Saturday and breakfast with Santa;

- Approved the Best One quote for mobile tire repair for the Vac Con truck. Smith said DOT inspected the truck and the 20-year-old tires have to be replaced, it needs new brakes, and there is an exhaust leak the city crew can fix. The light problem that requires rewiring will be free or low cost. The tires are estimated at \$10,000. Smith said the truck is road-worthy, but not DOT certified to go out of the city;

- Approved the cost of \$2,239.39 for DTE to schedule the upgrading of the manifold and replacing the fire house gas line with a larger size in anticipation of the future installation of a whole-house generator;

- Approved the Snider Electric quote for installation of a tornado siren, without stating the amount;

- Removed from the agenda without comment the concrete saw purchase, cement mixer purchase, DPS time card software, and RS&A proposal for a City of Belleville Classification & Compensation Study;

- Heard Smith report the city had a 64.1% turnout for the general election, identification badges are being prepared



The dark comedy classic "Arsenic and Old Lace" will be presented by Belleville High School Tiger Drama at the Belleville High School Auditorium on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, Nov. 22-23 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Cast and crew includes: Braylon Hubbard, Ella Convery, Sydney Cramer, Llaylah Holmes, Laryssa Hernandez Lopez, Logan Larocque, Andrew Warner, Ike Agbaeze, Damon McDaniel, Ryan Brenay, Noah Moore, Daena Lindsey, Kelsey Braatz, Donald VanAssche, Brooklynn Sanders, Tatiana Girard, McKenzie Virge, Milo Rabaa, Elliot Taylor, Ella Mida, Grace Spaulding, Brynna Tompkins-Stevens, Griffin Behnke, Maddison DeLano, Neveah DeLano, Gray Laginess, Maddasyn Melchor, Camille Lanier, Megan Weakland, Jade Frierson, Grayson Behnke, Sage Foster, Summer Stratton, Kaden Lapoint, Sara Veenhuis. Directors are Kyle Whitehouse and Mitchie Oliva.

for SLC workers who are replacing water meters, and the alley asphaltting is complete;

- Heard Mayor Voigt report the veterans' banners that have been installed were designed by assistant city manager Steve Jones. Jones later said it took nine hours to do the work. Mayor Voigt said he drove into Harbour Pointe and the new roadwork is very smooth. He said he is happy the fire department got its roof fixed; and

- Heard Fire Chief II Chris Zweng report the new engine is out of service for warranty issues and recall. He said the fire house kitchen should be done by early December. He invited the city council and staff to the Winter Fest after-party at the fire hall which brings police, fire, and city officials together.

Keystone

(continued from page 1)

technically fills the board's parent position. Board treasurer Charlene Derrick had held a parent position, but her son graduated from eighth grade in the spring and so she was no longer eligible for that slot and now is filling the seat Losen left vacant. Losen had served as an educator position, but Derrick does not have that designation.

In other business at the hour-long meeting on Nov. 14, the board:

- Heard good news from board president Steven Harsant that his daughter is now

shown to be cancer-free;

- Heard Alan C. Young auditor Jay Wilde report on the 2023-2024 audit. He said the auditors have issued an unmodified opinion on the financial statements, which is the highest opinion. The finances are handled by National Heritage Academy, which manages the school, but Keystone hires an auditor to check on its portion of the finances. Keystone's total expenditures exceeded the final budgeted level by \$75,064, a violation of State law and was reported in the Single Audit as noncompliance with laws and regulations, Wilde said. He added that this is about 1% of the funds and it didn't go over the funds available, but it still was a violation. The board voted to accept the audit;

- Approved the amended 2024-25 budget;
- Approved a Reauthorization Resolution to ask Bay Mills to reauthorize Keystone as a charter school two years from now when the current charter expires. Roth said board members could go to Brimley in the Upper Peninsula to meet with Bay Mills officials before then to support their request. The reauthorization is a lengthy process and if Bay Mills no longer authorizes Keystone, it ceases to be a school;

- Approved the required 2025-26 Prior Approval Checklist that tells Bay Mills whether or not major changes are planned for the curriculum of Keystone. No changes are planned;

- Approved the Revised Board Policies

as presented by board attorney at the Oct. 17 meeting and discussed at length at that time. Board members were told there no longer are conflicts between the student handbook and the policies;

- Was asked about a quorum for the Dec. 12 meeting. Newly sworn in member Dare said she can't come to that meeting, but the three other members present said they plan to attend. Board secretary Kimberly Kowalski was absent from the Nov. 14 meeting. A recent meeting had been canceled due to lack of a quorum. Principal Drain said she gets high marks from Bay Mills for academics and other things, but her lowest score is for board quorum;

- Heard Principal Drain describe the annual Veterans Day assembly that recognized 30 veterans from the Keystone community. She said Mr. Cheng organized the assembly, did all the video, audio, speeches, and communication that made the event so special. Ms. Patton created the veterans' wall that displayed veterans from the community, including some that couldn't make it to the assembly. She also thanked the students who volunteered to help and all the families who donated items to the reception, which was organized by the PTO; and

- Heard Drain announce the music teacher is engaged and will be married over spring break, the school finally has a social worker, and there are no vacancies or leaves on the staff.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Holidays bring change to Independent deadlines, deliveries

We always deliver a day early during Thanksgiving week, since our regular Thursday delivery would be on the holiday. And, that means we have an early deadline of Monday noon, Nov. 25, for stories because we put the paper together on Monday afternoon and send it to the printers on Monday.

We'll get the papers delivered on Tuesday, Nov. 26, before noon and some will get delivered to our stops Tuesday afternoon and the rest on Wednesday morning. Confusing? Just wait until you hear about Christmas and New Year's papers.

This year, Christmas Day is on Wednesday as is New Year's Day, so our schedule gets a bit more complicated.

For the Christmas paper, we will have our story deadline on Friday noon, Dec. 20, so we can put the paper together and send it to the printer on Friday, Dec. 20. We'll get papers delivered on Monday, Dec. 23, and they will be delivered to our regular stops on Dec. 23 and 24.

The same for our New Year's week paper. We will have our deadline at noon on Friday, Dec. 27, and send the paper to the printer that afternoon. Then it will be delivered to us before noon on Monday, Dec. 30, and delivered to our regular stops on Monday, Dec. 30, and Tuesday, Dec. 31. Hopefully, mail delivery is good.

In January, we'll get back to our regular schedule until the 2025 holiday season, when Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day are all on Thursdays.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Sumpter Township published seven sets of board meeting minutes in its online only "Newspaper of Record" *The Eagle* on Nov. 13. The minutes were from the meetings of July 9, July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Sept. 17, and Sept. 24. It also published a call for bids for snow removal.

Should be getting to the October meetings sometime soon, in case you're interested in what happened back then.

This is an ongoing situation. On Sept. 5 it publishes six sets of minutes, from April through June; on July 17, it published minutes for January through March; on May 16 it published minutes from September through December 2023; and on Jan. 1, 2024 it published minutes for June through August, 2023.

This is not transparency. Belleville and Van Buren Township publish their meeting minutes the following week, with Belleville waiting for the minutes to be approved by the council before publication and VBT publishing the draft of the minutes, before approval.

We hope that with a new clerk taking over in Sumpter that he will look at state law and decide to follow it. Sumpter residents deserve to know what's happening in their community and since their taxes are paying for this publication in *The Eagle*, they deserve to see the minutes promptly. Many Sumpter residents have told us they've never tried to find the township's "Newspaper of Record" online.

At the Nov. 3 Bugles Across America event in Belleville one of the VFW members asked if I knew why there was all that traffic around Belleville High



School that day. It was a Sunday. The city police dispatch log reported seven parking complaints during a two-hour period around noon.

We learned that more than 30 schools had come to BHS for a greatly successful middle school robotics event.

One of our readers said she was disappointed that we didn't print the exact vote numbers in the 34th District Court judge election in last week's issue, but just gave the percentages of the vote.

The numbers, according to the Wayne County Clerk's office, are Robert Coutts, 11,336, and Teresa Patton, 21,086. Patton will replace Judge Tina Brooks Green who retires at the end of the year.

I had a little scrimmage with the National Heritage Academies representative at the last Keystone Academy meeting.

He was preparing to discuss an issue and he got up and shut the meeting room door and then sat down and began.

I raised my hand and asked the board president if I could make a comment and he said I could and I did. I told him that shutting the door is a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

NHA representative Andrew Roth argued with me, saying there was too much noise outside the door and the board wouldn't be able to hear him. I told him he could ask them to shut up,

but he couldn't close the door. I offered to get up and open the door for him, but he responded, angrily, "I'll open your door" and he did. He then said the outside door to the school was open and I replied that wasn't the point, the meeting room door needs to be open. He was grumpy.

Recently I watched Van Buren Township Clerk Leon Wright get up from the board table during a meeting, walk silently behind the table and down the stairs and to the board meeting door and open it up without comment and then return to his seat. Someone in the hall had closed the door because apparently he thought the conversation in the hall would interfere with the meeting.

Also, just last week, I watched assistant Belleville city manager Steve Jones get up from his place at the city planning commission meeting to open the meeting room door which had been closed by someone in the hallway, who obviously thought the conversation between a police officer and a family with a teenager was interfering with the meeting.

Jones took care to leave the meeting room door ajar enough so people could see into the meeting and feel free to enter.

Those actions are what I'm used to seeing at meetings, not a shutting of the door and an argument over the law.



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To the editor:
 We live in a multi-racial society, but some would have people of color living in situations long past. People have forgotten or chosen not to remember that people of color have fought in every war since the American Revolution, including offshore engagements.
 This is the 21st century. It is time to live in a society that respects the rule of law and its humanity -- regardless of one's skin color, language, gender, or religion.
 This small community is located in Southwestern Wayne County, Michigan. According to the 2020 census, the population is 9,660. It was formed on April 6, 1840. A time of civil unrest, death, and destruction.
 The question now, "Is America poised for another Civil War?" The last Civil War cost the lives of over 620,000 men and women. In today's dollars, the destruction cost would be over \$90,000,000,000, according to study.com.
 I'm hopeful for a better tomorrow. Hope begins when ordinary people do extraordinary things. I seek a more hopeful future for Sumpter Township, Michigan. That all God's children can live in peace. Those elected as our fiduciaries uphold this township's laws and ordinances fairly without prejudice or retaliation. In My Opinion, they have betrayed that public trust.

I, and untold thousands encourage the township's leadership to respect its residents and visitors. It has been brought to my attention also there are no fire hydrants located in Holiday West Mobile Home Community. Why? There is one at the entrance, but it is covered with garbage bags. Homes and lives are at risk. This writer witnessed one home completely burn to the ground in a matter of minutes several months ago.

We want a peaceful place to live clear of trash and blight. Those entrusted to perform those duties must be held accountable. The employees of this township work for us, the taxpayers. As of this writing, this township In My Opinion lacks its sworn duties. Integrity and performance are very poor.
 Another point is that the board of trustees and their attorney, In My Opinion, should

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instead of criticizing me at board meetings, do the jobs you are paid to do. That is to clean up the trash and blight, which is everywhere in this township. Clean up our parks, and lakes, and repair all of the fencing around them that have been broken for years. Prosecute the people who have trailers and with no homes on the property like what was done to me by the township and the disgraced former 34th District Judge Parrott. Bring back the fairs and parades that so many enjoyed.

My final points again, In My Opinion. If this township board of trustees and their attorney would stop trying to blame this writer for the problems that affect this township, which is on life support and has too numerous problems to mention, they perhaps could accomplish great things and make Sumpter Township a place people can be proud to call home.

Ronald Barrington Robinson
 Sumpter Township

Food/clothing drive set at VBT Harris Park

To the editor:
 As of Nov. 20, our family with the help of the Van Buren Township DDA are running a food/clothing drive, including coats, hats and gloves, at the Harris DDA Park (next to Aldi's). Please bring non-perishable food, gently-used clothing or new, any size, or a new unwrapped toy.

We wish to thank you in advance for your donations. We will end the drive Dec. 19 and things collected will be given to the needy families within the local community. We hope we can give some glimmer of hope in these dark days.

Thank you in advance, our friends in the giving of the season.

David Sauers
 Van Buren Township

Thank you for donation of hand-made easels

To the editor:
 The Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) would like to thank Randy Brown for the wonderful donation of easels. Randy said his dad hand-made them and used them for his own photographs and art displays. We are honored to have them, and they will be very useful each year when we have our Community Art Show in the fall. Thank you, again, for your generous donation.

Cheryl Wagner
 Belleville Area Council for the Arts

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Volunteers helped the city of Belleville place fresh flags on veterans graves at Hillside Cemetery on Nov. 2. Volunteers include, from left, Keith Padilla, Austin Pucket, Charlotte Padilla, Mary Pucket, Peggy Doane Streight, and Braden Streight.



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Obituaries



Willis Devon Little

WILLIS DEVON LITTLE

(August 8, 1939 – November 13, 2024)
Willis Devon Little – a loving husband, father, Papaw, great grandpa, and friend – passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from natural causes. He was surrounded by his beloved family in his final days.

Willis was born in Stewart, Kentucky on August 8, 1939, to Henry and Wyoming “Oma” (Tackett) Little. He was the second of eight children. He proudly served six years in the United States Army, of which his service spanned into the Vietnam War. He married his sweetheart, Virginia Little, on August 18, 1964. Willis and Virginia had two daughters: Deborah (Robert) Hinze and Veronica (David) Martzloff. Their family would grow to include three grandsons, Jacob (Kaylynn) Hinze, Jeremy (Noel) Martzloff and Lucas Hinze, and one granddaughter, Marissa (Matthew) Powers. They recently welcomed their first great grandchild, Wyatt Hinze. Willis adored his family, as they were everything to him.

Willis joined the Morning Star Church of the Northern New Salem Association after his service in the Army, and later became a member of Rose of Sharon Northern New Salem Association. He was a devoted church member for 50 years, serving as a preacher and Elder during his time of membership. He loved the church family and relationships he grew over the years, and delighted in seeing his grandchildren grow up visiting the church for Easter, Santa Claus, and other special occasions. Above all, he had deep love, faith, and trust in his Heavenly Father.

Willis was known for his love of singing and his impressive singing voice. His girls loved to hear him sing on their many road trips to Kentucky and anywhere else they went. You always knew Willis was happy when he would suddenly begin singing, especially when he was enjoying the company of his family. He loved fishing with his brothers and fishing buddies, and later with his girls and grandchildren. He had an amazing smile that was contagious, loved to joke, and had a generous heart to help anyone in

need. Willis was someone who radiated genuine joy and love, and made a positive impact on anyone he met.

Willis is preceded in death by his parents, sisters Ernestine Little and Georgia (Ralph) Nixon, brothers Henry (Helen) Little, Lloyd (Patricia) Little, and Donlin (Dorothy) Little, and son-in-law Robert Hinze. He is survived by his wife, daughters, son-in-law, grandchildren, great grandson, sisters Barbara (Clayton) Nixon and Carolyn (Wendell) Hamilton, and numerous nieces and nephews. Willis will be greatly missed, but his family and friends take great comfort in knowing he is in perfect peace with Jesus, praising Him with his beautiful new voice and seeing His face with new eyes.

Visitation was November 18, 2024, followed by a Church Service at Ypsilanti Old Regular Baptist Church, 5668 Denton Road, Canton, MI 48188. Funeral Service was November 19, 2024, with Pastor Ray Hamilton officiating. Interment was in Denton Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI. Arrangements are by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI (734) 697-4500.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rose of Sharon Old Regular Baptist Church and would be appreciated.



Mark A. Statham

MARK A. STATHAM

(July 13, 1961 – November 9, 2024)
Mark A. Statham, age 63, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away on November 9, 2024, at his home. He was born July 13, 1961, in Belleville, ON, son of James Harry Hugh Statham and Gwendolyn Marie Bronson. Mark was what you would consider a workaholic and a dedicated generation lineman for 30 years until finally retiring from DTE. While he resided in the United States, he was born in Canada and was a lifelong hockey and a University of Michigan fan. Mark enjoyed his projects which included building anything he could. He loved and lived for his children and his granddaughter. They meant the world to him. Mark was the kind of man that would help anyone in anyway. He would help with no questions asked. He was kind, sweet, smart, funny, and extremely stubborn. Most of all, he was the best dad and papa that anyone could ask for and he will be forever missed by many.

Mark is survived his two children, Andrew and Shelby Statham of Belleville, MI, one grandchild, Addison Donley of Belleville, MI, and his former wife Rhonda Statham of Belleville, MI. Siblings Richard (Barbara) Statham, Doug (Robin) Statham, and Deborah Hopkins all of Belleville, MI.

He was preceded in death by two brothers Alan and Daniel Statham, a nephew Mark Hopkins and a stepson Brandon Wesley. Visitation was November 16, 2024, from 1 PM to 3:30 PM with a funeral service starting at 3:30 PM, with Pastor Gordon Moore officiating at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500.

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Obituaries



Raymond J. Parent, Jr.

RAYMOND J. PARENT, JR.

(August 22, 1953 – November 12, 2024)
Raymond J. Parent, Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully on November 12, 2024, in Belleville, Michigan, at the age of 71. Born on August 22, 1953, in Detroit, Michigan, Raymond was a man who cherished his family above all else and found joy in the simple pleasures of life. He lived his whole life in Belleville.

Raymond attended Belleville High School, graduating with the Class of 1972. He worked and retired from Wayne County Roads. Outside of his professional life, Raymond was a passionate motorcycle enthusiast. He treasured riding through the beautiful mountains of Tennessee with his family and friends and was an active member of the Harley Owners Group. His love for the outdoors extended to spending time on his tractor, meticulously caring for his yard. Raymond was a valued member of the community, involved with organizations such as the Moose Lodge and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles. His warm presence and generous spirit touched many lives.

Preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Jeanne Parent, and his sister and brother-in-law, Patricia and Ed Mull, Raymond leaves behind his loving wife of 47 years, Cheyrl Parent, who was his steadfast companion and partner through life's journey. He is also survived by his adoring son, Raymond Jay Parent, his devoted daughter, Melisa A. Parent, and his granddaughter, Keira Parent. Ray will also miss the time spent with the neighborhood kids: Joseph, Matt, Luke, Lizzy, Zach, Kennedy, and Cassidy.

In accordance with Raymond's wishes, dignified cremation rites are being handled by Michigan Memorial. As Raymond requested no formal services or fuss, the family will honor his memory privately.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in Raymond's name to The Penrickton Center for Blind Children, located at 26530 Eureka Rd., Taylor, MI 48180. Phone: (734) 946-7500. This gesture will uphold Raymond's legacy of compassion and care, extending his spirit of generosity to benefit children in need.

KENNETH WAYNE BULL

(April 10, 1954 – November 12, 2024)
Age 70, of Willis. Survived by wife Shirley; children Greg Bull, Kristen Clendening; siblings Sara Phipps, Othel Bull, Brenda Olson; grandchildren Jake, Riley, Skyler, Kaydence. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Obituaries



Minnie Mae Weber

MINNIE MAE WEBER

(July 29, 1940 – November 14, 2024)
Minnie Mae “Hon” Weber, age 84, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at her home, under hospice care, surrounded by family. She was born July 29, 1940, in Ann Arbor, MI, daughter of James Norman Mills & Arlestein Green. Minnie graduated from Lincoln High School, class of 1958. She was hired by General Motors Powertrain and retired after more than 30 years of loyal service. She moved from Ypsilanti to Belleville in 1986. She enjoyed reading, playing dominoes, and going to garage sales. Most of all, she enjoyed being a mom and grandma. Minnie is survived by three children: DeAnna (Ruben) Nino of Capac, MI, Shelley (Tony) Weber of Belleville, MI, and Jack (Kelly) Weber III, of Carleton, MI; 4 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; a sister Kimberly (Jim) Mills of Blissfield, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Minnie was preceded in death by her parents, a brother Norman Mills, also four sisters: Marie Wallo, Tilly Bragen, Margarie Hess, and Winnifred Osborn.

Visitation will be 12-1 PM Wednesday, November 20, 2024, with a 1:00 PM Funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Gordon Moore will officiate. Interment will follow in Marble Park Cemetery, Milan, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

2024 Scarecrow Contest winners listed at Nov. 12 city council meeting

At the Nov. 12 meeting of the Belleville City Council, the following winners of the 2024 Scarecrow Contest were presented in a list without comment as part of the consent agenda.

Business Category:

- 1st place – DeBucks Family Farm – Corn Princess
- 2nd place – tie between Cedar Woods Assisted Living & Memory Care –Harvest Gnomes; and New Lawn Sod Farm – Sod Man
- 3rd place – Moe’s Farm – Jolly Green Giant

Adult Organization Category:

- 1st Place – Belleville PLAV Post 167 – Soldier
- 2nd Place – Van Buren Eagles – Wicked Witch

Youth Group Category:

- 1st Place – Edgemont Elementary School – Big Red Balloon Dog

Individual Category:

- 1st Place – BYC Wednesday Night Friends – Snoop Dog Olympics

There was a note at the bottom of the list that said in the categories awarded fewer than three places they did not have enough entries to award any more than the places awarded.

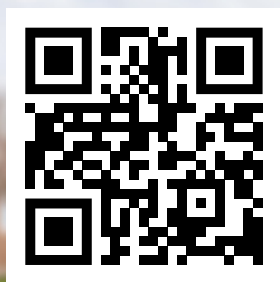
For the Scarecrow Contest the city usually puts signs on the entries with information on who created each entry. The application form said awards would be given out at the Oct. 21 city council meeting. Neither of those things happened and no winners were present at the Nov. 12 meeting when the list was approved as part of the consent agenda.

Winners usually get a framed picture of their entry and a round of applause.

Rosemary Otzman, editor

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Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Nov. 25 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS
- Tuesday, Nov. 26 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.

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Girl Scout Troops 78163 and 76729 and Cub Scout Troop 793 decorated and packed 240 lunch bags for Hope Clinic on Nov. 12 at Belleville First United Methodist Church. Before packing, the scouts heard the story "Saturday at the Food Pantry" by Diane O'Neill about how everyone needs help sometime. Hope Clinic is at 518 Harriet St. in Ypsilanti. The clinic has a food pantry, provides hot meals, as well as provides dental, medical, and behavioral health services. All of the services are free and do not require residency. Call (734) 484-2989 for more information. Additionally, the scouts learned about who the Emergency Food Closet serves and then packed 24 week 3 bags. This activity was arranged by Dee Groeneweg and Jeneen Rippey.

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Sumpter Quilters Give-Back group at it again

To the editor:

The Sumpter Quilters Give-Back Committee is at it again. (The committee is made up of Karen Mickens, Lettie Sanders, Dee Patterson, Florence Bascom, Charlie Britt, and Delores Murry.)

1. Giving a spaghetti dinner to the homeless.
 2. Giving purses with toiletries inside to the homeless.
 3. Giving clothes to both men and women at recovery centers.
 4. Giving food baskets to random individuals in Sumpter.
 5. Giving our time and service to clothes closet in Detroit.
 6. Going to other senior centers for service.
 7. Giving quilts and blankets to Girlstown.
 8. Gave toiletries to Belleville high schoolers.
 9. Gave away baby blankets to the needy.
 10. We are giving back. We see the need.
 11. Everything we do is from our hearts.
- We do the deed and from our pockets.
- This is the same committee that did the wonderful job of having the Thanksgiving Dinner some years ago at the Sumpter Community Center.
- We thank everyone who gave monetary donations, as well.

The Sumpter Quilters Give-Back Committee

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Parents, students tell school board about varsity bowling coaches

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

After waiting patiently for an hour and a half to speak as the school board meeting progressed, three members of the audience got up to talk to the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education at its regular meeting on Nov. 11.

They were among those dozen or so dressed in orange team shirts to show they were in support of the statements. They politely waited until the agenda came to the part where people could speak on non-agenda items.

Former Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley was the first to speak about the coaching staff for the varsity bowling team, which she said had a challenging year last season. She said the parents followed the chain of command and told their concerns to the Belleville High School principal, the athletic director, and then to the superintendent of schools, but nothing changed.

Now they were coming to the board of education.

"We can't put our kids through this for another year," she said, referring to how the coaches rely on intimidation and fear tactics, discipline without cause and then when there are violations there are no consequences.

Conley said the players are afraid to communicate with their parents and it has damaged their confidence. She said the game is a source of mental wellness, and brings camaraderie, pride, and some even got scholarships.

The coaches have disregarded the children, taken attitudes and rolled their eyes when parents spoke about their concerns, she said.

She said no parents were allowed to observe practices even though the students were in public facilities. She said they were told not to coach their children and the parents were OK with that, but the coaches have no accountability and are disrespectful to the children.

The district allowed them to hire an unpaid Junior Varsity coach and she thanked the board for that, asking how can you get a varsity team if a JV team isn't in place?

"We had to ask coaches from other schools to help our kids," Conley said.

"We are looking for action," she said. "We haven't started the season yet ... We have a great team ... some are top in our state ... but it's not because of our coaches."

She said if there is no action, the situation will end up worse than last year when the season starts.

Doug Spicer got up to speak next. He was the JV coach for last season. He said he was a professional bowler for 30 years and a college coach. He was a special education teacher for 12 years.

"All I wanted to do was help... and promote the sport of bowling," he said.

"Like with your football team," he said. "You have coaches in place because you want to win."

"I encouraged players to talk to each other ... communications is a way to excel and win ... with the varsity team there is no communication between the coaches and the kids ... I am being told I cannot help my own daughter," he said.

He said Conley mentioned that several people made States at Thunderbowl. He said there was an incident and he had his assistant college coach come down to help a bowler.

"Your coaches are getting paid to coach," he said. "If they are not conferring with the players ... You are doing them a disservice," Spicer said.

He said there are three or four all-state players and BHS can win a state title, but missed it two years in a row.

"They needed guidance... They have talent to go all the way."

The third speaker was his daughter, bowler Amber Spicer. She said she wanted to focus on the neglect and fear that has been inflicted on the players.

She said they are not allowed to bond and they have recordings of head coach Cynthia Allison from bus rides.

"I am told I cannot speak to my dad at all during games or practice," Amber said. "My father would gladly help any student."

Amber said coach Allison instills fear through threats. She said it has been suggested if the students don't like it they can quit, but "Why should we quit ...

something we love?"

School Board president Amy Pearce said Supt. Kudlak will respond to each of the speakers individually. Later, she commended Amber for getting up to speak to the board because it's very hard to get up before the school board, but she did so on behalf of her peers. The board applauded

her efforts.

In other business at the Nov. 11 two-hour-and-six-minute meeting, the board:

- Had the JROTC color guard present the flag before the regular Pledge to the Flag. Captain Bates said this was to celebrate Veterans Day. He said they have

(continued on page 13)



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Curtis Greca of Hopkinsville, KY, reads his *Independent* on the Belleville Bridge. He wanted to do a little switch-around from being in an exotic place to being from an exotic place to get his picture in the paper. Greca's picture was placed on a veteran's banner by his sister Patricia Greca, who also bought banners for their father Donald Greca, whose banner is on South Street; their brother Francis Anthony Greca, whose banner also is on South Street; and their nephew Kenny Greca, whose banner is on Main Street near Sam's. Curtis Greca said he graduated from BHS in 1975, went into the Air Force in 1977 and retired from the Air Force in 1994. He said next year they plan to have other Greca veterans on the banners, as well.

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.

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VBPS

(continued from page 12)

50 new first-year cades this year, a pinning ceremony is soon, boot camp is in May, a military ball is in December, and one or two students will be going to a leadership academy next summer;

• Watch the Van Buren Public Schools Educational Foundation present a check for \$24,162 to cover 64 grants to teachers and schools, including a bubble wall at Edgemont and robotics team legos for all the schools. The annual fundraising party, which will have a Western theme this year, will be a Vegas night and is set for Feb. 1

at BYC;

• Voted unanimously to pass a resolution stating it will continue to collect school taxes in the summer. The school attorney advises that this resolution should be adopted annually. Finance Director Prya Nayak said if they do not levy summer taxes, the district does not have enough fund balance to operate without revenue until the first state aid payment of the school year in October and make the first debt payment in October;

• Heard Fall Building Presentations from Principal Tracy Bryant and Assistant Principal David Turner for McBride Middle School, Principal Fred Abel of Edgemont Elementary, Principal Nadine Dufrane of Owen Intermediate, and Principal Julia Pitts for Rawsonville Elementary. School Supt. Pete Kudlak asks building to present to the board one of their school improvement initiatives that they will be working on this year. In the spring, they will follow up with a report on how it went or how it had to be changed to reach their goals;

• Approved the resignation of Rachel Lott as of Jan. 5 after one year of service at the Early Childhood Center; and approved, as of Nov. 18, the employment of teachers Megan Bowman at Savage Elementary School and Julia Beck and James Ray at Rawsonville Elementary School;

• Approved the resignation of Zhanae Wright on Oct. 31 after less than a year in food service; and the hiring of Chrystal Ochs as a custodian as of Oct. 29 and Jack Taylor as a custodian as of Nov. 11; Joseph Kulza as a paraprofessional at Edgemont as of Oct. 29 and Cheyanne Melidosian as a paraprofessional at Edgemont as of Nov. 1; Ekram Elkiky as a paraprofessional at

ECC as of Nov. 6; and Jonathan Turner as a bus driver as of Nov. 11 and Donna Marshall as a bus driver as of Nov. 5;

• Heard parent Angela Mears again ask about the status of the investigation of the fire caused by fireworks during a recent football game and how much damage was done to the Early Childhood Center parking lot. Supt. Kudlak said he would

give her a call to give her details; and

• Heard Curriculum Director Jeff Moore announce that the Belleville Early College program with Wayne County Community College is being changed to Washtenaw County Community College because it has a more robust program. He said the partnership agreement with WCC has been signed.

Check bounces at Hayward's, customer bound over to circuit ct.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After a preliminary exam before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on Nov. 13, Diamond Kapri Guinn, 31, of Van Buren Township was bound over to Third Circuit Court for a Nov. 27 arraignment on the information.

He is charged with uttering and publishing on April 4, 2022 in the city of Belleville after cashing a company check made out to him that bounced. The felony charge is punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

First witness at the preliminary exam was Jennifer Kouza, who runs Hayward's liquor store at 573 Main St., which she described as her late husband's business.

She said a person wanted a \$1,960 check cashed on April 4, 2022 and asked her to hold it for seven days. She held it for six, deposited it, and it bounced. She testified the bank said it was a fraudulent check.

She identified the defendant in the courtroom as the one who cashed the check.

Kouza said she called the customer after the check bounced and, "He yelled and screamed at me. He wouldn't let me talk... No words, yelling and screaming."

The next witness was retired Belleville Police Officer Bart Devos, who said he has served in law enforcement for 34 years, the last four with the Belleville Department. He had retired from Van Buren Township Police Department before joining the Belleville department.

Devos said the check was for a non-existent account.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Mohamad Mohamad introduced the check as evidence and the defense attorney questioned the check because it had notations from the bank on it. Judge Oakley accepted the check

as evidence, but the notations from the bank were not in evidence.

Devos testified after being dispatched to investigate a bad check, he called the defendant. Devos said Guinn said he was out of town for a funeral and he was going to make good on the check when he got back, but he didn't.

Devos testified Guinn told him he did some work for the company and this was the payment. He said he didn't work for the company and he wouldn't tell Devos what work he did to get the check.

Devos said he told Guinn, "You got paid for work you didn't do from a company you didn't work for," and got no reply.

Devos testified he investigated and the business is non-existent in California. He said the bank followed up on the check and found the address is a vacant lot in California.

He said the bank said it would send someone to court to tell their process of finding a check fraudulent. He said police went to Comerica Bank in Belleville and it told them the process.

Devos said when he called, Guinn confirmed his name and said he cashed the check.

The Neighborhood Defender Service defense attorney pointed out her client gave his identification when cashing the check, along with his phone number. She said the company who paid her client with the check is responsible, not her client.

Prosecutor Mohamad said it was a question of fact for the higher court to determine and asked that Guinn be bound over.

Judge Oakley complimented the defense attorney on her handling of the case, but nonetheless bound Guinn over to Third Circuit Court.

Belleville Police Sgt. Todd Schrecengost was the officer in charge of the case.

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Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, seasonal decorations, and tools.

Publish: Nov. 14, 2024; Nov. 21, 2024

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– Yogi Berra

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Detroit Catholic Central wins over BHS, 35-21, in regional finals

Detroit Catholic Central High School defeated Belleville High School, 35-21, in the Division 1 Regional Finals game of the Michigan High School Athletic Association on Friday, putting BHS out of the playoffs for a state title this year.

Friday's game was the last high school game for highly acclaimed BHS quarterback Bryce Underwood who will graduate in 2025 and is committed to play at Louisiana State University next fall. Catholic Central will meet Cass Tech next Saturday in the MHSAA semi-finals.

Belleville planners move forward to rewrite city Master Plan

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Help the city of Belleville rewrite its Master Plan

The Nov. 14 meeting of the Belleville Planning Commission started off as a non-meeting, without a quorum. Assistant City Manager Steve Jones advised the four members present that they could discuss things but take no votes without a quorum, so they discussed items on the agenda for 23 minutes.

Residents of the city of Belleville, those who work in the city, and those with interest in the city are asked to share their information and ideas to help with the rewriting of the Belleville Master Plan.

Go to:
www.engage.giffelswebster.com/belleville-master-plan

Then, a fifth commissioner, John Juriga, arrived with apologies and the meeting officially began.

the former plan that was written in 2006 and amended since then. The city council on July 15 approved paying longtime planning consultant Giffels Webster \$26,650 to rewrite the document. Work on the year-long project began in October with a joint meeting of the planning commission, city council, and downtown development authority.

After calling the meeting to order, commissioners approved the agenda and minutes from the last meeting and then Andrew Aamodt, senior planner from Giffels Webster, continued with the report he was giving on how the new Master Plan would be established.

Aamodt said they plan four public input opportunities at the December, February, March, and April commission meetings.

He laid out plans for getting input from the residents on who they are and what they want to see in the city. The first survey runs Nov. 15 to Dec. 4. It is based on the Local Economy and is available at www.engage.giffelswebster.com/belleville-master-plan.

Assistant City Manager Jones said the residents have said in other surveys that what they want first- or second-most is a grocery store, but the city has been unable to get one.

Paper copies of the surveys will be available at city hall, he said.

Commissioners agreed that there needs to be a map presented to survey-takers to show where the city limits of Belleville are so they know if they are residents of Belleville or not.

Aamodt said the meeting schedule and other information will also be available on the website.

The survey invites participation from city residents, those who work in the city, and those who have interests in the city.

The next survey will be on Housing and will run Dec. 5 to Feb. 3. Transportation and Infrastructure will run Feb. 4 to March 3 and Sustainability is March 4-31.

Public meetings are also to be scheduled to talk to people in person on their ideas.

The commission decided to have the Master Plan completely rewritten to replace

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 28, 2024 – 6:00 pm

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Beebe	Absent, Excused
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Priest	Arrived 6:01pm
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Mayor Voigt	Present

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

a. Citizen Comments

1. None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

Motion Carried.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

a. Alley Paving Contractor Selection

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to select TBD Construction Services, Inc., at a cost of \$18,435.20.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

Motion Carried.

6. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

i. None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to adjourn at 6:04 PM.

No objections were noted.

Motion Carried.

Published: November 21, 2024

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On November 27th 2024, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2021	NISSAN	VA	3N6CM0KN0MK701904	24-10413
2010	FORD	PU	1FTFW1EV6AFC31986	24-10643
2004	LINCOLN	SW	5LMFU28R54LJ32648	24-9781
2015	NISSAN	SW	JN8AF5MV5FT556998	24-11326
2002	BUICK	4D	1G4HP54K22U149489	24-11436
2012	DODGE	4D	1C3CDZCB0CN177534	24-10737B
2002	CHEVROLET	SW	3GNFK16Z62G315634	24-11412
2011	MAZDA	MZ3	JM1BL1VF2B1399784	24-12560
2007	DODGE	SW	1D8HB48277F552999	24-12581
2010	FORD	SW	1FMCU0DG7AKA45897	24-12868
2012	FORD	4D	3FAHP0GA6CR434835	24-11756

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles, are offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2009	NISSAN	4D	1N4AL21EX9N559062	24-9500
2009	FORD	4D	3FAHP07Z09R105286	23-9165
2016	DODGE	2D	2C3CDZC96GH157364	24-10953
2009	VOLVO	SW	YV4BZ982091061295	24-11227
2014	DODGE	SW	3C4PDDBGXET182952	24-12142
2014	DODGE	SW	1C4RDJDG7EC597274	24-10595
2018	GMC	SW	3GKALWEU8JL294489	24-10962A
2013	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1PA5SG6D7168802	24-12234

All vehicles are sold in "As is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, CMMC., Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: November 21, 2024

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:
1) To correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
2) Poverty Exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should contact the Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to December 10, 2024.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Post: November 21, 2024
Publish: November 21, 2024
November 27, 2024
December 5, 2024

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 303 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Nov. 10:

0039 – noise complaint, Sheldon Rd.
0051 – operating while intoxicated, Ecorse Rd. / Edwards Rd.
0150 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
0357 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Country Ln.
0800 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
0812 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
0842 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.
1016 – civil matter, Old Rawsonville Rd.
1124 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd./Sunrise
1149 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1205 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1422 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1534 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1549 – domestic, W. Huron River Dr.
1645 – welfare check, Buchanan St.
1654 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
1705 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.
1827 – threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1818 – PBT, Tyler Rd.
1823 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1928 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
2010 – welfare check, Alba Ct.
2043 – welfare check, Meadows Ct.
2110 – domestic, Maple Dr.
2148 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Water's Edge Ln.
2204 – family trouble, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2247 – road hazard, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.

Monday, Nov. 11:

0010 – family trouble, Daisy Blvd.
0056 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
0102 – welfare check, Brandi Dr.
0148 – intrusion alarm, Castell Blvd.
0153 – assist fire dept., Patty Ln.
0345 – property damage accident, W. I-94/rest area
0442 – welfare check, Maple Dr./Oak Blvd.
0849 – warrant arrest, Michigan
0924 – larceny, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1122 – disorderly, Haggerty Rd.
1156 – assist fire dept., Maurice Dr.
1234 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1430 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1435 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1547 – unattended death, Sylvia Dr.
1636 – threat, Independence Ln.
1632 – assist fire dept., Holly Ln.
1655 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1822 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
1756 – domestic, Shelley Dr./Parkside Dr.
1827 – neighbor trouble, Denton Rd.
1837 – vehicle lockout, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.
1902 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1928 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Maurice Dr.
1949 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
2052 – domestic, Denton Rd.
2113 – breaking & entering, Maurice Dr.
2146 – property damage accident, Martinsville Rd. / Savage Rd.
2217 – property damage accident, EB Michigan Ave. / bypass

Tuesday, Nov. 12:

0009 – welfare check, Locust Dr.
0037 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Timberview Dr.
0049 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
0526 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martinsville Rd.
0923 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
xxxx – 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
0937 – road hazard, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty
xxxx – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Edison Lake Rd.
1021 – private property impound, Industrial
1058 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Fay Dr.
1059 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes,

Greenwood/Briarwood

1246 – fraud, Jackson St.
1329 – animal complaint, Rose Blvd.
1411 – 911 welfare check, Bemis Rd.
1450 – trespassing, Hannan Rd.
1509 – juvenile complaint, S. Edgemont Ave.
1512 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1529 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1548 – traffic offense, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1639 – fraud, Dorchester Dr.
1659 – intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.
1707 – parking complaint, Berkdale Dr.
1820 – assist fire dept., Tyler Rd.
1840 – threat, Westlake Cir.
xxxx – repossession, Palma Dr.
1925 – larceny, Stonebridge Dr.
1938 – assist fire dept., Sheldon Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Rolan Meadows Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Oak Ln.

Wednesday, Nov. 13:

0011 – property damage accident, N. I-275/Ecorse
0259 – domestic, Brandi Dr.
0344 – animal complaint, N. Cumberland Dr.
0656 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0703 – intrusion alarm, Beacon Trl.
xxxx – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
0927 – civil matter, Daisy Blvd.
1034 – civil matter, Ecorse Rd.
1207 – welfare check, Maurice Dr.
1221 – civil matter, Bayshore
1231 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belle Pointe Dr./Lindsey Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Harmony Ln.
1242 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1320 – intrusion alarm, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1326 – harassment call, Ecorse Rd.
1355 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Michigan Ave.
1415 – welfare check, Park Estates Dr.
1626 – mental subject, Elwell Rd.
1657 – welfare check, Purple Sage Ct.
1828 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
1852 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1847 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1911 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Adams

2001 – mental subject, Van Buren St.
2101 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
2127 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
2330 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
Thursday, Nov. 14:
0233 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Archwood Dr./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0419, welfare check, Tyler Rd./Morton Taylor Rd.
0705 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
0758 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
0811 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Beckley Rd./Denton Rd.
1000 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.
1002 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1125 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
1205 – intrusion alarm, Greenwood Dr.
1218 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1224 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
1251 – mental subject, Cross St.
1345 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1403 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1424 – misc. complaint, Village Green Ln.
1532 – fight, Belleville Rd.
1608 – civil matter, Kent Ln.
1646 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van Born/S. Lotz
1725 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1841 – misc. complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1913 – civil matter, Jackson St.
xxxx – repossession, Westlake Cir.
2052 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Dellor St.
2356 – traffic offense, Hannan Rd./Buckingham
Friday, Nov. 15:
xxxx – repossession, Beckley Rd.
0519 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0703 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – civil matter, Sadie Ln.
0952 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1131 – fraud, Lake Point Pass
1232 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.

1233 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1255 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1338 – dumping complaint, Beck/Ecorse
1412 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1426 – road hazard, Quirk Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – motorist assist, Van Born
xxxx – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
1816 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service
1820 – road hazard, Savage Rd./Martinsville Rd.
1806 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1821 – property damage accident, Michigan Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
2042 – assist other dept., Edwards Rd.
2139 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.

Saturday, Nov. 16:

0019 – assist other dept., E. Main st.
0054 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0058 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0110 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0156 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0248 – noise complaint, N. Woodbury Dr.
0322 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Beck Rd.
0324 – domestic, Dewitt Rd.
0341 – welfare check, Robbe Rd.
0408 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0736 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
0708 – intrusion alarm, Hardwood Dr.
0815 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
0908 – civil matter, Oak Ln.
0908 – civil matter, Oak Ln.
0935 – family trouble, Van Born Rd.
1531 – sexual assault, Lighthouse Dr.
1619 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1636 – threat, Parkwood Dr.
1707 – assist other dept., Tyler Rd.
1818 – mental subject, Lindsey Dr.
1828 – assist other dept., Sondra Dr.
2053 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
2110 – motorist assist, W. Huron River Dr. / Cobblestone Creek Dr.
2137 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2243 – welfare check, Holly Ln.

Also, on this week's log are 119 traffic stops, 57 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 10:

0202 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Menlo Park Dr.
0841 – assist other dept., Estrada
1219 – parking complaint, Edison Ave.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
1304 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.

Monday, Nov. 11:

1148 – larceny from auto, South St.
Tuesday, Nov. 12:
1508 – juvenile complaint, S. Edgemont Ave.

Wednesday, Nov. 13:

1117 – welfare check, Carmell St.
1322 – assist fire dept., E. Columbia Ave.
1345 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1356 – parking complaint, Victorian/Waterbury
1405 – misc. complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1645 – vehicle lockout, Loza Ln.
2053 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.
2316 – assist other dept., Victorian Ln.
Thursday, Nov. 14
1102 – harassment call, W. Columbia Ave.
1136 – misc. complaint, S. Liberty St.
1229 – assist other dept., Willow
1252 – domestic, Belle Villa Blvd.
1425 – assist other dept., Estrada
1827 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

Friday, Nov. 15:

0605 – repossession, Carmell St.
0607 – assist citizen, Menlo Park Dr.
xxxx – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1309 – juvenile complaint, Estrada Dr.
1415 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
1524 – civil matter, Henry St.
2039 – intrusion alarm, Breakwater Dr.
2046 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.
2059 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

2215 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Estrada
2317 – larceny, Main St.
Saturday, Nov. 16:
0018 – personal injury accident, Main St.
0851 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
0925 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Park Dr.
1707 – warrant arrest, N. Liberty St.
There are 80 reports on this week's log and 45 of those are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 10:

0050 – family trouble, Knollwood Dr.
0115 – fire dept. assist, Huron Twp. Police Dept.
0833 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1036 – suspicious circumstance, Mulberry Dr.
1105 – 911 hang up, Magnolia Dr.
1138 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Sherwood Ct.
1238 – traffic complaint/hazard, 18000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1242 – welfare check, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
1243 – damage to property, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1301 – suspicious person, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
1702 – suspicious circumstance, 42000 bl. Bemis
1730 – 911 hangup, Virginia St.
1942 – civil matter, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
2048 – suspicious circumstance, Birch Dr.
2334 – civil matter, Montana St.
2359 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.

Monday, Nov. 11:

0134 – family matter, Mulberry Dr.
0200 – civil matter, Greenmeadow Dr.
0229 – civil matter, Virginia St.
0507 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0645 – 911 hangup, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0706 – suspicious circumstance, 25000 bl. Karr
1334 – civil matter, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1411 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1730 – civil matter, Oregon St.
1734 – 911 hangup, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1818 – property damage accident, Kansas St.
1819 – 911 hangup, Delaware St.
1916 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter Rd./Bemis
1922 – suspicious person, Rawsonville/Willis
2138 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2328 – fire dept. assist, Clark Rd./S. Huron Rd.

Tuesday, Nov. 12:

0041 – suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Wear
0841 – welfare check, Carriage Ln.
0903 – civil matter, Wayside Dr.
0927 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Paris
1033 – 911 hangup, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1107 – civil matter, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1144 – civil matter, New Mexico St.
1148 – welfare check, Arizona St.
1201 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Sherwood Ct.
1218 – neighbor dispute, 42000 bl. Wear Rd.
1247 – civil matter, Greenmeadow Dr.
1355 – suspicious circumstance, Elwell/Bemis
1617 – suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.
1650 – fire dept. assist, Texas St.
1651 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1821 – civil matter, Montana St.
1956 – family trouble, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2115 – property damage accident, Harris/Haggerty
2119 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
2200 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.

Wednesday, Nov. 13:

0047 – animal complaint, Brookview Dr.
0756 – malicious destruction of property, New Mexico St.
1155 – 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1213 – 911 hangup, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1229 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1237 – 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Timber Creek Dr.
1340 – harassment complaint, Greenmeadow Dr.
1522 – suspicious circumstance, Edgewood Dr.
1536 – juvenile matter, Birch Dr.
1705 – follow-up investigation, Birch Dr.
1830 – mental health call, Creekside Dr.
1940 – harassment complaint, Mulberry Dr.
2017 – mental health call, Creekside Dr.

(Continued on page 17)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 16)

2038 – suspicious circumstance, California St. / Colorado St.
 2300 – alarm, Utah St.
 2328 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Thursday, Nov. 14:
 0255 – mental health call, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
 0631 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
 1113 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willis/California
 1118 – mental health call, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
 1304 – welfare check, Nevada St.
 1344 – citizen assist, Montana St.
 1618 – welfare check, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.
 1629 – mental health call, 48000 Willow Rd.
 1700 – family trouble, Delaware St.
 1945 – fire dept. assist, Vermont St.
 2045 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
 2319 – suspicious vehicle, Martinsville Rd./Judd

Friday, Nov. 15:
 0004 – suspicious circumstance, Creekside
 0133 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 0510 – noise complaint, Carriage Ln.
 0559 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
 0646 – flee & elude, Oakville Waltz Rd./Elwell
 1103 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.
 1135 – property damage accident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1219 – suspicious circumstance, 50000 bl. Judd
 1455 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Karr

1506 – family trouble, New Mexico St.
 1549 – suspicious vehicle, Wear Rd./Martinsville
 1737 – property damage accident, Mulberry Dr.
 1803 – property damage accident, Willis Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
 1819 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
 1821 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
 1833 – animal complaint, New Mexico St.
 2223 – family trouble, Montana
 2340 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Saturday, Nov. 16:
 0105 – suspicious person, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
 0523 – 911 hangup, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
 0830 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
 1139 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
 1149 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
 1231 – follow-up investigation, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 1253 – civil matter, California St.
 1321 – animal complaint, 20630 Wilmot Rd.
 1552 – follow-up investigation, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 1625 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
 1754 – follow-up investigation, Second St.
 1859 – follow-up investigation, Second St.
 2339 – traffic complaint/hazard, Sumpter Rd. / Willow Rd.

Also on this week's log are 185 patrol checks, 45 traffic stops, and nine misc. details.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Friday, Nov. 22** – Red Cup Party, fundraiser for the hurricane victims in NC at the Van Buren Eagles on Beck Road. Dinner is 5 p.m., party starts at 6 p.m., DJ Anthony Richendollar to follow at 8 p.m.
- **Saturday, Nov. 23** – Belleville High School Craft Show, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission. More than 65 crafters and vendors.
- **Monday, Nov. 25** – Tree of Remembrance event at Brown's Family Center begins at 6 p.m. with a gathering and the outdoor service starts at 7 p.m. Dress for the weather. At this annual event ornaments will be placed on Brown's new outdoor tree recently donated by a family. Hot chocolate and cookies provided. Bring your own ornament or use one of Brown's available. Pastor Bob White of Grace Baptist Church will officiate along with a live singer. Information: Jacqueline Dalzell, (734) 697-4500.
- **Monday, Nov. 25** – Watch the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train pass through the State of Michigan, including Romulus, Van Buren Township, and Belleville.

- **Friday, Nov. 29** – Van Buren Eagles on Beck Road presents a dinner at 5 p.m., meat raffle/auction at 6:30 p.m., and a two-person band.
- **Sunday, Dec. 1** – Advent by Candlelight and Hymn-fest at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig St., New Boston. Starts at 3 p.m. with light refreshments immediately after. This is a free event and open to all.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 4** – Second-annual Santa Paws from 5 to 7 p.m. at Harris Park on Belleville Road. Have your pet's picture taken with Santa. Sponsored by the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority.
- **Friday, Dec. 6** – Van Buren Eagles on Beck Road presents Music Bingo at 7:30 p.m., with Karaoke/DJ to follow.
- **Sunday, Dec. 8** – Belleville Community Chorus will present its Christmas Concert, "A Christmas Mood," at 5 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 11** – Second-annual Santa Paws from 5 to 7 p.m. at Harris Park on Belleville Road. Have your pet's picture taken with Santa. Sponsored by the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority.

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 21, 2024 - 7:30 pm

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Beebe	Present
Council Member Kissel	Present
Council Member Priest	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Present
Mayor Voigt	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

a. Presentations

- i. MML Belleville Local Economies Opportunity Report
 - 1. Richard Murphy from the Michigan Municipal League presented the findings of the Belleville Local Economies Opportunity Report.
 - ii. SEMCOG Road Safety Audit
 - 1. City Manager Smith presented the findings of the SEMCOG Road Safety Audit.
- b. Citizen Comments
 - i. Becky Hasen
 - 1. Invited everyone to have a piece of the cake she brought to the meeting in honor of City Manager Smith's birthday and one-year anniversary with the city.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to approve the agenda as presented, with a correction to the date to reflect October 21, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda groups routine meeting discussion points into a single agenda item. In so doing, the grouped items can be approved in one action, rather than through the filing of multiple motions.

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. October 7, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting
- b. Communications
- c. Council Follow Up List
- d. DPS Activity Report
- e. Special Events

- i. Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive
- ii. Belleville VFW/PLAV Veterans Day Ceremony
- iii. Cinnamon Car Show

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel approving the consent agenda items as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. None.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

a. None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

2. a. Approval of the Sale of Old Street Sweeper

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to approve the sale of the city's old street sweeper.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Nay
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

a. Accounts Payable

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

a. The city has requested specs for a mill and overlay of the parking lot at High and Liberty.

b. Repairs to the boardwalk at Horizon Park are to begin this Thursday.

c. Flushing of the city's fire hydrants is underway, and the city will be sending out a Nixle alert to inform residents.

d. Pick-up of leaves for residents will begin on

approve the engagement letter for the city's financial auditor.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Beebe	Aye
Council Member Kissel	Aye
Council Member Priest	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Bates	Aye
Mayor Voigt	Aye

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

a. **Bates**
i. Appreciated the report presented by the MML, and looks forward to implementing the recommended changes.

ii. Brought back 170 pounds of seashells from a recent trip to Florida.

b. **Beebe**
i. Congratulations to City Manager Smith on his one-year anniversary with the city.

c. **Priest**
i. Commended City Manager Smith for a fantastic job, noting that he does his homework on things, and is transparent with the Council.

d. **Kissel**
i. Would like to see the clock on Main St. working properly.

ii. Would like to see issues with High St. addressed.

iii. Davenport Brothers Construction is beginning to clean up their vacant lot on Sumpter Rd.

iv. The 30-mph speed limit sign near the bridge that was displaced has been replaced.

12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

a. Had a lot of fun at the Monster Mutt Walk and Apple Pie Baking Contest.

b. Pleased with the repairs to Church St.

c. Commended the city's Police and Fire Departments for a phenomenal job, especially at the BHS football games.

d. Happy that leaf pickup will be starting soon.

e. The lawsuit with Wayne Disposal is still in the works.

f. Hopes to see the clock on Main St. replaced.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

a. None

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

a. None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to adjourn at 8:44 PM. No objections were noted.

November 4th.
e. The city's vacuum truck will undergo a DOT inspection tomorrow, October 22nd.

f. Happy to be celebrating a one-year anniversary with the city.

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

a. **Bates**
i. Appreciated the report presented by the MML, and looks forward to implementing the recommended changes.

ii. Brought back 170 pounds of seashells from a recent trip to Florida.

b. **Beebe**
i. Congratulations to City Manager Smith on his one-year anniversary with the city.

c. **Priest**
i. Commended City Manager Smith for a fantastic job, noting that he does his homework on things, and is transparent with the Council.

d. **Kissel**
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d. Happy that leaf pickup will be starting soon.

e. The lawsuit with Wayne Disposal is still in the works.

f. Hopes to see the clock on Main St. replaced.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

a. None

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

a. None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to adjourn at 8:44 PM. No objections were noted.

Motion Carried.

Published: November 21, 2024



Photo courtesy of Marilyn Wood

On Saturday, Nov. 9, Boy Scout Troop 231, Cub Scout Pack 793, and Girl Scout Troop 775 held a food drive and received and donated 281 bags of food to the Emergency Food Closet housed at the Belleville First United Methodist Church located at 417 Charles St. After unloading, they date-checked, sorted, and shelved the food. "Thank you, scouts, for helping to feed the hungry in our community," said Marilyn Wood, coordinator, Emergency Food Closet.

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.



City of Belleville Public Notice



CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, November 12, 2024 - 7:30 pm

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

- 2. ROLL CALL Council Member Beebe Present Council Member Kissel Present Council Member Priest Present Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Present Mayor Voigt Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Presentations i. None b. Citizen Comments i. None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Priest, supported by Kissel to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried. 5. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda groups routine meeting discussion points into a single agenda item. In so doing, the grouped items can be approved in one action, rather than through the filing of multiple motions.

- a. Approval of Minutes i. October 21, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting ii. October 28, 2024, Special City Council Meeting b. Communications i. National Fitness Council - NFC Fitness Court Grant ii. 2024 Scarecrow Contest Winners c. Council Follow Up List d. October PD Stats e. Special Events i. Winter Fest

MOTION: Motion by Beebe, supported by Priest approving the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion Carried. 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. None 7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES a. None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- a. DPS Director Contract - Melissa Frierson

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to hire Melissa Frierson as DPS Director.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Council Member Kissel Aye Council Member Priest Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Beebe Aye

Motion Carried. b. Cemetery Tree Removal/Timming Bids

MOTION: Motion by Beebe, supported by Kissel to hire low bid COSM to remove trees in Hillside Cemetery in the amount of \$23,250.00.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Beebe Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Council Member Kissel Aye Council Member Priest Aye

Motion Carried. c. Best One Quote - Mobile Tire Repair for Vac Con Truck

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Priest to accept bid from Best One Quote.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Council Member Priest Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Beebe Aye Council Member Kissel Aye

Motion Carried. d. DTE Alteration of Gas Service - Fire Department

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to accept quote from DTE and schedule alterations.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Council Member Priest Aye Council Member Kissel Aye Council Member Beebe Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Mayor Voigt Aye

Motion Carried. e. Snider Electric Quote for Tornado Siren

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Bates to accept Snider Electric Quote for Tornado Siren.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye Council Member Beebe Aye

- Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Priest Aye Council Member Kissel Aye

Motion Carried. f. Resolution to Adopt and Allocate Funds for an Outdoor Fitness Court as part of the 2024 National Fitness Campaign

MOTION: Motion by Beebe, second by Kissel to Adopt Resolution #24-031 Resolution to Adopt and Allocate Funds for an Outdoor Fitness Court as part of the 2024 National Fitness Campaign.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

- a. Accounts Payable b. Departmental Expenditures MOTION: Motion by Priest, supported by Beebe to approve Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures in excess of \$500, as presented.

- ROLL CALL VOTE: Council Member Beebe Aye Council Member Priest Aye Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Kissel Aye Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Aye

Motion Carried. 10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

- a. Thank you to Clerk Hootman and Deputy Clerk Bellingham for the work on election. b. Thank you to the voters that turned out, 64% turnout. Proposals 1, 2 and 3 passed, proposal 4 did not. c. Approximately 12.79% of meter replacement has been completed. The Fire Department is making badges for SLC workers. d. Planning Commission meeting Thursday will discuss public input survey. e. Roofing at the Fire Department should be completed next week. f. Had conversation with Chief Faull and the Fire Department regarding expectations while Chief Loranger is on leave of absence. g. Alley has been completed.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. Bates i. Hope everyone had a nice Veteran's Day. ii. Veteran Banners look nice. iii. Discuss at the next regular council meeting dates for holiday light contest.

- b. Beebe i. Looking forward to Winterfest. ii. Good job to Jason and Briana and team on early voting, everything went smoothly.

c. Priest

- i. I am thrilled to have leaf collection back.

d. Kissel

- i. Halloween was a good time downtown. ii. Thank you to Chief Faull in her role in Public Safety. iii. Thank you to DDA Doug for all his work, getting gear to identify he is with the DDA. iv. Sat in on Live with the League, MML, November 25th is the next meeting. Suggest to the Council to subscribe to Inside 208 where legislative updates are posted.

12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- a. Pleased with staff on how election went. b. Welcome to Melissa Frierson on her new role with the city, looking forward to working with her and getting a lot done. c. Happy with leaf pick up. d. Drove through Harbour Pointe, everything looks nice, cleaned up nice - What a difference. e. Happy the Fire Department is getting the roof fixed.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Chris Zweng - i. New engine out of service. ii. Thank you to Independent for mentioning promotion of Landskroener promotion. iii. Kitchen is coming along, plan to be completed early part of December, with appliances coming later. iv. Everyone invited to Fire Department to after party for City staff after Winterfest. Will provide a meal.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- a. None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Beebe to adjourn at 8:26 PM.

No objections were noted.

Motion Carried. Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Bellingham

Published: November 21, 2024

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Musings
 By Janet Millard
 Independent Advertising Director



Well, no Ford Field for Belleville this year. Catholic Central beat us fair and square, 35-21. BHS had a great season but it looks like it just wasn't meant to be.

Here we are at Third Thursday in the Ville. Time to shop downtown Belleville and take advantage of sales and all those popups. Don't forget the Craft Show at BHS on Saturday.

Although I am not a fan of the night parade, I know many of you are. This is your reminder that the annual Christmas Parade is scheduled for Dec. 7 and if you are sitting on that parade entry form, now is the time get it in. Look for the CBC entry - Buzz the Business Dog -- and don't forget that Santa will be at the Library after the parade.

St. Anthony Men's Club will hold its annual \$10,000 raffle in February but

tickets are available now. Only 300 sold so you can't beat those odds. See their ad in today's paper.

I don't know how many times I have to say that our Library is such a blessing to the communities that make up the 48111. Their programs cover so many of our needs and all it takes is to stop by or give them a call. See page 14 in last week's paper for two areas that you may need or know someone who does. So, in addition to having a beautiful building, they are a one-stop shop!

November & December bring us holidays and so many events. Hope all of you are paying attention to the Things To Do column. Our clubs and organizations work really hard to bring top-notch events for both adults and children. Please support their efforts.

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

Correction:
BHS football won seven district titles in a row

A parent of a former Belleville High School football player left a message saying this year's district title was its fourth in a row since COVID, but wasn't the first time BHS won districts four times in a row. She said BHS also won 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

According to our files, BHS won district titles in 2018 and 2019, with 2018 touted as its first ever. BHS Athletic Director Joe Brodie reports that BHS Varsity Football has won seven district titles in a row: 2018-2024. Our headline in the Nov. 14 paper saying this is the fourth district title in a row wasn't quite accurate. Sorry for the confusion. Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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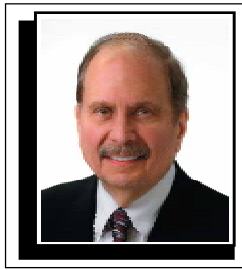
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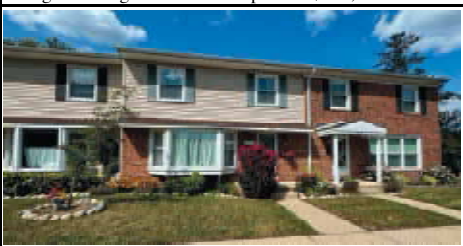
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