Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville & the Charter Township of Van Buren 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111 • (734) 699-9020 www.bellevilleareaindependent.com • baindependent@ameritech.net

# NBELLEVILLE-AREA NDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.49 Thursday, December 5, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

# City council changes meeting time, purchasing

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

After voters approved changing parts of the Belleville City Charter in the Nov. 5 election, the city council moved forward on Monday and adjusted the council meeting time and its purchasing policy as of Jan. 1.

The council will meet on the same days as previously, on the first and third Mondays of each month, but that will be at 6:30 p.m., instead of 7:30 p.m.

City manager Jason Smith said he will present a calendar for the year for approval at the next meeting, after he has checked holidays and come up with appropriate dates

City manager Smith had proposed changing the meeting night from the regular Monday to a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. He said many holidays are on Mondays and the meetings have to be changed.

Mayor Ken Voigt said changing the date will interfere with the schedule of local municipal meetings that the *Independent* attends and, "It's important to be in the paper."

As the council moved into changing the city purchasing policy, Mayor Voigt said, "The charter is revised and we no longer are bound by 40-year-old limits."

The council voted to allow the city manager to spend up to \$5,000 one time and anything over \$5,000 must come to the council first. Anything over \$10,000 must go out for bids.

Department heads may spend up to \$2,500 with permission from the city manager, and this will include no contracts.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

 Discussed the time clock system the city manager brought to the council for discussion. The details were not presented

(continued on page 13)



Performing in "Miracle on 34th Street" are, from left, John Thiede of Romulus as Fred Gayley, Scott Peets of Wayne as Santa, Tiffany Darby of Belleville (standing behind) as Doris Walker, and Laura Broughton of Belleville (in front) as Susan Walker.

# 'Miracle on 34th Street' comes to VBT Black Box theater

Van Buren Community Players will present "Miracle on 34th Street, the Play" on Dec. 6-8 and 13-15 at the Van Buren Community Center's new Black Box Theater at 46425 Tyler Rd.

The play is adapted by Mountain Community Theater from a novel by Valentine Davies.

"It has been a pleasure working with this very talented cast and bringing this Christmas classic to life!" said director Laura Kitzman.

The cast of 22 includes Scott Peets as Kris Kringle, Tiffany Darby as Doris Walker, Lauren Broughton as Susan Walker, John Thiede as Fred Gayley and many other members of the community.

In addition to this classic story about

love, decency, goodwill and the meaning of Christmas, audiences will enjoy dancing elves, Christmas caroling and a Christmas parade featuring reindeer and a sleigh, elves, and of course, Santa.

In this Christmas classic, an old man going by the name of Kris Kringle fills in for an intoxicated Santa in Macy's annual Thanksgiving Day Parade and is then hired as Santa at Macy's.

Kringle surprises customers and employees alike by claiming that he really is Santa Claus. This leads to a court case to determine if he is just a nice old man with a white beard, or really Santa. Will Susan agree with the court's decision?

Performances are Dec. 6-8 and 13-15. Friday and Saturday performances are at

7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances are at 2 p.m. in the Black Box Theater, inside the VBT Community Center.

The matinee performance on Sunday, Dec. 15, will also feature the Belleville Community Chorus with several Christmas carols

After each performance, audience members will be able take pictures with Santa, the elves, and the sleigh in the lobby.

Tickets to the performances are \$16-\$20 each and can be purchased online by going to https://vanburentwp.recdesk.com/Community/Program or in person at the Community Center desk Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. For ticket assistance by phone, call (734) 699-8921.

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE



Rev. George "Chip" Dischinger

### Public invited to installation of full-time Trinity rector on Dec. 10

By Sharon Claytor Peters Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., welcomes the public to the installation of its newly appointed, full-time rector, Rev. George "Chip" Dischinger, on Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.

"Rev Chip," as he is called, first came to Trinity Belleville in February of 2023 on a part-time basis, and the church is pleased to now celebrate his move to a full-time basis

Rev Chip was born and raised in Rochester, NY, after which he attended West Virginia University, then graduated from North Carolina State University. He worked in the pharmaceutical industry for many years in Salisbury, NC, before he was called to ordained ministry.

He earned his Master's of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, and completed further seminary studies in Berkley, CA. He then moved to Detroit, worked for several years, and was ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2022. After serving in churches in Ann Arbor and Jackson, he was called to Trinity Episcopal Belleville.

In Rev. Chip's own words, "I came, felt a call to serve in this remarkable place, Belleville, and look forward to meeting and working with as many of you as God gives me the grace to do so."

The installation service will be presided over by the Bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Michigan, the Rev. Bonnie Perry.

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# School Board approves social worker at Rawsonville for \$95/hr.

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

At the Nov. 25 meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, the board voted unanimously to approve a Special Education Contractual Agreement with an employee through Bilingual Therapies for the 2024-25 school year at a cost of \$95 an hour full time at Rawsonville Elementary School.

When board president Amy Pearce and other board members asked about whether this would be for Spanish/English and said it would be nice for Rawsonville to share the bilingual teacher with other schools, director of student services Julien Frazier said it wasn't bilingual.

He said the company goes under the name of Bilingual Therapies, but it wasn't really bilingual. It was a school social worker they were hiring.

Frazier said the company's name actually is New Direction Solutions, LLC doing business at Bilingual Therapies.

He said the district has been unsuccessful in finding a school social worker on its own for the vacant position.

In other business at the 49-minute open meeting, the board:

- · Heard background information on the Savage and Tyler Schools Secure Entry project which will be voted on at the next meeting. Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran Realpoint, explained the bidding that had been going on under project manager Davenport Brothers. The total for the two schools, including the project manager, is \$2,350,312 and it will begin in March around spring break and conclude by Aug. 18. The project will move the main office to two former classrooms in the front of the school and provide secure entry, so visitors don't have to walk through the building to get to the office, the way the two buildings were designed. "This will make all of our buildings have secure entries," president Pearce said;
- · Heard James Williams, director of plant operations, explain the \$307,000 districtwide proposed radio upgrade security and communication, programming, and cellular upgrades at Tyler/Savage that will be voted on at the next meeting. He said Tyler and Savage have cellular dead zones, which the district considers a safety concern. "Over time, we have repaired, replaced, and added radios as necessary," Williams wrote in a memo to the board. "Now, it is time to upgrade our radios to improve communications across our buildings, enchancing both daily operations and emergency respond." This will be paid for with 31aa Grant Funds;
- Approved attendance for 25-30 Belleville High School students to attend the KLAA Student Leadership Conference on Feb. 21-24 at the Amway Grand hotel

in Grand Rapids. Cost is \$350 per students, with fundraising funds available to all students with the goal to cover 100% of student fees;

- Accepted the resignations of Rosanna Guido from Special Services after five years of service as of Dec. 2; and the resignation of Stacy Sage from Transportation after less than a year of service, as of Nov. 22. Also approved the termination of Gary Story from Buildings and Grounds after less than a year of service, as of Nov. 19;
- Approved the employment of non-instructional employees Taylor Gamble for Student Success/Attendance at BHS as of Nov. 11; Jennifer Brown as a paraprofessional at Tyler Elementary School as of Nov. 14; Matthew Collier as a bus aide as of Nov. 18; and Nagela Brundage-Forrest as a bus driver as of Nov. 18:
- Heard BHS student Lea Cappers say there is a Toys for Kids drive at the high school where students donate for kids of all ages with toys from Walmart, Nov. 25-Dec. 12;
- Heard director Williams say they are working on a plan to replace and enhance

cameras on the interior of the high school. He said they district was awarded the electric buses grant and will apply for a grant for three more. The engineers are planning infrastructure for the buses so it can be in place before they arrive;

- Heard School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the previous week he was among 20 people from Michigan who went to Atlanta, GA, for a two-day conference to learn about educational programs on the high school level that teach aviation and aeronautics. He said the county expects to set up three programs, with Van Buren Public Schools to be one;
- Heard president Pearce announce a "soiree" at 6:30 p.m., Dec. 9, before the next board meeting to honor the three departing board members; and
- Went into closed-door session at the end of the open meeting for a periodic evaluation of the superintendent. President Pearce said the board would not come back into open session at the end of the evaluation to make a decision, but would only vote to adjourn. She said the results of the evaluation would be announced at the next meeting.

# Belleville Community Chorus presents holiday concert on Dec. 8

On Sunday, Dec. 8, the entire community is invited to enjoy the award-winning Belleville Community Chorus' 18<sup>th</sup>-annual holiday concert entitled "A Christmas Mood."

The performance is scheduled for 5 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St. in Belleville.

Under the leadership of director Elisha Miller, accompanied by Judith Weed, the concert will feature songs of the season guaranteed to put you in the mood for the upcoming celebrations.

Don't leave this event out of your holiday plans! Come, bring your friends, and support this dedicated, high quality tricommunity group. As always, the concert is free, though donations supporting the chorus are invited, encouraged, and welcomed.

If sitting back and listening is not enough for you and you're interested in knowing more about or being part of the Belleville Community Chorus, contact Claudia Roullier at (734) 697-8235 or claudiarou47@yahoo.com.

The Belleville Community Chorus offers opportunities for performance of mixed-voice choral music in a variety of styles. The chorus strives to improve its musical quality through education and commitment to a rehearsal and performance schedule.

The generosity of donors and sponsors supports community activities including education, rehearsal, performance, and entertainment. BCC is a 501(C)3 not-forprofit organization.

# **Court Watching:**

### Deja Marie Hall

Deja Marie Hall, 25, of Ypsilanti, was charged with operating while intoxicated with occupant less than 16 and operating while intoxicated on Aug. 13, 2023 in the city of Belleville. She failed to appear for her Nov. 15 court date and a show-cause hearing was set for Dec. 13. She failed to appear and a bench warrant was issued.

On Jan. 17, she was present for her show-cause arraignment and her attorney

asked for the case to be adjourned for discovery. Her pretrial was set for Feb. 7, but she failed to appear. A bench warrant was issued. Then the show cause/pretrial was set for April 3. She failed to appear. On July 17, her arraignment/pretrial was set for Aug. 8 and then reset for Aug. 21. A final pretrial was set for Oct. 2 and then for Nov. 6. A remote pretrial was set for Dec. 18.

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Belleville Area Independent/December 5, 2024

Editorial

## Outdoor gym for city of Belleville slips away as grant offer expires

On Monday, Belleville city manager Jason Smith said the Priority Health Campaign \$50,000 grant offer to the city has been extended to Tuesday so the council could have time to approve the \$127,000 expenditure to secure the grant.

Mayor Ken Voigt said the city asked the Downtown Development Authority for help at the last DDA meeting and they didn't exactly say no, but wanted more information. He said since the DDA isn't interested, the \$127,000 would have to come out of the city's fund balance.

Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Bates said fitness is important, supporting the expenditure.

Mayor Voigt said there have been significant improvements to Village Park and this outdoor gym could be put between the kids' play area and the pickle ball court and it's an opportunity for the city. He said Canton, Brownstown, and Westland have them, along with about 14 communities in Michigan.

Councilman Jeremiah Beebe said he has a problem with the cost of \$127,000, which could help repair a street. "They give us a grant and sell us the equipment? I would

Councilwoman Julie Kissel said, "Not from the fund balance."

Councilman Randy Priest was absent and excused and so there were only four council members, two for and two against the project. Beebe said he would vote no and the mayor said there was no motion. The outdoor gym grant slipped away.

# **EXTRA THINGS I KNOW**

The Yankee Lady, a World War II B-17 Flying Fortress, made her final flight across the West and Wyoming during the last week of October, according to a report in Cowboy State Daily in Wyoming, which said it was emotional for fans of the famous bomber, which was featured in the movie "Tora! Tora! Tora!"

Flying between 2,000 to 10,000 feet, the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Yankee Lady made her final flight across the Western states of America as she left her former home at the Michigan Flight Museum.

The Yankee Lady had been sold to a buyer in California who will have her disassembled and sent to Avspecs, a vintage aircraft restoration company in New Zealand, which will restore the plane over the next few years.

The new owner's plans are to keep the Yankee Lady a working aircraft and part of his ever-growing private collection of vintage planes.

As she flew west, the Yankee Lady was tracked on flight apps as she made her voyage over Wyoming, and World War II aviation buffs were watching.

"A little further out West, it had to go 7,500 almost 10,000 feet to get over the mountains into passes," Matt Korich, former museum volunteer and industrial designer, told the Cowboy State Daily.

The B-17 Yankee Lady was sold in June after the Michigan Flight Museum made the difficult decision that it could no longer shoulder the maintenance expenses.

"There's been numbers of \$5 million floating around just to get the EAA B-17 aluminum overcast back in the air," Korich said. "For a very small museum like the

'Cause the prices are just frightful. He'll say, "Sorry Son, things are tight." And all the way home I will pout.

Hey, Gang! Moonfrogs are here

to kick off the Season of good cheer!

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

song to the tune of Let It Snow"

SUCH IS LIFE 151000 34

I'll be passing on things that cost... Lots 'o dough, lot's 'o dough, lots'o dough. So I'll ask for some cash from Dad, When the cred-it card is tapped out.

Oh, my shopping cart is not quite full,

So, you won't see me out there buying, But indeed, there's no denying, "Merry Christmas" is not about, Lots 'o dough, lots 'o dough, lots 'o dough.

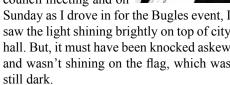
> VFW Commander Bob Krouse had led the Bugles event on Nov. 3 and on Sunday, Dec. 1, it was announced Commander Krouse had died the night before on Nov.

30. We were all very sad to hear that.

Bugles Across America meets at 7:15 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month across the nation to say the Pledge of Allegiance, hear a horn play "Taps" and hear Geof Bush and Lori Day sing the "National Anthem." Yes, they sang it in the bitter cold on Sunday.

The American Flag at Five Points in

Belleville had been in the dark for a while since the light on top of city hall meant to illuminate it wasn't working. I alerted city officials at the last council meeting and on



I asked another person at Bugles to check it out in case I wasn't looking at it right. On Monday morning, I got a call. Yes, he had looked, and yes, the flag is still dark. He suggested maybe secret signals are being sent into space by that light.

Michigan Flight Museum it was too much of a massive expense. It just put them in a really difficult spot that they had to make a horribly hard decision."

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels are coming to Willow Run Airport on June 20-22, 2025 and tickets are already on sale. Thunder Over Michigan will kick off on Friday with a day-into-night event that will begin with the Blue Angels and conclude with a twilight display of light-up performances. Saturday and Sunday will feature traditional day shows with the Blue Angels and others. See: thunderovermichigan.com

Detroit Cass Tech played Hudsonville last Saturday afternoon at Ford Field for the Division 1 MHSAA state title. Cass Tech was the winner, 42-20: the end of Division 1's story this year.

At Sunday night's Bugles Across America session at the Belleville Veterans Monument, it was very dark. The streetlight has been out for months, but this time all the lights on the monument were out, too. Then, the monument lights flickered on and we were pleased to be able to see each other. But, just as quickly they turned off. Later, they stayed on a little longer but turned off again.

It was very cold, 27 degrees, with the wind blowing off the lake making it colder, so we were OK with having a short session.

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152 Main Street (in The Professional Building) Belleville, MI 48111 Musings **By Janet Millard** Independent Advertising Director

Our newest business on Main Street, Thrifts & Gifts, will be having its Grand Opening on Thursday, Dec. 5. The Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. so do your best to make it on time for the picture!

By now you should have the Belleville Community Chorus Winter Concert on your calendar but just in case, consider this your final reminder. A Christmas Mood will be presented at the Belleville 1st United Methodist Church on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 5 p.m. This concert has become a tradition by many in the community just like those who go to a candlelight church service on Christmas Eve. My mother used to love that and would try her best to keep her candle lit all the way home!

Well, Winterfest has arrived! Popups tonight in the Square and Place. Shop until you drop! Such a busy weekend that you may want to clone yourself so you can participate in everything. Winterfest brings Santa to town Friday, Saturday & Sunday. On Friday night you can dance with Santa in the big tent on 4th Street Square, and then he and Mrs. Claus will travel on the big Van Buren fire truck in the Saturday night light parade to the library on 4th Street. They should arrive somewhere between 6:30 and 7 p.m. to meet with area children and hear their Christmas wishes. Santa will then show up for Breakfast on Sunday at the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Square. He is one busy guy!

Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be the first weekend for the Van Buren Community Players' "Miracle on 34th Street" at Van Buren Township. Saturday also is the first day of the Festival of Holiday Trees & Wreaths at the Museum. Then as I mentioned above, Sunday is the Community Chorus Winter Concert at Belleville 1st United Methodist Church.





Karen's Place has a new Nail Tech.

Call Lexi for an appointment today!

Linda of Belleville, who rang the bell at the Salvation Army kettle in front of the Belleville Walmart during a recent twohour morning shift, celebrates the 39 people who donated and the many others that do this holiday season.

### **Correction:**

In our Nov. 21 Independent report on a meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, we referred to Fred Abel as principal of Edgemont Elementary School. He used to be Edgemont principal, but now he is principal of Tyler Elementary School. He gave a fall building presentation on Tyler. We apologize for the mistake.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

# **Obituaries**





Commander Bob Krouse

### ROBERT WILLIAM KROUSE

(April 18, 1950 – November 30, 2024)

Robert William Krouse, age 74, of Belleville, MI, passed away Saturday, November 30, 2024, at his home, surrounded by family. He was born April 18, 1950, in Kansas City, Missouri. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air

Force as a K-9 Police officer. He also worked in security as a K-9 officer at Detroit Metro Airport for many years. He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, MI.

Bob was the Commander of VFW Post #4434, Belleville, MI. He was a loving and attentive husband, father, grandfather, companion, teacher and friend. He has made indelible marks and helped to shape lives and all those he encountered as he taught at Belleville Martial Arts Institute. He advised and protected with courage, righteousness and kindness. As a teacher and mentor he could quickly get to the root of the question posed to him and respond in a thoughtful and carefully crafted way quickly, without rushing, that would allow his students to learn and grow in their own way. Like a strong tree on a mountain he was in the forefront of things, always stood firm, provided support and exemplified for others what it means to reach for perfection. His intelligence, quick wit and humor will not be forgotten.

Bob is survived by his devoted wife of 42 years, Marie D. (Lenzo) Krouse; son H. William (Chantell James) Krouse of Kansas City, Missouri; daughter Heather Marie (John Meyer) Krouse of Tecumseh, MI; 3 grandchildren: Lucius Bouchard, Aurora and Aurelius Anderson; a sister Glinda Reynolds, two brothers Bryan (Kil) Sampson and Kevin (Ellsie) Sampson, all of Kansas City, Missouri area; a niece Becky; also numerous extended family, friends and colleagues.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Harold and Pat Krouse, sister Lisa Schwemin, also an aunt Jackie Sampson.

Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Thursday, December 5, 2024, with an 11:00 a.m. Funeral Friday, December 6, 2024, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Rev. Robert J. White will officiate. Interment will be in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to VFW Post #4434 and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com



### GEORGE MICHAEL LOOMIS

(May 30, 1951 – November 23, 2024) Age 73, of Willis. Served in U.S. Navy. Retired after 32 years at Ford, Saline. Survived by wife Darla; daughter Melissa, two siblings. Visitation was Nov. 30 at David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidebrownfh.com





### EDWARD BRENDTKE

(October 15, 1937 - November 29, 2024) Edward "Sparky" Brendtke, age 87, lifelong resident of Belleville, MI, passed away at home, surrounded by his family, in hospice care, on Friday, November 29, 2024. He was born October 15, 1937 in Belleville, MI, to Alfred and Vera (Baker) Brendtke. Edward "Sparky" was self-employed, as a master electrician. He had a love for playing pool and was a great softball player. In his spare time, he enjoyed taking a pontoon boat out on Belleville Lake and relaxing. Edward was also a proud Romulus VFW member, having served our nation in the Navy and in Korea. He will be greatly missed. Edward is survived by his devoted wife of 25 years Rebecca "Becky" (Shippy) Brendtke; daughter Laura Brendtke of Springfield, OH; step-daughter Nickie (Mike) Grange of Freemont, IN; 7 grandchildren: Poloma, Shawn, Eric, Kyler (Ashley), Aden, Elizabeth and Grayson; 2 great-grandchildren: Aubrey and Grayson; 2 sisters: Trudy and Graceann; and a brother Jerry Brendtke.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Randy Brendtke, step-daughter Shannon Gier, as well as 8 siblings: Gladys, Eleanor, Edna, Marie, Alvira, Al, Cal and Gary.

According to his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com

### JUDITH ROHRBACK

(November 4, 1944 – November 27, 2024) Age 80 of Belleville, formerly of Adrian. Survived by son George "Jay" Rohrback of Belleville, three grandchildren, one greatgrandchild, five siblings. Cremation rites have been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com



Bettie Lee Zunk

### <u>BETTIE LEE ZUNK</u>

(January 17, 1931 – November 27, 2024)

Bettie Lee Zunk, age 93, passed away at Rivergate Terrace, Riverview, MI, late Wednesday, November 27, 2024. She was born January 17, 1931, in Richmond, Virginia, daughter of Andrew & Nannie Catherine (Bryant) Walker. She retired from General Motors, Livonia plant, after more than 20 loyal years sewing upholstery. She enjoyed woodworking and crafts in general. She also enjoyed shopping, flea markets, and finding unique jewelry and clothing. Enjoying family the most.

Bettie is survived by 5 children: Johnny (Judy) Delano of Pulaski, Tennessee, Sandra Caron of Belleville, MI, Cindy Conklin of New Boston, MI, Sherry Zunk of Belleville, MI, and Carole (Ron) Brown of Highland, MI; 13 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; a brother William Leo (Sandra) Walker of Tecumseh, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, a son William Gordon, a grandson Robert Cottingham, a sister Norma Jean Gould, a son-in-law Keith Conklin, and a sister-in-law Judy Delano.

Visitation was Sunday, December 1, 2024, with a Funeral service officiated by minister Andrea Biggs at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

### BRUCE EDWARD BACKUS

(April 16, 1940 – November 30, 2024)

Age 84, of Ypsilanti. Retired from Ford headquarters after 30+ years of service. Survived by daughter Alicia Goodman of Van Buren Township, 3 grandchildren, 2 greatgrandchildren, two sisters. Cremation rites have been accorded. <a href="https://www.davidcbrownfh.com">www.davidcbrownfh.com</a>

### CAROL ANN HOWE

(January 30, 1942 – November 22, 2024)

Carol Ann Howe, age 82, of Canton, MI, passed away Friday, November 22, 2024, at Trinity Health, Ann Arbor, MI, surrounded by family, after a long battle with cystic fibrosis. She was born January 30, 1942, in Detroit, MI, daughter of William H. & Marge (Griffith) Bright. She graduated from Detroit High School, class of 1960. She worked for the State of Michigan, in many different administrative roles, until she retired after more than 20 years. She enjoyed going to the gym, watching movies, traveling, and was an avid reader.

Carol is survived by two sisters: Candace (Harvey) Zajac of Van Buren Township, MI, and Pamela Bright of Canton, MI; 4 nieces: Dawn (Sean) Blasche of Van Buren Township, MI, Kim (Tom) Osborne of Sumpter Township, MI, Melissa (Nicholas) OpedenKeldar of Massachusetts, and Char Redoutey of Inkster, MI; 4 nephews: Jason (Angel) Zajac of Texas, Kenneth (Cindy) Dunkel, Jonathan (Elise) Dunkel, and Matthew Dunkel, all of Florida; brother-in-law Ken Dunkel of Florida, also numerous colleagues and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, also a sister Victoria Dunkel.

Dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

### PHIL THOMAS HARRIS

(July 8, 1941 – November 25, 2024)
Age 83, of Keller, TX. BHS 1961. Served on Belleville PD, 19 years on VBT FD. Retired from American Airlines. Survived by gister

from American Airlines. Survived by sister, brother, 3 grandsons, 8 great-grandchildren. Cremation rites to be afforded. David C. Brown Funeral Home

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More Obituaries on pages 7 & 8



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# bituaries





Johnny G. Harrell

### NY G. HARRELL

(June 21, 1942 – November 29, 2024) Johnny G. Harrell, age 82, of Sumpter Township, MI, passed away late Friday, November 29, 2024, at Trinity Health, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born June 21, 1942, in Belfry, Kentucky, son of William Harvey & Hattie (Bennett) Harrell. He graduated from Belfry High School, class of 1960, and was then drafted into the U.S. Navy, where he proudly served his country during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He worked for Ford Motor Company, retiring from their Ypsilanti plant after 30+ years. He was a member of the U.A.W. Local 849. He was a former member of Belleville Masonic Lodge. He enjoyed golf, woodworking, and serving his community. He was a dedicated and longtime member of Free Will Baptist Church, Belleville, where he was an active Deacon, and he was also a talented poet. John loved spending his winters with his younger sister {Mary "Lolly" (Harrell) Given}

Mr. Harrell is survived by his son William H. Harrell of Willis, MI, grandson John Harrell of Willis, MI, two sisters Mary Given of Florida and Connie Bazzila of West Virginia, also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Roxie Laverne (Bowman) Harrell, also four siblings: James & Bill Harrell, Sue Pyles, and Madelyn Langdon.

A Celebration of his life will be Saturday, December 21, 2024 at 2:00 PM, with a gathering of family and friends from 12-2 PM, at Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI. Pastor Jack Daniels will officiate. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI (734)697-4500. Memorial contributions may be made to Free Will Baptist Church, Belleville, and would be appreciated.

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Avis Leora White

(May 18, 1928 - November 26, 2024)

Avis was born in Ionia, Michigan on May 18, 1928, to Merle and Mary Rusnell. She married Don F. White, Jr., also of Ionia, in 1948. They lived briefly in Portland, Michigan before moving to Belleville, Michigan, where she spent most of her adult life. They raised their four children there, G. Michael White, John Patrick White, Mary D. Lindemann and Tim B.

Once she had raised her children Avis went to back to school, getting her Bachelor's degree from Wayne State University and her Master's degree from the University of Michigan. She taught elementary school children in the Belleville Community Schools for a decade before retiring. Many former students can gratefully attest to her dedication to her mantra that "every child is important and every child can learn if you just learn how to unlock their native curiosity."

After retiring, Avis moved to Orleans Twp. to live on Long Lake at the family cottage. While there she volunteered as a tutor for the local school. She briefly moved back to Ionia before voluntarily moving into Pilgrim Manor (now MediLodge) in Grand Rapids. She did not want to make her children have to decide if, when and where to move her into assisted living. That was just who she was, always thinking of others.

Avis was always volunteering. For many years she devoted countless hours and dollars to support Girlstown (now Guiding Harbor) which offers therapeutic residential care for adolescent girls with emotional and/or behavioral problems that impact their ability to live with their families or in the community. She was also a long-time member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs - Michigan, which founded Girlstown, and she served in various capacities for both organizations.

Avis was an active member and supporter of both the Belleville First United Methodist Church and the Ionia First United Methodist Church. She also led the effort to create a city park on Belleville Lake, not only raising funds but also doing the dirty work of clearing trash and doing the plantings.

Yet Avis was not all work and no play. She also was an accomplished bridge player, often recruiting her children to play with her ladies' group, and then getting frustrated when they forgot that a bid of three hearts was a signal under a convention, it did not mean she wanted to play or even had any hearts in her hand.

Above all, Avis was a loving wife and mother. She rarely missed a game, recital, award or graduation for her children, grandchildren or great grandchildren. To her dying day she religiously sent birthday cards to each of them. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and

As her final act of sacrifice, Avis donated her body to the University of Michigan Medical School to assist in the education of future doctors. Hopefully her legacy of service will live on in their service to others.

There will be no general funeral service, per her request. Those wishing to make a contribution in her memory may do so to the charity of their choice or to Guiding Harbor. guidingharbor.org

### Belleville Area Independent/December 5, 2024

# **Obituaries**



Patricia Sue Korgal

(March 5, 1929 – November 30, 2024)

Patricia Sue Korgal, born, March 5, 1929 passed peacefully on November 30, 2024 at 95

She was the daughter of Clinton and Helen (Hammond) Horton. Pat, as she was affectionately known, grew up in the Denton area of Van Buren Township. She attended Van Buren Schools, graduating with the Belleville High School Class of 1947.

On June 5, 1948, she married Frank B. Korgal at St. Anthony Catholic Church, located at that time on Main Street in Belleville. She continued her affiliation with St. Anthony's working with the Mother's Club of St. Anthony's grade school, the Altar Society, Bingo Games and Strawberry Festivals and was still an active member

Pat was a homemaker and babysitter for many children from the family and the Belleville area. She enjoyed sewing and was an accomplished quilter. For many years, she could be found with the Tuesday Quilters at the Van Buren Senior Center.

Though having never driven an automobile, she did enjoy mowing the lawn on her John Deere tractor and taking care of the flowers in her

Pat is survived by her son Richard Korgal, son-in-law Jack Loria, grandchildren Michael (Jennifer) Loria and Jaclyn (Ken) Floro; greatgrandchildren Vincent, Anthony, Sophia, and Francesca Floro and Elizabeth, Katherine, Natalie, and Rebecca Loria; sisters-in-law Geraldine Fuller, Pat (Bill) Thomas; and many nieces, nephews and friends

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years Frank B. Korgal in 2011, her daughter Rosemary Loria in 2019, parents Clinton and Helen Horton, sister Hilda Fraser, and brothers Clint, Charles, Tom and Jim Horton.

Visitation was Monday with a 6 p.m. Vigil service led by Deacon Peter Cornell at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Her Funeral Mass was Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, MI 48111. Father Robert McKabe served as Celebrant. A Private Interment will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Mom was always an ardent supporter of the Lingap Children's Foundation, which supports disadvantaged children in the Philippines. Therefore, we would like to ask that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The Lingap Children's Foundation; P.O. Box 1553, Jackson, MI 49204-1553. Donations may also be made online by visiting: lingapcenter.org

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# **Upcoming Meetings**

- Monday, Dec. 9 Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS, preceded by a party at 6:30 p.m. to honor the three outgoing board members.
- Tuesday, Dec. 10 Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library board, 7:30
- Wednesday, Dec. 11 Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 12 Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 16 Belleville City Council,
- Tuesday, Dec. 17 Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 18 Van Buren Township

Environmental Commission, 6 p.m. Also, City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.

- Thursday, Jan. 9 Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 14 Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA)

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St. Anthony Men's Club donated \$1,000 to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434 on Nov. 25. The money was from the Veterans Breakfast the club put on at the church on Nov. 10. From left is VFW Senior Vice Commander Pete Pitzen, Jack Mills of the Men's Club, Men's Club president Steve Walsh, and VFW Commander John Blackstone.

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# Public welcome to join BACA bus trip to DIA special exhibit Dec. 14

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) is sponsoring a bus trip on Saturday, Dec. 14, to the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) to see the special exhibit "The Art of Dining."

The exhibit illustrates food culture in the Islamic world.

Cost is \$20 per person. For an additional \$5, (\$25) BACA offers membership to BACA for the 2025 calendar year. There is no additional charge for admission to the DIA or to the exhibit.

At the museum the DIA will provide a docent to escort BACA group and explain the exhibit. The trip is open to BACA membership and to the public.

The bus will leave Van Buren Township

Hall on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 11 a.m. and leave the DIA at 4 p.m., returning to Van Buren Township Hall at 5 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in the bus trip, make your check payable to BACA and send to Barbara Miller, 45311 Harmony Lane, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

Include your phone number (a must) so that you may be contacted if there are any issues with the trip. The check must be received by Wednesday, Dec. 11.

Those with questions, may call Barbara Miller at (734) 516-0025. Twenty-five participants are required. If they do not have that number, the trip will be cancelled. Your funds will be returned, Miller said.



A reader drove to the Sumpter Township Senior Center on the Monday before Thanksgiving and noticed that there was a second lane added for the Forgotten Harvest program, which took 28 extra cars off of the main roads. The reader left and came back later and at 3:02 p.m. there were still 30 cars lined up on Sumpter Road, due, he thought, to increased participation in the program.





Photo courtesy of <u>TerryChristensen@tcdrone.net</u> On Monday, this was equipment on the Denton Road Bridge that links the city of Belleville and Van Buren Township and has been closed for 795 days as of today.



Dec. 2 – Susan Duff

Dec. 3 – John Duff, Simona Miller, Pam Johnson

Dec. 4 – Amber Brendtke

Dec. 5 – Justin Juriga, Rachel Christian

Dec. 6 - Diane Sloan

Dec. 7 – Peggy Breen, Cheryl Parent

Dec. 9 – Drusilla Allen

Dec. 11 - Ruth Duda, Gerry Dockter, Janet Sohl

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Photo courtesty of Kelley Sherwood The students of Families in Support of Homeschooling (FISH), a homeschool group in Belleville, recently made more than 100 handmade Thanksgiving cards that were donated to Columbia Court senior apartments. Pictured are Ashton Green-Koepfle, Dylan Kimberly, Ella Schultz, Rylee Sherwood, Khaleesi Champion, Brandon Sherwood, Marley Richendollar, Jason Kimberly, Logan Kimberly, Mario Richendollar, Lincoln Hager, and Ryan Hager. Not pictured are Nathan Kimberly, Travis Kimberly, Emma Schultz

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Edward Jones















# December 5th - December 8th





# Thursday - December 5th

### **Ladies Night Out Pop-Up Shops**

Time: 5 - 9pm

Location: 4th Street Square, 4th Street Place & Local Businesses

### Friday - December 6th Soup Crawl

Time: 6 - 8pm

Location: Start at 4th Street Square

Santa/WhoVille Holiday Dance Party (All Ages)

Time: 8pm - 11pm

Location: 4th Street Square

## Sunday, December 8th

### Breakfast with Santa

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location: 4th Street Square

### **Carriage Rides**

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: 4th St Place/Main Street

### **Belleville Community Chorus Winter Concert**

Time: 5pm

Location: First United Methodist Church

# Saturday - December 7th

### **Holiday Village Activities Open**

Time: 10am-5:30pm Location: 4th Street Place

### **Food Trucks**

Time: 10am - 9pm

Location: 4th Street Place

### Inflatables & Snow Slide

Time: 10am - 5pm - Weather Permitting

Location: Main Street

### **Animal Shows**

Time: 10am & 1pm

Location: 4th Street Square

### **Carriage Rides**

Time: 10am-5pm Location: Main Street

### **Annual Light Parade**

Time: 5:30 - 7:15pm Location: Main Street

### Santa at the Library

Time: After the parade

Location: Belleville Area District Library

### **Fireworks**

Time: 7:30 - 7:50pm - Weather Permitting

### The Social Bandits- Live Music

Time: 8-11pm

Location: 4th Street Square





































# City Council

(continued from page 1)

until just before the meeting started. Smith said he and assistant city manager Steve Jones have worked on lapses in accountability in the Department of Public Services and "pretty much across the board." Smith recommended 50 licenses to cover the DPS, city hall (PD and city offices) and possibly the fire department. Cost would be \$14,520 and a monthly charge. The system from City Works integrates with the software in use and keeps track of paid time off, making accountability for hours for payroll for a total of about 36 people. Councilman Jeremiah Beebe said there are other programs that are cheaper and Mayor Voigt directed Smith to bring other formats to the next meeting;

• Approved the \$1,576 quote from Snider Electric to update DPS electrical power in the break room. Smith said the overhead lighting needs work and building code wiring is required, with some removed. He said the new cabinets have been delivered;

• Tabled a proposal from K Springer Media for social media services for the city. Smith said the city has created a Facebook page, but it's very bland and has more "just the facts" type of contact. He said Jones hired Kathleen Springer for the DDA and she could create and manage the site longterm, to help maintain the reputation the city wants. He recommended approval of her proposal. He said approving a content manager, especially one that is also utilized by the DDA, creates a synchronized message across the city. Mayor Voigt said the goal is to better communicate with the residents. Councilwoman Kelly Bates said she doesn't have social media and she would like a demonstration. Councilman Beebe said he doesn't see the value of social media. She proposed \$800 for page creation and Meta Verification and then \$800 a month, with additional ala cart

- · Approved re-appointments of John Winter and Denise Baker to terms on the Downtown Development Authority, with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2028;
- Approved a resolution in support of House Bills 4274 and 4275, as requested by the Michigan Municipal League, which was lobbying to get the bills passed in the Lame Duck session in Lansing. The bills create the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund which Mayor Voigt said makes the revenue stream more reliable. He said in the 1990s there was a major cut by the state that left municipalities hanging;
- Approved joining the Washtenaw Area Mutual Aid Council for the fire department, an annual agreement;
- · Heard Ruth Kessel of Victoria Commons thank the DPS for doing the trees and sidewalks in the subdivision; and
- Heard Mayor Voigt say Winter Fest is this weekend and Santa is coming to town. He said the Belleville High School Jazz Band will play at the high school on Thursday and, "They are so good... We have the best musical program in Michigan." He praised the work of Nick Taylor for the school's

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- Real-world socialization
- Your questions (time permitting)

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## **Wayne County begins** work Dec. 2 on Denton Road Bridge in Belleville

In a press release on Nov. 27, Wayne

County Department of Public Services announced bridge removal and replacement work on the Denton Road Bridge in Belleville was set to begin Dec. 2.

The county is set to start a major infrastructure project to replace the Denton Road bridge over Belleville Lake.

The project includes the removal and replacement of the existing bridge, which is currently closed to traffic. In addition to reconstructing the bridge,

the project will involve rebuilding the approaching roadway, installing a new drainage system, and enhancing the area with new lighting and other aesthetic improvements.

Construction is scheduled to begin on Dec. 2, and is expected to be completed by summer 2026, barring any unforeseen delays or inclement weather. During this period, the bridge will remain closed to both vehicle and pedestrian traffic, with detours in place around the construction

While no major disruptions are expected for Belleville Road or access to downtown, motorists should anticipate some delays due to flagging operations as work

Reduced speed limits and load restrictions may also be in place. Access to all residences and businesses will be maintained throughout the duration of the project.

Motorists are advised to use caution when traveling through work zones.

For more information, contact the 24-hour customer service center at 888-ROAD-CREW (888-762-3273) or visit www. waynecounty.com.



The Belleville Independent is a drop off location for the U.S **Marine Corps Toys for** Tots Program. Bring in your new, unwrapped toy to our office at: 152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI

We are located in the Professional Building (the old movie theater building) across from Zax Auto Wash



# Dudek Heating & Cooling

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# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

### **AUCTION**

### **PUBLIC AUCTION**

U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC 6130 Rawsonville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 482-1502 Notice is hereby given that on 12/11/24 at

12:00 P.M. thru 12/18/24 at 12:00 P.M. contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold online at:

Bid13.com

SPACE # B33 - Tiffani Caddell

Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, seasonal decorations, and tools. Publish: Nov. 28, 2024; Dec. 5, 2024

### \$10,000 RAFFLE

ST. ANTHONY MEN'S CLUB. Annual \$10,000 Raffle is scheduled for February 2, 2025. Only 300 tickets will be sold, so buy yours now! Contact Steve Walsh (269) 274-7075 leave a message, or stwmsu@gmail.com

### FOR SALE

FIREWOOD, all hardwood \$85 face cord \$45 half face cord. For delivery add \$10 (734) 341-8557

TIRE RIMS FOR SALE 4 used snow tires each on own rim for 2014 Ford Fusion. Total \$350. Cash only. (734) 383-0945

WESTERN SNOWPLOW- 7 ½'. \$500 OBO. (734) 417-3233

YORKIES, YORKIPOOS, CAVAPOOS, Corgis, & other pups. \$499 & up. Frisky & vet checked. Ypsilanti. View puppies at petcitypets.com. (734) 487-0800

FENCE BOARDS \$3.00 each Firewood \$75.00 (734) 461-1414 06/27

### **VEHICLES FOR SALE**

2009 LINCOLN MKX, AWD V6 3.5 lit 135k miles . White, great cond. Clean. \$6,000. (734) 502 0241

2009 PONTIAC G6 Hard top convertible Must see! \$6,950 OBO Private Owner. (734) 695-0819

2013 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT. Automatic, very good condition, no rust. \$7,950 OBO Private owner. (734) 695-0819

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- Ronald Reagan

**WANTED** 

### ADVANCED H & W PAYING CASH

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Monday - Saturday.
734-368-5088
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CASH PAID FOR Sports cards and Comic Books. 50s, 60s, 70s. Private collector can come to you. (734) 697-3546

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

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

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ARIENS SNOWPLOW. It worked last time used. (734) 383-0945

JUTE RUG, 7' x 10' all natural color with brown trim. (734) 941-9567

FREE FILL. Delivery available. (734) 697-1183. Yost Sand & Gravel. Belleville.

### **FOUND**

CELL PHONE, 11/22/24 on Haggerty Road, south of Huron River Drive. (248) 933-0611

### Read The Newspaper On The Web!

The Belleville-Area Independent Website is Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com

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KNIFE SHARPENING. Tired of dull knives call, Razor Knife Sharpening (734) 699-6634

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### **Notice to Advertisers:**

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

### **HELP WANTED**

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Kovalak Excavating has an opening for a Secretary 30 to 40 hours per week. Salary negotiable plus Benefits. Call 734-461-6838

### **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.



# Accreditation Assess. team invites comment on Sumpter PD on Dec. 13

Ateam of assessors from the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC) will arrive on Thursday, Dec. 12, to examine all aspects of the Sumpter Township Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Police Chief Eric Luke announced in a Nov. 26 news release.

"Verification by the team that the Sumpter Township Police Department meets the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's "best practice" standards is part of a voluntary process to achieve accreditation, a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence," Chief Luke said.

As part of this final on-site assessment, employees and members of the general public are invited to provide comments to the assessment team. They may do so by telephone or email. The public may call (734) 461-4833, ext. 2259, on Friday, Dec. 13, between 9 and 11 a.m. Email comments can be sent to <a href="mailto:accred@sumpterpd.org">accred@sumpterpd.org</a>.

Telephone comments are limited to five minutes and must address the agency's

ability to comply with the commission's standards. A copy of the standards is available for inspection at the Sumpter Township Police Department at 23501 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111. Contact Sergeant Brian Steffani at (734) 461-4833, ext. 3015, to obtain a copy.

Anyone wishing to offer written comments about the Sumpter Township Police Department's ability to comply with the standards for accreditation is requested to email the Accreditation Program manager at <a href="mailto:rwiles@michiganpolicechiefs.org">rwiles@michiganpolicechiefs.org</a> or write the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission at 3474 Alaiedon Pkwy., Suite 600, Okemos, MI 48864. The Sumpter Township Police Department must comply with 108 standards to achieve accredited status.

Chief Luke said, "Accreditation results in greater accountability within the agency, reduced risk and liability exposure, stronger defense against civil lawsuits, increased community advocacy, and more confidence in the agency's ability to operate efficiently and respond to community needs."

The Accreditation Program Director for the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police is Chief Ron Wiles (ret.).

"The assessment team is composed of law-enforcement practitioners from similar Michigan law enforcement agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview agency members, and visit offices and other places where compliance with the standards can be observed. Once the assessors complete their review of the agency, they will report to the full commission, which will then decide if the agency is to be granted accredited status," Ron Wiles said.

Accreditation is valid for a three-year period, during which time the agency must submit annual reports attesting to its continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

The MACP, through its Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, is Michigan's legitimate authority and accreditation agency. For more information regarding the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, write the commission at MACP, Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission at 3474 Alaiedon Pkwy., Suite 600, Okemos, MI 48864, or email at <a href="mailto:rwiles@michiganpolicechiefs.org">rwiles@michiganpolicechiefs.org</a>.

Nearby police departments that are accredited by MACP include Van Buren, Huron, and Brownstown townships and the cities of Romulus, Monroe, Wayne, Ypsilanti, and Wyandotte. Canton Township is accredited nationally by CALEA, Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies

# VBT resident James Wigginton climbs tower stairs in 44th state

James Wiggington of Van Buren Township, a 75-year-old Marine, continues his step-climbing, with a goal of climbing the tallest buildings in each of the 50 states.

He is earning funds for thyroid cancer research, in memory of his late wife, and for Folds of Honor scholarships.

On Nov. 25 he climbed the building with the most stairs in Idaho, which is state 44 on his list.

He said he had permission for the current tallest building in Boise, Eighth and Main Building with 18 stories, and then the one that will be the newest tallest, at 26 stories, which is under construction.

"I had permission for the first one and

went in with the workers in the second one," Wiggington said.

He said the second one, the Arthur, isn't finished yet and doesn't have a certificate of occupancy.

He said the big news is that ConocoPhillips in Alaska called to say he not only had permission to climb their tallest building in Alaska, but they want to do a big TV and media blitz about it.

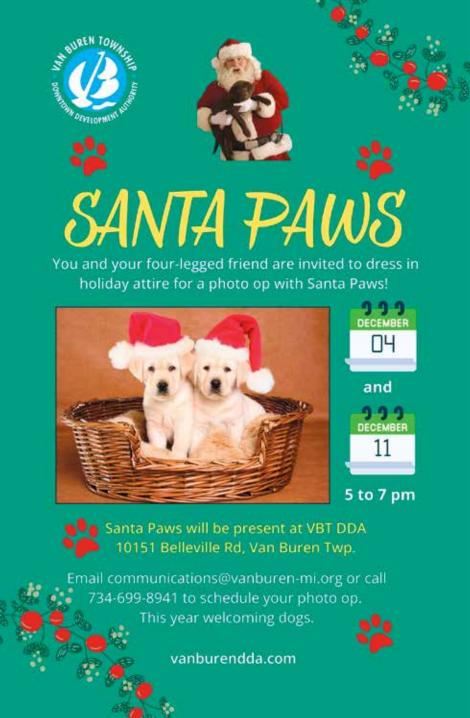
He said his goal is to finish four other climbs in the next three months, so Alaska will be number 49, in honor of their statehood.

His challenges before then are New Jersey, Massachusetts, Florida, and Hawaii before the end of February.

New York will be number 50, as it is planned to be an official race in June.

Wigginton continues these climbs to bring awareness and funding to Folds of Honor, a veterans' organization that has provided more than 57,000 scholarships for families of fallen or disabled military and first-responders in the last 17 years.

And, to support the Punya Thyroid Cancer Fund which has supported doctors at the University of Michigan in research and treatment improvements that have increased the quality and length of life of stage-4 thyroid cancer patients by almost five times.







The Belleville Independent is a drop off location for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Bring in your new, unwrapped toy to our office at:

152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI
We are located in the Professional Building (the old movie

We are located in the Professional Building (the old mo theater building) across from Zax Auto Wash. Page 16

### Belleville Area Independent/December 5, 2024

### Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

There were 245 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

### Sunday, Nov. 24: $0112-threat,\,Wheeler\,St.$

0235 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Maple Dr.

0250 - 911 welfare check, S. Adams

0409 - shooting, Vernon St.

0836 - intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.

0838 - intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.

0849 - intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd. 0839 - intrusion alarm, Salem Ct.

1117 - leaving the scene of a property damage

accident, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.

1219 - intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.

1237 - intrusion alarm, Harmony Ln. 1254 - civil matter, S. Sadie Ln.

1409 - welfare check, Freedom Way

1534 - civil matter, S. Sadie Ln.

1719 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.

2055 - welfare check, Ash Dr.

xxxx - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Ecorse Rd.

1840 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.

1751 - domestic, Rawsonville Rd.

1923 - threat, Parkwood Dr.

1942 - trespassing, Belleville Rd.

2009 - domestic, n. Woodbury Dr.

2200 - harassment call, Outer Dr.

 $2259-assist\ other\ dept., Rawson ville\ Rd.$ 

### Monday, Nov. 25:

0024 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./E. I-94 Belleville amp

0231 - threat, Denton Rd.

0250 - intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0154 - welfare check, Parkwood Dr.

0301 - disorderly, S. Bellridge Dr.

0457 – welfare check, Belleville Rd. 0513 - 911 welfare check, N. Ponderosa Trl.

0630 - mental subject, Doree Ave.

0749 - assist fire dept., Anna Dr.

0801 - unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton 0819 - intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.

0903 - assist other dept., Red Oak Dr.

1302 - misc. complaint, Savage Rd./Martinsville

1315 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

1319 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1520 - background investigation, Tyler Rd.

1404 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.

 $1521-assist\ other\ dept.,\ W.\ I-94/Belleville\ Rd.$ 

1543 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Sadie Ln.

1544 - motorist assist, Belleville Rd.

1703 - domestic, Denton Rd.

1706 - private property impound, Belleville Rd. 1839 - welfare check, Bog Rd.

1830 - larceny, Savage Rd.

1830 - welfare check, Parkwood Dr.

1829 - property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1842 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1903 - unattended death, N. Ponderosa Trl. 1944 - fraud, Belleville Rd.

1946 - motorist assist, Belleville/Harmony Ln.

2139 - civil matter, Van Buren Ct.

2159 – sexual assault, Woodbury Dr.

2242 - intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.

### Tuesday, Nov. 26:

Huron River Dr.

0239 - domestic, Sylvia Dr.

0656 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martinsville Rd.

0728 - warrant arrest, 26 Mile Rd.

0808 - suicidal person, Bemis Rd.

0836 - ordinance violation - all 7300 MICR codes,

Kirkridge Park Dr. 0924 - property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E.

1014 - parking complaint, Belleville Rd. 1040 - assist other dept., Denton Rd.

1132 - larceny, Van Born Rd.

1321 - larceny, Belleville Rd. 1351 - intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.

1401 - misc. complaint, Michigan Ave./Denton

1421 - ordinance violation - all 7300 MICR codes, Hamilton St.

1427 - abandoned auto, Rawsonville Rd.

1438 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

1441 - malicious destruction of property, Richard Run Dr.

1452 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.

1522 - juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.

1609 - leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1557 - larceny, Lohr Rd.

1607 - private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1952 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Stanley Rd.

2045 - property damage accident, Elwell Rd./Hull

2115 - fight, Belleville Rd.

2257 - noise complaint, Patty Ln.

2259 - intrusion alarm, Riggs Rd. 2307 - assist other dept., W. I-94/Beck Rd.

Wednesday, Nov. 27:

0305 - property damage accident, S. I-275/Tyler 0831 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd. 0941 - found property/child, Tyler Rd./Sage Cir.

1035 - assist other dept., Bemis Rd./Elwell Rd.

1040 - larceny from auto, Sawgrass Ct. 1052 - disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.

1100 - ordinance violation - all 7300 MICR codes, Edison Lake Rd. 1144 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Elwell Rd. 1158 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Belleville Rd.

xxxx – repossession, Lake Villa Dr.

1309 - private property impound, Kirkridge Park 1317 - civil matter, Cranberry Dr.

1345 - misc. complaint, Tyler Rd. 1423 - mental subject, Outer Dr.

1457 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Amanda Dr.

1534 - malicious destruction of property, Ecorse 1609 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Edwards Rd.

1705 - domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1848 - civil matter, Dewitt Rd.

1919 - misc. complaint, Belleville Rd. 1940 - welfare check, Sawgrass Ct.

2014 - retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

2045 - welfare check, Denton Rd.

2102 - welfare check, Zachary St. 2108 - animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2147 - assist other dept., Freedom Way

2129 - assist fire dept., Belleville Rd./E I-94 2133 - road hazard, Haggerty/N. I-94 Service Dr.

2223 - motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Edwards Rd.

xxxx - repossession, Western St.

Thursday, Nov. 28:

0151 - assist other dept., Rawsonville I-94 ramp E. / E. I-94

0441 - noise complaint, Patty Ln. xxxx - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Country Ln. 1005 - vehicle lockout, Landmark

1026 - domestic, Denton Rd.

1211 - assist citizen, Bayshore Dr.

1221 - malicious destruction of property, Brookside

1318 - larceny, Belleville Rd.

1504 - intrusion alarm, S. Timberview Dr.

1646 – 911 welfare check, Tyler Rd. / Morton Taylor

1747 - property damage accident, Denton Rd./S.

1811 - intrusion alarm, Harbour Pointe Ct. 2325 - assist fire dept., Holly Ln.

Friday, Nov. 29:

0047 - noise complaint, Willow Way

0910 - misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.

1514 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Jeremy Rd. / Ecorse Rd. 1525 - assist other dept., Red Oak Dr.

1530 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Denton Rd./Ecorse Rd. 1603 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.

1625 – intrusion alarm, Kirkridge Park Dr. 1631 - domestic, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.

1717 - domestic, Denton Rd. 1725 - intrusion alarm, Stonebridge Dr.

2026 - disorderly, Gilmore St. 2101 - welfare check, Jackson St.

2137 - intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.

2202 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S.

Bellridge Dr.

Saturday, Nov. 30:

xxxx - repossession, S. Bellridge Dr.

0353 - civil matter, Westlake Cir.

0623 - trespassing, Village Center Dr. 0749 - domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.

1057 - assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.

1102 - mental subject, Tyler Rd.

1232 - hospice death, Spencer Ave. 1317 - shooting, E. Huron River Dr.

1351 - animal complaint, Belleville Rd.

1424 - disorderly, Rawsonville Rd. 1528 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Kirkridge Park Dr.

1547 - road hazard, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service

1553 - fraud, Belleville Rd. 1652 - disorderly, Kirkridge Park Dr.

1714 - warrant arrest, Van Born Rd.

1822 - intrusion alarm, Lexington Ct. 1832 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Sonrisa St.

1832 - civil matter, S. Sadie Ln.

1934 - vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd. 2009 - warrant arrest, Rawsonville Rd.

2228 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd. 2236 - leaving the scene of a property damage

accident, Rawsonville Rd./Presidental 2243 - welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2351 - noise complaint, Chandler Also, on this week's log are 78 traffic stops, 37 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

# **Belleville Police** Dispatch Log

### Sunday, Nov. 24: 0751 – animal complaint, Robbe St.

0844 - civil matter, Henry St.

0931 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Carmell St. Monday, Nov. 25:

0210 - property damage accident, Sumpter Rd. 0949 – domestic, Carmell St.

1035 - follow up by officer, Main St. 1105 - property check, Harbour Pointe Sub.

1108 - property check, Highlands Subdivision 1307 - follow up by officer, Main St.

1427 - property check, Denton Rd. 1429 - intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave. 1453 - abandoned auto, S. Industrial Park Dr.

1516 - animal complaint, Breakwater Ct. 1845 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

South St. 1952 - warrant arrest, Russell St.

2014 - larceny, Main St. 2252 - road hazard, Savage/tracks

Tuesday, Nov. 26: 0247 - intrusion alarm, Main St.

1155 - motorist assist, Main St.

1833 - harassment call, Anaheim 1831 - suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

### Village Park Wednesday, Nov. 27:

0328 - assist citizen, E. Huron River/Angola

1327 - road hazard, Huron River Dr./W. Columbia

1727 - warrant arrest, Main St. 1828 - property check, N. Liberty St.

Thursday, Nov. 28: Friday, Nov. 29: 1231 - motorist assist, Main St./W. Columbia

Saturday, Nov. 30: xxxx - misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.

There are 61 reports on this week's log and 35 of those are traffic stops.

# Police Dispatch Log

**Sumpter Township** 

0249 - fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Martinsville 1313 - civil matter, Colorado St.

1404-911 hangup, Oregon St.

1637 - civil matter, Montana St.

1755 - civil matter, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd. 1839 - animal complaint, 48000 bl. Roy Ct.

1848 - family trouble, 50000 bl. Willis Rd. 2053 - fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.

Monday, Nov. 2:

Rd.

0005 - family trouble, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.

0642 - larceny, Arizona St.

0529 - animal complaint, Rawsonville/Judd

0716 - citizen assist, Rawsonville/Judd

0806 - suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Sherwood  $0819-animal\ complaint, 42000\ bl.\ Judd\ Rd.$ 0827 - traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Sumpter

0854 - suspicious circumstance, Elwell/Willow 1023 - suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.

1041 - family trouble, 22000 bl. Martinsville 1125 - search warrant - special unit, 47000 bl. Wear

1132 - follow-up investigation, Arizona St.

1136 - follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Clay 1458 - property damage complaint, Haggerty Rd.

/ Wear Rd. 1513 - fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.

1554 – 911 hangup, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.

1700 - neighbor complaint, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd. 1706 – 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

1825 -- suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.

2054 - traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Sherwood Tuesday, Nov. 26:

0039 - alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd. 0124 - civil matter, Colorado St.

0143 - follow-up investigation, Colorado St. 0144 - suspicious person, 22000 bl. Martinsville

0539 - welfare check, 47000 bl. Willow Rd. 0934 - search warrant - special unit, 47000 bl. Wear

0957 - mental health call, 22000 bl. Martinsville 1107 - follow-up investigation, 49000 bl. Judd Rd. 1202 – suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Bontekoe

1545 - animal complaint, 25000 bl. Martinsville 1617 - 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.

1627 - suspicious circumstance, 24000 bl. Sumpter

2022 - citizen assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd. 2056 - property damage accident, California St. /

2136 - fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville 2200 - suspicious circumstance, Colorado St.

0309 - alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd. 0746 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Martinsville

0959 - family trouble, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.

1520 - traffic complaint/hazard, Wear/Sumpter

2002 - disorderly person, New Mexico St. Thursday, Nov. 28:

0125 - operating while intoxicated arrest, Judd Rd.

0945 - family trouble, Timberlane Dr. 1025 - family trouble, Oregon St.

1726 - citizen assist, Timberlane Dr.

2014 - civil matter, Alaska St.

Friday, Nov. 29:

0542 - fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willow Rd. 0830 - property damage accident, 19000 bl.

1033 - family trouble, 22000 bl. Martinsville

1207 - fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville

1304 - civil matter, Alaska St.

1429 - 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

1423 - traffic complaint/hazard, Willis/Karr

1734 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ave. 2018 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

New Mexico St.

Wednesday, Nov. 27:

0858 – suspicious person, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1325 - found property, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1615 - citizen assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.

/ Martinsville Rd.

1205 - family trouble, Stonecrest Dr. 1305 – 911 hangup, Creekside Dr.

1759 - suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Karr

2334 - fire dept. assist, Arizona St.

1239 - follow-up investigation, 26000 bl. Sherwood

1717 - welfare check, Rustic Ln.

(Continued on page 17)

1157 - animal complaint, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

1808 - fire dept. assist, Arizona St.

1020 - felony warrant arrest, Elwell/Bemis

1711 - animal complaint, 51000 bl. Willis Rd. 1855 - civil matter, Arizona St. 2000 - alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0013 - family trouble, Knollwood Dr.

1504 – 911 hangup, Brookview Dr. 1654 - fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Bemis

2131 - fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.

Sumpter Rd.

 $1233-911\ hang\ up,\ 18000\ bl.$  We stcott Dr.

1307 - fire dept. assist, Knollwood Dr.

1910 - civil matter, Oregon St.

1559 - disorderly person, 8100 bl. Rawsonville

 $2045-fire\ dept.\ assist,\ \bar{S}umpter\ Rd./Wear\ Rd.$ 

### Page 17

## **Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log**

(continued from page 16)

2337 - family trouble, 49000 bl. Judd Rd. 2351 – assist other agency, Colorado St.

Saturday, Nov. 30:

0331 - assist other agency, Rawsonville/Willis

0857 - assist other agency, Colorado St.

1032 - follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

1156 - family trouble, Timberlane Dr.

1204 - 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

1232 - fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd. 1416 - animal complaint, 29000 bl. Martinsville

1537 - suspicious circumstance, Vermont St.

1639 - follow-up investigation, Colorado St.

1919 - follow-up investigation, out of township

2042 - civil matter, Alaska St.

Also on this week's log are 207 patrol checks, 66 traffic stops, and seven misc. details.

> One Call Does It All... ...At The Independent 734-699-9020



# City of Belleville Public Notice



### CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 18, 2024 - 7:30 pm 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL Council Member Beebe Absent - Excused

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. DTE Power Improvements Map Barbara Rykwalder
- 1. Barbara explained that DTE is in the process of multiple upgrades to power lines and poles throughout the city, which should help to reduce power loss for Belleville residents
- ii. Proclamation Iona M. Merriwether
- 1. Mayor Voigt presented a proclamation honoring the life of Iona M. Merriwether.
- b. Citizen Comments

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Priest, supported by Bates 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. November 12, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting

 b. Communications c. Council Follow Up List

d. Special Events

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

Motion Carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

- a. SEMCOG Road Safety Audit Recommendation
- i. Council provided City Manager Smith with guidance on which projects to complete, as well as a timeline for doing so.
- b. Holiday Light Contest Discussion
- i. Council agreed to complete the voting process for holiday light displays throughout the city on Friday, December 6th and Saturday, December 7th, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- ii. Council reminded residents who wish to participate to make sure their lights are turned on during those times.
- c. Doane's Landing Power Box

MOTION: Motion by Kissel, supported by Bates to approve the cost of replacing the power box at Doane's Landing, to be split 50% with the DDA. ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Priest

Mayor Pro-Tem Bates Mayor Voigt Aye Council Member Kissel Aye Motion Carried.

d. MDOT Form 2012 - Naming City Manager the Street Administrator

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to approve the City Manager as the Street Administrator. Motion Carried.

### ACCOUNTS **PAYABLE** DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

a. Accounts Payable

b. Departmental Expenditures

i. Macqueen \$1,408.00

ii. Macqueen \$6,561.00

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Kissel to approve Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures in excess of \$500, as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Motion Carried.

### 10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

- a. Welcome to Melissa Frierson, the city's new Department of Public Works Director.
- b. An intoxicated driver struck a light pole on Main St., located in front of Baan Phad Thai, over the weekend. The driver was dealt with by the Police Department, and the city will be replacing the pole with a spare.
- c. City Hall received new copiers from Konica Minolta today, and they are expected to be installed on Wednesday.
- d. An economic survey, which will be utilized in refreshing the Master Plan, is live on the city's website and residents are encouraged to participate.
- e. The first deposit to the city's Michigan CLASS account was made today.
- f. Police vehicle #225, the department's second Chevy Tahoe cruiser, is now operational.

### 11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

### a. Bates

- i. Thank you to Mayor Voigt for providing Council and city administration with lapel pins and stickers for their laptops, reflecting the city's logo.
- ii. Thank you to Barbara from DTE for her presentation, creating optimism that the city's power issues will be corrected
- iii. Welcome to DPW Director Frierson.
- iv. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

### b. Priest

- i. Welcome to DPW Director Frierson.
- ii. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

### c. Kissel

i. The Planning Commission met last week, and the Master Plan survey is now posted on the city's

### 12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

- a. Welcome to DPW Director Frierson.
- b. Appreciated the presentation by Barb from DTE, she was very responsive.
- c. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.
- d. Looking forward to Winter Fest.

### 13. CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA **ITEMS**

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY

### SCHEDULED MEETING a. None.

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Priest to adjourn at 8:32 PM. No objections were noted.

### Respectfully submitted by

15. ADJOURNMENT

City Clerk/Treasurer Hootman

Published: December 5, 2024

# Things to do in the Belleville area...

- Thursday, Dec. 5; Friday, Dec. 6; Saturday, Dec. 7; and Sunday, Dec. 8 - It's Winter Fest in Belleville, with lots of activities, including an evening parade on Saturday and fireworks following over the lake. Sponsored by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Friday, Dec. 6 Van Buren Eagles at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township, presents Music Bingo at 7:30 p.m., with Karaoke/DJ
- Saturday, Dec. 7 Festival of Holiday Trees begins at the Belleville Area Museum. It is open until Dec. 21. Hours are Tuesday,

# **Public Notice**

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COLBERT COUNTY, ALABAMA IN THE MATTER OF: THE ESTATE OF HAROLD GLEN CARRIGAN. **DECEASED CASE NO.: 15-0263** 

NOTICE OF HEARING

A hearing is hereby set on January 9, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the Probate Court of Colbert County, Alabama on the Petition for Final Settlement in the Estate of Harold Glen Carrigan, deceased.

**DEBORAH BELL PASEUR** Attorney for petitioner, Matthew W. Coats Administrator 1847 N. Wood Avenue Florence, AL 35630 (256) 766-3131

Publish: Dec. 5, 12, 19, 2024

12-4 p.m.; Thursdays, 1-7 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Saturday, Dec. 7 Holiday Ornament Workshop, 1-3 p.m., at the Belleville Area District Library, No fee; preregistration required online at vanburentwp.recdesk.com . Information at (734) 699-8921.
- Sunday, Dec. 8 Pictures with Santa from 3-5 p.m. at the Pvt. James D. Donovan/ Romulus VFW Post, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. Cost is \$10 per child or \$15 per family. Featuring Rachel Leonard Photography. Four-footed family members 4:30-5 p.m. (734) 941-3030 • 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.
- Wednesday, Dec. 11 David C. Brown Pet Loss Support Group meets from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Brown Family Center. To share difficult emotions that are present when our companion has died or is in the later stages of life and death is near. Information: Jacqueline Dalzell, (734) 697-4500. • Friday, Dec. 13 - Van Buren Eagles
- at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township, presents dinner at 5 p.m., meat auction at 6:30 p.m., with Karaoke DJ Betty at 7:30 p.m. • Friday, Dec. 13, and Saturday, Dec. 14 - Sumpter Township Vendor Market, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Community Center gym, 23501

Sumpter Rd. \$10 per table rental. Rain or

shine. More information, call Sumpter Senior

Coordinator Maryann Watson at (734) 461-

9737; email <u>maryannwatson@sumptertwp.</u>

# **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:

- 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



Photo courtesty of Marilyn Wood

Rochelle, Sherry, and Sue, who are office personnel at Westlake Apartments at 10341 Westlake Circle, Van Buren Township, organized a food drive for the Emergency Food Closet at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Church St. Westlake Apartment residents donated the food and Simone Mack, a food closet volunteer, started sorting and shelving all the food received.



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Family Owned









Photos courtesy of Randall Miller

The former Cork & Bottle strip mall on Sumpter Road in Belleville has been renovated and a for-sale sign put up. On Nov. 27, workmen uncoverd a sidewalk along Sumpter Road that was covered with years of growth. It was to be power washed that day.



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# **Court Watching**

(continued from page 3)

### Craig Andrew Turner

Craig Andrew Turner, 60, of Westland, has two charges of operating while intoxicated-3<sup>rd</sup> offence on March 24, 2021 in the city of Belleville. He failed to appear for a Sept. 27, 2022 court date and so a bench warrant was issued

Arraignment/probable cause conference was held Dec. 13, 2023 and personal bond set at \$1,000. A preliminary exam was set for Jan. 24, 2024 and at that time both charges were dismissed by the party.

### **Lajon Jarard Vinston**

Lajon Jarard Vinston, 37, of Ypsilanti was video-arraigned Dec. 15, 2023 by



Judge Martin on a bench warrant while in custody of the Belleville police on charges of operating while intoxicated-3<sup>rd</sup> offense and assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer on July 23, 2023 in Belleville. His probable cause conference was set for Dec. 27. Personal bond is \$10,000 and a GPS tether was ordered. He failed to appear for his Dec. 27 conference and proved to the court he was in the hospital. A show-cause hearing was set for Jan. 18, 2024 and if he does not appear a warrant will be issued. The date later was changed to Jan. 17 and then the defense attorney said he would be in trial for a while, so he asked for an adjournment to Feb. 28. The defendant failed to appear because he was in the Washtenaw County Jail so the date was changed to March 6. On March 6 his probable cause conference was set for March 20 and the date was emailed to the Washtenaw County Jail. His preliminary exam was set for May 1. At that time he waived his exam and he was bound over to circuit court for a May 15 arraignment on the information. Calendar conference was set for May 29. Final conference was June 25 and a motion hearing was July 11 reset to July 19. A pretrial is scheduled for Nov. 8 and, a motion hearing on Nov. 22, pretrial Dec. 13 and a jury trial Jan. 6, 2025.

### Jonathan William Geyer

Jonathan William Geyer, 29, of Van Buren Township was arraigned Dec. 18 by Judge Oakley on a charge of domestic violence – second offense of knowingly assaulting a pregnant individual in Van Buren Township on Dec. 16. Personal bond of \$5,000 was set and the remote pretrial scheduled for Jan.

3. At that time the final remote pretrial was set for Jan. 17. He was not to return to the protected address.

On Jan. 17, his attorney said there is outstanding discovery and a 911 recording is needed. The remote pretrial was adjourned to Feb. 7 and the victims didn't need to attend, since they have been at court twice already. A live bench trial was held Feb. 14 and Judge Green found him guilty as charged. He was scheduled for a pre-sentence interview on March 7 and sentencing was April 29.

He was sentenced to 12 months of probation, a fine of \$1,025, substance abuse treatment, a 26-week Batterer's program, 48 hours of community service, not purchase/possess/consume alcoholic beverages or controlled substances without the approval of the judge.

### **Adrian Edward May**

Adrian Edward May, 27, of Ypsilanti was video-arraigned on a bench warrant by Judge Oakley on Dec. 18, while he was in custody of the Van Buren Township police. He is charged with two counts of surveilling an unclothed person on Oct. 23 in Van Buren Township. Personal bond is \$5,000. His probable cause conference was Jan. 3. He was ordered to stay out of Van Buren Township unless driving through to come to court. His live preliminary exam on the charges was set for Feb. 7.

The victim called the court to report she could not attend court on that day because of his work and so the exam was rescheduled for March 27.

On March 27 he pled guilty to two reduced charges of surveilling. His file was sent to the probation department for recommendations for sentencing. It was to be reviewed April 16, extended to April 29. There had been difficulty getting paperwork from him.

He was scheduled for a May 16 presentence interview, but his phone was no longer in service. On May 29 he was scheduled for sentencing on July 22.

He was fined \$1,165, 18 months of probation, and ten days of community service on the first charge and \$370 on the second charge.

### Ryan Samuel-Scott Weisfeld

Ryan Samuel-Scott Weisfeld, 44, of Van Buren Township waived his preliminary exam on Dec. 20 and was bound over to circuit court for a Jan. 3 arraignment on the information. That was reset by the court to

590 E. Huron

Jan. 8. A calendar conference was set for Jan. 26, pretrial for Feb. 16, final conference for March 8, and April 30 for a jury trial. The final conference and jury trial were canceled when he pled guilty to domestic violence. The other two charges were dismissed. He was sentenced to a fine of \$848 (or 30 hours of community service in lieu of fees) and one year of probation.

He had been charged with assault with intent to do great physical harm less than murder, interfering with a crime report, and domestic violence on Sept. 13, 2023 in Van Buren Township.

### **Abdullah Riyad Khamees**

Abdullah Riyad Khamees, 34, of Kalamazoo was video-arraigned while in custody on a bench warrant by Magistrate Hindman on Jan. 3. Charges are uttering and publishing and possession of a forged driver's license on Nov. 8, 2021 in the city of Belleville. A probable cause conference was then set for Jan. 17 and then for Feb. 7 to give defense attorney Hayssam A. El Kodssi three weeks to discuss a settlement with the prosecutor.

The notice for the Feb. 7 probable cause conference was returned by the post office as undeliverable. A new address was used and it also came back as undeliverable. The defense attorney said his client was out of the country and said he would send the notice of the newly set Feb. 28 probable cause conference to him out of the country. Personal bond is \$5,000.

He failed to appear so a warrant is out for his arrest

### Mark Adam MacLean

Mark Adam MacLean, 38, of Van Buren Township was scheduled for his bench trial on Jan. 4 before Judge Martin on a charge of operating while intoxicated on Nov. 19, 2022 in Van Buren Township. He failed to appear.

The post office informed the court it was unable to deliver the notice to appear since the defendant moved away and left no forwarding address.

On Jan. 8 a bench warrant was signed for failure to appear. On Feb. 20 he was arraigned on the bench warrant. A remote pretrial was set for March 7. Bond is \$3,000/10%. He did not appear and the bench warrant is back. A show cause hearing was set for April 4 and he did not appear. A warrant is out for his



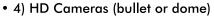
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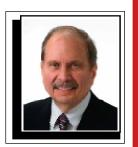
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