



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 31.7 Thursday, February 13, 2025 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **FREE**



City Council agrees to purchase city hall site for \$850,000

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

In what Belleville Mayor Ken Voigt called an “historic moment,” the city council, in a special meeting on Feb. 6, voted unanimously to purchase the former Belleville Post Office building at 330 Charles St. as a permanent site for its city hall and police department.

Council members agreed to pay \$850,000, take 60 days of due-diligence time before the closing, and post \$25,000 in earnest money. City Manager Jason Smith was directed to execute the offer.

Councilwoman Julie Kissel explained that she voted against the proposal to make an offer on the site at the Feb. 3 meeting, but now agrees it would be a nice site for city hall.

Mayor Voigt said they are taking 60 days to make sure it’s right. He said the current site costs the city a lot more money to maintain than this one would.

He said the boiler on the current city hall couldn’t keep up. The city announced city hall as a warming site the previous week and then the next day had to cancel that when the boiler failed.

“This is a prime decision,” Mayor Voigt said, adding he never cared for the proposed Savage Road location on the other side of the tracks. He questioned what would

happen when a train was stopped on the tracks and police needed to cross.

Voigt said the two-story part of the present city hall at Five Points is about 100 years old. He said the addition in 1961 was supposed to be a temporary city hall and it’s been city hall for more than 60 years.

“City hall wasn’t the greatest when I joined the police department in 1983,” he recalled. He said the Oddfellows were meeting upstairs.

“It’s been a good old building,” he conceded, adding they will do a very, very thorough check of the proposed city hall.

He said the location at 330 Charles St. is superb because it’s right in the middle of everything, yet off the main streets where the prime markets are.

The location has its own parking lot and adjoins the 90-space library/city parking lot next door.

He said the city will market the current city hall and the piece on Savage Road next to the DPW yard, as well.

He said he expects the city to recoup enough to cover as much as half the cost of the proposed building.

“It’s almost too good to be true,” he said.

He said when he was a young officer, the post office building was up for sale for

(continued on page 6)

Sumpter Township 2024 Employee Wages and Costs to Township

Sumpter Township 2024 Employee Wages & Cost to Township

	Wages	Total Compensation
TRUSTEES:		
Frazier, James	\$2,062.50	\$2,122.31
Honey, John	\$2,062.50	\$2,122.31
Morgan, Peggy	\$21,037.46	\$21,647.48
Oddy, Matthew	\$23,224.96	\$23,904.35
Rush, Timothy	\$23,099.96	\$23,769.79
SUPERVISOR’S OFFICE:		
Bowman, Timothy	\$39,900.12	\$41,057.17
Rush, Timothy	\$8,405.54	\$9,048.56
Woodington, Karen	\$63,144.31	\$100,106.52
TOWNSHIP MANAGER:		
Burdick, Anthony	\$98,384.65	\$149,925.55
FIRE DEPARTMENT:		
Armstrong, Timothy	\$14,954.52	\$15,388.18
Behrendt, David	\$4,502.72	\$4,633.28
Blackburn, Brian	\$5,970.14	\$6,143.28
Brohl, Michael	\$9,907.29	\$10,194.59
Brown, Richard	\$71,687.48	\$114,549.01
Combs, Benjamin	\$13,543.97	\$13,936.72
Goode, Jamie	\$46,157.76	\$47,496.32
Ingle, Sonya	\$11,748.56	\$12,089.24
Jackson, Joseph	\$2,758.30	\$2,842.17
Krushlin, Jamie	\$884.81	\$910.46
Krushlin, John	\$13,680.06	\$14,076.78
LaPorte, Donald	\$2,501.91	\$2,574.46
Long, Eric	\$5,021.50	\$5,167.12
McCall, Shauna	\$3,611.13	\$3,715.83
McHenry, Michael	\$18,730.32	\$19,273.49
Reed, Allison	\$105.15	\$113.19
Roupe, Ayden	\$220.82	\$227.22
Scott, Rachel	\$12,548.44	\$12,912.33
Sherwood-Landskroener, Andrew	\$1,867.78	\$1,921.93
Sliwa, Richard	\$16,860.94	\$17,105.42
Thompson, Walter	\$9,546.73	\$9,823.60
Wisniewski, Michael	\$46,322.57	\$47,665.96
Wisniewski, Michael Jr.	\$15,767.24	\$16,973.43
Zweng, Christopher	\$525.75	\$540.99
POLICE DEPARTMENT:		
Balowski, Joseph	\$110,341.41	\$159,395.44
Criscenti, Gino	\$89,629.10	\$119,014.31
Devos, Barton	\$99,274.87	\$132,606.70
Dufresne, Susan	\$63,818.84	\$101,522.10

(continued on page 3)

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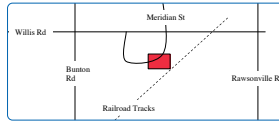
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Township 2024 Employee Wages and Costs to Township

(continued from page 1)

Sumpter Township 2024 Employee Wages & Cost to Township

	Wages	Total Compensation
POLICE DEPARTMENT: (continued)		
Egerer, Elizabeth	\$81,062.02	\$127,974.16
Gannon, Patrick	\$126,911.84	\$170,619.72
Gibson, Kevin	\$83,941.93	\$106,842.71
Gottschalk, Colleen	\$91,261.44	\$137,702.70
Hammons, Nelson	\$87,134.25	\$122,584.20
Herrick, Christopher	\$79,297.71	\$118,693.83
Hudson, Sean	\$105,820.17	\$140,432.06
Johnson, Nicholas	\$81,118.05	\$108,680.64
Luke, Eric	\$146,031.13	\$193,623.29
McLendon, Larence	\$74,948.36	\$117,037.47
Paquette, Malissa	\$91,916.98	\$104,459.83
Rodriguez, Jesiah	\$83,847.45	\$127,140.17
Rose, Christopher	\$77,566.63	\$119,304.73
Salajan, George	\$97,569.90	\$134,025.14
Steffani, Brian	\$112,061.33	\$164,355.00
Toney, Kenneth	\$93,876.53	\$120,139.21
CLERK'S OFFICE:		
Armatiss, Karen	\$65,287.98	\$94,534.98
Beaudrie, Maria	\$1,854.46	\$1,996.33
Hadyniak, Dawn	\$66,169.44	\$96,136.47
Herman, Samantha	\$63,488.06	\$84,156.89
Hurst, Esther	\$28,648.39	\$29,479.25
LaPorte, Donald	\$23,831.42	\$24,522.48
Massel, Gabriella	\$20,863.22	\$22,459.26
Stencel, Kristina	\$220.55	\$237.42
FINANCE DEPARTMENT:		
Holtz, Scott	\$89,071.02	\$125,171.16
BOARD OF REVIEW:		
Armstrong, Paul	\$150.00	\$161.48
Armstrong, Sandra	\$250.00	\$269.12
Teall, Helen	\$250.00	\$269.12
TREASURER'S OFFICE:		
Campbell, Erica	\$64,305.26	\$94,106.94
Harris, Ashley	\$56,814.75	\$88,922.64
Patterson, Bartley	\$31,500.04	\$32,413.61
ELECTIONS:		
Barnes, Judy	\$1,320.00	\$1,420.98
Bilberry-West, Corinne	\$728.00	\$783.70
Bowman, Deborah	\$1,426.50	\$1,535.62
Bozzo, Nancy	\$772.00	\$831.05
Brown-Harris, Kirsten	\$1,748.00	\$1,881.73
Burdick, Toni	\$132.00	\$142.09
Carnahan, Dawn	\$1,840.50	\$1,981.30
Carrell, Catherine	\$540.00	\$581.31
Chaney, Zariah	\$280.00	\$301.42
Chatman, Samantha	\$708.00	\$762.17
Cleveland-Evans, Mary	\$994.50	\$1,070.58
Cook, Rosemarie	\$892.00	\$960.23
Costanza, David	\$637.50	\$686.27
Degiorgio, Julianna	\$284.00	\$305.73
Folks, Constance	\$1,701.00	\$1,831.12
Frazier, Gloria	\$976.00	\$1,050.66
Frazier, Melinda	\$432.00	\$465.04
Hampton, Jean	\$460.00	\$495.19
Harris, Arcell	\$372.00	\$400.45
Hurst, Emily	\$580.00	\$624.37
Johnson, Amanda	\$884.00	\$951.63

Kendrick, Cynthia	\$796.00	\$856.89
Kyler-Sargent, Jacqueline	\$656.00	\$706.18
Lenze, Andrea	\$1,924.00	\$2,071.19
Massel, Aaron	\$3,100.50	\$3,337.69
Massel, Jennifer	\$936.00	\$1,007.60
Massey, Amanda	\$540.00	\$581.31
McClain, Gwendolyn	\$808.00	\$869.82
McKenzie, Charlene	\$1,312.00	\$1,412.36
McQueen, Deanna	\$856.00	\$921.48
Oddy, Antoinette	\$340.00	\$366.01
Perdue, Alexis	\$1,464.00	\$1,576.00
Pinter, Theresa	\$900.00	\$968.85
Pokerwinski, Sharon	\$820.00	\$882.73
Riggs-Webb, Darlene	\$1,676.00	\$1,804.21
Rochon, Margaret	\$348.00	\$374.63
Standley, Edward	\$284.00	\$305.71
Standley, Lynne	\$692.75	\$745.74
Stewart, Donna	\$1,984.00	\$2,135.78
Turnbull, Denise	\$496.00	\$533.94
Wilson, Danielle	\$1,008.00	\$1,085.12
Wilson De Medina, Christine	\$2,271.75	\$2,445.54
Wilson III, Joseph	\$828.00	\$891.35
BUILDING DEPARTMENT:		
Hall, Acheenia	\$56,628.57	\$93,429.63
ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT:		
Gregory, Peter	\$66,695.94	\$75,738.26
Scott, Kevin	\$65,513.54	\$74,252.31
PLANNING DEPARTMENT:		
Honey, John	\$125.00	\$134.56
Jackson, Joseph	\$25.00	\$26.91
Pokerwinski, Richard	\$75.00	\$80.74
Stalmack, Jane	\$210.00	\$226.07
Steigerwald, Kathleen	\$25.00	\$26.91
Warren, Vincent	\$135.00	\$145.33
Watson, Daniel	\$872.00	\$938.70
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:		
Scott, Rachel	\$41,910.07	\$45,951.41
WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT:		
Danci, John	\$54,845.01	\$75,438.46
Krushlin, John	\$107,511.31	\$122,197.63
Linville, John	\$86,999.52	\$107,941.32
Lynch, Randy	\$24,148.52	\$53,663.28
Winter, Anna	\$58,266.80	\$80,376.64
SENIOR CENTER:		
Thompson, Roderick	\$22,076.12	\$23,764.94
Watson, Maryann	\$62,046.00	\$97,355.83

2024 TOTAL \$4,971,601.30
2023 TOTAL \$4,681,526.93
Difference + \$290,074.37

2024 employee total wages & cost to township had approximately 6.2% increase since 2023.

Benefits include FICA and may include health care, dental, life insurance and pensions.

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Feb. 13 –Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 18 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m., and workshop at 5 p.m. as needed, Also, Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 19 – City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m., Belleville Area District Library, 167

- Fourth St.
- Monday, Feb. 24 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Tuesday, Feb. 25 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Sumpter Township board meeting, 6 p.m.
- Monday, March 3 – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 4 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m., and workshop at 5 p.m. as needed

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Post Office should do well as new city hall, police station

We taxpayers paid to build the Belleville Post Office on Charles Street in 1970 and it was built solid, with lots of room.

This should be a great building for Belleville's new city hall and police station.

It is located in the middle of things, next to the 90-space parking lot shared by the library and the city. It has its own parking lot, as well, and there's an alley behind the building.

The mayor said it's to be determined if any of the equipment on the tower at the present city hall has to be moved to the new site. The tornado siren already is being moved to the DPW yard.

The roof at the present city hall was leaking so badly that the workers couldn't be inside if the city didn't promise the state to put on a new roof. So, it did.

For years, council members have talked about selling what they believe is a prime commercial site for some lucky business to be at Five Points. They also talked about building a new city hall/police station on Savage Road on the other side of the railroad tracks next to the DPW yard. That no longer is being considered.

Rather than finding an intermediate site to occupy until a new city hall is built, council members have decided to move from one old building to another old building. We hope for the best. As the mayor said: "It's an historic moment."

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Victor DeLibera, a longtime member of the VBT Downtown Development Authority and also one of the new members of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, told a story about the school district's robotics program.

DeLibera, among others, has been an enthusiastic volunteer with the robotics program since it started.

He told the DDA at a recent meeting that the big robotics competition will again be at BHS, this year March 13-15. He said that the big competition hosted by BHS started in 2018, with two years off for COVID. He said they have robotics teams throughout the school district now.

He told the DDA the story of a robotics student who watched BHS custodians trying to clean out dirt from an enclosure at the base of a classroom door, where the safety slot is to place the piece that locks the door in an emergency.

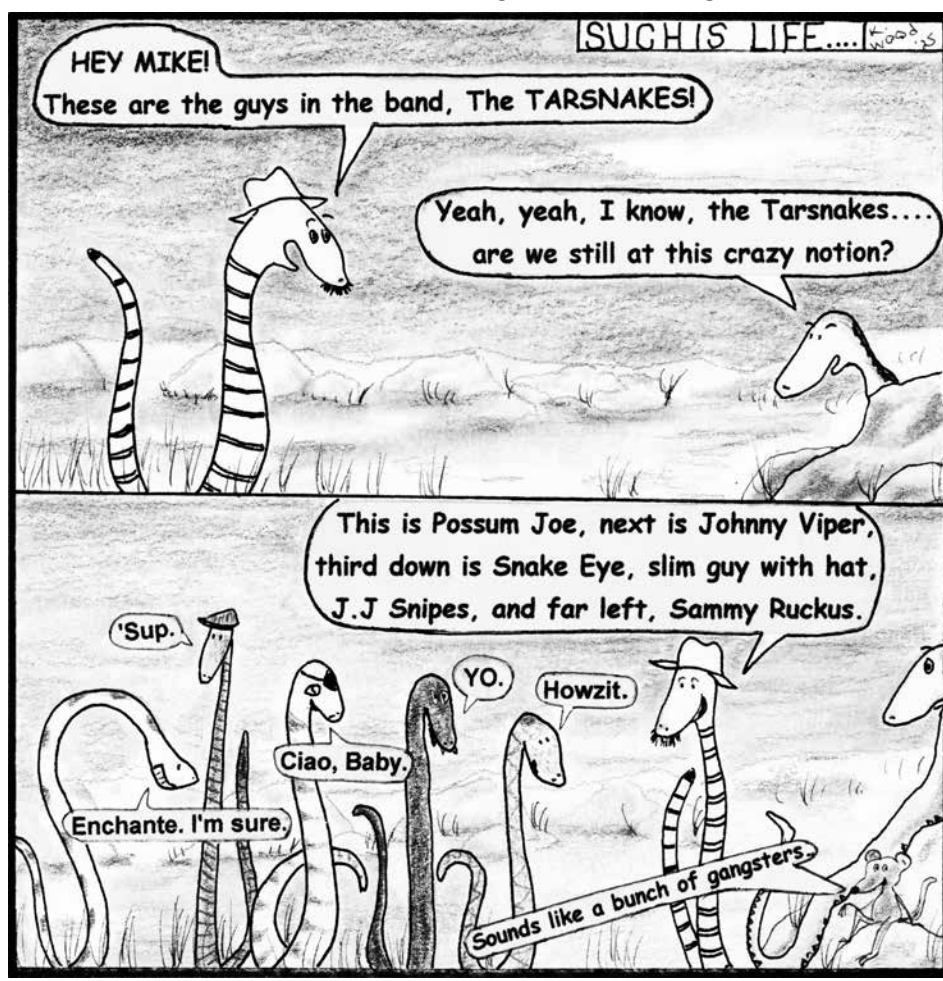
He said the student said the custodians were digging down into the slot with pencils trying to pull out the grime.

The student designed a piece and printed it off on the 3-D printer and then put it on the end of a vacuum cleaner hose. Within seconds, the custodian was able to clean the slot.

DeLibera said that's the kind of thing that comes from what the students are learning in their after-school robotics program.

DDA chairman Craig Atchinson said Ford Motor Co. is short from 30,000 to 40,000 engineers across the country now. He showed his support for programs that educate people in that field.

On Monday, at the school board meeting, board member Wade Fields, who also is



a robotics mentor, said there was another instance where a student designed and 3-D printed something for Meijer to use in the pharmacy to replace an old-fashioned device. Meijer is using it now. He explained one of the robotics mentors is from Meijer. DeLibera said that he was amazed last Saturday when he arrived at the robotics meeting to see so many mentors working with the kids. He said they have been trying to get to this point for years.

A reader brought me a copy of the Jan. 30 *Independent* and on page 19 marked an area in yellow and attached a note.

The note said, "I knew the township was celebrating Rob Young's 30th anniversary prematurely."

She referred to last year's 30-year celebration for Young at a board meeting.

The place she marked in our paper was in the "30-Years Ago" series we have been running to mark our 30 years of publication. The snippet of information we published was about a proposed vertical expansion of Carleton Farms landfill and that Wayne County said it was going to court to block it. Then it said, "Township attorney is Levon King."

That was printed on Jan. 26, 1995 in one of our first issues.

why 25-30 semi-trucks are going in and out of Martinsville Road (in Sumpter Twp.) between Judd and Wear dumping loads every day for the past three weeks from 9:30 a.m. until dark? I have called the township three times and have gotten the run-around and left messages for bldg. dept. and ordinance dept. and no one has called me back. For that much dirt you must have a permit to raise the height of your land. Just something I thought you might be interested in reviewing."

Does anybody know?

Once city officials move over to the post office to occupy that building for its new city hall, we wonder what will happen to the American flag at Five Points.

We've been regularly complaining about the flag being dark at night and the DPW director keeps telling me she's working on it.

Before they got the light on top of the police department aimed at the flag, former police officers report they had to put it up at dawn and take it down at sunset since it was supposed to be lighted if it stayed up all night.

We talk with VFW members at Bugles Across America each month and everyone agrees the city doesn't care about the American flag any more.



www.bellevillearea-independent.com
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BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

152 Main St., Suite 9, Belleville, MI 48111
734-699-9020
FAX 734-699-8962

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The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone (NO ADS, PLEASE!): 697-1294

Advertising Manager:
Janet Millard

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

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James Otzman

Office Manager: Yvette Gorecki

Editorial Cartoonist: Kathryn Wood

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Deadline for news & ads (see below) is Noon of every Monday. Deadline for ads smaller than 1/2 page is Noon Monday, and all advertising 1/2 page or larger is Noon Friday, with the exception of certain holiday weeks. Classified ad deadline is Noon of every Tuesday.

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Letters

Thanks for a great paper, good reading

To the editor:
 I have been reading your paper for as long as I can remember. I used to live in Ann Arbor and would come once a week to get your paper.
 Your paper, even tho' free, has more news and info in it than *The Free Press* I was getting and paying for.
 I love your little paper. I wish Romulus still had theirs.
 Keep up the good work and Thank You for a great paper and good reading.

Shirley Hurt
 Romulus

Doesn't want names on employees paid by taxes

To the editor:
 In regards to the annual reporting of employee compensation for our public entities, I would request that the *Independent* leave off names of individuals and replace them with the job title in future reporting.
 In the name of transparency, there is no reason why the community needs to know the name of the person attached to the compensation. The reported compensation for the job title should suffice.

As a former teacher with the Van Buren Public Schools, I endured this exposure each year of my employment with the district. In the current social and political climate, needlessly adding to the public exposure of individuals in our community is not in the best interests of these individuals.

Tim Miller
 Belleville

Editor's Note: We publish with transparency for the best interests of the taxpayers.

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Mother's Day Tea set in Northville's Cady Inn

To the editor:
 Saturday, May 10, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
 The Cady Inn at Mill Race Historical Village, 215 Griswold St., Northville 48167

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take".

Our speaker will be Brenda Dziedzic, "The Butterfly Lady." She will teach us all about butterflies and how to raise them in your own garden.

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Tickets are available now. Please call (248) 348-1845 and select option 2. Tickets are limited - \$45 for public (\$23 tax deductible) or \$40 for NHS members (\$20 tax deductible). Please be advised that tickets are non-refundable.

Proceeds to benefit Mill Race Village.
 Gary and Cheri Sample
 Northville Historical Society
 215 Griswold St. Northville
www.millracenorthville.org

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Feb. 13** – Classic Movies Series at the Belleville Area Library at 6:30 p.m. brings "Top Hat" (1935) with Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Edward Everett Horton, with music and lyrics by Irving Berlin. Brought to viewers free of charge by Friends of the Belleville Area District Library and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

- **Friday, Feb. 14** – Dinner, 5 p.m. until gone at the Van Buren Eagles, 3996, 9961 Beck Rd. Also, meat auction at 6:30 p.m. and two-person band, Flaunt Love.

- **Saturday, Feb. 15** – Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics of Michigan will take place at the Belleville Yacht Club with registration beginning at 10 a.m. and the plunges at noon.

- **Sunday, Feb. 16** – Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra at 3:30 p.m. at Lincoln High School Performing Arts Center, 7425 Willis Rd., Ypsilanti. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for students/ seniors/children, and \$30 per family. www.ypsilantisymphony.org

- **Tuesday, Feb. 18** – Belleville High School Hall of Fame Induction Night at half time of the 7 p.m. Boys Basketball Varsity game vs. Dearborn. Inductee are Diane Diessel, retired athletic secretary, and Andre Seldon, former BHS football player.

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City Council

(continued from page 1)

\$100,000 and Police Chief Willard Doktor wanted it for a police department.

"I've had my eye on that building for a long time," Voigt said.

"I, personally, will not raise taxes to build a new city hall," he said of a past proposal. He later emphasized there will be no debt and no new taxes for this.

Voigt thanked everyone who served on the council over the years and put away money to replace city hall. He named Mayor Kerreen Conley, Mayor Tom Fielder, Councilmen Jack Loria and Tom Smith, noting there are too many to name but they all will be invited to the grand-opening celebration.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kelly Bates said that a new city hall was one of the council goals members listed recently for this year and this is being fulfilled.

Later, Voigt said the WDIV camera will have to be relocated from the communications tower at the present city hall and he doesn't know if the city needs the tower any more because dispatching is done elsewhere. That will be determined, he said.

The vote at the special meeting came after a three-minute closed-door session. Besides the full council, at the meeting were City Manager Smith, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Kris Faull, and the *Independent*.

Smith told the council he will be gone Feb. 14 through 21 and return to the office on Feb. 24 for his "vacation." This is the time Smith had told the *Independent* previously that he planned to be married locally on Feb. 15, be married again in an beach ceremony in Florida, and then go on a honeymoon at a Caribbean resort.

The total special meeting on Feb. 6 was

16-minutes long. A one-hour closed-door session to discuss the purchase was part of the Feb. 3 regular city council meeting.

Court Watching

Bryce Tan Truong

Bryce Tan Truong, 39, of Belleville is charged with operating with blood alcohol contest of .17 or more, operating while intoxicated, and failure to stop after collision on Aug. 12 in the city of Belleville. His remote arraignment/pretrial was set for Jan. 15 and then a remote pretrial for Jan. 29. At that time, the case was adjourned to review discovery and he was scheduled for a remote pretrial on Feb. 12.

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, 2024, 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 and then for Jan. 15. On Jan. 15 the charge of operating while intoxicated with an occupant less than 16 was dismissed. The operating while intoxicated charge was reduced to a guilty plea of operating while visibly impaired.

Ian Michael Jones

Ian Michael Jones, 23, of Detroit is

charged with domestic violence on March 1, 2022 in Sumpter Township. He failed to appear on Feb. 28, 2023 for a remote arraignment/pretrial but he failed to appear and a bench warrant was issued. On Dec. 23, 2024 he was video-arraigned while in custody. He was scheduled for a remote pretrial on Dec. 30. Then, his final pretrial was set for Jan. 15. Bond is \$1,500/10%. He is not to return to the place of the offense and is to have no mood-altering substances while on this bond.

On Jan. 15, the case was dismissed when the complaining witness failed to appear. Case closed.

James Tyler Morgan

James Tyler Morgan of Clinton and previously of Belleville is charged with assault or assault and battery on April 29, 2024 in Van Buren Township. Final pretrial was Jan. 15 and at that time the case was

(continued on page 15)

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Obituaries



RUSSELL CLARENCE NALLE JR.

(August 30, 1921– February 7, 2025)

Age 103, of West Bloomfield. Proud member of the Tuskegee Airmen who fought in World War II. Survived by daughter Jennifer Lynn Screws of Van Buren Township, grandson Kenneth, and nephews. Cremation rites have been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com



George E. Long, III
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DONALD W. CARLSON

(January 13, 1933 – February 5, 2025)


Age 92 of Grand Rapids. Served on Belleville City Council for several terms. Survived by wife Lilyan; daughters Susan Carlson, Carol Shaw; grandchildren William Snyder, Connor Carlson, Griffin Shaw, Bella Shaw; great-granddaughters, Natalie, Claire. Gerst Funeral Home, Grand Rapids.

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Obituaries



Herbert Raymond
Andersen

HERBERT RAYMOND ANDERSEN

(October 8, 1935 – December 23, 2024)
Herbert Raymond Andersen, lovingly known as “Skip,” was born on October 8, 1935, to the late Herbert and Arline Andersen and passed away on December 23, 2024, at the age of 89. Skip is survived by his significant other of over 40 years, Kathleen Harper, and his stepdaughter, Irene (Marc) Feeley. He was the proud grandfather of Amanda, Alexander, and Austin, and a beloved brother to Diane Ricaurte and Dwight “Butch” (Barbara) Andersen, preceded in death by his brother Bill Andersen. Skip also leaves behind several cherished nieces and nephews William (Dawn) Andersen, Connie (Ryan) Fegan, Kristine (Kurt) Gerster, Michael (Kate) Ricaurte, and great- and great-grand nieces and nephews. An animal lover at heart, he shared his home with a colony of cats and dogs and deeply missed his dear horse, Jamin, who preceded him in death. Skip had a zest for life, a passion for cars, and an eye for fine details. His career in the automotive industry spanned decades, beginning as a car salesman at Spittler Demmer and rising to Sales Manager at Atchinson Ford, Varsity Ford where he earned Sales Manager of the Year, and finally Roy O’Brien Ford, where he retired after earning numerous accolades. Skip was a proud Sergeant in the National Guard, he also enjoyed traveling, collecting treasures, and spending time in Houghton Lake. His love for Ford and Jaguar cars, combined with his sharp wit and generous spirit, made him unforgettable to all who knew him. Skip will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to share in his remarkable journey.

A Memorial Service will be held for Skip on Saturday, April 5, 2025, 11 a.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5051 Pleasant Valley Rd., Brighton. There will be a gathering from 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial Contributions in Skip’s honor are suggested to Michigan Humane, <https://www.michiganhumane.org/> or to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, <https://www.stjude.org/>. Skip’s family has entrusted his care to the Keehn-Griffin Funeral Home, Brighton.



Frederick Michael
Knofski Sr.

FREDERICK MICHAEL KNOFSKI, Sr.

(October 19, 1935 – February 4, 2025)
Frederick Michael Knofski, Sr., age 89 of Brooklyn, MI passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at Michigan Medicine. He was born on October 19, 1935 in Wayne Co., MI a son of the late Michael Otto and Bernice Ida (Burghardt) Knofski. He graduated from Belleville High School in 1954. On May 20, 1954 he married Marian Cecile Pearson and they shared 62 years together before her passing in 2016.

He retired from being a heavy equipment mechanic with Michigan CAT and was a proud member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324. Fred was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Tecumseh where he was very active and had been on the council for the last few years. He enjoyed gardening, square dancing, hunting, fishing and just being outside. In his younger days he loved racing his car and spent a lot of time helping at the Lutheran Camp.

Fred is survived by his children, Fred (Cindy) Knofski, Jr. of Howell, MI, Diane Milligan of Jackson, MI, Henry (Debbie Winzeler) Knofski of Hartland, MI and Laurie (Lee) Smither of Onsted, MI; two brothers, Jim (Marilyn) Knofski of Gregory, MI and Michael (Rosemary) Knofski of Belleville, MI; a sister, Betty Pearson of Gulfport, FL; a brother-in-law, William (Kathy) Pearson of Romulus, MI; 11 grandchildren, Joshua (Lindsay) Knofski of Lakeway, TX, Andrew Knofski of Torrence, CA, Angela Knofski and Tabitha Knofski both of Westland, MI, Scott Milligan of Dearborn, MI, Russell (Amber) Milligan of Monroe, MI, Christine (Doug Shepherd) Milligan of Jackson, MI, Diana (Dan) Dubois of Jonesville, MI, Sara (Sean O’Brien) Smither of North Beach, MD, Lee (Kylene) Smither Jr., and Eric (Kayleah) Smither both of Clinton, MI; and eighteen great-grandchildren. Along with his wife Marian and his parents, Fred was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Gail Milligan; a great-granddaughter, Christa Milligan; a sister, Nancy Lauseng; and two brothers, Paul and Patrick Cox.

Visitation was from 1-7 p.m. Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at the Tecumseh Chapel of Handler Funeral Homes and from 10 a.m. until the time of the 11 a.m. funeral service on February 12 at Grace Lutheran Church in Tecumseh with Pastor William Finn officiating. Entombment will follow at 3 p.m. at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church and the Alzheimer’s Association.

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CHARLES SOUTAR

(March 30, 1945 – February 3, 2025)
Age 79, of Sumpter Township. Survived by children David, Jeanne and Eileen; sister Eileen Fraser; 4 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren. Served in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

Obituaries



Richard "Rick" Jerome Hertz, Jr.

RICHARD 'RICK' JEROME HERTZ JR.

(February 27, 1971 – February 5, 2025)

Richard "Rick" Jerome Hertz, Jr., age 53, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away unexpectedly on February 5, 2025 following a brief illness. Rick was born on February 27, 1971, in Ann Arbor, MI, to Richard and Bonalyn (Reiher) Hertz. Rick spent his childhood in Belleville running barefoot through the woods, climbing trees, and digging holes, before moving to Westland to spend most of his adulthood. In 2020 he moved back to Belleville to live with his sister Melissa, who was his caregiver for the last five years of his life. Rick made friends everywhere he went and had many friends in the Wayne-Westland-Belleville area. Rick loved baseball, especially the Detroit Tigers. He also had other passions such as going to the movies, dining out, bowling, playing Nintendo and listening to music, especially oldies. Rick loved spending time with his family, and especially loved teasing his three older sisters and buying gifts for his nieces and nephews. Rick was a very social person and a long-time participant in the Wayne-Westland Special Olympics and had many friends in this program. He worked in the automotive industry for many years. Rick was a devoted Christian and loved attending church. He was forever grateful to the many people who provided him with a ride to church services. Most recently, he was a member of the United Baptist Church in Garden City. He will be dearly missed by all.

Rick is survived by his siblings, Melissa Hertz of Belleville, MI, and Amy (Andrew) Baylon of Adrian, MI; his nieces and nephews, Sydney (Austin) Brewer of Kansas City, MO, Kyle Cooley of Seattle, WA, Alexandria Briggs of Clarkston, MI, Zane Baylon of Adrian, MI, Jacob Briggs of Brighton, MI, and Nicholas Briggs of Milford, MI; his family friend Randy Cooley of Canton, MI; as well as many neighbors and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bonalyn Hertz in 2020, Richard Hertz in 1981 and his sister Sarah Briggs in 2014.

A visitation was held at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111 on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. and a service began at 12 p.m. with Pastor Russ Dennis officiating. A burial followed at Soop Cemetery, 49250 Old Denton Road, Belleville, MI, 48111.

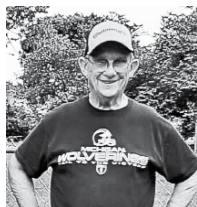
In lieu of flowers, donations in his honor may be made to the Wayne-Westland Special Olympics program.

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APRIL BROWN

(October 27, 1977 – February 6, 2025)

Age 47 of Willis. Survived by her mother Dawn Robbins; sons Cevin, Charles, Curtis, Cody; siblings Tony, Selene, Harold, Max, Nikki, Kristy, Michael; and grandson Carter. Service was Feb. 12 at David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com



Robert Eugene Harper

ROBERT EUGENE HARPER

(August 14, 1938 – February 6, 2025)

Robert "Bob" Eugene Harper, age 86, was received by his Lord Jesus Christ February 6, 2025 at home in Van Buren Township, MI. He was born August 14, 1938 in Mineral, VA, the son of Eugene and Gertrude (Meek) Harper. Bob started his career with Ford Motor Company in 1955 at the Ypsilanti plant. He performed many jobs. In 1967 he transferred to the Sheldon Road plant, where he retired in 1998 after 43 years with the company. He was a loyal member of UAW Local 845, where he ran for office and served many positions, including UAW Local 845 President. Upon retirement he accepted the position of President of the UAW Local 845 Retirement Chapter. He was proud to be a UAW member and grateful for his career at Ford Motor Company. Bob was a parishioner of Grace Baptist Church in Belleville. In his free time, he enjoyed golfing, bowling, watching old movies, and attending UAW functions. He was the "master gardener" of his backyard, where he loved growing a variety of flowers. Bob is survived by his spouse Susan Harper, brother Douglas (Susan) Harper, son Gregory (Terrie) Harper, daughter Deborah (Phoenix) Sodt, son Rick Harper, stepson Michael Purdy, son Jeffery (Tamara) Harper, 11 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, many nephews, nieces and close friends. He was preceded in death by his heavenly wife Mary Florence Harper and brother Kenneth Harper. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Friday, February 14, 2025 at Stark Funeral Professionals, 101 S. Washington St., Ypsilanti. A funeral service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, February 15, 2025 at Grace Baptist Church, 164 Roys St., Belleville, with viewing beginning at 10 a.m. Robert will be laid to rest in Highland Cemetery, Ypsilanti. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the church.

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Dorothy Anne (London) Wagonlander

DOROTHY ANNE WAGONLANDER

(November 11, 1932 – January 9, 2025)

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of our beloved mother, Dorothy Anne (London) Wagonlander, 92, of Traverse City, Michigan, formally of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dorothy passed away peacefully, of natural causes at Munson Medical Center with her son Kirk, by her side.

Dorothy was born in Columbus, Ohio to Dr. and Mrs. (Ova Lee Payne) HH London. After being raised in Columbia, Missouri, Dorothy graduated from the University of Missouri (Columbia) in 1954.

After graduation she and a classmate took a European Cruise to see the sights before commercial airliners flew the routes overseas. It was that trip that inspired her love of travel and she took many wonderful trips throughout her lifetime. Dorothy spent a few summers in Boulder, Colorado attending graduate classes.

Dorothy made the brave decision to relocate alone, to Michigan, to teach English Literature. It is here, she met her husband, Edward, the science teacher next door the first day of class (classes).

She taught for many years at Belleville High School in Belleville, Michigan retiring at age 54. She was preceded in death by her husband Edward in 1968, her brother Dr. W.T. London and sister-in-law Lorraine of Bethesda, Maryland. She is survived by her daughter, Elaine, her son, Kirk, her brother, Howard, her sister-in-law, Martha, of Scottsdale, Arizona along with several nieces and nephews.

A gathering in her memory will be held on Saturday, March 1st, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Ladies' Literary Club located at 218 North Washington Street, in Ypsilanti. Brunch will be served at the service. We encourage former students and friends of the family to attend. Parking is available at the adjacent church parking lot.



Jill Lynn Johnson

JILL LYNN JOHNSON

(April 11, 1968 - February 8, 2025)

Jill Lynn Johnson, age 57, longtime Belleville-area resident, passed away Saturday, February 8, 2025, at her home. She was born April 11, 1968, in Ypsilanti, MI, daughter of Chandious & Mildred Jean (Greer) Johnson, Sr.

Jill graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1986. She went to Eastern Michigan University, where she received her bachelor's and master's degrees. Ms. Johnson taught elementary school for Van Buren Public Schools for 30 years, before she retired in late 2020. She mainly taught first grade and was a reading specialist, at Haggerty and Tyler schools. Most recently she enjoyed tutoring and substitute teaching. She was a Brownie in her youth and served as a Girl Scout Leader for several years. She loved ice skating and animals.

Jill is survived by three sisters: Jennifer (Jerry) Lowhorn, Pam (Dennis) Stewart, both of Belleville, MI, and Liz Johnson of Romulus, MI; brother Chandious Johnson, Jr. of Chagrin Falls, Ohio; 6 nieces and nephews: Erik, Joe, Danielle, Bart, Jimmy, and Wendy; 9 great-nieces and great-nephews: Kyra, Lily, Kevin, Isabella, Matthew, Adam, Jayce, Nevaeh, and Gracie; her beloved cat Lucky, and many close friends. She was a friend to everyone and will be missed.

Ms. Johnson was preceded in death by her parents, also a niece Rachel Marie Zupancic. Visitation will be 3-7 PM Friday, February 14, 2025, with a 7:00 PM Funeral Service, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500. Pastor Doug Valentine will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, or an animal rescue of the donor's choice, and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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- Feb. 10 – Joyce Scipio-Long
- Feb. 16 – Debbie Simpkins
- Feb. 17 – Quentin Wade, Gabe Rehahn-Bonier
- Feb. 18 – Flare Del Gado, Brent Zimmerman
- Feb. 19 – Anna Smolinski
- Feb. 20 – Robert Stoner
- Feb. 21 – Ivy Wood

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Independent photo by James Otzman
Deer crossing signs have been put up by Wayne County on Tyler and Beck roads at the request of Van Buren Township residents. This is near Willow Run Airport and residents report there are lots of deer in the area. These signs feature deer with red noses.

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Photo courtesy of William Otzman

The Firehouse Subs shop in the completely rebuilt gas station at 11250 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township, at the northwest corner of Haggerty and the North I-94 freeway, officially opened on Saturday. Nathaniel Landreville, who is shown behind the counter waiting on customers on Sunday, said it will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.

Parent meeting set Feb. 26 for ‘Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.’ show

Van Buren Community Players will present the youth musical, “Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.” in May.

Those wishing to be cast members should get ready to rock the stage with all the “Schoolhouse Rock” classic songs such as “Just a Bill,” “Conjunction Junction,” “Interjections,” “Unpack Your Adjectives,” “A Noun is a Person, Place, or Thing” and many more!

Parents are invited to join in for a special informative meeting with the director at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 26, at the Van Buren Township Community Center Black Box Theater to learn about this production.

Auditions for “Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.” will be Monday, March 10, and Tuesday, March 11, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theater. Whether you are a seasoned performer or a first-timer, this is your chance to shine and bring learning

and laughter to life.

Performances are May 9-11 and 16-18 at the Black Box Theater inside the VBT Community Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township.

“Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.” is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

For more information on this show and all upcoming shows at the Black Box, visit www.vanburencommunityplayers.com, email vanburencommunityplayers@gmail.com, or call (734) 796-7900.

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, Feb. 13** – Boys Swim & Dive vs. Livonia Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
- **Friday, Feb. 14** – Girls Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial (JV 4 p.m. and Varsity 5:30 p.m.); Boys Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial (Freshman 4 p.m., JV 5:30 p.m., Varsity 7 p.m.)
- **Tuesday, Feb. 18** – Boys Basketball vs. Dearborn (Freshman 4 p.m., JV 5:30 p.m., Varsity 7 p.m.) - BHS Hall of Fame Induction Night at half time. Inductees include Diane Kiessel, retired athletic secretary, and Andre Seldon, former BHS football player.

Jamie Cichowski
Athletic Secretary, Belleville High School

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Dedication to Pete & Marcy LaFramboise

It takes a rare and extraordinary kind of determination to transform a dream into reality, especially a dream sparked not early in life, but at a time when most would consider their life's work complete.

That unrelenting drive, that sense of purpose, and that belief in doing something bigger than themselves is exactly why Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue exists today. What started as a vision blossomed into what FMAR is today.

Pete and Marcy built this rescue with their faith, love, grit, and an unshakable commitment to saving lives. Because of their foundation, hundreds of dogs and cats have found safety, care, and love. They gave hope where there was none, and their legacy lives on in every wagging tail and every purring kitten that finds its way here.

It is with deep gratitude and immense pride that we rename our two buildings in their honor: The Marcy LaFramboise Cat Haven and The Pete LaFramboise Dog Retreat. This dedication recognizes the profound impact Marcy and Pete have had on the lives of animals, on this community, and on all of us.

FMAR exists because of them. Their vision, their compassion, and their unwavering belief in the power of second chances has built something that will endure for generations.

Pete and Marcy, FMAR will forever echo the love and dedication you poured into it.
 Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

Editor's Note: Mary LaFramboise, who started FMAR with her husband Pete, died Jan. 28. There was not an official day of FMAR dedication. It was planned, but FMAR was unable to execute it before Marcy passed. The signs were erected Feb. 7. A celebration of Marcy's life is planned for 1-6 p.m., Sunday, March 2, at the Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd. Donations to FMAR would be appreciated by her family.

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Autistic artist Aariel Williams focuses on inclusion in life

By Ania Felder
Special Writer

Aariel Williams is a 36-year-old, full-time, autistic artist who auctions off and donates her artwork locally around Belleville and to the Autism Alliance of Michigan organization.

One of her most-recent paintings, "Racing for Inclusion," was auctioned off for more than \$600 at the Belleville Yacht Club and she plans to pass that money on to support her goal of inclusion.

Williams was diagnosed with autism when she was 2 or 3 years old. She was nonverbal until the age of 4 when her first words were "surprise," "mom," and "dad."

Growing up she said she felt that doctors have had toxic misconceptions about autistic people.

"Now that's not true. I learn differently and I work differently. There was a deep misconception that many autistic children cannot learn, nor will they function well. I say, not true."

The self-titled "autistic artist" feels that doctors in today's society have changed these toxic beliefs and have become more open, accepting, and aware towards autistic individuals.

Williams was willing to open up about some strengths and weaknesses she faces as an autistic person. Her strengths are listed as painting, basketball, babysitting, poetry, and math. She said she has a "calendar-calculator" brain, "meaning I could study and detect the day of the week that falls and matches divisibly by 28 years."

Her weaknesses, she said, are sometimes "paying attention, social skills, stumbling on words, and adapting to changes."

During grade school, academics were another weakness that she struggled with, but with the support of her family and tutoring she was able to turn that into another one of her strengths by the time she reached college.

Williams attended Hutchinson Elementary School, Joy Middle School, and graduated from both Martin Luther King High School and Go Lightly Career & Technical Center as a member of the National Honor Society and student council in 2006.

Despite being a full-time artist since

grade school, Williams did not start painting professionally until her junior year of high school at age 17 when her mother and teachers encouraged her to become a professional artist as an outlet from the stress of schoolwork.

The first professional painting she ever created was of a pterodactyl dinosaur which she sold to her special education teacher.

After completing grade school in Detroit schools, Aariel moved with her family to Belleville in December of 2008. In Belleville she began pursuing her post high school education at Wayne County Community College District: Ted Scott Campus, between 2012 and 2018. In 2018, she graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree.

From there, Williams continued creating artwork and gives back to both of her communities: Belleville and Autism Alliance (which has been supporting her for 9 years as of 2025). She has donated and sold her paintings since 2021 to the Belleville Area District Library, Creative Arts Factory, Purpose Dentistry, and BYC. She then began donating the funds made from her work to the Autism Alliance in March of 2024.

From 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Friday, March 7, Williams will host her first event for Autism Alliance at the Showplace Gallery in Novi. She will present the organization

with the \$600 check she got at the BYC and give a speech about why she chose to donate.

"I donate out of kindness, and to give back to my community," she said.

A majority of her artwork is inspired by inclusion, and a mixture of things from her childhood such as Teddy bears, buses, and her imaginative personality.

Aside from local establishments,

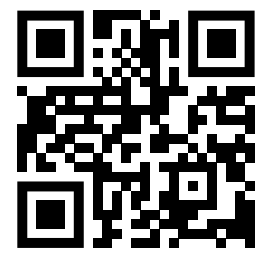
the public can see her paintings at the community art show each year, hosted by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

Williams said her main message behind her art is: "We must be inclusive in all things we do. My goal is to become an influencer, artist, and model. My other goal is to inspire others with my art and my story."



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Work progresses on the Denton Road Bridge even in the icy weather over the weekend.

Denton Road Bridge expected to be done by end of this year

By Don Sherman
Van Buren Township

Given the frigid temperatures and wind chill this time of year, bundling up to

minimize exposure to the elements is essential. Unfortunately, work crews don't enjoy the luxury of huddling by a cozy fire with a steamy refreshment.

Specifically, we're referring to the dozen

or so hard hats working on the Denton Road Bridge project. It's hard not to notice the substantial progress they've made in spite of the sub-zero wind chills we've all suffered during the first two months of this year.

Every trace of this bridge, built in 1927 and closed in October 2022, is long gone. Fishbeck Engineering designed the replacement which will cost \$4-6.5 million. DTE removed buried natural gas lines. Bridge decking and side railings have been demolished and removed by the principal contractor E.C. Korneffel of Trenton. Benesch Construction is on site to assure that rigorous design standards are met.

As photos reveal, two towering cranes are on site to maneuver heavy materials. Floating barges provide a crossing for

workers and materials. Thus far, tons of steel plates have been lifted into position and sunk into the lakebed.

According to Van Buren Township's Director of Municipal Services Ron Akers, "The March 1 commencement of fish spawning imposes certain deadlines on this project. One is the need for a turbidity curtain (which stops stirred-up sediment from flowing downstream). Fortunately, we're on track to meet our timelines."

Asked if this project is ahead of schedule, Akers said, "As previously stated, we're expecting construction to be completed so Denton Road can reopen by the end of this year. That said, additional restoration work -- such as replanting lakeside vegetation -- may continue into 2026."



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Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



As we move closer to the March 1 annual Jazz Band Spaghetti Dinner, the organizers are looking for donations of raffle baskets. I'm sure they would also take gift cards and items for baskets that they could put together. To make a donation, please email bellevillebandboosters@gmail.com to arrange a pickup or drop off.

Don't forget the Polar Plunge on Saturday at the BYC. Monies raised are for Special Olympics.

Just in time for your Valentine shopping, see the ad from Pinter's Flowerland on Rawsonville Road who have been serving our community for almost 100 years!

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

Mason Vlademar earns place on U. of Nebraska Dean's List for Fall 2024

Mason Vlademar of Van Buren Township is among the more than 7,300 University of Nebraska – Lincoln students who have been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2024-25 academic year.

Vlademar, a sophomore, is studying mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering, where a grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale is required for placement on the Dean's List.

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.

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Publish: Feb. 6, 2025; Feb. 13, 2025

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Court Watching

(continued from page 6)

dismissed without prejudice when the complainant failed to appear. Case closed.

Davont Andrew Handley

Davont Andrew Handley of Taylor and formerly of Van Buren Township was video-arraigned while in custody by Judge Martin on Dec. 3. He is charged with domestic violence in Van Buren Township on Dec. 1. His remote pretrial was set for Dec. 18 and personal bond set at \$5,000. On Dec. 18, he said he was in zoom all morning and no one ever talked to him. His remote pretrial was set for Jan. 15. He failed to appear so a warrant was put out for his arrest.

Barrage Dashone-Lamar Ontay-Scott

Barrage Dashone-Lamar Ontay-Scott of Ypsilanti is charged with a count of delivering / manufacturing controlled substances (narcotic or cocaine – less than 50 grams), a count of delivering / manufacturing controlled substance (GBL – less than 25 grams), a count of possession of GBL, a count of possession of narcotic or cocaine, and retail fraud-second degree on Dec. 10 in Van Buren Township. He was arraigned Dec. 12 by Magistrate Hindman and given \$5,000 personal bond that includes that he cannot return to Walmart and there should be no drug use. At his probable cause conference on Dec. 23, a preliminary exam was set for Feb. 12.

On Jan. 22 the court was advised by

the Washtenaw County Sheriff that the defendant was in custody with Washtenaw on new charges. He was present for a bond violation hearing by zoom from the Washtenaw County Jail and he was arraigned on the bond violation by Magistrate Hindman. Bond was reset for \$5,000/10%, but it can be personal if the defendant is placed on the Wayne County GPS tether program.

Ambreille Linzye Rogers

Ambreille Linzye Rogers of Van Buren Township was charged with embezzlement by an agent or trustee between \$200 and \$1,000 at Detroit Metro Airport on Dec. 12, 2022. The charge was brought on Dec. 4, 2024 and she failed to appear for a Dec. 18 remote arraignment/pretrial. A remote show-cause arraignment was set for Jan. 29. She failed to appear so a bench warrant was issued.

Adam Holmer Martain-Doss

Adam Holmer Martain-Doss of Wayne is charged with domestic violence on June 30, 2024 in Sumpter Township. A warrant was out for his arrest for failure to appear and a remote show cause/pretrial was set for Jan. 29. Final pretrial was set for Feb. 19. Personal bond is \$5,000.

Michael David McDaniel

Michael David McDaniel of Sumpter Township is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder/strangulation and assault and battery on a pregnant individual on Jan. 17 in Van Buren Township. He was arraigned out-county on Jan. 20 and personal bond is \$10,000. Probable cause conference was held Jan. 29 and another probable cause conference set for Feb. 19.

Javin Tyse Grisham

Javin Tyse Grisham, 38, of Canton is charged with domestic violence and operating while intoxicated-second offense on Dec. 28 in Van Buren Township. He was arraigned Dec. 28 and a remote pretrial held for Jan. 8. A remote pretrial was set for Jan. 29.

At that time the domestic violence charge was dismissed by the party. His operating while intoxicated-2 charge was reduced to operating while intoxicated and he pled guilty. A pre-sentence interview was set for Feb. 6.

Arceini Jonel Gray

Arceini Jonel Gray, 35, of Inkster is charged with operating with a blood alcohol content of .17 or more and carrying a concealed weapon while under the influence on April 30, 2023 in Van Buren Township. The charges were entered on Dec. 12, 2024 and she was set for her

arraignment/pretrial on Jan. 8, but she did not appear. A remote show cause/arraignment/pretrial was set for Jan. 29. Final pretrial is Feb. 19.

Cameron Keith Thomas Nichols

Cameron Keith Thomas Nichols, 26, of Van Buren Township was video arraigned in custody on Jan. 3 and charged with possessing a controlled substance (narcotic or cocaine) less than 25 grams on Jan. 1 in Van Buren Township. Personal bond was \$1,000. A probable cause conference was set for Jan. 15. At his probable cause conference on Jan. 29, he pled guilty to a reduced charge of consuming a controlled substance. The file was sent to probation for a recommendation on the sentence.

A Romulus charge of unlawful driving away of a vehicle on June 5 was reduced to attempted unlawful driving away. He pled guilty to that charge and the file was sent to probation.

Mohamed L Cherif

Mohamed L. Cherif of Ann Arbor was charged with malicious destruction of property on Jan. 21 in Van Buren Township. He was video arraigned in custody on Feb. 5 and Judge Martin set a personal bond of \$1,000. Arraignment/pretrial was set for Feb. 20.

Nathan Reynolds Spear

Nathan Reynolds Spear of Belleville was video-arraigned while in custody on Feb. 4 on a charge of domestic violence – second offense in Van Buren Township on Feb. 2. Personal bond was set at \$5,000 and his pretrial set for Feb. 12.

Mekayla Jonae Mitchell

Mekayla Jonae Mitchell of Romulus was video-arraigned while in custody with Romulus Police on Feb. 4 on a bench warrant for a driving while license suspended charge from April 3, 2022 in the city of Belleville. Personal bond is \$3,000. Arraignment/pretrial is Feb. 20.

She is also charged with a Feb. 3 Romulus count of assault and battery on Romulus Police. Remote arraignment / pretrial was set for Feb. 20. Personal bond is \$5,000.

Deanna Gabriel Rogers

Deanna Gabriel Rogers, 51, of Sumpter Township was set for her show-cause hearing on Feb. 5 for failing to appear at a hearing on a charge of driving with no insurance in the city of Belleville on Dec. 11. She again failed to appear.

Dionte Kristopher Kelley

Dionte Kristopher Kelley of Roseville was charged with child abuse-4th degree on Oct. 20, 2021 in the city of Belleville. He failed to appear for a hearing so a warrant was out for his arrest. He was video-

arraigned in custody of Belleville Police on Jan. 2. Bond of \$5,000/10% was set. He was present for a remote pretrial on Feb. 5 and his pretrial rescheduled for April 2 so the complaining victim can appear.

Tiwan Torntito Browning

Tiwan Torntito Browning of Ypsilanti is charged with two counts of child abuse – 4th degree, driving while license suspended, reckless driving, two counts of leaving a child unattended in a vehicle, and failure to stop at a property damage accident on Aug. 1 in Van Buren Township. He was scheduled for his arraignment/pretrial on Feb. 5, but the post office advised it was unable to deliver the court notice and it was returned.

Paula Marie Ashton

Paula Marie Ashton of Belleville is charged with operating while intoxicated – 2nd offense on April 15, 2024 in the city of Belleville. She was scheduled for her arraignment/pretrial on Feb. 5. Arraignment was held and her pretrial set for March 19. Personal bond is \$1,000.

Albert Jerry Kosis

Albert Jerry Kosis of Farmington Hills was set for a compliance review hearing on Feb. 5 on charges of failure to appear for court hearings on fleeing in a vehicle, retail fraud, and driving while license suspended on Nov. 13, 2023 in Van Buren Township. Information was emailed to the Oakland County Jail and he appeared by zoom on Feb. 5.

His live court date was set for Feb. 12. Bond is \$5,000/10%.

Jesse Daniel Doe

Jesse Daniel Doe of Belleville was scheduled for his preliminary exam on Feb. 5 on a Dec. 17 charge of assault with a dangerous weapon in the city of Belleville. Bond was \$10,000/10%.

He was video-arraigned while in police custody on Dec. 19. Probable cause conference was Dec. 30. He is to have no contact with the complaining victim.

On Feb. 5, his preliminary exam was reset for March 19 because his attorney was sick.

Shaniya Michelle Burns

Shaniya Michelle Burns, 21, of Detroit is charged with speeding and no insurance on Nov. 29, 2023 in the city of Belleville. She was scheduled for a zoom hearing and a remote arraignment/pretrial on Jan. 3. She failed to appear for her court hearing and so a show-cause hearing was set for Jan. 24, 2024. A bench warrant has been issued for failure to appear.

(continued on page 19)

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More looking back:

30 years ago, this is what was happening in the tri-community

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

We are celebrating completion of our 30th year of publication by printing stories from our earliest issues to show what was happening in Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter.

In our Feb. 1, 1995 issue, there is a picture of Belleville's new police chief, Hal Berriman, who will begin at \$44,000 salary. City Manager Reid Charles was authorized to offer him the position, as recommended by the Civil Service Commission, and the city council will vote on it at its next meeting.

Berriman retired from the Detroit Police Department in December 1994 after almost 34 years of service. He retired with the rank of Inspector with the Crimes Against Persons/Property Division. He also served on the Internal Affairs Division.

He was sworn in on Feb. 13 by Clerk Agnes Frisch, who said this is the third police chief she has sworn in. She also swore in Chief Willard "Doc" Docktor and former Chief Jerry Remus.

In the Feb. 2, 1995 edition we also printed:

- After more than eight hours of discussion in two separate meetings within a week's time, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education failed to come to an agreement on a proposed \$49.95 million bond issue. This meant the 7.52-mill proposal missed the deadline to be on the April ballot.

- A "Banotai Roast" was set for Feb. 19 at the PNA Hall to honor the public service career of Sumpter Trustee Louis Banotai, 74, who served Sumpter Township over a 40-year period and was elected to every board position except supervisor. Louis' parents came to the United States from Hungary in 1912. He graduated from BHS in 1940. In 1992, after a debilitating stroke, he walked the township to talk to Sumpter residents and seek voter support. The exercise not only speeded his return to health, but he won a resounding victory as trustee.

- New Belmont Manor apartment on-site manager Diane McKinniss hosted a festive, get-acquainted reception for tenants on Jan. 30 to get them acquainted with her, her new staff, and members of the Belleville Police Department. She said maintenance problems were being addressed. There had been a recent gang fight and stabbing in the apartment parking lot. One resident complained about the barrier at Henry Street that he understood was put in place to keep BHS students from abusing the Belmont drive between Henry and Columbia Avenue, but it used to be a second entrance for the apartment complex for emergencies. He said with a recent gas leak, residents could neither enter nor exit the complex because of rescue squads

blocking the Columbia Avenue entrance.

- The Community Quilt Block of the Week is the Water Tower and Marilyn Locke tells the story. The water tower located on High Street in the city was erected in 1919. At one time it held well water that was charged with methane gas. The gas accumulated in the well house and its explosions caused the deaths of Charles Bunyea in 1924 and Charles Leonard in 1932. The tower overlooked Belleville Lake and was used to hold water for 67 years. On June 2, 1986, the rusted tower was pulled down after a weakened leg buckled and tower partially fell into the lake. The quilt block was created by Belleville attorney Josephine Chapman.

- The Tri-Community Optimists honored BHS essay winners: Jill Harrison, Shannon Saksewski, and Peggy Geeseman.

- The Seven Singing Losens were a part of the festivities at Bethany Bible Church on Feb. 5, honoring 25 years of service by Pastor John and Vesta Losen. The family arrived in Belleville 25 years ago and he may be the longest-serving minister still in the pulpit in the Belleville area. When their children were small, the Seven Singing Losens toured the New England states and South Africa. Although they hadn't sung together in years, they'll give it a try at the celebration. The family moved here on their wedding anniversary, Feb. 4, 1970, from Traverse City where he had served six years, with other churches before that.

- The Belleville Emergency Food Closet, housed at Belleville First Methodist Church, was chosen to receive \$10,000 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area. Chairman Toni Hunt said the selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- Steve and Svetlan Dimovski took over ownership of Belleville Bakery at 601 E. Huron River Dr. on Sept. 1, 1994. Steve, 29, said he moved from Macedonia in Yugoslavia in 1989, coming to America with the help of his sister in Grosse Isle to seek a better way of life.

- Sandy Burse had the sewing skills but not the business expertise to become an entrepreneur, but the Ann Arbor Community Development Corporation accepted her into the Women's Initiative for Self Employment. Now she and her classmate Linda Owulette run The Sewing Connection on Belleville Road in the strip mall just north of Big Boy restaurant.

We will publish more history from 30 years ago as space allows.

Court Watching

Dejuan Dominique-Ladale Jackson

Dejuan Dominique-Ladale Jackson, 30, of Southfield, was charged with uttering and publishing and false pretenses on Aug. 22 in Van Buren Township. Her probable cause conference was Feb. 7 and then adjourned to Feb. 21. Personal bond was \$10,000.

On Feb. 21, the charge was dismissed because of a prior plea agreement in circuit court for case 23-004503-01-FH. Judge Martin called it a "global agreement."

Jaden Tyler John McKeith

Jaden Tyler John McKeith, 22, of

Riverview was arraigned on Dec. 18 on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon and reckless use of firearms on Dec. 16 in Van Buren Township. Personal bond was set at \$1,000 and a probable cause conference for Jan. 3. A probable cause conference was set for Jan. 10 and then adjourned to Jan. 24 and then Jan. 31.

On Jan. 31 he waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a Feb. 14 arraignment on the information. A calendar conference was set for March 7 and he pled guilty to both charges. Sentencing on April 8 brought fees totaling \$398 and two years of probation.



City of Belleville Public Notice



2025 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the City Of Belleville will be held on the following dates:

March 4th, Tuesday

9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

(Organizational Meeting)

No Appeals Heard at this Meeting

March 4th, Tuesday

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 11th, Tuesday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review **OR** by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

Letters of appeal must be received by noon MARCH 11, 2025.

Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-252-4314 between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. by MARCH 4, 2025.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 are as follows:

Commercial	46.91%	1.065
Industrial	47.89%	1.044
Residential	45.99%	1.087
Personal	50.00%	1.000

Briana Hootman
City of Belleville

Publish: Thursday, February 13, 2025
Thursday, February 20, 2025
Thursday, February 27, 2025

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

School Supt. talks of pulling valedictorian, salutatorian slots

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, Belleville High School student Ivonna Goff gave a lengthy report on what was going on at BHS.

Ivonna is president of the senior class and the student council and one of the students who regularly sits at the school board table.

Among other things, Ivonna reported that BHS is doing away with honors classes because the classes keep the students from interacting with each other. She said when the honor students come from Savage Elementary, they tend to stick together through the rest of the schooling.

She said students are being encouraged to sign up for AP (advanced placement) classes, but you have to pay for AP tests, which deters some.

Ivonna said class rankings came out

recently, based on GPA (grade point average), but this harms relationships, feelings are hurt, and she thinks the rankings should be withheld until the senior year.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said that he and BHS Principal Nicole Crockett have been discussing the way they rank students now and agree it is "kind of antiquated" and they could do away with valedictorian and salutatorian and just name the top ten. That is yet to be determined.

Ivonna said she is interested in public health and global health and plans to study that at college this fall, with a minor in education. She said her top choice for a college is the University of Michigan, but that is yet to be decided.

She also announced the BHS Polar Plunge which will be Wednesday, Feb. 18, to raise funds for unified sports. She said the tank will be outside and she plans to take the

plunge. The temperature is expected to be 21 degrees, she said.

Ivonna said she will be making a black history presentation later Feb. 18 focusing on the contributions of black inventors. Also, the Tiger Village dinner is coming up to honor the students who made their goals and reward them with cash awards of \$50 or \$100.

She said Tiger Village was named that after Hillary Clinton's statement that it takes a village to raise a child.

She also reported student council representatives are going to the state conference soon when they will talk about DEI and BHS students, who won previous competition, will give presentations. Ivonna said she will be presenting, as well.

She said a girls' flag football team has been started at BHS and they hope to get both JV and Varsity teams.

Ivonna said she and other youth council

members are planning a block party with the Belleville Downtown Development Authority for the last day of school, which is a half-day.

In other business at the half-hour meeting, the board:

- Considered the eight candidates in Region 8 presented for the 2025 Michigan Association of School Boards Board of Directors election. Each district will receive one ballot to vote for the person they want to represent their region. Board members will consider the candidates and vote at the next meeting for their candidate. The ballot will be submitted by March 5;

- Approved the resignation of BHS paraprofessional Tatyana Hamlet as of Jan. 24;

- Approved the employment of Kizzy Scott as an Edgemont paraprofessional as of Jan. 27; Dawn Majewski as an Owen paraprofessional as of Feb. 5; Anne Witkowski as an Edgemont paraprofessional as of Feb. 5; and Gregory Martinez as a mechanic with buildings and grounds as of Feb. 10;

- Heard Director of Student Services Julien Frazier praise the report given by Ivonna Goff. He said the money from the Polar Plunge will go to unified sports basketball and a couple more unified sports. He said the local unified team played at Little Caesar's Arena recently against Lincoln Park and the local team won. He said it was a great experience for the players;

- Heard Finance Director Priya Nayak say she is working on the budget amendments and most of the grants have been finalized. She said the final student count was held last week and it will be submitted in June with the budget. She also noted that BHS and Edgemont food service will be audited;

- Heard Supt. Kudlak explain that inclement weather days are based on forecasts the day before or in the morning when the current weather is checked. He said it depends on what's going on. He said the district only gets six inclement weather days and they've used up four so far; and

- Heard board vice-president Dionne Falconer say that the district's students playing sports think about the game and the whole student body. "We are creating wonderful leaders," she said. Falconer conducted the board meeting in the absence of board president Amy Pearce.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



VAN BUREN
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2025 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

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

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the Charter Township of Van Buren will be held on the following dates:

March 4th, Tuesday
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(Organizational Meeting)
No Appeals Heard at this Meeting

March 10th, Monday
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 12th, Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review **OR** by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

Letters of appeal must be received by noon MARCH 12, 2025.

Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-699-8946 between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by MARCH 4, 2025.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 are as follows:

Ag – 45.65%	1.0952
Com – 49.83%	1.0034
Ind – 48.33%	1.0345
Res – 45.85%	1.0905
Personal – 50.00 %	1.0000

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Thursday, February 13, 2025
Thursday, February 20, 2025
Thursday, February 27, 2025

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 269 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week including the following.

Sunday, Feb. 2:

0054 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Ash Dr.
0516 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0643 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0652 – domestic, S. Woodbury Dr.
1152 – domestic, Chinkapin Dr.
1211 – noise complaint, Kirkridge St.
1234 – civil matter, Sumpter Rd.
1250 – domestic, Edwards Rd.
1316 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1419 – suicidal person, Lake Villa Dr.
1513 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1524 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1534 – family trouble, Westlake Cir.
1610 – welfare check, Florence Ln.
1857 – civil matter, Speedway
1914 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1927 – suicidal person, Bemis Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
2014 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2042 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River
2053 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
2152 – unattended death, Dalton Dr.
2326 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Dorchester DR.
2329 – welfare check, Harmony Ln.

Monday, Feb. 3:

0040 – intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.
0050 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Beckley Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Denton Rd.
0426 – welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.
xxxx – repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0717 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd./Martz Rd.
0736 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bemis Rd.
0842 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0919 – civil matter, Rawsonville Rd.
1036 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Westlake Cir.
1205 – welfare check, Martz Rd.
1218 – disorderly, Dewitt Rd.
1312 – assist fire dept., E. I-94N. Belleville I-94 ramp E.
1358 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1313 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1319 – intrusion alarm, Jackson St.
1450 – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.
1512 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1542 – domestic, Patty Ln.
1610 – domestic, Forestdale Dr.
1618 – domestic, Park Estates Dr.
1715 – assist fire dept., Martz Rd.
2058 – welfare check, Martz Rd.
2108 – disorderly, Park Estates Dr.
2121 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2220 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2308 – assist fire dept., Oak Blvd.
2340 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Visteon Way
2359 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, rest area

Tuesday, Feb. 4:

0216 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0232 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harbour Club
0257 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
0354 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.
0421 – assist other dept., Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – repossession, E. Walden Dr.
0845 – civil matter, Park Estates Dr.
0858 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Old Michigan Rd.
1205 – civil matter, Edwards Rd.
1208 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.
1222 – suicidal person, Oak Ln.
1226 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Riggs Rd.
1226 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Martinsville Rd.
1227 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1228 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Harmony Ln.
1244 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1308 – intrusion alarm, Dorchester Dr.
1323 – dumping complaint, Marina Dr.
1323 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1356 – assist fire dept., Parkwood Dr.
1536 – private property/property damage accident, Kirkridge Park Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1640 – vehicle lockout, Michigan Ave.
1647 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
1840 – civil matter, Jeannette Ave.
1753 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1838 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1844 – intrusion alarm, Bradley Dr.

1226 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Riggs Rd.
1226 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Martinsville Rd.
1227 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1228 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Harmony Ln.
1244 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1308 – intrusion alarm, Dorchester Dr.
1323 – dumping complaint, Marina Dr.
1323 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1356 – assist fire dept., Parkwood Dr.
1536 – private property/property damage accident, Kirkridge Park Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1640 – vehicle lockout, Michigan Ave.
1647 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
1840 – civil matter, Jeannette Ave.
1753 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1838 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1844 – intrusion alarm, Bradley Dr.

Wednesday, Feb. 5:

0024 – intrusion alarm, Samuel Barton Dr.
0046 – road hazard, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.
0125 – domestic, N. Bellridge Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Denton Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Sugarbush Ln.
0815 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd.
0824 – fraud, Oak Ln.
0917 – private property/property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1113 – intrusion alarm, Edwards Rd.
1128 – civil matter, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1242 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1404 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1426 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1536 – malicious destruction of property, Kahla Dr.
1624 – animal complaint, E. Huron River Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1839 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Alba Ct.
1852 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Sheldon Rd.
2305 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2341 – malicious destruction of property, Daisy Blvd.

Thursday, Feb. 6:

0013 – suicidal person, Aspen Ln.
xxxx – repossession, Parkwood Dr.
0448 – vehicle lockout, Coca-Cola Dr.
0702 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.
0727 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Westlake Cir.
0836 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
0852 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1124 – vehicle lockout, Van Buren St.
1259 – vehicle lockout, Chinkapin Dr.
1308 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1339 – misc. complaint, Village Green Ln.
1440 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1515 – welfare check, N. Prairiegrass Ct.
1515 – intrusion alarm, Stanley Rd.
1551 – fraud, Huron River Dr.
1605 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1620 – civil matter, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1652 – misc. complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1712 – larceny, Denton Rd.
1815 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Quirk Rd.
1806 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1815 – lost property/child, Cumberland Ct.
1817 – threat, Outer Dr.
1904 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Hull Rd. / Sumpter Rd.
1919 – road hazard, Michigan/Ecorse
1934 – hospice death, Cedar St.
1948 – assist fire dept., Lighthouse Dr.
1958 – welfare check, Holly Ln.
2004 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Friday, Feb. 7:

0000 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0015 – intrusion alarm, Ricardo Dr.
0008 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0040 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0119 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0331 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk
0348 – domestic, N. Woodbury Dr.
xxxx – repossession, S. Bellridge Dr.
0747 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
0845 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0848 – lost property/child, Denton Rd.
0859 – malicious destruction, Wildbrook Dr.
0901 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
xxxx – private property impound, S. I-94 Service
1031 – domestic, Van Buren St.
1042 – animal complaint, Togowtee Pass
1122 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service DR.
1226 – property damage accident, Martz / Rawsonville Rd.
1232 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Fisher Rd.
1402 – private property impound, Old Rawsonville
1423 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1440 – court detail, S. Wayne Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Sawgrass Ct.
1610 – disorderly, Rawsonville/Martz Rd.
1632 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1632 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1640 – malicious destruction of property, Jeannette
1847 – neighbor trouble, Sylvia Dr.
1832 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1843 – private property/property damage accident, Lake Villa Dr.
1913 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
1930 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2039 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
2101 – assist other dept., Hoef Rd./Martz Rd.
2135 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
2145 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
2214 – intrusion alarm, Elwell Rd.
2301 – noise complaint, Wildrye Ct.

0747 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
0845 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0848 – lost property/child, Denton Rd.
0859 – malicious destruction, Wildbrook Dr.
0901 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
xxxx – private property impound, S. I-94 Service
1031 – domestic, Van Buren St.
1042 – animal complaint, Togowtee Pass
1122 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service DR.
1226 – property damage accident, Martz / Rawsonville Rd.
1232 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Fisher Rd.
1402 – private property impound, Old Rawsonville
1423 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1440 – court detail, S. Wayne Rd.
xxxx – private property impound, Sawgrass Ct.
1610 – disorderly, Rawsonville/Martz Rd.
1632 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1632 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1640 – malicious destruction of property, Jeannette
1847 – neighbor trouble, Sylvia Dr.
1832 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1843 – private property/property damage accident, Lake Villa Dr.
1913 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
1930 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2039 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
2101 – assist other dept., Hoef Rd./Martz Rd.
2135 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Denton Rd.
2145 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
2214 – intrusion alarm, Elwell Rd.
2301 – noise complaint, Wildrye Ct.

Saturday, Feb. 8:

0018 – noise complaint, Wildrye Ct.
0141 – road hazard, Van Born Rd./Hannan Rd.
0228 – assist citizen, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
0820 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0944 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1010 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1318 – assist other dept., Ladonna Ln.
1408 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1651 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1842 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Hancock Ave.
1810 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1856 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1947 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
2020 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
2205 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van Allen Ave.
Also, on this log are 81 traffic stops, 31 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 2:

1347 – welfare check, Huron River Dr.
Monday, Feb. 3:
0944 – missing person, Belle Villa Blvd.
Tuesday, Feb. 4:
0950 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1201 – vehicle lockout, Main St.
1507 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
1529 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
2229 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Biggs Ave.
Wednesday, Feb. 5:
0945 – civil matter, W. Columbia Ave.
Thursday, Feb. 6:
0956 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belle Villa Blvd.
1345 – narcotics crime, W. Columbia Ave.
1719 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
Friday, Feb. 7:
0921 – background investigation, Main St.
0940 – property check, Village Park
1542 – threat, N. Liberty St.
1703 – property damage accident, Main St.
Saturday, Feb. 8:
1058 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance,

Owen St.
1143 – civil matter, Anaheim St.
1330 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.
1949 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
2233 – property damage accident, E. Columbia Ave. / South St.
There are 77 reports on this week's log and 58 of these are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 2:

0032 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Wayside Dr.
0148 – suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Willis
0329 – disorderly person, Oregon St.
1111 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1119 – assist other agency, Rawsonville Rd./Willis
1142 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.
1216 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1236 – 911 hangup, Colorado St.
1349 – suspicious circumstance, Judd/Martinsville
1409 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1736 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1839 – civil matter, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
2013 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2217 – 911 hangup, Utah Ct.
2354 – 911 hangup, Knollwood Dr.
Monday, Feb. 3:
0043 – misdemeanor warrant arrest, Rawsonville Rd. / Wilis Rd.
0323 – suspicious vehicle, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
0730 – citizen assist, Bemis Rd./Rawsonville
0815 – citizen assist, 8800 bl. Rawsonville
0901 – neighbor dispute, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1034 – 911 hangup, Carriage Ln.
1037 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
1114 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
1130 – follow up investigation, 50000 bl. Willis
1349 – family trouble, Creekside Dr.
1602 – alarm, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1636 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1834 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
2045 – welfare check, Second St.
2054 – traffic complaint/hazard, Bemis/Sumpter

Tuesday, Feb. 4:

0619 – 911 hangup, Texas St.
0844 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
0846 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
0914 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1113 – follow-up investigation, Vermont St.
1117 – welfare check, Rustic Ln.
1122 – assist other agency, Vermont St.
1129 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
1139 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
1210 – 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1352 – welfare check, Arbor Ln.
1422 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1441 – follow-up investigation, Creekside Dr.
1531 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1712 – breaking & entering report, Colorado St.
1744 – shots fired, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1921 – follow-up investigation, Vermont St.
2132 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
2222 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
2316 – family trouble, Timberlane Dr.

Wednesday, Feb. 5:

0157 – neighbor dispute, Hampshire Dr.
0305 – suspicious vehicle, Birch Dr./Hickory
0640 – animal complaint, Edgewood Dr.
0643 – 911 hangup, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1255 – citizen assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1312 – assist other agency, 28000 bl. Sumpter
1436 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.
1600 – welfare check, Idaho St.
1745 – civil matter, Creekside Dr.
1756 – welfare check, Arbor Ln.
1857 – suspicious vehicle, Nevada St.

Thursday, Feb. 6:

0023 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Weimer Dr.
0235 – suspicious circumstance, Martinsville Rd. / Dunn Rd.
0540 – death investigation, 41000 bl. Willow
1030 – suspicious person, 18000 bl. Sumpter
1410 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1712 – 911 hangup, Arizona St.

(Continued on page 19)

Court Watching

(continued from page 15)

On Feb. 9 she failed to appear for a show-cause hearing and the warrant remains.

Maggie Elizabeth Cochran

Maggie Elizabeth Cochran, 45, of Willis failed to appear Jan. 10, 2024 for her zoom hearing on a speeding charge and remote pretrial on a charge of no insurance both on Dec. 7, 2023 in the city of Belleville. The speeding charge was put in default and the insurance charge was scheduled for a show-cause hearing on Feb. 21 but she did

not appear and a warrant was issued.

Daqwan Daebeon Evans

Daqwan Daebeon Evans of Inkster is charged with receiving and concealing a stolen motor vehicle in Van Buren Township on Sept. 14. He was present for his probable cause conference on Jan. 10, which was adjourned until Jan. 24. Then it was adjourned for discovery until Feb. 21. Personal bond is \$5,000.

On Feb. 21, he pled guilty to a reduced misdemeanor charge of receiving and concealing stolen property under \$1,000 and six months of probation under

HYDA was given. The felony charge was dropped. There was an opportunity for the complaining victim to appear on April 8, but the victim instead sent an impact statement via U.S. Mail. Supplemental sentencing then added a fine of \$1,085 and 12 hours of community service. Judgment of guilt is deferred under the youthful trainee status. He also is not to consume any alcoholic beverages or mood-altering substances without the judge's approval, with random tests.

Trevor Ross Jones

Trevor Ross Jones, 29, of Belleville failed to appear for his Jan. 10, 2024 zoom hearing on a charge of ignoring a traffic signal and his remote arraignment pretrial on a charge of operating with no insurance both on Dec. 6, 2023 in the city of Belleville. He was fined \$180 for the traffic signal charge. A show-cause hearing was set for Feb. 21 on the insurance charge. He failed to appear so a warrant was signed for his arrest.

Craig Lamar Robinson

Craig Lamar Robinson, 41, formerly of Van Buren Township and now of Ann Arbor, was video-arraigned on Jan. 19, 2024 while in custody of Van Buren Township police on two bench warrants for failure to appear. He is charged with possession of narcotics paraphernalia in Van Buren Township on July 18, 2022 and retail fraud on Nov. 10, 2018 in Van Buren Township.

Judge Oakley set personal bond at \$1,000 for each charge and the defendant's remote pretrial was set for Feb. 12, 2024 on the narcotics paraphernalia charge and Feb. 1, 2024 for the remote pretrial on retail fraud, but he failed to appear on Feb. 1 and so a bench warrant was signed.

Terry Dean Frye

Terry Dean Frye, 70, of Ann Arbor was arraigned on Jan. 17 on a charge of failure to return rented property worth \$20,000 or more in the city of Belleville on June 7. A warrant for his arrest was entered on the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN).

His attorney James King said he is looking into whether his client is eligible for diversion. He said the U-Haul was not returned on time, but now has been returned. Now they have to determine the amount of money lost to the merchant, he said.

Belleville police suggested a bond of \$50,000/10%, but attorney King said his

client has ties to the community and has no appearance of flight risk.

Judge Martin set personal bond of \$50,000 and adjourned the probable cause conference to Feb. 7 and then the live preliminary exam was set for March 20.

At that time, he pled no contest to a reduced charge of unlawful use of a vehicle and he was to be sentenced on May 20. He failed to appear by zoom for his pre-sentence, so a show-cause hearing was set for May 28 and he was scheduled for a pre-sentence interview on June 6. He was scheduled for sentencing on July 22.

Judge Green fined him \$2,423, with \$1,638 of that being restitution for the victim. Reporting probation is for six months.

Ajay Tramaine Stovall

Ajay Tramaine Stovall, 30, of Ypsilanti was scheduled for his probable cause conference on Dec. 6 for possession of narcotics and child abuse on Nov. 24 in Van Buren Township. His preliminary exam was set for Jan. 17. Personal bond is \$20,000.

On Jan. 17 the exam was held and he was bound over to circuit court for a Jan. 31 arraignment on the information. A calendar conference was set for Feb. 8. At that time a final conference was set for Feb. 23 and a jury trial on May 9. On May 8 he pled no contest to the charges and the jury trial was cancelled. Sentencing was May 17. He was fined a total of \$1,566 and 100 hours of community service may be performed in lieu of court costs. Probation is two years and there is a long list of things he must do, regarding alcohol use and testing, controlled substances, and staying employed. Also, he must serve jail time: first 90 days in the Wayne County Jail with credit for two days served. Must participate in a Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Program.

Brian Davis Jones, II

Brian Davis Jones, II, 31, of Sumpter Township on Jan. 22 at a bench trial before Judge Oakley pled no contest to a misdemeanor charge of assault and battery on Aug. 30 in Sumpter Township.

He was sentenced to a total fine of \$500 and probation of 12 months. His delayed sentence means the charge would be dropped if there were no further problems. He is to continue to have no contact with the victims.

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1922 – suspicious circumstance, Redwood
 1955 – civil matter, Mulberry Dr.
 2014 – identity theft complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis
 2319 – assist other agency, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.

Friday, Feb. 7:

0824 – disorderly person, Colorado St.
 1112 – welfare check, Colorado St.
 1127 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
 1131 – 911 hangup, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
 1321 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1329 – fire dept. assist, Oregon St.
 1408 – family trouble, Knollwood Dr.

1559 – 911 hangup, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
 1602 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willow Rd. / Sherwood Rd.
 2238 – traffic complaint/hazard, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
 2327 – traffic complaint/hazard, Clark/Willow Rd.

Saturday, Feb. 8:

0614 – family trouble, Texas St.
 1020 – fire dept. assist, Arizona St.
 1034 – follow-up investigation, Creekside Dr.
 1101 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1658 – suspicious circumstance, Mulberry Dr.
 1729 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
 1804 – family trouble, Utah St.
 2151 – 911 hangup, Texas St./California St.
 2252 – misdemeanor warrant arrest, Willis Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.

Also on this week's log are 224 patrol checks, 99 traffic stops, and 10 misc. details.



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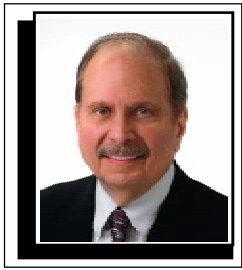
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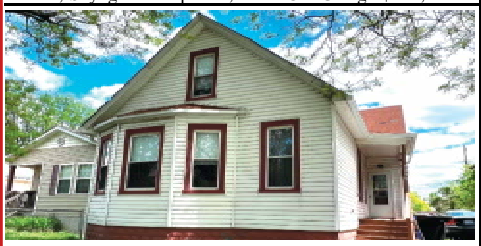
6757 BELLEVILLE RD, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
LARGE COLONIAL Features 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 2 Kitchens, On 5.88 Acres and a 2.5 Car Garage and 3.5 Car Garage for the gardener or craft person. \$378,000



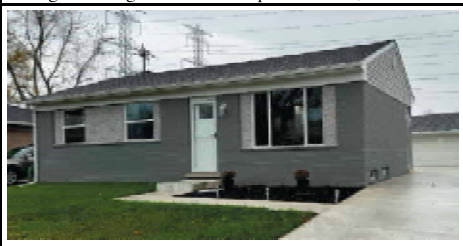
13300 EDGEDALE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
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8525 CHERRY HILL, SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP
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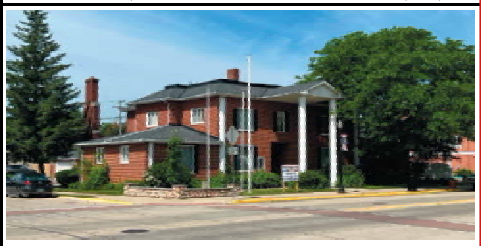
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