



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.20 Thursday, May 16, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Rick Dawson, Pete Pitzen are co-grand marshals for parade

Rick Dawson will drive his red Mustang convertible with Pete Pitzen, riding in the rear as the two co-grandmarshals lead off the Belleville Central Business Community's first Memorial Day parade on May 27.

Both are members of the local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Polish League of American Veterans. Both also live in the city of Belleville.

Dawson was drafted Nov. 3, 1965 and sent to Fort Knox, KY for basic training.

After that he was sent to Fort Rucker in Dothan, AL where he anticipated becoming a helicopter gunner crew chief.

He was instead chosen to attend air traffic control school at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS. He graduated in June of 1966 and a month later was on his way to South Vietnam, where he spent 13 months as an air traffic controller.

The military gave him the training to be an air traffic controller and he was hired by the FAA once he was discharged from the Army.

Working at a few airports out of state, he eventually was able to transfer to Detroit Metro for the last 29 years of his career, retiring from the FAA in July of 2001.

After retirement, Rick became involved in local politics and various service and community organizations.

He served on the Belleville City Council as Mayor Pro-Tem for four years, and has continued to serve on the city's Senior Transportation Safety Board.

Dawson is a Life member of VFW Post # 4434, a member of PLAV Post #167 and has served on the Veterans' Honor Guard for a number of years.

He also is a member of the Belleville Yacht Club.

Peter J. Pitzen

Peter was the ninth of 12 children of Peter and Marie Pitzen. He was born in Fort (continued on page 3)



Barb Jordan-Guobis of Van Buren Township took this photo of the Northern Lights, with the setting moon, over Belleville Lake on Friday night, May 10, around 11 p.m. She said it's been a "Bucket List" item of hers for years to see the Northern Lights in person. "I've vacationed in the UP many times in hopes of seeing them, and I never thought the first time I laid eyes on them would be in my back yard! What a great Mother's Day present."

VBT OKs going to court to take properties by eminent domain

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Going to court to take 10 properties by eminent domain was approved unanimously by the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on May 7.

Downtown Development Authority executive director Merrie Colburn explained that there are 56 parcels on

Belleville Road between Ecorse and Tyler roads and 46 of the parcels have been acquired by the township.

The properties are needed for the widening of Belleville Road and sidewalks.

She said they have come to an impasse with the final 10 and have a lawyer, Jerome Pesick of Williams Williams Rattner & Plunkett, that will take the owners to court to get the properties by eminent domain.

Trustee Kevin Martin said he sees that at 7810 Belleville Rd. the entire property is being taken. It's right next door to the storage place, he said. It is going to be destroyed.

He asked if it is occupied and he was told it is.

Attorney Pesick said the property needs to be acquired to widen Belleville Road. The

(continued on page 3)

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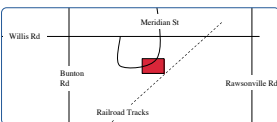
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Grand Marshals

(continued from page 1)

Wayne, IN, and graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1954.

Upon graduating, he joined the Army, attended Basic Training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, and then spent 16 weeks at Ft. Knox, KY learning radio repair. He was sent to Bad Hersfeld, Germany, where he was assigned as chief radio repairman for the Hq. Co. 3rd. Battalion 14 A/C.



Dawson

The 14th A/C was designated as the first opposition to forces crossing the Fulda Gap, border patrol between East and West Germany after World War II.

While stationed at Bad Hersfeld, he attended the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy in Munich.

During his assignment during the Cold War, he was promoted to the rank of E5. After solving a problem de-coding, a message during a critical time frame, he was also given the position as message center chief, supervising all battalion communication and radio operators.

Pitzen returned to the states in 1957, was discharged, put on inactive duty, and resumed civilian life. He shortly met a woman who became his wife and they had three children. Within a month of having his third child he joined the Indiana Air National Guard.



Pitzen

Within weeks, President John Kennedy activated his unit during the Cuban Missile Crisis and they were sent to Chambe, France, where they were to re-activate a closed Air Force base.

Four months later he received word that his wife was divorcing him and leaving him with the children. Finally getting back to the states and being able to be re-assigned to a SAC Base in Indiana, he was able to complete his active-duty time and also care for the children.

After a year on active duty, his unit was relieved of active duty and resumed the status as a Reserve unit. Having to take care of the children, Pitzen was Honorably discharged.

Being back to being a civilian again, he resumed his life working at many, many different trades. The many companies he worked for included: IT&T, Farnsworth, Essex Wire, Ford Motor, Bendix Aerospace (manufacturing electronics that went to the moon).

One of his last jobs was at American General Products, Ypsilanti, a job he

intended to stay at for a couple of weeks or a month or so until he found a job he liked. Twenty years later he retired as general manager and vice president, never taking time to look for another position.

He met and married wife #2, Gayle, and they lived happily for 28 years until he recently lost her through cancer.

He currently is the Junior Vice Commander of VFW Post 4434 and also chairman of the VFW Flag committee.

One of the tasks of the Flag Committee is the refurbishing of flags used on veterans' graves. They refurbish all they can, usually several hundred a year, and then give them out FREE to all who are interested. They also collect any faded, torn, dirty, or otherwise damaged flags for a proper retirement and disposal.

The 10 a.m. parade will be held before the brief, 11 a.m. memorial service at the Veterans Monument on High Street in the city of Belleville.

VBT Board

(continued from page 1)

house will be taken at this address, which leaves the garage reducing the value of the property. The home is zoned commercial and the township will own the rest of the land.

He said the property owner is non-committal and they are still hopeful to make an agreement with him and the rest of the property owners without going to court.

Trustee Martin said taking a home is too much.

The attorney said they reached out to the property owner.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said they have offered a premium on the property.

Trustee Donald Boynton noted the township said it will help find him another home in which to dwell.

Supervisor McNamara said the acquisition of property along Belleville Road began long ago, when Cindy King was supervisor.

"They just don't respond," McNamara said. "Those sidewalks are going in."

McNamara said there are lots of grants coming in for the road-widening project, in fact they have "an embarrassment of riches." He said Canton forgot to get easements for its project that is due to begin this summer, so maybe the Van Buren Township project, which is next in line, can leapfrog over the Canton project and start this year.

"I'm against eminent domain, but this is ridiculous," McNamara said. "It's jeopardizing our safety."

In other business at the May 7 meeting, the board:

- Approved a fireworks display permit for Saturday, July 6, with a rain date of Sunday,

July 7, for the Belleville Yacht Club, with the display in front of the BYC from a barge on Belleville Lake. The fireworks are by the Michigan Fireworks Club. The same location was approved in 2022 and 2023;

- Approved an agreement with Wayne County for improvements to Van Buren Park with the annual millage allocation of \$38,321. The project would redesign the entryway area of Van Buren Park, including a lighting element for the sign, as well as renovate the township's Community Garden;

- Approved an updated agreement with Norfolk Southern Railroad to construct the Iron Belle Trail Section J rail crossing with the money to be paid to the railroad for its work remaining at \$45,290;

- Approved the attorney's recommendation in the board's closed-door session held before this regular meeting concerning trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation involving the police department;

- Approved recognizing Savage Elementary School PTO as a local, non-profit entity in Van Buren Township to help with the group's fundraising;

- Approved amending the fee schedule for the existing tow agreement with Great Lakes Towing and J&T Crova. The existing costs were agreed upon in August 2017;

- Approved a three-year extension for contracted assessing services with WCA, with the cost of \$85,176 annually from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025, and costs going up 5% each year after that;

- Approved a revision to the Cobblestone Creek Planned Residential Development requested by David Straub of M/I Homes of Michigan, regarding fewer side-entry garages. The approval does not impact the Jewitt Drain, the board was told;

- Approved the selection of Michigan Building Cleaning and Maintenance for a one-year contract that will provide janitorial services at the community center at a monthly cost of \$16,016. Annual cost is \$192,192. Also bidding were ABM Industries, Inc. at \$143,964 and Master Maintenance at \$262,740. The low bidder was not selected because it had fewer staff per shift than what was needed, said Elizabeth Renaud, director of community services;

- Removed from the agenda a zoning ordinance amendment to provide language clarifying signage provisions for the Belleville Road and Sumpter Road Mixed-Use District because of problems with the ordinance language;

- Approved a budget amendment in the amount of \$481,900 from the township general fund balance into capital outlay for the Safe Streets for All study. As the township spends the money it is reimbursed by the grant. After the plan is complete, the township will be able to apply for an application grant for implementation; and

- Approved a resolution asking the Citizens Redistricting Committee to keep Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, and the city of Belleville in the same senate district. Supervisor McNamara said he found out about the redistricting in a hard-to-access GIS file and he called Sumpter Supervisor Tim Bowman and Belleville Mayor Ken Voigt and asked for their support and they said they will pass resolutions. Belleville passed its resolution at the May 6 meeting. McNamara said he would go to the next redistricting meeting to testify and other board members said they would join him. He said, "They are going super-fast and if we don't get involved now, we're out of it."

VBT signs agreement with Van Buren Community Players

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting May 7, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees signed an agreement through Dec. 31, 2025 with the newly organized Van Buren Community Players for use of the Black Box Theater of the new Community Center.

Two members of the group – Justine Moldanado and Cindy Fry – were present to tell the board what their plans are. Moldanado said they plan four performances a year in the community center, with the first being "Steel Magnolias," which she said was a favorite with audiences. She said their new group has members with more than 25 years of experience.

She said they will be banking local and present special Bingo games. They plan a Christmas play, dinner theater, and working with the Yankee Air Museum something on Rosie the Riveter. They will have a group for seniors, and a juniors groups for young people, and put together a Van Buren Idol show.

"We want to get the community involved," she said.

The agreement stipulates the township will receive 20% from ticket sales. The group must identify the program and schedule and it must be approved in advance by the township. The agreement stipulates that the group does not have exclusive access or rights to the facility, but will have reasonable and necessary access for their productions.

Van Buren Community Players has a Canton P.O. Box 871193 as its point of contact and vanburencommunityplayers@gmail.com, attention Laura Kitzman, Kitzmanlaura@gmail.com.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said they had been in contact with a theater group in Monroe who may have been able to use the Black Box.

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

BHS Seniors invite public to come see their party clothes

At Monday's regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, a graduating Belleville High School senior invited everyone to come see those going to the senior prom before they left for the party.

Natalia Payne, who sits on the board of education as a student liaison, was telling of the last days at BHS for the senior class.

She said May 16 was the last day of school and they would begin their senior walk at 10 a.m., ending up at the football field where they would spell out their graduation year: 2024.

On Friday, May 17, those going to the senior prom at Crystal Gardens in Southgate, will be forming a contingent to drive together from the BHS parking lot. They plan to be there from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and they invite the public to come out and see them all dressed up in their party clothes before heading off to the prom together.

On Saturday, the seniors will be holding their graduation party at High Velocity in Canton and the party committee, mostly made up of parents, is planning for each student to get a special prize. The party is to keep the students at a safe celebration.

Graduation is May 23, also out of town.

In the olden days, all our senior parties were in the BHS gym and we worked hard to decorate it to make it look different than it had in gym class. Now, everything is out of town.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Prentis Howell of Antiques on Main said he and his wife are closing the doors to their two shops on Main Street at the end of business on the last day of May, but they are not going out of business. They will be operating on the internet and sending items through delivery services, he said.

Not retiring, just changing the way the business operates, he said.

That will make three large storefronts vacant in that block: the hardware store and the drugstore next to each other and now the two antique shops locations.

The only businesses left on that side of the Fourth Street block are Enrica's Golden Needle/Split Second Tacticals leather shop, Re-Max, and Bayou Grill.

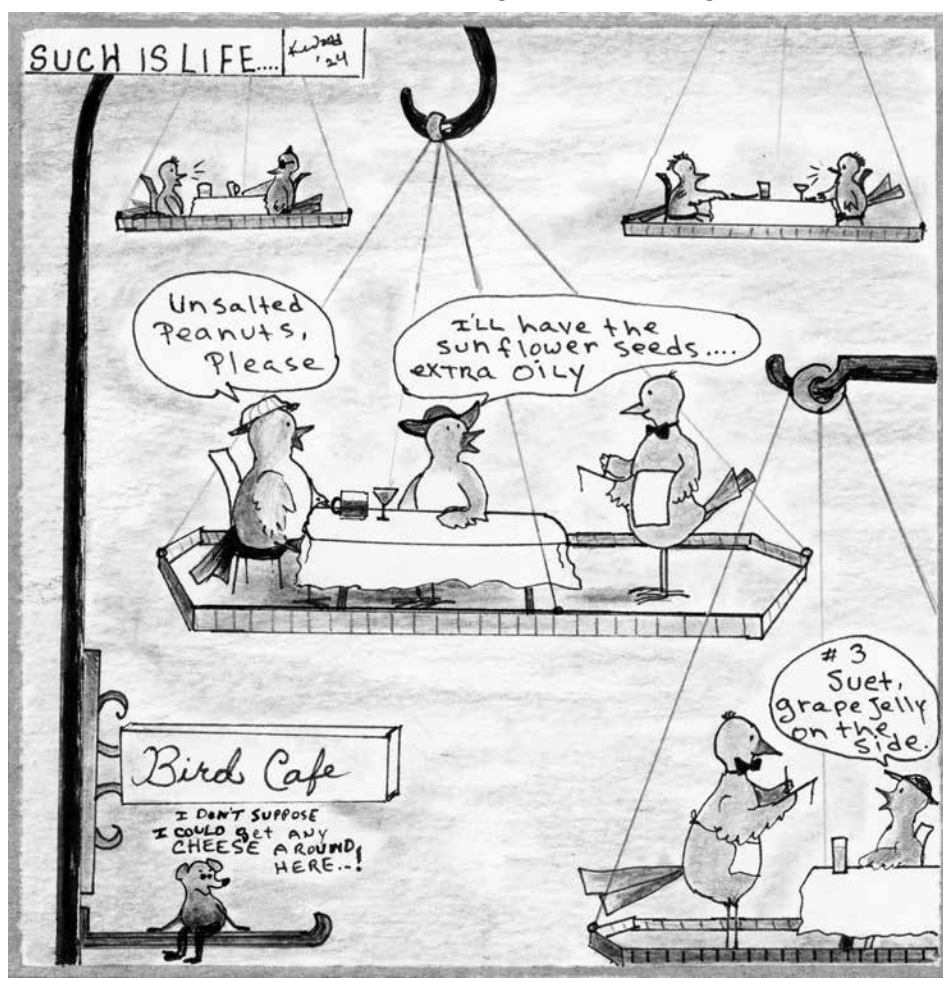
The present outdoor statues leased for a year by the Belleville and Van Buren Township DDAs will be swapped May 21 for the new outdoor art selected. We're told the new ones are mostly depictions of animals, inspired by Scott Jones' blue dog at the shopping center by the bridge.

Build-out of a planned \$1.6 billion factory in Van Buren Township remains on hold by Our Next Energy. This is according to a May 10 story in *Crain's Detroit Business*.

The electric vehicle battery startup has hired a Chicago-based financial consultant specializing in distressed businesses in its quest to rebound from a failed Series C fundraising round, the story stated. Since the first of the year the Novi-based company has laid off more than 160 employees.

The demand for EV vehicles is dramatically less than estimated and so investors have backed off, the story said.

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



In Sumpter Township the candidate list is confusing. Many of those who filed as Democrats for years now have filed as Republicans. At least one who was a Republican last election is now a Democrat.

Of those running for supervisor, Nelson Po filed as Republican for the last election and now is a Democrat and Sheena Barnes and Vincent Warren who used to be Democrats are now Republicans.

Incumbent Trustee Donald LaPorte who is serving as a Democrat as elected in the last election, has filed for clerk as a Republican. Incumbent Trustees Peggy Morgan and Matt Oddy are currently serving as Democrats, but both filed for the upcoming primary as Republicans.

Do you suppose these new Republicans think Donald Trump will get voters to pull the Republican lever and they will get elected that way? There are a lot of Trump signs and flags in front of homes in Sumpter these days.

Another interesting aspect of the Sumpter election is that incumbent Supervisor Tim Bowman's son-in-law is running for trustee and they both filed under the same address. They are both Republicans, but Bowman has been a Republican right along.

I remember years ago when Marvin Banotai became Sumpter supervisor and his father was already on the board as a trustee. They served together without a problem, so I guess it's perfectly legal.

I remember when Trustee Louis Banotai got upset over something. Supervisor Marvin Banotai would say in a conciliatory voice, "Now, Dad. Now, Dad."

Ellie Rupnow, a first-grade teacher at Tyler Elementary School, was among the staff members illustrating projects their students had done in the "Project Lead the Way" special program, which focuses on hands-on activities.

She told of a unit that was teaching about the body and one project included making ears. There were lessons about how animals have different kinds of ears for different purposes. She said Tigers have ears that look like eyes so other animals won't know where they were looking.



The students then made ears for themselves and then told why the ears were the way they were. She said one set of ears was red because the student said the animal was angry. Another set of ears was very fluffy and white and stood out far from the boy's head. He explained he had fluffy ears because he wanted to attract a mate.

That statement brought gasps from members of the school board audience and other teachers, with one of the teachers noting that was a first-grade student saying that. Teacher Rupnow was unfazed.

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Letters

ROTC program prepares students for jobs of today, tomorrow

To the editor:
 At Van Buren Public Schools, part of our mission is to provide students with a variety of choices, opportunities and avenues on the road to a successful career. We pride ourselves on giving our students opportunities to learn leadership and technical skills and to give back to our community, all of which prepares them for in-demand, good-paying jobs.

That's why I'm truly proud of our Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) program, one of our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. NJROTC provides real-world, hands-on skills that help our students compete for the jobs of today and tomorrow. Last July, the U.S. Navy fully certified our program as an official NJROTC.

Since the start of the NJROTC program at Belleville High School, 426 students have enrolled in the program, and 69 seniors have graduated after completing between one and four years in NJROTC. The NJROTC program is an excellent pathway for public service careers, such as firefighters, police, emergency medical services (EMS) or the military. Our NJROTC program empowers students to discover and develop new skills and passions as they consider what they want to do after graduation.

We're looking forward to an amazing 2024-2025 academic year as we continue to increase activities and learning opportunities within the NJROTC program. We recently inherited a robotics set from another JROTC school, allowing our NJROTC students to work closely with Belleville High School's robotics team, learn new technical skills and compete in more activities across the JROTC realm.

Our NJROTC program is an excellent route for students to become career-ready and responsible citizens who meaningfully contribute to their communities and country. Thanks to the Wayne County Regional Enhancement Millage, we can provide this innovative program. This important millage enables us to prepare students for jobs in the skilled trades, maintain small class sizes, support special education programs, and implement school safety initiatives.

All Wayne County local school districts and eligible public-school academies, including ours, receive 100% of the Wayne County Regional Enhancement Millage funding as required by law. This funding is subject to rigorous accountability and transparency measures to ensure it benefits all Wayne County students.

Local businesses and public safety departments frequently emphasize investing in workforce development and training to address the skilled trades gap. Through innovative programs like NJROTC, we are establishing a talent pipeline right here in Southeast Michigan that helps ensure our students have local job opportunities so they don't have to move away from home to find good-paying jobs.

We have seen exponential growth in the number of students going on to attend college or technical schools, entering the workforce right after graduation or enlisting in the military. Students who once had little self-confidence and structure in their lives have become confident leaders. As the workforce evolves, so must we. It's crucial to continue creating new career-technical opportunities for our students to thrive in today's competitive job market.

(The funding we receive from the Wayne County Regional Enhancement Millage makes this program possible.)

Superintendent Peter Kudlak
 Van Buren Public Schools

Nobody I've spoken with wants AI tracking

To the editor:
 It is nice to see The People opening their eyes to our government's actions. The main topic of conversation around town and with my constituents is this AI tracking. Nobody I've spoken with is in favor of it.

Let's make a statement...
 We have an election coming up. Even though our local elected officials are running uncontested and will retain their position, don't vote for them. Leave the spot blank on the ballot, do not color in the circle.

A small gesture I know, however, it will be a large statement.

Joe Flange, Precinct Delegate
 Van Buren Township

Maria Kasperek earns Winter 2024 Dean's List honor at Kalamazoo College

Maria Kasperek of Belleville has been named to the Kalamazoo College Winter 2024 Dean's List.

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More Letters

Angela Lee seeks votes in Huron Twp. race

To the editor and Huron Township Friends and Neighbors:

My name is Angela Lee and I am excited to announce that I am running for a Huron Township Trustee position. I am passionate about our town, our community, our schools, our businesses, and growth. I will listen to you and the needs of our township with a strong focus on integrity.

I am proud to provide exceptional communication and collaboration skills to hear the concerns of our town and make positive change. I became a Huron resident eight years ago, raising my three children (Jacobe, Josephine and Sophia) with my husband Daric.

I love to give back! I am a current member of The Belleville Central Business Community, member of Belleville Area Kiwanis, Lieutenant Governor-Elect for Division 6 of Michigan at Kiwanis International, secretary for the Renton Jr. High School Parent Teacher Organization, proud sponsor for Belleville Little League Baseball, Huron Schools Boosters, and The Downriver Heaters 12 U.

My educational background: I am a graduate of Divine Child High School with a bachelor's degree from Fisher College and master's degree from the University of West Florida in Education. I am a local business owner and Realtor/ Broker of The Lee Team Real Estate. I have had the opportunity to travel and live abroad but Michigan has and will always be home.

As a candidate for a Huron trustee position, you can trust me to work hard on your behalf and protect your best interests with that same drive and passion. Please lend me your support and share the news that I need your vote for Trustee 8/6/24.

Vote Lee for Huron Trustee!

Angela Lee
Huron Township

Mailman must take his time reading the paper

To the editor:

Received the May 9th issue today along with the March 7th issue; I guess the mailman wasn't done reading the March issue until now.

Dennis Williams
Dearborn Heights

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
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Obituaries



Charles Allen Sanders

CHARLES ALLEN SANDERS

(February 8, 1948 – May 9, 2024)

Charlie Sanders, 76, of Lewisburg, TN, went home to the Lord from his home in Belleville, MI surrounded by his wife, Elizabeth (Liz) Ann, his children, and grandchildren on Thursday, May 9, 2024. Charlie was born February 8, 1948 to Charlie and Elizabeth Sanders. He was one of six kids, Joyce (Lee) Nicholson, Norma (Randell) Cross, Ann (Dennis) Weber, Kenny (Liz) Sanders and was preceded in death by David Sanders along with his parents Charlie and Elizabeth. He was raised by his grandparents George and Myrtle Hobby in Tennessee who also preceded him in death, until he was 12 then moved to Michigan.

After completing school, Charlie joined the U.S. Army in June 1967 as a plumber. After serving a tour of duty in Vietnam from May 1968 to December 1969, he was stationed in Baumholder, Germany. After completing his tour of duty, Charlie, now a Specialist 5 (E-5), left the military in July 1973 to return to Wayne, MI. After serving his country he lived in Alaska working on the pipeline for a few years before returning to Michigan, where he worked for both General Motors and Ford Motor Company along with numerous odd jobs he did along the way. After 28 years working for Ford, due to an injury on the job he retired, but his working days were far from over. Now came time for him to work on his "honey do list".

Charlie had met the love of his life in '99, Liz. They married December 14, 2001 and then again, on December 15, 2023 surrounded by friends and family in Belleville, MI, celebrating 22 wonderful years together. Charlie had two sons of his own, Robert (Brandie) Sanders, and was preceded in passing by his son Keith Sanders. Upon meeting Liz, he became a loving stepfather to Christina, Jessica, and Jay Mitchell. As well as being a very special "Papa" to his 12 grandchildren, Nicole, Andrew, Christian, Leeann, Bella, Savanna, Saharah, Little Keith Sanders, Joslyn, Lillie-Ann, Reid Florian, and Jackson Kivi. Plus, his little dog, Sunshine.

Charlie was a loving family man, and a great friend to many. He was a member of Rolling Thunder motorcycle club of Detroit and Vietnam Veterans of America #310 of Ypsilanti. He attended and was an active member of The Belleville Lighthouse Church. He embraced the "Built Ford Tough" slogan and was as tough as they come. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, and camping but most of all he loved spending time with his family and grandchildren. Charlie will be cremated and a celebration of his life will be held for his family, friends, and community to attend on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at The Belleville Lighthouse Church, officiated by Pastor Bob Lafferty, 870 Savage Rd. Belleville, MI 48111. Doors open at 1 p.m., service starting at 2 p.m. with lunch to follow.

Arrangements by Stark Funeral Professionals, Ypsilanti.



Richard Robert Emerson

RICHARD ROBERT EMERSON

(June 15, 1951 – May 3, 2024)

Richard Robert Emerson, 72, of Shelby, passed away Friday, May 3, 2024 after a courageous journey through ALS. He was born June 15, 1951, in Ypsilanti, the son of Justin and Marguerite (Znorski) Emerson.

On December 16, 1972, Richard married Merlinda (Mindy) Cooper and they spent 51 years together. They made their home in Lansing, Michigan, until retirement allowed them to move to their home on Lake Michigan near Shelby.

Rick graduated from Belleville High School in 1969 and attended James Madison Residential College at Michigan State University, graduating in 1973. He worked for the State of Michigan in the Social Security Disability Determination Service until his retirement in 2010.

Rick loved his time with family, traveling the world with Mindy, golfing, and attending Michigan State sporting events. He loved to sing, and lent his beautiful voice as a cantor and in the St. Gerard Adult Choir. Very civic minded, Rick spent countless hours volunteering in many capacities through his life, including BSA Scoutmaster, Habitat for Humanity, Community Volunteers for International Programs at MSU, and many volunteer groups that appreciated his expertise.

Rick is survived by his wife, Mindy Emerson; sons, Michael (Amber), Christopher (Heather); grandsons, Tyler, Ethan, Owen, Sebastian, and Felix; as well as siblings, Sam (Sue) Emerson, Patricia (Bob) Groeschner, and Bill (Mary Ann) Emerson; along with a large extended family.

Rick was preceded in death by his parents, Justin and Marguerite (Znorski) Emerson. The family asks you to consider donating to the Susan Mast ALS Foundation of West Michigan - susanmastals.org or The Samuel Omogo Foundation which provides clean drinking water to villages in Nigeria samuelomogofoundation.org in Rick's honor.

Beacon Cremation & Funeral Service, White Lake Chapel, is in charge of arrangements. www.beaconfh.com

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Ozman

About 100 participants, ages 6 to 10, from 13 elementary school clubs, plus their families and siblings, took part in the May 4 FIRST Robotics event at the Belleville High School cafeteria. Robotics is expected to be part of the curriculum of the Van Buren Schools in the future, instead of just a club. The elementary students begin their robotic learning with Lego robotics and on Saturday they were able to experience more complex robots as well. Among the many activities, the BHS robot threw a ring to the students for them to catch.



Olivia McCluskey, a member of the Belleville High School class of 2024, signed with Heidelberg University Soccer Team on April 26. She will be attending Heidelberg University, in Tiffin, Ohio, this fall majoring in Criminology.

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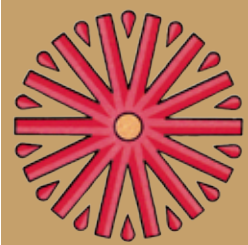
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Terri Turner, a fourth-grade teacher at Keystone Academy in Sumpter Township, won the National Heritage Academy's Excellence in Teaching award for the 2022-23 school year. She was judged the best out of all NHA's fourth-grade teachers across its 102 schools in nine states. Keystone hasn't had such an honor in five years, said Principal Jorvonna Drain.

Steve Harsant elected president of Keystone Academy school board

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Steve Harsant, who has served as vice president of the Keystone Academy Board of Directors, was unanimously elected board president for the 2024-25 school year at the May 9 regular meeting.

Harsant, of Van Buren Township, fills the position held for many years by Vesta Losen, also of Van Buren Township, who retired as

of May 1. His term on the board is through June 2026.

Christine Mihaly was elected vice president and she and Harsant suggested that he serve this year's presidential term and next year, or any time until then, she could step up to be president. She said she has less experience and would like more time in a supporting role.

Mihaly, also of Van Buren Township, serves
(continued on page 13)

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Independent photo by Janet Millard

The Belleville-Area Chamber of Commerce helped M/I Homes cut its ribbon on Monday afternoon to open its area of new homes in Cobblestone Creek subdivision. From left are Joey King, Steve Jones, Liona Shenserko, Elizabeth Schrems, Van Buren Township Trustee Kevin Martin, Sascha Vallet, Drew Statz, Gabby Bednarowski, Genise Danzy, and Lauren Connor. Cobblestone is located south of W. Huron River Drive and east of Hoeft Road in Van Buren Township.

Birthdays

- May 19 -- Jim Otzman
- May 20 -- Anna Hoose, Julie King
- May 23 -- Ed Armatís

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The Top Ten scholars of the Belleville High School 2024 graduating class were honored at Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education. Athletic Director Joseph Brodie introduced the ten, although only five attended the meeting. He told of each scholar's athletic awards, as well. From left is Salutatorian Thomas Okubo, who is going on to Yale University; Madison Leads, #3; Kelly Montgomery, #4; Logan Peterman, #7; and Ellee Kloian, #9. Those not present were Valedictorian Parker Mears, Eli Jeng, #5; Ariana Smith, #6; Isabelle Porzondek, #8; and Ekene Duru, #10. The commencement ceremony is May 23.

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School board votes to pay \$290,491 over 5 yrs. for new math program

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education voted unanimously to spend \$290,491 over a five-year period for the Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum for grades 6-8.

The new math program was explained in detail at the last school board meeting by Renea Kurek, secondary instructional specialist coach, and School Supt. Pete Kudlak said nobody had forwarded any questions to him on the program, so it was

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At the previous meeting, Kurek said for the previous six years, McBride had used the Discovery Tech Book and Owen's sixth-grade teachers had been using Everyday Math. They have adjusted the curriculum to accommodate diverse learners and have integrated real-world applications, she said.

She said a district team began evaluating and selecting a new math program last fall and after a selection process recommended Illustrative by Imagine Learning for grades 6-8.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the school board:

- Approved the design services contract with Integrated Design Solutions for a lump-sum of \$90,000 from the sinking fund with reimbursable expenses up to \$5,000 for secure entry renovations to Tyler and Savage schools. Rod Kakoczki of consultant Plante Moran Realpoint said IDS will do the entire design process, including getting bids later this year and assisting with the bidding process and construction phase next year. The project will move the offices, currently in the center of the identical buildings built in the 1970s, to two classrooms at the perimeter of the buildings and the former offices will be used for small-group instruction. Supt. Kudlak said with the Tyler and Savage secure entries in place, the district will have all secure entries;

- Approved the annual field trip for the Marching Band to go to band camp at Tamarack Camp in Ortonville Aug. 19-23. Students in grades 9-12 will learn how to march and play the music. Cost is \$300-\$330 per student;

- Heard an update on the 2019 bond money projects by James Williams, director of plant operations, and Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran Realpoint. A quarterly update to the board was requested. The bond was sold in three series and there was \$41.5 million total funds available for projects. The first project was construction of the Early Childhood Development Center;

- Heard the Spring Building Presentations from the staffs of the Early Childhood Development Center and Tyler Elementary School;

- Discussed the proposed Wayne RESA General Fund budget for the upcoming school year. Each school district in RESA must vote to support, or disapprove with specific objections the budget, prior to June 1. A vote is scheduled for the next regular meeting;

- Approved the resignations of non-instructional staff members Rachel Lemasters after less than a year at Owen as of May 1 and Bryanna Frady of eight years in the transportation department as of May 16. Shawnee Lawson of Edgemont was terminated after one year of service as of May 2;

- Approved the hiring of bus aide Aaron McQuade as of May 6;

- Approved the resignations of teachers Emmanuel Jones of Tyler after less than a year of service as of April 26 and Anthony

Court Watching:

Matthew Mark Taylor

Matthew Mark Taylor, 30, of Sumpter Township was scheduled for his probable cause conferences on Feb. 28 on four cases having to do with stealing catalytic converters from automobiles in Romulus and Van Buren Township in 2020, after they were adjourned from Jan. 17.

His defense attorney Rebecca Tieppo was assigned to the cases in October and is seeking a global resolution. She said she needed time to work with the prosecutor and Judge Martin adjourned the probable cause conferences until Feb. 28 and said the driving while license suspended misdemeanor will continue with the felony cases.

Judge Martin noted on Feb. 28 that Taylor had been waiting for his four cases for several hours on Zoom before his attorney was present and the case could be called. By that time, he was no longer present. The attorney was allowed to waive his presence and Judge Martin scheduled all four cases at one time for a preliminary exam on April 3 at 1:30 p.m.

But on April 3, he was present in person and the attorney was not present. When she got there at 2:24 p.m., she said several files just came and she had to review them. The exam was reset to 12:30 p.m., June 26. Judge Martin noted that the victims waiting to testify in the case were present in the courtroom and had been there several times before in the past waiting for action on the 2020 cases.

Jeffrey Byron Lominac

Jeffrey Byron Lominac, 58, of Sumpter Township was video-arraigned by 34th District Court Magistrate Al Hindman on Nov. 8 while in custody of Sumpter Township police. He is charged with assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and felony firearm on Nov. 7 in Sumpter Township.

His probable cause conference was set for Nov. 22 and then adjourned to Dec. 20 and then adjourned for discovery to Jan. 24. The preliminary exam was set for March 6 and then April 24. At that time, he waived his exam and was bound over to circuit court for a May 8 arraignment on the information.

At circuit court, he pled guilty to a new charge of brandishing a weapon in public and the other charges were dismissed. He was fined \$128 and put on 18 months of probation.

VBPS

(continued from page 11)

Ploucha of Belleville High School after for years of service as of Aug. 30;

• Heard Finance Director Priya Nayak report that officially the use of federal ESSER funds is over and it's a shock to be going back to the much-smaller, pre-COVID general fund budget for next school year;

• Heard Director of Plant Operations James Williams report the state has new guidelines for drinking water safety that's called "Filter First." He said the district has to have a drinking water safety plan in place and add approved filters to consumable drinking stations, among other requirements; and

• Heard BHS graduating senior Natalia Payne, who has been sitting on the school board to provide student input on and off with others for more than three years, announce this was her last meeting since she is graduating. She reported she has earned more than 50 college credits as a high school student without charge. She said she just won a Student Activity Award, and participating in the school board was one of the reasons. She said May 16 is the seniors' last day of school, May 17 is the senior prom, and May 18 the senior party, with the commencement ceremony on May 23.



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Keystone

(continued from page 9)

as human resources director for Washtenaw Community College.

The board also returned secretary Kim Kowalski and treasurer Charlene Derrick to their positions for another year.

The board currently has four members and needs one more to be complete. After much discussion, it was determined that a Keystone parent should be found to be the next final board member. Bay Mills Community College, which chartered Keystone, strongly advocates for a parent on the board.

Since Derrick had been in the parent's slot but

her youngest son is graduating from Keystone this month and her term on the board expires next month, she would no longer qualify for that parent's position.

A Keystone PTO member, Christina Dare, had been invited to the May 9 meeting. She said she had been volunteering in the school since 2015. Her oldest son is graduating, but she has children who will be in grades 3 and 8 this coming school year.

She was asked to tell about herself and she said she is a registered nurse working at Ascension Hospital in Southfield. She has been married for 15 years as of that day and she considers herself non-judgmental, but loves jury duty.

She said she signs up for everything needing

volunteers at Keystone and has been on all the field trips. She also brings her baked goods to share.

After she left, president Harsant said he would like to talk to her on the phone and the other board members said they could interview her individually on the phone.

Harsant said he'd rather talk to her privately than in the public meeting. The only public present was the *Independent* and Brittany Cook, representing Bay Mills Community College.

In past meetings the board was looking for an educator to fill Losen's seat, but now believe a parent should come first.

At the end of the meeting, Andrew Roth, representative of National Heritage Academies

which administers Keystone, said that he had found a retired educator that was available. He named Paula Henry who used to be a dean at Keystone and left to go to another NHA school and now no longer is at NHA. Several board members said they knew her and remembered her from when she was at the school and liked her very much.

Harsant asked for her phone number, as well, as he wanted to talk to her, too.

Roth said the board has to have five members, so it isn't an even number that leads to tie votes. It could increase the board to seven if it wanted to have both of these candidates, but it still would need to find one more board member.

A decision is expected to be made at the June 13 meeting.

With the charter academy, a board member is selected by the board and then recommended to Bay Mills which does its background check and then generally approves the local recommendation. Then, the approval comes back to the local board for a swearing in.

In other business at the one-hour-37-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved the revised 2024-25 school calendar on which Aug. 26 is the first day of school and June 6 is the last day of school;
- Tabled approval of the 2024-25 Parent and Student Handbook to change some of the wording on expulsion procedures;
- Held a budget hearing and then approved the 2024-25 initial budget proposal, which Roth said is a best guess because the number of students is yet to be determined and the amount coming from the state isn't finalized yet;
- Appointed NHA representative Andrew Roth as Freedom of Information Act officer; CS3 Law as board legal counsel; NHA director of facilities Tom Brennan as AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) contact; Principal Jorvonna Drain as contact for Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504; and Principal Drain as the School Safety Commission liaison. These are appointments made annually for the upcoming school year;
- Heard Principal Drain announce with the latest hire of an intervention paraprofessional. Keystone has no vacancies in staff of the upcoming school year. It is projected that 706 students will enroll for the 2024-25 school year; and
- Was reminded of the following upcoming events: May 31, Field Day; June 6, eighth grade promotion; and June 7 kinder promotion and eighth-grade Clap Out. June 7 is the last half-day of school this school year.



2024

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4 FAMILY GARAGE SALE. May 16-19. 11353 St. Aloysius St., Romulus. Lots of misc. jewelry, household items & furniture. Men's & women's clothing. 05/16

3 FAMILY GARAGE SALE. May 30th, 31st & June 1st, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 175 Chaney St., VBT. Household items, small kitchen appliances, furniture & books. 05/30

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- Carl Sagan

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Friday, May 17** – Join the Van Buren Eagles at 9961 Beck Rd. for Eagle Riders Steak Roast, 5 p.m. Music Bingo & DJ Betty, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public.
- **Saturday, May 18** – Ford Mercury Restorers Club of America, Swap Meet, Car Show/Corral, site opens at 7 a.m., one day only. At the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Ann Arbor 48103, exit 175 off I-94 then go south three miles, free parking. Over 80 vendors; \$5 admission fee, 16 and under are free. Information on car show: (248)

- 444-3169.
- **Monday, May 27** – Memorial Day Parade 10 a.m. from BHS to Main Street and Farmers Market on Fourth Street Place, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community. Also, VFW/PLAV Memorial Day Service at 11 a.m. at Veterans Memorial on High Street. Prayer by Pastor Robert White, National Anthem sung by Lori Day and Geof Bush, placing of wreaths, and “Taps.”
 - **Wednesday, May 29** – American Red Cross Blood Drive, noon to 6 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Community Center gymnasium, 23501 Sumpter Rd. For an appointment, log onto RedCrossBlood.org (sponsor code Sumpter), call the township office at (734) 461-6201, ext. 2226, or call

- 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).
- **Wednesday, May 29** – Enjoy the free jazz concert by the Phil Hale Jazz Trio at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library.
- **Friday, May 31**– Join the Van Buren Eagles at 9961 Beck Rd. for dinner at 5 p.m. Karaoke with DJ Betty, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public.
- **Monday, June 3** – First day of Farmers Market from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at Fourth Street Place and Fourth Street Square. Continues on Mondays through Oct. 14. Presented by the Belleville Central Business Community.
- **Thursday, June 13** – The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presents Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. Tonight the music is by “Joy Riders.”
- **Friday, June 14** – Join the Van Buren Eagles at 9961 Beck Rd. for dinner at 5 p.m. DJ Anthony Richendollar, 7:30 p.m. Open to the public.
- **Thursday, June 20** – The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presents Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. Tonight the music is by “RFD Boys.”

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, May 16** – Boys Golf vs. Wayne Memorial HS, 3 p.m. at Willow Metropark GC; Girls JV Soccer vs. KLAA Crossover, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Soccer vs. KLAA Crossover, 7 p.m.
 - **Monday, May 20** – Varsity Baseball vs. KLAA Crossover, 4 p.m., doubleheader; Girls JV Soccer vs. Salem HS, 4 p.m.; Varsity Softball vs. KLAA Crossover, 4 p.m. doubleheader
 - **Wednesday, May 22** – Varsity Softball vs. Wyandotte Roosevelt HS, 4:30 p.m.
- Diane Kiessel
BHS Athletics Secretary

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, May 20 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 21 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 22 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES -- MAY 7, 2024

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Zoom Meeting ID for public participation: 894 2765 4392. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Boynton, Trustee Martin, Trustee Frazier and Trustee Kelley. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, Director of Community Services Renaud, Deputy Director of Community Services Dohring, Police Chief Wright, Deputy Police Chief Monte, Director of Public Services Luckett, Director of Parks Locke, Facilities Coordinator Harvey, DDA Director Coburn, Municipal Services Director Akers and an audience of seven.

Michigan Certified Assessing Officer Level 2 Certification.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve amending the Fee Schedule for the Existing Tow Agreement with Great Lakes Towing and J & T Crova Towing. Motion Carried. Kelley moved, Frazier seconded to approve a 3-year extension for contracted assessing services with WCA. Motion Carried. Martin moved, Frazier seconded to approve a revision to the Cobblestone Creek Planned Development by David Straub of M/I Homes of Michigan, LLC (Case 23-075). Motion Carried. Wright moved, Frazier seconded to approve the selection of Michigan Building Cleaning and Maintenance for a one-year contract that will provide janitorial services at the VBC for a monthly cost of \$16,016. Motion Carried. Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve an agreement between Van Buren Community Players and Van Buren Township and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Motion Carried. Boynton moved, Kelley seconded to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$481,900 from Fund Balance into 227-000-971-009 Capital Outlay - Safe Streets with an amendment that the money will be placed in a newly created Capital Outlay Account with an equal offsetting credit from DDA matching funds and grant proceeds in account 227-000-971-010. Motion Carried. Boynton moved, Kelley seconded to approve Resolution 2024-04: Resolution of Necessity and Authorization to Commence Eminent Domain Proceedings along Belleville Road. Motion Carried. Kelley moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2024-06: Request that the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission keep the City of Belleville, Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township together and intact. Motion Carried.

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Frazier moved, Budd seconded to approve the amended agenda removing New Business Item #6: To consider approval of the First Reading of Ordinance 05-07-24 to amend the Zoning Ordinance to provide language clarifying signage provisions for the Belleville Road and Sumpter Road Mixed-Use Districts. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Boynton moved, Budd seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2024, Prepaid List of April 18, 2024, Prepaid List of April 25 2024, Prepaid List of May 2, 2024, Voucher List of May 7, 2024, Approval of the Fireworks Display Permit Application for a firework display by Belleville Yacht Club on Saturday, July 6, 2024 with a rain date of Sunday, July 7, 2024, Approval of Resolution 2024-05: Agreement between the Charter County of Wayne and the Township of Van Buren for Improvements to Van Buren Park, Approval of the updated agreement with Norfolk Southern Railroad to construct the Iron Belle Trail Section J rail crossing with no monetary changes, Approval of attorney recommendation from May 7, 2024 Closed Session, and Approval of Resolution 2024-07: To Recognize Savage Elementary School PTO as a local nonprofit in Van Buren Township. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.


ADJOURNMENT: Boynton moved; Budd seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Published: May 16, 2024

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING (REVISED NOTICE)

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold public hearings on **Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan to consider the following request.

1. **Case 23-049:** A request by applicant CBE, LLC; Brian Leibrandt on behalf of Tractor Supply, to rezone a 5.11-acre portion of the parcel with Parcel ID# V-125-83-134-99-0003-701 at the southeast corner of Hull Road and Sumpter Road from AG (Agricultural and Estate) to SRMU (Sumpter Road Mixed Use).
2. **Case 23-049:** A request by CBE, LLC; Brian Leibrandt on behalf of Tractor Supply, for a special use approval to allow for outdoor sales/display areas for proposed retail development at Parcel ID# V-125-83-134-99-0003-701.

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or by e-mail at rakers@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date and all materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact the Van Buren Township Planning & Economic Development department at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you require assistance.

Posted: May 14, 2024
Published: May 16, 2024

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham received his

BHS student Jaedyn Jones takes top honors in state eSports

Belleville High School has a new champion as sophomore student Jaedyn Jones clinched victory in the Michigan High School Esports League (MHSEL) State Championship for NBA2K by defeating Manistee High School 2-0.

Jaedyn's skill and prowess with a controller led him to the top of the leaderboard, earning him the prestigious title, an undefeated regular season and playoffs, and most notably, recognition among the state's eSports elite.

Competing against some of Michigan's most talented gamers, Jaedyn showcased



Jones

his dedication and passion for eSports, highlighting his dominance on the virtual basketball court.

His journey to the championship was marked by intense matches, where he overcame his opponents with resilience and determination. Later this month, he will compete in the national championship bracket against other state title winners in the national PlayVS Cup. This tournament pits the nation's best in each game against each other for scholarship prize money and bragging rights.

"We are incredibly proud of Jaedyn's achievement," said coaches Mark Darket and Adam Howard. "His success not only highlights his individual talent but also reflects the supportive environment we cultivate here in the BHS eSports program.

Every young person who comes through these doors can find their purpose, pursue excellence, which in the end leads to higher achievement."

Competitive gaming has steadily gained recognition as a legitimate sport, providing students like Jaedyn with opportunities to showcase their talents, teamwork, and strategic thinking, Darket said. MHSEL serves as a platform for young gamers to improve their skills and compete at a statewide and national level, fostering a sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship among participants.

Jaedyn's accomplishment serves as an inspiration to his peers and future generations of gamers at BHS, Darket said.

With his championship title, Jaedyn holds the coveted distinction of being the first eSports champion in Belleville High School history.

As eSports continues to gain momentum, Jaedyn's triumph is a testament to the dedication and skill required to excel in this dynamic, rapidly evolving competitive arena, Darket said.

Sheena Barnes added to county's list as Sumpter candidate for supervisor

The Wayne County Clerk's Office now includes the name of Sheena Barnes as a candidate for supervisor of Sumpter Township in the Aug. 8 primary election.

Barnes had been on the Sumpter list of candidates at the township clerk's office, but not on the county list as of last week.

The candidates now listed by Wayne County on the unofficial list of candidates are:

Supervisor:

- Democrat, Nelson Po, 45025 Harris Rd., Belleville
- Republican, Sheena Barnes, 28321 Sumpter Rd., New Boston
- Republican Timothy Bowman, 21321 Karr Rd., Belleville
- Republican Vincent Warren, 46465 Dunn Rd., Belleville

Clerk:

- Republican Donald LaPorte, 19240 Sumpter Rd., Belleville

Treasurer:

- Republican Bart Patterson, 23745 Sumpter Rd., Belleville

Trustees (elect 4):

- Republican James M. Frazier, 44030

Morgan Vaughn earns award from Ohio Wesleyan University

Wesleyan University

Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, presented its Golden Bishop Awards on April 17 to recognize students for outstanding achievements in leadership and community service during the 2023-24 academic year.

Those honored at the event included Morgan Vaughn of Belleville.

Vaughn earned a Bridge Builder Award for exemplary service within and beyond the campus community. The award is for work as a Bishop Scholars Team Lead, tutoring children in grades K-8 in seven school districts to help them recover learning lost during the pandemic.

Harris Rd., Belleville

• Republican John Honey, 43900 Clay Rd., Belleville

• Republican Robert Lintner, Jr., 483 Wayside Dr., Belleville

• Republican Peggy Morgan, 300 Edgewood Dr., Belleville

• Republican Matt Oddy, 17638 Odyssey Dr., Belleville

• Republican Tim Rush, 28941 Martinsville Rd., New Boston

• Republican Ovidiu Suciuc, 44349 Clay Rd., Belleville

• Republican Tyler Thomas, 21321 Karr Rd., Belleville

Democrat Antoine Jordan, 44946 Judd Rd., Belleville, who had been on the Wayne County list of trustee candidates last week has been removed from the county list.

All the candidates for township offices in Van Buren Township have filed as Democrats and are unopposed.

HELP WANTED

The Belleville Community Chorus is searching for a Choral Director for our medium sized, friendly, choral ensemble. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings 7-9pm, September through mid-December and again from January through early May, with public concerts at the end of each rehearsal session. The desired candidate should be a competent, expressive singer who can read choral octavo music. Experience singing in a chorus/choir and directing a choral ensemble/choir would be preferable. The person selected would need to work closely with the accompanist as a leader of the ensemble. For more information, or to arrange an interview/audition, please contact Claudia Roullier @ 734-788-0977 or claudiarou47@yahoo.com. Please provide a brief resume and references, as well as any salary requirements. You can check out BCC at our website <http://www.bellevillechorus.com/> and our past concerts on Youtube.

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More Letters

Elected official continues to defy no-parking rule

To the editor:

I am writing on behalf of myself and dozens of my neighbors who have spoken up about the City of Belleville's inaction regarding ongoing and flagrant violation of a city ordinance by a local elected official (or someone living in her household).

I am referring to Councilperson Kelly Bates, and a truck that is parked in nearly continuous violation of a no-parking fire lane on Victorian Boulevard in front of her house in the Victoria Commons neighborhood.

Neighborhood representatives have held a series of meetings with city and police officials about various issues in Victoria Commons. While progress has been made on some issues that have been raised, specific complaints about the illegally parked truck are met with shrugged shoulders and indifference.

Neighbors are extremely concerned about the safety implications of this persistent conduct, which is exacerbated by the fact that the truck is parked on a curve and is not visible until one is almost upon it.

A neighborhood survey was conducted about issues of importance to residents ahead of a meeting earlier this month. There was robust participation in reply to the survey and the meeting, and this illegally-parked truck by a council member was the focus of a lot of comments. Coincidentally or not, it was noted that the truck was moved to the driveway for the first time in a long time just before our meeting. Predictably, now that the meeting has passed, the truck has been moved back out of the driveway and onto the public roadway in the fire lane. We've seen this pattern of the truck being moved into the driveway and then back to the street around the time of other membership meetings.

My neighbors and I love the small-town feel we have here. The last thing we'd expect to encounter here is this kind of disrespectful, imperious behavior by an elected official who apparently thinks she's above the law. Maybe it's time to research the process for initiating a recall vote. It seems we would need a little over 400 signatures to initiate the process.

Concerned Victoria Commons Residents
 Name withheld because of expressed fear of retaliation.

Wants refund for those bills that weren't ours

To the editor:

I am writing this anonymously for fear of retaliation for speaking out about this.

It is an outrage and downright wrong for all of us in the suburbs who struggle every month to "pay our bills" to have to pay someone else's bill without even being considered or asked if we are OK with it.

What am I talking about? We are paying Highland Park's millions of dollars in water bills, that's what! Great Lakes Water Authority "decided" WE should pay it! Why? It's NOT OUR bill! I can't afford to pay someone else's bills. I struggle to pay my own, thanks to 'bidenomics.' So, I recently read where the suburbs are going to get credit for it.

Is that money going to go back to the residents who have been paying it? Yeah, I bet not! Not one penny will we get back. I have lived in this community for 35 years. My water bill has ALWAYS run around \$30-\$35 per month. Now? \$100-\$125 per month and I live alone!

Thank you, Highland Park and GLWA. I don't know how you can sleep at night. You have no conscience!

It's not right. It's not our "bill" and the money needs to be refunded to us – THE VICTIMS!

No signature or community given

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 286 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, May 5:

0009 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0049 – abandoned auto, Tyler Rd./Beck Rd.
0241 – traffic offense, WB I-94/Rawsonville I-94 ramp E.
0343 – intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.
0419 – civil matter, Lake Villa Dr.
1026 – family trouble, Pond Bluff Dr.
1034 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1117 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1230 – threat, McBride Ave.
1238 – neighbor trouble, Ironwood Dr.
1256 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.
1309 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1334 – family trouble, Ecorse Service B Dr.
1500 – animal complaint, Lincoln St.
1521 – harassment call, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1549 – intrusion alarm, Denton Rd.
1629 – intrusion alarm, Martz Rd.
1848 – suicidal person, Ironwood Dr.
1938 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.
1944 – motorist assist, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
2005 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2102 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2139 – missing person, Capitol Dr.
2153 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2235 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2237 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
xxxx – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2253 – welfare check, Spruce Ln.

Monday, May 6:

0709 – welfare check, Kouza Ct.
0838 – authorized driving away of auto, Rawsonville Rd.
0846 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, McBride
0901 – fraud, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0941 – breaking & entering, E. Huron River Dr.
1025 – welfare check, Hamilton St.
1157 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1218 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1233 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1329 – private property impound, Vernon St.
1343 – juvenile complaint, Harmony Ln.
1415 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
1427 – harassment call, rest area
1446 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./E. I-94
1459 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1504 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1517 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.
1715 – civil matter, Red Oak Dr.
1542 – property damage accident, W. I-94/rest area
1626 – intrusion alarm, Richmond Dr.
1627 – civil matter, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1726 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1800 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1847 – intrusion alarm, Elwell Rd.
xxxx – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – disorderly, Tyler Rd./Lakeshore Dr.
1945 – disorderly, Tyler Rd./Lakeshore Dr.
2025 – welfare check, Pinewood Ln.
2123 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2203 – civil matter, Sheldon Rd.
2225 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
2259 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.

Tuesday, May 7:

0653 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0808 – malicious destruction of property, Ecorse
0832 – parking complaint, Kahla Dr./Reene Dr.
0907 – vehicle lockout, Denton Rd.
1022 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hannan Rd.
1149 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tallgrass Ct.

1224 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1238 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
1232 – welfare check, Stratford Dr.
1244 – larceny, Green Meadows
1358 – assist other dept., Lenmoore Ave.
1411 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.
1450 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Harmony Ln.
1500 – animal complaint, Montague Ave.
1550 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1709 – juvenile complaint, Peachtree Ln.
1822 – disorderly, Tallgrass Ct.
1857 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
2005 – suicidal person, Maple Dr.
2030 – intrusion alarm, Morton Taylor Rd.
2044 – civil matter, Stamford Rd.
2107 – 911 welfare check, Bog Rd.
2206 – domestic, Stamford Rd.
2207 – 911 welfare check, Van Born Rd.
2359 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.

Wednesday, May 8:

0112 – domestic, Briarwood Dr.
0156 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
0652 – intrusion alarm, Pond Bluff Dr.
0736 – intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.
0906 – animal complaint, Haggerty Rd.
0944 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1012 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Richard Run Dr.
1118 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
1205 – intrusion alarm, Hanover Dr.
1220 – intrusion alarm, Robbe Rd.
1240 – harassment call, Nautica Dr.
xxxx – private property/property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1350 – animal complaint, Fret Rd.
xxxx – fraud, Bemis Rd.
1555 – intrusion alarm, Fay Dr.
1636 – civil matter, Rose Blvd.
1644 – welfare check, Bemis Rd.
1656 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1715 – larceny, Brookview Dr.
1730 – animal complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
1830 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1954 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
1859 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1915 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Pond Ridge Dr.
1946 – threat, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2022 – 911 welfare check, Arthur St.
2144 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Timberview Dr.
2247 – 911 welfare check, Sondra Dr.
2343 – misc. complaints, Tyler Rd.

Thursday, May 9:

0657 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
0658 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0710 – family trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0756 – intrusion alarm, Country Walk Ct.
0827 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0947 – 911 welfare check, Country Walk Ct.
xxxx – repossession, Westlake Cir.
1017 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, S. I-94 Service
1209 – harassment call, Sylvia Dr.
1311 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1316 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1358 – family trouble, Sunrise Ln.
1426 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1512 – civil matter, Robson Rd.
1513 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
xxxx – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1540 – warrant arrest, Michigan/Beck
1809 – personal injury accident, E. I-94/Rawsonville I-94 ramp E.
xxxx – repossession, Rogers Ave.
1855 – animal complaint, Sheldon Rd.
1917 – malicious destruction of property, Peachtree Ln.
2036 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
2044 – welfare check, Arthur St./Buchanan St.
2056 – 911 welfare check, Laguna Dr.
2240 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
2358 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Friday, May 10:

0139 – road hazard, Denton Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
0746 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
0904 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1112 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1203 – vehicle lockout, Andover Dr.

1245 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1416 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1416 – juvenile complaint, Martinsville Rd.
1445 – malicious destruction of property, W. Cherry
1503 – suicidal person, Elwell Rd.
1624 – abandoned auto, Martz Rd.
xxxx – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1848 – mental subject, Filmore St.
1930 – assist fire dept., Martinsville Rd.
2015 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2105 – assist other dept., Kirkridge Park Dr.
2126 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Stratford Dr.
2142 – traffic offense, Holly Ln.
2150 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2158 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.
2258 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
2332 – assault & battery, Parkside Dr.

Saturday, May 11:

0237 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
0745 – property damage accident, Greenbriar Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Oak Ln.
0936 – intrusion alarm, Florence Ln.
1010 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1004 – assault & battery, Martz Rd./Rawsonville
1118 – civil matter, Paloma Dr.
1143 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1338 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.
1430 – neighbor trouble, Daisy Blvd.
1456 – malicious destruction of property, Sadie Ln.
1725 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1824 – juvenile complaint, Rawsonville Rd.
1959 – harassment call, S. Bellridge Dr.
2007 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
2159 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd./ Briarwood Dr.
2117 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Michigan Ave.
2200 – vehicle lockout, Gilmore St.
2300 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.
2305 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
0011 – welfare check, Denton Rd.

Also, on this week's log are 97 traffic stops, 23 of which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 5:

1029 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
1050 – traffic stop, Madelon St./E. Columbia
1131 – property check, Owen Middle School
1316 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
1628 – property check, Owen St.
1655 – traffic stop, High St.
1748 – traffic stop, Menlo Park Dr./Belle Villa Blvd.
1824 – civil matter, Main St.
2020 – traffic stop, Third St./N. Liberty St.
2134 – assist other dept., San Carlos St.

Monday, May 6:

0036 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./N. Liberty St.
0855 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
1527 – larceny, N. Liberty St.
1551 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1723 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Main
1836 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
2015 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

Tuesday, May 7:

0003 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.
0143 – noise complaint, W. Thornhill Ct.
0712 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.
0819 – assist fire dept., South St.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1502 – found property/child, Main St.

Wednesday, May 8:

0040 – traffic stop, Loza Ln./N. Edgemont Ave.
0824 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
0845 – traffic stop, W. Columbia/Harbour Pte.
0928 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
0947 – traffic stop, South St./E. Davis St.
1257 – traffic stop, W. Columbia/Church St.
1301 – traffic stop, E. Huron River/N. Liberty
1311 – W. Huron River Dr./Harbour Pte Dr.
1317 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave.
1329 – traffic stop, W. Columbia/Church St.
1332 – traffic stop, Columbia St./Davison St.
1406 – traffic offense, High St./Huron River
1527 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Martinsville

1719 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
1725 – property damage accident, High St.
2042 – traffic stop, W. Columbia/Church St.
2123 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Fourth St.
2123 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.

Thursday, May 9:

0013 – traffic stop, Water Works
0949 – threat, Owen St.
1419 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.
xxxx – harassment call, Main St.
1634 – disorderly, Sumpter Rd.
2038 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
2048 – harassment call, Estrada
2353 – misc. complaint, Main St.

Friday, May 10:

0012 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.
0021 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Belle Villa Blvd.
0237 – misc. complaint, Main St./Fourth St.
0905 – disorderly, Main St.
1010 – warrant arrest, Main St./First St.
1213 – animal complaint, High St.
1249 – overdose, N. Aberdeen Ct.
xxxx – overdose, N. Aberdeen Ct.
xxxx – repossession, Belle Villa
1354 – 911 welfare check, Henry St.
1506 – animal complaint, E. Thornhill Ct. / Victorian Ln.
1948 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
2057 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./Madelon
2146 – traffic stop, N. Liberty/Belleville Rd.
2154 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Harmony Ln.

Saturday, May 11:

0910 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.
1805 – civil matter, Main St.
1948 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
2015 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
2049 – property check, Owen St.
2146 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
2240 – assist citizen, Main St.

There are 29 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 5:

0043 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
0324 – traffic complaint/hazard, Rawsonville Rd. / Rustic Ln.
0821 – 911 hangup, Knollwood Dr.
0833 – suspicious vehicle, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1021 – suspicious circumstance, Edgewood Dr.
1301 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1313 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.
1344 – juvenile matter, New Mexico St.
1625 – shots fired, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
1635 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1725 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1750 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
1921 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
2012 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Elwell Rd. / Harris Rd.
2106 – civil matter, Carriage Ln.
2143 – suspicious person, Virginia St.
2157 – 911 hangup, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2220 – civil matter, Magnolia Dr.

Monday, May 6:

0113 – 911 hangup, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
0633 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.
0643 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.
0933 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
0942 – neighbor dispute, Mulberry Dr.
1052 – neighbor dispute, Mulberry Dr.
1228 – fire dept. assist, Knollwood Dr.
1408 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1503 – civil matter, Colorado St.
1508 – welfare check, Rustic Ln.
1832 – traffic complaint/hazard, Judd/Clark
1948 – recovered UDAA, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
2015 – follow-up investigation, Mulberry Dr.

Tuesday, May 7:

0018 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
0402 – suspicious circumstance, Willow Rd. / Martinsville Rd.
0928 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1245 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1431 – misdemeanor warrant arrest, Willow Rd. / Sumpter Rd.

(Continued on page 19)



Friday May 17th will be the last day for the Senior Center located at Haggerty Elementary. The Senior Center will remain closed until we re-open to the public mid-June at the new Van Buren Community Center.

Beginning May 20th The Recreation Department will be available by APPOINTMENT ONLY for in-person Pavilion and Summer Camp Registrations.

(Pavilions and Summer Camp registrations are also available on-line)

Please call 734-699-8921 to book an appointment.

Stay tuned for exact dates and time.



Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

- 1432 – harassment complaint, Oregon St.
- 1619 – harassment complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 1934 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
- 1943 – shots fired, Third St.
- 2120 – fire dept. assist, Tamarack Dr.
- 2156 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
- Wednesday, May 8:**
- 0041 – suspicious person, Magnolia Dr.
- 0821 – family trouble, Vermont St.
- 1028 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
- 1104 – family trouble, Arizona St.
- 1254 – 911 hangup, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 1440 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinville
- 1614 – alarm, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
- 1741 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry Dr.
- 1935 – neighbor dispute, New Mexico St.
- 1950 – traffic complaint/hazard, Wear Rd./ Carleton West Rd.
- 2227 – juvenile matter, New Mexico St.
- 2233 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 2235 – family trouble, Indiana St.
- Thursday, May 9:**
- 0601 – disorderly person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0834 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
- 0912 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.
- 0935 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter
- 1011 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.
- 1045 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
- 1116 – follow-up investigation, 1900 bl. Sumpter
- 1129 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
- 1312 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.
- 1712 – civil matter, California St.
- 1722 – death investigation, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1736 – civil matter, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1740 – 911 hangup, Knollwood Dr.
- 1831 – animal complaint, Wear Rd./Elwell Rd.
- 2124 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- 2229 – suspicious circumstance, Arizona St.
- 2313 – follow-up investigation, Arizona St.
- Friday, May 10:**
- 0042 – fire dept. assist, Arizona St.
- 0750 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1012 – larceny, Alaska St.
- 1206 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
- 1235 – larceny, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1309 – welfare check, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 1347 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 1642 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
- 1657 – family trouble, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 1740 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 1816 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
- 1830 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
- 1900 – juvenile matter, Arizona St.
- 1942 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1946 – 911 hangup, Washington St.
- 2203 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 2238 – citizen assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 2323 – suspicious circumstance, 22000 bl. Bohn
- 2331 – family trouble, Arizona St.
- Saturday, May 11:**
- 0151 – property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis
- 0214 – citizen assist, Willis Rd./Sherwood Rd.
- 1021 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
- 1351 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1509 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 1522 – larceny, Knollwood
- 1619 – citizen assist, Rustic Ln.
- 1642 – civil matter, New Mexico St.
- 1729 – fire dept. assist, Indiana St.
- 1922 – 911 hangup, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 2026 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 2037 – shots fired, Rawsonville Rd./Judd Rd.
- 2357 – civil matter, Oregon St.

Also on this week's log are 134 patrol checks, 40 traffic stops, and seven misc. details.

Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



HealthMarkets at 186 Main St. will not only have an entry in the Memorial Day Parade, but it is also opening its parking lot from 9 to 10:30 a.m. that day with music, yard games, and food trucks. What a great idea. See its ad in our paper each week.

Main Street will really be walkable on Memorial Day. Prior to the 10 a.m. parade, you can join in the festivities at HealthMarkets, enjoy the 50-Flag Salute on the open lots at Third and Main, and pick up a stick flag by the flag display or at Clement Insurance right next door. At 11 a.m. the memorial program by the VFW/PLAV will begin on High Street at the Veterans Memorial, and when it is done you can walk over to Fourth Street Place, have lunch, and shop at the Farmers Market.

Are you ready for a day trip? Huron Township is holding a community-wide garage sale weekend – May 18 and 19. Between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. more than 45 homes will be selling their treasures.

Thunder Over Michigan, scheduled for July 20 and 21, has many options for tickets. I think it will all depend on how many you plan on taking. On their website they say the price of tickets will go up as more people buy them. Anyway, go to Thunder Over Michigan website and look at all the options. Even though we won't see the Blue Angels or Thunderbirds, in order to experience the excitement of the USAF F-16 Viper Demo Team, the U.S. Navy F/A-18 West Coast Rhino Demo Team, and other Famous Fighters from throughout American history, you need to start by purchasing your tickets!

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue will be holding a pet adoption event on Sunday, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sidetrack Bar and Grill, 56 E. Cross Street in Ypsi. This is in addition to their monthly pet adoptions at Petco in Arborland from 11 a.m. to noon every second Saturday. Come and meet your new best friend!

There are still cutout wooden blanks available at the Belleville Area District Library for the Neil Griffin Community Art Project, formerly the FISH Project. Sailboat blanks are a new feature this year. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) invites artists of all ages to paint and decorate a sailboat or a new fish. Donations of \$5 each are requested. The new additions are due by June 10, so that the new creations, as well as the past school of fish, can be installed for the summer along the shore of Belleville Lake at Horizon Park.

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

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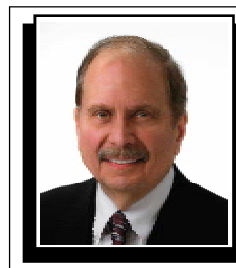
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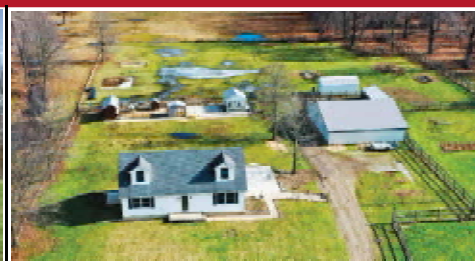
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