



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.22 Thursday, May 30, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

VBT male drowns in Belleville Lake on Memorial Day

At about 3:50 p.m. on Monday, Memorial Day, Van Buren Township dispatch center received a 911 call reporting a person wading in the water off Firecracker Island on Belleville Lake who had disappeared under water.

The individual was accompanied by three family members who had docked their boat on the island for a cookout. One family member made an unsuccessful attempt to rescue the 23-year-old male as he was going under water.

The Van Buren Public Safety Dive Team was immediately dispatched to the scene to conduct a search for the missing individual. The dive team located the deceased male in about 11 feet of water.

He has been identified as a 23-year-old resident of Van Buren Township.

Deputy Chief Joshua Monte said the Van Buren Police and Fire Departments extend their heartfelt condolences to the victim's family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Deputy Chief Monte said the dive team did a phenomenal job in some very rough weather and water conditions to locate the body Monday evening in order to give the family some closure.

Channel 4 News on the scene identified the victim as Patrick Todd, who they said was recovered at 7:18 p.m., about 300 feet from where he went down. Channel 4 said he was a special needs person who had been born with fetal alcohol syndrome and was raised by extended family.

Television reports said he had been walking on the sandbar between the island and the cemetery when he fell underwater.

Fire Chief David McNally said the dive team was able to use sonar to help locate the victim.

Channel 2 interviewed Bryan Butzin who said he had just met the family that day on the island and the families had a good time together, cooking their food and talking.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Retired Superintendent of Van Buren Public Schools James Richendollar read a letter from a former student who wrote to him from Vietnam while serving there. This was at the Memorial Day service put on by the VFW and PLAV on Monday at the Veterans Memorial on High Street. The end of the story Supt. Richendollar told was that the young man was killed in the service in Vietnam. He spoke against sending young people to war.

Belleville planners to amend ordinance to help small business proposal

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

After a lengthy discussion at its May 9 meeting, the Belleville Planning Commission decided to seek amendment of the B-1 zoning district to allow small gatherings at a photography studio.

Jessica Koweck of Van Buren Township owns and runs Mae Ann Photography at 204 E. Columbia Ave. in the Davenport Plaza that also holds the Secretary of State.

On Feb. 15, she applied to the city for

permission to use her studio for small gatherings, under 50 people, for baby showers, weddings showers, birthday parties and other events where people would bring in their own food.

That was denied because banquet halls are not listed in B-1 zoning. She was told to apply for a special land use request, but that would stay with the property after she left and the planners weren't in favor of that.

(continued on page 3)

Tractor Supply plans approved by VBT planners

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

Two people spoke at the May 22 public hearing on the requested rezoning of farmland at the southeast corner of Sumpter and Hull roads in Van Buren Township to make way for a new Tractor Supply business.

Both men spoke on behalf of bringing Tractor Supply to that 5.11-acre site.

Edward Berger, now of Milford, whose grandfather, father and now he owns the 40 adjacent acres to the south and east of the Tractor Supply site, said he feels this is a very appropriate use for the property.

He said the township is encouraging agritourism and this use is a part of that.

Berger said he is a customer of Tractor Supply stores in Novi, Holly, and South Dakota and the stores have quality products, tools, and equipment, along with animal feed – a wide inventory of quality products.

He said the store will bring employment and tax base.

Harry Brad Traskos of Sumpter Township said he was born and raised on Sumpter Road and would rather have this store than an industry at the site.

Traskos said he is a lifelong friend of the family that runs Ace Hardware and they have great hardware. He said Tractor Supply also has grainery for animals and other items Ace does not carry.

He said he is a retired fire chief of Van Buren Township and the fire and police departments get heavy tax base from businesses like this.

A second public hearing was held on a request for special land use for outside sales and display area for Tractor Supply, but no one got up to speak on that.

When it came to new business, the planners voted unanimously to recommend

(continued on page 3)

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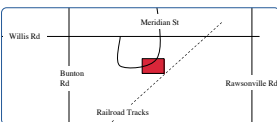
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

to the township board that they rezone the land and approve special land use for the outside sales.

Dan Power, director of planning and economic development, said this rezoning request is a result of the South Side Master Plan changes and the Sumpter Road Corridor overlay district. The rezoning would be from AG (agricultural and estate) to SRMU (Sumpter Road Mixed Use) zoning.

He said the 5.11 acres for the retail development would have to be split from a larger parcel.

Planning consultant Vidya Krishnan of McKenna Associates said this is the first parcel rezoned for mixed district use and is in keeping with the rural atmosphere they want to keep at the south end of the township. She said there are no wetlands or trees on the property and she recommends the rezoning.

Steve, representing CBE, the preferred developer for Tractor Supply, said sometimes Tractor Supply builds and leases the property, but in Van Buren Township it is buying the property. He named a long list of new Tractor Supply stores in the state that recently have been constructed, including Harrison, Bellaire, Caledonia, Stockbridge, and Clare.

The commission also approved the preliminary site plan for the 22,407-square-foot retail building, parking, landscaping and affiliated site improvements with several stipulations. This approval does not have to go on to the township board.

Krishnan said the site plan was redrawn many times to keep the loading and unloading in the back and to add trees, shrubs and other plants and 8-foot fences to surround the area storage, as well as hard-surface parking and other changes.

She said there will be five-foot sidewalks along Sumpter and Hull roads at the site. She said they are working with DTE to try to bury the electric line there, but Whittie said DTE told them it would be too costly to go underground and around the building for just one business.

Commission vice-chairman Jeff Jahr, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of chairman Brian Cullin, said he would like to see an estimate from DTE on how much it would cost to bury the lines.

Krishnan said there will be an 8'x8' sign with a red brick base and the building is brick and metal. There are road stubs to connect with future businesses next door and greenbelts.

"This is much higher quality than other Tractor Supplies you'd see because they had to follow our ordinance," Krishnan said.

Engineering consultant Paul Kammer

of Fishbeck said a full engineering review will be done for the final site plan review. He said there is a 16" water main on Hull Road and a 12" main on Sumpter Road and they will bring in a 2" service line and a 6" fire protection line.

He said there is a 36" sanitary sewer line along the north side of Hull Road and they want to bring a 6" sanitary sewer line to the northeast corner of the building. He said the line there is 22' deep and it will need lots of digging. He said he wants to make sure this will not cut off the fire station during construction.

Kammer said they will work with the township and the county on storm water detention and flow.

Director Power read the fire department report that said there has to be room for the 49'7" ladder truck to maneuver on the site.

The Tractor Supply representative said this is the most enhanced Tractor Supply development constructed. He said they have retail inside and outside with a sidewalk display, permanent trailer sales, and outdoor display area. He said while the ordinance requires 91 parking spaces, a Tractor Supply store usually uses 30 to 40 spaces.

He said they haven't officially gone to the county yet for the stormwater drainage approval, waiting until after they had township approval, but their plan is for a 100-year storm system.

He said the building is primarily brick and they showed samples to the township board. He said they will buy the extra 25' needed for a greenway buffer.

In the motion to accept the preliminary site plan, commissioner Bernie Grant reduced approved parking spaces from 90 to 70 for passenger vehicles and three RVs, reduction of the size of the landscape islands, accepted the overhead electrical lines, accepted the color of the brick samples, required the cross-easements to be recorded, and the installation of RV trailer signage and signs designating traffic patterns.

Also in the more than three-hour meeting, the commission:

- Approved a site plan amendment for Ashley Capital Crossroads North Building 11 at 6110 Haggerty Rd., along the west side of Haggerty between Ecorse and Van Born. This is to meet the needs of its tenant, Danish Logistics, which has leased two-thirds of the building and may lease the whole building, to provide for increased security with more fencing and a gate. The front fencing will be 8' wrought iron and the 8' around the back of the building will be black-vinyl-coated chain link;

- Approved preliminary site plan for Ashley Capital Crossroads North Buildings 8 & 9 at 6290 and 6480 Haggerty on the west side of Haggerty between Ecorse and Van Born. These are speculative buildings and truck access will be north or south

because Haggerty is under construction. Krishnan said EV charging stations will be put in as needed for employees and she urged them to put in a 5' sidewalk along one side of the drive to Haggerty so employees can walk to future businesses there. She recommended granting approval with nine conditions. Commissioner Grant recommended a modified greenbelt on the north and west sides where future buildings are planned;

- Heard director Power say the commission has a full schedule for its June 12 meeting;

- Heard vice-chairman Jahr say he noticed the old motel on the South I-94 Service Drive has been demolished;

- Heard township treasurer Sharry Budd say that work at Camping World on the North I-94 Service Drive now is moving forward; and

- Heard commissioner Grant, who is an architect, say all the Ashley Capital buildings look the same and they should be varied. Krishnan said the development has its own identity and that's why they are doing that. Grant said he would like staff to look into design requirements for industrial zoning.

Besides chairman Brian Cullin, commissioner Medina Atchinson was also absent from the meeting.

Belleville Plan

(continued from page 1)

Jill Baum, the city's planning consultant from Giffels Webster, said if the ordinance were changed it would apply to all of the B-1 zoning.

After considering its options the commission decided to amend the B-1 ordinance to apply to all banquet facilities under 2,500 feet, with conditions.

A June 13 public hearing on the amendment was set by the commission with a vote for that night. Then a recommendation to approve would be sent on to the city council for action at its June 17 meeting. It would go into effect in 30 days.

Kowec said it's been three months since she applied. She said she wants to do baby showers and other small events.

She said she remodeled her shop and, "It's beautiful. People can come in, bring their own food..." She said there will not be wild parties.

She said she is now PTO president at Savage Elementary School and they are getting their 501c3 nonprofit designation for fundraising. She said she can't bring kids to the other restaurants in town because of the liquor served there.

The commission also heard a presentation by Baum on the Master Plan. After discussion, commission chairman Michael Hawkins directed everyone to review the 2006 Master Plan and proposals for changes by Baum that she submitted to them. He said they can decide which of the

three proposed options to follow at the next meeting.

Assistant city manager Steve Jones, who served as planning commission chairman for many years, said the commission had some refreshes to the Master Plan over the years but didn't change anything. They went with Clear Zoning in 2013 but everything else was done in-house.

Jones said they have three options: Decide if they want a wholesale revision, change less than 50%, or, "Hey, we like all it it" and just make minor updates.

Baum said she could update the demographics, discuss goals and objectives, and come up with any "conflicts."

"I don't think you need a lot changed, but maybe option #2," she said. She suggested some public participation, such as a survey or a booth at a public event.

According to the 2020 census and estimates since then, the population is stable, but getting older, she said, adding that is true across the country that there is an aging population. But there is a decrease of population per household and the city might need more, smaller households, she said.

Sumpter treasurer says hiring procedures not properly followed

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the regular Sumpter Township Board of Trustees meeting on May 14, Sumpter Treasurer Bart Patterson said he didn't like how the part-time employee was being hired.

He referred to the item on the agenda to hire Gabriella Massel of Monroe for the temporary part-time position at an hourly rate of \$23.33, effective May 6 and ending Nov. 15. She is a 2021 Airport High School graduate and was a poll worker for Sumpter Township in 2019.

He said he met "Gabbi" and she's a nice lady, but he doesn't like how she was hired.

Clerk Esther Hurst said her previous employee Kristine Stencel was hired and then left her in the lurch because she said she thought it was a permanent position and it then changed to temporary.

At its April 23 meeting, the board voted to hire Stencel for a temporary part-time position at with the \$23.33 rate if the union approved and retroactive to her hire-back date. Patterson and Hurst both voted no on that one.

Clerk Hurst said she went through the proper procedure the first time, but didn't have time to start over because the election season is under way and she needs help now.

Patterson said her first hire interviewed for a part-time position and was hired part

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OPINIONS

Editorial

Memorial Day site becomes site to witness recovery

On Monday morning at 11 a.m., the local VFW and PLAV, representatives of the tri-community governments, and a large number of local people gathered at the Veterans Memorial on High Street on the shore of Belleville Lake for a brief ceremony to honor those lost in service to their country.

The crowd was larger than it had been in years for this annual service since there had been a Memorial Day parade and when it ended parade-goers walked over to participate in the ceremony. It was over in half an hour and some people continued their downtown activities by attending the farmer's market on Fourth Street Place and Fourth Street Square.

There had been about an inch and a half of rain the previous day and overnight. Although the threatening rain held off for the parade, the service, and the market, the wind got much stronger.

A few hours later, at 3:50 p.m., Van Buren Township dispatch got a call about a young man who had disappeared below the waves of Belleville Lake. The blustery winds and strong waves made recovery a challenge.

Family members and television cameras replaced the VFW and PLAV standing on the Veterans Memorial as they gathered to watch recovery efforts from the shore.

The crowd changed from mourning those lost in battle to mourning one lost in the waves of Belleville Lake.

God bless all their souls.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The rain held off during Monday's Memorial Day parade, although it got a bit windy at times.

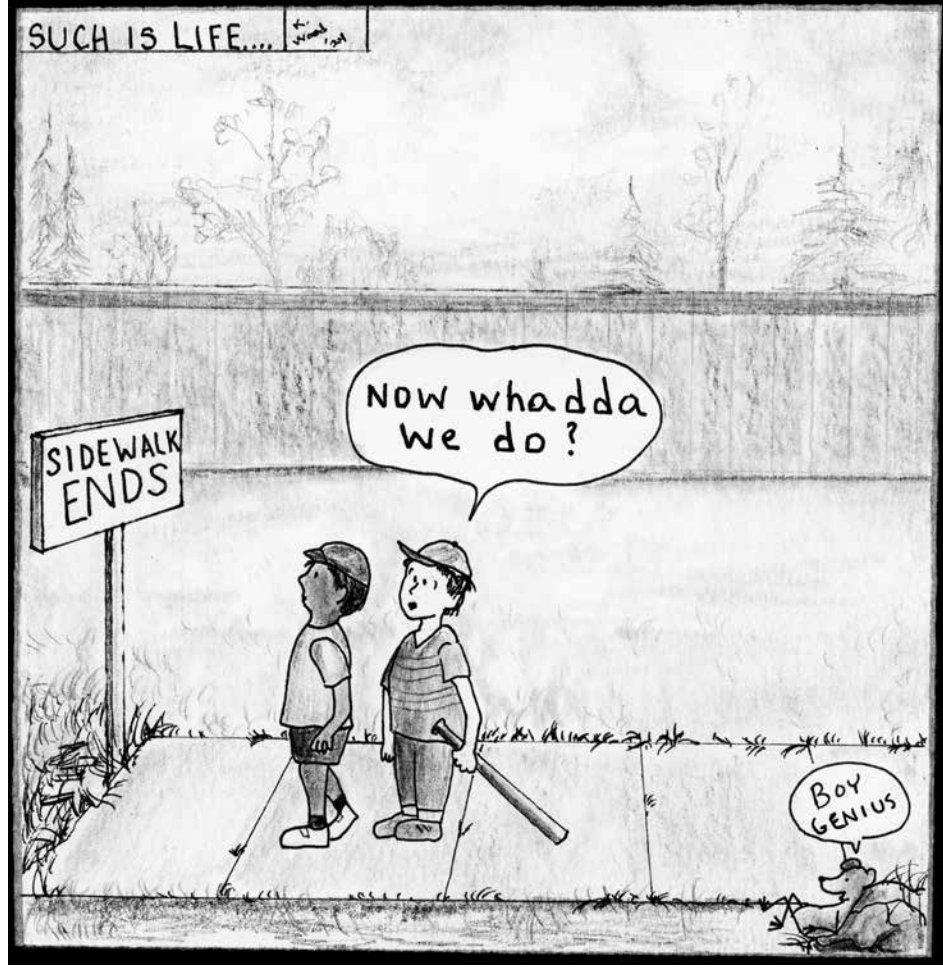
People said they enjoyed having a daytime parade again and a nice crowd turned out for the event. There were lots of politicians. It is a political year, you know.

Tim Craiger, who is running for his first political office, walked the whole route and while he was winded at the end, he said he had a great time. He's running to against four other candidates to replace County Commissioner Al Haidous who is not running for reelection.

The Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial followed the parade and many who had been at the parade also came to the ceremony put on by the VFW and PLAV. It was the most people at the Memorial Day ceremony in years. There was a huge puddle of water between the city parking lot, where the restrooms are located, and High Street which was closed off for the ceremony. People heading for a restrooms had to take a very circuitous route.

Retired Van Buren Superintendent of Schools Jim Richendollar read a letter he had received from one of his students who was stationed in Vietnam during the conflict. He said the young man died in the fighting and he urged the world to stop sending our treasured young men into battle to kill each other.

After the ceremony on Third Street on Monday, the crowd walked over to the Central Business Communities first Farmers Market of the season on Fourth Street Place and Square (across the street). It was a



sun-shiney day by then, so it was a perfect ending to the morning's activities.

My brother Tony, who celebrated his 93rd birthday last month traveled from his Florida home to Michigan for his twice-yearly visit to his friends and relatives in the area. He likes to sit down in front of the bookcase he helped my mother build at the house in which I live, where we all grew up. He selects a book or two from the shelf, where many have been for 80 years or more, and takes them home to give to one of his many grandchildren.

He suggested that some of the books might be first editions, but that would only be an unexpected treat. I told him to help himself. I rarely sort through the books because I'm always reading something else.

Tony found a very old book on Etiquette that he took and handed me a 190-page book with a bright-yellow dust cover about "Belleville The Happy Town" by Alger Buell Crandell. He suggested it should be put in the Belleville library. I accepted the book and then read it.

It's a charming book compiled in 1960 after some families realized their children and grandchildren had no idea of what Belleville used to be like in the past.

They chose the year 1912 and the author, who was a lawyer like his father, put the book together after interviewing 150 local people. The people who contributed and published the book called themselves The

Belleville Committee of 1912.

Actually the author lived in Sumpter Township as did many who contributed stories. Other tales came out of Belleville, especially the stories from the school on Third Street, on the land where the Corewell Health Clinic is now located.

I went to kindergarten through fifth grade where the old high school used to be and then went to sixth grade at the school on Third Street. I remember it well, with Mrs. Leonard as my teacher as well as principal of the school. I've never forgotten the schoolmate who licked the metal support for the swings one winter and his tongue stuck to the metal.

In the book there are lots of stories about horses and buggies vs. the new automobiles, including a race between a horse and buggy and a car from the railroad tracks on Savage Road to Five Points. Mechanical difficulties. The horse won.

And, references to the sandy roads in Sumpter abound. The property owners got tax breaks for improving the roads in front of their properties in those days.

Once I finish passing the book around to family members to read, I'll ask the library staff if they'd like to keep it to share with all. If they already have a copy and don't need it, I'll stick it back on our bookshelf.



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Letters

Help Tyrone find a different place to live

To the editor:
 Belleville is about to lose one of its best residents. Can anyone help? Due to circumstances beyond his control, Tyrone Hamilton is forced to move from his apartment.

He moved to Belleville in 2011. He is often seen navigating our walkways with his white cane. Learning a new community can prove difficult for a blind person. Let's keep Tyrone here in our beautiful city of Belleville.

We are trying to find affordable housing for him and his future wife Julie. We welcome any ideas or suggestions.

If you are not familiar with Tyrone, you can meet him Friday evenings 5-8 p.m. at Leo's Coney Island. He plays his keyboard and sings. He is amazing. Have dinner!

You may contact Beth Kingsley and Nathan Sweet at (734) 699-8480 landline. Tyrone Hamilton is (734) 347-2974.

Beth Kingsley

Open Arms needs help to feed Tyler students

To the editor:
 Open Arms is teaming up with Tyler Elementary School to provide backpacks of food every weekend for those students who come from low-income families.

The kids often have very little food on the weekend and rely heavily on the food they get for breakfast and lunch at Tyler Elementary.

During the summer months, many of these students go without breakfast and lunch since they are not in school and their families cannot afford it. Our plan is to help bridge the gap.

This is where we need your help! We will be collecting dry goods and backpacks. Some suggestions are:
 Cereal, Pop Tarts, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, Ramen noodles, cans of soup, peanut butter, jelly (plastic jar), canned fruit, canned vegetables, tuna, canned chicken, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, Spaghettios, ravioli, Rice-a-Roni, Hamburger Helper, pasta, snacks, muffins/donuts.

All dry goods are appreciated. No dairy, produce, or fresh/frozen items. Please also

no expired foods or glassed items. We will also accept cash/check donations.

Please drop your donation off at Open Arms Lutheran Church, 7865 Belleville Rd. and let them know that it is for Team Tigers. If you have any questions, please reach out to Open Arms at (734) 699-5000 or email us at teamtigersbackpacks@outlook.com.

Open Arms Lutheran Church and Daycare is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Thank you for your support!

Team Tigers
 Open Arms Lutheran Church

Wayne Health Mobile Unit to offer screenings

To the editor:

On Tuesday, June 4, the Wayne Health Mobile Unit will be set up in the parking lot of Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Preventative Health Screenings will be available including blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol, and kidney function.

Linkage to care and community resources will be provided.

No appointment is required. ID is not required. Insurance is not required.

If one has any questions, call Wayne Health Mobile at (313) 448-9850.

Marilyn Wood, coordinator
 Emergency Food Closet

May 31 is deadline to apply for \$1,500 Splurge scholarships for grads

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More Letters

Victory Park becoming more dilapidated

To the editor:
I am always glad to see the local area improved, however, a greater balance of these improvements should be for residents instead of visitors.

Victory Park is a favorite of my family of six children to play, and now to enjoy tacos from the adjacent food truck or grab an ice cream from Frosty Boy.

However, year after year I continue to watch it become more and more dilapidated. The basketball court is undersized with no lines, a rusted-out backboard, and a couple dangling pieces of thread for a net – restore the pad and make it half-court size with updated hoop and a feature that will draw kids to play there.

The playscape, adjacent equipment, and picnic tables are old, damaged, and missing features and functionality that were originally there. The mulch is unmaintained and overgrown with weeds.

And honestly, how is it we can't get the bathrooms and fountain open, functional, and maintained? At a minimum, how about a port-a-john or two? Instead, I must read about motions to repair a non-functional and decorative wood fence adjacent to Savage Road.

The "beach" on the other side of the lake has the exact same issues. It is unmaintained, overgrown, and disgusting, yet I must pay a fee to enter the park and access it. It's not large, so a simple annual upkeep plan would not be difficult to establish.

Instead of spending money on cute decorations, sculptures, accoutrements and a useless fence, make Victory Park and the beach an asset for us residents instead of an afterthought. I suspect I am only one of many residents with this opinion.

J. Schroeder
Belleville

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, June 3 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 4 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Monday, June 10 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS
- Tuesday, June 11 – Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 12 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, June 13 – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township planning commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

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Obituaries



MEREDITH J. VAN VALKENBURGH

(January 18, 1941 - May 8, 2024)
Meredith J. Van Valkenburgh, 83, long-time resident of Belleville, passed May 8, 2024 in Tallahassee, FL. He was a proud Navy Veteran, serving honorably from 1960-1967. He is survived by his five children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Service at 11 a.m., June 14, 2024, at St. Peter's Cathedral, 4784 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32309.

PATRESE DEANI (GREEN) HANSON

(August 3, 1966 - May 20, 2024)
Age 57, of Delphos, Ohio, formerly of Belleville. BHS grad of 1984. Survived by sons David Lundell, James Hanson; daughter Cane Henderson; 7 grandchildren; brothers, Herb, Jeff, Dave Green. Services were May 23 at David C. Brown Funeral Home Burial at Hillside Cemetery. www.davidcbrownfh.com

CHARLES CORBITT

(September 11, 1938 - May 19, 2024)
Resident of Sumpter Township. Survived by wife Marilyn, four children, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, brother Russel Corbitt, dearest friend Lisa Marble. Memorial service held May 29 at David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

MARY ANN TRUEN

(January 31, 1935 - May 20, 2024)
Age 89, of Van Buren Township. Survived by son Steve Truen, daughters Pam Welsch and Shelley Weatherup, 7 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren. David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Woman driver found dead in car at Haggerty and I-94 on Friday

An investigation is ongoing after a driver was found dead inside a vehicle on the westbound I-94 exit ramp at Haggerty Road in Van Buren Township.

Van Buren Township police called Michigan State Police to report a Honda Civic stopped on the ramp from westbound I-94 to Haggerty around 2:35 a.m. Friday. A 59-year-old Flint woman was dead inside the car.

Her family has been notified, but officials were not releasing her name.

MSP First Lt. Mike Shaw said in a statement there were no signs of foul play, drug use, or a crash, so the woman's cause of death was unknown. An autopsy was to be conducted by the Wayne County Medical Examiner to determine the next steps in the investigation, he said.

More Letters

Here's a St. Jude prayer that brings miracles

To the editor:

Here's a new St. Jude prayer. You say it seven days in a row and be specific in what miracles you are asking for.

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle, and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near kinsman to Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor to those who invoke your prayer to you, I have come from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power, to come to my urgent need and petition.

Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Mary's, and three Glory B's. At this point ask St. Jude for the needed miracle. Now promise him to intercede by putting his prayer in print. It can be on the internet, newspaper, postcard in a store, etc.

This prayer has come through for myself, and family. I hope you try it and it comes through for you, too.

It really works.

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Abigail L. Schenk earns master's degree from McDaniel College

WESTMINSTER, MD -- Abigail L. Schenk of Van Buren Township earned a master's degree in Human Resources Management from McDaniel College.

McDaniel College conferred a total of 703 master's and bachelor's degrees during the college's 154th Commencement on May 18.

The 296 master's degree recipients came from 23 states, plus the District of Columbia, and 20 countries.



Students accepted their \$5,000 Rotary scholarships on May 21. From left are Chole Collins, Thomas Okubo, Kelly Montgomery, Parker Mears, Madison Leads, and Ellie Kerrigan

Belleville Rotary Club presents six \$5,000 scholarship awards

On May 21, the Rotary Club of Belleville held its 79th - annual scholarship program. In a gathering at Belleville High School which included school administrators, parents, family and the Belleville Rotarians, six \$5,000 scholarships were awarded to Belleville-area resident graduates.

The four academic scholarships went to Chole Collins, Madison Leeds, Parker Mears, and Thomas Okubo. The Charles B. Cozadd Award for service to school and other students was received by Kelly Montgomery and the Donald Juchartz Award for community service was presented to Ellie Kerrigan.

In the meeting, Belleville Rotary Club president Corrine Flynn offered a welcome, an explanation of what Rotary is, and summary of club activities helping individual citizens, communities and other charities in carrying on their work. She included a list of significant world individuals who had been Rotarians.

A highlight of the meeting was an

encouraging talk by 34th District Court Judge Lisa M. Martin who discussed the importance to the scholarship recipients of remembering thankfully those of any level who were there to help and guide them in their success.

Each of the awardees thanked Rotary and introduced their family members in attendance.

After the presentations, event coordinator Mary Jo Suchy thanked all the attendees, the scholarship committee and any others whose work made the evening possible.

Since inception, Rotary Club of Belleville has awarded \$672,500 to Belleville High School students in the club's scholarship program. This year, as in recent years, the primary funding source for the program has been the Charles B. Cozadd Rotary Foundation which assists the club in the funding many of its projects.

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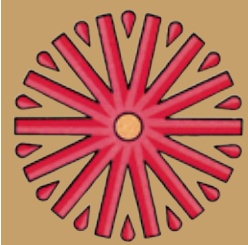
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Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

At the May 13 Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meeting, Karen Mida, left, of the Belleville Area Kiwanis Club announced the club's selection of the district Staff Member of the Year for 2023-24. Fellow Kiwanis member Becky Ross is in back and award winner, Felicia Mahdi, is at right. Mahdi is administrative assistant at Owen Intermediate School. She was nominated by Kari Safieddine, a fifth grade teacher at Owen, who said Mahdi manages to do all of her secretarial and office duties as well as building strong relationships with all of the staff and students. Safieddine said Mahdi learns the students' names and makes them feel appreciated and safe in the school.



An estimated 470 fourth-grade students were present at the 34th District Court Community Day on May 3. They represented all the fourth graders in the Van Buren and the Romulus school districts. The students were given lessons in how the court works, played games, voted on art, and enjoyed the demonstrations with police horses, K-9 crews, fire safety, and others.



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Independent photo by James Otzman

Norfolk & Southern crews worked on the railroad tracks to accommodate Van Buren Township's Iron Belle Trail as well as fix up the tracks in the roadway. East Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township was closed May 20-24 for the work. At its May 7 meeting, the township agreed to pay Norfolk & Southern \$45,290 for its Iron Belle Trail work.



Photo courtesy of Cheryl Sherman

Van Buren Township Police towed an overturned boat on Belleville Lake on Saturday afternoon, May 25, near North Shore Drive. No serious injuries were reported.

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The Belleville High School Navy JROTC stands at attention at the beginning of Monday's Memorial Day parade while the National Anthem is played.



Girl Scout troops rode their bikes in Monday's parade.

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Watkins, Faith named to SNHU Winter 2024 President's List

Parometris Watkins of Van Buren Township and Hope Faith of Belleville have been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Winter 2024 President's List. The winter terms run from January to May. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

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Photo courtesy of Kent Emerson
 The Victoria Commons Community Association brought two rounds of food to the Belleville Police Department and City Hall for the annual National Law Enforcement Week celebration. The food was purchased from Kabob Garden.



Photo courtesy of Charles Larocque
 This peacock has been seen regularly in Country Walk subdivision in Van Buren Township and residents are not sure where it comes from.

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RUMMAGE SALE

BELLEVILLE SENIOR COOP RUMMAGE SALE. 575 Sumpter Rd. May 30, May 31 & June 1, 9am-5pm. Lots of good stuff. 05/30

MOVING SALE

LARGE YARD SALE. June 6, 7 & 8, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. 12260 Hannan Rd., Romulus. Many household items, dishes, china, furniture, antique cook stove, antique armoire, dining room tables, Christmas decorations, women's clothing & yard tools. 06/06

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MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE. 41167 S. I-94 Service Dr, VBT. Thurs. & Fri., May 30 & 31, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Clothes, home goods, furniture & more. 05/30

2 FAMILY SALE. Friday, May 31 & Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Antioch Baptist Church at 6538 Rawsonville Rd., Belleville, MI. 05/30

3 FAMILY SALE. 48475 Bemis Rd. May 30, 31 & June 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bar, armoire, dryer, gas fireplace, antiques & shoes. 05/30

YARD SALE. May 29 - June 2. 6637 Senate, Presidential Estates. Miscellaneous household items, most priced under \$5. 05/30

ENORMOUS MULTI-FAMILY SALE. 47475 Bentley Dr., VBT. 6/6-6/7, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 6/8, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Furniture, baby items, toys, children's books, pool & lake inflatables. Household items galore, bed sets-full size, artwork, home décor, holiday decorations, deck/patio rugs & much more! 06/06

GREENBRIAR SUB. MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALES. Located at Belleville & Van Born Roads. June 6,7, & 8, 2024. Thursday to Saturday, 9am-5pm. 06/06

801 SAVAGE, 3 FAMILY. June 7, 9-5, June 8, 9-12. Outdoor furniture & stuff. Men's & women's wear & accessories. Home décor & furniture. Kitchenware, bed & bath. 06/06

ANNUAL SUB-WIDE SALE. Belle Pointe Estates, Belleville Rd. at Ecorse. June 6,7,8 & 9, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 06/06

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

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



Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 3)

time.

Clerk Hurst said she didn't know it was part time and that's why she left.

Trustee Matthew Oddy said the board members have to follow township procedures in hiring and that's why they are correcting their action now. He said that's also why they said there had to be

three bids at the last meeting. He referred to the work in the supervisor's office.

Patterson voted no on the motion to hire Massel for the part-time position because he objected to the procedure used. Supervisor Tim Bowman also voted no.

The motion passed 5-2.

On a related agenda item to pay any temporary part-time position at a rate of \$23.33 per hour effective April 10, as accepted by AFSCME, Patterson questioned the rate.

He said he agreed there needed to be an increase in rate, since it hadn't been raised in 10 years, but he thinks \$23.33 is excessive and it should be more like \$19, \$20, or \$21 an hour. He said they got approval from the union, but he has some hesitation on it. He did then vote for the proposed raise, as did the rest of the board.

In other business at the 33-minute meeting on May 14 the board:

- Approved accepting the 2023-24 Wayne County Millage allocation of \$13,517 for improvements to Banotai Park, including a flotation system; full commercial-grade aluminum framing, support system, anchoring, safety rails, and deckway; a concrete shore platform to gain walkway access to the dock system; and winter storage anchoring along the pond shoreline;
- Approved a resolution asking the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to preserve the current mapping of Michigan's 4th Senate district that keeps Belleville, Sumpter

Township, and Van Buren Township together;

- Approve paying an invoice for \$1,316 from Bush & Son using ARPA funds for the delivery of limestone at the Willis Ct. cemetery;
- Approved extending the term of the temporary DPW employee Rachel Scott until July 24;
- Approved the committee to interview candidates for the full-time AFSCME Department of Public Works position. Patterson asked if they could have names of the committee members they were approving and Burdick said it would be Trustee Don LaPorte, John Danci, Scott Holtz, and Karen Armatis, and he would need one more. Supervisor Tim Bowman volunteered to serve on the committee;
- Removed from the agenda without comment the 10-page proposal and retainer fee of \$2,500 to SSA Architects of Ann Arbor to design the supervisor's office renovation;

• Heard a presentation by Bill Kenyon of the Maxwell Leadership Certified Team on how to work toward changing the culture of employees to improve customer service at the township. Patterson, finance director Scott Holtz, and township manager Anthony Burdick talked to Kenyon and invited him to the meeting. He said even though the staff is good, there is always room for improvement;

• Heard Public Safety Director/Police Chief Eric Luke announce that the top intersection for accidents is now Rawsonville and Willis, followed closely by Rawsonville and Judd;

• Heard Fire Chief Rick Brown report

there were 109 runs in April with 83 of them medical and one a structure fire;

- Heard Trustee Tim Rush remind everyone that the Council of Western Wayne will hold its next meeting at 9:30 a.m. June 14 in the Sumpter Township hall. This is its last meeting before summer break;
- Heard Burdick report they held the first Parks & Recreation Committee meeting in about four months. He also said Supervisor Bowman would lay a wreath at the Veterans Memorial during the Memorial Day ceremony;
- Heard Trustee LaPorte praise Fire Chief Brown and Jamie Goode who successfully conducted the switchover to the CLEMIS information system. He said CLEMIS will give the department a better grasp on all their runs; and
- Heard resident Mary Ban, who said she was back after an absence from the meetings with her new knee, car, and walker. She thanked the fire department and EMS for transporting her daughter-in-law to the hospital in an emergency situation the weekend before.

Keystone scholarships go to Lyla Mallari, Logan Peterman

The winners of the 2024 Keystone Academy PTO and School Board Perseverance Scholarship are Lyla Mallari and Logan Peterman.

Both students attend Belleville High School and were recognized at the BHS Senior Awards night on Wednesday, May 14, as recipients of the Keystone scholarship.

Lyla and Logan will also be recognized at the Keystone Academy 8th Grade Promotion ceremony on June 6 at Keystone Academy where they will be presented with their scholarship certificate along with their \$1,000 award.

The Keystone Academy PTO would thank all of the scholarship applicants for participating in the 2024 Perseverance Scholarship, said PTO Treasurer Michelle Hernandez. "We would also like to congratulate all of our former Keystone scholars who are part of the 2024 graduating class," she said.

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More Letters

Sumpter businessman wants business license

To the editor and to my fellow citizens of Sumpter Township:

My name is John Chapman. I have a shop on Sumpter Road that I bought in 2012. I changed the zoning to the correct one and began rehabilitating the building (it had been on the tear down list for a long time). I began cleaning the property and repairing it enough to slow the deterioration rate. Then I had a horrible accident.

I cut both of my lower extremities off. The first person there was a friend of mine Bill Hamm. He was a volunteer fire fighter and a trustee with the township. He would have been the last person I saw if I would have died. He is sorely missed.

In the months that ensued after I recovered enough to start driving, I went and saw Johnny Vawters, the township supervisor at the time. I said "Johnny please, I want to make a living on the property I own. "As long as I keep moving forward, please don't lose patience." Personally, I think I kept my word to Johnny Vawters, even though he never got to see it. All of the people that said it's just gonna be another trash spot in Sumpter are still around. Substandard? I think not. It's a fine and useful building. It is an asset to the community.

I have been slowly but consistently moving forward year by year. I did not have any money, filed bankruptcy, lost my house and lots of property, lost both my feet, almost died. A month out of the hospital I drove myself to the store, unloaded my wheelchair, and got gas in my truck all by myself. I began walking 6 months later. I got my first set of legs on Christmas. My grandson and I learned to walk at the same time. It was a good Christmas.

Six months later I was driving the tractor that took my legs. I didn't put the brush hog back on it... that time. I don't know exactly how long it took me to put a big Band Aid over my shop or to shore up the roof. To jack it in place and weld steel I-beams to support it.



Meanwhile all I could do was sell tires and use that money to put back in my shop. I didn't have much. I salvaged the structure and retained my rental which I had to move into. I rebuilt my life. I have complied with every reasonable request that the township has lawfully asked me to. I have done what I can.

I have been complimented by all of our inspectors. I don't ask for any special bar-lowering standard. I do like paying professionals for their opinions. I feel that they deserve to be paid for their opinions and advice. I am also a professional. I am a Master Certified Mechanic in Automotive and Heavy-Duty Trucks. They hang on the wall right next to my Old Sumpter Township Business Licenses.

Every week I get people that used to come to me for years and years. Unfortunately, I don't want to get too busy. I'm disabled and most of the people that are here are disabled. I don't really want to work that hard. All we want is to be as useful as we can.

I want to start my new hobby soon. I'm going to be scuba-certified, by my next vacation. God willing, I don't fall off the tractor again.

Unfortunately, I am coming to the point

of this letter. There is someone in our town hall that seems to want to bully me under color of law, BECAUSE HE SAYS SO. I have to comply or ... I am cut off from the township. According to him I will not be able to make use of the township services. Well, I don't ask a lot. I hope that doesn't apply to fire fighters or EMS or police. Does it mean I can't use the parks or maybe the water department? If I go to pay my taxes will the Treasurer not collect them? Those people actually like me, I think. Issuing a township business license is part of the building department. Refusing to reinspect is not under the division of powers inherent to the supervisor. A township license once completed isn't even in the purpose of the supervisor's powers. I have paid for my license. I have been inspected. The repairs have been made and you won't let them reinspect me because YOU SAY SO. Now may I ask what your game plan is to be? Because mine might be Title 42 Section 1983.

Thank you,

John Chapman

John's Auto Repair, Sumpter Township

Matter of priorities: Fix park or redo office

To the editor:

In Sumpter Township's Banotai Park playground you will find one swing which had snapped its chain and has either hung broken or wrapped around one of the metal poles for years now. One child's ride has its

safety handle broken off; a very dangerous situation if a child were to be placed on it, most likely by a young sibling.

Another child's ride has been damaged and replaced with a construction barrel, which has since seen its own share of vandalism. These problems, along with others, have gone unattended for over three years, despite complaints by myself and other residents.

I suppose it is a matter of priorities. There are much more pressing things for this administration than the maintenance of our parks and the safety of our children.

New furniture for the supervisor's office, for example. At the April 23 board meeting our township supervisor asked to renovate his office area at a cost of \$55,860. Reportedly, an additional \$2,500 would be paid to a "consultant" to decide where to put all of the new stuff. Let's not forget that back in July of 2021 the supervisor did get new office equipment. According to the then-township administrator Michelle Cole, the desk, by itself, back then, cost \$1,800.

Both trustees Matthew Oddy and Timothy Rush voiced support for this most recent proposal of expenditure of taxpayers' money, citing, in one instance, the need for extra space and furniture in case they need to meet with a resident.

I should point out that they already have that space. For the greater part of

(continued on page 17)

Public Notice

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a top height of 197 feet on a 203-foot guyed telecommunications tower at the approx. vicinity of 24395 Elwell Road, Belleville, Wayne County, MI 48111, Latitude: 42-7-23.9, Longitude: -83-29-55.0. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Elise J., e.johnson@trileaf.com, 1821 Walden Office Square, Suite 500, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173 - 630.227.0202.*

Published: May 30, 2024

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More Letters

(continued from page 16)

the year both the supervisor's and deputy supervisor's offices are vacant. You would be just as likely to see Sasquatch sitting in one of those offices than either the supervisor or his deputy.

Also, if they ever do need an extra chair or two, in case of multiple visitors, Walmart currently has brand new, heavy-duty metal folding chairs on sale for \$13.98 each. And just down the hall from the supervisor's office, to the north, there is a room which is vacant most of the time, except occasionally when it is used by the township assessor, on Tuesdays and Thursdays only, during the day. This room has a large round table in it, surrounded by many chairs. This room is called a "Conference Room."

In addition, just down the road from township hall, at Wear and Sumpter roads, there is another building which sits vacant most of the time. It has a large table and chairs in it, and electricity, and heat and a refrigerator, and it is clean and well maintained. It has been used, off and on, for meetings. Total driving time from the parking lot at township hall to that building's parking lot, while driving the speed limit (or thereabouts), is 39 seconds. Yes, it is a matter of priorities. Common

sense, however, does not seem to be one of them.

Randall Miller, resident
Sumpter Township

Where are our rights? We don't want tracking

To the editor:

Where are our rights? We do not want to be tracked by our cars nor cell phones driving down Main Street.

Once other cities know artificial intelligence is tracking, do you honestly think they will visit Belleville? Word is already out and our Main Street businesses will lose customers.

Cell phones are being hacked from the left to the right. China is investing heavily in AI - Fact.

If this is passed, an investment of horse and buggies and phone booths will make us safe.

Advertise on local channels as other cities do.

If this is passed, someone please open a bike shop with huge baskets.

Last question: If we walk onto Main Street do we have to remove our shoes so DNA can be done to see where we came from?

Anonymously signed
To Remain Safe!

P.S. The only AI we want is Against It.

Editor's Note: The AI proposal is expected to be on the agenda for action of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority's 6 p.m. June 19 regular meeting at the Belleville Area District Library.

WCCC sets Robotics for Youth at Haggerty Road campus June-August

Wayne County Community College will present classes in Robotics 4 Youth this summer at its Ted Scott Campus, 9555 Haggerty Rd., Van Buren Township.

Classes for those aged 9 to 12 will explore the world of robotics and coding through the use of the LEGO Education SIK. Through this interactive learning experience, students will design, build and program their own robots using the LEGO app.

CRN: 64375, Course # YCLS-5252 will be on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., June 1-22. Fee is \$75.

CRN: 64376, Course # YCLS-5252 will be on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon, July 6-Aug. 3. Fee is \$75.

Classes for ages 9-14 will expand the student's knowledge of robotics through critical thinking, problem solving, and learning computer programming concepts using python programming language.

CRN: 64422, Course #YCLS-5232 will be on Saturdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 6-Aug. 3. Fee is \$50.

For more information, visit www.wcccd.edu or call (734) 699-7008.

Wigginton teams up for World Record in 42,017' tandem skydive

On May 25, as many were just waking up for their holiday weekend, Jim Wigginton, a Van Buren Township resident, and Alex Coker of Memphis, Tennessee, were in Memphis making history.

The duo broke the Guinness World Record for the highest HALO tandem skydive, exiting the plane at an altitude of 42,017 feet (higher than most commercial airline flights) and high enough to watch the curvature of the earth for quite a while.

Temperature was -74 degrees; freefall time 2 minutes, 27 seconds; highest freefall speed nearly 300 mph. For comparison, most skydivers jump from 10,000-12,000 feet, with a temperature of about 36 degrees colder than ground level, freefall for 10-12 seconds, depending on when they deploy their parachutes, and reach a top speed of approximately 120 mph.

This makes 8 world records for Wigginton, a Vietnam-era Marine, who has been called the 7-mile man for being the only person to skydive from 37,000 ft. and also go to the deepest part of the earth (Challenger Deep) nearly 7 miles deep, in a submersible.

While most of his records are related to skydiving, he also holds other records, including the fastest time to climb or descend 1 million stairs.

While most of his records are in honor of Folds of Honor, a veteran-run charity (foldsof Honor.org) that has provided scholarships to over 53,000 families of fallen or disabled military and first responders over the last 17 years, as well as the Punya Thyroid Cancer Foundation at the University of Michigan (<https://victors.us/thyroid>), this jump was also made specifically to honor Thomas J. Noonan III, whose tragic death on an identical jump, led to significant safety improvements that made this jump successful.



They're reading the *Independent* Everywhere

Jeff Kotlarek of Romulus reads his *Independent* on a cruise to Cozumel to celebrate his 60th birthday.

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



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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 315 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, May 19:

0047 – assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
0055 – domestic, Maple Dr.
0214 – noise complaint, Borgman Ave.
0503 – intrusion alarm, Vernon St.
xxxx – repossession, Parkwood Dr.
0912 – personal injury accident, Michigan Ave.
0943 – welfare check, Van Born Rd.
1213 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
1336 – domestic, Estates
1341 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1409 – noise complaint, Bog Rd.
1451 – assist fire dept., Sheldon Rd.
1541 – assist other dept., Van Born Rd.
1708 – fraud, Vernon St.
1755 – domestic, Oak Ln.
1840 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
1918 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Jeremy Rd.
1940 – domestic, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service
2022 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
2037 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2111 – private property/property damage accident, Westlake Cir.

Monday, May 20:

0315 – assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0714 – larceny, Van Born Rd./Haggerty Rd.
0852 – animal complaint, Amanda Rd.
1220 – larceny, Alden Ave.
1309 – assist other dept., Sumpter Rd.
1319 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Savage Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1456 – property damage accident, N. I-275/Ecorse
1513 – lost property/child, W. Huron River Dr.
1528 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1605 – civil matter, Estates
xxxx – larceny, Riggs Rd.
1852 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1826 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1956 – motorist assist, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.
2054 – 911 welfare check, Country Walk Blvd.
2130 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Lake Pointe Pass
2157 – welfare check, Renton Rd.
2254 – noise complaint, Lighthouse Dr.
2218 – unattended death, Van Born Rd.
2227 – 911 welfare check, Van Born Rd.

Tuesday, May 21:

0046 – traffic offense, Denton Rd./Ecorse Rd.
0800 – intrusion alarm, Samuel Barton Dr.
1017 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1147 – fraud, Sandlewood Dr.
1244 – assist other dept., Meadows Cir.
1345 – animal complaint, Sheldon Rd.
1515 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1723 – fraud, N. Woodbury Dr.
1829 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville boat launch
1914 – overdose, E. Huron River Dr.
1932 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
2125 – property damage accident, Beck/Ecorse
2221 – welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.
2315 – threat, Holly Ln.
2322 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Lake Pointe Pass
2343 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd./Andover Dr.

Wednesday, May 22:

0211 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
xxxx – misc. complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0702 – neighbor trouble, Greenbriar Dr.
0831 – welfare check, Huron River Dr.
0850 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
0858 – misc. complaints, Tyler Rd.
0947 – lost property/child, Bemis Rd.
1009 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1214 – trespassing, Van Buren Estates
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Marlowe Ave.
1033 – welfare check, Anna Dr.
xxxx – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1140 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, W. Archwood Dr.

1333 – intrusion alarm, Lake Pointe Pass
1403 – traffic offense, Belleville/Yost
1501 – intrusion alarm, Laguna Dr.
1511 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd. / Martinsville Rd.
1526 – fight, Morton Taylor Rd./Bradley Dr.
1543 – civil matter, Fret Rd.
xxxx – misc. complaints, Quirk Rd.
1640 – assist other dept., Edison Ave.
1751 – personal injury accident, W. Huron River
xxxx – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1929 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1927 – found property/child, Belleville Rd.
1940 – background information, Tyler Rd.
1957 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2005 – civil matter, Holly Ln.
2007 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2016 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
2042 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2132 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2158 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2200 – malicious destruction of property, Holly

Thursday, May 23:

0002 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0055 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Rawsonville Rd.
0106 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0115 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
0240 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd./Sadie Ln.
0300 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd./Walden Blvd.
0328 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hoefl Rd./Togowtee Pass
0329 – 911 welfare check, N. Ponderosa Trail
xxxx – repossession, Jackson St.
0640 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
0653 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0752 – personal injury accident, Denton/Ecorse
xxxx – repossession, Village Green Ln.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Denton Rd.
1204 – assist other dept., Victoria St.
1259 – malicious destruction of property, Haggerty
1316 – civil matter, Estate Dr.
1321 – fraud, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1358 – vehicle lockout, Village Green Ln.
1528 – missing person, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1556 – warrant arrest, Victorian/Aberdeen
1614 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1639 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1727 – fight, Bemis Rd./Bak Rd.
1852 – civil matter, Victoria St.
1945 – threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2146 – missing person, Bristol
2228 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Vine St.

Friday, May 24:

0035 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0053 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0206 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0238 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, WB I-94 ramp/Haggerty
0421 – intrusion alarm, Van Born
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0752 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor & Van Born Rd.
0957 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1221 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1231 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.
1306 – traffic offense, N. I-275 & E. I-94
1309 – assist fire dept., Bayshore Dr.
1347 – misc. complaint, Forestdale Dr.
1403 – civil matter, Park Estates Dr.
1406 – fraud, McBride Rd.
1458 – private property impound, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1556 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1646 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
1843 – civil matter, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1858 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1906 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1941 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2013 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
2016 – property damage accident, Hull Rd.
2107 – property damae accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
2209 – assist other dept. E St.
2322 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Dartmoor Cir.
2338 – noise complaint, Chandler St.

2342 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
Saturday, May 25:
0049 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Fret Rd.
0436 – 911 welfare check, rest area
0517 – welfare check, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
0807 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.
0815 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Truman
0957 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1007 – suspicious person /vehicle/circumstance, Holly Ln.
1310 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1310 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1125 – malicious destruction of property, Lake Villa Dr.
1159 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1158 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – juvenile complaint, Lancaster Dr.
1225 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1212 – trespassing, N. Woodbury Dr.
1216 – intrusion alarm, Westlake Cir.
1403 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1608 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1525 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Oak Ln.

1530 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
1549 – intrusion alarm, Tyler Rd.
1622 – lake complaint, North Shore Dr.
1707 – trespassing, Park Estates Dr.
1704 – neighbor trouble, Ironwood Dr.
1705 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1915 – domestic, Andover Dr.
1956 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.
2028 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2102 – harassment call, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2106 – property check, W. Huron River Dr.
2128 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2318 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Huron River Dr.
2341 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2357 – noise complaint, Victoria St.

Also, on this week's log are 126 traffic stops, 64 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 19:

1115 – traffic stop, Melody Ln./W. Huron River
1149 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd. / Estrada Dr.
1356 – sexual assault, E. Huron River Dr.
1824 – civil matter, Main St.
1842 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Columbia Ave.

2026 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
2041 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.
2102 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.

Monday, May 20:

0615 – misc. complaint, N. Liberty St.
1000 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1023 – abandoned auto, Clarence St.
1308 – trespassing, Sumpter Rd.
1715 – property damage accident, Main St.
1744 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
2039 – misc. complaint, Main St.
2121 – misc. complaint, Main St.

Tuesday, May 21:

0122 – found property/child, E. Columbia
0847 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
xxxx – repossession, Carmell St.
2117 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Carmell St.
2126 – assist fire dept., Wexford Ave.

Wednesday, May 22:

0017 – traffic stop, South Industrial Park Dr.
0552 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.
xxxx – assist fire dept., Estrada Dr.
0921 – private property/property damage accident, W. Columbia Ave.
1245 – property damage accident, Main St.
1452 – traffic offense, Victorian Ln.
1510 – larceny, South St.
1639 – assist citizen, Edison St.
1831 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, High St.

1920 – sexual assault, Owen St.
2212 – noise complaint, High St.
2309 – intrusion alarm, Main St.

Thursday, May 23:

0905 – welfare check, Oxford Ct.
1013 – fraud, Victorian Ln.
1211 – larceny from auto, W. Columbia Ave.
1445 – parking complaint, Victorian Commons
1539 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Victorian Ln./Aberdeen Ct.
1708 – threat, Carmell St.
1945 – welfare check, N. Edgemont Ave.
2100 – animal complaint, Victorian Ln.
2211 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.
2238 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. Biggs Ave.

Friday, May 24:

0749 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0912 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
1154 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave./Main St.
1153 – assist citizen, Main St.
2010 – misc. complaint, Carmell St.
2037 – intrusion alarm, Henry St.
2223 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Huron River Dr.
2325 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Columbia Ave.
2344 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.

Saturday, May 25:

0819 – assist other dept., High St.
1130 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.
1235 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Waterbury Ct.
1651 – assist fire dept., Main St./Third St.
1712 – 911 welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
1748 – intrusion alarm, Bell Cove Ct.
1827 – welfare check, N. Liberty St.
2029 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Edgemont Ave.
2200 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
2300 – shooting, W. Columbia Ave.
2301 – welfare check, Henry St.
There are six traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 19:

0027 – assault, Arizona St.
0034 – welfare check, 48000 Judd Rd.
0112 – family trouble, Wayside Dr.
0148 – suspicious circumstance, Elwell/Willow
0241 – suspicious circumstance, Wayside Dr.
0527 – death investigation, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.
0637 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
0941 – follow-up investigation, out of township
1045 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
1148 – 911 hang up, Oregon St.
1153 – death investigation, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1258 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1317 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1350 – welfare check, Birch Dr.
1353 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1358 – suspicious circumstance, Clark Rd./Wear
1530 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1726 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Weimer Dr.
1814 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willis/California
1818 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2025 – disorderly person, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
2112 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico St.
2212 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2235 – suspicious person, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.

Monday, May 20:

0056 – assist other agency, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
0832 – harassment complaint, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0901 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Carleton West
1626 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1921 – assault, Oregon St.
1928 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.
1944 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
2012 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, May 21:

0105 – death investigation, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0432 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
0912 – citizen assist, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.

(Continued on page 19)

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Musings
 By Janet Millard
 Independent Advertising Director



The weather blessed the CBC's first annual Memorial Day Parade. There was no band but hopefully they will be prepared to join in next year. There were around 30 units and the town showed up to cheer them on. I saw one child with a boat load of candy. The Belleville Central Business Community added a Tractor Parade to Harvest Fest in 2022, but the community has not had a large summer parade since 2019 for Strawberry Festival. Both the parade and the VFW/PLAV ceremony were filmed. Go to the Belleville Central Business Community Face Book page for the video.

The Belleville Farmers Market and Egan's Car show start on Monday. Over the month of June there will be over 60 different vendors/crafters at the Farmers Market, and if the weather cooperates, the car show could have over 100 entries every Monday. A large crowd is expected so come early and stay late. See the ad in the paper today.

Don't forget that Saturday, June 1, from noon to 4 p.m. is the Annual Splurge Day at Crafted Gift Shop and Beany's. This is the fifth year, and it will be a great afternoon. See their ad in the paper today.

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



- June 1 - Nathan Millard
- June 3 - Shawnee Lawson
- June 4 - John Juriga
- June 5 - William Millard

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

- 1001 - animal complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
- 1031 - suspicious person, Willow Rd./Martinsville
- 1243 - civil matter, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
- 1309 - suspicious circumstance, 47000 bl. Bemis
- 1459 - suspicious circumstance, Nevada St.
- 1543 - welfare check, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1617 - 911 hangup, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1722 - welfare check, Delaware
- 1907 - follow-up investigation, 47000 bl. Wear
- 2042 - suspicious circumstance, Delaware St.
- 2042 - assault, Utah St.
- 2111 - family trouble, Birch Dr.
- 2213 - welfare check, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.
- 2301 - noise complaint, Utah St.

Wednesday, May 22:

- 0050 - assist other agency, Sumpter Rd./Bemis
- 0248 - fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.
- 0641 - animal complaint, Willis Rd./Rawsonville
- 0713 - fire dept. assist, Hickory Dr.
- 0924 - fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 0932 - fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1015 - property damage accident, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Thursday, May 23:

- 0357 - suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1138 - fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1321 - follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Willis
- 1325 - 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 1430 - fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1431 - fire dept. assist, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1545 - property damage accident, California St.
- 1554 - traffic complaint/hazard, 19000 bl. Karr
- 1558 - juvenile matter, Creekside Dr./Rustic Ln.

- 1606 - mental health call, Nevada St.
- 1704 - traffic complaint/hazard, Willis/Elwell
- 1707 - neighbor dispute, Washington St.
- 1756 - fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1951 - family trouble, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 2102 - civil matter, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 2102 - citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
- 2113 - fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
- 2124 - 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 2233 - assault, Magnolia Dr.
- 2308 - fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.

Friday, May 24:

- 0118 - welfare check, Carriage Ln.
- 0132 - noise complaint, Oregon St.
- 0906 - 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 0943 - follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
- 0945 - property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter
- 1156 - suspicious person, 21000 bl. Clemmons Ct.
- 1313 - animal complaint, Birch Dr.
- 1403 - property damage accident, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Saturday, May 25:

- 0020 - civil matter, 8600 bl. Meadow Springs Ln.
 - 0822 - assist other agency, Rawsonville/Rustic Ln.
 - 0950 - alarm, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
 - 1108 - 911 hangup, Oregon St.
 - 1306 - civil matter, Washington St.
 - 1320 - civil matter, Rustic Ln.
 - 1349 - suspicious person, Washington St.
 - 1454 - citizen assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
 - 1649 - assault, Carriage Ln.
 - 1911 - 911 hangup, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
 - 1937 - alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
 - 2003 - misdemeanor warrant arrest, Sherwood Rd./Willow Rd.
 - 2018 - suspicious person, 17000 bl. Martinsville
 - 2033 - operating while intoxicated arrest, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
 - 2135 - fire dept. assist, Birch Ct.
- Also on this week's log are 174 patrol checks, 63 traffic stops, and 10 misc. details.



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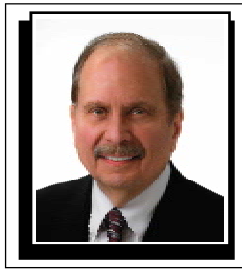
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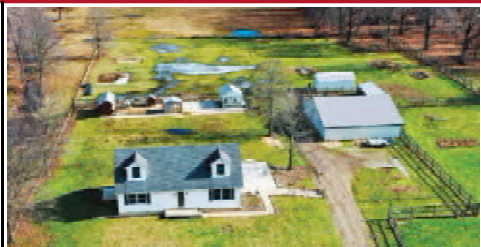
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