



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.32 Thursday, August 8, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E



Independent photos by Elaine Gutierrez

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts recently replaced the hanging banners of graduating Belleville High School seniors along Main Street with banners showing creations by artists local to 48111 zip code.

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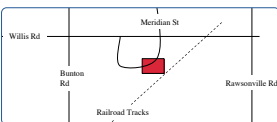
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Guiding Harbor to host Family Picnic for community

Guiding Harbor is hosting a Family Picnic at Girlstown Residential, 11875 Quirk Rd., on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. We open the residence to the public annually and provide tours of the home.

Foster and adoptive families, staff and their families, and members of the community come together at the Family Picnic to eat, celebrate, enjoy crafts, games, and fellowship. Backpacks and supplies are provided to our foster children in preparation for the school year to come. This free event is a great opportunity for you to see the work being done in your community.

We are very proud of the work being done at Guiding Harbor with Michigan's foster children and their families. People often remark that the work we do must be so sad. While it is sad that parents and children experience hardships, it is also very rewarding to support families as they overcome challenges and find success. The foster care system is imperfect, but we have seen vast improvements over time.

The earliest form of orphanages in the U.S. were created in the 1700s. They were established to care not only for children whose parents died, but also children from families who were unable to care for them due to poverty or addiction. As a result of the population boom, influx of immigrants, and widespread poverty, orphanages often were overcrowded, understaffed, and lacked resources for proper care. While orphanages were better for the children than the streets, they still could not provide what every child needed and deserved—a family environment in which they could grow and thrive.

From the 1850s – 1930s thousands of orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children were placed on trains and sent from Eastern cities, primarily New York, to rural areas in the Midwest and other regions for adoption or foster care. This was known as the "Orphan Train." The primary goal was to relocate these children to rural families where they could have a better chance at a stable and productive life. The belief was that rural families could offer a more wholesome environment compared to the crowded and often impoverished conditions of city orphanages. The orphan trains moved approximately 200,000 children over the years. While many of these children found loving and supportive homes, the experience was mixed. Some faced hardships, including being separated from siblings or facing challenges in adapting to new environments.

Beginning in 1860, boarding schools for Native children were established to assimilate the children into White

Guiding Harbor
By Jennifer Trotter



American society by requiring children to ignore their languages, customs, and beliefs often under the threat of physical punishment and even torture. U.S. Native children were forcibly removed from their homes, families and communities. They were taken to boarding schools throughout the U.S. Many children never returned home.

During the early to mid-20th Century, orphanages were overcrowded and in poor condition. There was a lack of individual attention given to the children and their needs were not being met. White children and Black children were placed in separate orphanages. The conditions for Black children were even more abhorrent than for their White counterparts. There was inconsistent care and a high potential for abuse.

Thanks to reformers pushing for change, by the 1950s we saw an end to most orphanages in the U.S. This is the time in which Girlstown was opened in Belleville with the vision for a rehabilitative program not a soulless institution. In the 1960s, foster care had become a government-

funded program.

Prevention programs emerged in the 1970s to help children from entering foster care. U.S. Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) to protect the best interests of children and promote the stability and security of Indian Tribes and Native families.

African American children were, and continue to be, disproportionately represented in the foster care system. The Fleming Rule, a legal principle in the U.S., focused on the best interests of the child but resulted in greater surveillance of poor families, where poverty was at times misrepresented as "neglect." The foster care system sometimes failed to provide equitable resources and support for African American families, which impacted their ability to retain custody of their children or successfully navigate the system.

While the origins of foster care have garnered mistrust of the system, the recent decades have given way to significant system reform. There are many more resources available for birth families, foster families, relatives and agencies. Strict oversight and regulation, as well as better training for professionals and foster parents, has resulted in improved child safety. Advances in science and a better understanding of human behavior, better positions us to promote healing from trauma, substance use, and mental illness.

Even with all these improvements, stigma and misconceptions about foster care leave the community with questions and uncertainty.

Currently in Michigan, there are around 10,000 children in foster care. Most children enter foster care due to reasons of neglect. More than half of the children in care will return home to their parent(s). Approximately 1,600 children last year were adopted from foster care and 1,300 young people "age out" of the system each year.

Guiding Harbor began providing Foster Care case management in 1989 and has served hundreds of children. While the uncertainty of the child welfare system is imbedded into societal opinions, Guiding Harbor strives to change the narrative about foster care. We leverage the small size of our agency to guarantee individualized experience for those we serve. We practice ethical and transparent service delivery to create more positive outcomes for children. We are committed to inclusivity and creating space for all children and families to thrive.

Next month, I will share more specifically about the variety of services we offer at Guiding Harbor and what we are doing for children in care. If you'd like to read more about Guiding Harbor's Mission and Values, please visit: <http://guidingharbor.org>



O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Huron River Watershed Council listens to Belleville

In its latest report online, the Huron River Watershed Council reports on two listening sessions it had with Belleville residents in January about their perspectives on the Huron River and local water. Since spring 2023 they have been reaching out to residents in three Huron River Watershed communities to hear their concerns about clean water. They also listened to residents of Ypsilanti and Flat Rock.

The report said Belleville Lake is thought of as the crown jewel of the Belleville community, but the water quality of the lake has degraded over time. Upstream pollution is seen as a primary driver of declining water quality.

Boating is one of most common water-related activities in the Belleville area, but many residents avoid swimming due to concerns about water quality and health impacts.

Algal blooms impede recreation and water-related activity in the Belleville area, the report said. Industrial pollutants from upstream, nearby businesses, landfills, and airports are of high concern, including PFAS as a primary concern resulting in a decline in fishing and swimming on the lake.

The Huron River Watershed Council is seeking ways to help Belleville Lake return to being the jewel of the community. See its report on www.hrwc.org and tell them what you think.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The city of Belleville sent out an email message last Thursday, with an update the next day concerning trash pickup.

On Friday, the update said: "Due to the transition to a new refuse collection vendor, garbage pickup services for city residents will be delayed until Saturday 8/3/2024 at 6 AM. Please set trash out for pickup on Friday evening. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause."

At a recent meeting, the city council chose Stevens Disposal and Recycling for its new trash pickup vendor. The present vendor Priority Waste is transitioning out and Stevens is transitioning in, thus the pickup problem.

The city's former trash collector was Republic Waste, but a year ago it sold its city pickup contract to Priority Waste. Although Priority Waste bid on the new contract this summer, after all was said and done the council indicated it was going to choose Stevens. Priority Waste offered to match the Stevens' bid, which was lower, "dollar for dollar," but the council did not take them up on that offer.

Stevens is a family owned and operated firm established in 1988 and based in Peterburg, MI. It serves Southeastern Michigan and Northwestern Ohio.

Belleville Mayor Voigt mentioned the problems Priority Waste was having in other communities when the city turned down its last-minute offer. In published accounts over last weekend, Priority Waste representatives said the fleet they bought this summer from GFL Environmental, along with 73 Michigan municipal contracts, turned out to be in very poor condition and although GFL



allegedly told Priority Waste that about 60 trucks were undriveable and needed repairs, it was more like 200.

People throughout the region are complaining about uncollected trash piling up in front of their homes due to Priority Waste's current problems. The trucks are being serviced as fast as possible, with some being sent to Ohio for fixing, according to reports.

We're glad the city of Belleville, which provides pickup for our office building, is not one of the communities tied up in Priority Waste's problems - except for last weekend's late pickup.

I stepped up from my desk last week to take a quick trip to the restroom and immediately fell to the floor. (Gravity is sooo strong.) My right foot was turned all the way around so the sole of my shoe was facing the ceiling. Since then, I've been hobbling around and icing my ankle when I could.

First, I used a frozen package of Brussel Sprouts from the freezer wrapped in a towel. Had to cook the vegetables when I was done using them that day so I didn't waste the thawing food. Then later in the week, my son bought a nice wrap-around gadget that had room for a gel packet that can be put in the freezer, or microwave, if needed. It looked nicer, but it did the same thing - cooled my sore ankle.

I'm staying off my foot as much as possible and trying to get it to heal. The

swelling is down some. I've been fortunate to have had no meetings last week and only one coming up this week, so I can read a book with my foot up each night. The older I get, the longer it takes me to heal.

I'm really enjoying the book, however. It's 700 years of the history of three families in "Poland" researched and compiled by the late James Michener in story form. Coincidentally, the book is about 700 pages long.

The Farmers Market each Monday on Fourth Street Place and Fourth Street Square has been threatened with rain many times this summer, but each time the rain passed by. They were expecting a big rain on Monday, as predicted by the television channels, but the big dark clouds went right on by and nary a drop fell on the market.

Mother Nature smiles on the market. The auto show, also held on Mondays, takes up Main Street from Third to Fifth streets and is more apt to cancel if a storm is predicted. Those cars are all polished up and rain would ruin it all. But, they held their show on Monday, as well. Wayne County Commission candidate Tim Craiger had a big red tent up at the corner of Third Street at the car show and gave out free hot dogs.



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

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Musings
 By Janet Millard
 Independent Advertising Director



Friday, Aug. 9, is the Van Buren Eagles' fundraiser for the Ann Arbor Safe House. Music is by DJ Anthony Richendollar – always a good time! See their ad for particulars.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Aug. 8** – The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presents Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. Tonight the music is by "The Magic Bus."
- **Friday, Aug. 9** – Van Buren Eagles #3996, at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township, hosts a Luau fundraiser for the Safe House Center in Ann Arbor. 100% of proceeds go to Ann Arbor Safe House. Social hour and food truck open at 4:30 p.m., guest speaker at 6:30 p.m., and DJ Anthony Richendollar at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. Open to the public.
- **Thursday, Aug. 15** – Belleville Bridge Walk, 5:30 p.m. Taste of Belleville from 6 to 8 p.m. at High Street / Horizon Park in Belleville with a DJ from 6 to 7 p.m. The Taste and DJ are sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community. Also, the Music Lakeside concert at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park will feature "Jive Colossus."
- **Friday, Aug. 16** – Steak Roast at 5 p.m. at Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. DJ/Karaoke Mix at 7:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, Aug. 17** – Join Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus, for its 110th year anniversary celebration of the VFW, starting at noon. Absolutely no cost for the food (hamburgers, hot dogs and sides) starting at 1 p.m., pizza after 4 p.m. Activities, DJ, Army helicopter flyover at 2 p.m.
- **Saturday, Aug. 17, to Sunday, Aug. 18** – Milan's Relay for Life is a 24-hour event starting Saturday at 9 a.m. and ending Sunday at 9 a.m. at Wilson Park, 89 Wabash St., in Milan. There will be 5+ food trucks from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and a craft/vendor show from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the event. The luminaria ceremony is at 9 p.m. For more information see the website: [Relay For Life | Cancer Walk | Cancer Fundraising Events](http://RelayForLife.org).
- **Thursday, Aug. 22** – The Belleville Area Museum presents a program on "Eloise" and tells the history of the poorhouse, asylum, and hospital, at 6 p.m. Featured lecturer is Tyler Moll of the Wayne Historical Museum. You can get free pizza at 5:30 p.m., if you email BAM@vanburen-mi.org. The museum is at 405 Main St., Belleville.

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The annual Belleville Lake Neon Boat Parade will be on Friday, Aug. 16. Boaters meet at Johnny's on the Lake at 8:30 p.m. to register for the 9 p.m. parade. The winner will receive \$500 plus the Johnny's Cup trophy. No boat? Join the watch party on shore with DJ Richendollar. Prizes will be awarded on the 17th at the Margaritas in the Ville in the Fourth Street Square from noon to 10 p.m.

Get ready for a road trip. Community Wide Yard Sales are scheduled in Sumpter Township on Aug. 23, 24 and 25. No permits will be necessary. If you prefer, you may rent a space at the Sumpter Fairgrounds, 23501 Sumpter Rd., for a pre-registration price of \$5 or pay \$10 on the day you arrive. You have even one more choice. If you prefer to be inside, you may get a \$10 table rental in the township Community Center gym. Crafters and vendors are welcome from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact the township clerk's office to reserve a space in the fairgrounds or call 461-9373 and get information from Mary Ann.

Sir Loin had an accident and was taken away to get fixed. We are happy to say welcome back, you were missed by many. Good to see you in front of The Butcher Shop again.

The all-class reunion for BHS grads is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 21, in the BHS Commons: 2:30-4:45 p.m. social gathering and 5-8 p.m. dinner. Reservations are being accepted now by contacting: bellevilleallclass@gmail.com or calling (734) 481-0264

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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Obituaries



James "Chuck"
Cameron

JAMES 'CHUCK' CAMERON

(October 7, 1950 – July 30, 2024)

James Charles "Chuck" Cameron, age 73, of Belleville, MI, passed away peacefully on July 30, 2024, after a year-and-a-half-long fight with lung cancer. He was surrounded by his family at Trinity Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was born on October 7, 1950, in Christopher, Illinois to Duncan and Evelyn (Wente) Cameron.

After high school he served his country in the United States Army as an infantryman in the 101st Airborne Division, and he was stationed in Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal. He started his career as a Washtenaw County Sheriff's deputy. He then worked as a journeyman electrician in Houston, TX, where he met the love of his life, Catherine. They married and moved with their first son, Jeremy, to Ypsilanti. They then moved to Belleville and had their second son, Scott. Chuck then worked in construction as a drywall finisher for the local Painter's Union 514. His passions included hunting, fishing, woodworking, making turkey calls, and creating stained glass art.

Chuck was hard-working, but he was also an easy-going family man. He was very generous, dependable, and would go out of his way to help his friends. Chuck loved his family more than anything, and it showed in how he lived his life. Even in his last days, he was kind, caring, and tried to find humor in all things.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife of 41 years, Catherine Cameron of Belleville, MI; his mother, Evelyn Maxine Cameron of Ypsilanti, MI; his brother Alex (Karin) Cameron of Oscoda, MI; his children, Jeremy (Tiffany) Tunstall of Clarksville, TN, and Scott (Kerri Summey) Cameron of Colorado Springs, CO; his grandchildren Grace Lynn Marie and Marisa Leigh Tunstall; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father Duncan Cameron in 2007 and his cousins Mark Mitchell in 2008 and John Moon only 2 short weeks ago. A memorial visitation was held Sunday, August 4, 2024, at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI, 48111. A funeral with military honors followed, with Pastor Gordon Moore officiating. www.davidcbrownfh.com

FRANCES ENSCH

(April 19, 1929 – July 15, 2024)

Age 95. Mother to 5 children: Frank, Carol, Joe, Jeanne, Diann; 10 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren. Services held at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Burial was at St. Hedwig Mausoleum. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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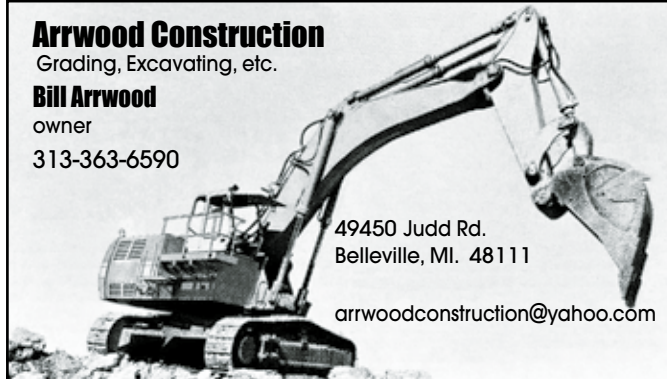
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Obituaries



Delores Marie Martin

DELORES MARIE MARTIN

(July 30, 1943 – July 30, 2024)

Delores Martin, of Willis, Michigan, and age 81, passed away on July 30, 2024, at Trinity Health Hospital surrounded by her family. She was born on July 30, 1943, in Ypsilanti, Michigan, to Donald and Judith (Miller) McLaughlin. After she graduated from high school she married the love of her life, Roy Martin, and started her family. Together they raised four children. She went to work also in the auto industry working in retail. Delores taught Sunday School at the Lutheran Church in Belleville for many years. She enjoyed quilting and croqueting as well as cooking. Delores was an excellent cook, especially her signature dishes, Chop Suey and "Hot John." She enjoyed gardening for many years, as well. Most of all, she loved her family and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, making them the biggest priority in her life.

Delores is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Roy Martin, of Willis, MI; her children, Cheryl (Jim) Arnold of Taylor, MI, Lori (Ron) Wilson of Taylor, MI, Candy (Jeff) Kibzey of Belleville, MI, Roy (Renee) Martin III, of Michigan Center, MI; her siblings, Sharon (Ray) Passeur of Mississippi, Janet (Sam) Taylor of Onsted, MI, and Valerie (Ronnie) Ison of Garden City, Alabama; her grandchildren Amber, Casey, Lindsey, Chelsea, Cherakee, Ronnie Jr., Cody, Matthew, Zack, Corey, Bobbi, Shyanne, Misty, Michelle, Tina, Tim; and 23 great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbors. She was preceded in death by her parents, and her brother Terry McLaughlin.

A visitation took place on Thursday, August 1, 2024. A visitation with a funeral service took place on Friday, August 2, 2024, with Jim Arnold officiating. A burial followed at Soop Cemetery in Van Buren Township, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com



Sylvia Ann Carter

SYLVIA ANN CARTER

(January 26, 1942 – July 30, 2024)

Sylvia Ann "Skeeter" Carter, age 82, died Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at her home. She was born January 26, 1942, in St. Clair Shores, MI, daughter of Frank & Mary Theresa (Hoebecke) Billiet. She graduated from Marysville High School class of 1960. Sylvia was a devoted member (42 years) to the Belleville Moose Lodge, where she volunteered many hours and enjoyed participating in the various women's, children's and family events. She retired from Ford Motor Company, Wayne Assembly Plant. She enjoyed bowling, annual girls' trips with all her sisters and also being with her family. She and her late husband Charles enjoyed winters in Ft. Myers, Florida during their retirement years. Sylvia is survived by daughters: Dawn (Mike) Eby of Brighton, MI and Tonya (Donald) Dyer of Belleville, MI; granddaughters: Brittany Anne (Brian) Simon of Riverview, MI, Jubilee Dyer of Lansing, MI, and Violet Dyer of Belleville, MI; great-grandchild Carter Simon and one on the way! five siblings: Margaret "Peggy" Johnson, Charles "Butch" Billiet, Francis (Al) French, Alice (Fred) Jokie, and Deborah (Ron) Storey; brother-in-law Fred (Martha) Carter of Tennessee; two sisters-in-law: Gladys Lassiter of Benton, KY and Diana (Leroy) Schmeltz of Belleville, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Sylvia was preceded in death by her parents, husband Charles Lee Carter on September 13, 2021, also a sister Mary Jean Billiet in 2022. A graveside service and Burial of Cremated remains for Charles and Sylvia Carter will be at St. Philip Neri Cemetery Columbus, MI, on Saturday, August 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan www.dsawm.org. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. www.davidcbrownfh.com



WILLIAM 'BILL' CLAY MEARS

(December 15, 1947 – July 24, 2024)

Age 76. Graduate of Huron High School, New Boston, 1967. Served in U.S. Marine Corps. Survived by wife Betty; sons Walter, Bob, and Brian; 10 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; siblings Tavis and Carol. Arrangements by Nie Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

WILLIAM 'NEIL' HUNTER, JR.

(June 27, 1969 – July 27, 2024)

Age 55, of Belleville. Survived by wife Dawn; mother Mary Basta; sister Connie Kolo. Cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Audri VanDyke serves as summer intern at Wacker Chemical Co.

Wacker Chemical Company announces the addition of Audri VanDyke to its Ann Arbor Innovation Center (AIC) team.

Audri VanDyke, from Belleville, is currently pursuing a degree in International Business and Marketing at Eastern Michigan University and is expected to graduate in April 2025.



Audri VanDyke

Company leaders coordinated with HR to select summer interns and prepare assignments for them at the AIC. As part of

their training, interns receive coaching and mentoring while they work on meaningful projects and initiatives that will contribute to the company and help interns like VanDyke to gain hands-on experience in the industry.

The internship program began in May with a comprehensive orientation, and VanDyke will be with Wacker through early August.

Interns receive compensation commensurate with their qualifications in the relevant fields and their academic progress and engaged in cutting-edge research and development, benefiting from the state-of-the-art facilities available on

the Ann Arbor campus.

The site, spanning 70,000 square meters, houses over 20 technical and analytical laboratories, and is equipped to develop new products and applications.

The research and development work at the AIC focuses on special products for sustainable technologies and applications. From biotechnology to silicones, the projects include skin-sensitive silicone adhesives for wound care and medical devices, energy-efficient silicone-based defoamers and innovative cyclodextrin applications for food supplements.

Wacker is also committed to advancing the circular economy and exploring

recycling possibilities for silicones.

“We are excited to welcome Audri VanDyke to our team,” said Ato Taylor, senior director of human resources. “Our internship program provides valuable hands-on experience and mentorship to the next generation of innovators. This opportunity allows interns to apply their academic knowledge in a real-world setting and brings fresh perspectives and ideas to our projects.”

To demonstrate their learning, interns will showcase their summer projects and contributions during an internal panel presentation to finalize their internship in August.

Life Line health screenings set Wed., Sept. 11 at VBT Eagles

Residents living in and around Belleville can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with screenings by Life Line.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles will host Life Line health screens on Sept. 11 at its location at 9961 Beck Rd in Van Buren Township.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular

disease, stroke and overall vascular health;

- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels;
- Diabetes risk;
- Kidney and thyroid function, and more.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with those interested to create a package that is right for the person based on age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit the website at www.lifelinescreening.com.

Pre-registration is required.

Court Watching

John Marcus Williams

John Marcus Williams, 39, of Romulus was due for his pretrials May 17, 2023 on four charges – three from Van Buren Township and one from the Michigan State Police.

On May 6, 2020 in Van Buren Township, he was charged with operating while intoxicated, disobeying a state emergency executive order, and driving while license suspended. He also is charged by the MSP for driving without a cycle endorsement on July 25, 2020.

He was scheduled for his remote pretrial appearance by zoom on June 14, 2023 but he failed to appear and a show-cause order was filed. He has personal bonds on each of the charges. A bench warrant was issued on June 23, 2023.

Mystic May-Joy Mandelka

Mystic May-Joy Mandelka of Monroe,

was arraigned May 12, 2023 on a charge of domestic violence on May 11 in Sumpter Township. Her personal bond was set at \$1,000 and her pretrial was set for May 24 and then adjourned to June 21. She is to have no contact with the victim and must not return to an address on Judd Road. Final pretrial was July 19.

She failed to appear and a bench warrant was issued on July 27, 2023.

Taya Onae Blackmon

Taya Onae Blackmon, 28, of the city of Belleville, was charged with driving while license suspended-II, a registration/plate violation, and no insurance at 1:23 a.m. on April 26, 2023 in the city of Belleville. She did not appear for her arraignment/pretrial on May 24, 2023. She was scheduled for a show-cause hearing on July 5, 2023 but failed to appear. A bench warrant was signed for her arrest.

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	7 pm - 9 pm Music Lakeside featuring Jive Colossus (Reggae/Funk/Jazz/Soul)

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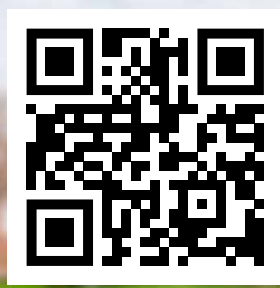
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Romulus mayor chosen to ride in 10,000-mile motorcycle challenge

Romulus Mayor Robert McCraight has been selected as a participant in the gruelling, 10,000-mile-long 2024 Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge, according to a published report in *The News Herald*.

The Hoka Hey is known as the toughest motorcycle endurance ride in the country, and only occurs every two years. The challenge will be through various terrain, pushing the rider, as well as machines to their limit.

Several hundred apply to take part in the challenge, but only 100 riders are selected to participate.

The 2024 Hoka Hey will take place starting Aug. 4 and over a 10-day period and will begin in the southernmost point

of the United States and culminate at the northernmost point of the country.

Each participant is encouraged to seek out a charity and use the challenge to help raise funds for that cause. McCraight has chosen Foundation 14 as the charity.

Foundation 14 is a non-profit organization dedicated to keeping veterans riding motorcycles. The mayor's goal for the Hoka Hey Challenge is to raise \$14,000 in order to allow his charity to continue its mission of helping combat veterans.

Those interested in supporting McCraight's efforts can do so by donating through a GoFundMe that has been established at: shorturl.at/XlgYx.

Stamped \$2 bills from the bank cause reader to scratch his head

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

An Independent reader brought four \$2 bills into our office last Thursday, Aug. 1, with a question.

He said he likes to get nice, crisp \$2 bills from the bank to give out as tips after meals because the waitresses think it's fake money. It isn't, he said. The \$2 bills are worth \$2.

But on Thursday, he said he went to the bank for \$2 bills and they gave him these four that each had a 13-cent postage stamp pasted on it and they were canceled with a

hand stamp in Dearborn and Belleville on April 13, 1976. One of the postage stamps was a Bicentennial stamp, two stamps had U.S. flags on them, and one was in honor of "Chemistry."

They are all still good to spend as \$2 bills, but he wonders what is the story behind all this.

If anyone has a clue, call us at the *Independent* so we can share it with our readers. Come in or call (734) 699-9020.

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Vehicle pursued by Washtenaw crashes at Ecorse/Belleville

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A vehicle being pursued eastbound on Ecorse Road by Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department came into Van Buren Township on the afternoon of Thursday, Aug. 1.

Van Buren Township Deputy Police Chief Jason Monte said Washtenaw cut off the high-speed pursuit near Denton Road, but the vehicle kept speeding eastbound. A Van Buren Township officer at Beck Road said the vehicle was going about 100 mph and going too fast to pursue.

The vehicle kept going and at the

Belleville Road intersection it slammed into multiple vehicles and then the driver jumped out and fled on foot.

The driver left two young children in the car, ages around 2 and 5, but family members quickly showed up on the scene to take the children into their care.

Deputy Chief Monte said there were no fatalities, no serious injuries, and the children are OK. He said the driver got away.

The intersection was closed to traffic for some time to allow Van Buren Township emergency crews to clean up the accident, Monte said.

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Aug. 8 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 12 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building; Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 13 – Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 14 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 15 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 19 – Van Buren Township 2024 Budget Review Meeting, all day. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 20 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 21 – Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 6 p.m. Also, City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 26 – Van Buren Township

- Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building
- Tuesday, Aug. 27 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 28 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sept. 3 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Sept. 9 – Van Buren Township Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS

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If you'd like to add us to your family, please submit an application. We're spayed & neutered, microchipped, up to date on age appropriate vaccines, and negative for FIV/FeLV.

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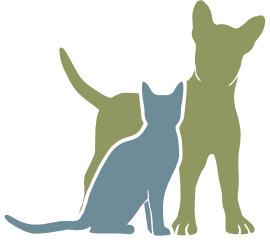


This is a sketch presented to the Belleville Downtown Development Authority at its July 17 meeting that shows how the front of the former hardware store on Main Street could be decorated so it doesn't look so empty. The DDA purchased the store and hung up black curtains to hide the interior, but has had complaints about how that looked. The DDA approved the drawing by artist Vera Redden, with slight changes, for a payment of up to \$3,000 to pay for supplies and her work. She plans to start at the end of August or in September.

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Retired founder of the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville has been recognized as being a licensed funeral director for 50 years. Licensed in 1974, he has continued his licensure and works on a consultant basis for the funeral home. The Michigan Funeral Directors Association, based in Okemos, presented the award to David C. Brown, CFSP, left, at the Annual Funeral Directors Convention which took place in Port Huron at the Blue Water Hotel and Conference Center on June 5.

Big Tree Hunt seeks biggest tree in the State of Michigan

Sumpter Township has put out a notice that the Michigan Big Tree Hunt is now under way.

The contest offers prizes for identifying the biggest trees in Michigan and is open to participants of all ages.

Winners of the biggest trees are determined by circumference.

ReLeaf Michigan created the Michigan Big Tree Hunt in 1993 to celebrate Michigan's beauty and create a fun way to gather information about Michigan's

biggest trees. Participation is free.

The current Michigan Big Tree Hunt has received more than 200 entries from 62 of the 83 counties across the state. The last contest received more than 650 entries from 79 of Michigan's 83 counties, with more than 100 certificates and prizes awarded.

The contest closes Aug. 22, 2025. For more information, see bigtreehunt.com.

See Primary Election results as available

Primary Election results will be put on line as soon as they are available. See www.bellevilleareaindependent.com.

The deadline for stories in the printed newspaper is Tuesday noon, the week of each Thursday publication. With the election ending at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, it misses our print deadline.

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Court Watching:

Johnson arraigned on attempted murder, child pornography charges

Alexander Ryan Johnson, 28, from the City of Wayne was video-arraigned Aug. 5 by 34th District Court Chief Judge Brian A. Oakley while in custody of Van Buren Township police, after being arrested by township detectives over the weekend.



He was taken into custody for the shooting that occurred near the 7200 block of Sheldon Road, north of Ecorse, at about 11:26 p.m. on July 20.

Van Buren Township Police Chief Jason Wright said the suspect had fired multiple shots into the bedroom window striking a male victim and missing a female victim and her children. The male victim was shot

several times and was conveyed to an area hospital and survived his injuries.

Chief Wright said Alexander Johnson was named as a suspect early on during the investigation and has been charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office with two felony counts of assault with intent to murder, two felony counts of using computers to commit a crime, five felony counts of weapons-felony firearm, one felony count of weapons-firearms-discharge in or at a building, one misdemeanor count of stalking, one misdemeanor count of using a computer to commit a crime, one misdemeanor count of using a motor vehicle tracking device, and one misdemeanor count of domestic violence.

Chief Wright said during the investigation, department detectives uncovered additional crimes to file against Johnson who was in possession of child pornography.

He also was charged with three felony counts of aggravated possession of child sexually abusive material, three felony counts of using computers to commit a crime (maximum imprisonment of 10 years or more, but less than 20 years), two felony counts of possession of child sexually abusive material, three felony counts of using computers to commit a crime (maximum imprisonment of four

years or more, but less than 10 years).

A not-guilty plea was entered for Johnson and Judge Oakley ordered a \$250,000/10% bond on each case (shooting and sex crimes) with the stipulation that if released, he will be on a GPS tether and have no contact with the victims. His probable cause conference is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Aug. 14, at 34th District Court before Judge Lisa Martin.

"The dispatchers, patrol officers, and

detectives who worked this incident did an excellent job and worked as a team," Chief Wright said. "Our detectives were patient and meticulous working the investigation, and were able to take a dangerous person off the street.

"I am thankful that no one else was injured and that the victim survived his injuries. Things could have been much worse."

Three injured by reckless driver on I-94 near Belleville Road

Three people, including two children, were seriously injured in a July 30 crash caused by a reckless driver on I-94 in Van Buren Township, according to Michigan State Police.

Police said a driver crashed into another car in the westbound lanes on the freeway while crossing multiple lanes just before Belleville Road to try to make an exit at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 30.

The car that was hit rolled up the right embankment and back down onto the service drive, according to police.

An adult and two children, ages 8 and 9, inside the overturned car were seriously

injured in the crash and were taken to a nearby hospital, police said.

The driver who caused the crash was not hurt in the crash, according to police. Investigators say they do not believe alcohol, drugs, or medication were factors in the crash, police said.

"We continue to see preventable crashes caused by risky driving behaviors," said Michigan State Police First Lt. Mike Shaw. "A family received serious injuries because a driver couldn't just wait to the next exit. Be aware of your location and make smart decisions behind the wheel."

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Court Watching

Marco John Bonasera

Marco John Bonasera, 33, formerly of Sumpter Township and now of Dundee, was scheduled for his probable cause conference May 31 on a charge of home invasion-2nd degree on May 18, 2023 in Sumpter Township. He also was due for a probable cause conference on possession of methamphetamine/ecstasy on Dec. 20 in Van Buren Township. He failed to appear in court, so a bench warrant was signed for his arrest.

On Sept. 6 he was arraigned on the bench warrant while in custody of Sumpter Township and a probable cause conference was set for Sept. 20 on the charges.

Personal bond was set at \$10,000.

On Sept. 20, defense attorney on both charges Kerry Martin said he needs digital discovery on the home invasion charge, so another probable cause conference was set for Oct. 4.

He was present Oct. 4 for the two probable cause conferences. He then was set for a live preliminary examination on both charges on Nov. 15. The defendant failed to appear and a bench warrant was issued.

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Court Watching:

Exam set for Sept. 11 for man accused of looking up skirts at Walmart

Willie Eugene Davis, 42, of Van Buren Township is scheduled for a live preliminary exam at noon on Sept. 11 before Judge Tina Brooks Green at 34th District Court in Romulus.

He was taken into custody by Van Buren Township Police who tracked him down after a woman shopping at Walmart complained of seeing a small camera tied to his shoe after he crowded her and she dropped something. When she bent down to pick it up, she saw the camera. She told store security, who contacted Van Buren Police. The suspect had fled.

On July 17, Davis was formally charged with a six-count felony warrant, including:

- two counts of capturing/distributing images of an unclothed person (5-year felony);
- two counts of eavesdropping-manufacture/possession of a device (2-year felony); and
- two counts of using a computer to commit a crime (7-year felony).

His probable cause conference was held July 31 before Judge Green. He was present from the Wayne County Jail via zoom. His bond is \$10,000 cash or surety.

Davis also was arraigned in 35th District Court in Plymouth on July 19 for using a computer to commit a crime and installing or using a device for eavesdropping. Bond is \$75,000. A probable cause conference was set for Aug. 2.

Davis is alleged to have used his cellphone to look up numerous women's skirts on July 15 at the Walmart store on Ford Road in Canton.

Amber Kayla Nicole Newsome

Amber Kayla Nicole Newsome, 24, of Detroit was charged with fleeing a police officer-4th degree and driving while license suspended on Oct. 4 in Van Buren Township. A \$2,000/10% bond was paid.

At her Oct. 18 probable cause conference, she was scheduled for a Nov. 29 live preliminary exam.

The exam was held before 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin, who bound her over to circuit court for a Dec. 13 arraignment on the information on the charge of fleeing a police officer. That arraignment was adjourned by circuit court until Jan. 23, along with a disposition conference. Disposition conference was Feb. 16 and calendar conference was Feb. 23. A jury trial was set for May 14. At that time a guilty plea was accepted. The case was sent to probation for a sentence recommendation. Sentencing was June 25.

During the district court exam, Van Buren Township Officer Andrew Fedel testified that Newsome was driving on Ecorse Road at about 3 a.m. when he noticed the expired plate. She drove for six minutes, over 5 miles, before pulling over in response to his lights and siren.

The defense attorney said his client was

afraid and wanted to find a safe place to stop, which was the ramp to Wayne Road.

Judge Martin said the officer was in a fully marked vehicle, was wearing a

uniform, and performing lawful duties. What was in her mind was not known and

that could be determined at circuit court, Judge Martin had said.

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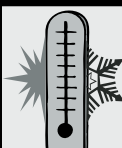
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Victory Park in Belleville established to celebrate WWI victory

The history of Victory Park at Five Points in Belleville was read aloud in 1991 during a dedication of the newly renovated Victory Station. A story by Julius Hill in the May 1991 issue of *The View Publication* reports the details.

Marie Roberts, whose husband Orlo Roberts was the first mayor of Belleville, read the brief history.

In 1919 the park was purchased for the city by a group of citizens donating a grand total of \$2,500. It was named Victory Park to honor veterans returning from World War I.

However, she said, the local group in charge of maintaining the 2.89-acre park found the task difficult and later turned

it over to the county in exchange for construction of the Comfort Station.

In 1985, then-County Commissioner Milton Mack turned the park and the station back over to the city as the county was amiss in maintaining it. Then, in 1986, the fund to remodel the building was started and the name was later changed from the Comfort Station to better harmonize with the park.

Mack said the county had assumed control of the park and the station in the late 1920s but had abandoned maintenance of it by the 1980s. He said he decided to run for county commission because the county was being unresponsive to the needs of this region.

After securing his seat on the county commission, he found County Executive William Lucas was amiable to letting the city take control of the park and station. He said after getting the county administration to approve it, it took about three months for paperwork.

Park Gregory, a member of the city's Parks and Recreation Committee, was praised, along with his wife Edna Mae, for "turning an eyesore into a beautiful lakeside park," in the words of then-Mayor Glenn Silvenis.

The Gregorys donated \$50,000 to get the Victory Station renovation going.

Park Gregory said in the early 1980s, the doors on the station were locked and the grass was left to grow unchecked. When the city or a resident took the initiative to cut the grass, the county road commission would accuse them of trespassing.

That's when Gregory called on Channel 4 in Detroit to do a brief segment on the

condition of the park and station. Gregory said the piece by Mike Wendland was one of the first breaks for the city, as it was later given a 10-year lease on the property from the county.

Then, in 1985, Mack brought the city the full deed to the park at the dedication of the LaSalle statue.

Gregory said he started the fund drive to renovate the structure in 1987, as the building had no heat and faced rapid deterioration. In a year and a half, he said the community responded and a total of \$74,383 was raised through a letter-writing campaign. There were some construction funds left over, which were given to the city to help cover architectural costs.

Gregory noted in the 1991 *View* story that Victory Station was no longer simply two large bathrooms, but a 50-75-person, air-conditioned meeting room complete with a small kitchenette. Doors on the restrooms also open back to the park for quicker entry and exits. Also, the building can be rented on a per-hour basis from the city for small groups.

In 2022 city learned it had received a grant through the county to renovate Victory Station yet again, along with improvement to the park.

Reportedly, a call for bids for the work recently was published by the city.

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person at Van Buren Township Hall, located at **46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111**, in the Board Room. Members of the public may additionally participate in the meeting electronically per guidance provided by the Wayne County Local Public Health Department for meetings of governmental bodies held under public act 228 of 2020, effective January 1, 2022. Instructions for attending the meeting electronically are provided in this notice. The Planning Commission will consider the following request:

Case 24-027: A request by Ryan Hartsuff of MG2 on behalf of owner Costco Wholesale, Inc. to rezone the following property as described below:

Parcel ID number V-125-83-014-99-0004-704. 38.80 acres. To be rezoned from M-1 – Light Industrial District to M-2 – General Industrial District.



Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – www.vanburen-mi.org by **August 26, 2024**. On the meeting website, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting**. **On the agenda for the meeting**, a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access will be provided. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page (www.vanburen-mi.org). Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

A complete **procedure for public comment by electronic means** is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments or questions about the meeting via e-mail to dpower@vanburen-mi.org.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8900 extension 9205.

Posted: August 3, 2024
Published: August 8, 2024

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDINANCE 07-02-24 CORRECTED NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at the regular meeting of the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees, the second reading of the following proposed amendment to the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance 5-2-17(2) was approved and is hereby adopted:

ORDINANCE 07-02-24: Agricultural Retail and Tourism (Agritourism). Proposed amendments to create definitions, review processes, and regulations for Agricultural Retail and Tourism (Agritourism) and related uses. The amendments will include modifications and additions to Section 2.102 (Definitions - Specific Terms), Section 5.102 (Development Standards for Specific Uses - Agricultural Retail Sales), Section 3.109 (Zoning Districts and Permitted Uses - AG, Agricultural and Estate District) and Section 9.102 (Parking, Loading, and Access Management - Minimum Number of Parking Spaces Required).

A true copy of the proposed Ordinance may be viewed and inspected at the office of the Township Clerk located at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan during recent business hours, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The adopted Zoning Ordinance amendment will be effective seven (7) days after the date of publication.

Adopted: July 16, 2024
Published: August 8, 2024
Effective: August 15, 2024

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 297 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, July 28:

0014 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0021 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Lake Pointe Pass
0047 – domestic, Hannan Rd./Huron River Dr.
0123 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0205 – noise complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0216 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0248 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0608 – family trouble, N. Ponderosa Trl.
0829 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.
0925 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd.
1016 – 911 welfare check, Bemis Rd.
1231 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1241 – family trouble, Winding Pond Dr.
1244 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1329 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1337 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1408 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1435 – civil matter, Red Oak Dr.
1505 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
1515 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1553 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1605 – malicious destruction of property, Ecorse
1616 – civil matter, Ecorse Rd.
1651 – domestic, Maurice Dr.
1718 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1657 – lost property/child, Mansfield Ct.
1729 – personal injury accident, Park Estates
1751 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Van Born Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1847 – threat, Maurice Dr.
1939 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2129 – juvenile complaint, Holly Ln.
2203 – juvenile complaint, Ecorse Rd.

Monday, July 29:

0140 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Huron River Dr.
0322 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
0847 – trespassing, Ecorse Rd.
0941 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Kouza Ct.
1005 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Maple
1007 – civil matter, Ashbury
xxxx – private property impound, Independence
1117 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1137 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville
1150 – civil matter, Riggs Rd.
1211 – personal injury accident, rest area
1225 – property damage accident, Edison Lk.
1454 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1508 – civil matter, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1640 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.
1646 – property damage accident, N. I-275/Ecorse
1717 – juvenile complaint, Winchester St.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1859 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1853 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Beckley Rd.
1902 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2050 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1936 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1959 – larceny, Alden Ave.
2058 – assist other dept., E. Main St.
2136 – assist other dept., rest area
2228 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, July 30:

0012 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0012 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, rest area
0233 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tallgrass Ct.
xxxx – repossession, N. Woodbury Dr.
0730 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0801 – intrusion alarm, Revere Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Laguna Dr.
xxxx – welfare check, McKinley St.
0933 – abandoned auto, Riggs Rd.
0927 – private property impound, Rawsonville Rd.
1022 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1030 – vehicle lockout, Rawsonville Rd.

xxxx – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1117 – harassment call, Samuel Barton Dr.
1117 – welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1157 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Alden Ave./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1335 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
xxxx – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1349 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
1400 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service
1445 – welfare check, Woodgrove Dr.
1446 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, McBride Ave./Borman Ave.
1520 – welfare check, S. Woodbury Dr.
1551 – intrusion alarm, Jackson St.
1556 – private property impound, S. I-94 Service
1804 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Reene Dr. / Marina Dr.
1805 – family trouble, Lighthouse Dr.
1838 – property damage accident, Savage Rd. / Martinsville Rd.
2007 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
2012 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./E. I-94
2131 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr./Lake Pointe Pass

Wednesday, July 31:

0756 – 911 welfare check, Meadows Ct.
0855 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0925 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1008 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1008 – private property impound, Van Born Rd.
1043 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1054 – private property impound, Riggs Rd.
1054 – missing person, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck
1239 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
1328 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1359 – parking complaint, Jackson Ln.
1451 – parking complaint, Purple Sage Ct.
1508 – parking complaint, Chandler Dr./Castell Blvd.
1517 – breaking & entering, Belleville Rd.
1609 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1619 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
1633 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1645 – harassment call, Colony Ln.
1837 – welfare check, Lake Point Blvd.
1839 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.
1900 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1919 – intrusion alarm, Stonebridge Dr.
1947 – road hazard, Harmony Ln.
2106 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Dewitt Rd.
2112 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Village Green Ln.
2116 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Village Green Ln.
2139 – suicidal person, Lake Villa Dr.
2145 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belle Pointe Estates
2356 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.

Thursday, Aug. 1:

0042 – threat, N. Ponderosa Trl.
0104 – traffic offense, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
0207 – welfare check, Ecorse Rd.
0504 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd./Haggerty Rd.
0543 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.
0732 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0805 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.
0826 – private property impound, Industrial
0927 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Van Buren Ct.
xxxx – threat, Haggerty Rd.
1023 – private property impound, Van Born Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Denton Rd.
1101 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1154 – neighbor trouble, E. Huron River Dr.
1219 – assist other dept., Richard Run Dr.
1419 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Lake Villa Dr.
1447 – disorderly, Haggerty Rd.
1622 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ryznar Dr. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1624 – assist other dept., Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
xxxx – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
xxxx – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1849 – intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.
1838 – family trouble, Dorchester Dr.
2034 – assist citizen, Hull Rd.

2050 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
2225 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tallgrass Ct.
2352 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.

Friday, Aug. 2:

xxxx – repossession, Red Oak Dr.
xxxx – repossession, Oak Ln.
xxxx – repossession, Patty Ln.
0817 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Lake Point Blvd.
0840 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0914 – property damage accident, Hull Rd./Elwell
1034 – intrusion alarm, Sawgrass Ct.
1126 – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.
1218 – misc. complaint, S. I-94 Service/Beckley
1232 – juvenile complaint, Tyler Rd.
1255 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.
1338 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1335 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service/Dewitt Rd.
1436 – parking complaint, Chandler Blvd./Castell
1540 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Pond Bluff Dr.
1550 – assist fire dept., Old Rawsonville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1711 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Tyler Rd.
1840 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1843 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1830 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
1913 – civil matter, Richard Run Dr.
1856 – suicidal person, Walden Blvd.
1913 – property damage accident, Tyler/Beck
2032 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.
2050 – civil matter, Sylvia Dr.
2056 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
2111 – larceny, Lake Villa Dr.
2118 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd.
2154 – fireworks, S. I-94 Service Dr. /Water's Edge Ln.
2201 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
2239 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2258 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.

Saturday, Aug. 3:

0034 – found property/child, Quirk Rd.
0245 – assist other dept., Ecorse Rd.
0428 – 911 welfare check, Savage Rd.
0507 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0718 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0832 – animal complaint, Pond Bluff Dr.
0912 – welfare check, Oak Ln.
0916 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
1050 – assist other dept., I-94
1117 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1124 – family trouble, Richard Run Dr.
1220 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1244 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1304 – larceny, Tallgrass Ct.
1330 – parking complaint, Van Buren St.
1334 – parking complaint, Van Buren St.
1344 – parking complaint, McBride Ave.
1410 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1428 – lost property/child, N. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – repossession, E. Archwood Dr.
1530 – traffic offense, DNR boat launch, Rawsonville Rd.
1541 – property check, Belleville Rd.
1542 – larceny, Stonebridge Dr.
1629 – traffic offense, Harmony Ln.
1633 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
1653 – traffic offense, Denton Rd./Beck Rd.
1738 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1812 – disorderly, Quirk Rd.
1834 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
1843 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1841 – misc. complaint, DNR boat launch, Rawsonville Rd.
2006 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2129 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
2236 – fireworks, S. Ponderosa Trl./Cherry Ln.
2239 – civil matter, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2347 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2356 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Robson Rd.

Also, on this week's log are 78 traffic stops, eight of which are on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 28:

1516 – parking complaint, N. Liberty/Fifth St.
1638 – misc. complaint, Main St./Fourth St.
2152 – civil matter, E. Wabash St.

Monday, July 29:

1119 – background investigation, Main St.
1614 – trespassing, W. Columbia Ave.
1647 – disorderly, Carmell St.
1940 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Third St.
2058 – warrant arrest, Main St.

Tuesday, July 30:

1212 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Loza Ln./N. Edgemont Ave.
1315 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Potter Dr./E. Huron River Dr.
1338 – malicious destruction of property, Savage
2018 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Wednesday, July 31:

0015 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Sumpter Rd.
0500 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Clarence St.
0538 – misc. complaint, Bedell St.
0554 – assist other dept., Bedell St.
1012 – property check, W. Wabash St.
1150 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1916 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
2355 – 911 welfare check, Loza Ln./E. Huron River Dr.

Thursday, Aug. 1:

0913 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1149 – neighbor trouble, W. Columbia Ave.
1320 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr./Biggs
1516 – property check, W. Wabash
1536 – animal complaint, Third St.
1650 – traffic offense, W. Huron River Dr. / Harbour Pointe
1817 – traffic offense, W. Columbia/Church
1843 – traffic offense, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell

Friday, Aug. 2:

0137 – assist fire dept., Bay Pointe Dr.
0818 – follow up by officer, Belle Villa Blvd.
1031 – property check, W. Wabash
1753 – assist fire dept., Fifth St./Main St.
1930 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1954 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.
2209 – intrusion alarm, Water Works

Saturday, Aug. 3:

0342 – family trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.
0739 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1119 – misc. complaint, S. Biggs Ave.
1134 – fraud, Carmell St.
1404 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
1443 – lost property/child, Main St.
xxxx – traffic offense, Denton Rd./Belleville Rd.
2148 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Thornhill

There are 109 dispatch calls on this week's log and 67 of those are traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 28:

0214 – suspicious circumstance, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0215 – noise complaint, Magnolia Dr.
0340 – 911 hangup, Magnolia Dr.
1031 – suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Judd
1124 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.
1157 – property damage accident, Wear/Sherwood
1301 – felony warrant arrest, Rustic Ln.
1521 – follow-up investigation, Knollwood Dr.
1617 – animal complaint, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
2107 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
2235 – fire dept. assist, Delaware St.
2300 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2303 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.

Monday, July 29:

0045 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
0911 – fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.
1301 – suspicious person, Elwell Rd./Wear Rd.

(Continued on page 19)

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1304 – larceny, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1440 – fire dept. assist, Sumpter Rd./Arkona
1501 – suspicious person, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1510 – suspicious vehicle, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1548 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1734 – suspicious vehicle, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1813 – citizen assist, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1854 – shots fired, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2107 – fire dept. assist, Willow Rd./Elwell Rd.
2129 – motorist assist, Rawsonville/Rustic Ln.
2243 – suspicious circumstance, 45000 bl. Judd

Tuesday, July 30:
0436 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville
0438 – suspicious person, Colorado St.
0558 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1109 – 911 hangup, Wayside Dr.
1211 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Clemmons Ct.
1328 – civil matter, Wyoming St.
1516 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1829 – assault, Colorado St.
2011 – suspicious person, 18000 bl. Martinsville
2318 – civil matter, Country Club Blvd.

Wednesday, July 31:
0005 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0048 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
0846 – civil matter, Country Club Blvd.
0856 – civil matter, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0940 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
1054 – suspicious circumstance, Magnolia Dr.
1057 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1411 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
1426 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1451 – welfare check, Magnolia Dr.
1551 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1612 – assist other agency, Carriage Ln.
1641 – follow-up investigation, Carriage Ln.
1741 – mental health call, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1832 – 911 hangup, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1958 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2046 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
2138 – harassment complaint, 17000 bl. Odyssey



James Wigginton of Van Buren Township has the goal to climb the tallest building (in number of floors) in every state. On July 24, he climbed the IDS Tower in Minneapolis, the tallest building in Minnesota with 53 floors. This makes 39 states completed to earn money for Folds of Honor and Thyroid Cancer.

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Belleville Area Museum to present ‘Eloise’ program on Aug. 22

The Belleville Area Museum will present a program on “Eloise” at 6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22, at the museum at 405 Main St., in Belleville.

The history of the poorhouse, asylum, and hospital will be told by featured lecturer Tyler Moll of the Wayne Historical Museum.

Eloise, at 30712 Michigan Ave. in Westland, is one of Michigan’s greatest attractions for everyone from paranormal enthusiasts to history buffs. Constructed in 1839 as a psychiatric hospital, Eloise offers more than 100 years of stories.

Those attending can get free pizza at 5:30 p.m. if they RSVP by emailing BAM@vanburen-mi.org.

In 2022, *Hauntworld Magazine* named Eloise Asylum as the fifth-scariest place in the United States.

The program on Eloise was previously scheduled at the museum, but was canceled.

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Thursday, Aug. 1:
0322 – suspicious circumstance, Colorado St.
0414 – animal complaint, Judd Rd./Rawsonville
0918 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1028 – found property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1109 – mental health call, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1137 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.
1227 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1254 – suspicious person, Oregon St.
1503 – harassment complaint, Greenmeadow Dr.
1542 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1744 – suspicious person, 23000 bl. Martinsville
1825 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1903 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1928 – citizen assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2321 – suspicious circumstance, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Friday, Aug. 2:
0033 – suspicious circumstance, California/Maine
0651 – civil matter, Montana St.
0728 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1106 – welfare check, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1131 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willis/California
1208 – 911 hangup, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
1258 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
1555 – assist fire dept., 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1721 – civil matter, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1829 – fire dept. assist, 5500 bl. Oakville Waltz
1833 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

Saturday, Aug. 3:
0023 – family trouble, Oregon St.
0836 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
1121 – suspicious person, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1404 – suspicious person, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1429 – civil matter, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
1954 – special detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2022 – traffic complaint/hazard, New Mexico St.
2106 – suspicious vehicle, Kozma Rd./Wilmot Rd.
2340 – suspicious person, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 193 patrol checks, 62 traffic stops, and six misc. details.



Aug. 2 - Tina Tyzik
Aug. 15 - Elena Manalp

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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