



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.38 Thursday, September 17, 2020 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

## Belleville reels from having no one certified to run 2020 election

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
 Independent Editor

Belleville Interim City Manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz told the city council at its Sept. 8 Zoom meeting that the city clerk resigned and she has no one certified to register voters, send out absentee ballots, or run the 2020 Presidential election.

City Clerk/Treasurer Sheri Scharf resigned as of Sept. 1, but stayed until Sept. 4 to help with the work.

Kobylarz said she had an interview with an applicant for clerk the next day, but she didn't know if the person was certified as required.

She said the next week absentee ballots will need to be mailed out and no one here to do the work.

Kobylarz said she reached out to other clerks and spoke to council people. She said she was left with an option to partner with Van Buren Township's clerk and deputy clerk.

This would "provide stability, security, knowledge and expertise." She said because Clerk Leon Wright and Deputy Clerk Joanne Montgomery are needed at the township to work on the upcoming election, they could provide services to Belleville in their free time, after regular hours in VBT.

"I'm in the process of training with the Secretary of State so I can register voters," Kobylarz said. She said 85% of the training was complete and she hopefully would be done the next day.

She said they will need to stuff envelopes. Kobylarz said usually there are 400 absentee voters in the city, but they have already received 900 applications so far.

"I need someone that can hit the floor running today," Kobylarz said.

"The search for a full-time clerk continues, but I can't do two jobs... I'm not that good, folks," she said.

(continued on page 14)



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

On Monday morning, the first day of school in the Van Buren Public Schools, retired school employees sat at Victory Park to wave to the school buses full of students – an annual event. From left are former bus drivers Teresa Caudill, who retired in 2020; Rona Nowak, who retired in 2020; and Cheryl Parent, who retired in 2014.

## School Board OKs buying cellular hotspots, WiFi access points

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
 Independent Editor

Virtual students in the Van Buren Public Schools will be able to pick up their new homework assignments and upload their classwork to their teachers even if their families don't have internet or if they live in a neighborhood with poor cellular service.

At Monday's Zoom meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, the board approved purchase of 200 cellular hotspots with unlimited service for two years for students who don't have

connectivity at home.

Sean Garland said AT&T has provided this for students at a cost of \$20 per month each, which is \$4,000 per month the school will pay. The cost is \$98,000 for the two years. There is no cost for the hardware if the service is maintained for two years. If the district cancels the agreement before two years it still will have to pay for the hardware, at a cost of \$3.55 per month for the remaining months. The district will own the units at the end of the two years.

Garland said the hardware could be used in the future if they started up the service again.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said they could use the COVID money they already have to pay for the service. Garland said he believes the hardware cost has to be paid through the two years and can't be paid in advance.

"This is for cellular connection to the internet," Garland said. "Some students don't have good cell service."

When asked how they came up with the 200-unit number, Garland said 105 students who were questioned said they didn't have internet and that may be high or low from the actual number.

He said the district has encouraged families to get the inexpensive internet service, if possible. Some are truly in need and can't afford that \$10 a month, so these hot spots are for them, paid for by the school district.

Supt. Kudlak said if the district has to close up and go all virtual in the future, these will be good to have. They will have filters as required to get federal funds.

Garland also proposed parking lot WiFi access points from Sentinel Technologies

(continued on page 13)

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## Belleville Area District Library negotiates with contractor on boiler cost

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Building committee chairperson Joy Cichewicz gave a report on the negotiations with contractors who designed and put the boilers into the new \$14 million library. Everyone agrees that the boilers are too small.

At the Sept. 8 RingCentral Teleconference meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board, Cichewicz said when the building plans were downsized, SES Engineers drew the new plans, but the boilers were too small and SES realized they undersized it.

SES checked its liability insurance and found it had a deductible of \$75,000 and the problem was less than that. She said they had to pay but wanted a deal that wouldn't be that much for them.

She said they are agreeing they are responsible and aren't trying to get out of it.

Cichewicz said they have had three virtual meetings between the committee and the contractors and builder.

At the last meeting, she said the committee voted to go with option 1, which is to add a third boiler, which is the most cost-effective.

Another option to require them to put in the two large boilers originally planned, would cost the library \$25,000 more because of all the replumbing necessary.

SES offered to pay \$17,500, which is 40% of the cost and Lawn Mechanical would probably reimburse \$15,000, with the library paying the rest of the \$43,700 estimated total.

Mary Jane Dawson said when SES came up with its offer, John Juriga said that wasn't enough, she said of the meeting.

"It will be some cost on us, but it will be a better system," said Library Director Mary Jo Suchy.

Cichewicz said boilers have a lifespan of 25 years and so it will cost the library a little bit more in maintenance over the years.

She said there would be no downtime and the library would have heat through the process of updating the system.

In another matter, Cichewicz said Spicer Engineers contacted the buildings asking the library to pay for the electricity the Downtown Development Authority wanted to light the trees on Fourth Street and, "We said no."

She said DTE will move two poles into the new parking lot's traffic islands, instead of to the opposite side of the alley as originally envisioned. The storm water retention system was repositioned to work around the DTE pole relocation project. Cichewicz said they want to make sure DTE doesn't use guy wires. She said they will be longer poles, planted deeper.



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

Greeting people at last weekend's yard sale in Van Buren Township with all sales benefitting the non-profit Buster Foundation, were, from left, Joanie Wazney, Al Ostrowski, Rachel John, Kathleen Hill, Lisa Blink, and Bolo, a pit bull rescue. BOLO is short for Be-On-The-Lookout, a name originating from her story with the Warren Police Department where a police radio a call came in that the 50-pound pit bull was trying to board a city bus. Wazney said Bolo is the friendliest and sweetest dog the foundation has. For more information on Bolo and the other dogs available, see [www.thebusterfoundation.rescuegroups.org](http://www.thebusterfoundation.rescuegroups.org) and Facebook.

Cichewicz said it was found the stained glass piece in the new library is not well-enough lit, so John Juriga's son, Justin, will be working on the lighting. Juriga said Justin is president of a lighting company, but is very busy in September.

Cichewicz said the stained glass has to have diffused lighting.

She also reported Blue Ribbon would be doing the paving of the parking lot starting Oct. 1.

In other business at the Sept. 8 meeting, the board:

- Approved the district library tax levy approved by voters on Nov. 2, 2010 for financial operating. It originally was 7/10 of a mill, but has been reduced by Headlee to 6.896/10 of a mill. It will bring in \$1,088,842 from the December 2020 tax bill and this tax will continue to be on tax bills in Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter until Jan. 1, 2022;

- Approved the district library tax levy approved by voters on Nov. 8, 2016 for financial operation of the library. It originally was 7.5/10 of a mill but was

reduced by Headlee to 7.388/10 of a mill. It will bring in \$1,166,526 from the December 2020 tax bill and this tax will continue to be on tax bills in Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter until Jan. 1, 2037;

- Approved the district library tax levy approved by voters on Nov. 8, 2016 to pay for a 20-year, general obligation bond for not more than \$14 million to construct and equip a new library, equip a satellite in an existing building, and other purposes. To make bond payments for 2020, the District Library Board determined a levy of 6.2/10 of a mill shall be placed on the Dec. 1, 2020 tax bill. It will bring in \$979,947;

- Heard Library Director Suchy report the Grab and Go service continues on the first floor and in the children's room and they are averaging about 70-80 patrons a day. Curbside pickup continues to be available. She said staff is preparing for the second phase of Grab and Go which will reopen the second floor for browsing and computer use. Three, 15-minute express computers will be available and three computers by appointment only will be available for one-

hour sessions. She said three computers will be available at the branch in Sumpter, which will be open soon, and branch hours tentatively will be set for Mondays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday from 3 to 8 p.m. Evening hours will be added at the main library and the tentative schedule will be Mondays and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.;

- Heard Suchy report the library has purchased five wireless hotspots that will be available for checkout for three days by anyone with a library card. Cichewicz said this is a huge service the library can offer. Suchy said if this is popular, they will buy more; and

- Heard Juriga say he would like two staff members to become notaries so the library can offer that service without charge. He said, although he has been a volunteer commission member for more than 20 years in the city of Belleville, he still has to pay \$5 to get notarized at city hall. He said people have been saying they are having trouble finding a notary.

# O P I N I O N S

**Editorial**

## County says bridge work could be done before Christmas

During Tuesday's Zoom meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, it was reported that Wayne County said its work on the Huron River Drive Bridge could be done this fall – by Christmas.

Board members laughed at this report, referring to how long it took the county to repair the bridge in New Boston that led to the closing of businesses.

Work on the Huron River Drive bridge had been scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2021.

When asked if the county will be widening the bridge to allow for the Iron Bell Trail pathway as requested by the township, Supervisor Kevin McNamara said the county was putting the pathway on the north side of the bridge instead of the south side as they had requested for the the Trail. McNamara said he was told the bridge was designed for the extra weight on the north side.

"They'll do what they can," he said of the county.

The detour for the work includes routing traffic through the city of Belleville to Belleville Road on the west side of the bridge and through the Metropark (with a paid sticker) or through New Boston on the east side of the bridge.

McNamara said he has been advised that Haggerty Road is on the county's 2021 schedule for resurfacing from Tyler to I-94, which is good news. Wonder how long that will take.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Kenneth Roberts of Harris Road tells us of the latest scam phone call he got. He said he got a call that said they hadn't heard from him and had sent him some new Blue Cross cards.

"We need more information," the person said and Kenneth hung up.

He wonders how they knew he had Blue Cross insurance? He knows it was a scam and is warning others not to give out information when someone calls you out of the blue.

\*\*\*

We've had a question about the clear-cutting taking place on the corner of Harris and Haggerty roads in Sumpter Township, about the 41600 block of Harris. The resident said he called township hall and was told that there were no permits or pending permits for that property and there was a rumor it was going to be a sheep ranch.

We remember years ago when that site was proposed for a subdivision or residential community of some kind. They have municipal water in that area, but no sewer service.

\*\*\*

We've been told Vincent Warren has filed as a write-in candidate for clerk in the Sumpter Township general election of Nov. 3. He lost to James Clark for the Democratic nomination for clerk in the Aug. 4 primary and Clark is on the ballot.

Also, on Monday Nelson Po filed for supervisor as a write-in candidate in the Nov. 3 election. He lost to John Morgan for the Democratic nomination for supervisor in the Aug. 4 primary and Morgan is on the ballot.

Both Warren and Po as write-in candidates seeking election to partisan offices in a



general election are required to run without party affiliation.

\*\*\*

We received a call from a Belleville resident who lives on the lake. He said the story about VBT, DNR, and Wayne County marine officers cracking down on reckless boaters is "a total lie" and something we must have gotten from CNN, as Fake News.

He said the police have not been out on the lake all summer. He said the lake season is about 90 days long and on the 88th day they announced they were cracking down. This summer, he said, he saw the DNR out on the lake just once. He said they only ticket fishermen and don't pull anyone over for speeding.

He said he was out on the lake all day Sunday and saw no cops at all. He said the police were out just two days of the 90-day season. This is not cracking down, he said. He said there still are people hanging off the bows of boats and jet skiing at 11 or 12 o'clock at night.

If you read the story, you would remember it was a story we got from Van Buren Township. The writer thought the information was correct and so did we.

Earlier we were told that residents along the lake shore asked for a meeting with the township, DNR, and Wayne County to discuss water safety. They met in the Quirk Park pavilion, we think. We weren't invited. All the marine officers promised increased policing of the lake and that's what was reported.

For some reason, Wayne County didn't close the East Huron River Drive bridge over the Huron River at 3 p.m., Sept. 14, as announced on big lighted signs at the bridge between Haggerty North and Haggerty South. Now, it was scheduled to close on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

\*\*\*

Toni Clark of Sumpter Township asked me to accompany her and her husband Jim to a 2:30 p.m. meeting last Friday with Sumpter Police Chief Eric Luke. She said she was afraid of what he would do to her. I agreed to go with them and did.

Both Chief Luke and Det. John Toth were very upset that I was there and told me I had to wait out in the lobby while they spoke to the Clarks. Toni decided to just talk to them in the lobby and they didn't like that. Chief Luke ended the meeting and we left.

I went to the Clark home across the road from the police department and discussed things with them for a while and then went back to work. I'm told as soon as I left Chief Luke came to their door and gave Toni a misdemeanor citation for "false report of a misdemeanor," apparently having to do with her 911 call to report what she thought was illegal stuff going on at a voting precinct Aug. 4.

\*\*\*



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**Letters**

**No Pumpkin Factory this year due to COVID**

To the editor:  
 We want to do our part in keeping you, your family, the children, our employees, and our family safe and healthy. After much decision-making, we have decided not to open the Pumpkin Factory this year, our 44<sup>th</sup> year, due to COVID-19.  
 We will be here next year, our 45<sup>th</sup> year, and I hope you will be, too. We are sorry for any inconveniences this may have caused you, but we feel everyone's health is our priority.

Linda LeBlanc  
 The Pumpkins Factory  
 Sumpter Township

**Here's a way to add a lane through Belleville**

To the editor:  
 Since traffic is going to be rough on Main Street while they re-build the Haggerty Road bridge, I have a suggestion: Temporarily ban all parking on the west side of Main Street through town. Use that added lane as a second lane southbound from the bridge to the railroad tracks.  
 I'm sure the county can re-stripe all southbound lanes on Main Street. It may just help with the traffic flow during rush hour, especially in the evening.

Al Ostrowski  
 Van Buren Township

**Thank you to local businesses for flag help**

To the editor:  
 Another BIG shout out to Manns Lumber and Manager John Vredeveld.  
 Manager Vredeveld of Manns Lumber, Canton, recently donated another 300 pieces of 3/8" x 36" hardwood dowels which are used in refurbishing flags that were replaced from veterans' graves in several local cemeteries. With this donation, another 300 flags will soon be available to the public for FREE several times a year on major patriotic holidays.

On behalf of our local VFW Post #4434 and myself, THANK YOU again, John, for your continuing support of our Flag Restoration program. This program would not and could not survive without YOUR donations.

Other supporters of this program include Contract Welding, Sumpter ACE Hardware and Belleville Hardware.

Pete Pitzen, Jr. Vice Commander  
 VFW Post #4434  
 Flag Restore Chairman

**You'd think we would get better services**

To the editor:  
 Like the other two Sumpter Township residents, I, too, used my equipment to cut down the weeds and brush at the corner of Harris and Savage. I am 70 years old with a lot of health problems, but if I didn't do it, who would?

Something else Wayne County does not do is grade the shoulders of the paved roads. I have seen Washtenaw and Oakland counties do theirs.

I purchased a few bags of sand and some gravel and put it down in front of my mail box so in the spring thaw, and when we have lots of rain, I don't have to step in mud and water to get my mail.

You would think for what the county charges us for taxes we would have better service. I guess we need to put or vote someone else in office who will take care of these problems.

Long-time County Resident

**Join us to pray for our nation, our world**

To the editor:  
 At 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27, we at Belleville Church of God, 45170 Hull Rd., will be praying for our nation and our world and we invite you to join us in person or in spirit.

We are inspired by "The Return" National and Global Day of Prayer and Repentance on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 26. The mission is a revival by individual, national, and global repentance.

We need to make an honest inventory of personal as well as corporate (national) sins. We must acknowledge these sins, own them, and humble ourselves before the Lord. Pray for Him to help us and provide spiritual fortitude and grace not only to recognize our deficiencies, but to be remorseful in spirit, pleading for His mercy and forgiveness.

2 Chronicles 7:14 "For if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

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# More Letters

## Sumpter incumbents honest, 'for the people'

Dear Sumpter Township Neighbors & Friends:

I have lived in Sumpter Township for close to 40 years and have witnessed many elected officials come and go, some good and some bad.

This letter to my neighbors and friends is about the important choices you will need to make in our upcoming local election. Your choice for our elected officials will effect Sumpter Township and its residents for many years to come.

I firmly believe that the performance of the incumbents John Morgan (Supervisor), Esther Hurst (Clerk), Matt Oddy (Trustee), Don Laporte (Trustee), and Tim Rush (Trustee) over the last four years has been excellent. Based on the township meetings I attend and watch, these incumbents have proven to me that they are honest and that they provide transparency and always make sound decisions which support the residents of Sumpter.

The current board has increased the General Fund \$2.7 million, has reduced pension debt by \$160,000, secured over \$400,000 in Block and Grant funds, upgraded our street lighting which saves the residents thousands each year and is responsible for our township being the first township to be Storm Ready. There are many other accomplishments the board has achieved which have benefited us which I have not included.

Please take your vote seriously and review the candidates and their backgrounds as I have done. Don't fall for the political rhetoric and accusations presently being made by disruptive groups we have in Sumpter. I'm voting for these honest, "for the people" incumbents and I urge all the voters in our township to join me in supporting them. Please Vote FOR John Morgan, Matt Oddy, Don LaPorte, Esther Hurst and Tim Rush so they can continue to keep us safe and provide their experience to guide us into and through the future.

Be Safe and God Bless America,  
Dick Harrison  
Sumpter Township

IMPORT AND DOMESTIC



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# Obituaries



Tivis "Tommy" Newberry Sowards

## TIVIS NEWBERRY SOWARDS

(May 17, 1930 – September 4, 2020)

Tivis "Tommy" Newberry Sowards, 90, passed away peacefully in his home on Friday, September 4, 2020 surrounded by the love, comfort and prayers of his wife and children. Born in Pikeville, KY on May 17, 1930, he was the proud baby boy of Lee and Pricey (Newsome) Sowards. He had 14 siblings. Five living - Lexie Johnson, Gene (Mary) Sowards, Robert (Linda) Sowards, Romeo (Mary) Sowards and Boleina (Homer) Scaggs, and eight who have preceded him in death (Phyllis 1934, May 1936, Birtha Mullins, Ira Sowards, Archie Sowards, Monnie Tacket, Pearl Powers and Ivory Sowards. He married Leona Oskey on July 24, 1954 and was the father of five children - Karen (Greg) Bolton, Bradley (passed in infancy), Bryan, Joel (Anna), Jill (Jack) Blyer. Music was always at the center of Tommy's heart. He was a disk jockey on WHRV radio. Later on, he saw the gift of music in his children and from there invested His love and passion for music into their lives and formed a family band. They played weddings, fairs, anniversaries, and community events. The gift of music was then passed on to his grandchildren, who continue to perform and carry on his passion. In his early years, Tommy provided for his family by working at State Hospital, but ended up retiring from Ford Motor in 1992, after 37 years as a skilled tradesman. When not working, Tommy enjoyed hunting ducks with Lee's brothers. His charitable spirit always kept him working on cars for his family and neighbors and volunteering at "Meals on Wheels" and the "Food Ministry" at Victorious Life. He leaves behind His devoted wife, of 66 years Leona (Oskey) Sowards, 4 children, and 17 grandchildren. Apart from music, the love of His life were His grandchildren, all of whom loved to go on trips with grandpa to Guitart Center, drink Dr. Pepper, play music and watch the Tigers. His granddaughters fondly recall making a quarter brushing his hair. He and grandma always enjoyed giving the great grandchildren \$2.00 upon every visit for savings or ice cream. Tommy lived to see, hold and enjoy His first beautiful great-great-granddaughter Paisley Ann Nicole Lipsky. His family is overjoyed to announce his acceptance of Jesus as his Lord and Savior. He was baptized by two of his children while surrounded by family along with the angels who rejoiced in Heaven on June 26, 2018. Tommy lived out his final days in the loving and constant care of his devoted wife and family at home, all the while finding a new joy in Christ. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes for donations to be made to the Alzheimer's Association in Tommy's honor. Visitation was held Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020 at Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Graveside Service was held Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Whittaker, MI, with his son, Pastor Joel Sowards officiating.



Joy Lorraine Akans

## JOY LORRAINE AKANS

(December 3, 1943 – September 8, 2020)

Joy Lorraine Akans, age 76, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at her home, after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born December 3, 1943 in Detroit, MI, daughter of Max & Jeannie King. She graduated high school and worked for General Motors for 24.7 years. More recently Joy enjoyed driving for Wheels for Independence, the senior transportation for Belleville area residents. Joy was a member of Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI. She enjoyed playing Bingo, crafts, flowers, gardening, canning and loved baking. She loved planning holiday parties and church get-togethers. She also loved her dogs and cats.

Joy is survived by four daughters: Debbie Pebble of Kentucky, Brenda (Norm) Johnson of Tecumseh, MI, Billie (John) Little of Florida and Sherri (JR) Little of Ithaca, MI; 12 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; 6 great-great-grandchildren; one sister Beverly King of Michigan; also her chocolate Labradors: Lily & Cocoa. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Raymond Akans, sister Gloria Batey, brother Roger King, also two great-granddaughters: Natalie Buerge and Kristian Darr.

Visitation was Thursday and Friday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI, 48111 (734) 697-4500. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, there was a limit of ten people in the funeral home at one time. Face coverings were required inside the building. Funeral Service was Saturday, September 12, 2020 at Grace Baptist Church, 165 Roys Street, Belleville, MI with Pastor Robert J. White officiating. The family greeted guests at church before the service Saturday. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Baptist Church and would be appreciated.  
[www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## ANGEL NICOLE WILSON

(August 18, 1980 - September 11, 2020)

Age 40, of Canton. Survived by adult children Caitlin & Jacob; young children Calob, Sophia, Aidan & their father Steve Rabaa; mother Suzette Wilson; sisters Holly & Temree. Cremation rites accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home.  
[www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## BEVERLY RUTH THOM

(February 25, 1935 – May 16, 2020)

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, Sept. 19, at Trinity Episcopal Church, Belleville. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions of 50 people at outdoor gatherings, the family asks that you say a prayer for them on this day. They invite everyone to stop by the church to pay respects to Beverly in the memorial garden anytime afterward. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Trinity Episcopal Church would be appreciated by the family.

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with Cremation to Follow

Service Charge .....	\$4,890.00
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Cremation Authorization .....	\$75.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$6,380.00</b>
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# More Letters

## My Nov. 3 vote is for Sumpter incumbents

Dear Sumpter Residents,  
 Nov. 3rd is a critical election for our country, but, also locally in our community. The choices you make in our local election will have lasting effects for years to come. I attend board meetings on a regular basis and the current board has done a fantastic job maintaining the stability of our public issues over the last four years and have kept our community safe during these trying times while maintaining financial accountability.

Attend a meeting and see this for yourself, watch a meeting on the township web page or even read the community newsletter. A summary of the accomplishments of this board can be found on page 6 of the Spring 2020 edition of the newsletter. This board has proven its effectiveness by its actions and NOT political rhetoric.

My VOTE is with the current board: John Morgan (Supervisor), Esther Hurst (Clerk), Matt Oddy (Trustee), Don Laporte (Trustee), Tim Rush (Trustee). Please also consider Vincent Warren as a write-in candidate for Treasurer. Please consider giving your vote to these candidates.

Antoinette Oddy  
 Sumpter Township

## Please remove political sign in Romulus

To All Romulus Residents:  
 As a life-time resident myself, I have always tried to respect and honor my city. I have always been proud of Romulus residents and city officials whoever they may be, those I supported or whoever was elected. I am sad that people who own the buildings in the downtown area and do not live in Romulus just rent their buildings for anything. They only want the money. They do not care about the city or its residents. At this time I am appalled at the present sign placed in the downtown store window, our old Kidwell Drug store. I am sorry

the mayoral candidate Alan Lambert has decided to place this sign. Does he realize it is more than a year before the election in Romulus? Does he think the residents want to look at this huge sign for a year? He claims he really cares for Romulus. No one would do that to all of Romulus, especially those who live there and have to see it every day. I respect everyone's right to run for office and also those who support them, but there is also respect for others. It is time the city has an ordinance pertaining to when signs can be placed, where, size. Signs placed in our empty store fronts do not do anything to encourage business into our city.

Please respect our residents and remove the sign. Please do not replace until at least three months before the November 2021 election. Thank you.

Jan Lemmon  
 Romulus

## Response to Hurst opinion on homework

To the editor:  
 Re: Response to Hurst's opinion printed Aug. 13, 2020, "Response to Ruth Bleeker on homework"

With all due respect to Mrs. Bleeker, Pamela Hurst has hijacked the words "Do your homework" turning them into a blistering diatribe against America, insulting Ms. Bleeker's positive rally behind education.

Hurst's ignorance of history finds its zenith in her blind assault on LaSalle's statue. His name is remembered across America by millions, intelligent of what history wrought, yet HURST seems so sure that she "knows better!"

Hurst is an example of the weak-minded minions celebrating the newly empowered anarchy. Amongst her throng of false historical "rewritten truths" she left out that the Earth is flat!

NOT A SINGLE POINT Hurst regurgitated is based on fact. Her opinions are a repeat of the toxic communist sludge taught in academia. It is all lies seamlessly wound around issues of racism, a "concern" for the downtrodden.

Hurst, is especially disrespecting of those

who lie in early graves in the fight for liberty and truth. Those whose leadership still inspires us. It is certainly a given there will never be a statue of Hurst; she will never wear a Medal of Honor.

The French archaeologist, Alexandre Lenoir, devoted himself to saving French monuments from the all-consuming 1790s' mobs of the French Revolution. Many great works of art have been lost to a blind desire to rid ourselves of a past of which a few don't approve. Lenoir realized their value, both artistic and historical, that extended beyond a defining moment of social and political upheaval and change.

We are witnessing the tearing down of America by vigilantes groomed in the Marxist indoctrination of our schools, our public arena, by teaching people to blindly accept a FALSE narrative without questioning it.

If one speaks a differing truth they are SHUT DOWN by a CANCEL CULTURE illiterate on any given point; devouring anyone against its onslaught of humanity - deciding for themselves what is not okay and not acceptable. This is TYRANNY!

Petty bureaucrats and the political correctness Marxist police, turn people into sheeple, who quiver in place awaiting the Biblical Slaughter of the Lambs. The Marxist psychopath feasts on this fear! To acquiesce is to play into the hands of the zealots deciding our very fate!

Hooligans and anarchists have rampaged across the country destroying property, attacking the police, and terrorizing ordinary citizens. Statues of once great men are being torn down while felons are given presidential funerals. There is suddenly no

wrong or right!  
 Marxists always prattle about benevolence and concern for victims, yet, they alone are solely responsible for the enslaving! They want to rid the world of oppressions that they in fact "designed."

Hurst has become an unwitting stooge, a communist foot soldier. She needs to live in Venezuela where she will learn the difference about lies and what is truth; in-between beatings for speaking up!

Pamela Hurst would not even be alive if not for those she so blithely defiles and castigates; those who advanced life-saving vaccines, penicillin (Fleming 1928), pasteurization (Pasteur 1864), global expansion (Columbus 1492), findings on polio being viral (Landsteiner+Popper 1908), smallpox (Jenner 1800).

LaSalle engaged himself in this thing called life; as did great inventors, explorers, scientists, writers. They pushed boundaries, advanced civilization. Leadership defined them, hence their destruction.

It's obvious to people of good-will that leadership must combat a witch's brew of evil-will that it must either nullify or neutralize. But it has become a do-or-die situation to speak out. America is faltering without that leadership.

Healthy democracies require good-will from statesmen and the public; it is always up against lawlessness and the totalitarian impulse. The enemies of democracy exploit this by debunking leadership and are behind the cowardly character assassination of those who rise to the task. The absence of statesmanship leaves a power

(continued on page 9)



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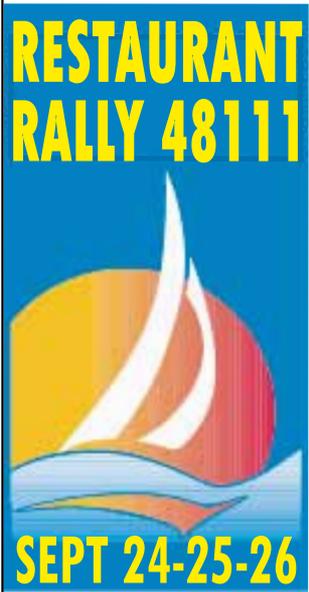
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## More Letters

*(continued from page 8)*

vacuum to be exploited and filled by radical ideologues -- executioners-in-training.

Communism is about envy and resentment, hatred and POWER -- not governance. The 20th century is proof of that.

Communism, and its many variants, regardless of its perpetual rebranding, is secular atheistic messianism, the anti-Christ of Revelation. Communists are certain victory will come; then comes the firing lines, gulags, re-education camps, and mass graves.

For centuries, political philosophers have

understood that the lust for "equality," which is the motor of the attack on private property, is the enemy of freedom.

Long ago, Aristotle observed that COURAGE is the most important virtue because without courage we are unable to practice any of the other virtues.

Well, COURAGE my fellow citizens of this Republic! PAY NO MIND to the mindless! Follow your heart! Be inspired by your hopes! Find courage from the words left by those who fought the good fight for God and country!

Pres. Teddy Roosevelt reminds us in his stunning speech at the Sorbonne in Paris, 23rd April 1910, what it means to fight on: THE MAN IN THE ARENA: "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Linda Broughton  
Belleville High School Class of 1968

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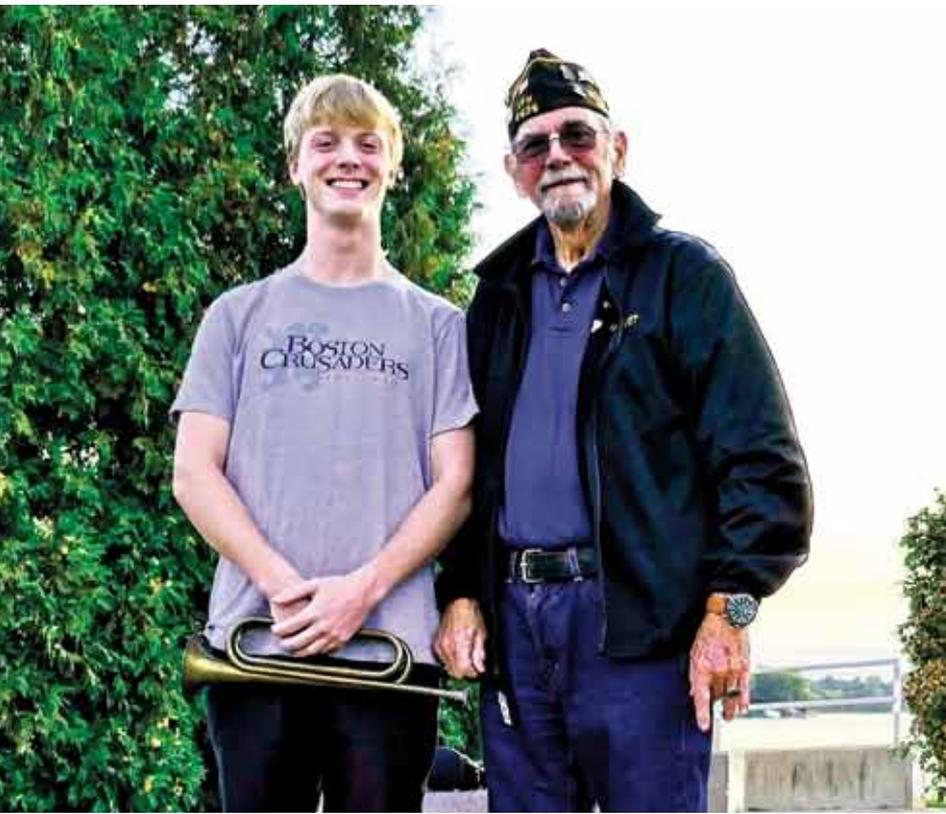
Monday thru Wednesday – 7:00pm. Thursday – music seminar @ 7pm & Friday – puppet seminar @ 7pm.

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Spencer Dawson, 18, a recent graduate of Springboro High School in Ohio, played Taps at the Sept. 6 Bugles Across America event at the Veterans Monument in Belleville. Next to him is his grandfather Rick Dawson of Belleville. Spencer is set to begin his college career at Miami University in Ohio with the goal of becoming an eye doctor.



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**Van Buren Township hosts two free giveaway events for students**

Van Buren Township is hosting two free giveaway events on Saturday, Sept. 19.

The first event will be from 10 a.m. until noon or while supplies last. Parents and kids can drive up to the Parks and Recreation Department entrance (on the east side of the building) at 46425 Tyler Rd. to pick up a free Insect Adventure Kit.

“Our hope is to get kids to be more active and get outside,” said Deputy Director Jennifer Zaenglein. “We want all kids to explore the micro-world around them.”

Kits are recommended for ages 4-10 and limited to the first 100 participants. Inside each kit, children will find a butterfly net, insect glasses, information about the insects in Michigan, and much more. This event is sponsored by a grant from Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (mParks) and Taste The Local Difference Michigan.

**Free School Supplies**

The township’s second event is hosted by the R.E.A.L. Summer Youth Program. Students, along with Detroit Wayne Integrated Mental Health (DWIHN) staff, will be passing out free school supplies and mental health awareness information to Van Buren Public Schools students in grades K-12.

The event is from noon until 4 p.m., or while supplies last, at Harris Park. Harris Park is the new DDA park located at 10151 Belleville Rd., just South of Aldi. A school ID is required.

“We’re excited to kick off this school year in R.E.A.L. style,” said Nicole Sumpter, Director of Human Resources. “Stop by the park to meet some students from the program, grab some food, and get some supplies to help you succeed this school year.”

The R.E.A.L. School Supplies event will have two food vendors on site. Ice cream from Culver’s and hot or cold sandwiches, fries, and more from food truck *Hero or Villain*. This event is sponsored by Van Buren Township’s R.E.A.L Summer Youth Program and DWIHN.

“We’re really excited to be offering two free giveaway events for the students of Van Buren Township,” said Supervisor Kevin McNamara. “We hope these events will ease some of the burdens on back-to-school supplies and provide some fun activities for VBT families.”

For more information about the R.E.A.L. event contact Nicole Sumpter at [nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:nsumpter@vanburen-mi.org) or call (734) 699-8900, ext. 9293. #forREALvbt

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# Restaurant Rally set to take the place of annual Taste of Belleville

Because of COVID-19, the annual Taste of Belleville has been canceled and a Restaurant Rally set up in its place.

Bill Wolters, president of the Belleville Central Business Community, said restaurants in the 48111 zip code are hugely popular with residents and visitors and have shown incredible resiliency in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

"They need us to rally for them - for their business, their employees and our community," Wolter said.

The Restaurant Rally 48111 asks the public to patronize at least one local eatery every day during the weekend of Sept. 24-26.

This is sponsored by the Belleville CBC, Belleville Downtown Development

Authority, Van Buren Township DDA, and restaurants in Sumpter Township.

Since Gov. Gretchen Whitmer allowed restaurants to reopen, they are operating at 50% occupancy.

Local business owners support local teams and organizations, donate to fundraising events and employing residents.

"Their employees are our neighbors, friends, and relatives," said Carol Thompson, coordinator of the Belleville DDA. "These local businesses are key to the economic strength of our community."

Lisa Lothringer of the VBT DDA said, "The owners and staff at area restaurants are committed to health and safety best-practices. Even under COVID restrictions, they are dedicated to serving guests with caring, quality service."



Lori Day and Geof Bush sing the National Anthem at the Sept. 6 Bugles Across America event at the Veterans Monument in Belleville.

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# VBPS

(continued from page 1)

at a total cost of \$12,572, which was approved unanimously by the board.

Garland said the access points will be installed inside the building with an external directional antenna that will provide wireless signal across a parking lot allowing students to park and work from their vehicles.

He said once COVID is over and school gets back to normal, the district can then attach omni-directional antennae and utilize the equipment elsewhere.

Garland said the new Early Childhood Development Center is the first target for reinstallation as they will be purchasing more of this equipment for the new building anyway.

The equipment will be installed to enable WiFi access in the Belleville High School parking lot and up to four other lots throughout the district, as determined. There is flexibility, he said.

He said the access points will go out about 300 feet from the high school, the first few parking spaces from the building.

Supt. Kudlak said the WiFi access could be placed geographically, with possible locations at Rawsonville and Tyler elementaries.

A question from the virtual audience said that there are signed agreements to pay for the Chromebooks being distributed if they are lost and suggested there be similar agreements for the hotspots.

In other business at Monday's one-hour-and-12-minute Zoom meeting, the board:

- Considered four bids for Material Testing Consulting for the 2019 bond projects, starting first with the Early Childhood Development Center construction. Director of Plant Operations James Williams said he will bring a recommendation to the Sept. 28 meeting for a vote. Williams explained that the company selected will provide quality control as to soil, stone, concrete and other items and will bill on time and material used. Supt. Kudlak said they are bringing this information now with a possible vote at the next meeting. Also, at the next meeting will be Bid Package 1, which they will present and hope to get a vote on it at that meeting. He said they can't do two meetings on this bid package because they have to get some things done before the frost hits. He said if the board doesn't want to approve the bid package for some reason, it can be delayed and they will deal with it;

- Approved terminations of the following teachers: Eyonna Tredway of Rawsonville Elementary, after six years of service as of Sept. 10 for personal reasons; Jennifer Bare of McBride Middle School as of Aug. 25 for lay off; Amanda Mitchell of Rawsonville Elementary as of Aug. 31 after one year of service, for a job opportunity; Melisa Hiuser of Owen Intermediate as of Sept. 1 after one year of service for a resignation; Jaclynn Behrendt of Tyler Elementary as of Sept. 2 for a job opportunity; and Mark Scarbrough of Owen Intermediate as of

Sept. 2 after one year of service for a job opportunity. Human Resources Director Abdul Madyun said the teachers who left after one year of service had been laid off and most left for other jobs;

- Approved hiring the following teachers: Stacy Flynn for McBride Middle School as a Resource Room Teacher; Tiffany Kelly for Belleville High School, recalled from layoff; Laura Fleming for Owen Intermediate School, recalled from layoff; Jonathan Mayers for BHS as a chemistry teacher; Lori Puma for Tyler Elementary School as a third-fourth grade teacher; Nicholas Porambo for BHS as a math teacher; Kristen Smith for Edgemont Elementary as a fourth-grade teacher; Anthony Ploucha for BHS as a science teacher; and Emily Mills for BHS as an English teacher. Supt. Kudlak said because 60% of the students are coming to school in person, more teachers had to be hired and called back from layoffs;

- Approved terminations of non-instructional staff: Denise Weick, transportation, after 31 years of service, for retirement; Teresa Caudill, transportation, after 21 years of service for retirement; Linda Dyer from Owen Intermediate, resignation after one year; Toni Suggs of Edgemont Elementary, resignation after three years; Carol Marcum, transportation, terminated after two years; Margaret Simon, transportation, resignation after one year; Ann Daugherty of Food Service, resignation after one year; and Amber Milkovich of Edgemont Elementary, resignation after three years;

- Approved hiring non-instructional employees: Jesse Clemons as a custodian as of Sept. 8 and Bret Roebuck as a groundskeeper as of Sept. 21;

- Heard Director Madyun report the redeployment of bus drivers who weren't needed because of decreased bus routes. They have been assigned different duties, which allows them to keep their employees working until they can be drivers again. "Drivers are impossible to find," Madyun said;

- Heard Karen Johnston report that she was excited for Monday's first day of school. She also thanked the Rotary Club which gave supplies for the students to use;

- Heard Financial Director Sarah Cortese report she is looking at all the money available to pay for coronavirus expenses. Kudlak noted a lot of the funds have strings attached. He said the district has no idea what the state foundation allowance per student is yet. "It's flying blind, with things we have to do for our staff and students."

Trustee Keith Johnston said, "... and we don't know how many kids we have." Cortese agreed, adding, "And, how we count them this year is messy." Kudlak said he was upset with the leaders in Lansing. Cortese said the district budgeted for a 550-student loss this year;

- Heard Cortese announce that from 3 to 4 p.m. every school day at BHS any kid under the age of 18 can pick up a lunch. The pickup place has changed from the summer location and now is at the D-2 west athletic entrance. Whether they are in the district or not, parents are required to register lunch requests on the district website. She said there were 180 lunches registered for the first day of school;

- Heard board president Amy Pearce ask if there will be a ground-breaking for the new Early Childhood Development Center, where board members can use shovels and wear hard hats. "It would be cool to have a little ceremony," she said. Williams said he would talk to Granger about it; and

- Heard Kudlak announce a staff member tested positive over the weekend and that person is off now, following the protocol. The person had no symptoms. The person alerted the district on Saturday and on Sunday the district cleaned everything in that staff member's building and let the rest of the staff know.

## One more COVID-19 death reported in 48111 area, up to 32 total

The COVID-19 death rate in the 48111 zip code had been 31 since July 25, but then on Sept. 10 one more death was recorded in Van Buren Township, increasing the total to 32.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 were 615 on Tuesday, Sept. 15, up from 610 the previous Tuesday, Sept. 8.

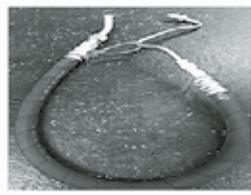
On Tuesday, Sept. 15, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 371 positive cases, 17 deaths; City of Belleville, 171 positive cases, 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 73 positive cases, 1 death.

## Birthdays

Sept. 21 – Reg Ion  
 Sept. 23 – Megan Holmes  
 Sept. 25 – Brandon Mard  
 Sept. 27 – Becky Ross

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# Belleville

(continued from page 1)

She said the classes only allow her to register people to vote.

"The investment is worth it," she said. "We're a week behind."

Councilman Ken Voigt asked about the fee and she said it would be for three months of election services which she negotiated down to \$8,000.

Councilman Voigt asked what the VBT people would do and Kobylarz said they would enter names into the Qualified Voter File, which she is not qualified to do.

During the election they need to be able to cover VBT and Belleville in the same hours. One can stay in their township and one stay in the city, she said.

Chamber of Commerce president Steve Jones asked if she reached out to the Secretary of State for help.

She said she called the state and they said they had no one to send. She called the county and they said they had no one to send and, "You'll have to figure it out!"

Kobylarz said it took her a week to access to training. She filled out the forms on the last Saturday of August and just got approval the previous Friday and started taking classes over the weekend.

"They are basically doing data entry?" Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte asked, referring to the VBT clerks.

Kobylarz said there are certain time frames and information on how many military and how many ballots sent overseas.

"It's data farming, not just pushing buttons," Kobylarz said.

"I don't understand this enough," Marcotte said, noting the city is again trying to fix something at the last minute. He said it was an independent contractor agreement.

He said he wasn't comfortable in making a decision at that meeting on people from another community running the election, outside of business hours, paying a fee. "I don't understand," he said.

Mayor Kerreen Conley asked if the attorney looked at the proposed agreement.

Kobylarz said she spoke with the Secretary of State and the Board of Elections and they said it was perfectly all right.

Mayor Conley asked what would happen to the agreement if she hired somebody tomorrow.

She said the agreement is not based on hours but is a flat fee. She said once people are registered, the city would be able to print labels and stuff envelopes and get the mail out.

"What help would the administration have other than handing over 900 requests?" she asked.

Kobylarz said there may be only 900 votes, but every thing every clerk does is exactly the same. Numbers don't save time, they're just smaller numbers.

Councilman Tom Fielder asked if after the interview the next day could the person take over? He said they might not be able to hire this person. "Do we wait and see?" he asked. "Would VBT have a one-day grace period?"

Kobylarz said she wasn't adverse to waiting a few days and take their comments

into account.

"I can do more homework for you ... As long as you're open to a special meeting," she said.

Councilmembers all agreed to take no action and be open to a special meeting, if necessary.

The council also discussed the water bills that have been causing such a furor with residents.

Nathaniel Oregon brought up the subject, noting water bills went from two months to three months, but the actual dates on the bills were for two months. Water bills were \$600 to \$700. He asked if this had to do with the water main breaks?

He suggested it would be good to have more notification of what this is all about, maybe putting it on the city web site.

Mayor Conley told Kobylarz that she was one of the residents with a \$700 water bill and she doesn't know why it is so high.

Kobylarz said as part of COVID, they went from monthly billing to bi-monthly billing to reduce face-to-face contact at city hall.

When they went to monthly, there was a glitch and didn't bill solid waste. The first bi-monthly bill for water included three months' worth of refuse cost.

"Now it's working the way it's supposed to," Kobylarz said.

"People wonder what's going on?" Oregon said.

"A number of residents are upset and they should be," Marcotte said. He said the city switched to a monthly bill to avoid financial problems and then switched to bimonthly. He suggested using the newspaper of record to make sure people understand.

"It wasn't handled well," Marcotte said. "We should write an apology and send it to our paper of record." He said with the water bill changing month to month, it should be explained ahead of time.

"We have the ability to put notes on our water bills," said Councilwoman Kelly Bates.

Marcotte said the water bill said June 11 to Aug. 10 and at the bottom said three months.

"My wife got the bill and she had to call city hall to find out what it was all about and I'm on the city council," Voigt said. "I apologize."

Oregon said people are calling in to city hall and not being able to get an answer.

Marcotte said people called and got no answer. Paid their taxes days or weeks ago and have no receipt. They were told to pay cash and drop it in a box, which is risky, he said.

"Maybe it's time to revisit that," Marcotte said.

Voigt said he read Rick Dawson's letter in the Independent and he agrees. Dawson couldn't come in to get a dog license.

Mike Kole said they could print the website address on a card and tell people to go there for an explanation.

Councilwoman Bates said there is an outrageous fee to pay online. The company the city is using is not the right one, she said.

"We paid \$20 last time to pay the \$600-\$700 bill," Voigt said.

Kole said at the Chamber of Commerce they pay \$30 a month for water and to pay

\$20 on top of that would be ridiculous.

He said the chamber pays 2% for its online payments, about \$10 a month, and the customer pays nothing.

"That's easily correctible," he said of the online payment charge.

"It discourages people from paying online," Voigt said.

Mayor Conley asked Kobylarz for a report back on that.

Councilman Fielder defended Kobylarz, saying the administration was going without any direction. He said the council can learn from things and change things but shouldn't say we didn't do the right thing.

Mayor Conley said this is directly related to COVID with people working from home and some furloughed. They had people coming in fewer times.

"Every day is a new day," Mayor Conley said. "Some things we did well and some things, if we are here in the future ... we wouldn't do again."

In other business at the Sept. 8 meeting, the council:

- Approved the VFW 4434/PLAV 167 Veterans' Day ceremony at the Veterans' Memorial at 11 a.m., Nov. 11;

- Approved the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church's Tent Revival (no flaps on tent) in Victory Park from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9 and 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10. Social distancing; 100-150 expected;

- Approved the Chamber of Commerce's Winterfest, Dec. 3-6 in a tent on Fourth Street Square, plus parade, and possibly fireworks. Two options were presented which will be defined closer to the event, including casino tent, food trucks, street dining, and pop-up shops. Participants and guests expected, 1,000-2,000;

- Approved paying not to exceed \$4,200 to TNT Tree Service to remove the trees on the city-owned lot next to the DPW yard, along with the community Christmas tree in Doane's Landing at the bridge;

- Approved accounts payable of \$160,599.11 and the following purchases over \$500: to ElectionSource \$845.50 for on-site tabulator testing for Aug. 4 election; to Dundee Twp. Fire Department, \$809

for 10% grant match for thermal imaging camera for fire department; and to Fortified Plumbing, \$650 to replace broken toilet at city hall;

- Heard Fire Chief Brian Loranger report there is a leaky roof at the fire hall and a door that needs fixing and DPW Chief Rick Rutherford said he definitely could get quotes for repair. Also, Chief Loranger said fire fighters had to trim the trees at the fire hall and there are a bunch of branches down. Rutherford said he would try to get one of his guys to pick them up;

- Heard Rutherford report that in order to deliver the highest quality water to the community, he sent out sample bottles and he needs people to get them back to him. There is a requirement of 20 bottles and he sent out 25 and got only 16 returned. "It is of utmost importance we get those back," he said, adding he will send out another 10;

- Heard Mayor Conley say during the Zoom meeting she reached out to the city's DTE representative and found DTE is working to roll out a power reliability plan in Belleville and a representative will come to a city meeting in a few weeks to report;

- Heard Rutherford report that at the last water main break on Huron River Drive they were able to add an additional valve so the city can isolate problems and quickly repair. He plans to present a plan to upgrade valves for next year's budget. He said there are problems with spiked pressures and a lot of underlying issues. He said they need a longterm capital improvement plan;

- Heard Bates suggest re-examing the ordinance against commercial vehicles on Liberty Street due to the construction. Rutherford said the city is better served by bringing those vehicles in by Liberty to keep from clogging up Main Street. Bates suggested blocking off the signs limiting commercial vehicles since this is temporary and Rutherford agreed; and

- Agreed Rutherford should go out for bids as soon as possible to get the concrete restoration done at Doane's Landing as well as 110' of retaining wall since the grant on the project expires soon.



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### SEEKING BIDS

The City of Belleville is seeking sealed bids for concrete restoration and retaining wall at Doane's Landing Park. The work to include:

215 feet of 8 foot wide side walk.

115 feet of 3 foot block retaining wall with cap.

5 (five) 6' X 4' pads for benches.

For more detailed job specs please contact Rick Rutherford Director of Public Services, City of Belleville 734-697-9323 ext. 7023 or [DPS@Bellevilleonthelake.com](mailto:DPS@Bellevilleonthelake.com)

Sealed Bids due 3:00 p.m. September 24, 2020 to:

City of Belleville Clerk's Office

6 Main Street

Belleville, MI 48111

# Van Buren Township explains higher water bills during pandemic

By Alysha Albrecht  
Communications Specialist  
Van Buren Township

Wash, rinse, flush and repeat. Something we've all been doing, at home, for quite some time now and because of that many of us are seeing higher water and electric bills.

For Van Buren Township residents, the water bills received in July and August (and soon-to-be September) are from the April, May and June period, during the peak of the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order.

For many of us working from home was the only option and this meant more flushing and running water for meal preparation and dishes. Our favorite restaurants were closed for dine-in services, with other activities and entertainment also canceled.

"The pandemic hit us all in unexpected ways," said VBT Supervisor Kevin McNamara. "I've seen an increase in my bill, but I'm thankful we had fresh clean water coming from the taps during that time. I know our Public Services staff was working during the Stay Home order to

make sure water was still flowing."

People stayed home more due to the COVID-19 restrictions and combined with long periods of dry spells and very high temperatures, water use in the homes significantly rose.

"This spring, while we have seen a drop in water sales for local businesses, overall, our sales trends resemble those in 2018," said James T. Taylor, VBT Water & Sewer Director.

"The only difference between 2018 and this spring, is in 2018 businesses were open, people were out and about, and like this spring we had long dry periods of little rain and higher than normal temperatures."

On Jan. 1, 2020 a water and sewer rate increase of 5% was recommended by Taylor and approved by the VBT Board of Trustees. Since then, there have been no additional increases to the unit costs, fees or other charges.

"Since I became the Water & Sewer Director of Van Buren Township in 2013, I have never recommended, nor ever will recommend, mid-year increases to water and sewer rates. I don't believe that to be a best business practice," said Director Taylor.

"Costs increase every year to maintain and operate the water and sewer systems, and practicing short- and long-term planning is the answer to meeting those financial needs of the township systems, not mid-year increases."

Taylor also pointed out that the water and sewer systems in the township are not paid for by taxes, but only by what is collected through the water bills.

Those with questions about water bills may call the township water and sewer billing office Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at (734) 699-8925 or email [publicservices@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:publicservices@vanburen-mi.org). Staff will provide information on your account status, in addition to both present and past usage trends that can be used for comparisons and more.

## Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Willis Baptist Church will be holding its annual Fall Revival with services by Barry Webb Evangelistic Ministries, Sept. 20-25 at the church, located at 8687 Bunton Rd. in Willis. Services times will be Monday through Wednesday at 7 p.m., Thursday at 7 p.m. (music seminar), Friday at 7 p.m. (puppet seminar), and Sunday services at 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., and 6 p.m. Mrs. Webb will provide a nightly children's hour, too. A nursery will also be available. For info see their ad in today's paper and call Pastor Jim McKinnies at (734) 461-0352.

The City of Belleville's annual Scarecrow Contest is under way with a shout out to families, individuals, businesses, and organizations to take part this year. Scarecrow frames are available at city hall and applications are available at the city's website or at city hall. The completed applications are due by Sept. 30 with the completed scarecrows delivered to city hall by Oct. 1 so they can be judged and then placed up and down Main Street during the month of October. The event is sponsored by the city and its Parks & Recreation Commission. For more info, visit [www.bellevilleonthelake](http://www.bellevilleonthelake) and on Facebook at Booville.

With hunting season upon us, the folks at Dave's Treasure Trove at 668 East Huron River Drive in Belleville has a great selection of hunting gear, accessories, bows, knives, guns, and much more. Dave's also carries sports memorabilia, collectibles, fishing gear, tools, boating accessories, and even Lionel trains. They're open Tuesday through Saturday, from noon to 5 p.m. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 699-4438.

Garden Fantasy Greenhouse on Tyler Road near Morton Taylor is your fall decoration headquarters with fall mums, gallon perennials, herbs, and right now take 25% off all cement statuary. They are open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 697-1765.

Yankee Air Museum is holding an event called "Photo Bomber" on Saturday, Sept. 26, where cars can drive up and stage in front

of a vintage aircraft and the driver takes pictures of their vehicles in the foreground and the plane in the background, hence the term "Photo Bomber." Aircraft available will be the museum's B-17, B-25, and the Ford Tri-motor. The event will feature two photo sessions, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m. and limited to 50 cars each. The event will take place rain or shine, or be cancelled if there's severe weather. Tickets are \$75 each that will give you two minutes with your choice aircraft. Call (734) 483-4030 and visit [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org).

The Belleville Tigers football team gets its abbreviated 6-game season underway this Friday, Sept. 18, at Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m. Belleville is ranked sixth in the state rankings out this week and number one by the *Detroit Free Press*. The Tigers, semifinalists the past two seasons, hope to improve in 2020. The *Free Press* featured a nice article on our Tigers in its Sept. 15 edition, featuring a link to extra photos at [Freep.com](http://Freep.com). The team's remaining schedule includes home games against Fordson on Sept. 25, Livonia Franklin on Oct. 16, and Livonia Churchill on Oct. 23. Road games include Wayne Memorial on Oct. 2 and John Glenn on Oct. 9. Good luck, Tigers!

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your idea. There is no cost to be in this column.

## Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Sept. 17** – The Pandemica Driveway Band will put on a free, one-hour, outdoor show at 6:30 p.m. at Harris Park in Van Buren Township. Harris Park is located just south of Aldi on Belleville Road.
- **Thursday, Sept. 17** – GriefShare 13-week program starts at 6 p.m. at 5 Points Church, 37300 Goddard Rd. at Huron River Drive in Romulus. For more information call the church at (734) 941-1511 or go on the web at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).
- **Saturday, Sept. 19** – Classic Car Show at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., noon to 4 p.m. Free admission. Classic cars, DJ, lunch available, with assortment of homemade pies. Fund raiser for the church. If it rains, the show is canceled.
- **Monday, Sept. 21** – Belleville Farmer's Market, 4-7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Square. Put on by the Belleville Central Business Community. Bottles being collected to earn money for the BHS Class of 2021 graduation party next spring.

# BONECUTTERS

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# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

3-FAMILY GARAGE SALE. 48631 Sully Dr. Thurs, Fri., & Sat., Aug. 17, 18, & 19, 9am-5pm. 09/17

4-FAMILY YARD SALE. Friday & Saturday, Sept. 18 & 19, 9am-5pm. Lots of household items & furniture. 39236 Wade Rd., Romulus. 09/17

YARD SALE September 19 & 20 at 46175 Hull Rd., Van Buren Twp. between Bak & Sumpter. 9am-5pm. Lots of treasures! 09/17

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

2000 FORD ESCORT ZX2. 2-door, 4 cyl., dual cam. Private owner. Auto transmission, new tires, no rust. \$2,450 OBO. (734) 695-0819 10/01

2004 CHEVY CAVALIER COUPE LS. 2-door, 4 cyl, auto, & air. Very clean, no rust. Private owner. \$2,550 OBO. (734) 695-0819 10/01

1998 HONDA CIVIC, 2-door. Automatic transmission. Good transportation. \$1,450. Private owner. (734) 695-0819 09/24

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- Steven Wright

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# VBT LDFA gets update on loans from VBT, progress of Visteon suit

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At a 21-minute Zoom meeting Sept. 8, the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority discussed its proposed budget for 2021, current budget for 2020, and the progress of the law suit against Visteon.

VBT Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham sent a memo to the LDFA updating members on the loan agreement with the township.

He said the township loaned the LDFA \$900,000 in March and another \$800,000 in September to meet the Visteon bond obligations due on April 1 and October 1.

He said going forward the advances will be made on these dates each year until the bond obligation is fulfilled.

As detailed in the loan agreement, the LDFA has agreed to pay interest on the township's shortfall payments until they are reimbursed at an annual interest rate equal to the average interest rate that the township is earning on the investment of

its general fund monies.

As of September 2020, the LDFA owes the township with interest, \$2,409,541.67.

The Sept. 8 meeting was also the twice-annual public informational meeting in accordance with Public Act 57 of 2018.

Dan Selman, executive assistant to the township supervisor, explained the primary focus of the LDFA at this time is the payment of the debt obligations as a result of the public improvements for the Visteon Village project completed in 2004.

In order to finance the construction of the public improvements, the LDFA issued bonds to cover the costs of the improvements and those bonds were guaranteed by the township's ability to tax.

Selman said due to economic conditions the LDFA will not capture sufficient tax revenue to cover scheduled debt service and due to the shortfall, which occurred Oct. 1, 2019, the LDFA was loaned \$700,000 on Sept. 4, 2019 by the township to assist with the bond payment.

Selman said the LDFA will continue to

pursue legal action against the original developer pursuant to the shortfall.

VBT Supervisor Kevin McNamara said the lawsuit against Visteon is in the interrogatory stage, where VBT is asking them for information and Visteon is asking the township for information.

He said some of the things they are asking for are not pertinent to the question and would take years to assemble.

He said they are bringing in an independent judge to determine what each side would have to provide.

"My hope was to have a trial next year," Supervisor McNamara said.

He said in the next six to eight months the courts will clear up the criminal trials waiting and then get to the township's case.

LDFA member John Delaney said his guess would be 2022.

LDFA chairman Michael Dotson said there still is action, still is movement.

"And billable hours for both sides," Delaney said.

McNamara said the township put money

aside for this, "So, we're a step ahead."

In other business at the meeting, the LDFA:

- Heard Delaney say he wanted the LDFA to be kept aware of the loans as they are being made from the township. McNamara said Dotson called when he saw what was on the agenda to ask about it. "Communication is key and you can't communicate too much," Dotson said. "I'm getting notice when the money is due"; and

- Heard Delaney say he didn't want to blow off the celebration of 9/11 next year so he is starting to plan. Delaney and the LDFA sponsored a special event last year on 9/11 and Dotson thanked him again for that. Delaney said he was thinking about it last January and then the coronavirus came. He said now he is thinking about next year. Dotson said they could honor first responders and the hospitals next year, as well.

## Zoom Court Watching

### Johnson bound over for throwing knife into crowd at VB Estates

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

After a live preliminary exam at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court on Monday, Justin Cleeve Johnson, 18, of Van Buren Township was bound over to circuit court by Judge Tina Brooks Green for a Sept. 28 arraignment on the information.

Johnson is charged with two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) after throwing a knife into a crowd on March 21 in Van Buren Estates mobile home park in Van Buren Township.

Two witnesses testified he threw a knife from his porch into a group of people and his grandparents called police.

Tyler Maddox testified two grown men and Johnson were driving around looking for kids who bought weed from Johnson and knocking on doors. He said they were looking for his little brother so he went over to see what was going on.

He said everyone was standing in the street in front of the grandparents' home where Johnson lived.

Deon James Shiel testified Johnson was reaching into the trunk of a car when his grandmother stopped him. He ended up throwing a double-bladed switch knife into the crowd, Shiel testified.

Shiel said a guy punched Johnson's dad and Johnson went in the house to get the knife.

Judge Green said it was an issue of fact for a jury to decide and bound him over.

**Torrey Rashadd Jeffries**  
**Tyrell Deandre Hooks**

The probable cause conferences for co-defendants Torrey Rashadd Jeffries, 21, of

Ypsilanti, and Tyrell Deandre Hooks, 27, of Canton, have been adjourned until Sept. 30 at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court.

Each defendant is charged with six felony charges dated July 29 in Van Buren Township. They are assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), and three counts of felony firearms each.

They were being held in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$500,000 cash or surety. If released they must wear GPS tethers and stay away from the victim. Hooks' bond was reduced to \$100,000/10%, as requested by his retained attorney Ellen Michaels.

#### Diddier Saye Mami

A live preliminary exam for Diddier Saye Mami, 35, of Inkster, has been set for 1 p.m. Oct. 7 at the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court.

Mami is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and domestic violence on Jan. 6 in Van Buren Township. He is free on \$10,000 personal bond.

#### William Oliver Wood

William Oliver Wood, 35, of Romulus had his probable cause conference adjourned again, by Judge Oakley, this time to Sept. 30. Wood is charged with controlled substance possession – narcotics or cocaine less than 25 grams --on Oct. 6, 2019 in Van Buren Township.

Attorney Jennifer Mead, filling in for the court-appointed attorney of record C. Clifford Chadwick, said they have been unable to contact the defendant.

Judge Oakley gave the attorney a phone number from the file he had and Mead called Wood and put him on speaker phone to talk to the judge, which didn't work very well. Judge Oakley adjourned the conference so the defense attorney would have a chance to talk to his client.

#### Ronald Joseph Webb

Ronald Joseph Webb, 55, of Van Buren Township had his probable cause conference adjourned from Sept. 9 until Sept. 23.

Webb is charged with home invasion first degree and assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder on July 10 in Van Buren Township. He is free on \$10,000 personal bond.

#### Daniel Preston Hopkins

Daniel Preston Hopkins, 36, of Westland, had his probable cause conference on Sept. 9 adjourned again, this time to Sept. 16, because the defense attorney William Glenn did not have all the discovery.

Hopkins is charged with one count of assault with intent to commit murder, one count of assault with intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder, and one count of felonious assault on July 31 in Van Buren Township.

Bond had been set at \$10,000/10% and he was not to be released without tether. Hopkins' cross defendant Kenneth Parker previously had his probable cause conference adjourned until Sept. 23.

#### Kennyon Roshawn Jackson

Kennyon Roshawn Jackson, 28, of Van Buren Township, was charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and domestic violence on April 23, 2019 in Van Buren Township.

A live preliminary exam was set for Sept. 8 with the defense attorney live in the courtroom and Jackson by Zoom from the Michigan Department of Corrections where he was because this case was a violation of his parole.

On Sept. 8, a motion by the prosecutor to dismiss the charges was granted by Judge Green.

#### Michael Lee Crane

Michael Lee Crane, 43, of Sumpter Township, had his probable cause

conference adjourned for discovery to Sept. 9 by Judge Green during his Aug. 26 court session.

On Sept. 9, Judge Oakley again adjourned Crane's probable cause conference to Sept. 14 because defense attorney Elizabeth Young has yet to get any discovery. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Larry King said he requested the video evidence on Aug. 26 and Sumpter Township loaded something onto the Discovery website on Sept. 8.

On Sept. 14 his live preliminary exam was set for Oct. 5.

Crane is charged with unlawful imprisonment, domestic violence-third offense notice, and assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) on Aug. 11 in Sumpter Township.

Personal bond was set at \$5,000 and he is not to return to the site of the incident or to contact the alleged victim. He also must wear a tether.

#### Shannon Marie Johnson

Shannon Marie Johnson, 29, of Van Buren Township has been charged with three counts of assaulting / resisting / obstructing a police officer, one count of aggravated domestic violence, and one count of interfering with a crime report on July 25 in Van Buren Township.

She also has separate charges of possession of a controlled substance (narcotic or cocaine) less than 25 grams and driving while license suspended on Feb. 18 in Van Buren Township

Her probable cause conferences on the two separate cases had been set for Aug. 26 and then adjourned until Sept. 9 then again until Sept. 16. Bond was set at \$10,000/10% and she was not to be released without a tether. She was ordered not to contact the alleged victim or to enter a certain address on McKinley.

## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 429 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.*

### Sunday, Sept. 6:

0124 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.  
0409 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0424 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.  
1018 – unauthorized driving away of vehicle, W. Archwood Dr.  
1020 – sexual assault, W. Archwood Dr.  
1041 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.  
1227 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1320 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1452 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave. / Dellor St.  
1549 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.  
1556 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.  
1641 – disorderly, Haggerty Rd.  
1828 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.  
1914 – shooting, Parkwood  
1923 – traffic offense, Lenmoore Ave./Savage Rd.  
2107 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.

2343 – traffic offense, N. I-94 Service Dr./Old Rawsonville Rd.

### Monday, Sept. 7:

0035 – lake complaint, Harmony Ln.  
0041 – road hazard, Denton Rd./Bayshore Dr.  
0213 – 911 welfare check, E. Huron River Dr.  
0332 – fireworks, Riggs Rd.  
0346 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.  
0750 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.  
1158 – breaking & entering, Oak Blvd.  
1326 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1403 – noise complaint, Mott  
1740 – harassment call, Tyler Rd.  
1738 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.  
1808 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler  
1833 – traffic offense, Richmond Dr.  
1907 – shooting, Bog Rd.  
2018 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.  
2016 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Westlake Cir.  
2134 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.

### Tuesday, Sept. 8:

0013 – suspicious person/vehicle, Alba Ct.  
0537 – 911 welfare check, Freeport Ct.  
0554 – suicidal person, Parkwood Dr.  
0629 – parking complaint, Berkdale/Andover  
0849 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Beck  
0930 – property damage accident, E. I-94 / Belleville Rd.  
1021 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.  
1027 – malicious destruction of property, Anna Dr.  
1111 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1120 – suspicious person/vehicle, Clayton Rd. / Chatsworth Dr.  
1126 – breaking & entering, Hull Rd.  
1305 – follow up by officer, Hull Rd.  
1307 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1347 – retail fraud, W. Huron River Dr.  
1417 – suicidal person, Outer Dr.  
1426 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.  
1504 – private property/property damage accident, Peninsular Dr.  
1512 – hospice death, Riggs Rd.  
1537 – private property/property damage accident, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1626 – assist other dept., Oak Ln.  
1633 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Beck  
1658 – juvenile complaint, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.  
1847 – assist other dept., Oak Ln.  
1851 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.  
1946 – domestic, W. Sadie Ln.  
2107 – suicidal person, Quirk Rd.  
2138 – property damage accident, Denton Rd. / Michigan Ave.  
2229 – follow-up by officer, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2358 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Maple Dr.

### Wednesday, Sept. 9:

0005 – neighbor trouble, Outer Dr.  
0045 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.  
0903 – assist other dept., S. Bellridge Dr.  
0945 – parking complaint, Lake Villa Dr.  
0956 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.  
1029 – domestic, Oak Blvd.  
1040 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1118 – parking complaint, Briarwood Dr./Van Born Rd.  
1135 – harassment call, Sheldon Rd.  
1305 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1449 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.  
1700 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd.  
1707 – neighbor trouble, Maple Dr.  
1853 – suspicious person/vehicle, Fay Dr./Lindsey  
1903 – larceny, Savage Rd.  
1954 – suspicious person/vehicle, Barnwell Dr. / Country Walk Blvd.  
2018 – neighbor trouble, Victoria St.  
2113 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Rawsonville Rd.  
2148 – suspicious person/vehicle, Arthur St.  
2244 – domestic, Winchester St.  
2345 – family trouble, McBride Ave.

### Thursday, Sept. 10:

0138 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0455 – suspicious person/vehicle, Andover Farms  
0739 – threat, Brandi Dr.  
0754 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0910 – private property impound, Van Born  
0934 – mental subject, Country Walk Ct.  
1153 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
1309 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.  
1329 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1420 – assault & battery, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
1424 – animal complaint, Pond Ridge Dr.  
1510 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.  
1543 – breaking & entering, Daisy Blvd.  
1616 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1620 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.  
1710 – juvenile complaint, Belle Pointe Dr.  
1733 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.  
1858 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1912 – larceny from auto, Village Green Ln.  
1933 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Cumberland  
2032 – domestic, Bak Rd.  
2040 – family trouble, Belleville Rd.  
2132 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Schooner Dr.

### Friday, Sept. 11:

0138 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis Rd.  
0246 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0437 – larceny from auto, Liberty Ln.  
0604 – disorderly, Haggerty Rd.  
0913 – suspicious person/vehicle, Vista Dr.  
0944 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Ecorse Rd.  
1044 – missing person, Brookside Dr.  
1105 – juvenile complaint, Freedom Way  
1129 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.  
1200 – lost property/child, Amanda Dr.  
1247 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd.  
1421 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.  
1508 – assist other dept., Hull Rd.  
1646 – fight, Belleville Rd.  
1702 – malicious destruction of property, Village Green Ln.  
1855 – fraud, Rolan Meadows Dr.  
2029 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.  
2056 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Jeremy  
2111 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Jeremy  
2156 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.  
2215 – disorderly, Brandi Dr.  
2324 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.

### Saturday, Sept. 12:

0008 – noise complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
0026 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.  
0302 – noise complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1229 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1238 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1443 – noise complaint, Mission Park  
1545 – dumping complaint, N. Woodbury Dr.  
1700 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1916 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1927 – animal complaint, S. Service Dr./Van Buren Park  
2028 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.  
2042 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.  
2046 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.  
2111 – suspicious person/vehicle, Edison Lake Rd.

2242 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service  
2307 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Haggerty Rd.  
2349 – animal complaint, Lake Point Blvd.  
Also on this week's log are 209 traffic stops, 145 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways .

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, Sept. 6:

0045 – operating while intoxicated, Menlo Park Dr.  
0312 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave./Church  
0510 – larceny, Main St.  
0956 – road hazard, Main St./High St.  
1150 – private property/property damage accident, Main St.  
1206 – malicious destruction of property, N. Liberty  
1331 – property damage accident, W. Columbia Ave.  
1821 – malicious destruction of property, W. Wabash Ave.  
2135 – welfare check, Main St.

### Monday, Sept. 7:

0345 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.

### Tuesday, Sept. 8:

0424 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.  
0928 – misc. complaint, Main St.  
1158 – 911 welfare check, Main St.  
1608 – malicious destruction of property, E. Columbia Ave.  
1720 – domestic, Savage/tracks  
2308 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

### Wednesday, Sept. 9:

1245 – animal complaint, Fifth St./N. Liberty  
1347 – follow up by officer, Maple  
1502 – road hazard, Main St./N. Liberty St.  
1633 – malicious destruction of property, Potter Dr.  
2011 – motorist assist, Belle Plaza

### Thursday, Sept. 10:

0028 – domestic, Estrada Dr.  
0536 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
1236 – animal complaint, Victorian Ct.  
1248 – lost property/child, Main St.  
1304 – civil matter, Main St.  
1803 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
2206 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Edgemont  
2258 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia

### Friday, Sept. 11:

0004 – warrant arrest, Bay Pointe Dr.  
0948 – warrant arrest, Main St.  
1344 – assist fire dept., Owen St.  
1357 – suspicious person/vehicle, Estrada/woods  
1855 – juvenile complaint, Menlo Park Dr.

### Saturday, Sept. 12:

0153 – suspicious person/vehicle, Owen St.  
1104 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.  
1108 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr.  
1149 – property damage accident, E. Columbia  
1409 – vehicle lock out, Hull Rd.  
1729 – suspicious person/vehicle, High/Main  
2105 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.  
2247 – fight, Loza Ln.

Also on this week's log are 34 traffic stops.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, Sept. 6:

0803 – citizen assist, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1015 – welfare check, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1203 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1617 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1731 – traffic complaint, Rawsonville/Rustic Ln.  
1914 – assist other agency, 10000 bl. Rawsonville  
1916 – shots fired, Judd Rd./Sumpter Rd.  
2006 – shots fired, Harris Rd./Martinsville Rd.  
2028 – suspicious vehicle, 28000 bl. Martinsville  
2049 – family trouble, Sumpter Rd./Kozma Rd.  
2140 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

### Monday, Sept. 7:

0110 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0155 – family trouble, Edgewood Dr.  
1031 – animal complaint, Oakville Waltz/Clark  
1110 – alarm, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1244 – reckless driver, Rawsonville Rd./Rustic Ln.  
1425 – juvenile complaint, Wayside Dr.  
1515 – welfare check, Pecan St.  
1702 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1830 – family trouble, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.

1833 – lost/missing juvenile, Washington St.  
1843 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1854 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.  
1934 – follow-up investigation, Wayside Dr.  
2026 – fire dept. assist, 5400 bl. Oakville Waltz

### Tuesday, Sept. 8:

0528 – welfare check, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
0811 – traffic complaint, 8300 bl. Rawsonville  
1039 – reckless driver, Wayside Dr./Rustic Ln.  
1052 – recovered stolen vehicle, Rawsonville/Judd  
1159 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1235 – follow-up investigation, Hampshire Dr.  
1243 – welfare check, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1305 – malicious destruction of property, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.

1517 – civil matter, Edgewood Dr.

1630 – suspicious person, Edgewood Dr.  
1729 – juvenile complaint, Rustic Ln.  
1955 – mental health call, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
2052 – 911 hang up, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2103 – fraud complaint, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.

### Wednesday, Sept. 9:

1400 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1446 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1615 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Traskos Ave.  
1706 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.  
2028 – noise complaint, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2121 – neighbor dispute, Rustic Ln.  
2134 – family trouble, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2252 – family trouble, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2347 – traffic complaint, Harris Rd./Haggerty Rd.

### Thursday, Sept. 10:

0420 – ORV complaint, Willis Rd./Sumpter Rd.  
1108 – fraud complaint, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1129 – suspicious circumstances, Rustic Ln.  
1201 – lost/missing juvenile, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1211 – suspicious circumstances, 43000 bl. Harris  
1716 – property damage accident, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1733 – suspicious circumstances, Rustic Ln.

1746 – ORV complaint, Judd Rd./Sumpter Rd.

1857 – family trouble, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2045 – family trouble, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2153 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.

### Friday, Sept. 11:

0120 – follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.  
0232 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.  
0644 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Dunn  
0929 – found property, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
0937 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1119 – operating while intoxicated arrest, California St./E. Arizona St.

1235 – suspicious person, Country Club Blvd.

1303 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.

1330 – noise complaint, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.

1445 – civil matter, Timberlane Dr.

1735 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.

1838 – citizen assist, Sumpter Rd./Wear Rd.

1848 – traffic complaint, Martinsville Rd./Judd Rd.

1945 – welfare check, Edgewood Dr.

2134 – suspicious circumstances, Knollwood Dr.

### Saturday, Sept. 12:

0522 – traffic complaint, Willow Rd./Clark Rd.

0809 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1050 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.

1210 – suspicious circumstances, 17000 bl. Lohr

1301 – open burning, 46000 bl. Dunn Rd.

1430 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.

1715 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

1815 – neighbor dispute, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.

2127 – suspicious person, 27000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

2312 – 911 hang up, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.

Also on this week's log are 39 patrol checks, nine traffic stops, and four misc. details.

## Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Sept. 17 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m., in person at the school and virtually on line.

- Monday, Sept. 21 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, Sept. 22 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, Sept. 23 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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