



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

City Council back to full strength with five members

By Rosemary K. Oztman
 Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin swore into office the two new councilmen appointed to fill two vacancies until the November election.

Councilmen Jeremiah Beebe and Tom Fielder took their seats at the council table putting the council back to its five-member strength and the one-hour-and-12-minute meeting began.

Seated in the audience in his new role as the city's Project Manager was former council member Steve Jones.

Sabrina Richardson-Williams, treasurer of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, asked if Jones' appointment to the city position that works on DDA projects wasn't a conflict of interest because Jones is chairman of the board of the Belleville Area of Chamber of Commerce and the chamber asks for money from the DDA.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said that the Project Manager works directly for City Manager/Chief of Police Dave Robinson and will do whatever work the city manager assigns to him.

"He's not sitting on the DDA ... and I can't count how many volunteer positions he holds," Mayor Conley said of Jones.

Richardson-Williams said the chamber asks for money from the DDA.

Mayor Conley said that money wouldn't impact him personally.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ken Voigt said that Jones also is a member of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts and they get money from the DDA.

"He's not a decision maker ... but he may make sure somebody cuts a check" to an organization, Mayor Conley said.

City Manager/Chief Robinson said he [Robinson] will continue in the DDA role

(continued on page 3)



Photo courtesy BHS

The Belleville High School Varsity Wrestling Team and coaches show off their first-place trophy Saturday after the team competed with 18 others at the Wyandotte Invitational. Wrestlers who placed individually in the tournament and got medals are: first place - Connor Williams, Bernard Harrison, Demond Harrison; third place - Landon Pepper, Javen Franklin, Ronald Jackson; fourth place -- Jackson Ostrowski, Austin Martin, Andrew Hessler; fifth place -- Jamall Gregory; sixth place -- Kasey Settles; and eighth place -- Nathan VanAssche, Michael VanAssche, Leyland Reed, Alexander Braatz.

City Downtown Development Authority to set up committees

By Rosemary K. Oztman
 Independent Editor

At its last meeting of the year on Dec. 21, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority agreed to set up sub-committees to study, brainstorm, and bring back recommendations for projects to the full DDA board.

Mayor Kerreen Conley, who sits on the DDA, presented the Committee Engagement item on the agenda, suggesting it is a "divide and conquer" project.

She referred to the strategic plan session the DDA had in early 2022 and said she took components of the strategic plan and broke it down into five sub-committees.

Because of the Open Meetings Act, a DDA quorum would require posted meeting notices and other things for an official meeting, she said.

Any number of community members, not on the DDA, would be free to serve on the sub-committees, she said.

Mayor Conley said the Economic Development sub-committee (DDA chairperson Alicia McGovern and Kelly McWilliams) and Budget/Finance sub-committee (treasurer Sabrina Richardson-Williams and secretary Denise Baker) are already functioning, but each sub-committee could use one more member.

The proposed Community Engagement sub-committee would work on how to help other organizations in the community to succeed, Mayor Conley said.

She said the Arts and Culture sub-committee already has Richardson-Williams on it, but two more could serve. Richardson-Williams has been supporting

art in the community and wanted to have a

(continued on page 3)



**The Belleville Area Museum
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 1,046 days as of today.
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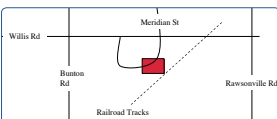
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council

(continued from page 1)

of director.

"He has projects for the planning commission, too," Robinson said. "I am the one making sure all that stuff is done."

"He is not benefiting personally," Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt stressed and Mayor Conley added he has no financial benefit from the DDA.

Voigt said he himself is on the arts council and it asks for money regularly from the DDA. Voigt said his council salary is paid by the city and it's \$80 a month.

Richardson-Williams said it is good to get this concern out in public so it's not just talking in whispers, behind backs.

In other business during Monday's regular meeting, the council:

- Approved the Special Event Application from the Belleville Central Business Community for the Belleville Farmers Market from 4-7:30 p.m. Mondays from June 5 through Oct. 30 at Fourth Street Place and Fourth Street Square. The lady who sold hot dogs as a vendor under a tent, who has been there two years, was discussed at length, with a misconception she was in a food truck and this was a new addition. Library board member John Juriga said the CBC won't have to rent porta potties since the library is happy to have people come in and use its facilities;

- Approved the Special Event Application from the Belleville Central Business Community for the Flop E Bunny Candy Hunt from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 8, at Victory Park;

- Approved the mayor's reappointments of Matt Wagner, 56 Potter Dr.; Randy Priest, 311 E. Huron River Dr.; and Mike Renaud, 715 Breakwater Dr., to the planning commission with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2025;

- Approved the mayor's new appointments to the planning commission of Julie Kissel, 3375 Charles St., and Mark Kowalski, 181 Potter Dr., with terms to expire Dec. 31, 2026. Kissel was sworn in by Clerk Briana Hootman. Kowalski was not present at the meeting. It was noted that because Fielder resigned from the planning commission to sit on the city council, there is one more seat now open on the commission;

- Approved accounts payable of \$92,154.81 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Lexipol, \$1,602 for on-line training for fire fighters; to Metro Environmental, \$3,663.75, for Hydro Excavation for main break on Dec. 28 at 300 W. Columbia Ave.; to Michigan Association of Planning, \$675, for group membership fee, City expense; and to Outdoor Amenities (Eric Partridge), \$1,400 for repair of cemetery fence, DPW account, will be repaid by person who damaged the fence;

- Was reminded that those who put a deposit on the scarecrow wooden foundations last fall can bring them back and get their deposits returned. Also, the original photos for the veterans' banners can be picked up in the treasurer's office at city hall;

- Discussed at length planning commission member Mike Renaud's request for a council follow-up list for the audience to see. He said it is on the agenda and people can offer comments on it, but they are not allowed to see it. City Manager Robinson said he puts comments on the follow-up list for the council only to see and he would have to make a redacted copy for the public. Renaud said there also are no copies of the agenda at the meeting for the public to have. Mayor Conley said she doesn't have a problem with the follow-up list being available to the public because, "The public holds us accountable" and, "Roads will be on the list forever," referring to one of Renaud's interests. Planning commissioner John Juriga said the follow-up list has always been provided in the past. Mayor Conley said the information on the meetings will be provided on the website and the city will provide a follow-up list. If it's not on the website, "We'll make copies," she said. The *Independent* suggested the city check with its attorney on the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meeting Act as far as providing information to the public;

- Heard Juriga publicly thank the *Independent* for having a picture of the museum in the paper with the number of days it has been closed. He said he hoped Van Buren Township officials would see that and be reminded of the situation;

- Heard Renaud note that there were blades on the used cars at Five Points and Building Official Rick Rutherford said they had been taken off. Renaud noted that a boat is now being stored at the ice cream shop on Main Street, which is not a permissible use of that space. Rutherford said he would check;

- Heard Voigt say the light pole at Hayward's has been hit again and Rutherford said it was fixed earlier that day. He said they plan to use an acrylic globe next time which will bounce when it hits the ground;

- Heard resident Jerry Merritt say he found a report online from the bridge inspector of the Denton Road bridge. He said if you type in: "Denton Road over Belleville Lake Huron River Wayne County Bridge Inspections," the report will come up from the *Times-Herald*. Mayor Conley said the city could have someone from the county come in and talk to the council and public about the bridge. She said she would talk to County Commissioner Al Haidous about it at Friday's Council of Western Wayne (CWW) meeting in Livonia. She said there are "a lot of ears at that meeting"; and

- Welcomed the representative from Congresswoman Debbie Dingell's office who was present at the meeting.



34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin swore in Thomas Fielder as a council member.



34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin swore in Jeremiah Beebe as a council member.

Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

large mural on a building. She has helped select the leased sculptures and will work with the Detroit Institute of Arts Displayed Masters project which is returning next spring.

The proposed Marketing sub-committee was also listed.

Mayor Conley said DDA members can decide to be on one or two sub-committees, but there shouldn't be enough on a committee to make a quorum. She said they can meet independently or by zoom. Ideas would be generated and suggestions and recommendation would be best in writing, with background. She said experts could be used to get information, if necessary.

Then the committees would bring their work to the DDA and the DDA would take it from there, all in cooperation with the city, Conley said.

"Everyone felt they had a part," she said of the results.

DDA members should consider where they want to serve and give the information to chairperson McGovern in January.

DDA member Jennifer Winter asked which sub-committee the electric vehicle charging stations would be on. She said her husband offered to help with EV charging stations months ago and told the previous assistant city manager about it and nothing happened.

It was suggested that would be on the Economic Development sub-committee.

Baker suggested there be a Parks and Recreation sub-committee and Mayor Conley said the city has a Parks and Recreation Committee, but it hasn't been active and "didn't have a lot of purpose."

McGovern asked if that group could be present at the January DDA meeting and City Manager/Police Chief Dave Robinson said first they have to find out who's on it.

Mayor Conley said Tom Fielder is on it.

McGovern said one of the DDA members could work with that group.

(continued on page 12)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Elected officials out, appointed officials in

We know you can't force people to stay in official positions just because people in the community elected them to serve, but the whole thing gets confusing sometimes.

In the city of Belleville, a councilwoman resigned because she was selling her house and moving into Van Buren Township and no longer would qualify for the city council.

Then, another Belleville City Council member resigned because he got a job with the city in the former Deputy City Manager position that now is called Project Manager. (Years ago, that person's significant other also got elected to the city council and then resigned to take a job with the city, but that's another story.)

These recent two elected council seats became vacant and so the council interviewed candidates and chose two to fill the positions until the next election in November. Because of what happened, all five council seats will be up for election at that time, which is not supposed to happen, but did.

Also, In Van Buren Township an elected trustee has resigned because she got a better job as a state representative. On Tuesday the VBT board was scheduled to interview candidates for that seat, with the appointment to last until 2024.

Hope this is the end of it. The voters gave candidates their precious votes and expected the winners to serve their terms. That's not too much to ask.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees scheduled a special meeting for 5 p.m. Tuesday to publicly interview three candidates to fill the trustee vacancy left by Reggie Miller when she resigned because she had been elected as state representative.

Those scheduled to be interviewed were Bryon Kelley, an attorney who is chairman of the Planning Commission; John Herman, former trustee and now chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals; and Ashley Shukait, who assembled a 75-page resource guide that the township put on its website in 2019 to share with residents and is an advocate for the homeless.

Our deadline for publication was before that special meeting, so we'll let you know next week what happened.

A Belleville resident told me a covered bridge for Denton Road over Belleville Lake had been discussed years ago by the city and then abandoned because it was obvious they couldn't build a bridge tall enough to have room for the Belleville fire truck without the too-tall bridge looking out of place. Van Buren Township's ladder truck for sure is too tall to fit in an old-fashioned-size covered bridge, he said.

The resident told me that at one time he and his wife thought it would be great to come over the Belleville Bridge at Christmas time and see the covered bridge all decorated with lights welcoming them home into the city.

The Van Buren Township version of the fancy bridge would be to welcome people into Van Buren Township from the city. It depends on where you're coming from, I guess.



Eric Partridge, the owner of the Outdoor Amenities business in Sumpter Township, fixed the damaged fence at Hillside Cemetery for the city of Belleville. The contract work was delayed because the metal fence panel wasn't delivered for several months. But, finally it came and he fixed the fence. The total materials and labor was \$1,400 and the city noted it was being paid for by the person who did the damage.

On the invoice Eric submitted to the city, dated Dec. 20 and on Monday's voucher list at the council meeting, was this final paragraph:

"We added hardware for gate drop rod, drilled out two drop rod receiver holes for a more secure closed position. Reattached a section on one side that needed love. Merry Holidays!"

I asked him if he did that as a present to the city and he said he had the extra parts and wanted to add the work.

I was told by another reader that this was a great gift and will make the fence gate sturdier.

A Van Buren Township reader brought in a Chase check for \$7,500 from Publishers Clearing House that her husband received in the mail. A letter said he has won \$2.5 million and the check is to cover insurance and attorney fees. He was supposed to call a "Claim Manager" at a certain number before depositing the check and was told he must keep everything "strictly confidential."

Our reader took the check to a bank in

Belleville to see if it was a scam and she was told it was a scam.

She brought it to show the *Independent* so we could share it with other readers who might also get a scam letter. What usually happens is they want money from you before you can cash the check and then when you cash the check it bounces and that is the end of the story. No prize.

She said she also got a message on her telephone answering machine saying they won a car, but she didn't call back. She said they have never participated in the Publishers Clearing House contests.

Mary Jo Suchy, director of the Belleville Area District Library, always includes interesting articles at the end of her packets for each meeting. This week there was an article on a study that showed you can improve your memory by reading for pleasure more than doing crossword puzzles.

If finding time to read for pleasure and allowing yourself to get really "sucked into a book" helps your memory, it's worth the effort – and fun besides. The study had the book/iPad group read for five days a week, 90 minutes at a time, for eight weeks. That group outdid the puzzle group by a lot.



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

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

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Production Manager: James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard

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Karen Feldt, owner of Karen's Place Salon in New Boston, is battling breast cancer and a benefit for her will take place from 2 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, at the American Legion post at 19835 Sterling St. Spaghetti dinners will be served for \$10 each and there will be a silent auction, raffles, and a bake sale. Donations for these events are still appreciated. Call Bill at (313) 590-6017 or Kisha at (734) 732-5795. Patrons are asked to wear pink.

Moving the Mitten Real Estate Group on Main Street is hosting a free homebuyer seminar and dinner starting at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18. Topics include the ins and outs of the home-buying process from pre-approval to closings, home inspections, and appraisals. A dinner will be served. Registration is free, but space is limited. To register call (734) 627-7100 and visit www.movingthemitten.com/seminar.

People looking to lose weight can join TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) as they meet on Fridays at 11:50 a.m. at Belleville Presbyterian Church, 11900 Belleville Rd. To learn more, call Linda Neuvirth at (734) 294 1285.

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



Dec. 12 – Stephanie Smith
Jan. 13 – Kathi Patton
Jan. 14 – Patti Bies, Larry Marrocca
Jan. 17 – Leon Wright
Jan. 23 – John Coughlin

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Letters

Denton Road Bridge petition for you to sign

To the editor:

I would like this petition to be printed in the next edition of the *Independent*.

Don Sherman, Van Buren Township

Denton Road Bridge Petition

We Van Buren Township citizens and taxpayers who have signed this petition are definitely not prepared to wait four years for the replacement of the Denton Road bridge over Belleville Lake. The closing of this bridge has already inconvenienced our daily endeavors and diminished our property values.

Worse, alternative routes such as Beckley Road and Denton Road between the closed bridge and the I-94 South Service Drive, are unacceptable for daily use due to their lack of maintenance over the last several years. Without the bridge, access to our neighborhood by fire, medical, and police services is impeded.

We expect you to expedite the permitting process by every available means including assistance from Governor Gretchen "fix the damn roads" Whitmer. We are not prepared to wait behind "other bridge projects" planned by Wayne County. This repair should not be impeded by the addition of frivolous decorations and Iron Belle Trail distractions.

Your goals must instead be to commence demolition of the existing bridge AT ONCE and to complete construction of a replacement bridge **by the end of 2023.**

Signature: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Submit your signed petition in an envelope addressed to Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara. Place that envelope in the drop box at the Township Hall located on Tyler Road.

Thank you for helping us with our sidewalk

To the editor:

I wish to thank our neighbor who has been so very kind, thoughtful, and helpful by having cleared (past snowfalls this winter ... so far) our front street sidewalk. You are a true blessing to both myself and my sister.

My health had quickly failed these past months and I am not able to do my usual chore after each snowfall. I am sad that this has fallen upon my sister's shoulders. She truly is a blessing and does so very much.

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Obituaries



Luther Herbert Whitt

LUTHER HERBERT WHITT

(February 21, 1929 - December 26, 2022)

Herb was born in Dayton, Ohio, the son of Luther Herbert Whitt Senior and Etta Marie Marsh Whitt.

Herb married Ann King Whitt on October 26, 1950.

Luther Herbert Whitt, "Herb," a longtime resident of Sumpter and Belleville, has passed away. The former owner of Van Buren Auto Parts had a variety of jobs throughout his life. Herb was a proud U.S. Army Veteran, having served in the Korean War. Upon receiving his Honorable Discharge, he returned to Ohio where he worked as a milk man, then took a position with NCR Corporation of Dayton. Herb moved his family to the Belleville area when he took a job at GM Parts Distribution. After Herb's retirement from GM, he became the owner of Van Buren Auto Parts and, eventually, following his second retirement, moved to Florida where he worked at Ace Hardware and as a maintenance man for the Methodist Church.

Besides being a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Herb was an extremely hard-working family man. Herb enjoyed travel and had visited all 50 states and was civic minded as a member of both the Belleville Lions Club and the Belleville Moose before his move to Florida. Herb enjoyed sports and competition and was well-known for his love of cards, bowling, golf, and was a wonderful storyteller. Herb is survived by his wife of 21 years, Alice Blackwell Whitt of Belleville, formerly of Florida, and his sister Reverend Shirley Whitt Landis of Oregon. Herb is also survived by three of his children: Daniel Whitt of Fort Myers Beach, Florida, Terri (Ken) Dixon of Lincoln Park, Michigan, Christian (Angelique) Whitt of Sumpter Township, Michigan, and his stepsons Phillip (Tammy) Blackwell of Clewiston, Florida, and Chad Blackwell of Maui, Hawaii.

Herb is also survived by his grandchildren: Courtney (Booney) Frost, Joshua (Alisha) Whitt, Austin Whitt, Jordan (Nolan) Bota-Maezes, Jacob Whitt, Zachary Whitt, Dylan Bota, Tyler Blackwell, and Andrew Blackwell. Great-grandchildren Haley Burgett Frost, Jaiden Frost, Timmy Frost, Henley Whitt, and great-great-grandchildren A'siah and A'zare. Herb was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Ann (December 27, 1994), and his daughter Gail Renee Whitt (2018).

A memorial service is being planned for February 19, 2023.

ROBERT LESLIE LAFFERTY

(September 19, 1945 - November 30, 2022)

Age 77, of Barbourville, KY. Survived by wife Patricia Ann; children Robert, Toni, Anthony; stepsons James, Danny, Joey; 3 siblings; 8 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Service 2 p.m. Jan. 14, Belleville Lighthouse Church.

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Sherry Deborah
Thomason

SHERRY DEBORAH THOMASON

(July 13, 1957 - January 7, 2023)

Sherry Deborah Thomason, age 65, of Brooklyn, MI, formerly of Romulus and Belleville, MI, passed away late Saturday, January 7, 2023, at her home, surrounded by family, under hospice care, after a long battle with scleroderma. She was born July 13, 1957, in Ypsilanti, MI, daughter of Cleon Riddle and Janet (Rice) Siebert.

Sherry grew up in Whittaker, MI, and was a member of the Lincoln High School, class of 1975. She married Kenneth Ray Sutherland and lived in Belleville, MI, for almost 15 years. He preceded her in death in 1993. She enjoyed being a Mental Health Aid for Washtenaw County for over 17 years. She had the biggest heart for those she cared for and a passion for educating people about disabilities. She later married Gary Steven Thomason on August 23, 2002. She enjoyed boating and loved doing anything outside where she could be in the sunshine. She enjoyed baking, trips to the casinos, and time with her friends at the Brooklyn, MI, Moose and Eagles clubs. Sherry was a beautiful person, always well put together, who always showed up with something special, whenever she was invited somewhere. She was well loved and will be deeply missed.

Mrs. Thomason is survived by her devoted husband of 22 years, Gary; her daughter Jocelyn (Jason) Johnson of Taylor, MI; five bonus kids: Gary & Elizabeth Thomason, Mario & Ashely Thomason, Jeremy & Brittany Thomason, and lastly Benji Thomason; many grandchildren; her mother Janet Siebert of Whittaker, MI; a brother Jimmy (Linda) Riddle of Ypsilanti, MI; four sisters: Sandy Chapman, Diane and Denny Riddle, all of Ypsilanti, MI, and Donna (Butch) Quinn of Ohio; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Sherry was preceded in death by her father Cleon Riddle, a son in infancy Joshua Sutherland, her first husband Kenneth Ray Sutherland, also two grandsons, Jeremiah Johnson and Kenneth Curtis.

Visitation will be 1-5 p.m., Thursday, and 10-11 a.m. Friday, January 13, 2023, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Her funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. Friday; her brother Jimmy Riddle will officiate. Interment will follow in Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI with her stepson Gary Thomason officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to National Scleroderma Foundation, Michigan Chapter, and would be appreciated. www.davidcbrownfh.com

KATHLEEN MARIE BINGHAM

(August 23, 1955 - January 5, 2023)

Age 67, of New Boston. Survived by four children, Renee, Sarah, Alex, and Doug; 8 grandchildren; 2 sisters and a brother. Service was Jan. 11 at David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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Obituaries



Shirley Mears and
James "Tony" Bowers

SHIRLEY MEARS

(November 10, 1952 - December 30, 2022)

Shirley Mears, age 70, passed in the morning hours of December 30, 2022, at St. Joseph Hospital of complications due to COVID. She was born on November 10, 1952. Shirley Mears spent much of her life as a homemaker and retired from McDonalds. She's lived in many different places over the years but found herself back in Belleville in the last few years before her passing. She was the second youngest of seven children and raised three amazing boys. She is preceded in death by her husband, James; her parents, Hoyt and Mary; and her siblings, Dwayne, Glenda, and Betty. She is survived by her siblings, Kim, Bill (Betty), and Carol; her children, David (Billie), Jim (Angela), and Esten (Cassie); her grandchildren, Chris (Rachelle), Collin, Hunter, Cole, Gage, Kayden, and Nathan; her great-grandchildren, Cole and Lilly; and other extended family.

THOMAS CHARLES MASON

(October 13, 1943 - January 3, 2023)

Age 79, of Canton, MI. Belleville High School, 1961. Associate degree, Cleary College. Owned Quality Plus, Inc. in Ypsilanti for 33 years. Survived by daughter Connie, son Jeff, 3 granddaughters, 1 great-granddaughter, sister and brother. www.davidcbrownfh.com

RICK McWHIRTER

(February 5, 1975 - January 3, 2023)

Age 47, of Belleville. BHS 1994. Survived by wife Jodi, three children Kaitlynn, Ricky, Jacob, his parents, brothers Steve and Kris. Service was January 9 at David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Monday, Jan. 16** – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. free program, "It Starts with Me," at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Township begins with a pre-event at 5:30 p.m. and main stage program at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by Canton Township and the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. For information call (734) 394-5300 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

• **Wednesday, Jan. 18** – All Belleville High School Wrestling alumni are invited to a wrestling home meet and senior night at 5 p.m. at Belleville High School. "It would be wonderful to see the alumni wrestlers there," said a news alert from BHS.

• **Saturday, Jan. 21** – Join the Belleville Area Friends of the Library at its annual meeting at 11 a.m. at the library.

• **Saturday, Jan. 21** – A "Preserving Family Heritage" three-part series begins at 2 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library with a workshop concentrating on preserving photos for future generations. Fabric and organic materials will be discussed at 2 p.m., Feb. 18, and books and documents at 2 p.m., March 18. Registration is required. Register for one session or all three.

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Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, Jan. 12 – Keystone Academy School Board, 5 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 17 – Van Buren Township work/study at 5 p.m. and board meeting at 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education organizational meeting, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.

• Wednesday, Jan. 18 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 6 p.m.

• Monday, Jan. 23 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 24 – Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m.

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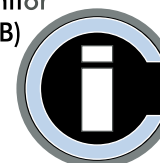
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If you'd like to adopt me, please go to friendsofmichigan.org/adoptable-cats to submit an application. I'm spayed, microchipped, up to date on vaccinations, and I'm negative for FIV/FelV.

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734-461-9458 phone
734-461-9459 fax
www.friendsofmichigan.org

Online Rain Garden classes set for Thursdays Feb. 23 – March 23

Protect your home against flooding and help bees, birds, and butterflies with a rain garden.

The 2023 online Rain Garden classes to become a Master Rain Gardener will be available from 10 a.m. to noon on five Thursdays, Feb. 23 to March 23.

Early bird cost is \$89. Scholarships are available. The cost goes up to \$145 after

Feb. 9. Those interested may sign up at <http://therouge.org/mrg>.

Students will be taught, step by step, how to design their own rain gardens in the live, virtual class taught by Master Rain Gardener Renee Ringholz. The class also includes live tours throughout Southeast Michigan.

The classes are sponsored by the Huron

River Watershed Council and partner organizations. It is intended to teach students all about rain gardens, including lessons learned from more than 500 gardens built by homeowners just like you. Learn what works and what doesn't, ask questions, and visit a real rain garden in person.

Optional tour dates are:

- Thursday, Feb. 23 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Visit a residential rain garden in the Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, area. Hear directly from the residents about their experience designing and building their rain garden; and

- Thursday, March 9, from 2 to 4 p.m., in the Plymouth, Wayne County, area explore 23 rain gardens at the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex, 650 Church St., Plymouth.

Additional tour dates and locations are to be determined.

To earn a Master Rain Gardener certificate, garden sign, and t-shirt, participants must attend all five classes and plant or adopt a rain garden.

A free, self-paced version of the class is available at <https://therouge.org/master-rain-gardener/>

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Sage Beatty and Daniel Platt of Belleville announce their engagement to be married in 2024. Sage is the daughter of Lisa Zander and Brian Beatty of Belleville. Daniel is the son of Cindy and Mark Platt of Belleville. Both Sage and Daniel are medical students at Central Michigan University.

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Friends of the Library annual meeting set for Jan. 21 at 11 a.m.

The Friends of the Belleville Area District Library will be holding their 2023 annual membership meeting at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 21, in the Cozadd Room of the library. Members of the Friends of the Library and the public are invited to attend.

Minutes from the 2022 annual meeting will be available and presented by the secretary. The treasurer will present the annual financial report. Committee chairpersons will present annual reports for book sales/public relations, online sales,

membership, and digital communication.

Elections of officers for the 2023 Board of Directors will take place. The following slate of officers has been approved by the current board. The proposed officers are Katerina Tyner, president; Donna Gilkey-Lavin, vice president; Manny Lavin, secretary and Rika Regentin, treasurer. Any additional nominations will be taken from the floor. Each attending member of the Friends will have one vote.

The theme for this year is "Bee a Friend," to commemorate the first batch of honey collected from the library bee hives. Membership brochures may be picked up at the library or obtained on-line at the library website: www.belleville.lib.mi.us.

All members are invited to attend the Friends' board meetings at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month in the conference room on the second floor. The board welcomes new ideas for future planning.

Donations to the Friends of the Library are greatly appreciated. It is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax deductible.

Donations can also be made through Amazon Smile. After filling your Amazon shopping cart, sign up on Amazon Smile and choose Friends of the Belleville Area District Library. A percentage of your purchase will automatically sent to the Friends of BADL.

Used-book sales are ongoing in the Friends' Nook in the library lobby. The next public book sale is being planned for May 6-8. More information will be forthcoming.

Revenue from the book sales and donations are used for maintaining the bee hives, summer reading programs, participation in Lake Fest, Harvest Fest and Winter Fest and other library activities.

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Belleville DDA

(continued from page 3)

"We need help from all our board members," McGovern said.

"If people get an idea of where they'd like to serve, they should send it to Alicia and we can figure out where we can get additional resources," she said.

In other business at the Dec. 21 meeting, the DDA:

- Considered the new DDA Follow-up List compiled by Baker that lists descriptions of proposed projects in various areas and the status of each proposal. She said the Nov. 21 walk through the parks taken by DDA board members showed a lot of things that needed attention;

- Heard the newest DDA member Ivan Ankwatsa pitch software called Monday.com that organizes tasks, ideas and follow-ups. He said for, example, they could set up a community day to clean up the parks and everything would be listed on the site including deadline, equipment, supplies, etc., and everyone can monitor the progress. The DDA members' information would be separated from the part where everyone else could view. He said it would cost \$1,500, but you can "see what's

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

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happening in real time." Conley asked for a demonstration at the next meeting and Ankwatsa agreed to show it. McGovern said somebody would have to enter the data from meetings, but Ankwatsa said instead of minutes it could all be loaded on the site. Mayor Conley cautioned him that some minutes are required by law. She said it sounded like a "handheld project management company," and Ankwatsa agreed, saying it puts everyone on the same page;

- Heard McGovern present the DDA Year-end Report. She said Belleville is the heart of the tri-community and can provide resources for the communities. She said it has been suggested that Cobalt ping people who come into the community, so the DDA will know where they come from

and where to focus its promotions. She said the strategic plan drew the board together. She is grateful for all of the businesses in the community, grateful for the residents, the organizations, the city, and the vendors. She said Whitney Beaubien is putting a community calendar together. Concerning the list of events McGovern listed on the report as being sponsored by the DDA, DDA member Jennifer Winter said the DDA does not sponsor the Main Street Car Show. That is sponsored by Egan's Pub, she said, but she'd be glad to talk to the DDA about sponsoring it;

- Was advised that at the Jan. 18 meeting of the DDA there will be election of officers. McGovern said, although her term expires Dec. 31, she has advised the mayor that she is willing to continue serving on the DDA.

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AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on JANUARY 21, 2023 at 12:00 P.M., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc. E202 & L526, Georgene Axton; R930, Jeremy Debord; I419 & J616, Cornell Fox; M573, Thomas Brown, Jr.; L530, William Parker; K650, M J Rea; K666, Teela Boone; N810, O715 & S962, Terry Booth; I411, Morgan Barbee; L500 & L501, Lisa Clark; K657, Shunya Cleveland; L508, Katrina Bryant; Q900, Steven Schnepf; F264, Mookie Dilliard, Jr.; H376, American Building Services; P766, Sid Taylor; K672, Jerome Quarles; M567 & I427, Jennifer Miller; P751, Tyler Deneau; O722, Karen Gladstone; S961, Haley Sewell; O724, Michael Riley; T981, Chandler Cuts and Snow, LLC; M583, Umina S. Twork; K673, Nicholas Adams; K667, David James
Publish: January 5 and January 12, 2023

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Publish: Jan. 5, 2023 and Jan. 12, 2023

FOR SALE

BRADFORD LEATHER HOODED JACKET, vest & skirt, medium. \$350. (734) 697-8278. Ask for Sharon. 01/26

WANTED

H & W TOP DOLLAR \$

Cash For Salvage & Scrap Vehicles.
7 Days. Free Towing.
Licensed & Insured.
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(517) 605-6388

WANTED – ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED – Someone to help remove clips from the fuel filter of a 2003 Jeep Grand Cherokee. (301) 980-5991 01/19

CASH PAID FOR Sports Cards and Comic Books. 50s, 60s, 70s. Private collector can come to you. (734) 697-3546 01/12

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FREE FILL. Delivery available. (734) +697-1183. Yost Sand & Gravel. Belleville. TFN

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Court Watching:**Homeless VBT man faces home-invasion, domestic violence charges**

Jerome Henry Curtis, 42, of Van Buren Township, was due for his probable cause conference on July 20 at 34th District Court,

but that was adjourned until July 27 because his defense attorney needed discovery. He is charged with home invasion-first degree and a misdemeanor domestic violence on July 5 in Van Buren Township.

Curtis was in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$10,000/10% with GPS tether and couldn't afford bail. At the request of his attorney Nancy Richards, Judge Martin reduced the bond to \$10,000 personal with a GPS tether.

He couldn't return to his former home on S. Ponderosa Trail, so he said he could stay with one of his six children or a sibling and an exact address was required for the tether.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Sona Movsisyan said the day of the incident Curtis told police he would leave and then he came back and assaulted the complainant, so she's not sure he will not have contact with her once he gets out.

On July 27, his probable cause conference was rescheduled for Aug. 3. The court file said they adjourned because they were not sure if the defendant is in the jail or hospital. On Aug. 3 he failed to appear and a bench warrant was signed by Judge Oakley and entered into LEIN.

On Aug. 8 he was arraigned on the bench warrant and his probable cause conference set for Aug. 17. On Aug. 17 he was in the Wayne County Jail and it was announced he tested positive for COVID and could not zoom to court. His probable cause conference was adjourned until Aug. 31.

On Aug. 31, he was unable to be present by zoom from the jail because he had COVID and his live preliminary exam was set for Oct. 5.

On Oct. 5, preliminary exam witness Rachel Ressler testified how she called Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department on Memorial Day when Curtis strangled her in her car. She said she didn't want to be near him after that and told him he couldn't live in her home any longer. They have an eight-year-old special needs daughter in common.

On July 5, he was at her home when she got home from work and asked to use the bathroom and to have a cup of coffee. He said he was homeless. He wouldn't leave so she called police. Officer Kurtis Mowbray testified he was first called to the home for a disorderly subject. The officer testified that after Curtis left, he left. Then he got another call for violence in progress and he returned. Curtis had left again and he arrested him near the residence later, he testified.

Judge Lisa Martin bound him over to Circuit Court for an Oct. 12 arraignment on the information. A calendar conference was set for Oct. 24. A final conference had been set for Nov. 21 and then changed to Dec. 21. The final conference now is Jan. 19.

A probable cause conference for a charge of receiving and concealing a stolen vehicle on July 26 in Van Buren Township was set for Oct. 19. The warrant on that charge when he failed to appear for a court session was recalled.

On Oct. 19 his attorney said she had no discovery, and the live exam on that charge was set for Nov. 30. On that date he pled guilty to a reduced charge of stolen property. Judge Oakley sentenced him to 30 days in jail and then credited him with the 30 days he had been in jail. He had personal bond but was in custody at the Wayne County Jail on another matter.

Public Notice

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

KATHY ANGERER
DIRECTOR

Notice of Drainage Board Meeting For Determination of Necessity

NORTH BRANCH BIG SWAN CREEK INTERCOUNTY DRAIN (Monroe Wayne and Washtenaw Counties)

DATE: January 23, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Sumpter Township Community Center
23501 Sumpter Road, Belleville, Michigan

The North Branch Big Swan Creek Intercounty Drain Drainage Board previously held a Drainage Board meeting on November 30, 2022, and determined that the July 24, 2019 petition for maintenance and improvement was necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare. To ensure that all interested persons are provided an opportunity to be heard, a second Drainage Board meeting will take place at the above date, time and location to hear all interested persons, receive evidence and determine whether the maintenance and improvement, as set forth in the petition dated July 24, 2019, is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare. **Any testimony previously given at the November 30, 2022 meeting will be made a part of the record for the January 23, 2023 meeting.**

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting, or additional information may be obtained from the following offices:

David Thompson
Monroe County Drain
Commissioner
1005 S. Raisinville Rd.
Monroe, Michigan
734-240-3101

Elmeka Steele
Wayne County Drain
Commissioner
400 Monroe St., Ste. 400
Detroit, Michigan
313-365-0494

Evan Pratt
Washtenaw County Water
Resources Commissioner
705 N. Zeeb Rd.
Ann Arbor, Michigan
734-222-6860

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner of their County at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

Anyone aggrieved by the decision of the Intercounty Drain Drainage Board may seek judicial review pursuant to MCL 280.122a.

Dated: January 4, 2023

Brady Harrington, Deputy
For Kathy Angerer, Director
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 302 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Jan 1:

0349 – 911 welfare check, Winding Pond Dr.
0438 – family trouble, Lighthouse Dr.
0610 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
0646 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Ormond Dr.
1032 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1050 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1157 – threat, E. Adams
1238 – civil matter, Timberland Dr.
1248 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
1248 – road hazard, Rawsonville Rd./Grove Rd.
1519 – intrusion alarm, Montague Ave.
1524 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1541 – motorist assist, Hoeft Rd.
1621 – assist citizen, Westlake Cir.
1752 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1805 – fraud, Lighthouse Dr.
1903 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.
1929 – juvenile complaint, Westlake
2021 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2024 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
2320 – domestic, Van Buren St.
2346 – warrant arrest, Michigan/Lotz

Monday, Jan. 2:

0059 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.
0323 – hospice death, Lincoln St.
0325 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0534 – domestic, Rose Blvd.
0730 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. Timberview Dr.
0917 – civil matter, Harmony Ln.
1212 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1252 – civil matter, Beckley Rd.
1339 – shooting, Park Estates Dr.
1355 – neighbor trouble, Rose Blvd.
1441 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1635 – malicious destruction of property, Liberty Ln. / Presidential Dr.
1703 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1733 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
1738 – found property/child, Tyler Rd.
2342 – civil matter, McBride Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 3:

0008 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
0103 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
0233 – suspicious person/vehicle, Victoria St.
0352 – unattended death, W. Huron River Dr.
0532 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0840 – breaking & entering, Village Green Ln.
1222 – domestic, Park Estates Dr.
1243 – assist other dept., Ormond Dr.
1300 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1439 – intrusion alarm, Christina Ln.
1536 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
1554 – civil matter, N. Cumberland Dr.
1641 – larceny from auto, Laguna Dr.
1711 – property damage accident, Bemis/Lohr
1728 – domestic, Oak Ln.
1904 – retail fraud, Michigan Ave.
1914 – assault & battery, S. Bellridge Dr.
1935 – overdose, Holly Ln.
2246 – suspicious person/vehicle, Vernon St.
2259 – larceny from auto, Haggerty Rd.
2358 – assist fire dept., Michigan Ave.

Wednesday, Jan. 4:

0021 – noise complaint, Chaney Ave.
0034 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.
0129 – property check, Belleville Rd.
0232 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0335 – 911 welfare check, Beck Rd.
0515 – civil matter, Arcadia Ct.
0549 – vehicle lockout, S. Schooner Dr.
0640 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lake Point Blvd.
0657 – personal injury accident, W. I-94/Haggerty
0732 – assist other dept., Wildflower Ct.
0804 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
0808 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0836 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0928 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1131 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1132 – domestic, Country Walk Blvd.

1138 – harassment call, Chinkapin Dr.
1225 – prisoner transport, S. Wayne Rd.
1420 – assist other dept., Outer Dr.
1541 – animal complaint, Rebecca Ct.
1550 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Van Born Rd.
1600 – mental subject, Beck Rd.
1613 – assist other dept., Sonrisa St.
1619 – personal injury accident, Belleville/Tyler
1629 – animal complaint, Martinsville/Riggs
1645 – assist other dept., Sonrisa St.
1816 – animal complaint, W. Huron River Dr.
1943 – malicious destruction of property, Country Walk Blvd.
1959 – road hazard, Hayes St./Van Buren St.
2328 – assault & battery, Haggerty Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 5:

0029 – assist other dept., Trilogy apts.
0143 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0258 – intrusion alarm, North Shore Dr.
0421 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
0452 – intrusion alarm, Jeremy Rd.
0543 – intrusion alarm, Fay Dr.
0934 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1023 – lost property/child, Denton Rd.
1105 – welfare check, Ayres Ave.
1156 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1315 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1335 – domestic, Beckley Rd.
1448 – misc. complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1456 – animal complaint, Rose Blvd.
1457 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1615 – harassment call, Western St.
1642 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1701 – welfare check, S. Adams
1718 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1753 – intrusion alarm, Cobblestone Creek Dr.
1758 – domestic, Westlake Cir.
1827 – domestic, McBride Ave.
1836 – welfare check, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1918 – private property impound, Van Born
1958 – civil matter, Prairie Ct.
2005 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service
2014 – noise complaint, Mida Dr.
2020 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd. / Independence Ln.

2103 – welfare check, US Ecology holding lot
2203 – welfare check, Mott/Denton
2322 – civil matter, Kirkridge Park Dr.

Friday, Jan. 6:

0022 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0230 – welfare check, Michigan Ave.
1053 – road hazard, Belleville Rd./E. I-94
1135 – PPO violation, Ash Dr.
1204 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1205 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

1257 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
1418 – missing person, N. Cumberland Dr.
1418 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1519 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1628 – intrusion alarm, Hannan Rd.
1827 – 911 welfare check, Milton Dr.
1843 – property check, Belleville Rd.
1913 – intrusion alarm, Alba Ct.
2014 – threat, Sonrisa St.
1018 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2103 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
2149 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2247 – disorderly, S. Woodbury Dr.
2325 – juvenile complaint, Denton Rd.
2358 – welfare check, Denton Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 7:

0018 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
0832 – animal complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0920 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
0948 – welfare check, N. Cumberland Dr.
1059 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1307 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck Rd.
1353 – civil matter, Van Buren St.
1542 – mental subject, Beck Rd.
1556 – assist other dept., Pebblebrook Dr.
1557 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1603 – civil matter, Tyler Rd.
1633 – assist other dept., America
1830 – animal complaint, Ironwood Dr.
1832 – assist fire dept., Cobblestone Ct.
2102 – road hazard, rest area

Also on this log are 130 traffic stops, with 33 of those being on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 1:

0259 – traffic stop, High St.
0636 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
1101 – suicidal person, Belle Villa Blvd.
1504 – parking complaint, Estrada Dr./Belle Villa Blvd.
1518 – assist other dept., Carmell St.
1557 – traffic stop, Main St.
1702 – traffic stop, Victorian Ln./Savage Rd.
2025 – assist other dept., Holiday West

Monday, Jan. 2:

0201 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
0555 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd.
1833 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
1929 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Fifth St.
1952 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Fifth St.
2008 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./N. Liberty St.
2039 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
2045 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Belleville Rd.
2049 – property damage accident, Henry St.
2209 – traffic stop, S. Biggs/E. Huron River Dr.
2235 – traffic stop, South St./Henry St.
2238 – traffic stop, High St./Edison Ave.
2241 – parking complaint, Estrada Dr.

Tuesday, Jan. 3:

0416 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1547 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
1826 – traffic stop, S. Biggs Ave./Greylock St.
2236 – traffic stop, Second St./Charles St.
2315 – traffic stop, South St./Wabash Ave.
2329 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
2340 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
2345 – traffic stop, Sumpter/Industrial Pk. Dr.

Wednesday, Jan. 4:

0859 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
1223 – 911 welfare check, E. Columbia Ave.
1512 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
1844 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, High St./Brain St.
2103 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
2126 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
2136 – traffic stop, N. Liberty/E. Huron River Dr.
2346 – traffic stop, Savage Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 5:

0843 – larceny from auto, N. Liberty St.
1100 – traffic stop, Madelon St./Robbe St.
1210 – traffic stop, Tuscon Manor
1220 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
1301 – civil matter, Carmell St.
1338 – parking complaint, Main St.
1459 – traffic stop, South St./Industrial Pk. Dr.
1643 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
2005 – traffic stop, E. Huron River/N. Edgemont
2025 – traffic stop, Savage Rd./Victorian Ln.
2038 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
2242 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St.

Friday, Jan. 6:

0146 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1718 – fraud, Estrada Dr.
1729 – road hazard, E. Columbia Ave./Main St.
2111 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
2137 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Fifth St.
2139 – traffic stop, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
2143 – traffic stop, High St./Main St.
2147 – traffic stop, W. Huron River/Bay Pointe

Saturday, Jan. 7:

0039 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Angola
0104 – property check, Sumpter Rd.
0525 – traffic stop, South St./E. Columbia Ave.
1541 – assist other dept., S. Edgemont Ave.
1558 – civil matter, Carmell St.
1717 – welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
1928 – traffic stop, High St./Brain St.
1944 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
2020 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Angola St.
2013 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / Denton Rd.

2110 – suspicious person/vehicle, Savage Rd. / Victorian Ln.
2129 – traffic stop, Belleville/Quirk
2139 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
2202 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd.
2218 – road hazard, High St./Brain St.
2250 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.

There were 43 traffic stops on this week’s log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 1:

0003 – shots fired, Timberlane Dr.
0004 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
0004 – shots fired, Timberlane Dr.
0006 – shots fired, Virginia St.
0814 – fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.
0826 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
1242 – fire dept. assist, 6500 bl. Oakville Waltz
1328 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1431 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1527 – civil matter, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
1753 – motorist assist, Willow Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1913 – noise complaint, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1955 – family trouble, Second St.
2023 – flee & elude police, Oregon St.
2113 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
2354 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.

Monday, Jan. 2:

0009 – property damage accident, 24000 bl. Clark
0257 – animal complaint, Magnolia Dr.
0301 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
0627 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oregon
0822 – suspicious person, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
0853 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0921 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
1040 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1219 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1234 – traffic complaint/hazard, 50000 bl. Willis
1241 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1302 – suspicious circumstance, 44000 bl. Paris
1326 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1358 – suspicious circumstance, Rustic Ln.
1403 – larceny, Rustic Ln.
1521 – mental health call, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1537 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1643 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1845 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2049 – fire dept. assist, Washington St.
2210 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.

Tuesday, Jan. 3:

0200 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
0343 – suspicious person, Magnolia Dr.
0913 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1005 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1451 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1458 – suspicious vehicle, Willis Rd./Rawsonville
1521 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
1726 – fire dept. assist, Colorado St.
1915 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
2037 – civil matter, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
2136 – citizen assist, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.

Wednesday, Jan. 4:

0131 – suspicious circumstance, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0256 – suspicious person, Rustic Ln.
0916 – suspicious person, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1010 – fire dept. assist, Montana St.
1106 – suspicious circumstance, Rawsonville Rd. / Arkona Rd.
1127 – suspicious circumstance, 48000 bl. Willow
1241 – warrant arrest, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1624 – traffic complaint/hazard, Arkona Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
1630 – larceny, Mulberry Ln.
1828 – harassment complaint, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2331 – fire dept. assist, Timberlane Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 5:

0047 – 911 hang up, Indiana St.
0411 – suspicious circumstance, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0644 – suspicious circumstance, 51000 bl. Willis
0713 – suspicious person, Oakville Waltz/Clark
0729 – welfare check, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0819 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0905 – fire dept. assist, Bemis/Rawsonville
1153 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1454 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Timber Park Ln.
1513 – found property, Rawsonville Rd./Willis Rd.
1652 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1723 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1829 – fire dept. assist, Bemis Rd./Rawsonville
1948 – 911 hang up, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
2019 – suspicious person, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
2124 – personal injury accident, Willis/Lohr

Friday, Jan. 6:

1140 – mental health call, Stonecrest Dr.
1744 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

(Continued on page 15)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 14)

1841 – suspicious circumstance, 5700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1900 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Bohn
2015 – family trouble, Texas St.
Saturday, Jan. 7:
0326 – family trouble, Mulberry Ln.
0456 – assist other agency, Rawsonville/Judd
1204 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1232 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1507 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1828 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
2045 – family trouble, Arizona St.
2155 – suspicious vehicle, Harris Rd./Lohr Rd.
Also on this week's log are 182 patrol checks, 69 traffic stops, and seven misc. details.



City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 19, 2022 - 7:30 pm

The regular meeting of the City Council was held via a hybrid of in-person and virtual access through ZOOM.

The regular meeting of the Belleville City Council was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:30 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Jones	Present
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. APPOINTMENTS, PRESENTATIONS &

CITIZENS COMMENTS

A. Presentations

• Winners of Holiday Lights/Decorations Contest
-- Mayor Conley presented awards to the following winners:

- Harbour Pointe Category – 392 Light Tower Ct. (Not present)
- Over the Top Category – Belleville Bariatrics (Not present)

-- Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt presented an award to the following winner:

- Remainder of Belleville Category – 155 Second St. (Present)

-- Council Member Jones presented an award to the following winner:

- Victoria Commons Category – 461 Waterbury Ct. (Present)

-- Council Member Bates presented awards to the following winners:

- Mobile Home Parks Category – 77 Carmell (Present)
- Best Business Category – Edward Jones/Moving the Mitten (Not present)

B. Council Follow Up List

- No comments

C. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

• Mike Renaud asked if the digital sign at Main and High St. could be updated.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Jones to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 5, 2022, Regular Meeting of the City Council

MOTION: Motion by Jones, supported by Voigt to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on Monday, December 5, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

B. December 12, 2022, Special Meeting of the City Council

MOTION: Motion by Voigt, supported by Jones to approve the Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting held on Monday, December 12, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- None.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

- None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS DISCUSSION

A. Selection of New City Council Member
Mayor Conley announced that the City Council would be selecting two new members instead of one, as Council Member Jones will also be resigning due to his acceptance of a position with the City as Project Manager.

MOTION: Motion by Jones, supported by Voigt approving the selection of Tom Fielder and Jeremiah Beebe to replace City Council Members Henry and Jones.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

B. Resolution #22-070 – City Council Meeting Dates for 2023

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Voigt approving **Resolution # 22-070**, establishing the City Council meeting dates for 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

C. City Manager/Police Chief Compensation

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Jones approving a salary increase of 5% for City Manager/Police Chief Robinson, as a result of an outstanding performance evaluation. The increase is approved to be retroactive to February of 2022, along with a bonus of \$5,000, due to the lack of completion of a performance evaluation at that time.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Jones to approve **Resolution #22-071** authorizing Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Jones	Aye
Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt	Aye
Mayor Conley	Aye

Motion Carried.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

• City Manager Robinson thanked the Council Members for his performance review and salary increase.

• Stated that the best thing about his role as City Manager/Police Chief has been assembling such a great team of employees.

• Appreciates the support of the Mayor and City Council, as well as the City employees in general.

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

• Mayor Pro-Tem Voigt
-- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas
-- Congratulated the winners of the Holiday Light Contest.

-- Stated that he would like to see the City hire a grant writer.

Stated that he would like to help the City come up with a plan to address road conditions within the City.

• Council Member Jones

-- Wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

-- Noted that this is his last meeting as a City Council Member, and thanked all of the voters who helped elect him to the position.

-- Is looking forward to moving in to the Project Manager role at City Hall.

• Council Member Bates

-- Stated that it is nice to see new people in attendance at the meeting.

-- Thanked Chief/City Manager Robinson for all that he's done.

-- Congratulated the winners of the Holiday Light Contest.

-- Thanked everyone who applied and interviewed to be a City Council Member.

12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

• Mayor Conley stated that as it is the last Council meeting of the year, it's a great time to reflect on all of the great things that have occurred throughout the year.

• Thanked many people:

- The employees of the City.
- Members of the City's boards and commissions.
- Members of the community, and the businesses that have invested here.

• Those who were interested and applied/interviewed to be on City Council.

• Steve Jones for his service as a Council Member, and wished him luck on his new position.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

• Brian Loranger

• Thanked City Manager/Police Chief Robinson for being proactive as opposed to reactive, as well as for being pro-City and pro-Fire Department.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

- None

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by Bates, supported by Jones to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

No objections were noted.

Motion Carried.

Briana Hootman / City Clerk

Approved: 01/09/23

Posted: 01/10/23

Published: 01/12/23

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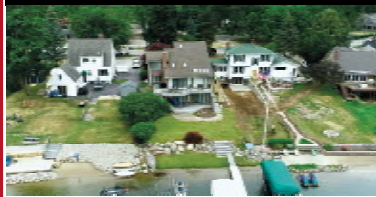
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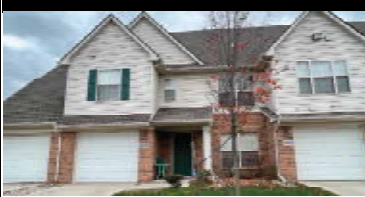
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