



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.4 Thursday, January 23, 2020

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

Kollmeyer retires after 22 years of service to Belleville

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Feb. 3 is Diana Kollmeyer's last day as city manager of the city of Belleville.

The city council is in the midst of a search for her replacement and it won't have a new city manager by the time Kollmeyer walks out the door after almost 22 years in city hall.

The council has discussed getting an interim city manager to fill in until a new city manager is hired, but no decision was made.

Kollmeyer said she had been serving in municipal government since 1980.

She was born in New Castle, Indiana, and grew up there. In the fall of 1979 there was a local election and her mother worked in the mayor's campaign. When he won, he told her mother she could have one job for whomever she chose and she chose daughter Diana. Her other daughter had recently found work.

Kollmeyer served as executive secretary to the mayor for five and a half years, but they didn't get along. The coffee was too strong or she didn't play country music enough and other things.

After a while, she earned enough time to have the summer off. She said she would decide when she came back if she would stay.

When she returned, the mayor said he would be better, but it didn't last.

A clerk-treasurer was needed in city hall, so she walked across the hall from the mayor's office and applied there and got the job. She worked there as chief deputy clerk-treasurer until 1997, when she remarried and moved to Michigan.

While she was in New Castle and was still the mayor's secretary, the clerk-treasurer and her husband, Pam and Bob Jarvis, who had a rug-weaving business,

(continued on page 13)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Belleville Downtown Development Authority member Jason Mida, left, presented a going-away gift to City Manager Diana Kollmeyer at the Jan. 15 DDA meeting. The gift turned out to be a brick that will be engraved with Kollmeyer's name and placed in the sidewalk in front of city hall. Kollmeyer's last day is Feb. 3 after almost 22 years of service.

Belleville DDA unanimously elects Alicia McGovern

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Alicia McGovern, who had been serving as vice-chairperson of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority for the past year, was unanimously elected chairperson at its meeting on Jan. 15.

But, it took some fancy footwork to get the election completed.

Jim Chudzinski nominated McGovern for the post and Sabrina Richardson-Williams

nominated Jason Mida. When they voted McGovern got four votes and Mida got three.

DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson said the bylaws require five votes to win the election and so they didn't quite know what to do.

Then, Mida said since they needed to move forward he would decline the nomination. Since there was no other candidate, McGovern was elected unanimously.

Then, Richardson-Williams nominated Mida for vice-chairman and McGovern nominated Chudzinski.

The vote was four for Mida and three for Chudzinski. Again, a candidate needs five votes to win.

"I'll decline for vice chair," Chudzinski said, pointing out since Mida had come forward and declined his nomination to make things move along smoothly, he wanted to do so, as well.

Then Richardson-Williams was unanimously reelected treasurer and Denise Baker was unanimously reelected secretary.

Thompson, who was serving as recording secretary for the meeting, said this was most polite group she has ever worked with.

The DDA also voted to keep the meeting time at 6 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

(continued on page 9)

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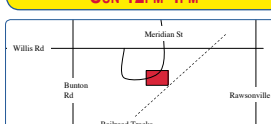

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Library Board reelects officers with Sharon Peters as chairwoman

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the Jan. 14 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board, all board members were elected with a unanimous vote to serve for the year 2020.

Sharon Peters will continue as chairwoman, Mary Jane Dawson as vice chairwoman, Alma Hughes Grubbs as secretary, and Joy Cichewicz as treasurer.

Peters said she will present the committee rosters at the next meeting and they will

be the same as last year unless somebody objects.

This will be to keep things simplified because with all decisions for the new library they have a lot of work to do.

In other business at the one-hour-and-32-minute meeting, the board:

- Accepted the 2018-19 audit by Alan C. Young & Associates with an unmodified opinion, the top category;

- Heard Peters announce she is appointing Barb Gates to the art committee, which has

delayed any artwork decisions for the new library until after they can see the colors in person;

- Heard the building committee report by Cichewicz, which included details of the opening of the media center in Sumpter and the addition of red curtains and a red refrigerator to the center after the open house. Most of the people coming to the media center are coming to pick up books they ordered, she said. As to the main library in Belleville, Cichewicz reported the curtain wall is three-quarters done, but they did not ship enough windows. The circular stair railing has not yet been delivered and they can't open the building without it because it is a safety measure. Once it is received it will take a week and a half to install. She said the elevator is done and the phone is working. They had automatic book return training last week, some of the bookshelves have arrived, and the sunscreen had arrived and is being installed. Cichewicz said every area tiled has been short. She said she loves the children's area and the lights there;

- Heard John Juriga say he talked to the city council about doing something with the interior beams of the old library. He said all the used books that used to be on the shelves for the Friends of the Library to sell are gone. Juriga said he recycled the soft covers and a lot had been sold and the rest were disposed of. He said the books in the hallway were given to Monroe;

- Heard Library Director Mary Jo Suchy say she has a whole list of phone numbers of people who want to help with the move from the old library to the new. She reported one of the quilts has already been taken by the high school and the other will be going into the new library's history room. Peters said Dan Selman of Van Buren Township said the township is interested in the mural in the old library. Suchy said there is a delay on their Dell computer order due to trade/tariff issues. She noted the automated materials handling system has been installed and the conveyor belts will be visible through the front window;

- Heard Dawson say she was concerned about all the chairs in the new media center in Sumpter having their backs to the door. There are monitors by the door, but Suchy said maybe they could put up some mirrors they have so they could see who's coming in. Suchy also said the library has extra squares from the carpet in the present library meeting room and they will be put on the floor for kids in the media center;

- Learned Kelly Skinner has been promoted to full-time librarian in the adult services department. The full-time staff has been interviewing part-time librarians and library assistants for the new building;
- Learned the Friends of the Library

held their meeting the previous Saturday and reelected their officers. The power went out as they started their meeting and the meeting continued. Linda Arnold has retired from heading up the used book sales for the Friends. Suchy said nobody wants to take over that position, but there may be some possible co-chairpersons;

- Discussed upcoming events, including the Feb. 21 Mardi Gras celebration at the old Fred C. Fischer Library, the soft opening of the new library around Feb. 24, the grand opening of the new library on July 25, and a special party for donors; and

- Heard Peters say, "These are really exciting times," with Juriga echoing, "Very exciting times." Juriga said he tries to go into the new building every day. Dawson said, "I'm so excited," adding the ribbon-cutting at the branch in Sumpter on Jan. 13 was "like Christmas, my birthday, and Halloween" all in one. Peters said, "We are all giddy around this table. It's been 10 or 20 years of work before we got to this point."

The next meeting of the library board at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 11, is expected to be in the new library.

Critical type O blood shortage: Red Cross urgently needs donors

The American Red Cross has extended its urgent call for donors of all blood types to give blood or platelets. With influenza escalating across the country and preventing some donors from giving, and winter weather threatening to cancel blood drives, the Red Cross now has a critical shortage of type O blood and urgently needs donors to restock the shelves.

As of Monday, the Red Cross had less than a three-day supply of type O blood available for patient emergencies and medical treatments. Type O positive blood is the most transfused blood type and can be given to Rh-positive patients of any blood type. While just 7% of the U.S. population has type O negative blood, it can be transfused to patients with any blood type and is what hospital staff reach for during emergencies when there isn't time to determine a patient's blood type.

Donors of all blood types – especially types O positive and O negative – are urged to make an appointment to give blood or platelets now using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Belleville Area District Library 2019 Wages and Benefits

	Wages	Benefits	Total
Administration:			
Suchy, Mary Jo	81,374.43	24,599.22	105,973.65
Savage, Hilary	63,881.64	21,386.38	85,268.02
McCann, Tara	57,675.25	29,770.01	87,445.26
Greschaw, Amy	47,483.21	18,462.77	65,945.98
Wloch, Michelle	42,372.85	28,754.10	71,126.95
Johnson, Carol	29,844.08	5,520.49	35,364.57
Librarians			
Lewis-Yarbrough, Nakenya	43,016.00	39,107.73	82,123.73
Frazier, Sherry	12,645.00	967.34	13,612.34
Green, Debra	2,320.00	177.48	2,497.48
Richards, Jonathan	8,821.26	674.83	9,496.09
Skinner, Kelly	30,282.13	2,316.58	32,598.71
Spiteri-Zaidel, Theresa	14,901.43	1,139.96	16,041.39
Mandarino, Courtney	1,792.57	137.13	1,929.70
Sossi, Catherine	1,071.00	81.93	1,152.93
Corcoran, Crystal	1,723.50	131.85	1,855.35
Loebe, Margaret	360.00	27.54	387.54
Mann, Jennifer	819.00	62.66	881.66
Library Assistants:			
Lebron, Joe	30,906.24	13,880.82	44,787.06
Green-Husted, Jessamy	6,517.82	498.61	7,016.43
Clerks:			
Booher, Beth	6,983.60	534.24	7,517.84
Carr, Mary	8,505.72	650.68	9,156.40
Dayem, Renad	9,115.01	697.30	9,812.31
Douglas, Jackie	13,181.01	1,008.34	14,189.35
Douglas, Noelle	7,464.57	571.04	8,035.61
Garascia, Judy	7,753.13	593.11	8,346.24
Murphy, Lakeisha	7,052.61	539.52	7,592.13
Reed, Ronda	16,730.80	1,279.91	18,010.71
Willson, Lori	11,910.56	911.15	12,821.71
Student Assistants:			
Demery, Mikail	3,594.79	275.00	3,869.79
Drewyor, Jensen	5,139.20	393.15	5,532.35
Drotar, Jada	3,096.44	236.88	3,333.32
Foley, Tatiyana	2,508.98	191.94	2,700.92
Ikpeama, Mac	125.21	9.58	134.79
McKnight, Lauren	307.13	23.49	330.62
Montgomery, Amy	2,758.20	211.00	2,969.20
Valicenti, Liz	3,238.99	247.79	3,486.78
Computer Tech:			
Kelley, George	47,828.83	19,246.09	67,074.92
Custodians:			
Decker, Nancy	4,578.75	350.27	4,929.02
Johnson, Teresa	1,160.57	88.79	1,249.36
Meador, Emaleigh	1,705.69	130.48	1,836.17
Total			\$858,434.38

OPINIONS

Editorial

Where would you like to see a senior assisted-living site?

We've had several calls from seniors in the community who would like to suggest a better place for the assisted living complex for seniors than the place at the corner of Tyler and Morton Taylor roads.

That place is out in the country, they say, without sidewalks to take them to shopping sites or parks.

The place everyone who has called agrees on is the former Ford property across from the Van Buren Township hall on Tyler Road, west of Belleville Road.

The woman who called on Monday said the old Ford property, now owned by the township, is right across Tyler Road from the senior center, township government, and parks. There also are sidewalks on the south side of Tyler Road for seniors to walk to many shopping sites a short distance away. She also noted that it is close to the police and fire departments for emergency services, so often needed by seniors as they age.

Others have called to say it is so wonderful the township already has the property to provide for such a development.

The current site under consideration seems to have the zoning it needs and appears qualified for such use. The planning consultant said if the township turns it down, the township will get sued and will lose. It's sure to get approved.

But maybe the township can approve the site preferred by seniors, as well, for a second assisted-care development.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

We're starting up with our annual Report to the Taxpayers series on how their taxes are being spent, beginning with the Belleville Area District Library. Director Mary Jo Suchy was extremely speedy in replying to our Freedom of Information Act request for the salaries of the library employees. National Heritage Academies, which runs Keystone Academy charter school in Sumpter, also replied very speedily and we received its FOIA response second.

Ten-day FOIA-reply extensions, to the required five day reply time, have been announced by the City of Belleville, Van Buren Township, and the Van Buren Public Schools, so we won't get those salaries until Feb. 6. Sumpter Township has yet to reply to the FOIA.

VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain said the police departments with faulty Datamaster breath-testing equipment does not include Van Buren Township, although some media reports have it listed. Van Buren County is among those with questionable Datamasters.

Eight devices involved in 52 drunk driving arrests are targeted, with the closest to VBT being Pittsfield Township.

Director Laurain said as soon as his police department heard about problems with the Datamasters, VBT stopped using their Datamaster and are relying only on blood draws. They won't use it again until after it is checked out by the state police.

Laurain said the state police have a good handle on the problem and it looks like someone signed a fraudulent report. MSP has suspended the contract with the company that maintains the breathalyzer devices and is investigating.



On Monday morning, Jan. 13, around 11:30, I heard an emergency call on the fire scanner to the 16000 block of Martinsville, south of Burtrig, where a three-month-old baby had stopped breathing. The dispatcher explained the baby had been born premature and had been home for a week.

As the emergency crews rushed to the rescue, the mother continued her rescue breaths and the baby started breathing again. The dispatcher said she could hear the baby crying – a good sign.

Sometimes those emergency calls end up being dramatic stories.

From time to time I get complaints about the water coming from Lakeview Tavern and onto the sidewalk and Main Street in the city of Belleville. On Friday, I got another call. This time I was told the water is frozen across the sidewalk and street and very icy and dangerous.

My caller said it has to be against code and he's tried to get the city to do something about it, but has failed and now, he says, the DPW Director won't pick up the phone when he calls or return his calls.

The last time I asked about this water, I was told by the city that it is coming from Lakeview's sump pump and when the street was upgraded there was no place for the pump to drain, so that's why the pump drains there.

There's an advertisement in Crain's

Business Magazine announcing that it's just Fishbeck now. It refers to the engineering firm that services Van Buren Township: Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber. Now it's just Fishbeck and that makes it a lot easier for me when writing about their consulting work.

While we were waiting for a quorum to show up for the VBT BZA meeting, Vidya Krishnan, the planning consultant from McKenna, showed us pictures of her new puppy. Her family has never had a pet, she said, and they picked a Labradoodle because her son has allergies and this is a good breed for him. The puppy will be six weeks old when they go to Ohio to pick her up on Jan. 25. Her name is Misty and she is beautiful.

Kevin Martin pulled out his cellphone and showed us pictures of his Great Dane. She also is a gorgeous dog -- with a pink leash. I've been told she thinks she is a lap dog and cuddles with Kevin on the couch.

At the Jan. 15 meeting of the Belleville DDA, City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said that the previous Friday, before the big rain, the city DPW cleaned out all the catch basins. Some they had to pull up and pick up armloads of leaves so the city would drain properly. And, it worked.



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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

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Letters

Safeguards are in laws to protect our votes

To the editor:

Re: Absentee Ballots

For 100 years, the League of Women Voters has fought for voting rights and the safeguarding of our nation's election systems. The League was thrilled that Proposal 3 passed overwhelmingly in Michigan last November, which allows any voter to obtain an absentee ballot for any reason. We hope this extra convenience for Michigan's voters allows more citizens to participate in our elections. More participation strengthens our democracy.

Thanks to Michigan's decentralized process, our use of paper ballots, and our numerous checks and balances, Michigan's elections are considered among the most secure in the nation. The processing and counting of absentee voter (AV) ballots is outlined in detail in the Election Official's Manual published by the Michigan Bureau of Elections. This manual is available on the Secretary of State's website, and we urge voters who are concerned about the handling of their ballots to read the 20+ pages of detailed instructions that clerks are required to follow.

Transparency and auditability of election processes is part of Michigan's election law. Clerks are required to track AV ballots to such an extent that voters can check to see if their absentee ballot was received by their clerk. Per Michigan's Election Manual: "Immediate recording of AV ballots sent and returned into the AV module of the Qualified Voter File is required and provides an easy and efficient way for election officials to print applications and ballot labels, and manage the list of voters sent ballots as required by law. This task also benefits the voter who is able to track the mailing and receipt of their absent voter ballot via www.mi.gov/vote (Michigan Voter Information Center). The same information is also included in the ePollbook download of voter information in the Electronic Poll Book (EPB) on Election Day, alerting election inspectors to not issue another ballot."

Before performing any duties of their office, every city and township clerk and deputy clerk in Michigan must take an oath affirming to support the constitutions of the United States and Michigan. The League urges all voters to use the absentee voter option if they choose to do so. Safeguards have been built into Michigan law that protect our votes – whether in person or absentee.

Paula Bowman, President
 League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County

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Thanks to friends, neighbors for support

To the editor:

I would like to thank all my friends and Ryznar Drive neighbors for all your love and support after my wife Sharon's passing. You are the best.

I would also like to thank the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department and Dispatch for your quick response, along with HVA. We truly have the best professionals in the state.

A special thank you to Officer Kurtis Mowbray for your quick response and taking charge of a bad situation and for staying with me through the whole process. You truly are a shining light in our township.

To all of you, I could never say thank you enough. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers forever. God Bless.
 Bryan Pancoast and Family
 Van Buren Township

Thank you to Garden Fantasy on Main

To the editor:

Just a note of appreciation for the high quality, service, and workmanship of the florists at the Garden Fantasy on Main in Belleville. During the year of 2019, this florist has serviced my family's many needs for flower arrangements in our time of needing compassion and caring.

The flower arrangements have been of high quality, on time, and beautiful. I would like to especially say thank you for the arrangements delivered for my sister. They were simply gorgeous and on time for the special services.

I just want to give a special shout out, thank you, and salute from the Slaughter Family to Garden Fantasy.
 Mrs. James (Adrian) Slaughter and Family
 Sumpter (Southside) Township

Free money available in Rotary scholarships

To the editor:

Free Money Available!

Attention, parents and graduating seniors.

For those starting college next fall, the Rotary Club of Belleville and the Charles B. Cozaad Foundation are, once again, offering scholarship awards for Belleville-area students. The scholarships are typically one-time \$5,000 awards.

Go to www.bellevillerotary.org for more information on the criteria for the specific awards and the application forms. Applicants who still have unanswered questions should contact an academic advisor at their school or Mr. Rob Coutts at (313) 381- 1440.

Note: The deadline for application delivery to Rotary is March 15, 2020. Over the years, the Rotary Club of Belleville has awarded over a half million dollars to Belleville area students. If you qualify, don't miss this opportunity!
 Belleville Rotary Club

Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



Today's paper features an insert from the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority titled "Van Buren Township, where you need to be." Be sure to check it out and visit www.VanBurenDDA.com.

Denny's Salon and Hott Hair on Main Street next to Belleville City Hall welcomes Kelley, formerly of Dave's Barber Shop in Romulus, to their team of salon professionals and right now, Kelly is offering \$5 off salon services with her ad in today's paper. To schedule an appointment, call (734) 697-4485.

Steve Davenport of Davenport Brothers Construction said last week that everything is ready to go on the Scott Jones property located in the first block of Main Street, where a new Lunch Box will be built along with some additional retail and a new grocery store that will abut Metro PCS across the parking lot. The local contractor's on-site construction trailer is in place too, with everyone waiting on the spring to get started. Once it does, expect the project to go up fast, according to Steve. All the steel and other building materials is ordered and on standby and will arrive as soon as they give the word. Thanks for the

update, Steve. Meanwhile, Lunch Box is and has been open and the parking lot has a gravel exit in and out off Liberty Street. With the new library opening next month and the next phase for Scott Jones about to begin, it's going to be exciting to see the new additions to downtown take shape. Hurry Spring.

Belleville High School and Mongolian

Grill of Canton have teamed up for Guest Griller Night on Wednesday, Jan. 29, from 5 to 9 p.m. where 20% of your bill will be donated to the BHS 2020 Senior Party. Flyers are available at BHS main office and under the news tab at the Belleville High School website.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at

(734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.

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Obituaries



Gabriela Gunia

GABRIELA L. GUNIA

(July 12, 1926 – January 14, 2020)

Gabriela Gunia of Cape Coral, FL died Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at age 93 in the care of hospice at Country Rest Home in Greenwood, DE. She was born July 12, 1926 in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Joseph and Pauline (Durda) Roubaje. On June 12, 1947 she married Francis Gunia and was married for 50 years. Gabriela owned Gay's Beauty Shop in Belleville, MI where she and Frank raised their family. In 1984 they retired to Cape Coral, FL. She was preceded in death by her husband, Francis Gunia; her sons Ronald and Christopher Gunia; and her daughter Patricia Reimer. Surviving is her daughter Kimberly (Mark) Valencik; grandchildren, Dawn (Jeff) Iacofano, Gregory Gunia, Kevin (Samantha) Kopenski, Kristin (Branden) Wieland, Nick Dorda, Garret (Kelly) Valencik; and 10 great-grandchildren. A private memorial will be held at a later date in Cape Coral, FL.



Patricia Rohrbaugh

PATRICIA ROHRBAUGH

(May 17, 1941 – January 17, 2020)

Patricia (Pat) (Lorbeske) Rohrbaugh, nee Wacławski, died following a long-term illness. She is survived by her children Debbie (Glenn) Wilkewitz, Dennis (Joyce) Lorbeske, Daniel Lorbeske, Donald (Chris) Lorbeske; grandchildren Brittany (Ptryk) Lee, Sean, Danielle, Erica, Krista; loving friends and family Bill, Krissy, Louise; sister Mary Wilde, and brothers Stephen (Renee) Wacławski and John (Faye) Wacławski. She worked at the United States Post Offices for 28 years. Our mom/grandma "Mee Mee" will be greatly missed. We love you! May God keep you in his loving arms. Cremation rites have been accorded by Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Wayne.

Upcoming Meetings

- Saturday, Jan. 25 – Belleville City Council interviews candidates for new city manager, 10:30 a.m. Open to the public.
- Monday, Jan. 27 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meeting at 7 p.m. at BHS Commons. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 28 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m., at 10151 Belleville Rd. Also, Sumpter Township board meeting at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

RUBY IRENE GREEN

(January 19, 1935 – January 19, 2020)

Ruby Irene Green, January 19, 2020, age 85 of Belleville.

Beloved wife of Otis Vernon Green Jr. Loving mother of Deborah Antal and the late Henry Vernon (Wendy P.) Green. Proud grandmother of Henry E. (April) Green, Arthur (Christina) Antal Jr., Nicholas (Jeannie) Antal and Kimberly Nicole Green. Great-grandmother of Alyssa, Karissa, Zachary, Kaylee and Nicholas. Visitation Thursday, January 23, 1-8 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill) Westland. Funeral Service Friday, January 24, 11 AM at the funeral home. Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com

EILEEN MARCELIA GARDNER

(April 29, 1915 – January 16, 2020)

Age 104, of Brighton, a longtime Belleville resident, died peacefully early Thursday morning, January 16, 2020.

Eileen is the beloved wife of the late Cade; loving mother of Pamela Meland of Grayling and Richard Gardner of Taylor; cherished grandmother of Susan, Gardner, Erika, Melissa, Jessica and Robert. Mrs. Gardner is also survived by her great-grandchildren, Jill, Ashley, Camden, Kennedy, Cade and Noelle. Sadly, she is preceded in death by her siblings, Ruth, Wava, Florence, Morris and Leo and her grandchild, Lori.

Born on April 29, 1915 in Coleman, Michigan to Jessie and Ellen Coleman, the Gardner family were longtime Belleville residents. Eileen was a very active parishioner at St. Anthony's church, where she was involved with the St. Anthony's senior club. Also, she enjoyed her time at the September Days Senior Center. She was very loved and will be truly missed.

In keeping with Mrs. Gardner's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 10:00 AM at St. Anthony's Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville. The Gardner family will greet guests from 9:00 AM until the 10:00 AM Mass. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Jan. 23** – Western Wayne (County) Democratic Club monthly meeting at 7 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds. Jim Kosteva from Voters Not Politicians will be presenting an update. Barbara Miller is ordering pizza to kick off the club's first event of 2020. All welcome.

• **Monday, Jan. 27** – State Representative Joe Bellino, R-Monroe, invites constituents to join him for his monthly coffee hours. From 1 to 2 p.m. he will be at Tim Hortons, 404 S. Monroe St., in Monroe; and from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. he will be at Biggby Coffee, 26614 Telegraph Rd. in Flat Rock. No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend my call him at (517) 373-1530 or write to JosephBellino@house.mi.gov. Rep. Bellino represents Sumpter Township in Lansing.

• **Tuesday, Jan. 28** – Blood drive at Savage Elementary, 42975 Savage Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Make an appointment by logging into https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/126088. Walk ins are welcome! Versiti Blood provides local Michigan hospitals with the blood they receive. Questions? Contact Savagepto@vanburenschools.net.

Obituaries



Riley White, Jr.

RILEY WHITE, JR.

(October 15, 1936 – January 20, 2020)

Riley White, Jr., age 83, of Sumpter Township, MI, died peacefully at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital (*Superior Township campus*) on Monday afternoon, January 20, 2020.

Riley is the beloved husband of Judy for fifty-five wonderful years; cherished father of Tim (Tina) White of Westland, MI and Thomas White of Belleville, MI; beloved grandfather of Amanda White of Garden City, MI, Zachary White of Belleville, MI, Emily White of Canton, MI, Tyler White of Belleville, MI and Steven White of Westland, MI. Mr. White is also survived by his brother, Melvin White of Tennessee and many loving extended family and friends.

A proud veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Riley was a longtime Sumpter Township resident. He enjoyed fishing, bowling, western movies starring John Wayne, and following Michigan Football. Also, spending time with his family was important to Mr. White. He will be missed.

A Funeral Service with Military Honors will be held at 11:00 AM, Friday, January 24, 2020 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734)697-4500. The White family will greet guests from 10:00 AM until the 11:00 AM service.

Visitation has been arranged for Thursday from

2:00 until 8:00 PM at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the VFW Post #4434, 44170 Bemis Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

Isaac Jackson, Hannah Walker named to Dean's List at Alma College

Isaac Jackson and Hannah Walker of Belleville have been named to the Dean's List at Alma College for achieving outstanding academic performance during the 2019 fall term.

Students who achieve a 3.5 or better grade point average during a term, while carrying a minimum of 13 credits, at least eight of which are evaluative grades, are named to the Dean's List.

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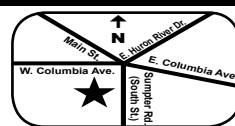
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Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

McGovern takes the place of Rosemary Loria who was DDA chairperson for many years and died in November.

Mida announced that the Loria family and the DDA are getting a bench for the

Fourth Street Square in memory of Loria who worked so hard to make Belleville be more beautiful.

Mida then presented a wrapped present to City Manager Diana Kollmeyer, who was retiring as of Feb. 3, after 22 years working in Belleville city government.

When she unwrapped it, she found a brick that could be used in the streetscape walkway right outside of city hall.

"I always meant to get a brick," said Kollmeyer, hugging the heavy present. "I need to be at home more," she said of her retirement. "I never intended to stay 40 years in this business and it's time for me to go."

McGovern said Kollmeyer is "pleasant and sweet and always so helpful."

In other business at the Jan. 15 meeting, the DDA:

- Approved the details of the \$425,000 Fourth Street Placemaking Project in front of the new library as presented by Spicer Engineer Phil Westmoreland. Actual costs will be known once they go out for bids and Westmoreland said that construction costs are soaring. The design showed

four parking spots by Main Street and seven staggered deciduous trees. He said they lost all the green space in the project because of space limitations and there will be paving in front of the museum garage for the historical society instead of grass, at the request of Van Buren Township. The sidewalks on both sides of the street will be pulled up and the bricks on the museum side will be given to VBT to relocate. The work on VBT property next to the museum was costed out as a part of the DDA project, Thompson said. There will be stamped, colored concrete parking spaces, benches, flower pots, and special, custom-built tree grates at a cost of \$7,000 each (for seven trees that makes \$49,000 total). Councilman Tom Fielder got permission to ask VBT if it would allow grass by the garage instead of the requested concrete because he wants some green grass at the site. There was some discussion on how the water would drain on Fourth Street since there is almost no curb up until you get to the library. They will install extra catch basins;

- Approved updates for the community events program that requires DDA funding to be used towards marketing the event as well as promoting Belleville's downtown. Also, presenters must seek local business participation in downtown events. DDA funding will not exceed \$2,000 per organization (not per event), up from \$1,500 last year. Thompson said the requests for DDA funds are due in March. "People have taken some liberties for the last two years," Thompson said of the funds given out. "It's to promote the downtown";

- Reviewed the 2020 DDA Projects and Follow-Up List;

- Heard Mayor Kerreen Conley announce that the city will be getting \$250,000 of the \$330,000 spent for repairs to the Doane's Landing seawall. This state money came through the efforts of State Representative Kristy Pagan, the mayor said. Thompson said they will work to get bids from landscapers in February and March to complete the Doane's project; and

- Heard McGovern ask board members to consider "What we as a board want to do in 2020" and bring those ideas to the next meeting. She also said she would like an educational program for the new board on

how the budget works. "2020 is going to be a great year," McGovern said.

Present at the Jan. 15 meeting were McGovern, Mida, Richardson-Williams, Baker, Chudzinski, Mayor Conley, and Kelly McWilliams. Absent was Valerie Kelley-Bonner.

Metroparks offer new Pass Trade Up Program to get 2020 annual pass

This year, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks have launched a new Pass Trade Up Program allowing you to trade in your daily park passes for discounts off your 2020 Annual Pass.

Here is how it works: Now through July 31 you can keep your daily pass(es) and use them to trade up to an annual pass. That means, you can present your \$10 daily pass(es) for a full-face value discount off an annual pass. Two daily passes get you twice the discount. Three get you three times the discount. And four, you got it, means you can trade up for a regular annual pass at no cost.

This is the perfect program if you are a first-time visitor to a Metropark and you want to try it before you commit to an annual pass. Director at the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Amy McMillan said, "Our new Trade Up program really gives anyone the opportunity to come out to a Metropark and experience all the amazing things there are to do.

"Come out and enjoy a stroll on the trails, visit a Farm or Nature Center, sled down a hill, bike through some great scenery or -- once it's warm -- hit the beach. We know once you've had a chance to try a Metropark, you will want to experience them all year long."

Daily passes can be traded up to a vehicle annual pass, boat annual pass or a vehicle/boat combo pass. The program allows for no more than four daily passes from separate visits to be traded up, and you can find all the details on the website at metroparks.com.

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Van Buren Township BZA has no quorum to consider Mike's Kitchen

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Although the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals was scheduled to consider a setback for upgrades to Mike's Kitchen at its regular meeting on Jan. 14, there was no quorum so the meeting could not be held.

The BZA meeting to hold the public hearing on the proposed setback change was reset for 7 p.m., Feb. 11.



Marash Nucullaj

"We'll make sure we have a quorum for the next meeting," said Public Services Director Matthew Best. "I'll drive around if I have to."

Director Best said it would also be possible to have a special meeting.

Owner of Mike's Kitchen, Marash Nucullaj said he would come back

whenever they wanted.

Dan Power, VBT's new director of planning and economic development, said next time there was a meeting, he would call any of the members who didn't alert him that they were coming.

The Feb. 11 meeting will also include election of officers and approval of the 2020 meeting schedule.

Present at the Jan. 14 meeting were vice chairman Amos Grissett, secretary Bryon Kelley, and Trustee Kevin Martin. Absent were chairman Aaron Sellers; commissioners Robert McKenna, David Senters, and John Haase; and BZA alternates Carmen Stovall and Charles Larocque.

Mike's Kitchen restaurant at 11511 Belleville Rd. is at the corner of the South I-94 Service Drive and Jeanette Street, on .78 acre.

It has been closed for more than a year.

Vidya Krishnan, planning consultant from McKenna, said in her report prepared

for the BZA that it is her understanding the structure suffered severe water damage.

The applicant is seeking a side (south) setback change for the lot line that adjoins the bank next door. The ordinance requires 25 feet and he is requesting a variance of 20 feet for a five-foot setback.

He wants to build additional storage space and improved toilet room spaces.

Krishnan said the existing building, which was constructed in 1972 according to township records, currently already has this five-foot setback, making it non-compliant.

The setback change request was submitted by Joseph Altman on behalf of Nucullaj.

Krishnan said the applicant is proposing to make major renovations to the interior, update the facade, and build additions to accommodate additional storage area and restrooms, which Altman said are required for its functioning. Part of the difficulty is the unusual shape of the parcel, which is an inverted, reversed "L," Krishnan said.

She had prepared a four-page report with a recommendation to grant the request, with 12 reasons for doing so, including the 12th: "A variance allows for the re-establishment of a long-standing business in the community."

Secretary of State offices collect five tons of food, more than \$1,600

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced on Dec. 30 that the 2019 Harvest Gathering campaign at Secretary of State offices collected more than 10,200 pounds of food and more than \$1,600.

"I'm grateful to our customers and staff for generously contributing to their neighbors in need," Benson said. "Our offices have been part of the Harvest Gathering program for many years and we are proud to join other organizations in this

annual statewide effort to fight hunger in Michigan."

The Sparta branch office ranked first in food collection, bringing in more than 7,000 pounds of food. The Hastings office collected 541 pounds of food and the Petoskey office collected 127 pounds. Department of State staff in three Secretary of State buildings in Lansing raised more than \$1,000. Collected items were distributed to local food banks.



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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK CHESTER



Meet **Chester**, a very special pup! He's a 2 year and 8 month old mixed breed with tons of feel good energy to share. He loves rear-end scratches, trying to hold the leash himself for walks and chewing up toys. While he loves every person he meets, he is dog selective and does not like cats. **Chester** does have some health issues that make him a special needs pet. He came to the shelter with a horrible skin condition that we couldn't seem to make better. Allergy testing showed poor **Chester** is allergic to almost everything; we won't lie we thought of making him a bubble dog after hearing this. His allergies include dietary and environmental triggers, like grass and flowers. A special home-made diet consisting of venison and daily allergy medication is his new normal routine. His skin has cleared up considerably and he continues to improve. **Chester** will also require monthly steroid injections to help his skin stay clear. He will need the same food and medication routine in his fur-ever home so adopting him will entail more work and care than most pets. **Chester** will more than make up for the extra work with his positive, happy and lovable nature. If you have room in your life for a special pup like **Chester** call to meet him today; he's already neutered, vaccinated, is heartworm negative, and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** today at **734-461-9458** to make an appointment or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

Van Buren Township LDFA reelects Dotson, Peters, Delaney

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Michael Dotson, campus president at Wayne County Community College, was reelected chairman for 2020 at the Jan. 14 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Local Development Financial Authority (LDFA).

Retired attorney Doug Peters was reelected vice chairman and contractor John Delaney was reelected second vice chairman.

In other business at the 28-minute meeting, the LDFA:

- Reviewed the state-required 2019 Synopsis of Activities prepared by Dan Selman, executive assistant to Supervisor Kevin McNamara. Selman noted the primary focus of the LDFA at this time is payment of the debt obligations for the Visteon bonds. Due to economic conditions, the LDFA will not capture enough tax revenue to cover the scheduled debt service

and due to the shortfall that occurred on Oct. 1, the LDFA was loaned \$700,000 on Sept. 4 by the township to assist in the bond payment. The LDFA will continue to pursue legal action against Visteon in partnership with the township;

- Was reminded the informational meetings required by state law will be held at the 2 p.m. March 11 meeting and the 2 p.m. Sept. 8 meeting;

- Heard LDFA member Scott Medlen, who manages Grace Lake for Sovereign Partners, report that the complex will be having some available space for sub-leasing. He said there is space leased by Visteon and GE that is not being used and will be sub-let. When pressed for the cost of such space, he said it would be in the vicinity of \$20 per square foot. He also said he was working on signage for the public walking trails and the parking lot. He said he likes the idea of planting fruit trees in the ITC corridor along

the trails and will seek consultants for the project;

- Heard Supervisor McNamara report that Grace Lake has some beautiful meeting spaces. He introduced Medlen to LDFA member David Schreiber, who is economic development official for Wayne County and sometimes needs meeting spaces;

- Heard Peters ask whatever happened to the two little lots on Ecorse Road owned by the LDFA. Delaney said although they had been put up for sale, they were still available. Nothing has been done since the LDFA rejected the \$500 bid for them. Peters said he thinks the township should be getting tax money for that property. Delaney said there is adjoining property that may be going up for sale and the buyers could then come to the LDFA to get the lots for an entry from Ecorse Road to the 50-60 acres behind the lots;

(continued on page 12)



Crest Ford in Flat Rock is excited to announce Mike Sturtz as our new General Sales Manager!
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crestfordflatrock.com

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(734) 782-2400

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HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY

7:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

SATURDAYS

8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

LDFA

(continued from page 11)

• Heard Delaney voice concerns about how people can be put in touch with the LDFA and McNamara said they can just call the township and they will be put in touch with Chairman Dotson; and

• Heard McNamara say the township will be looking into the costs necessary to upgrade the township website. "We have dozens and dozens of dead ends on our website," he said.

Present at the meeting were Dotson, Peters, Delaney, Medlen, McNamara, Schreiber, James Williams and Sara Cortese. Absent were Leonard Armstrong and Chuck Covington. There is one vacant seat.



Backyard Visitor

A backyard visitor on a rainy day. This was taken on the shore of Belleville Lake in the City of Belleville on Friday, Jan. 10.

Photo special to the *Independent* by Richard Smith

Marycrest



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15475 Middlebelt Rd.
Livonia, Michigan 48154



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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR
LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT 2020**

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids for landscape improvement services. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. EDT Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Bids will be publicly opened at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

Specifications may be obtained from the Clerk's Office during normal business hours. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid.

Published: 1-23-20

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR
TOWNSHIP HALL ENTRY IMPROVEMENTS 2020**

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids for renovation services to the Township Hall exterior entry columns. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "ENTRY IMPROVEMENTS" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 11:30 a.m. EDT Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Bids will be publicly opened at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting, tour and question/answer session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

Specifications may be obtained from the Clerk's Office during normal business hours. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid.

Published: 1-23-20

Kollmeyer

(continued from page 1)

went to jail. Kollmeyer was there when the police came and she had to give a statement and a handwriting sample. The two were sentenced to one-and-a-half years in jail each.

She said in Indiana the cities are audited by the State Board of Accounts and New Castle had a male and female auditor in the office. The male told an off-color joke and the clerk-treasurer complained. The auditors investigated and found that the clerk-treasurer had been stealing money.

"If Dennis hadn't told an off-color joke, they never would have been caught," Kollmeyer said of the auditor.

The scheme had to do with Pam typing up checks to her or her husband and cashing them. Although she didn't have to be in the office but once a month, she made sure she was back when bank statements and cancelled checks came in.

She lifted up her signature from the cashed checks and replaced it with the Farm Bureau Co-op and then on the back she stamped "Farm Bureau Co-op for deposit only."

The Farm Bureau was where the city went for fuel for the police and DPW so the fuel bills were pretty large, she recalled.

After Kollmeyer moved to Ypsilanti she decided she would look for a new job, although her husband told her she didn't have to work. She wanted to work and wanted to do something different. She said she thought it would be fun to sell real estate, as she had in the past, or to be a travel agent, but didn't find those jobs.

She saw a help-wanted ad in *The Ann Arbor News* and applied to be Belleville's clerk-administrative assistant and got the job.

She said before she was hired, City Manager Kerreen Gellert (now Conley) invited her to lunch at Dos Pesos restaurant. She said the city manager wanted to tell

her about the political climate at city hall between her and Mayor Dennis Fassett.

"I told her it's not my first rodeo," and then got the job, Kollmeyer said.

She said she got her name removed from handling any money when she later became city manager because she didn't want any of that.

Kollmeyer said Jay Hartford and Angela Power made up the Civil Service Commission at that time and they interviewed her.

Kollmeyer said in June 1998, she became Belleville's clerk/administrative assistant and City Manager Gellert was terminated in July.

"This has been a wonderful ride back home and here," Kollmeyer said of her work in municipal government, noting the people she met were the best thing about the jobs.

She said she loved working on Harvest Fest and the scarecrows in town. As she continues to purge her office of unneeded documents, she said she came across notes from the late DDA chairwoman Rosemary Loria. Kollmeyer said she is still mourning the loss of Loria. She said she and DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson would visit Loria in the hospital and at home during her battle with cancer.

Kollmeyer is the mother of Kimberly Diane, 46, and grandmother of Kendra, who will graduate from Ball State in Muncie, Indiana, in May with an environmental degree with a minor in soils. Kollmeyer said Kendra will graduate totally debt free because in the sixth grade she became a part of the 21st Century Scholarship for Tuition program.

Kollmeyer's grandson Garrett will be graduating from New Castle High School.

Her mother still lives in New Castle and her brother and sister are in Indianapolis. A brother died of cancer at age 25.

She also has three step-children and four step-granddaughters.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR
TOWNSHIP HALL ROOF REPAIR 2020**

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids for roof repair services. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "ROOF REPAIR" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 12:30 p.m. EDT Wednesday, February 12, 2020. Bids will be publicly opened at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting, tour and question/answer session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 1:00 pm.

Specifications may be obtained from the Clerk's Office during normal business hours. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid.

Published: 1-23-20

Polar Plunge to earn funds for Special Olympics on Feb. 8

The annual Michigan Law Enforcement Polar Plunge to earn money for Special Olympics Michigan will be held Feb. 8 in Belleville Lake at the Belleville Yacht Club.

Plunger Check-In is 9:30 a.m., with Parade of Costumes at 11:45 a.m. and Plunge at noon.

After the Plunge they will have an After-Splash Bash and Awards in the BYC which

features a complimentary lunch buffet for plungers. Lunch tickets are available for purchase for spectators. A cash bar is available.

Visitors are encouraged to bring cash for raffles and 50/50 drawing.

Register at: www.plungeMI.com

For more information contact Katz.David.B@gmail.com or (313) 460-2604.

Eagles Auxiliary sets benefit steak dinner for Valentine's Day

The Van Buren Eagles Auxiliary #3996 invites the community to a Valentine's Day steak dinner from 5 p.m. until gone on Friday, Feb. 14, at the Eagles at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township.

Cost is \$15 per person. The dinner includes steaks prepared and donated by the

Van Buren Eagle Riders along with baked potatoes and fixings, salad, bread and butter, and dessert.

All proceeds will go to the F.O.E. Charity Foundation Children's Fund.

A live band, Tequila Mockingbird, will play from 7 to 11 p.m.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE PERMIT

The Sumpter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 at 7:00 pm, Thursday, February 13, 2020 regarding the request for a Special Exception Use Permit.

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

This PROPOSED request is a Special Exception for an outdoor recreation area providing low impact laser tag, hyperball/speedball, and a private soccer practice field.

SITE LOCATION

The site for the proposed special exception is on approximately 58 acres of unaddressed vacant land located on the north side of Judd Road (Parcel ID 81-040-99-0001-701), east of Sumpter Road and west of Martinsville Road.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask question, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Published: January 23, 2020

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m. 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Morgan at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk E. Hurst, Trustees: Oddy, Rush and LaPorte. Treasurer Bednark and Trustee Swinson excused. Also showing present: Deputy Clerk Burdick, Fire Chief Januszyk, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke and approximately 12 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by Rush, supported by Hurst to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only: No comments.

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by Rush to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2019. Motion carried.

6. Warrants:

A. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the warrants totaling \$438,102.82. Roll call vote: Yes: Rush, Oddy, LaPorte, Hurst and J. Morgan. Bednark and Swinson excused. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve bill(s) payment through the month of December 2019. Roll call vote: Yes: Rush, Oddy, LaPorte, Hurst and J. Morgan. Bednark and Swinson excused. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Water & Sewer Report-J. Morgan:

• The water department has finished winterizing hydrants for the year.

• They set up tables and chairs for the many activities at the Community Center.

• They have installed 2 new grinder pump locations at new resident's homes.

• The separate gas line has been installed to the DPW pole barn and a new gas meter was installed. The water department poured a cement pad in order to move the generator over to the barn which has been completed.

• They continue to read meters and do water repairs. On Thanksgiving there was a water main break on the south end of Sumpter Road that affected 25 residents. Cases of bottled water was delivered to all the homes on Thanksgiving. A large piece of equipment was brought in Friday and the repair was complete in 2 hours.

• Now, that the early snow has come, they plow all township owned properties.

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve the Water & Sewer Report. Motion carried.

8. Police Report-Luke: Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the Police Report. Motion carried.

9. Building/Ordinance Report-Rush:

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to approve the Building/Ordinance Report. Motion carried.

10. Fire Report-Januszyk:

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. Let's keep everyone safe this season!

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve the Fire Report. Motion carried

11. Treasurer's Report-K. Bednark: Received and filed.

Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried

12. Supervisor Report-J. Morgan:

A. Our Community Outreach group took care of 16 families at Thanksgiving.

B. A petition was filed by Augusta Township residents for a drain practicality meeting which was held on December 6, 2019 for the North Countyline Drain. Approximately 30 people attended. The drainage board voted to move forward in the study.

C. The senior Christmas luncheon was at noon today and was well attended. I would like to personally thank Maryann Watson and Bud Morgan and all her volunteers (too numerous to mention); for their hard work.

D. The Supervisor's Children's Christmas Party is December 11, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Community Center. Food, entertainment, presents and photos with Santa are all included.

E. There will be Photos with Santa at the Belleville Area Museum on Saturdays, December 14 and December 21 noon to 4 pm. Flyers are available in the back.

F. Just a reminder, the Township hall will be closed

December 23rd through January 1, 2020.

G. Merry Christmas and have a safe, blessed New Year!

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve the Supervisor's report. Motion carried

13. Attorney Report-Young:

Twp Lawsuits & Adversarial Proceeding 24%, Insurance matters 3%, Township Board Meetings and Workshops 8%, Meeting with Twp Officials 2%, Water & Sewer 4%, Police, Fire & Prosecutions 21%, Ordinance & Blight 6%, Labor Contract/LOU 5%, Republic 2%, Planning 6%, Library 3%, Parks & Recreation 2%, Storm Water Management & MDEQ 3%, Board Direction 3%, Audit 1% and Misc. 6%.

• Amended contract received from Constellation Energy reviewed by the Attorney and Finance Director and additional minor changes were required. Modifications were agreed upon and the contract may be approved in its current state which was Board approved during the November 26, 2019 Board Meeting.

• MAFF agreement nearing completion. Ratification expected soon.

• Many Thanks to the Water & Sewer Department and its staffs' efforts during the recent water main break.

Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Attorney's report. Motion carried

14. Board Response: No Comments.

15. New Business:

A. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the dates for the 2020 Sumpter Township Workshop and Regular Board Meetings. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Oddy, supported by Hurst to approve the dates for the 2020 Sumpter Township Planning Commission. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve sending Clerk's Office Assistant Hadyniak to attend Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Institute Conference during March 2020, cost not to exceed \$1,350.00. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Rush, supported by Hurst to approve sending Sergeant Joseph Balowski to the 2020 Eastern Michigan University School of Police Staff and Command. Tuition cost of \$3,250 to be paid from police department forfeiture account. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve the attached Memorandum of Understanding between Sumpter Township and Michigan Council 25, AFSCME Local 1882.14 referencing the Van Driver/Utility part time position. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve formalizing contractual arrangement between Post, Smythe, Lutz and Ziel of Wayne, LLP for accounting service work performed by Cari Ford, projected hours through year end are 8 hours per week. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve Resolution #: 2019-17, Property Tax Payment Designee Appointments to collect/receive tax payments per Public Act 129 of 2019, contingent upon a follow up meeting between the Treasurer and the Finance Director to confirm supervision of staffing identified in the Resolution and direction. Motion carried.

16. Announcements:

• Hopefully, all have noticed our Hat Scarf Mitten Tree in the hallway. This started as an idea by Twp employee Roxanne Bardell and Twp employees agreed, pitched in and supplied the "ornaments". The Hat Scarf Mitten ornaments will be provided individually to those who need them, with the balance left over donated to the Sumpter Twp Seniors Ctr or Community Outreach.

• Trustee Oddy wished all our Township residents a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday season and safe New Year, seconded by Trustee Rush.

• Treasurer's office will be open on December 31, 2019 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm for resident's convenience and property tax payments only.

17. Open Floor: Six (6) people spoke.

18. Adjournment: Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:13 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:

Anthony Burdick
Deputy Clerk, Sumpter Township
Esther Hurst, Clerk
John W. Morgan, Supervisor
Published: January 23, 2020

City of Belleville Public Notice

Accepting Applications

City of Belleville Part Time Police Officer



The Belleville Police Department is accepting applications for a part-time police officer. Associates degree in law enforcement or related field is required. Must be a graduate of a recognized police academy and be certified in the State of Michigan or certifiable. Must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. Citizen. Submit application with resume no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 21, 2020. Applications are available at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville or online: www.belleville.mi.us

The City of Belleville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Sherri Scharf
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: January 23 & 30, 2020

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On January 29th, 2020, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2003	BUICK	SW	3G5DA03E33S601669	19-18776
2010	CHRYSLER	4D	1C3CC5FB9AN229497	19-20580
2000	MERCURY	SW	1MEFM59S2YA610101	19-21847
1997	FORD	PU	1FTJW36FXVEC80259	19-21889
2012	VOLKSWAGEN	4D	3VWLL7AJXCM393248	19-22112
2006	NISSAN	4D	1N4AL11D96C125269	19-22473
2003	HYUNDAI	4D	KMHDN45D83U588163	19-22502
2006	FORD	4D	3FAHP07116R113192	19-23820

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles, will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

1999	CHRYSLER	2D	3C3EL55H9XT202801	19-7571
2017	KIA	4D	3KPFK4A71HE141590	19-20086
2011	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ZC5E1XBF198849	19-21967
1999	SATURN	4D	1G8ZH5289XZ366183	19-22442
2008	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1AM58B287221929	19-23091
2003	PONTIAC	4D	1G2HX52K234164538	19-23153
2006	CHRYSLER	SW	1A4GP45R56B572925	19-23618
2005	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WF52E759392057	19-24036

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, CMMC., Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: January 23RD, 2020

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE Special City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, January 6, 2020

A special called meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Conley	Present
Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Fielder	Present
Mayor Pro Marcotte	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

City Manager Search

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer will retire on

February 3, 2020. Mayor Conley led the discussion as she and Council Members evaluated 10 applicants who met the minimum advertised qualifications. Consensus was reached that 4 of the 10 could be considered potential candidates once they complete surveys that provide more information. Discussions are ongoing, and interviews will be scheduled for Saturday, January 25th.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Voigt, Second by Marcotte to adjourn meeting at 7:18 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf

City Clerk

Approved: January 13, 2020

Published: January 23, 2020

City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020 at 11:30 A.M.** at **Great Lakes Towing, 42350 Van Born Road, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan**, a public sale of the following vehicles will be held:

2000 HYUNDAI, TWO DOOR, VIN: KMHJG25F9YU186291
1998 HONDA, FOUR DOOR, VIN: 1HGEJ6677WL023844

DATE: JANUARY 15, 2020 **BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**
6 MAIN STREET
PUBLISH: JANUARY 23, 2020 **BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111**
BY SHERRI SCHARF, CITY CLERK

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 to consider the following variance request:

- Case # 19-039-** A request by Joseph Altman on behalf of Marash Nucullaj for 11511 Belleville Road (Mike's Kitchen Restaurant) Parcel ID# 83-086-99-0012-001 for a variance from Section 3.112 (E) for C-2 Extensive Highway Business District:

Side (South) Yard Setback:

- Required: 25.00 feet
- Existing: 5.00 feet
- Proposed (to addition): 5.00 feet
- Variance requested: 20.00 feet

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or via email at dpower@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date and all materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

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

Posted: 1/17/2020

Published: 1/23/2020

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOOD GRADE BARRELS – Various sizes & styles. Inventory & pictures at www.mattsbarrels.com Call/text (734) 474-5981. Located in Willis. 02/12

BEAUTIFUL CONSOLE PIANO w/ bench. Plays well. Kept on 1st floor in Belleville area. You must move. \$275. (734) 697-9628 01/30

SARIS T-RAX PRO 4-bike carrier rack, \$80. 75 gal. solid oak aquarium stand w/canopy, \$290. Excellent condition. (734) 697-9762 01/30

OAK FIRE WOOD FOR SALE. (734) 693-4712 01/30

HANDY AIR MOTORCYCLE LIFT w/front wheel vice. \$800. Call Scott (734) 699-8685 02/06

2020 LOOK CLOSED-IN 5'X8' TRAILER w/ramp, \$1,800. Call (734) 660-1617 02/06

VEHICLE FOR SALE

1990 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE. Good riding condition. 104,496 original miles. \$3,500 OBO & 1976 Chrysler Cordoba. New upholstery & paint. Make offer. (734) 693-4712 01/30

"I think it's always a good move to listen to that inner voice, if it doesn't lead to a crime."

– Lisa Kudrow

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



SERVICES

A&L SERVICES

Home Improvement & Handyman Service
Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,
Electrical, Plumbing,
Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.
Serving Belleville Since 1995. Call Aaron Schultz @ 734-740-0628

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Refrigerators • Washers
Dryers • Ranges
\$40 House Call

**Call Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm
(734) 782-3354**

PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

**Gutters Cleaned!
Power Washing!
CALL US!
Local To The
Belleville Area. Call
(313) 740-6276.
Ask For Bill.**

LOCAL HANDYMAN – SOME Jobs too LARGE – NO JOB too SMALL. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

LARRY'S HANDYMAN SERVICE. No job too small. Interior/exterior painting, hang wallpaper, power washing & carpentry. (618) 267-7774 03/26

CAREGIVER FOR THE DAY. Light housekeeping, grocery shopping, organizing services, doctor appts., errands, prepare meals, dog walking. Available 7 days, Belleville area only. Minimum 4 hours. References. (734) 740-0879 01/30

Notice to Advertisers:

The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

HELP WANTED

Quest, Inc. is HIRING

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes. Starting wage \$11.30 per hour for trained staff.

Applicants must be:

- Responsible & committed and work well with others.
- Have a clean criminal record.
- Be available for training. MORC/WCCMH/CLS Training is preferred.

**Send Letter/Resume to:
recruiter@questserv.org
or Call (734) 458-8140**



Direct Care Staff Needed for full and part time: AHS Community Services, Inc operates 28 homes for Developmentally and Intellectually Disabled Adults and Elderly in the Downriver and Western Wayne County areas. We are currently looking for caring staff in Western Wayne County and Downriver. \$11.25 to start with vacation pay and Health Insurance. CLS training preferred but not required. Must be 18 years of age with valid driver's license. Apply online at ahscomserv.com or forward application or resume to AHS Community Services, Inc., P.O. Box 488, Wayne, MI 48184. For employment opportunities (734) 722-4580 in the Downriver area press 18 or in Western Wayne County area press 19.

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call. (734) 697-1800 TFN

FULL-TIME LEAD TEACHER or a child care assistant. Post available. (734) 697-4523 01/30

IMMEDIATE PART-TIME OPENINGS. Retirees for driving handicapped vans. Call for appointment at Golden Services. (734) 697-9911 02/06

NURSE AIDE NEEDED. Day shift 6am-3pm. Part-time. Experienced, driver's license & references. (734) 482-4847 02/13

THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!
(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



FOUND

FAIRLY LARGE gray/black domestic short haired tabby cat. S. I-94 Service Dr. & Haggerty Road area. Call (734) 697-0987 01/23

HELP WANTED

WANTED

H & W TOP DOLLAR \$

**Cash For Salvage & Scrap Vehicles.
7 Days. Free Towing.
Licensed & Insured.
(734) 223-5581**

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

I WILL BUY YOUR CAR. Must be in good condition. Top Dollar. (734) 695-0819 01/23

CASH PAID for sports cards and comic books. '50s, '60s, & '70s. Private collector can come to you. (734) 697-3546 01/23

BUYING ROCK LP RECORDS. 1960's-1980's. If you're not playing them, why not sell? Jerry (734) 765-5589 01/23

FREE

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

ALL FREE: Firewood, you haul. Cream w/flowers loveseat, Foosball table, Approx. 15 windows. Call Bryan (734) 369-7365 02/06

BONECUTTERS TREE EXPERTS, LLC

**50% DISCOUNT IF YOU
KEEP WOOD/BRUSH!**

- Storm Clean Up
- Free Estimates
- Tree Topping & Trimming
- Tree & Shrub Removal
- Stump Removal • Bucket Service

Insured & Senior Discounts
CALL FOR A PROMPT FREE ESTIMATE
(734) 431-4202

Court Watching:

Dennis Vieira waives exam, bound over for drunk driving, fleeing

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Dennis Matthew Vieira, 37, of the city of Belleville, waived his preliminary exam on Jan. 15 before 34th District Court Judge David Parrott.

Judge Parrott bound him over to circuit court for a Jan. 29 arraignment on the information. Vieira is charged with operating while intoxicated – 3rd offense and fleeing police in a vehicle, both on Aug. 10 in Sumpter Township.

The retained defense attorney is Daniel Schouman. Vieira's personal recognizance bond of \$10,000 was continued.

Myles Anthony Frederick

Two separate cases against Myles Anthony Frederick, 28, of Detroit were

dismissed without prejudice when the complaining witness was not available on Jan 15 in Judge Parrott's courtroom.

Prosecutor Larry King said the People cannot continue their cases because the complaining witness was not at the court. He said they sent police to her home and she could not be found. The cases were closed.

Frederick had been charged with two separate charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and two domestic violence charges on Dec. 8 in Van Buren Township. Both cases had Officer Michael Long as the officer in charge. Frederick had been out on two personal recognizance bonds of \$5,000 each and had worn a GPS tether. The conditional bond was cancelled and the tether was to be taken off.

While he was on bond he was ordered not to contact the victim or enter a certain apartment at 48791 S. I-94 Service Dr.

Retained defense attorney was Brian Brown.

Xylina Amanda Fisher

Xylina Amanda Fisher, 35, of Dearborn who was incarcerated and arrived in jail clothing, was arraigned on charges of

possession of methamphetamine/Ecstasy and obstructing police by disguising herself on March 16, 2018 in Sumpter Township.

She was due to be in court on Jan. 2, but the court received a letter from the defendant in the Washtenaw County Jail and a warrant for her arrest was cancelled from LEIN (Law Enforcement Information Network).

After she was arraigned and the probable cause conference held before Judge Parrott on Jan. 15, her preliminary exam on the felony charges was set for Jan. 29 before Judge Tina Brooks Green. Her court-appointed attorney Joseph Dillard was not available for the Jan. 22 date set for the exam, so Judge Parrott delayed it a week. Fisher also has a misdemeanor charge pending against her for driving while license suspended.

The Sumpter officer who handled the original case has retired, so the case was reassigned to Sgt. John Toth.

"Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you ARE, you AREN'T."

-- Margaret Thatcher
British Prime Minister, 1925-2013



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Michael Kasperek and his mother Carol, both of Van Buren Township, read their *Independent* during a recent Mediterranean cruise to Turkey, Israel, Cypress, Egypt, and Greece.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Cartoon to the Editor



Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 484 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Jan. 12:
0001 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.
0641 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
0920 – assist other dept., Belle Villa
0958 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1000 – mental subject, Richard Run Dr.
1237 – family trouble, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1248 – felony assault, Michigan Ave.
1359 – shooting, Tyler Rd./Hannan Rd.
1438 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1451 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1532 – property damage accident, Denton Rd.
1543 – domestic, Basswood Cir.
1840 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Jackson St.
1908 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Denton Rd./Michigan Ave.
2346 – family trouble, Kahla Dr.

Monday, Jan. 13:
0011 – domestic, Ash Dr.
0144 – domestic, S. Cumberland Dr.
0537 – larceny from auto, N. Woodbury Dr.
0828 – animal complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1117 – breaking & entering, Locust Dr.
1132 – assist other dept., Martinsville Rd.
1147 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Cir.
1157 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1311 – domestic, Locust Dr.
1354 – suspicious person/vehicle, Harmony Ln. / Belleville Rd.
1427 – suspicious person/vehicle, Jeremy/Ecorse
1425 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Woodbury Dr.
1428 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd. / Michigan Ave.
1436 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1635 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Van Born
1734 – assist other dept., Paloma Dr.
1749 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1957 – shooting, Parkwood Dr.
2056 – suspicious person/vehicle, Budd Farm
2132 – suicidal person, Louisa Dr.

Tuesday, Jan. 14:
0150 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0220 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0632 – breaking & entering, Sunrise Ln.
1243 – juvenile complaint, Grove Rd.
1252 – harassment call, Assembly St.
1259 – civil matter, Riggs Rd.
1312 – ordinance violation, Denton Rd.
1303 – suicidal person, Barkley St.
1342 – juvenile complaint, Grove Rd.
1523 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1722 – civil matter, Hull Rd.
1842 – animal complaint, Hull Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1849 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.
1854 – operating while intoxicated, Hull/Sumpter
2012 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2226 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.

Wednesday, Jan. 15:
0024 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
0130 – assist other dept., Winding Pond Trl.
0742 – property damage accident, Quirk Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0842 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0922 – follow up by officer, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1000 – private property impound, Sumpter Rd.
1141 – ordinance violation, Freeport Ct.
1211 – ordinance violation, Freeport Ct.
1432 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1500 – private property impound, Industrial
1531 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd./Jackson St.
1602 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
1628 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1650 – domestic, Trilogy Apts.
1805 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1807 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr.

1812 – assist other dept., Lighthouse Dr.
1848 – mental subject, E. Huron River Dr.
2044 – domestic, Hamlin St.
2119 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis
2149 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
2228 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 16:
0057 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1032 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1105 – ordinance violation, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1148 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
1259 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1413 – ordinance violation, Pond Bluff Dr.
1413 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1426 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1505 – shooting, Martz Rd.
1534 – suspicious person/vehicle, Harbor Ln.
1555 – malicious destruction of property, Ironwood Dr.
1644 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ormond Dr./W. Huron River Dr.
1818 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1831 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
1929 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Sunrise Ln.
1931 – 911 welfare check, Lighthouse Dr.
2230 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2347 – assist other dept., Rawsonville/Martz

Friday, Jan. 17:
0023 – harassment call, Lighthouse
0543 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1022 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1052 – 911 welfare check, Bog Rd.
1100 – found property/child, E. Main St.
1109 – larceny, Wildrye Ct.
1138 – threat, Westlake Cir.
1359 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1450 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1519 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1608 – private property impound, Lohr
1610 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1735 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bayshore Dr.
1815 – suspicious person/vehicle, rest area
1844 – assist other dept., Robson Rd.
1925 – fraud, Hanover Dr.
2350 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / E. I-94

Saturday, Jan. 18:
0027 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0153 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.
0813 – hospice death, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0851 – animal complaint, Endicott St.
1006 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Alden Ave.
1016 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse/Beck
1036 – road hazard, W. Huron River Dr./Linda Vista Ct.
1045 – road hazard, Harmony Ln.
1055 – disorderly, Sawgrass Ct.
1122 – animal complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1124 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Menards
1400 – private property/property damage accident, Oak Ln.
1403 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd.
1456 – larceny, Assembly St.
1510 – private property/property damage accident, Peachtree Ln.
1528 – personal injury accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
1601 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1634 – 911 welfare check, Van Born
2216 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2251 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2355 – felony assault, Archwood Dr.

Also on this week's log are 187 traffic stops, 67 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

“I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots.”
— Albert Einstein

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 12:
0302 – parking complaint, E. Waterbury Ct.
0525 – assist other dept., W. Waterbury Ct.
0856 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.
1521 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1811 – welfare check, E. Thornhill Ct.
1941 – assist fire dept., Biggs Ave.

Monday, Jan. 13:
0736 – property damage accident, Main St.
2148 – 911 welfare check, Robbe St.

Tuesday, Jan. 14:
0701 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.
0924 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1437 – property damage accident, Main/Denton

Wednesday, Jan. 15:
1137 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
1327 – trespassing, Church St.
1342 – trespassing, South St.
1938 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Columbia Ave.
2304 – misc. complaints, Main St./Huron River Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 16:
0014 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
0109 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1600 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter/Owen
1748 – intrusion alarm, Henry
1757 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
1913 – assist citizen, Church St.

Friday, Jan. 17:
1134 – follow up by officer, Main St.
1236 – larceny, Main St.

Saturday, Jan. 18:
0020 – animal complaint, Carmell/Belle Villa Blvd
0046 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
0227 – suspicious person/vehicle, Menlo Park Dr.
1004 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1129 – intrusion alarm, Menlo Park Dr.

Also on this week's log are 21 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Jan. 12:
0118 – alarm, 34000 bl. Willis Rd.
0118 – alarm, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
0202 – alarm, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
0934 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1027 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln. E.
1212 – larceny, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1229 – no incident listed, Wear Rd./Sumpter
1502 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1852 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1858 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
2040 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
2147 – assist other agency, Rawsonville/Willis
2350 – assault, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Monday, Jan. 13:
1042 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville
1106 – warrant arrest pick up, Second St.
1251 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1314 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1653 – harassment complaint, 39000 bl. Wear Rd.
1702 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1743 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1921 – alarm, 4900 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
2015 – assault, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2029 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2031 – malicious destruction of property, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2101 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
2110 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2319 – property damage accident, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Tuesday, Jan. 14:
0340 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
0355 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1130 – fire dept. assist, Nevada St.
1356 – subpoena service, out of township
1612 – suspicious incident, Judd Rd./Sherwood
1851 – animal complaint, Savage Rd./Bemis Rd.
2030 – assist other agency, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.

Wednesday, Jan. 15:
0134 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
0349 – civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
0547 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Reed Ave.
0952 – follow-up investigation, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.

1008 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1037 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1230 – fraud complaint, 6000 bl. Oakville Waltz
1245 – citizen assist, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 16:
1255 – trespassing complaint, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1427 – warrant arrest pick up, Rawsonville/Grove
1659 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1851 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
2218 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.

Friday, Jan. 17:
0755 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
0941 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1153 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1452 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1526 – fraud complaint, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1528 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1541 – intimidation, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1619 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1635 – 911 hand up, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1701 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1850 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Wear
1924 – alarm, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1935 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Jan. 18:
1316 – suspicious incident, Oakville Waltz Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
1533 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.
1613 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1621 – assist other agency, Sumpter Rd./Clay Rd.
1646 – alarm, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
1830 – welfare check, Stonecrest Dr.
1949 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1951 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2127 – larceny, Sumpter Rd./Willis Rd.

Also on this week's log are 21 patrol checks, three miscellaneous details, and 32 traffic stops.

VBT man dies in accident at I-94/I-275 interchange near Metro

Michigan State Police are investigating a crash near Detroit Metro Airport that left a Van Buren Township man dead at about 2:10 a.m. Sunday. Emergency crews responded to the crash on the eastbound I-94 ramp to southbound I-275 in Romulus, just west of the airport.

A preliminary investigation showed a 2011 Kia Sorento ran off the roadway to the right and rolled several times. A 36-year-old VBT man was ejected from the SUV and killed instantly, police said. Police have not released the victim's name.

BHS at-home games

- **Thursday, Jan. 23:** Boys Swim/Dive vs John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
- **Friday, Jan. 24:** Girls JV Basketball vs Dearborn HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Basketball vs Dearborn HS, 7 p.m.; Boys Ice Hockey vs Pioneer HS, 7 p.m. at Allen Park Ice Arena
- **Saturday, Jan. 25:** Boys Varsity Ice Hockey vs Franklin HS, 7 p.m. at Allen Park Ice Arena
- **Tuesday, Jan. 28:** Boys Freshman Basketball vs Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.; Boys JV Basketball vs Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Basketball vs Wayne Memorial HS, 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 29:** Wrestling KLAA Crossover Quad, 5:30 p.m.

Go Tigers!
Diane Kiessel

Belleville High School Athletic Secretary



Looking for professionals who have an interest in offering their expertise to 5th and 6th grade students while enjoying lunch and spirited conversation. Contact Mrs. Foulks at vfoulks@vanburenschools.net or call the office, (734) 697-8711, to make an appointment.

The Belleville-Area Independent Website is Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com Read The Newspaper On The Web!

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- No monthly fees

\$1500

Includes:

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- 4) HD Cameras (bullet or dome)
- 19" Monitor
- DVR (2TB)



Actual hardware may vary.



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Correction:

Ken Askew is alive and living in Phoenix

In the Jan. 2 issue of the *Independent*, we published a story about a structure fire behind Dunham's and mentioned that it was the house where "the late Ken Askew once live."

We received a letter from Askew's daughter, Ann Cools, who said while her mother Sandy Askew has passed away, her father is living in Phoenix, AZ.

"I would appreciate a correction so as to not worry his friends," Ann wrote.

We are sorry for the error and very glad that Ken is still with us.

Rosemary K. Oztman, editor



Jan. 17 – Betty Zunk
Jan. 24 – Angela Koste
Jan. 26 – Alicia McGovern
Jan. 28 – Mandy Rider, Cindy King
Jan. 29 – Jim Shrove

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Call the *Independent* at (734) 699-9020 with your information and we will publish it as soon as possible.

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, December 16, 2019

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

Presentations

Chief Hall Berriman presented excellence awards to Mason Brandon Mullens and Mason Secretary Jim Piper recognizing the Masonic Lodge for the donations given to the Belleville Police Department to pay for police academy tuition.

Council Members took turns presenting awards to residents for the annual outdoor holiday decorating contest; this year they decided on two winners for each category. 2019 winners are: William & Beth Ann Hutter; Eric Luke Family; Ronald & Donna Adkins; Elliot & Kera Jokinen; the Morin Family; Lacey Marcotte; Walter Dziedzic, and Belleville Bariatrics.

Council follow up list	None
Citizen Comments	None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Voigt to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fielder, Second by Marcotte to approve the City Council meeting minutes from December 2nd, 2019 with a minor correction as discussed.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Mayor Pro Tem Selection

Motion by Fielder, Second by Bates to approve **Resolution No. 19-085** appointing Council Member Jesse Marcotte as Mayor Pro Tem.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Call Special Meetings for City Manager Search

Motion by Fielder, Second by Voigt to approve **Resolution No. 19-086**, calling for the following special meeting dates for the City Manager search: Monday, January 6th at 6 pm; Saturday, January 25th at 10 am; Monday, February 3rd at 6 pm, and Tuesday, February 4th at 6 pm. Meetings will be held at City Hall except for the February 3rd, meeting location to be determined.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Healthcare Corrective Action Plan

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said that the State of Michigan requires a plan for all OPEB/retirees who receive healthcare benefits, adding that the City has a pay-as-you-go approach.

Motion by Voigt, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 19-087**, authorizing the City to file a retirement health benefit systems corrective action plan with the Michigan Department of Treasury as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 19-088**, for accounts payable and purchases over \$500.00 totaling \$98,035.82 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Manager Kollmeyer stated that trash pickup would occur on Fridays for the next two weeks due to the holidays.

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Marcotte stated that if Governor Whitmer signs a supplemental budget, it may include a \$250,000 appropriation for the Doane's Landing Seawall Project thanks to efforts made by Rep. Pagan and Senator Hopgood. He thanked the City Council for nominating him to be Mayor Pro Tem. *Council Member Voigt* thanked audience members for coming, and said the Chamber put on a fantastic WinterFest and parade. *Council Member Bates* congratulated Council Member Marcotte for becoming Mayor Pro Tem and thanked the Masons for their financial support of the police department. *Council Member Fielder* remarked that the pictures with Santa and the ornament workshop events were very successful.

12. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Conley asked City Manager Kollmeyer to prepare a detailed list of all current contracted services so that the City may consider future bids. She thanked the boards, commissions, and city staff for serving the City this year, adding that it takes a lot of people working together for success.

13. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said that WinterFest was fantastic this year, especially the parade lineup and fireworks.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Voigt, Second by Marcotte to adjourn meeting at 8:18 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf

City Clerk

Approved: January 13, 2020

Published: January 23, 2020



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48024 BEMIS, VAN BUREN TWP
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YOUR OWN PRIVATE WORLD A Total of 5,263 Square Feet! 4 Bedroom 3 Full and 2 Half Baths, INTERIOR POOL, High End Premium Built Brick 3 Level Home. 100+ Feet of Lake Frontage, Double Dock & SAND BEACH. \$898,900

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9277 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER TWP
ENJOY COUNTRY LIVING With 3 Bedrooms, First Floor Master with Master Bath, 2 1/2 Baths, Fireplace, Deck, 3 Acres, 2 1/2 Car attached Garage, Two Pole Barns This home was enjoyed by a car collector. \$230,000

PRIME LOCATION



41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION, Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits this 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. Offered at \$135,000

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10106 WILLIS, WILLIS
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4,224 SQUARE FEET



23560 SUMPTER, SUMPTER TWP
RESIDENTIAL OR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY. Possible Residential, Day Care, Group Home, Apartments or Your Ideas Large front covered porch. Large Covered Patio & fireplace 1 Large Kitchen, 2 Apartment Kitchens, 5 Bathrooms. 1 Car Garage. A Best Buy \$225,000

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LARGE COUNTRY HOME on more than an Acre. Just minutes from expressways and shopping. Open Floor Plan with Huge Rooms, Wood Flooring, Fireplace, Rear Patio, Fire Pit with 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage PLUS Pole Barn. and the Best of Nature. \$199,900.

FINISHED BASEMENT



8908 IRONWOOD VAN BUREN TWP
CAREFREE LIVING in this Beautiful 2 bedroom 2.5 bath condo Featuring Gas Fireplace, Dining area with Patio Walkout. Finished Basement with Full Bath. Huge Premium Bath and Brick Paver Patio. This Home is Extra Clean and Shows Like New \$155,000

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HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000
VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR \$250,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$100,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000
SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEARS \$189,900

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WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES \$60,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000
VACANT BALL ROMULUS .34 AC \$19,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN \$72,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000
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MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$30,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$70,000

16265 DIX TOLEDO SOUTHGATE 1.6 ACRES \$155,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$65,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$80,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
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