Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, & the Charter Township of Van Buren
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BELLEVILLE-AREA
INDEPENDENT

Vol. 25.1 Thursday, January 3, 2019 **Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren** FREE

Pastor John F. Losen, Sr. dead at 86

Pastor John Frank Losen, Sr., 86, passed away in his Van Buren Township home on Dec. 29, 2018, having been in hospice care for about three months. He was the eldest son of Frank and Marjorie Losen of Lansing, MI, born Nov. 23, 1932.

He had served over 60 years in the ministry of his Lord, having pastored full time in four Michigan churches, plus various interim ministries following his official retirement from Bethany Bible Church in Belleville. His ministry at Bethany had spanned more than 30 years.

At only 26 years of age, he was predeceased by his first wife, Daisy (Spence) Losen, leaving him with two young children. Pastor Losen is survived by his wife of 58 years, Vesta (Bracy) Losen; his children Bryan Losen and Valerie (Mark) Chulski of Grandville, MI, John, Jr. (Susette) Losen, Kevin (Cherie) Losen of Belleville, MI and Andrea (Luis) San Miguel of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Losens have 14 grandchildren, and are expecting their 14th great-grandchild in May of 2019.

In addition to Pastor Losen's love of preaching and teaching the Word of God, he was well-known for his love of music. He was a graduate of the Grand Rapids School of the Bible and Music. His exceptional and powerful tenor voice made him a favorite soloist and participant in many quartets, ensembles and choirs from high school days until well into his 80s.

This passion for music allowed opportunities for the entire Losen family to travel throughout Michigan and surrounding states, as well as a summer evangelistic tour of South Africa. He was also known for his love of all sports Spartan, in addition to Detroit teams, which afforded him the opportunity to sing the National Anthem at Tiger Stadium in 1985.

Pastor Losen will be remembered for his compassionate heart. His personal ministries to the community at large included countless visits to hospitals and homes, even of those outside his own congregants, many years leading the National Day of Prayer at Victory Station, and 14 years of holding services at Special Tree. He had the privilege of offering the Invocation at the Belleville High School graduation ceremony for each of his five children.

To those who knew him, Pastor John Losen's life could be characterized with one word: Faithful.

A public service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 5, at Bethany Bible Church in Belleville at 2 p.m., with a reception to follow in the church fellowship area. There will be a private interment in Charlotte, MI. Visitations will be at the church Friday, Jan. 4, 1-8 p.m. and Saturday from noon until service time.

In lieu of flowers, Pastor Losen has requested that any donations be directed to the Future Growth Fund of Bethany Bible Church.

Leave a message of comfort for Pastor Losen's family at 1-877-231-7900 or sign his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com . Arrangements by Borek Jennings Funeral Home.

Pastor John Frank Losen, Sr.

After 20 years, the Missoula Children's Theatre to return

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After an absence of 20 years, the Missoula Children's Theatre is returning to the Belleville area to put area children on stage for a show.

On Nov. 14, the Belleville Area Council for the Arts received unanimous board approval to be a "presenter" of the theatre and approved sending a deposit of $500 to Missoula, Montana, to seal the contract.

Early plans call for the Missoula Children's Theatre to come to town in the spring to help local children put on a play called "The Pied Piper."

The total fee for the program is $3,700 and includes an open audition, intensive rehearsals, two public performances and three enrichment workshops. Additional services may be purchased. The $3,200 final payment is due the day of the performance.

As part of the deal, the Belleville Area Council for the Arts has the responsibility to provide: housing for two people for seven nights in either a homestay or motel, a piano and accompanist, two rehearsal spaces (one preferable the performance space, the other at least classroom size), and the "playing area" (the area in front of the set) which must be at least 28' wide by 10' high and 16' deep.

The performance area and other details are yet to be determined said Barbara Rogalle Miller, who is organizing the project. She recalls the late Josephine Chapman and Mary Herring were very active in the early years of Missoula Theatre in this area.

The Missoula show history in Belleville:

- 1992: Beauty Lou and the Country Beast
- 1993: The Wizard of Oz
- 1994: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
- 1995: Alice in Wonderland
- 1996: Rumplestiltskin
- 1997: Pinocchio
- 1998: The Wiz of the West
- 1999: Sleeping Beauty

Miller said she remembers the first year they called for children to audition for the Missoula Children's Theatre, only seven showed up. She said the last year it was here, 130 children showed up to audition.

Miller said she and her son Philip were driving home through Montana last summer, when they saw a sign for the community of Missoula.

"Do you want to go there?" Philip asked, Miller recalled. She did. That's when they reconnected with the children's theatre group and were pleased to find Missoula had a file on Belleville.

Miller brought the proposal to the Belleville Area Council for the Arts and BACA supported the project.

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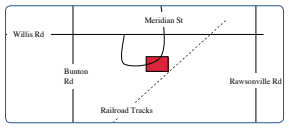

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Independent photos by James Otzman

Last Thursday, they started to deliver the structural steel at the construction site for the new Belleville Area District Library in downtown Belleville and the form started to appear. First, the vertical beams were set in place by steelworkers with the help of a giant crane and then the horizonal beams were added. The new library finally is showing its shape.

A vehicle accident at Potter Drive and Huron River Drive at 2:46 a.m. Saturday was heard by many neighbors as the stop sign vanished with a halo of sparks. The driver was heading west on Huron River Drive and after missing the curve, the vehicle careened between the telephone pole and the Guiding Harbor business sign, missing each by inches. Then it catapulted across the street, taking out the stop sign as well as most of Delux Tent's front bushes and landscaping, barely missing the building. Some of the accident was caught from a distance by video surveillance cameras. The vehicle came to rest in front of Delux Tent, un-drivable, with Belleville Police promptly on the scene. The noise of the crash woke many neighbors who appeared at the crash site around 3 a.m.

The Comcast wires across the building site were severed to make way for construction.

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OPINIONS

Editorial

Pastor Losen rests from lifetime of serving others

It's time for Pastor John Losen to have a rest. He died on Saturday morning and his service is this Saturday at Bethany Bible Church, in the large building made necessary by his successful ministry.

Pastor Losen has spent his entire lifetime helping people. I remember stories of him going to see people in hospitals that weren't even in his church. He wasn't trying to get him to join his church, he was just there to offer Christian comfort. And, they appreciated it.

Towards the very end of his life, people were helping him, and they were glad to do so. His bone cancer left him very fragile and his grandchildren were so gentle with him.

We were told, when he was under hospice care at home, he made a personal goal of living until the Bethany Bible Church Choral Concert took place Dec. 15 and 16 – and he did. He lived until Christmas Day, as well. But then, it was time to go.

Pastor Losen used to drop by the *Independent* when he visited his dentist in our building. He always had a twinkle in his eye when he talked about politics. His son ran unsuccessfully for VBT supervisor at one point and his township opposition punished the church for it. But, the church never accused the township of anything and just followed all the petty rules they imposed during construction.

Goodbye, Pastor Losen. It's been a great experience to know you.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW ...By Rosemary K. Otzman

At Saturday's memorial service for former Van Buren Township Fire Chief Al Smolen, his sister told of their childhood days in Detroit. She said a fire call box was at the end of the street. One day the family went outside to see what was going on when a fire engine arrived outside their door. Sitting on a fireman's lap was little Al. It seems he had pulled the fire call to summon the fire department.

When they asked Al how he did that, he said he pulled his wagon up and stood in it, but couldn't reach. So he put his tricycle on top of the wagon and then he could reach.

When they asked why he did that, little Al said he wanted to see the fire engine and the firemen. The firearm did show him their engine, but sternly told him never to do that again.

As we know, Al was destined for a career in fire fighting.

A huge crowd turned out Saturday at Brown's Funeral Home to see him off. And, a big, red, VBT fire truck was parked in the parking lot.

***

MichiganVotes.org compiled a list of all the Michigan legislators and how many roll call votes each missed from January 2017 through December 2018.

Our area's State Reps. Kristy Pagan, D; Joe Bellino, Jr., R; Erika Geiss, D, and Darrin Camilleri, D, all missed 0 out of the 1,554 votes. Good for them! Good for us!

Our State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D, missed 51 votes out of 1,613.

***

Some of the police officers at the 34th District Court were talking about a visiting judge over last weekend and how he gave $10,000/10% bond to a defendant he arraigned. The defendant had hit and killed an off-duty police officer in downtown Detroit, and then drove off. Later, he turned himself in.

The officers stopped talking about it when a reporter came near, but I can see why they were upset about the low bond for a hit-and-run cop killer.

Many people don't realize that our 34th District Court in Romulus is the arraignment headquarters for Wayne County and the City of Detroit when the other courts are closed on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as on holidays.

The Detroit News did a story last week on the arraignments at the 34th District Court on Christmas Day. The defendants were presented by video, but the family members were there in person to see their arrested loved on on the screen.

The 34th District Court mans the courthouse with its regular staff, but judges from throughout the county and City of Detroit take turns sitting on the bench. The 34th court's Marianne Szlinis was the court clerk on duty on Christmas Day. I know that from the picture published in the paper and online on Dec. 26.

The reporter didn't like the looks of the current courthouse, but he didn't mention that right next door a beautiful new courthouse is being constructed. By next fall, it should be in place and it will be beautiful.

***

The Belleville Area District Library is finally taking shape and it, too, is sure to be a great building for Belleville's downtown, as well as a great resource for the whole tri-community. That huge crane is working in such a small space to move those steel beams. Takes great skill.

I can hardly wait until the steelworkers are done and they put the little tree on top of the structure to celebrate. I saw the tree at the high school when it was built and at 34th District Court recently, and now the library tree is coming.

***

On Dec. 26, at about 1 p.m., there was an emergency call to the Martz/Lohr Road area where a burning DTE pole was threatening to fall over the railroad track. They alerted the railroad and the train traffic was halted and then the electric power was shut off to the area. The emergency crews cleared at 3:10 p.m., and we saw a DTE truck leaving at shortly after 4 p.m.

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The *Independent* sends a Happy New Year wish to all our readers. May 2019 be the best year ever for you.

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

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Letters

Goodfellows helped 65 families, 155 children

To the editor:

Another year of the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows Christmas Assistance Program has come to an end. For this year, 2018, the Goodfellows had the enjoyable job of distributing food, hams, family essentials, coats, gloves, mittens, and toys to 65 families and over 155 children. The City of Belleville Police and Van Buren Township Fire Fighters gave their time standing outside selling candy canes.

Without the volunteers who collected, sorted and re-packaged the food and shopped for the toys, the assistance we gave to these families would not have been possible.

We would like to thank all the businesses, schools, and residents for their generous donations. The money and goods you donated to the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows helped provide a more joyful Christmas for those families in our community and enabled the Goodfellows to fulfill their promise of "No Child Without a Christmas."

We would also like to thank the 34th District Court workers who helped load the food and toys into the residents' vehicles.

Again, on behalf of the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows, we would like to extend our sincere thanks and wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Pam Fleming, coordinator
Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows

Belleville Area District Library sets Storytimes

Winter Storytimes are starting up for the New Year at the Belleville Area District Library:

• **Monday Night Family Storytimes** (for children ages 4-10) – Monday at 7 p.m., Jan. 14 -Feb. 25

• **Tuesday Toddler Times** (for ages 2-4) – Tuesday at 11 a.m., Jan. 15-Feb. 26

• **Thursday Toddler Times** (for ages 2-4) – Thursday at 11 a.m., Jan. 17-Feb. 28

Sign up for story sessions at http://belleville.evanced.info/signup or at the reference desk in the library.

Tara K. McCann
Youth/Teen Services Librarian
Belleville Area District Library
167 Fourth St., Belleville

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Jan. 3 –** The Belleville Area District Library presents "Bullet Journaling" at 7 p.m. Want to improve your organizational skills and productivity? A bullet journal can be a planner, to-do list, sketchbook, diary, or all of the above. Learn how to put this flexible tool to work for you. Call (734) 699-3291 or visit the library website to register.

• **Sunday, Jan. 6 –** Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's M3 Band. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Jan. 6 –** Bugles Across America at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville. A brief ceremony honors those with past and present military service. The playing of "Taps" is always a part of the ceremony.

• **Monday, Jan. 7 through Friday, Jan. 11, and Monday, Jan. 14 –** Free, Stop Smoking Seminar at 7 p.m., Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 89 S. Edgemont St., Belleville. Register at (918) 902-9977.

• **Thursday, Jan. 10 –** Belleville High School is hosting a suicide-awareness presentation for the community from 6-8 p.m. in the BHS Auditorium, 501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville. Resources will be available before and after the presentation.

• **Saturday, Jan. 12 –** Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Golden Awards Dinner and Holiday Party is set for 6-10 p.m. at Angel Food Catering, 44850 N. I-94 Service Dr., Van Buren Township. Roaring 20s theme. Tickets are $60 each or two for $115. Information: Paul Henning, (734) 697-7151.

• **Sunday, Jan. 13 –** Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's Albert Munis Band. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Jan. 20 –** Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's Jay Frandsen/SAX. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Jan. 27 –** Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's Ken Folk Rigs. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

Upcoming Meetings

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

• Tuesday, Jan. 8 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority meets at 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Jan. 9 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych

Wayne County Fairgrounds is getting ready for its annual Wild Game Dinner coming up on Saturday, Jan. 19, at the fairgrounds dining hall. Tickets are $35 per person and available at the fairgrounds' office during regular business hours. Doors open at 6 p.m. with appetizers at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Call (734) 697-7002. Proceeds go towards the upkeep of the fairgrounds. Visit www.waynecountyfairgrounds.net .

***

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is in need of auction items and sponsors for its annual Chamber Awards Banquet coming up Jan. 12. Contact the chamber for information at (734) 697-7151. Tickets for the banquet are $60 per person in advance or two for $115. Tickets at the door will be $70 per person.

***

Dr. Harold Gale of Gable Chiropractic informed me that he and Dr. Douglas Reynolds of Reynolds Chiropractic on Belleville Road in the same location is offering half-off services for veterans, not only through the holidays as reported in last week's column, but *forever.* To learn more or to make an appointment, call (734) 697-4446.

***

Kids Crafty Saturdays start this Saturday, Jan. 5, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Van Buren Township Community Center for participants grades K-5. The class costs $5 per child per craft. VBT Parks and Rec. staff will provide supplies, instructions, etc. This Saturday's craft is Winter Scene Newspaper Birch Trees. The event is also scheduled for Feb. 2 with Melted Crayon Rocks as the craft and March 2 with Dreamcatchers. Register at (734) 699-8921 and visit www.vanburen-mi.org for other programs and activities.

***

Our Church Directory in the newspaper each week is a great opportunity to get the word out to our readers about your church and its offerings. The one-column-wide-by-one-inch-tall display box can include your church name, logo, service times, events, website info, etc. We offer this listing in contracts of 13 weeks at a time (quarterly) and you can update the box accordingly. If you'd like more information or are considering advertising your business or service with us in the coming new year, send me an email at sportzriter@aol.com or call (734) 699-9020.

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MDOT expanding truck parking information system along I-94

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is expanding the Truck Parking Information and Management System (TPIMS) with new parking locations at the I-275 Carleton Rest Area, the I-75 Monroe Welcome Center, and six I-94 rest areas in Richmond, Adair, Belleville, Grass Lake, Chelsea and Sandstone. There also will be nine new signs added to inform drivers of available parking.

TPIMS is a system that assesses truck parking and delivers real-time parking availability information to truck drivers. In 2014, MDOT began the program with nine parking sites along the I-94 corridor in southwest Michigan.

This expansion is part of a federally funded Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant awarded collectively to eight Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) states: Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

By using TPIMS, drivers can monitor parking availability and make better-informed parking decisions as they near the limit of their federally mandated hours of service. When the system is fully operational in January, drivers will be better able to make routing and parking decisions through parking availability information provided to them through TPIMS-related dynamic messaging signs, mobile device applications, and traveler information websites. More information on the MAASTO program is available online at TrucksParkHere.com .

I-94 in Michigan carries some of the highest commercial volumes in all of the Midwest. Trucks account for approximately 23 to 30% of all traffic in the corridor, making it the highest concentration of commercial vehicles on interstate highways in Michigan. Truck parking is a major safety concern along the I-94 corridor. The goal of TPIMS is to identify available parking and share that information with commercial vehicle operators.

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Obituaries

Wilma Jean Johnson

WILMA JEAN JOHNSON
(April 29, 1944 – December 20, 2018)
Wilma Jean Johnson, age 74, a longtime resident of Belleville, passed away from this life on Thursday, December 20, 2018 in Somerset, Kentucky. She was born on April 29, 1944 in Rockholds, Kentucky, daughter of the late Elmer and Thelma Lawson Widener.

She enjoyed hunting, fishing, and watching old Westerns. She also enjoyed attending Detroit Tigers baseball games and baseball card shows with her nephew, David Bortz. She was a former police officer for Van Buren Township and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. She was a lifelong NRA member and an avid supporter of Donald Trump.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Daymond Widener, brother-in-law Harold Bortz, and sister-in-law Margie Widener. She is survived by her husband of fifty-five years Johnnie Ray Johnson, whom she married on April 23, 1963; stepson Blaine (Janie) Johnson of Rockholds, brother Charles (Opal) Widener of Rockholds, sisters Beverly Nadine Bortz of Somerset and Lena (Arnold) Dunesmore of Whitley City, and several nephews, nieces, great-nieces and great-nephews, step-grandchildren, and friends.

Visitation followed by a funeral service was held on Saturday, December 22, 2018 at Chapel of Southern Oaks Funeral Home in Somerset, Kentucky, with Bro. Troy Merrick, Bro. Noah Broughton, and her nephew Bro. David Bortz officiating.

FRANCIS JOHN DAY
(July 10, 1927 - December 26, 2018)
Age 91, died peacefully at his residence, Wednesday, December 26, 2018.

Mr. Day is the dear husband of Catherine for 67 years; loving father of John Day of New Boston, Shirley (Gary) Branam-Mora of Chelsea and Karen Barton of Florida; cherished grandfather of Michael (Natasha) Branam of Ohio, Steven (Nicole) Branam of Ohio and Matthew (Amanda) Branam of Ohio, Heather Barton, Jeffrey Barton of Canton, Jacqueline Day of Kansas and Scott Day of Westland.

A Canadian by birth, Mr. Day settled in to the Belleville area to raise his family after his marriage to Catherine. Mr. Day enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing and maintaining his yard. He was a former member of the First United Methodist Church of Belleville and was an upstanding Rotarian for many years.

In keeping with Mr. Day's wishes, a simple cremation has been arranged with a memorial service in the near future.

Please inquire at a later time for compete service information.

David C. Brown Funeral Home, (734) 697-4500. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Richard "Dick" T. Zimmer

RICHARD T. ZIMMER
(June 18, 1944 – December 13, 2018)
Richard "Dick" T. Zimmer, 74, quietly passed away at his home on Thursday, December 13, 2018. He was born to Chester and Wanda (Bartuzel) Zimmer on June 18, 1944. He graduated from Saint Anthony School in 1958 and Belleville High School in 1962. He furthered his education following his mechanical interests to graduate from various trade schools for both motorcycle and automotive service and repair. A lifelong resident/businessman of Belleville, Dick was the proud and trusted operator/owner/master mechanic of Zimmer's Texaco Service which later became Zimmer's Service at Five Points in Belleville for 21 years.

Dick was a passionate racer, who over the years, raced motorcycles, snowmobiles and cars in various venues in Michigan, as well as out of state, winning numerous honors and trophies. He also enjoyed nature, hunting, fishing, animals and music. During his years of school, business, racing and retirement, Dick's kind, honest, competitive, jovial nature touched the hearts of many whose friendship and camaraderie were enjoyed and cherished throughout his life.

Richard was the beloved sweetheart (50 years), and husband (44 years), of Lillian (Phillips) Zimmer, who survives him. He is also survived by his brother Robert (Helen) Zimmer of Indian River and his sister Treva (Tim) Bazzett of Reed City, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Donald.

Richard's funeral service was December 22, 2018 at Brown's Funeral Home and was laid to rest in peace at Michigan Memorial Park. He will live on in our hearts with many fond memories.

We send our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all your kindness and support and for keeping the Zimmer Family in your thoughts and prayers.

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CHRISTOPHER ALAN BROWN
(August 5, 1998 - December 27, 2018)
Age 20, of Willis. Survived by parents, Christopher Sr. & April Brown; 4 brothers; grandparents Ronald Brown and Dawn Robbins; great-grandmother Ruth Krushlin; grandfather Butch Armatis. Funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at David C. Brown Funeral Home. www.davidcbrownfh.com

ERIC WILLIAMS
(February 17, 1970 - December 29, 2018)
Age 48, of Van Buren Township, passed away December 29, 2018. His arrangements are pending at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, (734) 697-4500.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

More Obituaries on page 8

Obituaries

Herbert Stiltner

HERBERT STILTNER
(September 19, 1933 - December 29, 2018)
Mr. Herbert Stiltner, 85, formerly of Belleville, passed away on Saturday, December 29, 2018 at Elmcroft of Downriver in Brownstown Township. Born in Betsy Lane, Kentucky on September 19, 1933 to Fleming K. and Iness (Richmond) Stiltner, Herbert was the cherished father of Randall and Herbert Stiltner. He was the adored grandfather of Stephanie (Ryan) Kendzierski, Randall (Alycia) Stiltner, Harlan Stiltner, Josie Danaher and 6 great-grandchildren. Sadly, he was preceded in death by Mary, his loving spouse of 64 years, on May 6, 2018.
Herbert enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid fisherman. He was very active in the Baptist church community and enjoyed spending time with his family. Herbert and his late wife Mary spent their retirement in Florida, but were happy to come home to Michigan for good several years ago. Prior to his retirement Herbert had been a loyal employee of Ford Motor Company for many years.
Mr. Stiltner's funeral service will take place on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. at the Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville, MI, with Pastor Robert White officiating. Herbert's family will greet guests from 11:00 A.M. until the time of the service. Burial will follow at Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton, Michigan.

Salvation Army offers free rehab services for those fighting addiction

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Jessica Geracz, Salvation Army Intake Supervisor, was at the Nov. 26 regular meeting of the Belleville City Council to announce there are more than 100 open beds for those seeking help with addiction to alcohol or drugs. And, it costs nothing. Also, the Adult Rehabilitation Center does not take insurance.

She said this has nothing to do with the Salvation Army's red kettle or their help for families. This is a separate service of the Salvation Army supported by its stores.

Geracz said in the past, people thought of the addicted as homeless on the street, but now with the optiod crisis everyone in the suburbs is at risk.

She said the rehab doors are open for anyone over 18 with no past criminal record. She said those admitted do work therapy at one of the 35 stores running in this area. They get six months of rehabilitation before going back out into the world.

She said people sign themselves in and sign themselves out. It's up to them to take advantage of the help. She said they hire 80% of the people who complete the program.

Geracz said the program is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and those needing help are able to stay up to a year. Currently there are 104 open beds for men and 26 open beds for women, and they are on separate floors.

She said the outreach team is located in Detroit. A store and rehab program is also in Romulus.

"People can get a lot out of this," she said. "It's up to them." She said she has seen people come in with nothing and then leave with an apartment waiting, money in their pocket, and a job.

If possible, people should call the Adult Rehabilitation Center 24-hour helpline at (313) 965-7760, ext. 234, or email semi_program@usc.salvationarmy.org before showing up. But, If someone in need just shows up, the person will at least get a bed for the night. They do not have detox facilities.

For more information visit semichigan.satruck.org .

The informational literature left at city hall said: "One in 11 Michigan adults is addicted to drugs or alcohol."

Book published on Yankee Air Museum full of old, new pictures

"Yankee Air Museum," a new book that was published by Barry D. Levine on Nov. 26, tells the story of the local museum from the early days when it was started and looks into its plans for the future.

The book has 160 color photographs and ends with two architectural renditions of plans for the new National Museum for Aviation and Technology at Willow Run.

Author Levine is a volunteer at the Yankee Air Museum. His interest in aviation history goes back to when his father took him out to watch airplane landings and takeoffs at Bradley Field in Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

Levine had access to an extensive library of images, interviews with museum personnel, and a wide range of aviation literature sources as background. This is his first book.

The 96-page, paperback book is available for $22.99 from Arcadia Publishing at www.arcadiapublishing.com . It also is available at the Yankee Air Museum gift shop, (734) 483-4030.

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Ypsilanti Friends Church begins 2019 GriefShare classes

Ypsilanti GriefShare classes for 2019 begin at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 5, with a "Loss of Spouse" class that morning. Participants can register at www.griefshare.org, searching for the Ypsilanti zip code, 48197.

Then on Sunday, evening session 1 of a 13-week GriefShare class is titled "Is This Normal?" beginning at 6 p.m. Register for this through the website, also.

GriefShare is a grief recovery support group where people can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one.

The Evangelical Friends Church is located at 7890 Tuttle Hill Rd., Ypsilanti 48197, (734) 483-6380.

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK

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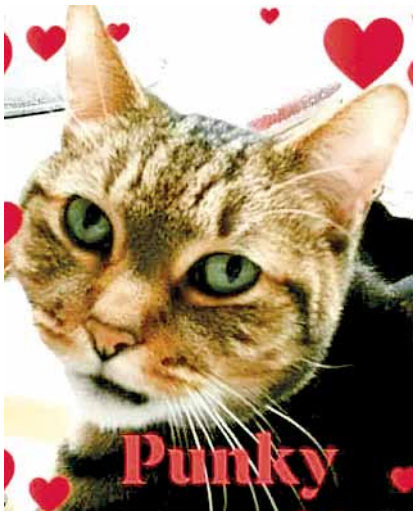

Start the New Year off with a best friend by bringing **Punky** home. He's a delightful 3 ½ year old tiger tabby mix that has all the traits you would want in a best friend. He's extremely friendly and enjoys greeting visitors with his crooked smile and soft meows. He loves to show you he cares by climbing up on your lap ready to listen to all your woes in exchange for snuggles and pets. He'll never stay mad and will always forgive you because that's simply his nature. **Punky** had a mostly outside life before arriving here and looks a little rough around the edges and older than he really is. He might not be the most handsome kitty on the outside but his personality is a testament to true beauty being found on the inside. Ring in the New Year with a little love and friendship by meeting **Punky**; he's neutered, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV, micro-chipped and ready to come home. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce sets annual banquet Jan. 12

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce has set its annual Golden Awards Dinner and Holiday Party for 6-10 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 12, at Angel Food Catering, 44850 N. I-94 Service Dr., Van Buren Township.

They are having a Roaring 20s theme with entertainment by Derek Rafferty and a Signature drink by Egan's Pub.

Tickets are $60 each or two for $115. Tables of eight can be purchased for $455. Sponsorships are available.

For more information, contact Chamber Executive Director Paul Henning, (734) 697-7151.

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Jan. 21 – Lisa Posegay

Do you have a birthday in January? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

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Court Watching:

Assault, domestic violence dismissed against Oconnor

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After the complainant failed to show up for a second time for a preliminary exam for an assault charge and domestic violence charge, those charges against Brendan Michael Oconnor, 27, were dismissed.

He had been charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder on Nov. 13 in Van Buren Township, along with domestic violence.

At his scheduled preliminary exam on Dec. 12 before 34th District Court Judge David Parrott, Oconnor's court-appointed attorney Mark Perseda said the assistant Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney asked that the charges be dismissed without prejudice because the complainant didn't show up for the exam. Judge Parrott pointed out that the prosecutor could refile the charges in the future.

On Dec. 5, when Oconnor was present for his preliminary exam before Judge Tina Brooks Green, the prosecutor said the complainant of the assault case was at the funeral of the complainant in the check case against Oconnor. At that point he was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of $10,000/10% for the assault case and the same amount of bond on two counts of forgery.

Judge Green granted him personal bond on a tether that covered both cases against him. She adjourned the preliminary exam on the forgery charges until Dec. 12.

Then, before Judge Parrott, Oconnor waived his preliminary exam on the forgery charges and was bound over to circuit court for his arraignment on the information on Dec. 26. That arraignment was reset to Jan. 9 before Circuit Court Judge Gregory Bill.

John Adam Berry

John Adam Berry, 48, was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information by Magistrate Lisa Martin and the date was set for Jan. 9 before Judge James Chylinski. He is charged with larceny in a building in VBT on Sept. 7. He is free on $10,000 personal recognizance bond.

Geoffrey Gerard Grubbs, II

Geoffrey Gerard Grubbs, II, 34, waived his preliminary exam on carrying a concealed weapon and driving while license suspended-2nd in the City of Belleville on Dec. 1. He was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Jan. 9 before Judge Gregory Bill. He is free on $2,000 personal recognizance bond.

Marcus Darnell Wilhide

Marcus Darnell Wilhide, 20, waived his preliminary exam on two counts of unlawful driving away of a motor vehicle, weapons/larceny, and larceny between $200 and $1,000 on Sept. 7, 2017 in VBT. He was bound over by Magistrate Martin for an arraignment on the information at circuit court. He is free after posting bond of $20,000/10%.

At circuit court a final conference was set for Jan. 18 and a jury trial for March 12 before Judge Prentis Edwards, Jr.

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

A special quilt was held up for all to see at the Nov. 27 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees. Karen Mickens said the quilt was made by Senior Quilters who included the names of Sumpter Township residents who lost their lives while serving our country. She said the quilt will be given to Sumpter resident Leroy Paige and he can auction it off to earn funds for the Honor and Remember group of which he is a part.

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Brandon Vacek of Belleville was among the 24 new Michigan Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officers who graduated Dec. 21 during a ceremony in Lansing. Officer Vacek is assigned to Monroe County. In the class picture he is the third officer in from the left in the second row. Thirty candidates initially were selected from nearly 500 applicants to be a part of Recruit School #9, the DNR's 23-week training academy. Graduates include six women and 18 men. While their primary mission is to enforce fish, game and natural resource protection laws, conservation officers serve a unique role as certified peace officers with authority to enforce all of Michigan's criminal laws. Because of their specialized training and versatility, conservation officers often are first responders to situations involving medical emergencies, missing persons, and public safety threats.

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Trinity's 'Friday Fill-up!' program expands to Tyler Elem.

On Friday, Dec. 14, the "Friday Fill-up!' program provided 25 food kit bags to Tyler Elementary school students in the Van Buren Public Schools.

This program, sponsored by Trinity Episcopal Church in Belleville, grew over the summer to provide a weekend's worth of food to 50 schoolchildren at high risk for food insecurity at Rawsonville Elementary School.

With the emergency needs at Rawsonville met, the "Friday Fill-up!" program secured funding to provide for students at Tyler. School staff and faculty said they are very excited to have this program serve their students, said Ian Twiss, Trinity pastor.

Each weekend throughout the school year each child receives a bag filled with six meals, veggie and fruit cups, and at least three snacks. To date, more than 7,500 meals and 4,000 snacks have been provided. With the expansion to Tyler, an additional 11,500 meals and 6,000 snacks will be given from January to June, completely free of charge to the students.

The local Lions, Kiwanis, and Rotary clubs have thrown themselves into support for this outreach program. The groups have all given generously to the program and provide vital volunteers for packing up the food kits and doing the delivery runs to the schools themselves, said Pastor Twiss.

If members of the public would like to participate, the next packing party will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville. Volunteers are always needed, Twiss said.

Belleville Kiwanis Club team members presenting a check for the project are, from left, Gabby Burton, Wendy Marcele, Sevanah Marcele, Pastor Ian Reed Twiss, Kathleen Springer, and Don Johnson.

Belleville Rotary Club "Friday Fill-up!" team members are, from left, standing, 34th District Court Judge David Parrott, Martha Hanoian, Mary Jo Suchy, Dr. John MacDermid, Deb Green, and Gabby Burton. In front, from left, are Debbie Juchartz, Julie Hardy, and Franklin Burton.

Belleville Lions Club team members are, from left, Pastor Ian Reed Twiss, Gabby Burton, Gary Marshall, Martha Hanoian, and Dave Kremper.

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BHS football team members honored by *Detroit News* rankings

This fall's Belleville High School football team ended the season with a 12-1 final record.

The team was:

• KLAA East Division Champions

• KLAA League Champions

• MHSAA Division 1 District Champions (first in school history)

• MHSAA Division 1 Regional Champions (Final Four) (first in school history)

Individual honors, so far:

• Devontae Dobbs, senior, *Detroit News* Dream Team (offensive line)

• Julian Barnett, senior, *Detroit News* Dream Team (defensive back)

• Damon Payne, sophomore, *Detroit News* First Team (offensive line)

• Jalen Hunt, senior, *Detroit News* First Team (defensive line)

• Andre Seldon, junior, *Detroit News* First Team (defensive back)

• Marvin Ham, senior, *Detroit News* Second Team (linebacker)

• Jalen Williams, *Detroit News* Honorable Mention (ends)

• Christian Dhue-Reid, *Detroit News* Honorable Mention (quarterback)

• Tyrece Woods, *Detroit News* Honorable Mention (defensive line)

***Detroit News* All-West**

• First Team: Devontae Dobbs, Damon Payne, Christian Dhue-Reid, Jalen Hunt, Marvin Ham, Julian Barnett, Andre Seldon

• Second Team: Jalen Williams, Tyrece Woods

• Honorable Mention: Darrell Johnson, Jakobe Watkins, Deon Selma, Christopher Lunsford, Isaiah Foster, Dylan Zagula, Ronald Jackson

Information courtesy of BHS Athletic Director Joseph Brodie.

Deadline for BHS Distinguished Graduate nominations is Jan. 31

Nomination applications for the Belleville High School Distinguished Graduate program must be turned in to the BHS office at 501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, by Jan. 31, 2019.

A copy of the application can be downloaded from the Van Buren Public Schools official website at: www.vanburenschools.net . To get to the application, click on "Menu," "Our District," and then "BHS Distinguished Graduate Application."

The inductions of Distinguished Graduates and BHS National Honor Society members will be held together in April.

The Distinguished Graduate award is an annual honor that recognizes BHS graduates who have distinguished themselves in business or profession, or have contributed to his/her community's welfare and progress. The graduation year of those recognized must be 10 or more years prior to the current year of graduation.

It is expected that the recipient, or family member in the case of a posthumous award, will attend the ceremony where the award will be presented. Portraits of the Distinguished Graduates are displayed in a hallway at BHS.

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Yankee Air Museum shrugs off winter, plans car/plane event

Yankee Lady, the historic B-17 Flying Fortress hasn't been seen flying overhead for weeks. All of the classic cars were put to bed long ago.

Safe from the harsh elements, winter maintenance continues and the good kids are keeping their cars and planes well covered.

At Yankee Air Museum, the focus is already on Sunday, June 23, 2019. That's right, two days after the Summer Solstice the Second-Annual Wings and Wheels invitational car show will be held on the west ramp at Willow Run Airport.

"The days are so short now, that even if a warm streak hit, no one at your cruising hangout would notice a stray Studebaker," chuckled Peter DeLoof, event chairman of Yankee Air Museum's Wings and Wheels.

"These are the times that try the souls of the car and plane enthusiasts. Our group therapy is in planning meetings and we're making terrific progress."

DeLoof, who owns a rare 1922 Fronty/Ford Indianapolis racecar, says the second Wings and Wheels will be bigger, better than the inaugural event last year simply by building on the successful formula.

People like being up close with history and being able to talk with the owners of exceptionally unique cars and planes. The general public is encouraged to attend this event and bring cameras.

The Wings and Wheels committee includes automotive luminaries Bob Lutz, retired General Motors vice-chairman, and Bill Milliken, president of the eminent Points and Condensers Preservation Society. Lutz and Milliken together chair the car selection panel to bring the extraordinary to Wings and Wheels.

"Open the hood of today's automobile and you see a handsome engine cover," said Lutz. "Look under the hoods of the classics we present and you see an evolution of engine technology. We have some exceptional one-of-a-kind cars selected for our show."

DeLoof said the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum has already agreed to send five cars from its collection, including one driven by legendary World War One fighter ace Eddie Rickenbacker. He won't divulge more cars, but said a Grumman Widgeon is among the rare aircraft slated to appear on June 23.

Cars and planes are appearing by invitation only to assure the highest level of exclusive aircraft and automobiles together in one place, on one day, rain or shine.

People who have an exceptional automobile or plane should contact Elisa Guyton, the event coordinator, at elisa.guyton@yankeeairmuseum.org to receive an application for the Wings and Wheels Selection Committee to consider.

About Wings and Wheels

This automobile and airplane show is returning on Sunday, June 23, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the ramp at Hangar 1, Willow Run Airport, west side. Located at 801 Kirk Profit Drive, Ypsilanti MI, this is the hangar from which Yankee Air Museum operates its historic planes. Get up close to an array of rare classic cars, selected by invitation only, and historic aircraft all on display together on the tarmac. Outstanding opportunities to chat up the owners and capture great photos.

The general public is welcome and tickets are $20 in advance and $25 on the day of the event. Kids 15 and under are free. Plenty of free parking available and food trucks will be on site. Net event proceeds benefit the Yankee Air Museum. Air Adventure rides will be available on Yankee Air Museum's vintage World War Two era aircraft, a B-17 Flying Fortress, B-25 Mitchell and C-47 Skytrain along with its Waco biplane.

For more information on the event contact elisa.guyton@yankeeairmuseum.org

Visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org to discover more about the Yankee Air Museum and how volunteers are working to preserve local history with the www.SavetheBomberPlant.org campaign. For more information on the museum, call (734) 483-4030.

Photos by Al Hudson, Yankee Air Museum

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Court Watching:

3 of 4 co-defendants take plea deals for armed Harbour Club fight

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The four co-defendants accused of being involved in an armed fight in the parking lot of Harbour Club apartments in Van Buren Township on Aug. 10 were present for their preliminary exam before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on Nov. 28.

They all waived their preliminary exams and were scheduled to be at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on Dec. 5 for arraignments on the information. At that hearing, a calendar conference was set for them all for Dec. 11 and at that conference three of them took plea deals.

All four had been housed in the Wayne County Jail on bonds of $20,000/cash or surety.

After requests by their court-appointed attorneys, Judge Oakley released three of the accused on personal bonds and GPS tethers. One was kept in jail because of his record of assaultive conduct.

All were ordered to stay away from Harbour Club apartments and to stay away from the two victims who live there.

VBT Officer in Charge of the cases, Dale Harrison, said two brothers had an ongoing dispute with another four and it erupted in the parking lot.

Michael Thomas Brooks

Co-defendant Michael Thomas Brooks, 25, was charged with two counts of felonious assault (assault with a dangerous weapon) and two counts of assault and battery. His court-appointed attorney is Daniel Bitar.

Brooks pled no contest to a charge of felonious assault and the other charges were dismissed. He is scheduled to be back before Circuit Court Judge Kelly Ramsey for sentencing on Jan. 10.

Preston Lloyd Kochan

Co-defendant Preston Lloyd Kochan, 22, was charged with three counts of felonious assault (assault with a dangerous weapon) and one charge of assault and battery. His court-appointed attorney is Ashraf Al-Awanleh.

Kochan pled no contest to one count of felonious assault and the other charges were dismissed. He is due back before Judge Ramsey on Jan. 25 for sentencing.

Derek Scott Barlow

Co-defendant Derek Scott Barlow, 24, was charged with two counts of felonious assault (assault with a dangerous weapon) and two counts of assault and battery. His court-appointed attorney is Kathleen Tulacz.

Barlow pled no contest to one count of felonious assault and the other charges were dismissed. He is due back before Judge Ramsey on Jan. 4 for sentencing.

Tyler Wade Moran

Co-defendant Tyler Wade Moran, 24, was charged with two counts of felonious assault (assault with a dangerous weapon), two counts of assault and battery, and one count of felony firearm. His court-appointed attorney is Andrew Dimaggio.

A calendar conference is set before Judge Ramsey on Jan. 11.

Peter Elmer Nickel

On Nov. 28, Peter Elmer Nickel, 57, was scheduled for his preliminary exam on a charge of operating while intoxicated-3rd in Van Buren Township on Aug. 12 but his retained attorney Michael Vincent said he had just been handed another case on his client, so he would like to start over.

The probable cause conference on the cases was set for Dec. 12 before Judge Oakley. Nickel was free after posting bond of $10,000/10%.

Foley Griffin Thompson

Foley Griffin Thompson, 70, waived his preliminary exam before Judge Oakley and was bound over to circuit court for a Dec. 12 arraignment on the information.

He was charged with operating while intoxicated causing serious injuries, driving with a high blood alcohol content, and driving while license suspended in Sumpter Township on Sept. 16. He was free after posting bond of $5,000/10%. His retained attorney is Steven K. Mamat.

At circuit court on Dec. 12, Thompson pled guilty to all of the charges. He will be sentenced Feb. 5 by Circuit Court Judge Gregory Bill.

Timothy James Vanbuhler

Timothy James Vanbuhler, 34, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a Dec. 12 arraignment on the information. Vanbuhler is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder in Van Buren Township on Aug. 16.

Vanbuhler received a plea offer on Dec. 12 and a disposition conference was set for Dec. 17 before Circuit Court Judge James Chylinski.

A final conference was set for Feb. 8 before Judge Catherine Heise and a jury trial before her on March 7.

Vanbuhler is free after posting bond of $15,000/10%. His court-appointed attorney is Ricky Nelson.

Denise Lynne Lewis

Denise Lynne Lewis, 35, is scheduled to hold her preliminary exam Jan. 9 on an embezzlement charge from Aug. 30 in Van Buren Township. Her retained attorney Michael Vincent told Judge Oakley to tell the prosecutors to have their witnesses there to hold the exam in case they can't settle before then and the judge passed on the information.

Lewis is free after posting $5,000/10% bond.

Court Watching:

Thorns bound over for trial after wrestling with VBT officer over drugs

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Patrick Bernard Thorns, 29, was bound over to circuit court for trial after a preliminary exam Dec. 26 before 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green.

He is charged with possession of narcotics, assaulting a police officer, and driving while license suspended on Nov. 21 in Van Buren Township.

He is due at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on Jan. 2 for an arraignment on the information.

Thorns was brought to court by two guards from the Michigan Department of Corrections. He told the judge they were holding him until they found out what was happening to him at 34th District Court.

Thorns hadn't been arraigned and the defense attorney asked that the charges be read aloud, so Judge Green read the charges, arraigning him.

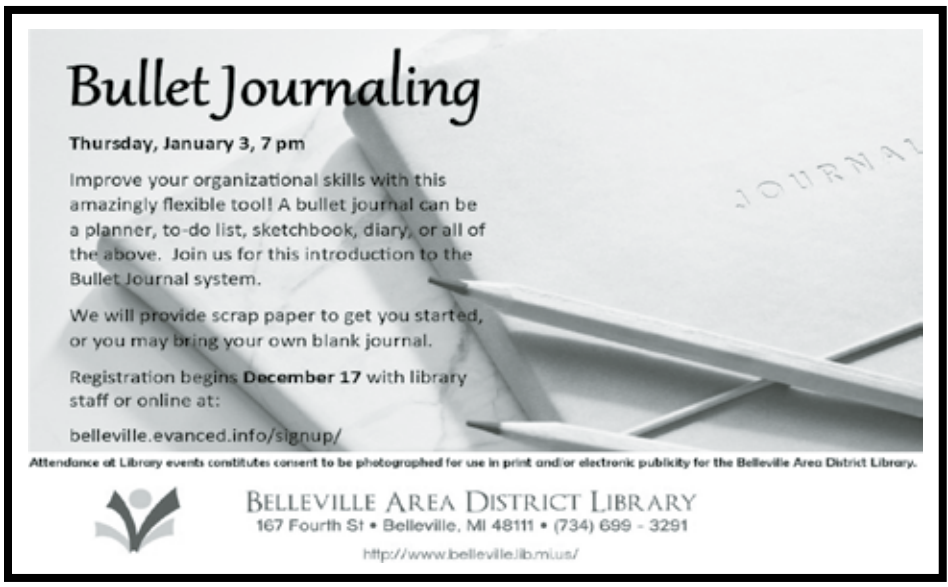
Then, the court-appointed defense attorney asked that the charges against her client be dismissed because of the delay in Thorns' arraignment. She said the probable cause conference was held a week ago and he wasn't arraigned until just now.

Judge Green asked if she was charging a grievable offense against the defense attorney of the previous week. Thorns was supposed to be in the courtroom the previous week by video from prison and his court-appointed attorney had his file. She asked if the defense attorney was claiming incompetence of the previous week's attorney. She pointed out Thorns had been represented.

The prosecutor objected to a dismissal. She said the previous week the defense attorney was unable to have contact with Thorns and there was a problem because he was in prison. The attorney said they would go on to the preliminary exam the next week.

Judge Green denied the defense attorney's motion to dismiss. She held up a note that

(continued on page 17)



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Court watching

(continued from page 16)

had been stuck on the file that said the defendant needs to be arraigned.

"Can't do it without him," she said of the defendant.

At the end of the court session, the court-appointed attorney asked for personal bond for her client, but Judge Green said they do not give personal bond for habitual offenders. A list of Thorns' past convictions in Washtenaw County had been read as a part of the arraignment.

Judge Green was told Thorns had no failures to return for scheduled court sessions and no holds, so she set a bond of $5,000/10%.

For the preliminary exam, the only witness brought by the Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor was VBT Police Officer M. King, who has worked for VBT almost five years and for Fraser 28 years before that.

He said on Nov. 21, 2017 he was running stationary radar in a construction zone on the U.S. 12 (Michigan Avenue) bypass. He testified he stopped a vehicle going 64 mph in a 45 mph zone. Officer King said he asked for the driver's identification and vehicle information and it wasn't available. He said Thorns gave him a different name, but when he saw a name tag saying "Patrick" on the man's chest, he checked him out on LEIN (the law enforcement information network) and found he was driving on a suspended license and had a warrant out for his arrest.

Officer King said he took Thorns to booking at the VBT Police Department and they took off their winter coats. He further checked Thorns and found a baggie in his groin area containing what appeared to be crack cocaine, marijuana, "stuff like that."

He placed the baggie on the counter and bent down to do some more checking when Thorns bent over and sucked the baggie into his mouth. Officer King said he pinched Thorns' cheeks together so he couldn't swallow and kept telling him to spit it out. He wouldn't spit it out and kept biting down on King's fingers.

By sucking the baggie into his throat, it blocked his air passage and he couldn't breathe, so the two went to the ground. He finally got the baggie out and Officer Adam Byrd came in to assist and got the baggie out of the pool of saliva, blood and vomit on the floor.

Officer Byrd took the bag to the locker room to secure it. Exhibit one in the court case was the report on the drugs from the Department of Police Lab Report.

King said Thorns reported he had swallowed cocaine and heroin and so rather than put him in the holding cell he was transported to the hospital.

Under cross examination, the defense attorney asked King if he was wearing a body camera and King replied his department does not have body cams. He said the videos in the car were on, but he didn't know if they had been provided to the defense.

Leesha Marie Corum

Leesha Marie Corum, 28, who was set for her preliminary exam before Judge Green on charges of home invasion first degree, domestic violence, and assault and battery, took a plea deal instead.

She pled guilty to entry without the homeowner's permission and the other charges were dismissed.

Corum said on Oct. 10 she entered property without permission and assaulted, pushed, shoved Mary Grech.

The prosecutor said this has been a continuing problem and as part of the agreement, Corum is not to return to the house in the 100 block of North Liberty in the City of Belleville. The defendant said she lives in Haggerty subdivision in Van Buren Township.

Grech said from the courtroom audience that she wants Corum never to return to her home.

The prosecutor also said the defendant is not to contact Ryan, who is the father of her children, not to go to his work, and have no social media contact with him. He was in the audience, as well, and nodded in agreement at the stipulations.

Judge Green said Corum will be on one-year probation and must pay court costs. She also is to continue her drug treatment, which Corum said was at Oakview, and have random drug screening and alcohol assessments.

The prosecutor said Child Protective Services has said if she does not follow the stipulations they will take her children away.

Judge Green said that had no part in her court's sentence, since CPS is separate. She said if Corum isn't going to drug treatment, "I'll lock her up."

Corum has a driving while license suspended charge and Judge Green scheduled her to come to court on Jan. 15 to deal with that.

'Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do'

Substance use may be a primary or contributing factor to many of the problems experienced by young people, from school and family difficulties to the leading causes of adolescent mortality.

No young person is immune to alcohol/other drug problems. Urban, suburban and rural teens are "at risk," as are teens from supportive families and teens from troubled families. The good news is, these young people can be effectively helped when the helpers have the right knowledge and tools!

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do" is a free, ongoing, two-part education series that provides helpful, hopeful, practical information for parents, teens, families and people who work with teens/families.

Part One of the series provides information on understanding teen substance use and recognizing signs that may indicate a young person is involved with alcohol/other drugs.

Part Two includes separate sessions for adults to learn "what to do" when an adolescent substance use problem is suspected or identified, and for teens to explore their beliefs about and use of substances; adults and teens also hear a talk by a young person in recovery from a substance disorder.

The programs will be presented from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 8 (part one, What To Know) and Tuesday Jan. 15 (part two, What To Do.) The "Teens" programs are held at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti, in the Exhibition Room on the first floor.

For more information call (734) 485-8725, e-mail info@dawnfarm.org or see http://dawnfarm.org/programs/teens-using-drugs/ .

Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees posed for a picture of the new board at its Dec. 11 meeting. Seated, from left are Clerk Esther Hurst, Supervisor John Morgan, and Treasurer Ken Bednark. Standing, from left, are Trustees Don Swinson, Tim Rush, Matthew Oddy, and Don LaPorte.

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Augusta Charter Township Public Notice

Accepting Website Bids

Augusta Charter Township current website is outdated. It is not usable with cell phones, laptops or tablets. The contents are not being updated as needed. It is not user friendly and has no search features, therefore, the township is seeking bids for website design, hosting and maintenance. Please email Hrowland.augustatownship@gmail.com to obtain bid instructions and requirements.

Publish: December 20, 2018; December 27, 2018; January 3, 2019; January 10, 2019

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of 318 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township for the past week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Dec. 23:
0016 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Winchester St.
0213 -- property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.
0226 -- assist other dept., Main St.
0247 -- property damage accident, Rawsonville
0317 -- property damage accident, WB Michigan Ave./bypass
0340 -- assault & battery, Filmore St.
0550 -- assault & battery, Victoria St.
0733 -- breaking & entering, Chandler
0814 -- private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0854 -- found property/child, Pebblebrook Dr.
1434 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.
1639 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
1937 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2114 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2226 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2227 -- animal complaint, Maple Dr.
2337 -- disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Monday, Dec. 24:
0108 -- noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
0219 -- suicidal person, Rose Blvd.
0335 -- traffic offense, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
0406 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse
0417 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Lancaster/Tyler
1110 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1115 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1328 -- retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1348 -- disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
1413 -- found property/child, Quirk Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1531 -- fraud, Tyler Rd.
1657 -- retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1711 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. Woodbury Dr.
1832 -- domestic, Daisy Blvd.
2325 -- animal complaint, Hayes St.
2339 -- domestic, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 25:
0036 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Faye
0221 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Lindsey Dr.
0346 -- 911 welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
0546 -- domestic, Parkwood Dr.
0607 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton Rd.
0828 -- domestic, W. Archwood Dr.
1052 -- animal complaint, Riggs Rd.
1126 -- private property impound, Ecorse Rd.
1310 -- private property impound, Ecorse Rd.
1329 -- property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
1525 -- property damage accident, Daisy Blvd.
1616 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1640 -- domestic, Village Green Ln.
1728 -- animal complaint, Denton Rd.We
1737 -- family trouble, Winding Pond Dr.
1852 -- family trouble, Jackson St.
1908 -- unauthorized driving away of auto, Harmony Ln.
2033 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Old Michigan/Outer Dr.
2045 -- domestic, Ladonna Ln.
2208 -- noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2345 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis Rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 26:
1049 -- 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1133 -- animal complaint, Milton Dr.
1207 -- domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
1522 -- traffic offense, Maple Dr.
1701 -- assist other dept., Denton Rd.
1809 -- property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Morton Taylor Rdd.
1811 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood
1819 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.
1836 -- domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1849 -- domestic, Congress St.
1902 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Huron River Dr.
2025 -- malicious destruction of property, Woodbury Dr.
2121 -- assist citizen, Loza Ln.
2219 -- animal complaint, E. Archwood Dr.

Thursday, Dec. 27:
0246 -- noise complaint, Oak Ln.
0410 -- trespassing, Hamlin St.
0858 -- family trouble, Denton Rd.
1113 -- property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1230 -- property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
1400 -- animal complaint, Rawsonville Rd.F
1439 -- property damage accident, Denton Rd./Michigan Ave.
1442 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
1903 -- property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2330 -- larceny, Belleville Rd.

Friday, Dec. 28:
0028 -- trespassing, Hamlin St.
0247 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0808 -- breaking & entering, Savage Rd.
0901 -- assist other dept., Westlake Cir.
1143 -- larceny, Edison Lake Rd.
1210 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Bentley Dr.
1300 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Cross St.
1338 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
1508 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.
1625 -- property damage accident, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.
1629 -- private property impound, Oak Blvd.
1755 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hamlin St.
1925 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.
1951 -- parking complaint, Arthur St.
2030 -- 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
2057 -- animal complaint, Martz Rd.
2126 -- 911 welfare check, Hardwood Dr.
2133 -- threat, Denton Rd.
2159 -- traffic offense, E. Michigan Ave./Ecorse Rd.
2343 -- larceny from auto, Rose

Saturday, Dec. 29:
0017 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hamlin St.
0234 -- 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0318 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Bog Rd.
0320 -- domestic, Denton Rd.
0428 -- hospice death, Hannan Rd.
0451 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hamlin St.
0540 -- animal complaint, Holly Ln.
0903 -- parking complaint, N. Cumberland Dr.
1150 -- suspicious person/vehicle, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1455 -- leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1513 -- missing person, Hardwood Dr.
1823 -- leaving the scene of a property damage acciden, WB I-94 ramp/NB Belleville Rd.
1829 -- warrant arrest, Main/High
1936 -- noise complaint, S. Purple Sage Ct.
1937 -- traffic offense, N. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty Rd.
2212 -- noise complaint, Oak Ln.
2257 -- family trouble, Meadows Cir.

Also on this week's log are 107 traffic stops, 28 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

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Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 23:
0936 -- assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1827 -- motorist assist, Sumpter Rd. / Industrial Park Dr.
1852 -- assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.

Monday, Dec. 24:
0019 -- motorist assist, E. Columbia Ave. / Madelon St.
0655 -- intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.
1807 -- parking complaint, Carmell St.
2121 -- domestic, Menlo Park Dr.
2149 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belle Plaza
2220 -- follow up by officer, Menlo Park Dr.
2225 -- parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
2234 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Menlo Park Dr.

Tuesday, Dec. 25:
0241 -- parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
0843 -- intrusion alarm, S. Aberdeen Ct.
1019 -- welfare check, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1117 -- assist fire dept., Henry St.
1148 -- welfare check, Loza Ln.

Wednesday, Dec. 26:
0206 -- 911 welfare check, E. Columbia Ave.
0341 -- assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0429 -- assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1316 -- disorderly, Main St.
1903 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Astor
1950 -- miscellaneous complaint, E. Columbia Ave.
2118 -- breaking & entering, Loza Ln.
2211 -- domestic, Loza Ln.
2229 -- suspicious person/vehicle, High St.

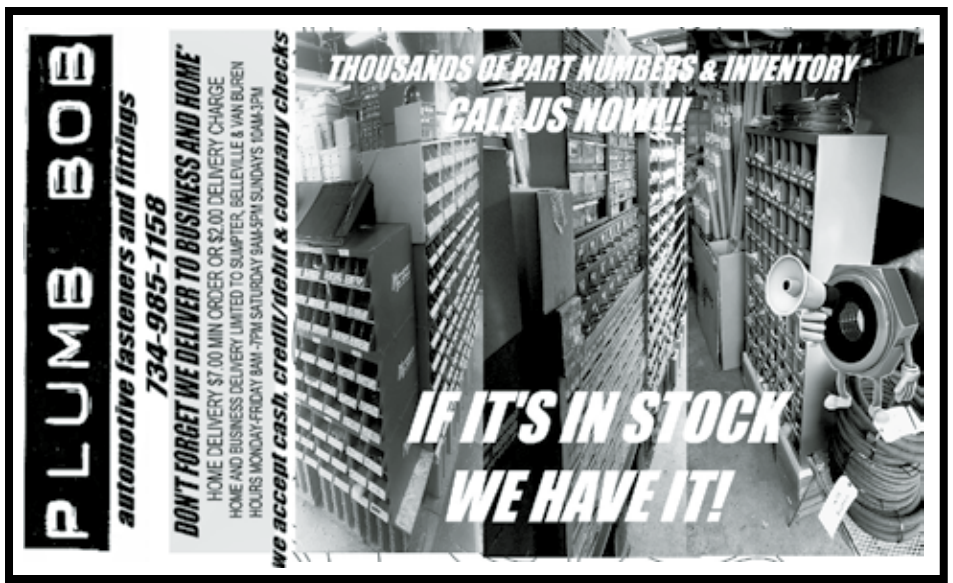
Thursday, Dec. 27:
0145 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Main St./2nd St.
1349 -- welfare check, Carmell St.
1418 -- holdup alarm, W. Davis St.
1447 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Roland St.
1505 -- miscellaneous complaint, Loza Ln.
1552 -- warrant arrest, Jackson County
1554 -- warrant arrest, Main St.
1946 -- assist fire dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.
2011 -- welfare check, Bedell St.
2224 -- motorist assist, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
2337 -- traffic offense, South St./E. Davis St.
2356 -- warrant arrest, Belleville/Michigan

Friday, Dec. 28:
1021 -- threat, Loza Ln.
1434 -- assist fire dept., Carmell
1638 -- assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1744 -- assist fire dept., Carmell St.
2248 -- follow up by officer, Main St.

Saturday, Dec. 29:
0132 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
0147 -- 911 welfare check, Main St.
0246 -- property damage accident, E. Huron River Dr. / Clarence St.
0927 -- intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
2100 -- parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
2107 -- parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
2322 -- assault & battery, Loza Ln.

Also on this week's log are 52 traffic stops.

"You have to be odd to be number one."
— Dr. Seuss



Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 23:
0140 – suspicious vehicle, Rawsonville/Willis
1048 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1243 – fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1250 – animal complaint, Rustic Ln.
1252 – dumping complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1605 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Martinsville
2248 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
2359 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.

Monday, Dec. 24:
0902 – death investigation, 29000 bl. Martinsville
1250 – reckless driver, Sumpter/Dunn
2229 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
2302 – assist other agency, out of township

Tuesday, Dec. 25:
1039 – well-being check, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1047 – suspicious incident, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
1857 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1934 – assist other agency, out of township
1941 – disorderly person, 23000 bl. Martinsville
2128 – property damage accident, Elwell/Judd

Wednesday, Dec. 26:
1024 – property damage accident, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1127 – malicious destruction of property, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1452 – ORV complaint, 25000 bl. Carleton West
1606 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Savage Rd.
1731 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1839 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1949 – well-being check, Rustic Ln.
2314 – warrant arrest pick up, Bemis/Rawsonville

Thursday, Dec. 27:
0204 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0234 – breaking & entering report, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1040 – fire dept. assist, out of township
1208 – larceny, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
1316 – civil dispute, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1446 – warrant arrest pick up, Bemis/Lohr
1622 – fire dept. assist, Oregon
1727 – assist other agency, 2600 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1756 – well-being check, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1920 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1942 – 911 hang up, 8800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2025 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2028 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
2150 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.

Friday, Dec. 28:
0553 – traffic hazard, Willis/Elwell
0654 – well-being check, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
0945 – malicious destruction of property, Hampshire
1130 – assist other agency, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1330 – identity theft, Brookview
1504 – larceny, Arizona
1540 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1841 – threats complaint, Carriage Ln.
2113 – assist other agency, out of township
2119 – assist other agency, out of township
2246 – assist other agency, out of township
2249 – well-being check, 18000 bl. Martinsville
2333 – fire dept. assist, Nevada

Saturday, Dec. 29:
0043 – reckless driver, Sumpter/Dunn
1151 – mental health commitment, Hampshire
1158 – assault, 21000 bl. Clark
1226 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1516 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1651 – missing person, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1919 – well-being check, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2341 – assist other agency, out of township

Also on this week's log are six follow-up investigations, 22 miscellaneous details, 66 patrol checks, and 32 traffic stops.

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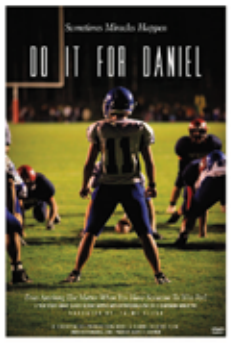

Watch a preview of the film:
http://www.doitfordaniel.com/documentary/

Questions? Please contact
Kim Bargardi
kbargardi@vanburenschools.net
(734) 697-9133

Daniel Olson, an all-state athlete from Michigan, ended his life after a lengthy battle with depression. Outside of his family, few people knew of Daniel's struggles. *Do It For Daniel* is a film that documents Daniel's story and the impact of depression on young people and their families. Daniel's dad, Jeff, will be presenting the film and opening dialogue about mental health and teens in hopes of preventing this tragedy from happening to other families.

Please join us for the film viewing and a conversation:

Thursday, January 10
BHS Auditorium
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

5:30 - 6:00 p.m.: Additional resources and information will be available prior to the presentation.

Parents and all community members are welcome.

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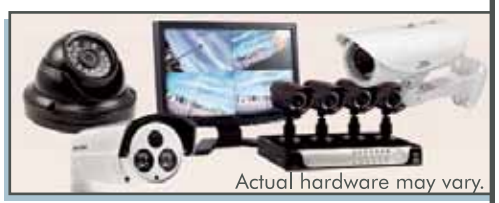
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VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC	$110,000	WILLOW ROAD 1.8 ACRES	$25,000	VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES $17,900
44235 WEAR - TWO 2.6 AC Each	$30,000	VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR	$225,000	
46090 WEAR 1.09 AC BY PARK	$19,500	28710 SUMPTER ROAD	$10,000	
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC	$20,000			

HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN	$70,000	VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES	$30,000
SUMPTER EXETER TWP 8 ACRES	$65,000	VACANT BOG RD 12.83ACRES	$129,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT"	$70,000	47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES	$99,500
VACANT WEAR RD 5.28 ACRES	$60,000	739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES	$30,000
MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES	$40,000	45109 S SERVICE DR 2+ ACRES	$279,000
50435 BOG ROAD .55 ACRES	$50,000	GRANT **ROMULUS** 1.8 ACRES LT IN	$72,000

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