

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

Serving the communities of Belleville, Sumpter & Van Buren

VOL. 32.44

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026

FREE

That's One Long Build-Up



PHOTO | ELENA MANALP

Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara, State Rep. Reggie Miller, and Oladayo "Dayo" Akinyemi, Department Director for the Wayne County Department of Public Services (DPS) cut the ribbon during the Oct. 22 ceremony marking the opening of the Denton Road Bridge after a four-year replacement project.

Sumpter OKs New Ambulance

Emily Flesch

Independent Reporter

Sumpter Township will see updates to emergency response and municipal operations equipment following action taken by the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on Oct. 13.

Fire Chief Jamie Goode was authorized to purchase a used ambulance to replace Rescue 23. This purchase will be funded by the proceeds from the sale of Engine 51 and is not to exceed \$90,000.

Contingent upon the acquisition of that ambulance, the board authorized Rescue 23 to be reallocated from the Fire Department to the Department of Public Works (DPW).

In other business at the 19-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved warrants in the amount of \$399,048.71;
- Appointed Mary Ann Rowland to the Parks and Recreation Committee to fill a vacancy and ensure a quorum at meetings;
- Renewed the township's ongoing contract with WCA Assessing as quoted;
- Added and approved a walk-on item to publish an addendum to the Request for Proposals (RFP) 26009 to include all exterior handicap and stair railing at the police department and community center;
- Heard Matt Oddy comment as a citizen from the podium to dispel rumors that the township is appraising and revaluing property, clarifying that they are simply performing routine state-mandated property audits;

• Received a reminder from Liz Bowman that the annual Trunk or Treat is on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in front of the police station at 23501 Sumpter Rd. Anyone wishing to decorate a car and distribute candy should email parksandrec@sumptertwp.org.

Following adjournment of the regular meeting at 6:19 p.m., the board reconvened at 6:30 p.m. for a special meeting to interview two candidates for the Township Manager position. The special session adjourned at 8:08 p.m. Clerk Donald LaPorte was absent and excused.

Reading Proficiency Tops Concerns at School Board Meeting

Sarah Rigg

Managing Editor

Reading proficiency was the common concern Monday night as principals from Owen Intermediate School and Edgemont and Rawsonville elementary schools presented their buildings' test data to the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

Meeting in the Tyler Elementary School Media Center, the board heard

the same story three times, in different numbers: too few students are reading at grade level, vocabulary is the weakest strand at every building, and the fix the principals are betting on is stronger core classroom instruction.

All three buildings are in their second year with new reading programs. Those are Wonders and the UFLI phonics program in the K-4 buildings and CommonLit 360 at Owen. All three buildings are tracking students with i-Ready

benchmark tests given three times a year, backed by the district's multi-tiered system of supports.

Owen Principal Nadine Dufrane said her building's priority is student-driven literacy instruction, built on discussion and interaction rather than students passively taking in a lesson. Owen's scores held roughly steady from spring to fall — 30 percent of last spring's fifth grad-

SEE CONCERNS ON PAGE 15

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MONSTER MUTT WALK 2026



Prior to the walk the following received medals in four different categories: **Cutest:** 1st Ken Voigt with Alex a Mutt from Belleville; 2nd Holly Fletcher with Lucy-Fur a Shih-Tzu from Taylor; 3rd Andrecina Pierceal with Ace, Sassy & Miracle all Shih Tzus from Romulus. **Scariest:** 1st Rebecca Baldrige with Wolfie a Pomeranian from Sumpter; 2nd Krista Ely with Vivian Ely a Golden Retriever from Romulus, 3rd Taylor Furman with Kona a Scottish Terrier from Van Buren Twp. **Best Mutt:** 1st Sebrina with Deisal a Bulldog from Wayne; 2nd Victoria Baker with Titan a Pit Mix and Rosalina a Lab Mix from Romulus; 3rd Caitlin Henry with Baxter a Lab Mix from Van Buren Twp. **Family:** 1st Jessica Richison with Kenobi a Rot/Healer/Lab Mix from Whittaker; 2nd Connie Sroda with Chewie a Newfoundland, Sissie a Newfoundland & Maizey a Golden from Van Buren Twp; Kim Vercruysse with Winnie an Australian Shepard.

On Saturday, October 17 the Belleville Central Business Community hosted it's BOOville Costumed Monster Mutt Walk in 4th Street Place. Pictured are some of the owners and their fur babies who participated this year. All registration fees were donated to Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue in addition to some goodie bags for the shelter. PHOTOS | BLAIR TEMPLE

Candy Loop Delivers Halloween Treats

< Police Chief Joshua Monte keeps an eye on some suspicious characters



Families show off their Halloween costumes while local vendors, including Sheetz (above), hand out candy and goodies to eager trick-or-treaters. PHOTOS | EMILY FLESCH



OPINION

From the Editor

The Denton Road Bridge is Finally Open

I have written about the Denton Road Bridge several times in this space, including a brief history of the 99-year-old bridge that's named after the old village of Denton, but now that it's open, I had to talk about it one more time.



Sarah Rigg
Managing Editor

Independent Reporter Emily Flesch and I both attended the Oct. 22 ribbon cutting ceremony. I was amused that the food trucks providing refreshments were parked right on the bridge. It was a beautiful, sunny day for an outdoor event, and there were even a few residents out on boats sailing underneath us during the ceremony.

All the local and county officials were on hand to celebrate, along with a hearty crowd of at least 50 or 60 regular residents.

The Independent has been tweaking Wayne County about the long 4-year wait for the bridge to reopen on the bottom of our front page for years. We've been printing the full count of days the bridge has been closed every issue (a practice started by Editor Emeritus Rosemary Oztzman). The bridge was abruptly closed in 2022 because of structural instability and has

taken longer and cost more money than local officials ever thought it would, most of it thankfully covered by county funds.

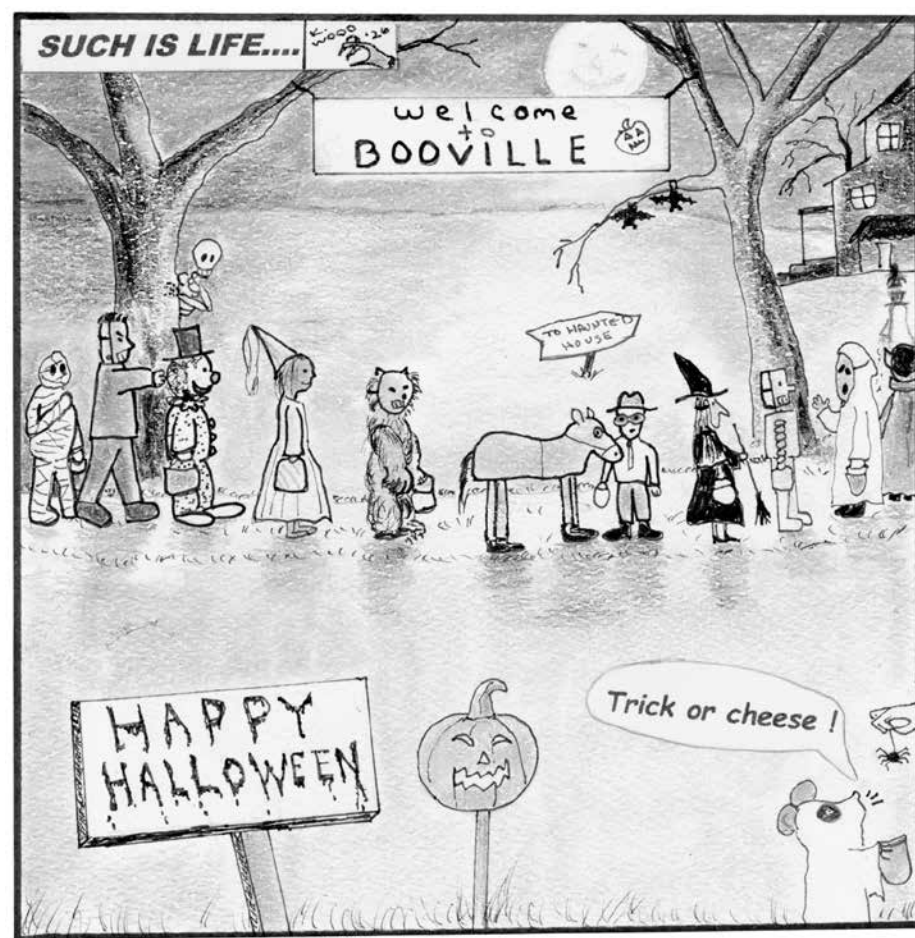
The bridge over Belleville Lake was closed by Wayne County in October 2022 due to severe structural deterioration. An underwater inspection revealed that the underground wooden pilings had eroded and the east abutment was no longer resting securely on its supports.

Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara said during the ceremony that he was immediately alarmed about the closure. But little did anyone know that the projected "repair" would turn into a full-blown removal and reconstruction with a price tag to match.

Weather constraints, seasonal asphalt plant closures, and final retaining wall details pushed completion into late 2026.

County officials, though, said they've seen longer waits for a bridge to open. They seemed to think we should feel lucky. I know most of us are breathing a sigh of relief that the road is open and the construction is over. I imagine that goes double for first responders who report slightly longer times to reach certain parts of the community because they haven't had the option of the Denton Road Bridge shortcut for so long.

I also heard through the grapevine that the bridge's designers and architects are so proud of their work that they plan to submit it to some national competitions. We'll be sure to report on that if and when we find out more.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

At the **Belleville Area Independent**, we welcome letters to the editor on almost any topic, but especially anything local. Feel free to email editor@bellevilleareanews.org. We also accept written letters by postal mail at **152 Main St. Suite 9**.

Please try to keep letters short and to the point, preferably no more than 600-700 words. The editor reserves the right to trim longer letters in such a way that the edit doesn't distort the sender's original meaning. We do not publish anonymous letters.

CORRECTION

We aim for accuracy at the Belleville Area Independent, but if you spot an error, please call or email us with the correct information, and we will publish it in the next issue.

We'd like to extend our gratitude to the Belleville Rotary Club and the Cozadd Foundation! Thanks to a generous grant, printing costs for The Belleville Area Independent are covered for the rest of 2026 and well into 2027.

BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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- Educate the public and improve sharing local information in the Belleville, MI area community through a free newspaper;
- Promote civic engagement and knowledge among the citizens of the Belleville, MI area;
- Support local schools, churches, and non-profit institutions by raising awareness of their activities in the local community; and
- Provide a newspaper of record for local municipal bodies.

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Letters to the Editor

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE10

Freedom Is Not Free: A Community Call to Honor Our Veterans

To the Citizens of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township:

As Veterans Day approaches, I would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to the citizens of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township to join us at the Veterans Day ceremony at the monument in Belleville Nov. 11, at 11 a.m.

Veterans Day is an opportunity for us to pause, reflect, and express our gratitude to the men and women who have worn the uniform of our nation’s armed forces and served to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

We often hear the words, “Freedom is not free.” Those words remind us that the blessings we enjoy as Americans have come at a tremendous cost. Our freedom has been defended by generations of men and women who answered the call to serve, leaving behind the comforts of home, the closeness of family, and the familiarity of everyday life. Many endured hardships, faced danger, and carried burdens that those of us who have never served may never fully understand.

On Memorial Day, we remember with solemn gratitude those who gave their lives in service to our country. We honor their

sacrifice and remember the families who carry the pain of their loss. On Veterans Day, we honor those who dedicated part of their lives to serving our nation, to defend our country and the freedoms we cherish. Some served in wartime, others in peacetime, yet all answered the call to serve a cause greater than themselves. Their service deserves our lasting respect, our sincere gratitude, and our willingness to remember what their service means to each of us.

I would like to encourage every citizen to make Veterans Day personal. When you see a veteran at the grocery store, at a restaurant, at church, or in your neighborhood, take a moment to stop and say, “Thank you for giving part of your life to protect the freedom I enjoy in mine.” Those simple words may mean more than we realize. We may never know the challenges that veteran faced, the sacrifices made by their family, or the memories they carry. But we can let them know that their service has not been forgotten and that their sacrifice is appreciated.

That is why I hope the citizens of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township will come together for our Veterans Day ceremony. As a community and as a nation, we owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women who have stood in defense of our freedom. We can never fully repay that debt, but we can honor it through our remembrance, our words, and our actions.

May God bless our veterans, comfort the families of those who never came home, and Bless the United States of America.

Pastor Robert White
Grace Baptist Church

Reader Wants Answers About Bald Eagle Nest Displaced for Data Center

To the editor:

I would like to know who approved removal of the bald eagle nest behind the BP on Battery Road in preparation for this data center? I know it was there not long ago. It was kind of nice seeing them in the area. There is also a nest near the Ypsi Township AI center, and the eagles perch on the branch sticking out of the water.

I live in Ypsilanti Township but grew up in Belleville since 1960. My parents were both elected to Van Buren Township office, George and Doreen Craven.

Sincerely,
David Craven
Ypsilanti Township

Help your Haggerty Sub Neighbors by Signing VBT Recall Petitions

To the editor:

Anytime I’ve penned a letter to the Independent or spoken at meetings, it’s been about economic concerns, community benefits agreements that should have been, or power structures that deserve to be challenged.

Today, I come wearing a different hat. One I haven’t worn in months: that of a Real Estate Broker sharing insight gained from years of working in environmentally impacted communities.

On Saturday, Oct. 17, I spent 12 hours outside in Haggerty Subdivision, ending my day around Fairbanks and Coolidge. We’ve now nearly completed canvassing the entire subdivision.

Throughout the day, similar concerns kept coming up:

“I’m starting to have respiratory issues.”

“I’m noticing I’m coughing, and it feels different than allergies.”

That evening and the following morning,

I developed an odd cough I couldn’t seem to clear from my chest.

Interestingly, air monitors reportedly showed “Good,” with a PM2.5 reading of 6. (Thank you, David Roehl, for tracking and posting readings in our Facebook group, Stop Data Centers 48111.)

Ashley Shukait explained that different, more expensive monitors are needed to measure certain types of construction dust. A good PM2.5 reading doesn’t necessarily tell us everything about localized dust exposure.

I’m not claiming to know what caused these symptoms. I’m asking why residents are left investigating their own environmental conditions when protections and monitoring could have been negotiated before decisions were made.

Toward the end of the evening, I gave a few households the same advice I’d give clients in Southwest Detroit, where my office is located:

“Get a good air purifier for each bedroom and your main living area.”

Southwest Detroit has spent decades battling semitruck traffic through residential neighborhoods, industrial emissions, and seemingly endless construction surrounding I-75 and the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

I’ve seen what happens when residential neighborhoods bear the burden of industrial development.

This is exactly why I attempted to discuss a community benefits agreement with Ron Akers before the Memorandum of Understanding was approved.

I wanted every household within a designated impact area to receive upgraded HVAC filtration, air purifiers for bedrooms and living areas, and a stipend to offset additional electricity costs, particularly during construction.

I didn’t even get an email back.

Instead, I was told at the meeting that we could talk after the decisions were made.

What good is discussing protections after the opportunity to negotiate them has passed?

For anyone living near the Project Cannoli site, particularly within a half-mile radius, I suggest considering appropriate air purifiers and keeping your receipts.

Then demand the Township establish a reimbursement program using eligible funding, potentially including the \$50+ million in grants Kevin McNamara keeps trying to win people over with.

Residents shouldn’t have to personally shoulder every expense of protecting their homes and families from potential impacts of developments they had little meaningful opportunity to influence.

Money isn’t everything. Your health is.

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Jenn Smith

Owner & Broker, Preservation Hound Realty, VBT Recall Committee Member

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Obituaries



Gerald Bachman

GERALD BACHMAN
(December 7, 1944 - October 22, 2026)
Gerald Bachman, age 81, of Belleville, Mich. ch., passed away on October 22, 2026, at home under hospice care surrounded by family. He was born on December 7, 1944, in Ypsilanti,

Mich.ch. to James and Bernice (Bassett) Bachman.
He liked to golf with his son-in-law and grandsons. He was an avid softball player when he got married and throughout his children’s lives, his position was shortstop. Gerald loved sports and avidly watched them in his free time. He worked for 50 years at Ford Motor Company and then went back for 4 more years as he was called and requested; such a hardworking man, he obliged. Gerald was a loving faMich. ly man working hard to raise their four children with his beloved wife, Lois. His favorite job ever was babysitting his great-granddaughter after his full retirement. Gerald belonged to Bethany Bible Church in Belleville and was a man of faith. He will be dearly Mich.ssed.
Gerald is survived by his loving wife and friend, of 61 years, Lois Bachman of Belleville

Mich., his children, Deanna (David) Dau, Julie (Kevin) Maxwell, Mich.chelle (Marcos) Martinez, and Jerry Bachman, all of Belleville, Mich., his grandchildren, Jonathan (Loni) Dau of Romulus, Mich., Aaron (Elizabeth) Dau of Toledo, OHIO, Cory (Joslyn) Collins of Belleville, Mich., Mich.randa Martinez of Dearborn, Mich., Matthew Martinez of Dearborn, Mich., Ethan Bethke of Pontiac, Mich., Cameron Bethke, U.S. Navy Deployed, Alex (Amaya) Collins of Willis, Mich., Allyson Bachman of Burton, Mich., Joseph Maxwell of Belleville, Mich., Evan Bachman of Belleville, Mich., and Madison Bachman of Waterford, Mich., his siblings, James (Julie) Bachman of Kansas, Margaret (James) Swaffer of Clarklake, Mich., Barbara Tompkins of Belleville, Mich., Daniel (Debbie) Bachman of Tombstone, AZ, his great grandchildren, Lily and Gavin Collins, and Harper, Abigail, and Lydia Dau, as well many nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors and friends.
He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers, Joseph and David Bachman, and his daughter-in-law, Amy Bachman.
A visitation is scheduled for Wednesday October 28, 2026, at Bethany Bible Church, 810 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, Mich., from 1 pm until 8 pm, with a funeral service on Thursday October 29, 2026, at 11 am with visitation an hour before services, a graveside burial to follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Livonia, 17840 Mich.ddlebelt Road, Livonia, Mich.. at 2 pm.
If desired in lieu of flowers donations to the church that Gerald loved and supported or Residential Hospice that cared for him so well would be appreciated and envelopes will be available at the visitation.

20, 2026 in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. She was born May 27, 1927, in Belleville, Mich., daughter of Andrew & Rose (Fargo) Sohoza. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Casmer Joseph Purczynski, a son Eugene Joseph Purczynski, also seven sisters and one brother. She is survived by two sons David Purczynski of Clare, Mich. and Mark Purczynski of Belleville. A vigil service took place Oct. 25 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, with the funeral taking place Monday, October 26, 2026, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville, Father Bryan Shackett serving as Celebrant. Interment followed in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

THOMAS QUACKENBUSH
(August 5, 1957 - October 9, 2026)
Thomas Quackenbush died October 9, 2026, at the age of 69. He as born on August 5, 1957, in Detroit, Mich. to Jack and Irene (Kammann) Quackenbush. Tom was preceded in death by his wife, Shelby Foster Quackenbush, his parents, and his sister Lynn Zick. Tom is survived by his siblings, Ann Tonissen, John (Jeannette) Quackenbush, Mary Jo (Steven Vahle) Quackenbush, Amy Lyons and brother-in-law John Zick, stepdaughter Andrea Foster and many nieces and nephews. A mass was held Oct. 28 at St. Linus Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights, Father Gregory officiating.

JUDITH ANN SERENO
(April 3, 1945 – October 9, 2026)
Judith Ann Sereno, age 81, died Oct. 9, 2026. She was born April 3, 1945. Judith is survived by her sons, Ron Sereno, Jr. (Michelle) and Bill Sereno, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and siblings Fran Sereno, Art Smith, Roger Smith, and Gary Smith, as well as best friend Sharon Claxton. Simple Alternatives Cremation and Burial Services in Sumpter Township.

DOLORES PURCZYNSKI
(May 27, 1927 - October 20, 2026)
Dolores Agnes Purczynski, age 99, of Harrison, Mich., passed away Tuesday, October

Birthdays

- Oct. 30 – Amanda Riggs Cozart
- Oct. 30 – Chandra Warren
- Oct. 31 – Rebecca Hasen
- Nov. 1 – Ashela Trevino
- Nov. 2 – Debbie Lazaroff

- Nov. 2 – Jamica Thomas
- Nov. 5 – Yvette Gorecki

ANNIVERSARIES
Oct. 19 -- Jim and Ruth Collins, 75th wedding anniversary

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11:00AM – 10:00PM
SUNDAY 11:30AM - 9:00PM



Gospel Choir Raises Voices and Funds for Food Closet

The One Voice Gospel Choir from Saline performed at Belleville First United Methodist Church on Tuesday, October 6. The concert was open to the community and 60 attended. The choir has been performing for 36 years, practices three times a month, and performs concerts around the area monthly. Their beautiful voices and enthusiasm had the audience clapping and toe tapping to many of the songs. Several attendees participated on stage during the final song! A free will offering was taken and \$367 was donated to the Emergency Food Closet.

PHOTO COURTESY I BUMC



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Bring On the Playoffs

Belleville pulled off a dramatic 41-35 win over Brighton when senior quarterback Kendall Franklin connected with senior wide receiver Charles Britton III on a 42-yard touchdown pass as time expired. With the game tied at 35-35 after Brighton scored with 1:08 remaining, the Tigers faced a potential 55-yard field goal before a delay-of-game penalty pushed them back. Belleville opted to go for the win, with Britton setting up the final play with a 12-yard end-around on third-and-17 and a 10-yard reception to keep the Tigers' hopes alive. Belleville (6-3) will travel to face longtime rival Dearborn Fordson (7-2) in the opening round of the MHSAA football playoffs at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. The Tigers won the teams' first meeting this season, beating the Tractors, 26-21.

Belleville Girls Swimming and Diving Ends 18-Year Drought

Tigers finish undefeated in KLAA East, capture first division title since 2008

After an 18-year wait, the Belleville High School girls swimming and diving team is back on top.

The Tigers captured their first division title since 2008 after finishing the 2026 season undefeated in the KLAA East, capping a year of strong individual performances and contributions throughout the lineup.

State qualifiers Miranda Phelps and Sadie Ethridge led the way for Belleville, while captains Natalie Hungerford and Zaria Banks provided leadership throughout the season.

Keira Frederick, Hannah Stubbs, Tabitha Hungerford and Aliyah Smith also played important roles as the Tigers built momentum toward the division crown.

One of the season's most dramatic moments came against Dearborn, when Belleville secured a narrow 51-48 victory in a meet decided by just three points.

Freshman diver Taylen Sawyer

stepped up in the close contest, successfully completing the six required dives to compete in the final meet. Her effort gave the Tigers another opportunity to earn valuable points in a matchup where every contribution mattered.

The victory showcased Belleville's depth and determination. In a sport where individual events and relays can decide a meet, contributions from throughout the roster proved critical to the Tigers' success.

Belleville's undefeated league run marked a major milestone for the program and gave the team's seniors and captains a memorable accomplishment. For younger athletes such as Sawyer, it also provides a foundation to build on in the seasons ahead.

Nearly two decades after its last division title, Belleville has returned to the top of the KLAA East, securing a place in school swimming and diving history.

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Lakeside Singers Choir Grows, Plans December Concert

Monday nights bring the sound of harmonic voices to Faith Community Church as the Belleville Lakeside Singers hold their weekly rehearsal.

Wanting to add to the diversity of the community and provide more opportunities for people to sing and perform, Jane



Emily Flesch
Independent
Reporter

Vesche formed the Lakeside Singers in September 2025. After spreading the word through social media and posted flyers, the group has grown to nearly 20 members in one short year.

All experience levels are welcome to join and the group does not require auditions, though Director Nancy Faith acknowledged, after listening to voices at rehearsals, that all current members would have made the cut regardless.

Members reported that the chorus is a great way to keep their voices fresh and build confidence. They describe the Lakeside Singers as a very welcoming group and find rehearsing weekly makes it easy to fit into an already busy schedule.

"Anytime you can add joy in a community or get people involved in a community, I think it's a plus," said Faith. She added that she would love to see the group grow to 40 singers and that they always need more male vocalists.



The Lakeside Singers hold two annual concerts in the spring and winter. This season's program is The Sounds of Christmas, featuring a mix of traditional and contemporary holiday pieces.

In addition to public concerts, the Lakeside Singers appear at community events, such as festivals, community dinners and even the Winterfest Parade. During the Thanksgiving season, they perform for residents at local nursing homes. They are also hosting a networking breakfast for the Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 5.

No matter the venue, Vesche says the mission of the Lakeside Singers is "to provide entertainment and enjoyment for

both our members and audience," noting that attendees are sometimes encouraged to sing along with the group.

The Sounds of Christmas will take place at Faith Community Church located at 894 E. Huron River Drive on Dec. 6 at 5 p.m., with a social hour to follow. Admission is a free will offering.

Rehearsals for The Lakeside Singers are held on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Faith Community Church and there is a \$40 participation fee per three-month season. Anyone wishing to join or looking for more information can contact Jane at janevesche@yahoo.com or visit the group's Facebook page.

Letters to the Editor

Why is There a Recall Against the VBT Board of Trustees?

To the editor:

We shouldn't have to fight our own local government just to find out what's happening in our community. And this is about a lot more than one data center.

Township officials signed nondisclosure agreements while working with developers behind the scenes. Then the Board approved approximately \$125 million in tax breaks for a project requiring just 51 permanent jobs. Meanwhile, hundreds of acres are being transformed, and the people living closest to the development are left dealing with the impacts. The developer committed \$15.4 million toward the Supervisor's pet project. But what about the residents? Who's looking out for them?

Then there are the Flock surveillance cameras, campaign contributions from Township contractors, and the relationships between government and private interests. Sure, you can explain away an NDA, a campaign contribution, a tax incentive or a zoning decision individually. But at some point, you have to look at the whole picture.

We're not against technology or devel-

opment. We're asking who our government is actually working for. Developers have attorneys. Corporations have consultants. Utilities have lobbyists. We're supposed to have our elected officials.

Signing a recall petition doesn't automatically remove anyone from office. It allows voters to decide for themselves in May with a Special Election.

Six Board members. Six petitions. One community. Let the people decide.

Volunteer meet up at the Belleville Area Library every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

Sign petitions at these locations:

10/31: 5-7 p.m. at 9747 Jackson in Haggerty Sub

11/3: Quirk Park and Coolidge/Haggerty- If you're available to volunteer just show up! We will be there as much as possible.

11/14: Noon - 4 p.m. at Tyler Elementary School

Meagan Putnam

VBT Recall Committee Member

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RAJA



MEET RAJA!

Raja is a big girl with an even BIGGER heart! This sweet lady found herself in our care after her beloved owner sadly passed away, and she's still trying to figure out how to navigate this big change in her life.

Raja is an incredibly sweet girl who loves attention and, especially, a good butt scratch! Once she feels comfortable with someone, she may even show off her playful side. Unfortunately, the shelter environment has left her feeling pretty shut down and scared, so she hasn't been able to show us all of the wonderful personality we know she has tucked away.

Raja is looking for a special someone who understands that good things take time. She needs a patient, loving home willing to let her adjust at her own pace, build trust, and learn that she is safe again. In return, you'll get the chance to watch this big-hearted girl come out of her shell and discover just how wonderful life can be.

If you have room in your heart for a big girl who deserves to be spoiled absolutely rotten, Raja may be your perfect match! She has been through a lot of change, and now it's her turn to be cherished, loved, and given all the time she needs to feel at home again.

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STATE GENERAL • TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026 • WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN • BELLEVILLE CITY, PRECINCT 1

PARTISAN SECTION	
State	
Governor and Lieutenant Governor	
Vote for not more than 1	
Jocelyn Benson	Democratic
Winnie Brinks	
John James	Republican
Jay DeBoyer	
Anthony Hudson	Libertarian
Beau Parmenter	
Donna Brandenburg	U.S. Taxpayers
Robert Donald Cowper II	
Douglas Campbell	Green
Bobbie Clay	

Secretary of State	
Vote for not more than 1	
Garlin Gilchrist II	Democratic
Anthony G. Forlini	Republican
Christine Sloan	Libertarian
Scott E. Aughney	U.S. Taxpayers
Eric Borregard	Green

Attorney General	
Vote for not more than 1	
Eli Savit	Democratic
Doug Lloyd	Republican
Jason Dye	Libertarian
John Perry Ludtke Jr	U.S. Taxpayers
Jeff Polonowski	Green
Doug Dern	Natural Law

Congressional	
United States Senator	
Vote for not more than 1	
Abdul El-Sayed	Democratic
Mike Rogers	Republican
Lydia Christensen	Libertarian
Tim Long	U.S. Taxpayers
Douglas P. Marsh	Green
Walter P. Kristy	Natural Law

Representative in Congress	
6th DISTRICT	
Vote for not more than 1	
Debbie Dingell	Democratic
Heather Smiley	Republican
Timothy A. Teagan	Libertarian
Mike Mickevicius	U.S. Taxpayers
Clyde Shabazz	Green
Linda Rayburn	Working Class

Legislative	
STATE SENATOR	
4th DISTRICT	
Vote for not more than 1	
Darrin Camilleri	Democratic
Marcie Grzywacz	Republican
Beth Ann Socia	U.S. Taxpayers
Walter Willis	Working Class

REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE	
31st DISTRICT	
Vote for not more than 1	
Shannon Dare Wayne	Democratic
Laura M. Perry	Republican

State Boards	
MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION	
Vote for not more than 2	
Judith Pritchett	Democratic
Tiffany Tilley	Democratic
Terence Collins	Republican
Bree Moeggenberg	Republican
Charles Essner	Libertarian
William Mohr II	U.S. Taxpayers
Christine C. Schwartz	U.S. Taxpayers
Wissam Charafeddine	Green
Mary Anne Hering	Working Class
Kelli Monroe	Natural Law

Regent of the University of Michigan	
Vote for not more than 2	
Paul Brown	Democratic
Amir Makled	Democratic
Lena Epstein	Republican
Michael Schostak	Republican
Andrew Chadderdon	Libertarian
Kyle Maas	U.S. Taxpayers

NONPARTISAN SECTION	
Judicial	
JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT	
Vote for not more than 2	
Megan Kathleen Cavanagh	
Justice of Supreme Court	
Noah P. Hood	
Justice of Supreme Court	
Thomas W. Howe	
Casandra Morse-Bills	
Michael Warren	
Jody White	

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS	
COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT 1	
Incumbent Position	
6 Year Term	
Vote for not more than 3	
Mariam Saad Bazzi	
Judge of Court of Appeals	
Anica Letica	
Judge of Court of Appeals	
Christopher M. Murray	
Judge of Court of Appeals	

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS	
COURT OF APPEALS DISTRICT 1	
Incumbent Position	
Partial Term Ending 01/01/2031	
Vote for not more than 1	
Andrew J. Lievense	
Judge of Court of Appeals	

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT	
3RD CIRCUIT COURT	
Incumbent Position	
6 Year Term	
Vote for not more than 16	
David J. Allen	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Chandra W. Baker-Robinson	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Christopher M. Blount	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Nicole L. Castka	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Bradley L. Cobb	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Chris Dingell	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Charlene M. Elder	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Helal A. Farhat	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Nicole N. Goodson	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Edward J. Joseph	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Mary Beth Kelly	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Don Knapp	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Cylenthia LaToye Miller	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Carla G. Testani	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Margaret M. Van Houten	
Judge of Circuit Court	
Shannon Nicol Walker	
Judge of Circuit Court	

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT	
3RD CIRCUIT COURT	
Incumbent Position	
Partial Term Ending 01/01/2031	
Vote for not more than 1	
Aliyah S. Sabree	
Judge of Circuit Court	

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT	
3RD CIRCUIT COURT	
Non-Incumbent Position	
6 Year Term	
Vote for not more than 1	
Shakira Lynn Hawkins	

JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT	
WAYNE COUNTY PROBATE COURT	
Non-Incumbent Position	
Vote for not more than 3	
Sarah Colegrove	
Suzanne Fanning	
Vanessa M. Moss	

Trustee of Michigan State University	
Vote for not more than 2	
Brianna Scott	Democratic
Kelly Tebay Zemke	Democratic
Julie Maday	Republican
Roger Victory	Republican
Daniel R. Patterson	Libertarian
Will Tyler White	Libertarian
Janet Sanger	U.S. Taxpayers
John Sanger	U.S. Taxpayers
John Anthony La Pietra	Green
Yaz Ozbek	Working Class

Governor of Wayne State University	
Vote for not more than 2	
Shereef Akeel	Democratic
Richard Mack	Democratic
Andy Anuzis	Republican
Christa Murphy	Republican
Alex Avery	Libertarian
Jami Van Alstine	Libertarian
Jeff McDonald	U.S. Taxpayers
Paul M. Ragan	Green
Suzanne Roehrig	Working Class
Kathleen Oakford	Natural Law

County	
COUNTY EXECUTIVE	
Vote for not more than 1	
Warren C. Evans	Democratic
Michael A. Evans	Republican
John Olumba	No Party Affiliation

PROPOSAL SECTION	
State	
Proposal 2026-1 A Proposal To Convene A Constitutional Convention For The Purpose Of Drafting A General Revision Of The State Constitution	
Shall a convention of elected delegates be convened in 2027 to draft a general revision of the State Constitution for presentation to the state’s voters for their approval or rejection?	
The proposal would:	
• Prohibit regulated electric and gas utilities, contractors with over \$250,000 annually in government contracts, and people and organizations with substantial connections to these utilities/contractors from making direct or indirect campaign contributions to those who run for or hold offices that impact them.	
• Expand laws regulating spending on political communications, including those requiring disclosing donor information, to apply to communications clearly identifying candidates or ballot questions, even if they do not expressly advocate voting for/against them.	
• Expressly apply the law requiring disclosure of who paid for political communications to internet political communications.	

Your Tri-Community Sample Ballot

To help readers make informed decisions, we’re printing a sample ballot for the tri-community area. (Not shown is the millage proposal for Sumpter Township.) See more election coverage on page 13.

Huron River Watershed Council Ponders 2027 Strategic Plan

EMILY FLESCH
INDEPENDENT REPORTER

Members of the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) gathered at the Belleville Area District Library (BADL) for their monthly meeting on Oct. 15.

Spanning seven counties and 63 municipalities in Southeast Michigan, the HRWC is a non-profit environmental organization founded in 1965 and dedicated to protecting, studying and restoring the 125-mile Huron River system and its surrounding watershed.

Program Manager Andrea Paine explained that the HRWC is structured similarly to a council of governments, rather than a traditional non-profit. Communities can become dues-paying members and receive a seat on the board. Belleville appointed Planning Commissioner Gerald Keeder III as their representative, with Jim Courage as alternate, this past July.

Calling the BADL “such a gem”, Paine explained that she recommended it for their rotating monthly meeting because “you can’t get any closer to Belleville Lake and the Huron River.” The council has hosted multiple workshops at the library, the most recent focusing on Shoreline Stewardship for property owners. Their next workshop, which will teach the basics of Rain Gardens, will be held at the library on Oct.



PHOTO | EMILY FLESCH

21 at 6 p.m.

While the council does not directly monitor Belleville Lake, it monitors the river upstream and downstream as well as several tributaries of the lake. Paine also noted the council’s ongoing involvement with Van Buren’s proposed data center project, including submitting formal comments

regarding wetland permits, and plans for attentive engagement as the process moves forward.

The focus of the board’s Oct. 15 meeting was their strategic plan for 2027 through 2035. As part of their early (something and discovery phase) members broke into small groups for ten-minute brainstorming rota-

tions focusing on three key areas: Reflections on the past five years, visions for the next five, and what they do differently than other organizations, or their “niche.”

This activity allowed for more in-depth feedback than traditional surveys, which were distributed to approximately 100 partners and stakeholders as well as staff and board members, would permit. Board members expressed their appreciation for being involved in the process. Future opportunities mentioned included workforce development in stormwater management and addressing climate change impacts on runoff.

Executive Director Rebecca Esselman reported a new corporation has pledged \$150,000 (\$50,000 annually over three years) to support the youth education program established with the KLA Foundation, providing hands-on STEM and environmental learning for local students.

“A person’s relationship to nature starts young,” said Esselman, explaining that getting youth comfortable with the river and helping them understand how it works “is one of the most long-term impactful things that we do as an organization, and it’s super fun.”

More information about the HRWC, including volunteer, donation and educational information, can be found at hrwc.org.



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 Free event with limited refreshments for participants.

 Registration is recommended to receive event updates or notices in case of weather-related changes.





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State Senate Candidates Share Priorities Ahead of Election

Sarah Rigg
Managing Editor

With the Nov. 3 general election just weeks away, the Belleville Area Independent sent candidate questionnaires to those seeking seats that matter most to our readers. Last week, we ran questions and answers with the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, the Belleville Area District Library Board, and State House District 31. This week, we have answers from state senator candidates Darrin Camilleri (D) and Marcie Grzywacz (R).

MARCIE GRZYWACZ

Why are you running for the Michigan Senate?

Working families deserve a state government that respects their paychecks, protects their communities, and delivers on its basic responsibilities. As a mother, nurse, and educator, I believe leadership starts with listening, taking responsibility, and solving problems.



Grzywacz

Too often, Lansing’s priorities do not reflect what families discuss around their kitchen tables. People want affordable utility bills, safe neighborhoods, dependable roads, and schools that prepare their children to succeed. I will bring a practical, conservative approach to those challenges by protecting taxpayers, demanding accountability, and putting the needs of our communities first.

What are your top three priorities if elected?
My first priority is affordability. Second is public safety. I will support police, firefighters, and emergency responders.

Third is preparing the next generation for success. That means strong schools focused on reading, writing, and math, along with expanded access to skilled trades, apprenticeships, and career training.

What is the single most important issue facing the Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township area, and what would you do about it in Lansing?
I believe affordability is the most important issue because it affects nearly every decision a family makes, from paying the utility bill to buying a home or saving for retirement.

In Lansing, I would oppose tax increases and spending that place additional burdens on working families. I would support energy policies that prioritize affordability and reliability, demand accountability from utilities, and reduce unnecessary barriers for small businesses that create local jobs.

Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township have distinct needs, but residents share a basic expectation that working hard should allow them to build a stable life.

How would you approach state funding for local roads and infrastructure?
Maintaining roads and essential infrastructure should be a core responsibility of state government.

I would review how road dollars are distributed to ensure local streets and township roads receive fair consideration alongside major highways.

I would also require transparent project selection, competitive bidding, and clear reporting on costs and results. Coordinating roadwork with water, sewer, and drainage improvements can help avoid paying to tear up the same street twice.

What is your position on state funding for public schools?
My priority would be directing resources

toward classroom instruction, early literacy, math, special education, and school safety. I would also support career and technical education that connects students with apprenticeships, skilled trades, and local employers.

Funding should come with transparent budgets and clear measures of student progress. Parents deserve a meaningful voice in their children’s education, and teachers deserve support to focus on teaching. I would work to reduce unnecessary mandates while expecting schools to demonstrate that spending is helping students learn and prepare for life after graduation.

What should the Legislature do about property tax relief?
People should be able to remain in the homes they worked hard to purchase, especially seniors living on fixed incomes. I support targeted property tax relief for homeowners who need it most, including reviewing whether the homestead property tax credit adequately serves eligible families and retirees.

The Legislature should also make assessment notices easier to understand and the appeals process more accessible.

Any broader reform must include a responsible funding plan for schools, police, fire protection, and other essential services.

Is there anything else voters in the tri-community area should know about you?
As a mother, nurse, and educator, I approach public service with a strong sense of responsibility to the people who depend on me. I believe in listening carefully, asking hard questions, and advocating for our community by following through with meaningful action that delivers results for the people I serve.

Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township each deserve a senator who is accessible and attentive to local con-

cerns. I will maintain regular communication with residents and local leaders, explain my votes, and help constituents navigate state agencies.

My conservative, commonsense principles mean respecting taxpayers, protecting individual freedoms, supporting safe communities, and expecting our government to live within its means. I will represent every resident, regardless of party.

DARRIN CAMILLERI

Why are you running for the Michigan Senate?

I’m your current State Senator Darrin Camilleri and I live in Trenton with my family. I’m running to continue to serve Downriver and Western Wayne County, delivering



Camilleri

results for working families, and building on my first term in the Senate.

What are your top three priorities if elected?
My top three priorities are supporting public education, lowering costs for families, and investing in our infrastructure.

What is the single most important issue facing the Belleville/Van Buren Township/Sumpter Township area?
One of the most pressing issues facing our tri-community area is the disposal of hazardous waste in our backyards. For too long, communities like Van Buren Township have been forced to bear the burden of hazardous waste coming from across the country, raising serious concerns about public health, environmental safety, and the quality of life of our residents.

SEE SENATE ON PAGE 16

CHURCH DIRECTORY

BELLEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Moving forward in Christ together!
417 Charles
Sunday 10am
bellevillefirstumc.org 734.697.9288

BETHANY BIBLE CHURCH
810 E. HURON RIVER DR. BELLEVILLE, MI | 734.697.7456
Sunday | Adult Bible Fellowship & Children's Sunday
School 9:45am | Morning Worship 11am
Wednesday | Kids & Teens 6:45pm | Bible In Action 7pm
Visit bethanybiblechurch.com for more info

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY
Saturdays at 11am
Sermonette-sensory activities- safe snacks
~~~~~  
**Denton Faith United Methodist Church**  
6020 Denton Rd, Belleville Michigan 48111

**Ridge Road Church of Christ**  
1770 Ridge Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198  
Sunday Bible Study 10 AM, Worship Service 11 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship 6 PM and  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 PM  
[www.ridgeroadcoc.org](http://www.ridgeroadcoc.org) (734) 485-2930

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11900 Belleville Road  
Service and Sunday School  
10:00 a.m.

**faith Community Church**  
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SUNDAYS @ 10 A.M.  
Connect Classes  
11 a.m. Sunday Worship  
WEDNESDAYS @ 6 P.M.  
S.O.S. Recovery & Support Group  
WEDNESDAYS @ 7 P.M.  
Bible Study & Youth Groups  
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Belleville

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[discoverlifepointe.com](http://discoverlifepointe.com) • 45170 Hull Road  
Services: Sunday @ 11 • Wednesday @ 7

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16650 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111  
Sunday Morning Worship 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Wednesday Adult, Youth & Children @ 7 p.m.  
Visit [rol-ag.com](http://rol-ag.com) (734) 699-6700

**BELLEVILLE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**  
Saturday Mornings  
Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:30  
89 South Edgemont  
[bellevillesda.com](http://bellevillesda.com)

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
6020 Denton Road  
Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 483-2276  
[www.faithchurchdenton.org](http://www.faithchurchdenton.org)  
Sunday Worship at 10am. Bible Study & refreshments after Worship.

Sunday Worship Service @ 10:30  
AWANA - Wednesday Night @ 6:00  
42682 Ecorse Rd.  
Belleville

**ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
409 W. Columbia Avenue (734) 697-1211  
• Saturday Mass: 6:00pm  
• Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am  
• Mondays: 6:30pm Adoration  
[www.stanthonybelleville.com](http://www.stanthonybelleville.com)

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## AUCTION NOTICE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 11 AM. 221 North Lincoln, Ypsilanti. 2004 Mercury Grand Marquis 2MEFM74WO4X618334, 2009 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 1J8HR48P39C535328, Bidding starts at \$800

10/29

## ESTATE SALE

**Estate of Evelyn Dew,** died Oct. 9, 2026. Notice to creditors: all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Danny Dew, personal representative, at 12020 Monroe Pike, Brooklyn, MI 49230, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

1184 GEORGINA DRIVE, Ypsilanti. Saturday & Sunday, 9am-5pm. Buy, sell, or trade. (734) 730-7810. Over 50,000 items.

## FOR SALE

243CC CUB CADET OHV 4 CYCLE Snowblower. Push button electric start. Good condition, \$800 OBO (reasonable). Leave message (810) 407-4557

11/12

TORO POWER MAX 24" Snowblower. Battery operated, good condition. It comes with 2 batteries & charger. \$800 OBO (reasonable). Leave message (734) 637-7041

11/12

## 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.

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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.

## Notice to Advertisers – private gun sales:

It is the responsibility of both the classified seller and buyer to ensure they understand all laws applicable to private gun sales in Michigan. The *Belleville-Area Independent* is not responsible for the legal compliance of classified buyers and sellers.

## FOR SALE

### HILLSIDE GRAVE SITES

Last two full Grave Sites in Hillside Cemetery. Section E, Lot 52. Graves 4 & 5. \$4,000 for both. (subject to city fees).  
**Call (734) 740-0413**

LARGE JOHN DEERE TRACTOR for sale for yard ornament. \$500 (734) 740-0317

10/29

CADILAC MEMORIAL CEMETERY in Westland, 2 plots available in section D. \$2,000 OBO + transfer fees. (231) 350-6883 please leave message.

11/05

MARIMA SCOOTER-New batteries & runs good, \$850. Plus, a new scooter carrier, \$150. (734) 383-0708

10/29

2 MERCURY B OAT motors, \$400 for both. 6 FT. FORD 90s fiberglass cap, \$300. (734) 740-0317.

10/29

94 FORD 7.3 diesel \$500. LARGE JOHN DEERE tractor for yard, \$500. (734) 740-0317.

10/29

MARY KAY COSMETICS. Lots of sales, load up on Holiday gifts. Call Dorothy (734) 697-0788, ask about a free glamour session & free gift.

10/29

FOOD GRADE BARRELS Plastic & metal. Inventory & pictures at [www.mattsbarrels.com](http://www.mattsbarrels.com) call or text (734) 474-5981. Located in Willis.

11/14

FENCE BOARDS 2X6 and 2X4, reasonable. (734) 461-1414. HAY, round bales. (708) 646-7595.

11/19

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

94 FORD RANGER approx. 88,000 miles. Needs transmission. Lots of work already done here in town at Midas. Must see, \$3,750 OBO (313) 995-8349

11/12

2005 FORD TAURUS SE WAGON. Good transportation and reliable. Low miles, \$2,450 private owner. (734) 695-0819

11/12

2022 BUICK ENCLAVE. White with black & grey interior, 3.6 engine, front wheel drive, 2 newer tires, 45,986 miles. \$27,000 (734) 325-3183

11/05

1985 CHEVY ONE TON VAN for sale for parts. \$600 (734) 740-0317

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11/05

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10/29

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TFN

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**734-368-5088  
734-545-5195**

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10/29

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

2027

WANTED TO BUY – Standing timber. Sawmill office. (517) 254-4463

12/10

WANTED – MEN'S CLOTHES, any size for the homeless in Detroit. Drop off at 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 Drive. (734) 697-5600.

TFN

## HELP WANTED

LOCAL AAA OFFICE is looking for full- or part-time sales & customer service representatives. (734) 697-0170 or [vmwillis@acg.aaa.com](mailto:vmwillis@acg.aaa.com)

11/05

## SERVICES

**A&L SERVICES**  
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11/26

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE. Painting, roof leaks, cleaning & gutter repairs, landscape maintenance, and power washing. (734) 796-3628.

10/29

A-1 QUALITY MOBILE HOME SERVICE. Licensed over 50 years. Seniors, Veterans, 1st Responders & Educators 10% off. (734) 397-2615.

12/31

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**BELLEVILLE - AREA  
INDEPENDENT**

# DDA Says Downtown Business Can Apply for Holiday Lighting Reimbursement

**Emily Flesch**  
*Independent Reporter*

Main Street businesses will once again have the opportunity to apply for Christmas lighting reimbursement grants following a decision by the Belleville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board of Directors at its regular meeting on Oct. 21. The DDA’s Light Up Downtown Belleville program will provide a 50% matching reimbursement grant (up to \$2,000) to

street-facing businesses within the DDA district. This reimbursement applies only to reusable lighting materials and does not cover installation or items that can only be displayed for one year, such as wreaths or trees. The board will be reaching out to eligible businesses in the coming weeks. *In other business at the 65-minute meeting, the board:*

- Discussed security measures for the pickleball nets and noted that the pickleball

courts will remain open as weather permits;

- Announced that the city will be using a \$3,000 grant from Wayne County Parks to reseal the basketball court at Victory Park;
- Welcomed new DDA Executive Director James Courtney to his first meeting;
- Received an update that the “Hot Wheels and Deals” interactive scavenger hunt had over 100 participants and winners are currently being contacted;
- Voiced a desire to participate in the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) Inside-Out

program, which places high-quality reproductions of masterpieces from the museum’s collection in public spaces across Metro Detroit communities at no cost, noting that the city participated in 2022 and will be eligible again in 2027. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. Board members Valerie Kelley-Bonner, Mike Gatteri and Phil Miller were absent and excused.

## District Library Staff Working to Make Game Day Game Day Program a Success

**Sabrina Martell**  
*Special to the Independent*

During a report from Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, the Belleville Area District Library Board discussed the library’s “Game Day Game Day” program during their regular meeting on October 13, 2026. “Game Day Game Day” is an after school program hosted by the library on Belleville High School home football game days, offering students a place to convene prior to the games. The library makes certain card games, board games, and video games available to the students. “We’ve been having a lot of really large after-school crowds in our building,” reported Director Suchy. “We had one in September where there was upwards of 70 school kids in our building.” Because of the large quantity of students coming to the library through this program, the library has had to enforce stricter rules this year than in prior years. The library instituted a policy that the students must stay in the lower-level Charles B. Cozadd Belleville Rotary Foundation Room during Game Day Game Days. “If they want to use anything up in the other part of the

library, we issue them a hall pass,” stated Suchy. According to Director Suchy, this rule was put in place because the behavior of the Football Friday students was impeding on other people trying to study or check out books in the library’s Teen Room. Library board member Daniel Fleming inquired as to whether additional help from the high school would be warranted. “So far, we have been able to handle it in house,” said Suchy. The board continued to discuss the possibility of voicing concerns to the school superintendent if any issues persist, but they believe the program is currently handled. “I commend our staff,” said board chairperson Sharon Peters. “The fact that we haven’t had much trouble since that first time really means that the adjustments that staff made have been effective. I’m pleased about that, and I’m pleased that kids do want to come here.” Board member John Juriga affirmed these sentiments, noting the importance of providing the students a safe gathering place prior to the football games. “It’s working,” said library staff member Nikki Pickeral about the program, “They’re our kids. We’re protecting them and working with them as best as we can.”

*In other business at the Oct. 13 meeting, the board:*

- Approved the accounts payable for October. Board Member Juriga made special note that he was “delighted” to see the library only paid the company \$300, which is significantly less than the library has paid for similar services in the past.
- Heard Suchy report on the additional teen programming at the library, including the Teen Craft Club FrankenStuffies event continuing on the last Tuesdays of October and November.
- Learned that the library will be running a “Telescope Night at the Library” event on Thursday, Oct. 22, which will be hosted in collaboration with the Warren Astronomical Society.
- Learned that the library will place the winning art pieces of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) Art Show on display in November.
- Discussed a New York Times article “Librarians on Libraries”, by Elizabeth Egan and John Maher, discussing the experiences of librarians across the country.
- Praised the county clerks for the City of Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township for their work in correcting the ballots for the three municipalities.

### Things to do in the Belleville Area

- **Thursday, Oct. 29** – Lecture: Solemn Echoes: Uncovering the Dark and Eerie Practices of Victorian Death Culture at the Belleville Area Museum with speaker Nikki Pickeral. Pizza at 5:30, lecture at 6 p.m. Reserve a seat at bam@vbtmi.gov.
- **Thursday, Oct. 29** – Annual Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Member Awards Banquet, 6 p.m., Angel Food Catering, 44850 N I-94 Service Drive. \$30 each /\$210 VIP table of 8.
- **Friday, Oct. 30** – Downtown Trick-or-Treating, 5-7 p.m. at local businesses and organizations. Food Trucks at 4th Street Place, costume contest at 5 p.m. Prizes for winner and runner up.
- **Saturday, Oct. 31** – Candy and treats for children at Denton Faith UMC from 3-6 p.m. Hot dogs, apple cider, and donuts until they run out. Free.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 4** – Fun and Fellowship Luncheon at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, noon. Raffle, lunch, fellowship, door prizes. \$10.
- **Thursday, Nov. 5** – Annual Sauerkraut Dinner, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig St., New Boston. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., seating at 5 p.m. Carryout available. \$15. Direct questions to the church office: 734-753-9048.
- **Friday, Nov. 6** – Feather Party Bingo at St. Aloysius Church, 37200 Neville St., Romulus, in the Parish Activity Center. Doors open at 5, Bingo at 7 p.m. Raffle, concession stand. \$2 for three paper “quickies”, \$20 for 12 bingo cards. 734-753-4722.

### CONCERNS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ers were proficient, and the same group came back as sixth graders at 29 percent — but sixth-grade ELA scores on the state M-STEP test dropped, and Dufrene said she and her leadership team are digging into their practices and curriculum to find out why. Vocabulary is Owen’s lowest strand, and a new intervention program, REWARDS, attacks it directly for fifth and sixth graders, teaching Greek and Latin roots and how to break words apart to find their meaning. Dufrene also put part of the sixth-grade slide on the all-digital CommonLit program: this year she used general fund money to print the materials so students can annotate and highlight on paper, and Owen is cutting Chromebook use across the board. The building’s goals are a 4-percent increase in i-Ready proficiency from fall to spring and a 3-to-5-percent increase on the M-STEP. Points of pride included 94-percent staff retention

and a 68-percent drop in suspensions, which Dufrene credited to the Capturing Kids’ Hearts program. Edgemont’s principal Laura Maher told the board that only 17 percent of her K-4 students are reading at or above grade level on the fall i-Ready test. The building’s goal is to reach 35 percent by the end of the year and cut the lowest-scoring group in half, with M-STEP proficiency targets of 30 percent in third grade, up from 25.7 percent, and 42 percent in fourth grade, up from 34.7 percent. Intervention alone cannot fix the problem, she said, when fewer than 80 percent of students are reaching benchmark. Edgemont teachers have committed to weekly grade-level data meetings, on top of the district’s monthly sessions, along with goal conferences with students and close monitoring of their i-Ready learning paths. Rawsonville, with 299 students, saw the share of students reading at or above grade level rise from 12 percent last fall to 17 percent this fall, but 32 percent of its students remain two or more grade levels

behind, and second grade is the biggest concern, with 53 percent of its students two or more levels below. Phonics and high-frequency word scores improved, while vocabulary, at 20 percent, and comprehension, at 17 percent, lag behind. Rawsonville’s bright spot came on the M-STEP: last year’s fourth graders jumped from 24 percent proficient as third graders to 41 percent, reaching the state average. The building’s goals are a 10-percent i-Ready increase and a 3-to-5-percent M-STEP gain, and it has started a schoolwide i-Ready competition, with classroom trackers posted in the halls and a monthly party for the winning class. Board members pressed Dufrene on the drop between fifth and sixth grade and floated the idea of providing monitors and mice for online testing, saying students may be held back by the test format itself. Dufrene said teaching the computer skills the test requires, and rethinking the testing schedule to reduce burnout, are both part of Owen’s plan.

# Musings



**Janet Millard**  
Advertising  
Director

New Boston. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

~~~~~  
As we come to the end of October, I would like to send a shout out to our local pastors. October is Pastor Appreciation

CORRECTION:

I goofed on St. Paul's annual Sauerkraut Dinner date last week. It will be on Thursday, Nov. 5 starting at 5 p.m. Please tell your friends to meet you at 19109 Craig Street in

month and many of our churches have had special programs to let their pastor know how much he and his family are appreciated. Here is a big thank you for keeping our residents on track to be the light of the world. Amen!

~~~~~

Halloween is finally knocking on our door! Friday night from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Main Street will be filled with all those candy eating kids. There will be a pizza and drink truck in 4th Street Place and a costume contest for all ages starting at 6 p.m. in the 4th Street Square. The ad was in

the paper last week so hopefully you have shared the information with friends and family!!! Since the businesses are treating everyone a day early, this leaves you the opportunity to go house to house on the 31st. After all the trunk or treats this town has had this month, these kids won't come down off the sugar high until Christmas!

~~~~~

Now that Booville has left the building and our Halloween décor turns into Thanksgiving (people, it is too early for Christmas displays!), there will be lots to do in November. First, I will lose my

favorite radio station who insists on playing Christmas music in November. Then, I will turn my attention to Guiding Harbor's major fundraiser for Girlstown on November 7 at the Diamondback. Not sure if there is any room left, but you should check at Guiding Harbor (734) 263-1864.

~~~~~

We beat Brighton!! Congratulations to our mighty Tigers – final score Belleville 41 vs. Brighton 35. Now for the playoff on this Friday at 7 p.m. against Dearborn Fortson. Should be an easy win for our boys – BHS Tigers all the way to Ford Field!

## DNR to Upgrade Belleville's West Boating Access Site

The state of Michigan recently announced it is investing \$45 million through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to support 75 park, trail, conservation, and recreation projects, with matching funds bringing the total investment to nearly \$109 million. The funding brings several projects to the Huron River watershed, including \$350,000 for improvements to the West Boating Access Site on Belleville Lake in Van Buren Township.

The announcement from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office did not detail what improvements were being made to the local boating access site.

Other grants for work in the Huron River watershed went to projects in Ann Arbor Township, Ypsilanti Township and Hamburg Township.

The largest award is \$6.5 million for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to acquire nearly 22,650 acres in the Keweenaw Peninsula. The DNR will also receive \$5 million to acquire more than 1,400 acres around Turtle Lake and Turtle Creek in the Au Sable River watershed and \$1.5 million for 460 acres next to Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

## SENATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

That's why I introduced Senate Bills 246 and 247 to strengthen Michigan's hazardous waste regulations and increase fees that disincentivize the disposal of this kind of waste in our community.

*How would you approach state funding for local roads and infrastructure in our communities?*

Investing in our local roads and infrastructure has been one of my priorities in the Michigan Senate. I'm proud to have supported the recent bipartisan road funding agreement, which will provide nearly \$2 billion annually in dedicated, long-term funding for Michigan's roads and bridges once fully implemented. I also believe we should increase state revenue sharing so that local communities are able to better maintain their local infrastructure.

*What is your position on state*

*funding for public schools, and how would it affect districts like Van Buren Public Schools?*

As Chair of the Senate PreK-12 School Aid Budget, I'm proud of the historic investments we've made in our public schools; this year I sponsored bipartisan legislation to implement a new weighted school funding formula that cuts bureaucracy and directs predictable resources to schools and students with the greatest needs. By recognizing that some students require additional support, we can distribute education funding more equitably and give districts like Van Buren Public Schools the tools they need to help every student succeed.

*What, if anything, should the Legislature do about property tax relief?*

Whether it be housing, groceries, or prescription medication, everyday Michiganders are finding it harder and harder to make ends meet. Property taxes are a particular burden for new home owners who have their homes' assessed values uncapped upon purchase. Removing barriers

to home ownership is something that we need to address as legislators and I am hopeful that this is an issue we can tackle during next term.

*Is there anything else voters in the tri-community area should know about you?*

Since taking office, I've made it a priority to maintain a strong presence in Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township, listening directly to residents and working closely with local elected officials to address the issues that matter most to our communities. I'm proud of the work that we've accomplished over the last four years, but I know that there's more to be done. Our tri-community area deserves leadership that will continue fighting to keep hazardous waste from entering our community and advocate for them in the Capitol. I would be honored to earn the support of my neighbors across Western Wayne County and continue to be their voice for another four years.

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## Upcoming Meetings

■ **Monday, Nov. 2** – Belleville City Council, 6:30 p.m.  
■ **Tuesday, Nov. 3** – Van Buren Township meeting canceled due to election.  
■ **Wednesday, Nov. 4** – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 5:30 p.m.  
■ **Monday, Nov. 9** – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

■ **Tuesday, Nov. 10** – Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.  
■ **Thursday, Nov. 12** – Keystone Academy school board, 5 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.



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Van Buren Township Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
October 20, 2026

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Kelley, Trustee Jahr Trustee Boynton, and Trustee Martin. Others in attendance: Deputy Supervisor Selman, Recording Assistant Beaudry, HR Director Monia, VBC Director of Operations Dohring, Director of Projects and Grants Renaud, IT Director Barbaza, DDA Director Coburn, Municipal Services Director Akers, Public Services Director Luckett and an audience of 11.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA:** Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve the amended agenda moving New Business Item #5: To consider approval of the Personal Services Agreement for Ryan Drotar as Parks Superintendent and the execution by Supervisor McNamara and Clerk Wright to Consent Agenda Item #6. Motion Carried.

**ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:** Boynton moved, Kelley seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: Board Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2026, Prepaid List of October 7, 2026, Prepaid List of October 14, 2026, Voucher List of October 20, 2026, Approval of the SMART (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation) Group Transit Asset Management Plan for SMART Sub-recipients FY 2027-2030, and approval of the Personal Services Agreement for Ryan Drotar as Parks Superintendent and the execution by Supervisor McNamara and Clerk Wright. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:** Derek Hale from Commission Al Wilson's office introduced himself, on Thursday, November 12 at 6:00 there will be a Belleville Lake Community meeting to discuss the progress of the lake clean up initiative over the past year, a letter from a resident was read concerning data centers, the landfill, and property values, Clerk Wright reminded voters to turn in the corrected ballot with the pink stickers and not the old ones and the State of the Township video was shown.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business):** a resident discussed a truck blocking mailboxes, preventing mail from being delivered, another resident spoke on the data center, taxes, roads, landfills, services from Wayne County, and a member of the audience presented ideas on harnessing thermal power from the data center.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Boynton moved, Jahr seconded to approve Resolution 2026-25: 2027 Salary Schedule and Resolution 2026-26: 2026 Amended and 2027 Proposed General Fund Budget. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2026-27: 2026 Amended and 2027 Proposed Water and Sewer Budget. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Jahr seconded to approve Resolution 2026-28: 2026 Amended and 2027 Proposed Special Revenue Funds. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Jahr seconded to approve Resolution 2026-29: Annual Exemption Opt Out of 2011 PA 152 for 2027. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Jahr, Kelley, Boynton, Martin, Budd, Wright, and McNamara. Nays: None. Absent/Excused: None. Motion Carried.

Boynton moved, Budd seconded to approve the proposal from Fishbeck for engineering services for the Quirk Road Intersection Improvements, in the amount of \$49,500. Motion Carried.

Kelley moved, Wright seconded to approve the authorization to schedule the required public hearing for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan at the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting on December 1, 2026. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Commissioner Al Wilson will be hosting a coffee hour on November the 14 from 12-1:30 at the Senior Barn at 28341 Mineral Springs, in Huron Township.

**BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Boynton moved, Budd seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Motion Carried.

Published: 10/29/26

Now That's a Big Check



PHOTO COURTESY | ELENA MANALP

The Belleville Area News Foundation (BANF) received a check for \$30,000 to defray printing costs from the Cozadd Foundation, the charitable arm of the Belleville Rotary Club. The paper's board originally asked for \$20,000, but Rotary member John Juriga requested that the award be raised another \$10,000 to a total of \$30,000. The formal check presentation took place during a regular Rotary meeting Oct. 13. Shown L to R are: Rachel Kozlowski, Keith Bruder, BANF secretary Barbara Rogalle Miller, Belleville Area Independent Managing Editor Sarah Rigg, BANF president Harry Van Gelder, BANF board member Sharon Peters, John Juriga, David Parrot, Roman Eissinger, and 34th District Court Judge Lisa Martin. Kozlowski, Bruder, Juriga, Parrot, Eissinger, and Martin all serve on the Charles B. Cozadd Rotary Foundation board of directors.

Van Buren Township Public Notice

Van Buren Township  
Notice of Availability of Proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
for Public Review & Notice of Public Hearing

A draft 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Van Buren Township is available for public review and comments. Anyone interested can send comments to the Recreation Committee or will be given an opportunity to comment at the following public hearing:

Van Buren Township Board of Trustees  
Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m.  
46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111

Written comments may be sent to:  
Van Buren Township Recreation Committee  
c/o Van Buren Township Community Center  
46425 Tyler Road  
Van Buren Township, MI 48111

or emailed to  
tdohring@vbtmi.gov or erenaud@vbtmi.gov

Copies of the plan are on file at the following locations:  
Van Buren Township Community Center (46425 Tyler Road)  
Van Buren Township Hall (46425 Tyler Road)

A copy of the plan is also available on the Township's website:  
vbtmi.gov

For more information contact:  
Tammy Dohring, Director of Operations, Van Buren Community  
Center Elizabeth Renaud, Director of Projects and Grants

The meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities. Van Buren Township will provide necessary auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the learning impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon one week's notice to the Van Buren Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aid or services should contact

Van Buren Township by writing or calling the following:  
Tammy Dohring, Director of Operations, Van Buren Community Center  
46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111  
Voice (734) 699-8921 Email tdohring@vbtmi.gov

Published: 10/29/26

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, October 18:**  
0405 Assist fire dept, W Columbia Ave  
0755 Property damage accident, E Huron River Dr/N Edgemont Ave  
1146 Larceny, Henry St  
1408 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Savage Rd  
1613 Assist other dept, Harmony Ln  
1641 Harassment call, Henry St  
1709 Assist fire dept, Belle Villa Blvd  
1951 Welfare check, Main St

**Monday, October 19:**  
1822 Neighbor trouble, W Wabash Ave  
2019 Assist fire dept, S Biggs Ave  
2123 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, South St  
2247 Vehicle lockout, W Columbia Ave  
2331 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N Aberdeen Ct

**Tuesday, October 20:**  
1218 Assist fire dept, Sumpter Rd  
1532 Juvenile complaint, E Columbia Ave  
1626 Private property damage accident, W Columbia Ave  
1639 Mental health subject, Menlo Park Dr  
1731 Alarm intrusion, Main St

**Wednesday, October 21:**  
0905 Warrant arrest, Charles Rd/3rd St  
1014 Property damage accident, Main St/1st St  
1147 Neighbor trouble, S Biggs Ave  
1558 Found property/child, Sumpter Rd  
1707 Juvenile complaint, Loza Ln/E Huron River Dr  
1719 Assist fire dept, Carmell St

**Thursday, October 22:**  
0537 911 welfare check, Carmell St  
0753 Property damage accident, Sumpter Rd/Spencer St  
1134 Neighbor trouble, Sumpter Rd  
1242 Juvenile complaint, Owen St  
1434 Ordinance violation, City Municipal Lot  
1510 911 welfare check, W Columbia Ave  
1800 Property damage accident, Main St  
1830 Trespassing, Belle Villa Blvd  
2007 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W Columbia Ave  
2047 Disorderly conduct, Sumpter Rd  
2219 Domestic, Henry St

**Friday, October 23:**  
1558 Disorderly conduct, Main St

**Saturday, October 24:**  
0913 Assist fire dept, San Carlos St  
1138 Malicious destruction of property, S Liberty St/E Columbia Ave  
2020 Traffic offense, Main St  
2107 Parking complaint, Sumpter Rd

*These logs also contained 35 traffic stops and 5 property checks. There were no misc. complaints.*

Van Buren Twp. Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, October 18:**  
0018 Civil matter, S I94 Service Dr  
0335 Fraud, N I94 Service Drive  
0339 Motorist assist, S I94 Service Dr/Haggerty Rd  
0511 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
0703 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
0923 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hayes St/Hamilton St  
0946 Fraud, Belleville Rd  
1125 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S Cumberland Dr  
1141 Civil matter, E Huron River Dr  
1223 Domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr  
1226 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W Adams

1246 Property damage accident, Renton Rd/Riggs Rd  
1310 Civil matter, Rose Blvd  
1519 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
1522 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd  
1604 Personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd  
1610 Assist fire dept, Harmony Ln  
1627 Assist fire dept, Martz Rd  
1704 Property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd/W Huron River Dr  
1805 Mental health subject, Parkwood Dr  
1848 Trespassing, Belleville Rd  
2050 Leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Ecorse Rd  
2101 Animal complaint, Cobblestone Creek Drive  
2139 Domestic, Millington Ct  
2236 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Village Green (The Parks)

**Monday, October 19:**  
0105 Alarm intrusion, Dalton Dr  
0259 Motorist assist, Ecorse Rd/Visteon Way  
0313 Assist fire dept, Sadie Ln  
0325 Assist fire dept, Ash Dr  
0628 Alarm intrusion, Van Born  
0629 Mental health subject, Walden Blvd  
0845 Bank detail, Belleville Bank  
1021 Civil matter, S Ponderosa Trl  
1123 Threat, Tyler Rd  
1252 Assist fire dept, Rawsonville Rd  
1329 Larceny, Anna Dr  
1345 Larceny, Westlake Cir  
1404 Larceny from auto, S I94 Service Dr  
1514 Vehicle lockout, Parkwood Dr  
1516 Family trouble, Samuel Barton Dr  
1608 Civil matter, Denton Rd  
1620 Missing person, Pinewood Ln  
1620 Civil matter, Tyler Rd  
1913 911 welfare check, Rawsonville Rd  
1926 Malicious destruction of property, Quirk Rd  
2059 Assist other dept, Utah St  
2205 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Venetian Ave  
2230 Road hazard, Rawsonville Rd/Snow Rd  
2233 Welfare check, Rawsonville Rd  
2350 Alarm intrusion, Martinsville Rd (missing time stamp) Private property impound, Belleville (missing time stamp) Assist other dept, Tyler Rd (missing time stamp) Leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Huron River Dr/Hannan Rd

**Tuesday, October 20:**  
0212 Alarm intrusion, Chinkapin Dr  
0331 Alarm intrusion, Martinsville Rd  
0333 Welfare check, Haggerty Rd  
0427 Motorist assist, W Huron River Dr  
0727 Property damage accident, Belleville Rd/N I94 Service Dr  
0738 Family trouble, Amanda Dr  
0751 Family trouble, Kirkridge Park Dr  
0831 Animal complaint, Farm Rd  
0846 Road hazard, Rawsonville Rd/S Grove St  
0859 Mental health subject, Amanda Dr  
0954 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bemis Rd/Sumpter Rd  
0954 Property damage accident, Haggerty Rd/Ecorse Rd  
1004 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd/N I94 Service Dr  
1039 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville  
1042 Retail fraud, Belleville Rd  
1051 Retail fraud, Belleville Rd  
1132 Assist other dept, Country Ln  
1203 Animal complaint, Harbor Lane/Sunrise Lane  
1440 Bank detail, Belleville Bank  
1559 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Colonial Rd/Chester Ct  
1613 Juvenile complaint, Richard Run Dr  
1619 Welfare check, Borgman Ave  
1637 Animal complaint, Buchanan St  
1716 Noise complaint, Paloma Dr  
1734 Fraud, Belleville Rd  
1752 Family trouble, W Huron River Dr  
1803 Property damage accident, Belleville Rd/N I94 Service Dr  
1807 Property damage accident, Belleville Rd/Tyler Rd  
1843 Domestic, Western St  
1857 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Hayes

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**47th MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & WORKSHOP**  
**10am – 3pm Sunday November 22, 2026**  
**SE MICHIGAN MODEL RAILROAD SHOW & SALES MARKET**  
RR SHOW & WORKSHOP – see tables of demonstrations of “HOW TO DO” model railroading – basic kit building, historical displays, painting, weathering, track laying, Div 6 HO model RR  
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Early Bird entry 9am - \$10 per person  
Vendor info - [cdjhyoung@yahoo.com](mailto:cdjhyoung@yahoo.com)

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St/Hamilton St  
1917 Civil matter, Belleville Rd  
2015 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
2048 Traffic offense, Nautica Dr/Peninsular Dr  
2139 Shooting, Locust Dr  
2151 Domestic, N I94 Service Dr  
2253 Welfare check, Holly Ln  
2313 Alarm intrusion, Washington  
(missing time stamp) Fraud, Edwards Rd  
(missing time stamp) Assist other dept, Tyler Rd

**Wednesday, October 21:**  
0019 Family trouble, Parkwood Dr  
0038 Noise complaint, Walden Woods  
0114 911 welfare check, Kouza Ct  
0238 Welfare check, Belleville Rd  
0402 Assault & battery, Parkwood Dr  
0434 Road hazard, Belleville Rd/Ecorse Rd  
0727 Harassment call, E Sadie Ln  
0728 Welfare check, N I94 Service Dr/Belleville Rd  
0752 Bank detail, Belleville Bank  
0752 Unattended death, Maude Ct  
0922 Animal complaint, Wildflower Ct  
1022 Fraud, Haggerty  
1121 Domestic, N I94 Service Dr  
1200 Parking complaint, Belleville Rd  
1241 Civil matter, Parkwood Dr  
1327 Animal complaint, America  
1331 Fraud, N I94 Service Drive  
1331 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Reedgrass Ln  
1401 Assist fire dept, Belleville Rd  
1539 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd  
1542 Ordinance violation, Woodgrove Dr  
1550 Fraud, Castell Blvd  
1623 Larceny, Beckley Rd  
1630 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bemis Rd  
1657 B&E, Alden Ave  
1723 Family trouble, Parkwood Dr  
1820 Suicidal person, Ayres Ave  
1820 Personal injury accident, Ecorse Rd/Belleville Rd  
1908 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S Ponderosa Trl

1909 Sex offender registration, Outer Dr  
1910 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Wabash Rd  
1927 Disorderly conduct, Locust Dr  
1930 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd/N I94 Service Dr  
1947 Road hazard, Michigan Ave/Denton Rd  
1952 Sex offender registration, Hull Rd  
2121 Property damage accident, Michigan/Michigan Ave  
2144 Disorderly conduct, S Ponderosa Trl  
2150 Welfare check, Bayshore Dr  
2204 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S Ponderosa Trl  
2206 Welfare check, Oak Ln  
2322 Threat, Belleville Rd  
(missing time stamp) Trespassing, Martz Rd  
(missing time stamp) Threat, Maple Dr

**Thursday, October 22:**  
0526 Leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Haggerty  
0700 Warrant arrest, Tyler Rd  
0730 Malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse Dr  
0822 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Michigan Ave  
0825 Bank detail, Belleville Bank  
0826 Private property impound, Ecorse Rd  
0938 Ordinance violation, Cross St  
1226 Property damage accident, Haggerty Rd/Tyler Rd  
1346 Assist fire dept, North Shore Dr  
1507 Trespassing, Ecorse Rd  
1737 Assist fire dept, Belleville Rd  
1800 Property damage accident, Tyler Rd/Morton Taylor Rd  
1827 Assist other dept, Basswood Cir  
1844 Assist other dept, S I94 Service Dr  
1851 Welfare check, N Ponderosa Trl  
1943 Fraud, Kirkridge Park Dr  
2014 Assist other dept, W Columbia  
2038 Welfare check, Jackson St/Tyler Rd  
2131 Shooting, Sunset Pond Cir/Winding Pond Dr  
2215 Mental health subject, Rolan Meadows Dr  
2218 Trespassing, Ecorse Rd

2257 PPO violation, Belleville Rd  
2337 Domestic, Redwood Dr  
(missing time stamp) Personal injury accident, Tyler Rd/Morton Taylor Rd  
(missing time stamp) Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd

**Friday, October 23:**  
0305 Sex offender registration, Fret Rd  
0325 Sex offender registration, Purple Sage Ct  
0325 Sex offender registration, Purple Sage Ct  
0658 Road hazard, Michigan Ave/Denton Rd  
0725 Welfare check, Belleville Rd/Robson Rd  
1305 Road hazard, Haggerty Rd/Bemis Rd  
1341 Threat, Edison Lk  
1359 Animal complaint, Martz Rd  
1416 Retail fraud, Belleville Rd  
1441 Assist other dept, S I275/Ecorse Rd  
1556 Road hazard, Hannan Rd/Ecorse Rd  
1626 Suicidal person, Tyler Rd  
2141 Harassment call, Belleville Rd  
2143 Vehicle lockout, Dewitt Rd

**Saturday, October 24:**  
0015 Overdose, Belleville Rd  
0047 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
0058 911 welfare check, Beckley Rd  
0142 Citizen assist, Parkwood  
0147 Parking complaint, Parkwood Dr  
0238 Parking complaint, S Belldridge Dr  
0445 Alarm intrusion, Belleville Rd  
0938 Welfare check, Belleville  
1158 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Vista Dr  
1217 Road hazard, Belleville Rd/Westlake Cir  
1249 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Chatsworth Dr  
1326 Property damage accident, Haggerty Rd/N I94 Service Dr  
1458 Property damage accident, Martz Rd  
1502 Disorderly conduct, Belleville  
1530 Parking complaint, Belleville Rd  
1638 Alarm intrusion, E Huron River Dr  
1653 Property damage accident, Belleville Rd  
1715 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Bemis Rd/Sumpter Rd

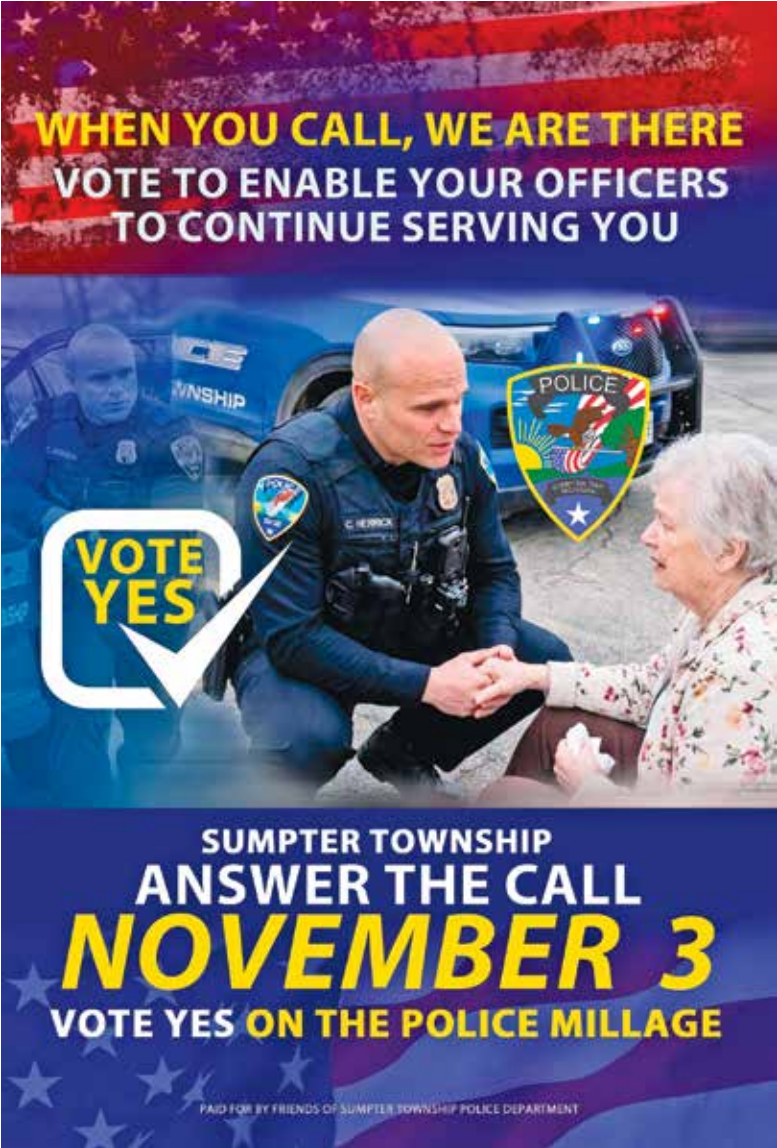
1825 Disorderly conduct, Martz Rd  
1918 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Victoria St/Winchester St  
1921 Assist fire dept, Maple Dr  
1922 Malicious destruction of property, Martz Rd  
1948 Welfare check, Lancaster Dr  
1950 Property damage accident, EB Michigan Ave/Bypass  
2001 Suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd  
2004 Road hazard, Haggerty Rd/E I94  
2011 Alarm intrusion, Ricardo Dr  
2030 Welfare check, Dellor St/Michigan Ave  
2116 Welfare check, Bemis Rd  
2133 Animal complaint, N I94 Service Dr  
2340 Property damage accident, Ecorse Rd/Denton Rd  
2345 Disorderly conduct, S I94 Service Drive  
(missing time stamp) Assist other dept, Tyler Rd

I deleted 78 traffic stops, 0 property checks, and 7 misc. details from these logs.

These logs also contained 78 traffic stops and 7 misc. complaints. There were no property checks.

Sumpter Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, October 18:**  
0302 Noise complaint, Texas St  
0329 Noise complaint, Sumpter Rd  
0922 Alarm, Willis Rd  
1107 Suspicious circumstance, Oregon St  
1122 Civil matter, Arkona Rd  
1209 Suspicious person, Bohn Rd/Judd Rd  
1244 Animal complaint, Martinsville Rd/Willow Rd  
1330 Animal complaint, Sherwood Rd  
1441 Citizen assist, Sumpter Rd  
1444 Assist fire dept, Birch Dr  
1651 Citizen assist, Birch Dr  
2015 Suspicious circumstance, Birch Dr  
2024 Follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln



Public Safety Briefs

CITIZENS BANK ROBBED AT GUN-POINT

The Citizens Bank at 105 Main St. was robbed at gunpoint Thursday, Oct. 15, at about 1:35 p.m., according to a City of Belleville press release. Officers canvassing the area spotted the suspect vehicle near Liberty and Main streets and tried to stop it; the driver fled and a brief chase followed northbound on Belleville Road into Van Buren Township, where the suspect was taken into custody. The suspect was arraigned over the weekend on charges of bank robbery, armed robbery and three counts of felony firearm. Belleville police were assisted by Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township police. Director of Public Safety Kristin Faull credited officers who responded immediately and members of the public whose vehicle description and direction of travel helped police quickly identify and stop the threat. The case is pending in the 34th District Court, and the city released no further details, including the suspect’s name.

FIRE CONTAINED TO BURGER KING EXHAUST VENT

Van Buren Township firefighters found smoke inside the Burger King on Belleville Road on Saturday, Oct. 17, with the fire contained to the exhaust vent from

the cooking equipment, Fire Chief David McNally said. The township’s mutual-aid box cards brought the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, Ypsilanti Township and City of Romulus fire departments, but all were canceled before arrival and only Belleville firefighters stayed on the scene. The fire suppression system needs a recharge and a cleaning; it had just been serviced this month, McNally said. The Health Department was notified and utilities were secured pending an inspection of the system.

PREGNANT WOMAN STABBED; SUMPTER POLICE ASSIST IN ARREST

A 35-year-old pregnant woman was stabbed Friday, Oct. 16, at about 6 p.m. at a home on Bethlawn Boulevard in Royal Oak Township, according to Michigan State Police. Police said a 35-year-old man who had come to the home to visit his child argued with the woman and allegedly stabbed her before fleeing. Troopers treated her at the scene until paramedics arrived; she and her unborn child were both listed in stable condition. State police and the Sumpter Township Police Department tracked down the suspect and took him into custody; he is lodged in the Oakland County Jail while the investigation continues.



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**26347 SHERWOOD, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**  
A SECLUDED LOG CABIN IS WAITING. Brand New Roof. Septic just pumped and approved. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, Fireplace with Walkout to Deck. 9.6 Acres. \$455,000



**9205 BEMIS, YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP**  
THIS HOME HAS MORE SPACE THAN SPACE 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath 3,350 sf Country Home on 10 Acres. Detached 3 Car Garage and attached to a 1,200 sf Pole Barn. \$695,000.



**2155 RAWSONVILLE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP**  
BELLEVILLE LAKEFRONT 2 bedrooms, 1 Bath, 1,272 SqFt. Updates Hansons Windows, and Roof. (TWO) GARAGES on 1.03 Acres with 85 Feet Lake Frontage. \$334,900



**13251 RAWSONVILLE, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**  
PAMPERED 1,183 Square Foot Ranch with 3 bedrooms, One Bath, Open Kitchen, Vinyl Windows, Blown-in insulation, New Deck, Large Storage Shed on .28 Acres. \$255,000



**46026 TRASKOS, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**  
LARGER 1,357 SQUARE FOOT RANCH 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Hardwood Floors, Newer Furnace and Water Heater, Vinyl Windows, Deck, Porch and Huge Garage \$258,900



**43373 ALVA, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP**  
FOR LEASE Duplex featuring 2 bedrooms, 1 Bath plus one car attached garage, central air. Stove, Refrigerator, Washer, Dryer. Maybe one pet. Min credit score 600 \$1,450 Month



**730 FOX AVENUE, YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP**  
3 Bedrooms, Laundry area, Newer Central Air, High Energy Efficient Furnace, Instant Hot Water, Newer Roof and Brand New Carpet. Large Lot and Garage. \$179,000



**48620 WEAR, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**  
BEAUTY WORTH CELEBRATING 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths (One New) 1,690 Sq Ft on 1.3 Acres. Deck and Large Pole Barn room for a workshop and more. Extra Clean \$289,900

**84 ACRES OAKVILLE WALTZ ASH TOWNSHIP - MONROE COUNTY.** 1268 FRONTAGE ZONED LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL. NEAR I-275 Great Investment \$795,000

**989 KINGS HWY, Two Lots, Lincoln Park** Corner Lot 100x110 Plus Garage \$89,900  
**ECORSE ROAD, ROMULUS 1.9 ACRES** LIGHT INDUSTRIAL 130X616 \$60,000.

**GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT INDUSTRIAL** NEAR METRO AIRPORT \$250,000  
**WILLIS & MARTINSVILLE 1.64 AC PAVED** RD WATER & SEWER AT STREET \$65,000

**VACANT HAGGERTY ROAD** near Wear 12 Acres in a private location with City Water at the Street Buy your dream property \$170,000  
**SHERWOOD RD, SUMPTER 4 Acre** \$75,000

**\*\*\* BELLEVILLE LAKEFRONT \*\*\* 2405 RAWSONVILLE 99X328 .74 AC \$99,900**  
**NORTHLINE ROMULUS 1.1 ACRES 208 FT FRONTAGE LT INDUSTRIAL ZON** \$49,900

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