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BELLEVILLE-AREA
INDEPENDENT

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VBT board approves David McInally as next fire chief

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

David Cameron McInally, II, who has spent 29 years on the Van Buren Township Fire Department, starting as a Fire Explorer, has been named the township's next fire chief.

At its regular meeting via Zoom on Dec. 1, the township board unanimously approved a personal service agreement with McInally to begin after the retirement of Fire Chief Amy Brow on Jan. 4.

McInally's salary will be $88,818.

VBT Director of Public Safety Greg Laurain said McInally, who currently serves as fire marshal, is a seasoned professional whose leadership, character, loyalty and professionalism are without question. Director Laurain said he has personally known him for 29 years and highly recommended McInally for the position. He pointed out McInally has had many awards and has three life-saving awards, the most recent last year on Belleville Road.

Laurain said McInally performed the duties of the fire chief when Brow was absent from October 2019 to May 2020. She reportedly was on medical leave.

"Maintaining stability of the fire department is a top priority," Laurain said pointing to McInally's past experience as a fire fighter, command officer, fire marshal, and acting fire chief, along with years of service with the department.

"Chief Brow has mentored Dave during her tenure and he has served in her absence in an exemplary manner," he said.

"David possesses the necessary knowledge,

(continued on page 6)

Photo courtesy of Van Buren Township

Van Buren Township Fire Chief Amy Brow, right, is retiring on Jan. 4 and Fire Marshal David McInally is taking over as the new chief.

Belleville offices to close between Christmas and New Year holidays

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Belleville City Manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz announced at Monday's regular meeting by Zoom that the city offices will be closed between Dec. 25 and when the staff will return to work after the holidays on Jan. 4.

"After much discussion with office and maintenance staff, I have decided that city offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 28; Tuesday, Dec. 29; and Wednesday, Dec. 30," she explained in a memo to the council.

"Closing the offices will allow for the building to be germ-free when we return to work on Monday, Jan. 4," she wrote. "Verna and I are working on the plan to collect taxes and marihuana license applications that are due during this time." She referred to City Clerk Verna Chapman.

She said Wayne County will also be closed during this time.

In other business at Monday's 50-minute meeting, the council:

• Affirmed the Holiday Lighting Contest sponsored by the City Council and asked *Independent* photographer Bob Mytych to go out and take pictures of the winners. The awards will be announced at the next Zoom meeting on Dec. 21;

• Approved the Photos with Santa events on Dec. 12 and 19 at the Belleville Area Museum, sponsored by the Central Business Community. Van Buren Township is opening the closed museum especially for these events;

• Approved the schedule of City Council / Departmental Study Sessions, proposed

(continued on page 9)

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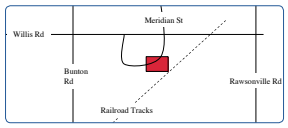

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Court Watching:

Murder case against Timothy Moore adjourned until Dec. 9

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Nov. 25, following two motions filed by Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Victoria Shackelford in the murder case of Timothy Eugene Moore, 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green worked out a procedure to get the voluminous number of evidence documents to the defense attorney and her client without letting them go public.

Shackelford's motions asked for a protective order and to file all pleadings under seal.

Judge Green went into a private bench conference with Prosecutor Shackelford and retained defense attorney Kristina Joseph to work out the details.

Moore, 34, of Ohio is charged with the June 22, 2017 first-degree murder of Egypt Covington in Van Buren Township, along with home invasion, and six weapon charges.

The charges were brought by the Michigan State Police. Officer in charge is MSP Detective/Sergeant James Plummer.

Moore attended the Zoom court session from the Wayne County Jail where he is being held without bond. There were about 63 people watching the session via You Tube.

The probable cause conference was adjourned until 11 a.m. on Dec. 9, before Judge Green because of the discovery matters.

She asked Prosecutor Shackelford to send Joseph some of the discovery to share with her client. Judge Green said agreeing to the protective order prevents any third parties from having access to any of these documents. Joseph said she agreed as long as her client is not defined as a third party. Judge Green said Moore was not a third party.

"When you get the documents from your attorney you are not to share them with anybody," Judge Green warned Moore.

Prosecutor Shackelford said there are voluminous documents, from 4,000 to 5,000 pages of documentation. She said she intended to begin by sending the interrogation of the defendant, detailed records and mapping with this defendant and 20 different lab work results.

Judge Green said there was no intention of impeding the defense attorney's ability to represent her client. She said if the prosecutor gave her all the discovery at once, she would have a "bowl of documents."

Judge Green said over the next two weeks Joseph would be able to take a bite of the evidence and start working through it with her client.

Joseph told Judge Green that her client was sitting at the Wayne County Jail and, "My client's life is at stake here – and his freedom."

"You will not be sitting there with nothing to do," Judge Green replied. "There will be enough documentation for you to review." She said there will be release of the documents and no stonewalling.

"You will have the opportunity to represent your client the way that you should," Judge Green said.

"I will provide Ms. Joseph with the investigation report, which is already under seal by the court," Shackelford said, noting Joseph can discuss it with her client, but she should send no paper to the Wayne County Jail.

"I take issue with that," Joseph said. "I need to provide it to my client."

Judge Green said Joseph could get the investigative report and read it to her client and get it later for him.

"It is unwise to provide it to the defendant," Shackelford said, adding, "There is the likelihood it would make its way onto social media."

She said the document is 20 pages long and has information on an ongoing investigation. She said she would be happy to redact it before providing it to Joseph.

Judge Green ordered Shackelford to give an unredacted copy to Joseph which she can read to the defendant. She also ordered the prosecutor to provide a redacted copy that Joseph could share with Moore.

"For two weeks you both should have enough on your plate to move forward," Judge Green said to the attorneys.

"One bite at a time," Judge Green said. "I think we can get through it." She told the attorneys she would make herself available by Zoom to them at any time to answer questions on details as problems arise.

Shackelford said she would call Joseph and they could work out the language for the protective order and submit it to the judge by the end of the day for her to sign.

Joe Stafford

The probable cause conference for Joe Stafford's charge of bank robbery in Belleville was adjourned to 11 a.m. Dec. 9 before Judge Green because defense attorney Sam Churikian said he did not have all the discovery.

He said he has paper discovery, but not the fingerprints, photos from the bank, and other pictures.

Judge Green said Belleville police officer in charge of the case is Kris Faull and so Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Jane Gillis said she would contact her for the discovery.

Gillis said her paperwork said Officer Jeff Wickham is the officer in charge, but Judge Green said her paperwork shows a strike through Wickham's name with Faull replacing him. She said it might be Faull is now a detective and is in charge of the case.

[Belleville Police Chief Dave Robinson explained later that it was Officer Wickham's day off when the warrant needed to be signed and so Cpl. Faull signed it. He said the bank robbery is still Wickham's case. Chief Robinson said all his officers are detectives in his small department because they don't have enough staff to have separate detectives.]

Stafford, 55, of Powder Springs, Georgia, is charged with robbing the Chase bank in Belleville on Nov. 7. He is being held in the Wayne County Jail on $10,000 bond.

Stafford also has been charged with robbing another Chase bank in Canton on Nov. 5.

Ervin Milton Sanders

Ervin Milton Sanders, 59, of San Antonio, TX, had his probable cause conference before Judge Green on Nov. 25 and his preliminary exam was set by Zoom for Dec. 21.

Sanders is charged with malicious destruction of fire or police property and aggravated domestic violence on Nov. 14 in Van Buren Township. He is free on $5,000 personal bond. Henry Schneider is his defense attorney and Jane Gillis is the newly assigned Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor on the case.

David Osmond Brown

34th District Court Chief Judge Brian Oakley adjourned the probable cause conference of David Osmond Brown, 52, of Sumpter Township until Nov. 18. Brown is charged with operating while intoxicated, 3rd offense, on June 25 in Sumpter Township.

He is free on $5,000 personal bond. His defense attorney is Philip A. Ragan.

On Nov. 17, his probable cause conference was adjourned until Dec. 2 and on Dec. 2 defense attorney Ragan asked for another week. He said his client will be in Sobriety Court and this means the difference between a felony and a misdemeanor. He was planning to have Brown in Sobriety Court in 36th District Court, but later decided to try to get him in Sobriety Court in 34th District Court. Judge Oakley adjourned the probable cause conference until Dec. 16.

Joe Stafford faces a second charge of robbing a Chase bank

Joe Stafford, who is facing a charge of bank robbery at the Chase bank in Belleville on Nov. 7, has been charged with a second bank robbery, this one in Canton Township on Nov. 5.

The Canton robbery also occurred at a Chase bank, this one located at Michigan Avenue and Old Canton Center Road.

Canton police allege Stafford, 55, a resident of Georgia, entered the bank and presented a note to the teller demanding money, acquired an unknown amount of cash, and fled the scene.

Stafford was arraigned in Plymouth's 35th District Court on Nov. 25 on one count of bank robbery, a felony punishable by up to life imprisonment. He was also charged with habitual offender, a sentence enhancer.

Chief Judge Michael J. Gerou set Stafford's bond at $250,000 (10%) and ordered a GPS tether in the event bond is posted.

Stafford was set to next appear for his probable cause conference in the Plymouth court on Dec. 4, but his court-appointed attorney Sam Churikian said he tried to meet with him the day before, but at 5 p.m. the meeting was cancelled.

Churikian said someone in the Wayne County Jail tested positive on Stafford's floor and all the prisoners were locked down. Stafford was unable to attend the Plymouth court session even by Zoom.

Judge Gerou adjourned the probable cause conference to 9:10 a.m. on Jan. 15 and his preliminary exam to 11:30 a.m., Jan. 22.

Churikian said he's sure Canton police have video and other discovery. He requested a discovery order and Judge Gerou signed the order.

Stafford, who is in the Wayne County Jail on the Belleville charge, also was in 34th District Court in Romulus by Zoom on Nov. 25. His court-appointed attorney Churikian said he had all the paper discovery sent to him for that case, but he is waiting for fingerprints, photos from the bank and other pictures, so Stafford's probable cause conference at 34th District Court was adjourned until 11 a.m., Dec. 9.

"Whenever you have an efficient government, you have a dictatorship."
– Harry S. Truman

OPINIONS

Editorial

MJ business license applications open until 5 p.m., Jan. 1

Although a lot of the details for granting marijuana industry business licenses have not been discussed in public meetings that the press has been a part of, the application process opened Dec. 3. It closes at 5 p.m., Jan. 1.

Of course, the city offices will be closed from Christmas to New Year, but you can get the application to them in several ways. Find out everything about it by going on the city's website and clicking on Departments.

Last fall city voters approved, by about two to one, a new ordinance to provide for marijuana businesses in Belleville.

On Thursday, Dec. 10, the planning commission will consider the proposed areas for the businesses. There's a map on the website that shows an extension of the I-2 zoning and it's all south of the tracks along and near Sumpter Road.

The ordinance approved by voters allows up to 23 marijuana businesses in the city – which is about two square miles in size.

The marijuana business license costs $100 to apply for and another $4,900 upon approval. The license application is 18 pages long and will take a while to fill out, so we imagine it will take up a lot of time over the holidays for those interested to complete.

Belleville may turn out to be the center of marijuana businesses in Southeastern Michigan, or in this area, for sure.

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

Shawn Fix of Sumpter Township, one of those charged in the plot to kidnap the governor and put her on trial, was released from the Antrim County Jail on Nov. 10 after posting 10% of his $250,000 bond.

***

At the Dec. 1 meeting of the VBT Board of Trustees, Trustee Reggie Miller announced that the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train would be going through Belleville on Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. There was some discussion over whether it was virtual or not.

The next day we saw on Facebook that Trustee Miller was announcing it as a virtual Holiday Train for that time and date.

It's called "Holiday Train at Home" and it will be on CP's Facebook page. CP will donate $1.24 million this year to the 21 food banks in communities that ordinarily host CP Holiday Train stops. That totals $19.05 million since the train's inception in 1999. Food banks have also collected 4.8 million pounds of food donations at local Holiday Train events.

Although people along the track that runs through Van Buren Township and Belleville have been coming out to take pictures and enjoy the decorated train going by each year, the train has never stopped here.

"The spirit of the Holiday Train will come alive even though the train itself will not operate due to the COVID-19 pandemic," it says on the Holiday Train website. The public is invited to watch the concert instead this year.

***

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, the Michigan House voted on HB 6440, but didn't get enough votes needed to pass. It's legislation

that would remove public notices from newspapers.

Advocates of the bill seem determined to move forward and are working behind the scenes to get the votes they need. Deals are being offered to some who voted not if they will flip their vote.

It's been reported that some of the legislators are voting to remove the legals from newspapers for retribution. One representative who is unhappy with a story his local paper wrote about him actually told a representative of the Michigan Press Association, "You people need to learn, actions have consequences."

We want to thank Representatives Kristy Pagan and Alex Garza for their no votes. We also want to ask Rep. Joe Bellino to reconsider his yes vote and to keep legals where they can be seen by the public, in their local newspapers.

This bill can be taken up again anytime in the next few weeks during the Lame Duck Session.

***

At Monday's Zoom meeting of the Belleville City Council, Councilman Tom Fielder announced that since Governor Whitmer has extended the "pause" in school athletics until Dec. 20, the Belleville High School football playoffs, that were rescheduled for Dec. 16, have again been postponed. He said the playoffs probably will be in the new year.

***

Also, at Monday's Zoom meeting of the Belleville City Council, Fire Chief Brian Loranger checked in, noting that he was fighting viral pneumonia, "but other than that, I'm fine."

***

It's nice to see that the Veterans' banners along Main Street, High Street, and South Street weren't taken down for the Christmas decorations. Every other pole is still a veteran.

***

The Belleville City Council held a special meeting at 5 p.m., Dec. 2, to discuss the Marihuana Provisional Licenses and to approve a resolution establishing fees for Marihuana Provisional Licenses and Final Reviews.

The city did not inform the *Independent* that it was having a special meeting, so we weren't there.

Finally, late Tuesday morning we received the minutes of that meeting which said that City Manager Kobylarz led the discussion and pointed out that the application for Marihuana Provisional Licenses would be on the City of Belleville's website from Dec. 3 until Jan. 1 and applications accepted until 5 p.m., Jan. 1. The fees for the provisional licenses and final reviews were also approved by the council, but we have yet to see that resolution.

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FAX 734-699-8962

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Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone **(NO ADS, PLEASE!)**: 697-1294
Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych
Sports Editor: Bob Mytych
Bookkeeper: James Otzman
Production Manager: James Otzman
Office Manager: Janet Millard
Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey
Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

Greg Allen Barker should be added to Wall

To: BHS Awards Wall Personnel

In response to Joy Dubin's letter regarding the Wall of Honor that was recently placed in BHS and did not include Greg Allen Barker.

Greg was my friend, neighbor and schoolmate. I was also in the 1st Cav in Vietnam during the time period of 1969-70. I was one of the lucky ones to survive.

Greg enlisted in the service before graduation. He deserves to be honored and his picture placed on the wall in BHS. Greg sacrificed his life to fight for his country. I hope he can be honored with this request.

David A. Dargo, Belleville
BHS Class of 1967
1st Cav
Vietnam, 1969-70

This great country will be better than ever

To the editor:

What I am thankful for today is hearing the story of a World War II Veteran who survived the war and the Spanish Flu in 1918. He is 111 years young and still going. He celebrated his birthday in September. He is still able to walk with a walker, has a good mind and a quick wit.

The Governor of Louisiana asked the gentleman what he wanted for his birthday and he quickly said he needed a new roof, without hesitation. So, the Governor sent out the call to the citizens and told them that this gentleman needed a new roof.

The best part of this story for Thanksgiving is that a group of men of different walks of life were the people who responded to the Governor's call and completely put on a new roof.

The men of black and white worked together and put the roof up in no time. This is a story of HOPE for America and a lesson in people, no matter what color, doing a humane deed without a shot or angry word given out.

Since this was such a challenging election, fighting over ballot counting, it was nice to see and hear such a heart-warming deed that these men performed! Take heed, Commander in Chief (passed). This is a great country and it will be better than ever!

This pandemic has had many stories that made our America think, realize our freedoms, and regain civility by putting the color of the skin behind them.

May each of you enjoy your family and remember to wear your mask and watch your distance. P.S. I wear a mask to protect me and you.

Marian Caldwell
Ypsilanti/Belleville

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Saturday, Dec. 12 –** Photos with Santa at the Belleville Area Museum, noon to 4 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Hosted by the Belleville Central Business Community. Social distancing, temperatures, masks, hand disinfectants will be a part of the experience.

• **Saturday, Dec. 19 –** Photos with Santa at the Belleville Area Museum, noon to 4 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Hosted by the Belleville Central Business Community. Social distancing, temperatures, masks, hand disinfectants will be a part of the experience.

• **Saturday, Dec. 19 –** Santa will greet families in their vehicles from noon to 2 p.m. during Drive-By Meet Country Claus at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Craig Street in New Boston. The first 150 children will receive a gift bag. They can leave their letters for Santa, as well. The event also will collect donations of hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for those in need in the community.

• **Monday, Dec. 21 –** Special Holiday Food Distribution from 9 a.m. to noon at the Van Buren Township Senior Center parking lot. This is a part of the Forgotten Harvest and VBT Pop-Up Food Pantry Partnership. Free food. Pick up for your neighbors.

• **Wednesday, Dec. 23 –** Red Cross Blood Drive, noon to 5:45 p.m., St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville.

COVID-19 death total in 48111 grows to 36, positive tests at 1,447

The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the 48111 zip code area climbed by two in the last week to 36 on Monday, Dec. 7.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 were 1,447 on Monday, Dec. 7, up from 1,288 the previous Monday, Nov. 30.

On Monday, Dec. 7, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 951 positive cases, 20 deaths; City of Belleville, 249 positive cases, 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 247 positive cases, 1 death.

Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, Dec. 10 – Keystone Academy remote school board meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission at 7 p.m.

• Monday, Dec. 14 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

• Tuesday, Dec. 15 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m., via Zoom

• Wednesday, Dec. 16 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

VBT

(continued from page 1)

skills, abilities and qualifications along with education requirements to perform as fire chief for Van Buren Township," Laurain said.

Fire Chief Brow said McInally has grown in the last four years that she has been chief. She said she asked him what he wanted to do with his life and he said he wanted to be the next fire chief. She said she told him he would have to go to school and he did. She said he got his bachelor's degree.

"I was officially on medical leave and he took over," Brow said, noting he was in charge when COVID hit and he managed well.

"I told him I expected to retire, but to keep it quiet," she said. "He kept it quiet … but I gave him the reins. I can't imagine anyone else for this position. It might take him a couple years to fully adapt to it.

"You're getting a great fire chief," she said, noting he doesn't want to disappoint the township board or Supervisor Kevin McNamara. "He's going to be your guy," she said. "He does not ever want to let you down … Even though I'm retired, he doesn't want to let me down, either.

"He's got heart, dedication and he actually has longevity," Brow said, adding he could be here for the next 15 years.

"No one else will do a better job than David McInally," said Clerk Leon Wright, as board members began their comments on the appointment.

"I watched David grow up," said Treasurer Sharry Budd. "He always respected his father … and wanted to follow in the footsteps of his dad." She said she will miss Brow, as well, since she has known her since she worked in the fire department years ago.

"He's going to be a great fire chief and I couldn't be happier," said Trustee Sherry Frazier.

Trustee Donald Boynton, Jr., at his first meeting after election, congratulated McInally and said the township is in great hands and the appointment is well-deserved.

"Chief McInally, welcome," said Trustee Kevin Martin. "I've seen your great work and dedication … and I appreciate Chief Brow mentoring you."

"I'm so sorry to see Amy retire," said Trustee Reggie Miller, adding McInally has drive and determination and went back to school and took extra classes. She said she looks forward to the next meeting when retiring Fire Chief Amy Brow will be honored.

Supervisor McNamara said McInally went back to school and they wanted him to learn how to write grants and he did.

McNamara said there's nothing more powerful than having someone who remembers 1999 when his dad was fire chief and talking about things at this board table..

McInally said he has lived in the township for 33 years, from when his father moved here to be fire chief. Both his father and his grandfather were fire chiefs before him, he said, so he is the third fire chief on his father's side of the family and the fourth generation of fire fighter.

"I have a lot to give to the community," he said, noting there are great fire figthers in Van Buren Township and he wouldn't want to lead anyone else.

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Total	$7,125.00
Same Day Service	$6,630.00

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Service Charge	$4,890.00
Ceremonial Rental Casket	$1,095.00
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Total	$6,380.00
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Obituaries

Deborah Joyce Costa

DEBORAH JOYCE COSTA
(April 7, 1955 – December 4, 2020)
Deborah Joyce Costa, age 65, life-long Belleville area resident, passed away Friday, December 4, 2020 at her home in Van Buren Township, MI, surrounded by her family. She was born April 7, 1955 in Detroit, MI, daughter of August Junior and Joyce Madelyn Karchefski Costa.
She graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1973. She went on to study Fine Arts and earn a Master's Degree in Art Education, all at Eastern Michigan University. She was a Master Gardener and enjoyed working on her beautifully manicured flower beds and Koi pond. Her passion was teaching art to young students in the Ypsilanti Public Schools, where she spent a majority of her 26 years at Perry Elementary School. She married Philip Brigandi on October 26, 1987. Together they owned and operated a total of four bar & grills: 3 Nicks in Southgate, Allen Park, Dearborn and their first location in Detroit for over 20 years. She enjoyed expanding her knowledge of the arts and business, as well as crafting, various art projects, cruising in her red Corvette, traveling with her family and most of all spending time with the loves of her life, her grandkids.
Deborah is survived by her devoted husband of 33 years, Philip Brigandi; daughter Nicole, son-in-law Ryan and their sons, Mateo, Augustino and Lorenzo Cox of Belleville; three step-sons: Philip (Nancy) Brigandi and their children of California, Kevin Brigandi, sons Alex and Nick of Dearborn and Nicholas Brigandi of Brownstown; her brother Don Costa of Ypsilanti, nephew Robert (Candee) Costa of Ypsilanti and niece Julie (Pete) Belrose of Westland. Along with numerous extended family and friends.
According to her wishes, cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. She will be laid to rest with her family in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. The family is in the process and planning a celebration of life in the future.
Memorial contributions may be made to Huron Valley Catholic School, of Ypsilanti, where she donated her time and her grandsons attend.
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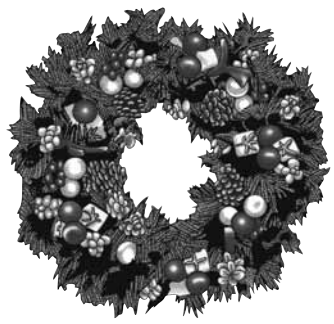
DAVID L. MOUE
(April 21, 1939 – November 26, 2020)
David L. Moue passed peacefully on November 26, 2020. Age: 81. Memorial was at 1 p.m., Saturday, December 5, 2020 at Lighthouse Ministry, 5403 S. Wayne Rd. People left to remember him are wife Wilda Moue; his sons Steven Moue and Douglas Moue; his daughter Lynda Bush; and Wilda's children Sharon, Teresa and Steve. He had numerous grandchildren and great-grands. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son Steven Moue.

More Obituaries on pages 8 & 9

Donald Baker

DONALD BAKER
(September 27, 1922 – December 7, 2020)
Donald Baker, age 98, of Adrian, passed away on Monday, December 7, 2020, at Gaslight Village Living Center. He was born on September 27, 1922 in Lyons, Ohio, to Ed and Marie (Tiesen) Baker. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, and a granddaughter.
Don spent his childhood on the Mississippi River in Clinton when he enlisted in the United States Army Air Force in 1942 and served as a medical technician and chaplain's assistant. He was discharged in February 1946 and married Joyce Kellogg of Sioux City, Iowa, in August.
Don earned his BA in Business from Creighton University and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Iowa and St. Louis University. Don worked in both public and private social agencies in Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, and Michigan before retiring as Director of Professional Services at Catholic Social Services of Wayne County in 1987.
Don and Joyce were married 74 years and active in various ministries in the Catholic Church throughout that time. Together they raised seven children who all had the opportunity to say good-bye to him before he passed. They are Janice of Boone, Iowa, Judi Anna and Joe of Adrian, Michigan, Julie of Johnston, Iowa, Jean of Pullman, Michigan, Joann of Ferndale, Michigan and John of Castle Rock, Colorado. He is also survived by a sister in Iowa, 28 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren.
Don's legacy is his life of service with a warm smile and a genuine concern for those lucky enough to be in his company. He did not command attention but rather gave it to those in need of being lifted up or even just noticed. Through his loving ways he managed to have 7 favorite children and was loved by all who were brought into the Baker family. Family vacations were a must and generally included time near a body of water.
Donations in Don's memory may be made to the Reach for the Sky Project at Hidden Lake Gardens in Tipton, Michigan to honor his love of nature.
Funeral services for Don will be at the St. Joseph Campus of Holy Family Parish in Adrian on Thursday, December 10, at 10:30 a.m. There will be a short visitation at the church beginning at 9:30 and a rosary in the Church before the Funeral Liturgy at 10:15. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, Adrian. The service will also be live streamed and be available shortly after from the website of Anderson-Marry Funeral Home. You may send condolences to the family at www.andersonfuneralservices.com. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Adrian.



Obituaries

Suzanna Sylvia Collyer

SUZANNA SYLVIA COLLYER

(December 4, 1929 – December 1, 2020)

Suzanna Sylvia Collyer, age 91, life-long Belleville area resident, passed away Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at her home. She was born December 4, 1929, in Sumpter Township, MI, daughter of Dennis and Victoria (Armatis) Sala. Mrs. Collyer loved crafting and would often be found crocheting, quilting baby blankets and sewing. She also enjoyed canning with her family every summer.

Mrs. Collyer is survived by 4 children: Denise (Vernon) Watson of Belleville, MI, Phyllis Freeman of Romulus, MI, Steve (Michelle) Collyer and Linda Vaughn, both of Belleville, MI; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great-grandsons and two more great-great-grandchildren on-the-way; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Suzanna was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband of 63 years Lysle "Lyle" Collyer on October 19, 2011, grandson Timothy Watson, son-in-law Keith Freeman, also three siblings.

Visitation was Saturday, December 5, 2020 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, face coverings were required inside the building and there was a limit of 25 people at one time. Suzanna's funeral was live-steamed on the funeral home Facebook page for everyone to watch. Interment was in Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

Standley Ray Scott

STANDLEY RAY SCOTT

(August 28, 1948 - December 2, 2020)

Standley Ray Scott, age 72, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away early Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at his home. He was born August 28, 1948 in Hampshire, Tennessee, son of William Lee and Agnes Ada (Jenkins) Scott. Stan graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1968. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict. Stan retired from General Motors Powertrain, Ypsilanti plant after 40 years of loyal service. He was a member of U.A.W. Local #735. He was a lifetime member of VFW Post 4434 and Honor Guard. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle, playing on his tractor, and shenanigans with his grandsons.

Mr. Scott is survived by his devoted wife of 51 years, Betty A. (Enzenauer) Scott, two sons: Michael (Georgia) Scott of Clinton, MI and Andrew (Carrie) Scott of Oceanside, California; two grandsons: Logan and Owen Scott. Six siblings: Barbara Newton, Sandra (Norman) DeHaan, Tammie (Frank) Geladin, William Scott of Milan, MI, Ron (Terrie) Scott, and Leasa (John) Morin, all of Belleville, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Audrey Wheeler, also brother-in-law Richard Newton.

Visitation was Dec. 3 with an 11:00 AM Funeral Friday, December 4, 2020 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Deacon Peter Cornell officiated. Interment was in Otisville Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to VFW 4434 Honor Guard, PO Box 994, Belleville, MI 48112. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Steven Paul Bullard

STEVEN PAUL BULLARD

(August 11, 1954 – December 2, 2020)

Steven Paul Bullard, age 66, life-long Belleville area resident, passed away early Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at Beaumont Hospital, Wayne, MI. He was born August 11, 1954 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of Ebert "Bud" and Doris (Dickerson) Bullard.

He was a graduate of Belleville High School, class of 1972. Steve proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy. He retired from General Motors Powertrain, after nearly 30 years of service. He enjoyed fishing and loved to cook.

Mr. Bullard is survived by his daughter Tahmara Bullard of Belleville, MI; four siblings: Annette Patton of Pittsford, MI, Jeanette Szabo of Tecumseh, MI, Buddy (Cindy) Bullard of Ypsilanti, MI and Judy Barnes of Iowa; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, also his wife Nancy Jean (Corey) Bullard.

To honor his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements were by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the funeral home to help defray expenses.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

Patricia Kay "Trish" Montie

PATRICIA KAY 'TRISH' MONTIE

(September 25, 1953 – December 3, 2020)

Patricia Kay "Trish" Montie, age 67, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2020 at Beaumont Hospital, Dearborn, MI. She was born September 25, 1953, in St. Joseph, MI, daughter of Donald George and Yvonne Natalie (Smith) Harner.

She was a Belleville High School graduate, class of 1971, and was a Candy Striper at Van Buren Convalescent Center (now Cedar Woods) in Belleville, when she was in high school. She worked at several offices as an oral surgeon assistant in Ypsilanti, Canton and Romulus. She was an Auxilliary Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Trish enjoyed the outdoors: boating on Belleville Lake, tubing on the Au Sable River, camping, and time at her cottage in Oscoda. Most of all, she loved to shop and find a good bargain!

Trish is survived by her devoted husband of 42 years, Thomas George Montie; daughter Gina Montie of St. Petersburg, Florida; sons Matthew and Timothy Montie, both of Belleville; three grandchildren: Megan, Avery and Ryker Montie; a sister Suzanne (Tom) Smith of Missouri; also, numerous extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, also a brother Dan Harner.

To honor her wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Vets for Christ would be appreciated.

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Obituaries

Charles Daryl Lechich

CHARLES DARYL LECHICH
(September 5, 1948 – December 5, 2020)
Charles Daryl Lechich, age 72, of Willis, MI, passed away Saturday, December 5, 2020 at his home, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born September 5, 1948 in Detroit, MI, son of Charles Richard and Della (Herriman) Lechich.
He graduated from Henry Ford High School, class of 1967. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force, 1967-1970, then went on to continue his education at Wayne State University. He retired from Ford Motor Company, Rouge Ford plant, after more than 35 years of loyal service. He was a member of the U.A.W. He was also a member of the Redford Elks Lodge #2097. He loved golf. He also enjoyed watching most sports, including golf, bowling, baseball, and football.
Charlie is survived by his devoted wife of 31 years, Marie A. (Sdao) Lechich; step-son Dennis (Heather) Maynarich of South Lyon, MI; 5 grandchildren: Darien, Grace, Hailey, Avery and Ashden; 3 great-grandchildren: Talon, Ezrah and Juliette; two sisters Jeannie (Paul) Robinson of Heartland, MI and Patty Shumate of Arizona; brother-in-law Dan Shumate of Florida; best friend Vinnie Venda of Willis, MI; also numerous extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, also a step-daughter Michele Wright on February 28, 2017.
To honor his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded, arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI.
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the ASPCA would be appreciated.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

Shelagh Margaret Sanders

SHELAGH MARGARET SANDERS
(July 19, 1934 – December 4, 2020)
On Friday, December 4, 2020, Shelagh Margaret Sanders, loving wife and mother of three children, passed at the age of 86. Born on July 19, 1934, in Bournemouth, England, she married Gabriel George Sanders on March 21, 1953.
Shelagh became a naturalized citizen on August 4, 1970. She began working for Bell Telephone and later National Bank of Detroit, for 30 years, retiring in 1992. She moved to Florida for a short time, then moved back to Michigan to be close to her family that she loved so much. She loved family time, especially time with her six grandkids and 7 great-grandkids. She enjoyed playing games, going to the beach and spending time with her dog Bozo, who she is now reunited with. Shelagh was a loving and caring mother to three children Gail, Lynn and Anthony.
Shelagh was preceded in death by her father Regenold Butler, step-mom Lena Butler, sisters Hillery and Daphine. She is survived by husband of 67 years Gabriel, 3 children: Gail Bosker of Belleville, MI, Lynn (Ralph) Haley of Willis, MI and Anthony (Cheryl) Sanders of Stanfield, North Carolina; 6 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; sister Marjorie Lonnen of England; also numerous extended family and friends.
Shelagh's presence will be missed. Her smile, laughter, caring and nurturing nature filled a room with love.
Private Interment will be in Banker's Cemetery, Hoxeyville, MI.
In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Disabled Veterans and would be appreciated.
Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

Raymond Francis Ober

RAYMOND FRANCIS OBER
(April 23, 1942 – December 3, 2020)
Raymond Francis Ober, age 78, long-time Belleville area resident, passed away early Thursday, December 3, 2020 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born April 23, 1942 in Cincinnati, Ohio, son of George Phillip and Anne Josephine (Martini) Ober.
He graduated from Elder High School, class of 1960. He went on to earn his Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and later on received his PhD of Metallurgy from Pennsylvania State University. As a 30-year employee of Engelhard Corporation, Ray was instrumental in the early development and improvement of the present Catalytic Converter technology in the automotive industry. He co-authored several publications that were presented by the Society of Automotive Engineers.
He was a former member of St. Anthony Catholic Church. He was a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers SAE.
Ray enjoyed theatre, music, and photography. He was an avid reader who loved nature and traveling. He truly enjoyed trips to numerous National Parks where he was able to take many beautiful pictures.
Mr. Ober is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Judith Ann (Goertemoeller) Ober; three children: Laura (Scott) Baker of Ypsilanti, MI, Karen (Sean) Devine of Tolland, Connecticut and Michael (Gina) Ober of Newark, Delaware; four grandchildren: Patrick and Zoe Devine and Eleanor and Calvin Ober; three sisters: Rita (Jon) Bender, Rosemary (Robert) Merkle and Linda (Edward) Eilerman, all of Cincinnati, Ohio; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.
He was preceded in death by his parents, also two brothers: George & Daniel Ober.
To honor his wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI.
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America would be appreciated.

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City of Belleville

(continued from page 1)

by City Manager Kobylarz, with some revisions;

• Approved accounts payable of $190,084.40 and the following departmental expenditures in excess of $500: to B&R Janitorial, $1,399.57 for city hall cleaning supplies; to Cadillac Asphal, $609 for road patch; to Miss Dig, $1,880.13 for locating service; to State of Michigan, $1,305 for EGLE Fees per PA 399; to Washtenaw County Mutual Aid Association, $1,500 for fire fighter training; and to Davenport Brothers Construction, $62,303 from escrow for Doane's Landing for labor and material to install retaining wall, sidewalk, and foundations;

• Was informed by Kobylarz that Jeff Weisman, who has been the city's internet consultant for many years, now has a conflict in his schedule and is resigning. She said he is working in Saginaw. Kobylarz said Weisman is working to identify a suitable replacement;

• Heard Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte say that Doane's Landing looks "exceptional." Mike Renaud said from the audience that he agrees Doane's Landing really looks nice, but did nobody foresee that a railing would be needed? He referred to the $18,000 railing paid for by the Downtown Development Authority. DPW Director Rick Rutherford said this is a safety measure. He said he wrote the specs and if an engineer had done it the cost would have been much higher. Rutherford said even though it is a small park, it was an extensive project. He said the benches were kept back until the concrete was set and they will be reused. Marcotte said the park is much stronger now than whatever was there before;

• Heard Kobylarz say the marijuana industry is taking up an inordinate amount of time for her and Clerk Chapman. "We are ready to go," she said, adding they have not received any applications so far and expects them all on the last day, Jan. 1. She said Rutherford has received lots of phone calls with questions; and

• Heard Marcotte say Belleville is a small city, but the ordinance passed by voters requires the city to approve from 7 to 23 licenses, which is a lot when it has the land size it does. He said the Planning Commission will meet Thursday to discuss this;

Kobylarz told the *Independent* the council held a closed session via Zoom just before Monday's regular session, to discuss a legal opinion.

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Independent photo by James Otzman

A crew from Barnett Roofing replaced the roof of the gazebo in Victory Park with a grant from the Belleville Rotary Club. This photo was taken at about 2:30 p.m. on Monday.

Photo by Reg Ion

On Friday night, downtown Belleville was crowded with people who came to see the WinterFest fireworks over Belleville Lake. The event was put on by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce and its sponsors. The local Michigan Fireworks Club put on the 22-minute show from the Denton Road bridge. Before the event, Santa Claus made a brief appearance at the Belleville Area District Library. The chamber passed out stockings with treasures inside, provided by the Central Business Community. Santa will be back in town on Saturdays Dec. 12 and 19, but this time at the Belleville Area Museum. There will be free pictures and more stockings with treasures inside.

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Saturdays
December 12 &
December 19
12 Noon to 4 pm

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Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

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Dec. 7 – Vennia Day
Dec. 11 – Ruth Duda, Lori DeMond
Dec. 12 – Lois Mida Zilka
Dec. 13 – Beverly Powell, Jeff Barnett, Jeanne Bukis
Dec. 15 – Ann Richendollar, Toni Szweda
Dec. 16 – John Ferguson
Dec. 17 – Parker Springer, Len Szweda, Angela Kennedy
Dec. 18 – Andy Lee, Rhonda Dutton, Paul Smith, Russ Peabody

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

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VBT board approves $2.1 million for meter system

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Water System Director James Taylor told the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees that the township's entire meter system is antiquated technically and needs to be replaced right away.

"The system, put in in 2010 no longer is a functional system and the company is going out of business," Director Taylor told the board at its regular meeting Dec. 1, held via Zoom.

He said as of Dec. 31, the collectors will no longer be working. He said staff members can drive down the street and collect the readings.

Taylor said the township has 7,800 meters and it has replaced 1,200 already, but it will take six to eight months to replace the rest.

There were three major bidders and the low bidder, ETNA Supply Co. at $1,968,115, was recommended for the AMI Meter System Replacement Project and unanimously approved by the board.

This will be paid from the Water and Sewer Capital Outlay budget.

"Three months ago they surprised us and said they are cutting us off at the end of the year," said Supervisor Kevin McNamara. He said the township has been buying and installing generic meters that have "open architecture" and are compatible with several systems.

The present AMI meter reading system and meters have become technologically outdated and are being decommissioned by ITRON. The present ITRON meter reading system that the township has used for the past 10 years is technologically labeled a "closed architecture" or "proprietary" system. This means the meters works with one specific reading system and vice-versa.

Taylor said in 2018, the Water and Sewer Commission was informed of the status of the reading system and viewed presentations from several potential vendors on the newer technologies presently available.

Taylor said they will start installation in January and hope to be done by June or July. Installation will involve entry into homes and businesses and homeowners and business owners will be contacted in advance.

Taylor also asked the board to approve $135,075 in optional meter items which will save the township money over the next several years. The board unanimously approved this request.

Also approved was a lease agreement with the FCC and Sensus Meters to provide frequency levels for use of the Sensus radio meter equipment. There was no cost to the township for the application or the lease agreement.

In other business at the one-hour-and-48-minute meeting, the board:

• Approved the reappointments of Amos Grissett and John Hasse to the Board of Zoning Appeals with terms to expire Dec. 1, 2023 and approval of the re-appointment of Aaron Sellers to the Board of Zoning Appeals with a term to expire Sept. 1, 2023;

• Approved the second reading and approval of Ordinance 11-17-20 (1) to limit medical marijuana caregiver activities authorized under Michigan Initiated Law 1 of 2008. This restricts activities to residental properties only, using 300 square feet of the dwelling or 20% of the home;

• Approved a special land use request by Jiffy Lube International Inc., on behalf of owner Meijer Inc., to construct a Minor Vehicle Service use along with related site improvements on a Meijer outlot. Jiffy Lube plans a single-story building just over 3,000 square feet in size with four bays. They will put in 28 new trees and preserve some old trees. A small, well-lit plaza will be along Tyler Road. Entry and exit will be from the Meijer parking lot. The outlot will be divided because only half is needed;

• Approved an amendment to the 2020 amended and 2021 approved Cemetery Budget that would transfer $25,000 from the 2020 Cemetery Capital budget to the 2021 Cemetery Capital budget. Cemetery improvements had been projected for $30,000 in 2020, but because of COVID-19 contractor activity was postponed. The remaining $25,000 will be used in 2021 for vegetation management and fencing within the cemeteries, including tree trimming, pruning, removal, stump treatment, removal of invasive plants and shrubs, and replanting and mulching;

• Approved purchase of a 2021 Ford Explorer from Atchinson Ford for $28,917 to be used as a fleet vehicle assigned to the supervisor's office. "My beautiful black Taurus died, overheated and died, and it cost too much ot fix," Supervisor McNamara said. He said nothing in the

(continued on page 15)

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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych

Air Temperature Control, Inc. of Belleville, a heating and cooling company, is offering service calls for just $49.95. Need a new furnace, AC system, or hard-wired generator? ATC can finance starting at $55 per month which includes a free humidifier and a whole-house air cleaner. They also perform whole-house duct cleaning which includes your furnace and dryer vents. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 697-8288.

***

There's still time to get your fresh-cut tree for the holidays. GMS Sealcoat owner Grant Memering and his family have been selling Christmas trees here in town for years and offer a great selection in the lot next to the oil change business at 5 Points. They're open every day and in the evenings. Call (734) 775-8341. There are also fresh-cut trees available at Gardener's Choice Nursery on Belleville Road, Garden Fantasy Greenhouse on Tyler Road, and Pinter's on Rawsonville Road. Shop local and social distance properly.

***

The weekend of Dec. 19-20 marks the end of another season at Belleville A & W. Owner Michelle Mahaffey shuts down every December until spring. There's still time to grab your favorite daily special, coney and root beer, curbside or pickup only. Visit their Facebook for details. Going to miss my Chicken Tender Slider fix.

***

Belleville Central Business Community is presenting Photos with Santa this Saturday, Dec. 12, and next Saturday, Dec. 19, from noon until 4 p.m. at the Belleville Area Museum. Social distancing and masks are required. The photos are free, but donations are welcome. Photos for special needs individuals will take place 11:30 a.m. to noon on both days. Santa will be located on the first floor of the museum this year.

***

Lakeside Wholesale Jewelry and its owner Mike Colletta are still working out of an office here in downtown Belleville by appointment only and paying top dollar for your gold, diamonds, coins, and more. Since 1986 the company has served the tri-community with honest evaluation, estimates, and repairs. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 697-9110.

***

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

Michigan Downtown Association decides Harris Park is 'Best'

The Michigan Downtown Association has recognized Harris Park in Van Buren Township as the Best Placemaking Project in the state.

Placemaking is a people-centered approach to planning, designing and managing public spaces.

Harris Park was a five-year project by the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority – from property acquisition to completion.

The Harris family, one of the first African-American families to settle in VBT, helped to shape the community for three generations.

The DDA decided to preserve the legacy of the Harris family and its homestead by creating a public space for people to gather, be active and stay connected. The completely reconstructed Harris home is now the new DDA headquarters.

Harris Park is an urban park in the VBT business district, featuring free Wi-Fi, a digital message board, walking path, doggie stations, benches, picnic tables, pavilion, pergola, light bollards with charging stations and a large grassy area.

The DDA office features a conference room for business workshops and training sessions.

The park is available to the neighboring apartment complex and businesses along Belleville Road.

Since early spring 2020, the park has seen consistent daily usage, from business and chamber events to martial arts and dance classes, pop up car shows, impromptu concerts, a drive-by baby shower, birthday parties and two weddings.

The Placemaking Award was presented virtually on Nov. 5 during the annual statewide Michigan Downtowns Conference.

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– Gore Vidal

Burt & Vennia Day, of Belleville, Will Celebrate Their 60th Wedding Anniversary Dec. 10th. We Still Like Each Other!

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC
6130 Rawsonville Rd.,
Belleville, MI 48111
(734)-482-1502

Notice is hereby given that on 12/17/20 at 12:00 P.M. thru 12/23/20 at 12:00 P.M. contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold online at:

Bid13.com

SPACE #A11 Todd Allen, #A35 Daejon Micjel, #C38 Stephanie Harbin, #D9 Daniel Norden, #F7 Derek Thomas, #F9 Tanesha Wells, #G16 Cheryl Wingle, #G34 Marcus Slater, #G39 Mario Holmes, #I23 Samantha Siluk

Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, seasonal decorations, and tools.

Publish: Dec. 3, 2020; Dec. 10, 2020

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on December 19, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

C115 & L508, Katrina Bryant; N813, Heather Malfitano; F272 & J614, Stephan Kantos; S946, Dawn Bird; G467, Bobby L. Brandon; L507, Nathan Durtka; M576, Medina Tunupopo; F264, Mookie Dillard Jr.; Q912, Sofroja Wooden; I418, Teresa Houser; L500, Jack Stewart; M577, Lynette Ellis

Publish: December 10 and 17, 2020

NOTICE OF AUCTION
AT J&T CROVA TOWING
287 Industrial Park Dr.
Belleville, MI 48111 -- (734) 699-0584
Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Year	Make/Model	VIN
2002	Yamaha Cycle	JYARJ04E32A027700
1997	Toyota 4 Runner	JT3HN86RXV0124135
2007	Chevrolet Malibu	1G1ZS58F07F171564
2007	Pontiac G5	1G2AL15F577398858
2002	Chevrolet Trailblazer	1GNDS13SX22471232
1999	Ford Escort	1FAFP13P3XW219603
2000	GMC Jimmy	1GKDT13W9Y2154080
2006	Honda Element	5J6YH28706L003569
2004	GMC Envoy	1GKET16S646236249

These vehicles were towed by the Sumpter Police Department. Publish: December 10, 2020

FREE

FREE PIANO CONSOLE W/BENCH to church or individual. Plays well & nice condition. You move. (734) 697-9628 12/10

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OAK CHINA CABINET with glass doors & glass shelves, 81" h x 52" w x 16" d. $300 firm. (734) 787-1640 12/24

NEW 9'X7' WHITE INSULATED GARAGE DOOR by Ideal Door. Traditional Style. $200 firm. Call Dan (734) 699-4097 12/24

JOHN DEERE L100 RIDING LAWN MOWER. 43" cut. Dual rear bagger attachment. $700. (734) 942-1220 12/24

---

4 FALCON TIRES. 235 65R 18. $300. Less than 40 miles. (734) 697-4947 12/24

HORSE FLAME WOOD BURNING STOVE, 21"w, 16"d, 30"t. Never Used, $550. Mono wheels, 20"x9"x3/4", lug spacing, $300. Solid walnut bankers desk. Great condition, recently refinished. $500. (313) 506-2553 12/24

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VEHICLE FOR SALE

1987 CHEVY NOVA, 4-door. Classic vehicle, Auto, 4 cyl., new tires & brakes. Must be seen. Bright red finish. (734) 695-0819 12/10

2005 HONDA CIVIC EX. Loaded, 4-door, auto, stereo cassette, power sunroof & windows, good tires, new brakes. 37 miles/gal, 194K miles. Excellent condition. $3,000. (734) 635-7642. 12/10

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"I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize."
– Steven Wright

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

FOR RENT

3-ROOM OFFICE SPACE on Main Street. Call (734) 355-5464 12/17

"You can observe a lot just by watching."
– Yogi Berra

VBT

(continued from page 12)

fleet worked out. He said the F-150 doesn't work because ladies have trouble getting in. He said the Detroit parking spots are two feet shorter than the F-150. Trustee Reggie Miller said the new car is much less expensive for the township than having to pay the supervisor for his trips in his private vehicle. The car cost $85 more than originally expected because the first color presented was wrong, said Director of Public Services Matthew Best;

• Approved the MERS Defined Benefit Addendum. McNamara said it is signed every year but now they said it was missing a document that was needed, saying how the township pays pensions. It was an update, he said;

• Approved the Annual Opt-Out Exemption from 2011 Public Act 152, allowing the employees to pay 10% instead of 20% of health care costs. The 10% is negotiated in the union contracts;

• Approved an amendment to the 2020 amended budget line item COVID-19 Expenses in the amount of $120,000 with necessary transfer from fund balance due to the purchase of technology for staff to facilitate remote work capabilities, as well as other COVID-related expenses; and amend another line item, COVID-19 Grant, to $58,274 because of the anticipated FEMA Grant award in the amount of $33,274. Treasurer Sharry Budd said this is a housekeeping procedure but they can't spend it without it being in the budget and it will probably wash out;

• Approved the memorandum of understanding between the Western Wayne Mobile Field Force Consortium and Van Buren Township. VBT has been a member since 2010, along with 17 other communities. Since its inception, there has not been an official memorandum of understanding between any of these agencies and they have been operating under a verbal, mutual-aid agreement. This memo formally addresses and defines the agency participation and team membership requirements;

• Heard Clerk Leon Wright announce Susan Mellon, wife of the manager of Grace Lake/Sovereign Partners, offered 75 to 125 gifts for kids up to the age of 12. Clerk Wright said he accepted them and set it up with the schools for distribution. He said they will give an even amount to each elementary school for them to give to those in need. Treasurer Budd said people were lined up again around the township building for free food the morning of Dec. 1. She pointed out it was a cold day. Supervisor McNamara said there is a lot of need so they will see what they can work out with Forgotten Harvest for 2021; and

• Heard Treasurer Budd announce that the winter tax bills are in the mail.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, COUNTY
OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 11-17-20 (1)

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, December 1st, 2020, at the regular meeting of the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees, the second reading of the following proposed amendment to the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance 5-2-17(2) was approved and is hereby adopted:

ORDINANCE 11-17-20(1): An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 5-2-17(2) as amended of the Charter Township of Van Buren to limit medical marijuana caregiver activities authorized under Michigan Initiated Law 1 of 2008, including limiting such activities to be accessory home occupation land uses in residential properties with limits on the area devoted to medical marijuana caregiver activities, the number of caregivers in the dwelling, operational standards, and clarification of prohibitions of certain marijuana land uses. The amendments will be to Section 2.102 – Definitions, Specific Terms and Article 7 – General Provisions.

SECTION 2 - SEVERABILITY

Should any provision or part of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the balance of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3 - REPEALER

All other provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, or Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4- SAVINGS CLAUSE

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding pending in any court or any rights acquired or any liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under the Zoning Ordinance, or any act or Ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 3 of this Ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired, or affected by this Ordinance.

SECTION 5 - EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect seven (7) days after publication of the notice of adoption in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township. This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within fifteen (15) days of passage. A copy of this Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 during normal business hours.

SECTION 6 - ADOPTION

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren at a meeting duly called and held on the 1st day of December, 2020, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,
Leon Wright, Clerk

Adopted: December 1, 2020
Published: December 10, 2020
Effective: December 18, 2020

Sumpter Twp. Board removes job for Karen Armatis from agenda

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After raucous exchanges and board members yelling at each other at its workshop and regular meeting Nov. 10, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept an agenda without a new part-time position for Karen Armatis and without upgrading a treasurer's clerk to full time.

The last-minute item to give a contracted position to outgoing Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis was proposed by Clerk Esther Hurst, who said she needed help in the clerk's department for six months on a part-time basis of 16-20 hours per week, or as needed. Start date was to be Nov. 23 with specific dates and times to be determined by the clerk. Pay would be $27 per hour without benefits.

This item was added to the agenda by Hurst at 11:15 a.m., Nov. 9, the day before the regular meeting. Sumpter rules call for agenda items to be in the clerk's office by 4 p.m. the Thursday before the scheduled meeting, which would have been Nov. 5.

The line on the agenda item saying it had been reviewed by Finance Director Elle Cole was blank.

Armatis will no longer have her position as deputy supervisor since Supervisor John Morgan lost reelection in the Nov. 3 general election.

Another last-minute agenda item presented by outgoing Treasurer Kenneth Bednark was to approve Erica Campbell's status change in AFSCME Local 1882.14 from part-time Treasurer's Clerk to full-time Treasurer's Clerk effective Nov. 20. It was signed as reviewed by Finance Director Elle Cole.

This agenda item was in the clerk's office at 11:35 a.m., Nov. 9.

Employees Anna Winter and Roxanne Bardell spoke against the Armatis contract, saying it might be in violation of the township's union contract. "Let's hire union personnel if a person is needed," Winter said, noting Cole had said there was a hiring freeze. Bardell said she has

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worked for the township for 27 years and she doesn't get $27 an hour.

"The people spoke," Winter said referring to the election of Tim Bowman as supervisor. "Why are you circumventing this?"

Attorney Rob Young said Hurst has a need and asked for help. It is not union work, he said, referring to Hurst's written statement about Armatis being able to bring historical knowledge to the township.

"Esther asked for it, hear from her," Young said.

Supervisor John Morgan cut in with: "Management has rights."

Young said Hurst said she has two new elected officials to help.

"Accept it at her word or not," Young said.

Trustee Matthew Oddy said Armatis had been on loans to different departments over the years and she has been the township's point person on the Futernick lawsuit.

Hurst verbally attacked Winter on how she wouldn't take in tax money in the clerk's office, though she did it in the treasurer's office. Hurst said Winter said she was a team player. Hurst scoffed at that.

"I have a statement. I will read it," said Treasurer Bednark.

"No, you won't," Supervisor Morgan replied.

"I will … I'm entitled to read this…" Bednark continued and Trustee Oddy talked loudly over him.

"I want to speak," Bednark said.

Newly elected Trustee Peggy Morgan stepped to the microphone to say the election is over and, "Let's work together as people elected to our jobs."

She said she agreed with the union and called the Armatis contract "union-busting."

"Give her a contract," Peggy Morgan said.

"That's what I want," Hurst said. "A contract."

"This is a new position made up … a piss-poor excuse," Peggy Morgan said. "People no longer want John Morgan and they don't want her and it's being rammed down our throats… Why not keep the request until Nov. 24 and take it up with the new board?"

Trustee Oddy asked Hurst to tell what happened when Bednark came in to meet with her along with Bowman and his son.

"Ken told me everyone he's going to fire," Hurst replied, adding he said he would cut the cancer out and get rid of it.

Hurst said she doesn't know things about the Futernick lawsuit and they could just lose the lawsuits.

"She was told employees are cancers and listed their names," Oddy continued.

"Why have Bednark speak for him?" Hurst said.

Peggy Morgan said that Armatis was not here today, "Her health failed or something." She started to say more, but Oddy said the supervisor decides who speaks and she left the podium.

"You cannot say who you are going to fire," Oddy insisted, noting that could bring a law suit. He said Bowman and his son announced this.

"Mr. Bowman did not say this," Hurst corrected Oddy.

"You have mischaracterized my statement," Bednark said. "I was hoping this board meeting would be a celebration … But, Esther, you had to piss in the punchbowl. You, John, and your deputy both need to go."

There was hearty applause from the audience.

Bednark said those incumbents on the board need to work with the new board members or there will be four years of self-created hell.

Bednark recalled that the auditors said two people can run the clerk's office and Hurst had Maria Beaudrie working side by side with her daughter.

"Who the hell wants Karen Armatis' help?" Bednark asked. "Nobody wants her … You're just trying to coddle Karen Armatis and give her a place to go.

"Mr. Morgan, people are looking for change … Please, let this township heal," Bednark said, adding Hurst is giving false information and dodging union bargaining.

"It's not a position!" Hurst called out.

"It's a sweetheart deal to her friend," Bednark replied.

Bednark said in 2003 Karen Armatis was

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 1, 2020 ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order electronically via Zoom meeting ID 91923486719 at 6:02 p.m. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller. Late Arrival: Trustee Boynton. Others participating, facilitating and monitoring the meeting: Secretary Montgomery, Planning and Economic Development Director Power, Water and Sewer Director Taylor, Jiffy Lube Site Development Engineer Gama, Fire Marshal McInally, Public Services Director Best, Human Resource Director Sumpter, Public Safety Director Laurain, Fire Chief Brow, Communication Specialists Albrecht and Nichols and a maximum audience of Twenty-Nine (29).

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Miller moved; Budd seconded to approve the revised agenda. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Absent/Excused: Boynton.

Trustee Boynton joined the meeting 6:08 p.m.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA: Miller moved, Budd seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: (Board Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2020, Prepaid List of November 19, 2020, Voucher List of December 1, 2020, Approval of the re-appointment of Amos Grissett and John Hasse to the Board of Zoning Appeals with terms to expire December 1, 2023, and the approval of the re-appointment of Aaron Sellers to the Board of Zoning Appeals with a term to expire September 1, 2023. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller.

PUBLIC HEARING:

CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS: Announced the Wayne County Parks Light fest at Merriman Hollow Park (7651 Merriman Rd, Westland Michigan) will be Wednesday through Friday 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. December 1st through December 24th. Harris Park on Belleville Rd., Holiday light display at the Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn is occurring now through December 24, the Big Bright Light Show is occurring in downtown Rochester now through January 3, , the Christmas lite show is Comstock Park (Christmasliteshow.com) is now through January 2, the Forgotten Harvest pop up food pantry at the Township (46425 Tyler Rd.) has been a huge success and those interested in volunteering should call the Supervisor's Office at 734-699-8910 the next pantry will be December 8th starting at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (or while supplies last), Small businesses in Michigan facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for a grant of up to $15,000 starting Dec. 15. The program will support businesses including restaurants, bars, lodging, movie theaters, live event venues, conference and meeting facilities, indoor recreation facilities, and gyms and fitness centers. To qualify, businesses must meet criteria including (1) be a business in one of the targeted industries (2) have a need for payroll, rent or mortgage payments, and/or utility expenses to continue or restart business operations, (3) have at least two employees (including the owner) but fewer than 50. MEDC is accepting applications through 1 p.m. Dec. 2 from nonprofit organizations interested in administering the grants. The strategic fund board also approved up to $1 million for administrative costs. Eligible small businesses can apply for the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative grant starting Dec. 15 at www.michiganbusiness.org/relief.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Boynton moved, Frazier seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 11-17-20 (1) to limit medical marijuana caregiver activities authorized under Michigan Initiated Law 1 of 2008. The amendments will be to Section 2.102-Definitions, specific terms and Article 7-general provisions. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve a special land use request by Jiffy Lube International Inc., on behalf of owner Meijer Inc., to construct a Minor Vehicle Service use along with related site improvements. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, Miller. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Boynton seconded to approve ETNA Supply Inc. for the AMI Meter System Replacement Project in the not to exceed amount of $1,968,115.00. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Boynton seconded to approve the purchase of Optional Meter Project Items for the AMI Meter System Replacement Project from ETNA Supply Inc. in the amount of $135,075.00. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Miller seconded to approve a lease agreement for FCC license with Spectrum. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve an amendment to the 2020 amended and 2021 approved Cemetery Budget that would transfer $25,000 from the 2020 Cemetery Capital (101-276-970-000) to the 2021 Cemetery Capital (101-276-970-000). Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Boynton seconded to approve the purchase of a 2021 Ford Explorer from Atchinson Ford in the amount of $28,917.00 to be utilized as a fleet vehicle assigned to the Supervisor's Office. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Boynton seconded to approve the MERS Defined Benefit Addendum. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve Resolution 2020-26 Annual Exemption (Opt Out). Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve amendments to the 2020 amended budgets line item 101-101-955-000 (Covid-19 Expenses) in the amount of $120,000 with necessary transfer from fund balance and line item 101-101-955-001 (Covid-19 Grant) to $58,274. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Boynton seconded to approve the Personal Service Agreement between David C. McInally II and the Township and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Boynton seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Western Wayne Mobile Field Force Consortium and Van Buren Township and authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Boynton, Frazier, Martin, and Miller. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

BOARD COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: The Canadian Pacific holiday train will present a Facebook "Holiday Train at Home" virtual concert on Saturday December 12 at 8 p.m., the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce will host fireworks on December 4, 2020 beginning at 7:30 p.m. and property tax bills are in the mail.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Frazier seconded to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Published: December 10, 2020

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recalled and sent out of the township. He said John Morgan brought her back to the community and she had a partime job in the township that went to fulltime. She has been Morgan's sidekick for 25-30 years.

Bednark said it was cronyism and if other board members don't work together it could end up the same as in 2003.

"Sounds like a threat to me," Hurst said.

"You do not need Karen Armatis," Bednark said, asking Hurst to remove it from the agenda.

"I'll remove my item if you remove yours," Hurst said and Bednark replied, "You got it." The audience applauded.

Oddy supported Hurst's right to ask for help and he said Bednark was badmouthing Armatis again. He said when the chips were down, Bednark accepted help from Armatis.

"There's another side to every single story," Oddy said.

"I'm completely disgusted with what I'm seeing tonight," said Trustee Tim Rush as he began to make a statement. A female in the audience called out, "Shut your mouth!"

At that point, Supervisor Morgan closed the work-study session and called for a 15-minute break.

When the regular meeting started Hurst removed her agenda item and Bednark's agenda item from the agenda.

In other business at the Nov. 10 meeting, which was held in the crowded board room with little social-distancing and some people not wearing masks, the board:

• Approved closing the township from Dec. 24 through Jan. 3, with employees using vacation or personal days. Dec. 30 will be used as a floating holiday;

• Approved a FLYGT pump from Kennedy Industries at a cost of $20,479. This is for the lift station in the Sumpter / Willis area. It's 17 years old. The board was told the new pump will not eliminate the odors;

• Approved Resolution 2020-14, adoption of the Wayne County Hazard Mitigation Plan;

• Approved Supervisor Morgan's appointment of John Honey to the planning commission with a term to expire Nov. 9, 2023. He takes the seat vacated by Jim Clark who was elected township treasurer;

• Approved Daniel Frost's return from personal leave back to the fire department effective immediately;

• Approved MERS defined contributions under deadline for five documents, as recommended by attorney Young;

• Heard Oddy apologize "if I misquoted Bowman." He said he wants to start off on the right foot with the new supervisor; and

• Heard Kathie Steigerwald ask for donations to Toys for Tots. She also asked about the clear-cutting of trees in the 100 acres south of Harris and west of Haggerty. She said the neighbors are concerned and nobody seems to know what's going on. She asked if there was a tree ordinance and Young said there was but he hasn't looked at it in years. Oddy said he would speak to the planning commission about it, but the planning commission meeting that week was canceled.

Outgoing Sumpter Twp. board cancels all meetings until 2021

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At a special, 36-minute meeting on Nov. 17, the outgoing Sumpter Township Board of Trustees reacted to Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Nov. 15 announcement of a three-week pause in activities in the state to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services had shut down a variety of activities, including meetings of more than 10 people.

The township board voted unanimously to cancel all township meetings until after the end of the year. Trustee Don Swinson was absent from his last meeting.

The board also agreed to pay all warrants through Dec. 31.

Also, the board agreed to close the township hall to the public but to have employees remain working inside and meeting with residents by appointment. The board would determine which employees could work from home.

Also, it will ask its IT consultant to set up Zoom meetings to be in compliance with the MDHHS rules.

The board was told the Senior Center is completely closed, but food distribution continues.

A proposal to have employees work 20 hours at the township hall and 20 hours at home for the same pay was questioned by Trustee Don LaPorte.

He said he would like to see the township stay open by appointment.

Trustee Tim Rush agreed. He said if people work four hours and then go home, the phone will be ringing and they will be playing phone tag to get back to the residents and everybody will be frustrated.

He said it shouldn't be an individual's decision on who works full time, but a decision by the board.

Treasurer Ken Bednark said he is for keeping the township hall open and operating by appointment or curbside service. He said the winter tax collection will be starting up and the treasurer's office has to be open before the first of the year.

He pointed out the MDHHS closings are only for a pause, through Dec. 8, and the time until then will go by quickly. The township board's next meetings were scheduled for Nov. 24 and Dec. 8.

Treasurer Bednark suggested the township have its IT person set up a Zoom procedure, which he said is pretty easy and board members can participate with a phone.

"The last thing we want to do is shut down the township," Bednark said.

Trustee Matthew Oddy said the new rules are that the township can't have a meeting unless it's virtual. He agreed that the township should be kept open for appointments only and that the board should decide who works at home.

Clerk Esther Hurst said it was her understanding that with Zoom the public wouldn't be able to chime in from the floor with comments.

"It's not an easy task," Trustee Oddy said of setting up Zoom and they should ask their IT person about it.

Bednark said he's on Zoom twice a week with his job at the University of Michigan and he's been on sessions with 500 to 600 people. He said there are several ways to give comments and it can be done without a problem.

Township attorney Rob Young said this is not discretional and there must be no in-person meetings until Dec. 9 at least and this may be extended. He said beginning Jan. 1 they may be able to get back to in-person meetings.

Bednark said he would like to see Zoom set up for staff and department meetings, as well.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

VAN BUREN
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
The purpose of this meeting will be:

1) To correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
2) Homestead exemption status; and
3) Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to December 15, 2020.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Post: November 19, 2020
Publish: December 03, 2020
December 10, 2020

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 148 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.

Sunday, Nov. 29:
0036 – noise complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0536 – assist other dept., Peachtree Ln.
0726 – suspicious person/vehicle, Outer Dr.
0938 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood
1000 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1254 – family trouble, Sheldon Rd.
1343 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
1420 – 911 welfare check, Bayshore Dr.
1452 – civil matter, Florence Ln.
1504 – harassment call, Greenwood Ct.
1640 – private property/property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.
1653 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Borgman Rd.
1748 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1818 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
1848 – domestic, Jackson St.
1917 – suspicious person/vehicle, Colonial Rd. / Stamford Rd.
2040 – shooting, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2105 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty
2329 – fraud, Belleville Rd.

Monday, Nov. 30:
0249 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beckley Rd.
0625 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.
0922 – warrant arrest, Rolan Meadows Dr.
0928 – 911 welfare check, Wheeler St.
0955 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1246 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1329 – civil matter, Maurice Dr.
1350 – property damage accident, EB Michigan Ave. / bypass
1439 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1618 – fraud, Wheeler St.
1632 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1902 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.
1903 – mental subject, N. Sunset Ln.
2021 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
2031 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
2043 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.

Tuesday, Dec. 1:
0110 – suicidal person, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Independence Ln.
0351 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
0544 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0721 – assist fire dept., Savage Rd.
0811 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.
0904 – neighbor trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0910 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty
0922 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Westlake Cir.
1002 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Grove Rd.
1014 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Quirk Rd.
1125 – follow-up by officer, Westlake Cir.
1126 – vehicle lockout, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1142 – larceny, Sugarbush Ln.
1327 – threat, E. Huron River Dr.
1351 – domestic, Brandi Dr.
1605 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.
1655 – domestic, Oak Ln.
1844 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
1853 – welfare check, Landmark
2310 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.

Wednesday, Dec. 2:
0444 – suspicious person/vehicle, Liberty Ln. / America
0747 – larceny, Bemis Rd.
0754 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0805 – assist other dept., Martinsville Rd.
0909 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1040 – court detail, Tyler Rd.
1046 – private property impound, JT Towing
1135 – property damage accident, Martz Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
1203 – vehicle lockout, Oak Blvd.
1409 – malicious destruction of property, Quirk Rd
1547 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.
1550 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1705 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1757 – 911 welfare check, Landmark
1812 – welfare check, Ellen Ave.
1854 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1909 – intrusion alarm, Bemis Rd.
2003 – domestic, Landmark
2024 – welfare check, Victoria St.
2027 – vehicle lockout, Castell
2115 – suspicious person/vehicle, Country Walk Blvd.
2248 – property damage accident, E. I-94 / S. Haggerty I-94 ramp E.

Thursday, Dec. 3:
0112 – suspicious person/vehicle, DNR boat launch / Rawsonville
0213 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.
0920 – family trouble, Quirk Rd.
1001 – abandoned auto, Bog Rd.
1010 – vehicle lockout, Oak Ln.
1241 – found property/child, Belleville Rd.
1252 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1305 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1358 – domestic, Oak Ln.
1419 – private property/property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1423 – private property impound, Van Born
1549 – private property impound, Van Born
1550 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1649 – welfare check, Robson Rd./Belleville Rd.
1823 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd./Bog Rd.
1919 – assist other dept., Parkwood Dr.
2004 – assist fire dept., Victoria St.
2015 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
2047 – suicidal person, Fairview Ct.
2121 – traffic offense, Fret Rd.

Friday, Dec. 4:
0431 – 911 welfare check, Elwell Rd.
0509 – 911 welfare check, Kahla Dr.
0634 – robbery, Parkwood Dr.
0651 – hospice death, Quirk Rd.
0813 – fraud, Wheeler St.
0819 – larceny from auto, W. Adams
0952 – fraud, Van Buren St.
1113 – abandoned auto, Harbour Pointe Ct.
1135 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1136 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave. / Dellor St.
1209 – civil matter, Marlowe Ave.
1213 – fight, Ecorse
1427 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1429 – retail fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
1436 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1506 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
1528 – animal complaint, Vernon St.
1559 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
1917 – parking complaint, Quirk Rd.
1957 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.
2018 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hanover Dr.
2114 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Sheldon Rd.
2333 – shooting, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Saturday, Dec. 5:
0243 – domestic, Village Green ln.
0420 – 911 welfare check, Lighthouse Dr.
0808 – domestic, Oak Ln.
0855 – assist fire dept., E. Archwood Dr.
1212 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1449 – intrusion alarm, Martinsville Rd.
1520 – parking complaint, Jackson St.
1540 – assist fire dept., Michigan Ave./Denton
1552 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1823 – assist other dept., Haggerty Rd.
1846 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1907 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
2042 – vehicle lock out, Lake Villa Dr.
2120 – welfare check, Ash Dr.
2328 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.
2345 – traffic offense, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2354 – threat, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Also on this week's log were three traffic stops and none on the I-94 or I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 29:
0231 – assist other department, Oxford Ct.
1909 – disorderly, Loza Ln.
2212 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Monday, Nov. 20:
0347 – threat, Loza Ln.
1920 – assist fire dept., Main St.
2318 – assist other dept., E. Columbia Ave.

Tuesday, Dec. 1:
0520 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
0639 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1517 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belle Plaza
1615 – private property/property damage accident, Astor Plaza
2049 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Wednesday, Dec. 2:
0021 – noise complaint, Loza Ln.
0946 – property damage accident, Water Works
1425 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Thornhill Ct.
1517 – 911 welfare check, S. Liberty Ave.

Thursday, Dec. 3:
0214 – assist other dept., Sumpter
0224 – assist other dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1143 – motorist assist, Edison Ave./High St.
1859 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
2033 – intrusion alarm, N. Liberty St.

Friday, Dec. 4:
1417 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.
1533 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter/Owen

Saturday, Dec. 5:
0714 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
0928 – animal complaint, Main St.
1756 – parking complaint, San Carlos St.
1806 – assist fire dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.

Also on this week's log are 27 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Nov. 29:
0217 – 911 hang up, 10000 bl. Harris Rd.
1207 – hunting complaint, Rustic Ln.
1222 – assist other agency, Oakville Waltz/Butler
1307 – suspicious vehicle, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
1543 – welfare check, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
1720 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1753 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
2141 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
2311 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Martinsville

Monday, Nov. 30:
0256 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
1956 – larceny, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 1:
0357 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0620 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
0947 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1143 – alarm, 23000 lb. Sumpter Rd.
1153 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1413 – mental health call, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1810 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
1838 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
1850 – alarm, 19000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1942 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Weimer Rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 2:
0815 – property damage accident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1031 – suspicious circumstance, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1153 – civil matter, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1155 – welfare check, Wyoming St.
1527 – juvenile complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1819 – property damage accident, 12000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1903 – follow-up investigation, 12000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2155 – suspicious person, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2301 – suspicious circumstance, Brookview Dr.
2311 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

Thursday, Dec. 3:
1257 – fire dept. assist, 9300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1504 – ORV complaint, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1531 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1600 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2012 – family trouble, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
2242 – mental health call, 49000 bl. Willow Rd.

Friday, Dec. 4:
0018 – welfare check, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
0645 – traffic complaint, Rawsonville Rd./Judd
0645 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
0838 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
0858 – mental health call, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1022 – property damage accident, 40000 bl. Willis
1031 – recovered stolen vehicle, 47000 bl. Wear
1152 – burglary, Brookview Dr.
1258 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1425 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1649 – neighborhood trouble, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.
1736 – citizen assist, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1756 – follow-up investigation, Brookview Dr.
1953 – noise complaint, Elwell Rd./Willis Rd.
2205 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
2340 – citizen assist, Willow Rd./Rawsonville

Saturday, Dec. 5:
0206 – juvenile complaint, Clark Rd./S. Huron Rd.
0213 – noise complaint, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0239 – follow-up investigation, 25000 bl. Sumpter
0244 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
0940 – 911 hang up, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1059 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1153 – property damage accident, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1626 – follow-up investigation, 47000 bl. Wear
1817 – recovered runaway juvenile, 949 Wayside
1844 – property damage accident, Willow/Schrock
2016 – welfare check, 47 Country Club Blvd.
2020 – mental health call, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
2134 – family trouble, 200 bl. Edgewood Dr.
2141 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Clark Rd.
2217 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd./Judd Rd.
2319 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.

Also on this week's log are 59 patrol checks, six misc. details, and six traffic stops.

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bellevilleareaindependent.com

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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.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

The first Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Holiday Virtual Photo Challenge winner is Shana Sayre. Her photo was submitted via Facebook on Wednesday, Dec. 2. Submit your winter photos for a chance to win. Email photos to communications@vanburen-mi.org before Dec. 18. For more information, visit www.vanburen-mi.org .

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WE NEED LISTINGS

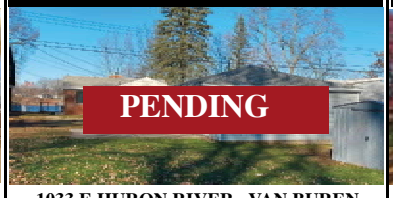
New 2020 Re/Max Circle of Legends Award

DO NOT BE OVERCHARGED - NO DOCUMENT STORAGE FEES - NO COMPLIANCE FEES - NO JUNK FEES

GORMET KITCHEN - FINISHED BASEMENT

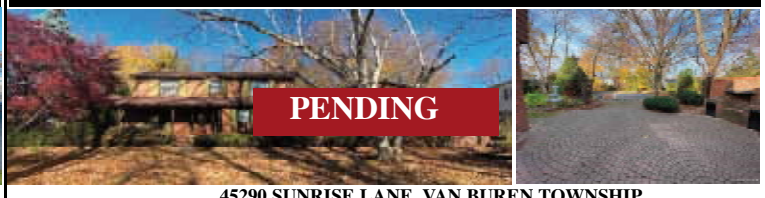
13000 LAKE POINT PASS, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
An Unequaled Standard of Quality. Unmatched 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath Home Featuring Custom Amish built Walnut Cabinet Kitchen and Granite Countertops, Great Room with Large Fireplace, First Floor Master Bedroom with Brazilian Walnut Hardwood Floors and Finished Basement. h Monster Deck, Mature Cherry Trees and Grapevines. 2 1/2 Car Oversized Attached Garage plus Second Garage. Fenced Yard An Outstanding Home Suited for your Fine Taste. $339,900

BELLEVILLE LAKE



1033 E HURON RIVER, VAN BUREN
BRICK LAKEFRONT HOME. 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, New Custom Wolf Kitchen, New Custom Bath, Gas Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Large Basement and New Roof 2013. 2 1/2 Garage, Dock, Decking on More than 1 Acre. $369,900

TWO FIREPLACES - INGROUND POOL



45290 SUNRISE LANE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
CELEBRATE THE GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD and Park-Like Landscape of this Beautiful 4 Bedroom 2 ☐ Bath Colonial featuring Hardwood Floors, Large Rooms, 2 Fireplaces, Finished Basement with Wet Bar, Whole House Generator, 90+ Furnace. Private fenced Yard with Inground Pool is Perfect for Entertaining, including a Brick Paver Patio and Brick BBQ Grill. The Larger 3 Car Attached Garage is right for Vehicles, Boat and Storage. $269,500

FOR SALE OR LEASE

500E HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
HIGHEST QUALITY BRICK COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE. Former Florist, Bakery and Coffee House. FINE DESIGN! For Sale at $750,000 or Lease at $4,500. Month Double Net.

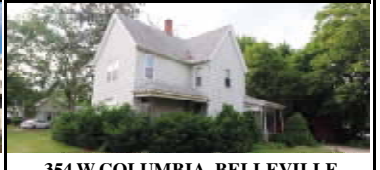
PRIME LOCATION

41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits - 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. New Carpet, New Bath, New Paint $155,000

JUST LISTED

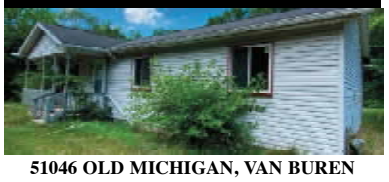
324 CHERRY, WYANDOTTE
A Preferred Location 2 Bedroom 1 Bath Home near Everything. Full Basement with Newer 90+ Furnace and Newer High Efficient Water Heater. Purchaser responsible for certificate of occupancy and home sold in as is condition. $115,000

.9 AC - MULTIPLE ZONING



354 W COLUMBIA, BELLEVILLE
TWO LOTS - MULTIPLE FAMILY ZONING One of the Largest Parcels to be developed in The City of Belleville. .9 Acres with 197 Foot Frontage There is a Home and Barn that could be renovated. Sold as is $100,000 Cash or Offer

MOST AFFORDABLE



51046 OLD MICHIGAN, VAN BUREN
A MOST AFFORDABLE 3 Bedroom 1 1/2 Bath Ranch. Newer Windows, Doors, Newer Furnace and Central Air. Over 1/2 Acre. More than 1,300 Square Feet. No VA or FHA Offers and Exclude all Appliances and Dishwasher. $119,900

THREE PARCELS A MOST BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY 20+ ACRES WEAR RD	$175,000
TORREY 2.48 AC PERC & SURV	$39,000
VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC	$95,000
40700 BEMIS 1 AC VAN BUREN	$35,000
19 AC BREST ROAD TAYLOR	$550,000

COMMERCIAL CORNER OF ECORSE & WAYNE ROMULUS 4.27ACRES	$350,000
22120 SHERWOOD 37.55 AC	$179,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP	$45,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC	$20,000
24053 BOHN 3.3 ACRES SUMPTER	$67,000

FOUR 12+ ACRE PARCELS AT EACH CORNER WEAR AND HAGGERTY	$120,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT"	$70,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN	$65,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN	$70,000
16265 DIX SOUTHGATE 1.6 AC	$155,000

7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS AND MARTINSVILLE. PRICED $50,000 TO $60,000 EACH. BUILD YOUR DREAM	
WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES	$45,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP	$80,000
10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP	$155,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 AC	$50,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES	$40,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES	$60,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES	$55,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES	$55,000
41530 SAVAGE 30 AC VAN BUREN	$349,999

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