



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.19 Thursday, May 7, 2020

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Former VBT Supervisor David Jacokes dead at 75

Former Van Buren Township Supervisor David Jacokes died April 30 in Arizona at the age of 75 after a battle with brain cancer-glioblastoma. Jacokes was township supervisor for two terms, serving from 1988 to 1996.

He is known for his negotiations of the first host-community agreement with Waste Management, which provided a revenue stream for the township that continues to this day. He was instrumental in renovating and expanding the township hall on Tyler Road by organizing the Downtown Development Authority in 1989 to pay for it.

"Mr. Jacokes hired me as his confidential secretary 31 years ago," said VBT Assessment Coordinator Linda Stevenson. "I look back now and am so thankful I got to work with him. He made coming to work interesting and always made people smile. He gave me an opportunity and because of that, I have had a wonderful career with Van Buren Township. He truly enjoyed having a connection with the residents of the township."

Jacokes also expanded the Public Safety Department, and created a Neighborhood Watch Program.

"David was a very kind and compassionate person," said DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland. "His sense of humor was great. Even during stressful times, you could count on him to share joy and laughter. You could always count on him to joke and bring a smile to everyone. He walked in every parade and attended just about every activity. He was truly on duty 24/7. He cared enormously for the residents of Van Buren and was an honest and hard-working person. His directors were very loyal and worked just as hard as he did."

Complete obituary on page 7.



"COVID-19 cannot prevail against the church." That is message preached by Pastor David Ervin at Cornerstone Christian Church, 44500 Willis Rd., between Sumpter and Martinsville roads, last Sunday. This is the first time the church has gathered for in-person services since the outbreak began. For several weeks, the doors have been closed and the church has been posting on-line services only. The church is beginning a safe transition into live services again -- that includes outside services, spaced-out chairs, masks, and social distancing. Provision has been made for some to stay in their cars and participate in the services that way. Pastor Ervin said they feel it is time to take these early steps and they are taking every precaution in order to meet safely. "Hard times are good days to be standing on the rock. Our faith in Christ gives us a firm place to stand right now because we know that we are in His sovereign hands," he said.

City Council moves toward reopening city to summer events

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, which was held virtually via Zoom, the council moved toward reopening the city to summer car shows.

Council members voted unanimously to hold the Main Street car show sponsored by Egan's Pub and the Father's Day car show sponsored by Steve Cinnamon.

After approving a Memorial Day event at Horizon Park, it was learned the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Polish League of American Veterans, who sponsor the ceremony, had already called it off. The request had been made on March 15 and no one from the VFW or PLAV was present to discuss the event. Mayor Kerreen Conley

called Cornell Anton and she reported he said the Memorial Day event had been cancelled.

The request to sell Buddy Poppies this week end on the streets of Belleville was not approved, with the suggestion that it could be held later when it is safer. Reportedly Anton said the VFW and PLAV are not intending to do the poppy sales now and will wait until the governor lifts the ban. He said he let the city manager know this.

When considering the Main Street car show, that runs on Mondays from the first Monday in June to the last Monday in September, John Winter of Egan's Pub, which sponsors the event, said he would like to get approval now, so as soon as the ban is lifted they can do the shows.

He said he would like to start the shows when they can do so safely. He said in the past they have shut down Main Street from Fifth to Third streets from 5 to 9 p.m., with the show running 6-8 p.m.

"A lot of people are dying to get their classic cars out now," he said, noting he

himself now has a classic car he'd like to get out.

He said June 1 is a Monday and if they can't start the shows until late August, "We probably wouldn't do it."

He said he needs to talk to the police chief about having Police Reserves on hand and the car show goes well with the farmer's market, which also needs approval.

Councilman Ken Voigt said he had the same feelings about the car show as he

(continued on page 3)

Former Van Buren Township Fire Chief and VBT Director of Developmental Services David

Cameron McNally, 77, died May 1 due to complications from COVID-19. He had been residing in a nursing facility after suffering a debilitating stroke. See full obituary on page 7.



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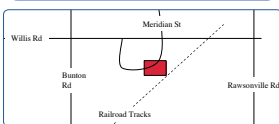
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council

(continued from page 1)

did about the veterans' events and made a motion with the same conditions.

He moved the council approve the event and let the city manager be the arbiter, along with the department heads, on whether it can be done safely.

Councilman Tom Fielder said the farmer's market has been a part of the car show for a few years now, so he asked to add the farmer's market to the motion for approval and they did.

Winter said the Detroit farmer's market is still going on so if the governor allows that, she would allow this farmer's market. He said they sell fruits and vegetables and the prices are cheap and products fantastic.

Councilman Voigt said they should add to the motion that the council considers the possibility of closing Main Street at Second Street or Five Points to give the cars more room for distancing.

Winter said most cars are parked six to eight feet from each other anyway because the owners have thousands of dollars invested. He said most of the owners are senior citizens and they sit apart near their cars. He said many people come out to see the cars.

Voigt said if Winter doesn't have enough space, he could limit the number of cars allowed and Winter said he had no problem with that.

Winter said the state is closed down until May 28 and could easily go into June.

"If the state says we can do it, we'll do it," he said.

Mayor Conley asked if this would interfere with the library whose front door is on Fourth Street.

Winter said he thinks the library closes at 5 p.m., so that wouldn't be a problem. He said that was a good question and he would research it.

Fielder said the library was a legitimate issue, since he has learned the library may have a carry-out service where people order books and then pick them up from their cars on Fourth Street.

Winter said the new owner of the Bayou took over and was in business for a full two weeks before all the restaurants had to close.

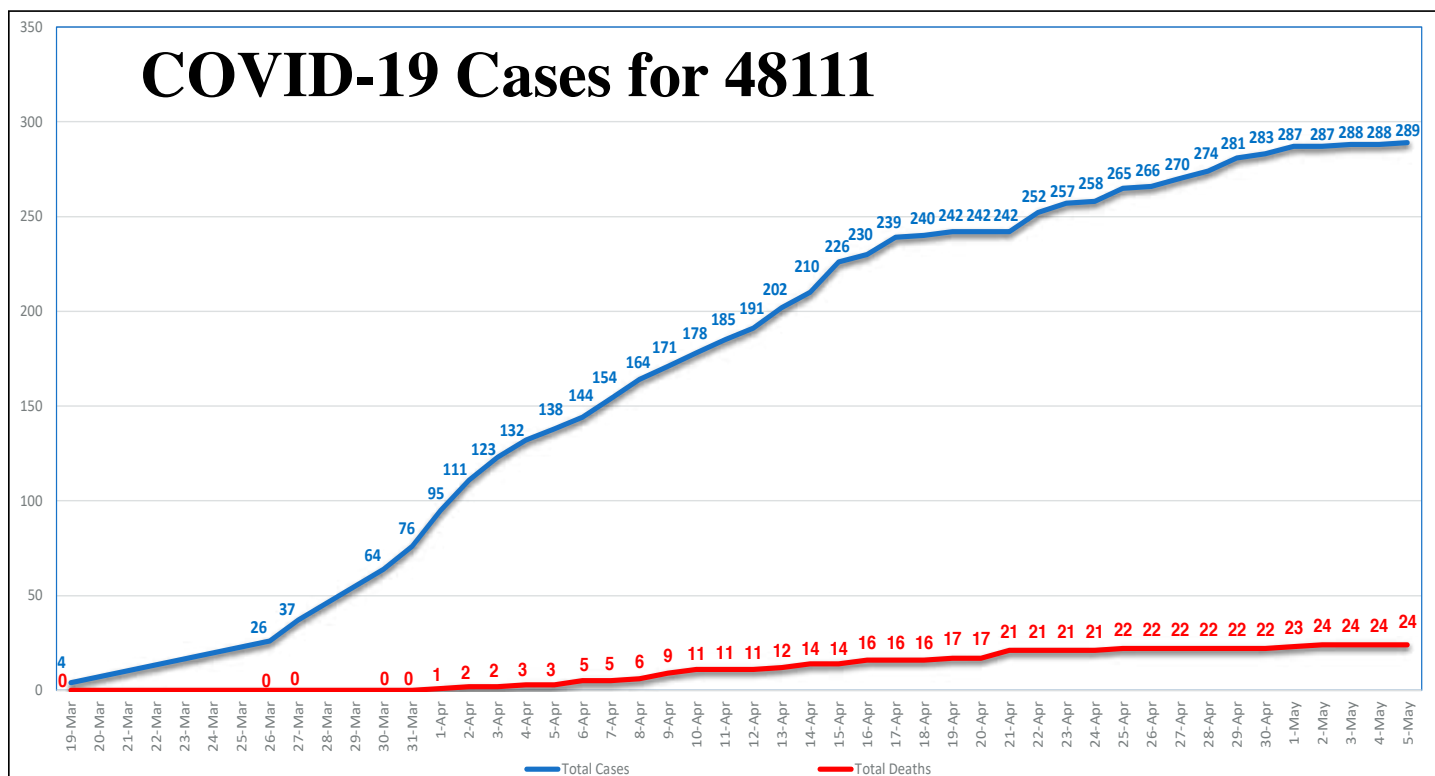
"I feel for him," Winter said.

The council voted unanimously in favor of the Main Street car show and farmer's market, with details for safety being worked out with the city manager.

Then, Voigt made the same motion for the Father's Day car show at Victory Park on June 21.

Fielder told Steve Cinnamon that he would have a big challenge with the space issue at Victory Park.

Voigt agreed that after the last couple months of being shut inside, crowds would turn out.



Numbers by Wayne County Health Department; chart by James Otzman.

The COVID-19 numbers from the Wayne County Health Department for this area started with just "Belleville" rates and around the first of April started breaking them into Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township. The number designated "Belleville" has consistently been the highest and rising. Many people believe the total for 48111, as shown above, is the most accurate for the situation in the tri-community, since what's on a driver's license may or may not be the most accurate designation of residence. Also, the "confirmed" cases listed are only the ones that have been tested.

Cinnamon said 150 cars will fit in the park and he could pare that down to 80 or 90. Winter said Cinnamon could have his car show on Main Street, also, and Cinnamon said he would like more control.

Voigt said Cinnamon could go to Main Street if he wants to get more cars in the show.

Cinnamon said he got 180 cars in the park when his daughter got married and it was just 60 last year because it was cold and rainy.

"I'm OK with 60 or 70," said Cinnamon, noting since the Strawberry Festival has been canceled there will be nothing else happening downtown that day.

Fielder said there is a state restriction on public playgrounds and Cinnamon said he could tape them off, but he drives past the park every day and there are people on the park benches and play equipment.

Police Chief Dave Robinson said since these are annual events it is important they be held this year. He asked Winter and Cinnamon to call him this week to discuss the details of their shows.

"No matter what the governor decides, I have a gut feeling social distancing will be around for a while," Chief Robinson said, adding there is an added responsibility for the police to enforce laws when there are a lot of people. He said the police will enforce in an educational and advisory manner unless the person involved makes it otherwise.

Chief Robinson said in preparation he

is interested in determining the number of spectators they expect. He said he wants to avoid having people crowding together.

The Father's Day event also was approved unanimously with the stipulation details be worked out with the city administration.

In other business at the one-hour-and-13-minute meeting, the council:

- Heard interim city manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz thank Carol Smith and Tina McGlynn for their service. They retired April 30. She also said that last week the city received a rather large donation of disposable masks and was able to give 500 to each of the senior living complexes. She said she wrote the COVID-19 Response Plan, required by the state, and filed it March 29. Then it was changed by the state and she resubmitted. Now, it has been changed by the state again and she is on version three. She said the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority is doing the "heavy lifting" on the plan, so it helps a lot.

- Heard Kobylarz report that they have found no need for layoffs that were discussed at the last meeting. She said, however, the MMRMA noted in a phone call that "if you have a fund balance, it's raining." She said they referred to a rainy-day fund. She also said she is looking at grants and forwarded information to both the police chief and fire chief and promised they will really be digging into grants;

- Heard Kobylarz report that one of the big things the council wanted was Nixle

and Chief Robinson has finally locked it up. It will cost \$2,600 in the first year and he will have it up and running soon;

- Heard Fielder report he hasn't heard back on money for the summer employees and Kobylarz said she is going through a contact she has at Redford Township and she should know by the end of the week;

- Heard Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte recommend they set up a Belleville Cares Task Force, made up of the council and other groups in the city to promote businesses in the city. He said it would be a creative think tank which could meet virtually and get everyone on the same page. Mayor Conley agreed and said this is a grand opportunity to bring people together. Voigt also agreed;

- Heard Voigt announce that the banners with the Belleville High School senior pictures on them should be up in about ten days;

- Heard Winter say he has applied for grants for his business without success. He asked if the Downtown Development Authority can release any money to help businesses in the district. "Not us," he said. "I think we'll be OK, but there might not be a downtown. It's very scary." He said the insurance offices, barbers, and other shops might just go out of business. He said he asked DDA coordinator Carol Thompson about this a couple of weeks ago and he did not get an answer. He said all the businesses are bleeding money even though they are

(continued on page 12)

OPINIONS

Editorial

VBT announces plans for reopening

"Godliness is in the details," said Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara. He said that's what his late father Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara used to say. He said Public Service Director Matthew Best worked out 84 pages of a detailed plan to reopen township hall, which has been closed since the COVID-19 arrived.

During the township's first-ever Zoom virtual meeting on Tuesday, and its first meeting since March 16, Director Best laid out the plan for reopening township hall. He said the plan mitigates the risk as much as possible.

He said landscapers were allowed to begin work two weeks ago and construction can restart on May 7, along with related government activities, such as permits, plan reviews, and inspections.

Best said for May 7-15, permit applications will be accepted by email, website or phone and checks can be sent by mail or put in the township dropbox. A special email address has been set up for building@vanburen-mi.org.

If people have to meet in person, their temperature will be taken and they will have to wear a mask and keep social distancing.

On May 18, if the governor doesn't extend the Stay at Home order, the township door will reopen with a sign that says, "Welcome Back to the Township" and people will be allowed to enter with the proper precautions. The next week there will be a full reopening.

We can only hope it works.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Last week Linda LeBlanc of Sumpter Township received a text message from Father John Kiselica at St. Anthony Catholic Church, where she is an active member. Fr. John texted, "I need a favor from you. Text me."

He signed it Rev. Father John Kiselica, Pastor.

She texted him back, "I'm here for you." Fr. John said he was going into a meeting and didn't have time to do it himself, but he needed to get gift cards for two patients in the hospital with COVID-19. He said it was challenging for them and also challenging for the church. He wanted them to be able to get their favorite songs and videos to boost their confidence.

"I will pay you back as soon as I can," Fr. John texted.

He signed it formally again. She said he never says "Rev." or "Pastor" when they text back and forth. She was uneasy.

She said she got to thinking and remembered what I wrote in this column about Cornell Anton writing to me for a favor and wanting me to send gift cards to two relatives – and he would pay me back.

I had called Cornell and found that was a scam email from him. So, Linda called Fr. John and he said the text didn't come from him and he was fine.

Linda said she was really angry about somebody using a priest to get money and taking advantage of this dangerous time in the world to try and steal from people.

All this is to say: beware. Stay alert for these scams so you don't get caught.

Marie Krouse live-streamed Sunday's Bugles Across America ceremony at



Belleville Veterans Memorial. It was good to see it and I thank her for her efforts. Geof Busch and his wife Lori Day sang the National Anthem as always. VFW Commander John Blackstone made some brief statements and VFW member Rick Dawson played "Taps" on a bugle.

Bugles is held at 7:15 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month.

I was sorry to hear about the death of Cameron McNally, who was fire chief of Van Buren Township and former building director at VBT. That's how I got to know him while reporting on building stories.

I remember Cameron told me his father was a fire chief in a community near Flint and then he was a fire chief there and then here. Since then, his son David, the VFW Fire Marshal, was interim fire chief in VFW for a few months this year when Chief Amy Brow was out on medical leave.

He'll probably end up as fire chief somewhere, too, since it's deep in his blood.

Cameron had some really great mechanical toys on his desk that did great tricks when you pushed them. I can still see them in my memory as I sat in a chair in front of his desk doing my interview.

He was pushed out of his building department position about 1997 when Helen Foster was supervisor. I went back through the old papers to look that up.

I also found the clipping where he came back to pin the badge on his son when Dave

was promoted to VBT Battalion Chief and Fire Marshal in 2012.

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, held virtually via Zoom, John Winter of Egan's Pub said his sons swept up the Fourth Street Square on Sunday, getting rid of all the old leaves. He said they sprayed the weeds, as well, so everything will be ready for summer activities.

He asked DPW Director Rick Rutherford if Rick cut down the trees in the alley behind Egan's to Third Street and Rick said he didn't. Well, somebody did and John wanted to thank whoever did it. "It was wonderful," he said.

While the city council was talking about the annual Memorial Day event at the Veterans' Memorial, which has been canceled, Rutherford said he questioned whether the public rest rooms there could be opened.

Councilwoman Kelly Bates said she had been to the Metropark and those rest rooms were all closed.

There are more than 70 executive orders from the governor and I'm sure that in there somewhere the public restrooms are ordered closed – for now.



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Letters

Appreciative to those signing my petitions

To the editor:

In February of this year, I became aware of the serious issues that came to light in the 34th District Court. They were very upsetting to me. As a teenager, growing up in this judicial district, my neighbor was the Honorable James B. Stone. I had an interest in the law at that time, but never thought I would see the inside of a Law School. Judge Stone told me what it was like to be both, a lawyer and a Judge in the 34th District. As a young prosecutor in the 34th District, I also learned from the Honorable Henry Zaborowski. I learned from both jurists the necessary qualities of integrity, listening with patience and fairness to all parties before the Court. That each party should be permitted to voice their opinions and without bias and a Judge should reach decision only after all parties have been heard.

I have devoted 40 years to serving the law, these communities and the 34th District Court. I have enjoyed a career which has had me successfully argue, at every level of the Michigan Court system. I deeply respect this System to which I have dedicated my career. On April 21, 2020, I filed nominating petitions to place my name on the August ballot for Judge in the 34th District Court. The Bench that Judge Stone and Judge Zaborowski served upon with such distinction.

My filing would not have been possible without the help of so many. Despite our current COVID-19 crisis, so many people were willing to help. I thought it impossible in the middle of a pandemic and with the Governor's remedial orders, to collect the necessary number of signatures. To my surprise, friends, businesses associates, and supporters rallied together and helped me accomplished this task. I am very appreciative.

I am especially thankful to every person who agreed to sign my petitions. I realize that given the current pandemic, signing for many was uncomfortable, for some very uncomfortable. I will be forever humbled by this experience.

My filing was the first step in this process, and now we are starting the campaign. I will work hard to assure you that I am the best candidate to serve on the Thirty-Fourth District Court. This District and its five communities have played such an important role in my life. The next step of my campaign is assuring you, by the time you are ready to vote, I am worthy of your trust. I want you to feel confident seating me as a respected member of the 34th District Court Bench.

Sincerely,
John R. Day
Attorney in Belleville

We need to pray daily for our nation

To the editor, friends of our Tri-Communities, our neighbors:

In 1988, President Reagan amended the 1952 National Day of Prayer law officially designating the first Thursday in May, which falls on May 7th this year.

For several years, I had the honor and privilege of hosting our neighborhood Tri-Community National Day of Prayer programs, alongside our former, deceased pastor, John Losen, Sr., and his wife, Vesta who faithfully provided the organ/piano music favoring and honoring our nation and all our community leaders -- those in authority roles.

In this year, 2020, the picture and scope of our NDP has greatly changed. In my mind, I am thinking -- Why, do we suggest keeping with just one day of prayer?

We have now come face to face with a flu pandemic so horrific, so dangerous, so life-threatening, as no one could ever envision. Generation after generation, America has faced "pandemics" of some sort and we as Americans, have overcome with shouts of victory.

We can and we must do it again! NOW, perhaps as never before, We Americans are "sick". Pandemic Flu sickness or Spiritual sickness, we must pray often, daily, (not just one day) lawfully designated as NDP; but often, we must turn to God and His almighty power and righteousness to heal our nation. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14

"If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

God Bless America!

Ruth Bleeker
Belleville

Thank you from the family of Juanita Martin

To the editor:

The family of Mrs. Martin would like to thank each and every person who could not go into the funeral home, but stopped by anyway. Every person who took the time to pay their last respects along Sumpter Road, at Martin and Son, and along Bemis Road as she was taken to her final resting place. Words cannot be found to explain how each family member felt seeing the love along the way. And to all of those whom saw and later replied on Facebook, those who didn't even know her and send prayers of healing, thank you all so very much.

The family of Juanita Martin

Anniversary

May 4 – Janet and Jeff Schonscheck

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– Yogi Berra

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Obituaries



Derek Lamar Bakon

DEREK LAMAR BAKON

(August 13, 1966 – April 27, 2020)

Derek Lamar Bakon was born August 13, 1966, to the union of Joe Bakon and Nora Bakon in Detroit, MI. He was the eldest of two siblings. His sister Charrisse Bakon preceded him in death.

Derek accepted Christ at an early age at The Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, MI, under the leadership of Rev. James Brownlee. He later became a member of Isom Memorial CME Church in Belleville, MI, under the leadership of Rev. Prince Albert Williams when he retired and moved back to Detroit, MI. Derek was an achiever and had a good work ethic. He was hired at Michigan Bell Telephone Company in Detroit, MI, as a Telephone Operator, promoted as a Customer Advocate (large business accounts), a Telecommunication Specialist and later was promoted to Tech. Manager at AT&T in Dallas, TX. He worked at AT&T (formerly MBT, Ameritech, SBC) for twenty-five years and retired in 2016.

Derek loved spending time with family and friends. Although Derek did not have children of his own, he loved children and was a positive influence in their lives. He enjoyed traveling, dining out, entertaining, listening to music and watching movies. He was a people person who encouraged and inspired many with his extremely kind and warm spirit. He was loyal to his family and friends and would do anything to help.

On April 27, 2020, Derek quietly made his transition to be with the Lord at home with his loving parents by his side.

Derek leaves to cherish his precious memory: his devoted parents, Joe and Nora Bakon; aunts, Eddie Kendrick of Southfield, MI, Lois White of Detroit, MI, Carolyn Naranjo of McKinney, TX, Evangeline McCray of Kissimmee, FL, Sandra Floyd of Orange Park, FL, Joyce (Bennie) Raines of Reynolds, GA, and Ludie Bakon of Roberta, GA; uncles, John (Mary) White of Detroit, MI, Willie (Laurie) Bakon of Macon, GA, Charlie (Wanda) White of Oak Park, MI, Phillip (Louise) Bakon of Roberta, GA, Darrell (Gwendolyn) White of Jacksonville, FL, and Benjamin Bakon of Warner Robins, GA; one goddaughter, Alynne Renee Richardson of Dallas, TX; his special cousin "sister," Janice Kendrick of Oak Park, MI; a host of devoted cousins and friends.

The family hosted visitation on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111. Funeral service began at Noon and was live-streamed. Rev. Prince Albert Williams officiated. Interment followed in Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit, MI, next to his sister Charrisse.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

More Letters

Help Sumpter have many better tomorrows

To the editor:

Out of my love and concern for the residents of Sumpter Township, I felt called to make masks for our community as well as the surrounding communities. I believe that in order to protect everyone's health, there is a great need for these masks.

I have been blessed at the outpouring of overwhelming support of residents such as Carol McEachram. It began as simply as her needing six masks for her daughter and grandchildren. She gave me a list of ideas and colors that she wanted, to which I had to sadly let her know, that I didn't have all the characters she wanted, but I would match up the colors the best that I could.

She in turn donated over 100 yards of beautiful colorful fabric. What a miracle!

I never dreamed that I would be making masks to help people during this crisis we are presently facing together. God says it is our job to take care of today, and His job to take care of our tomorrows.

Help me to continue to be part of the plans for tomorrow to help the residents of Sumpter Township, by supporting me in this next election. I am running for trustee

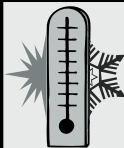
to help our community have MANY better tomorrows.

VOTE AUG. 4, 2020!

Stay safe!

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Sheena Barnes

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**More Obituaries
on page 7 & 8**

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Obituaries



David "Cameron" McNally

DAVID 'CAMERON' MCINALLY
 (March 13, 1943 – May 1, 2020)
 David "Cameron" McNally passed away on May 1, 2020 due to COVID-19 complications. Cameron was born on March 13, 1943 to Aubrey and Esther McNally.

He graduated from Mandeville High School in 1961 and went on to attend Alma College. He lived in Rankin, MI from his birth until the age of 45. During that time he worked in the family business (McInally's Hardware and Gift Shop), at MetLife, and for Mundy Township as a building inspector. He was a volunteer firefighter on the Mundy Township Fire Department for over 25 years, serving as the Fire Chief for a majority of those years. In 1988, he relocated with his family to Van Buren Township, MI when he accepted a dual Fire Chief and Building Director position with Van Buren Township. Retiring from fire service in 1991 after 29 years, he continued on with Van Buren Township to become its Director of Developmental Services until ultimately retiring from Van Buren Township in 1997. In addition to having a stellar career in the public sector, he taught firefighting and fire prevention classes throughout his life.

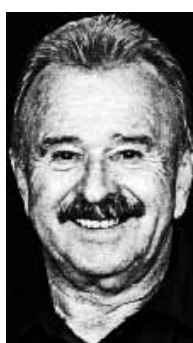
In 2014 he suffered a debilitating stroke and resided in a nursing facility until his death. He was a man of honor and integrity, well-liked and respected in the community, and beloved by his children and grandchildren. He is survived by his 5 children – Ann Marie Schwieman, JD (nee McNally) of Grand Blanc, Linda Simons (nee McNally) of Grand Blanc, David Cameron McNally II of Van Buren Twp., Heather McNally of Van Buren Township, ("the favorite"), and Rebecca D'Estes of Lo de Marcos, Mexico; his son-in-law Eric Simons and daughter-in-law Susan McNally; and his 4 grandchildren – Grant Klingler, Jacob Simons, Ashley McNally, and Emily McNally. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The family would like to thank the staff at Regency at Canton, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor, and U-of-M Hospital Ann Arbor for the exceptional care they provided to Cameron during his final days. A private funeral for his immediate family members will be held on May 9, 2020 at Sharp Funeral Home in Linden, MI. A gathering will be held at a later date in Belleville, MI so that all of his friends and family can come together to remember Cameron and celebrate his life. In lieu of flowers, donations to *Feed the Frontlines Detroit* would be appreciated (<http://feedthefrontlinesdetroit.com/>).

More Obituaries on page 6 & 8



David Hill Jacokes



DAVID HILL JACOKES
 (December 5, 1944 – April 30, 2020)
 It is with great sadness that the family of former Van Buren Township Supervisor David Hill Jacokes announces his passing at his home in Arizona under the care of hospice after a courageous battle with brain cancer-glioblastoma, on Thursday, April 30, 2020, at the age of 75 years.

David will be lovingly remembered by his wife and best friend of nearly 51 years, Jeanette (Mangiapane), their two loving daughters Michele and Karen, and their husbands who they consider their sons, Frank Heffernan and Joey LaClair. He will be fondly remembered as "Papa" to his grandchildren Catherine, Carson, Bryson, and Brynley.

David was born on December 5, 1944 in Shelby, NC, to William and Ruth (Putnam) Jacokes. In 1963, he graduated from Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn, MI, and entered the Air Force the following year and was assigned to Electronic Communications/Crypto. He served on the front lines of the Vietnam War until his honorable discharge in 1968. He received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal. Upon discharge from the Air Force in 1968 and returning to Michigan, he entered Veterans Hospital in Allen Park, MI, for military-related medical care where he met Jeanette Mangiapane, the hospital's ward secretary. They fell in love and were married on May 23, 1969 and raised two daughters, Michele and Karen.

In 1998, they moved to Phoenix, AZ, to enjoy the beautiful, sunny climate. David's passion for serving others continued throughout his life. He was a lifelong member of VVA, VFW and DAV, and spent his career in voluntary and elected local government positions, notably as the Supervisor of Van Buren Township for two terms during the late 1980s and 1990s. David loved being outdoors, fishing and boating on Belleville Lake, and later taking day trips to explore the beautiful scenery of Arizona. He also loved to garden and had his own successful landscaping business for several years. He enjoyed working in his workshop almost always having a project under way. He was known for his charisma, quick wit, infectious smile, and his kind and compassionate spirit. He loved telling stories of his military experience and enjoyed any military movie or documentary and westerns. David was preceded in death by his father William, his mother Ruth, and his brothers William and James, his grandson Brayden, and his beloved dog Ginger who was always at his side. A military memorial service will be held at a later date at the Veterans National Cemetery in Cave Creek, Arizona. Donations are greatly appreciated and may be made in David's name to The Hospice Promise Foundation, Northern Arizona at <https://lhcgroupp.com/foundation/>, the Gary Sinise Foundation at <https://www.garysinisefoundation.org/donate/>, or Pillows From Preston at <http://www.pillowsfrompreston.org/>. Arrangements were by Westcott Funeral Home, Cottonwood, AZ.

Obituaries



Katherine Honey

KATHERINE HONEY

(November 25, 1925 – April 19, 2020)
Katherine Honey, age 94, of Sumpter Township, died Sunday, April 19, 2020, at her residence. She was born November 25, 1925, in Whitesburg, Tennessee, the daughter of Herbert and Lois (Beckner) Orrick. In 1945, she married John W. Honey in Georgia, and he preceded her in death on November 12, 2006. Katherine will always be remembered for her love of Family, crocheting, flowers, gardening and scratch off lottery tickets. Survivors include her children: Linda Honey, Butch (Gail) Honey, Anita (Kevin) Dunbar, J.C. Honey and Kathy Honey; 14 grandchildren: Howie, Ronni, Derrick, Michael, Michelle, Richard, JoAnn, Susan, Lorrie, Frankie, PJ, Keith, Holly, and Cade; 24 great-grandchildren; 8 great-great-grandchildren; brother, Richard (Helen) Orrick; special step-children: Joyce, Arnie, Janice, and Ace and their children; special friend, Mary, and her little dog Killer. She was preceded in death by her son, Frank Honey; daughter-in-law, Annette Honey; granddaughter, Jennie Honey; daughter-in-law, Joan Moore Honey; two great grandsons, Travis and Logan; one sister, Beatrice Matthews and one brother, Herbert Orrick Jr. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

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Helen Louise Skyles

HELEN LOUISE SKYLES

(July 30, 1934 – April 11, 2020)
Helen Louise Skyles, age 85, of Van Buren Township, MI, died Saturday, April 11, 2020. She was born July 30, 1934, in Chattanooga Tennessee, the daughter of Lawrence Millard and Mary Margaret (Burdette) Blevins. She married Lee Skyles, Sr. in 1949 and he preceded her in death on Sept. 16, 2010. Since 1955, Mrs. Skyles has been a resident of Belleville, MI. She worked for Canteen Corp. for many years until her retirement in 1985. Survivors include her children and spouses: Lee and Denise Skyles of Chelsea, MI., Richard and Myra Skyles of Belleville MI., and Daniel and Veronica Skyles of Perrysburg, Ohio; one brother, Carl Richard Blevins; many grandchildren, great- and great-great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by three children: Reba Belcher, Linda Skyles and Robert Skyles; 10 brothers and one sister. She thought the world of her family! There was nothing like her brothers and sister ... she cherished them to the end. She loved FAMILY. Private Graveside service will be held at Denton Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI.

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Richard William Willet

RICHARD WILLIAM WILLET

(January 4, 1948 – May 1, 2020)
Richard William "Rick" Willet, age 72, of Belleville, MI, passed away comfortably Friday, May 1, 2020. He was born January 4, 1948 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of the late John and Martha (Murphy) Willet. Rick loved people. He loved to laugh. He had many friends, whom he played Euchre with. He loved to travel with his fiancée Dolores Springston and dog Pancho. He is survived by his daughter Donna (Ron) Persons, a sister Shelia Engle, grandchildren: Randi Mae (Thomas) Goodburn, Chelsea (Peter) Heiden; Donna's half-sister Ronnie Brown, and two great-grandchildren: Gene and Madison Goodburn. He was preceded in death by his parents, also three siblings: Bonnie Eldridge, Vickie Gunaca, and John R. "Jack" Willet, Jr. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. Burial will be in Pinckney Cemetery.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

ANNETTE WHITLEY

(December 27, 1945 – April 30, 2020)
Mrs. Annette Whitley, 74, of Sumpter Twp. passed away on April 30, 2020 at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. She was born on December 27, 1945 in Montgomery, Alabama a daughter of Moses and Maureen McDaniel. She enjoyed collecting dolls, doing crafts and puzzles. Her greatest joy in life was spending time with her family. Mrs. Whitley is survived by her two loving sons: Greg Whitley of Miami, Florida and Arnold Whitley of Sumpter Township, Michigan. She is also survived by two sisters: Daisy McDaniel and Janice McDaniel; one grandson Logan McDaniel; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 52 years, Wendell Whitley on April 19, 2020. In keeping with Annette's wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements were entrusted to Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, Belleville, Michigan.

District Library Board to meet electronically May 12

The May 12, Belleville Area District Library Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. will be held electronically.

Information on how to attend the meeting will be posted on the library's website: www.belleville.lib.mi.us

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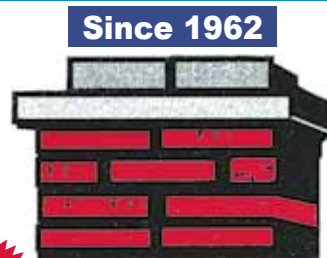
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Five Star Market at 51255 Willis Road just east of Rawsonville Road is back open. Owner Roy Acho and family say the business is fully stocked with essentials such as milk, bread, and eggs. They're a licensed liquor dealer with beer, wine, lottery and cigarettes. Don't forget your mask as self-distancing is in order. Don't forget to grab a slice of Benito's Pizza that is served all day long. Watch for their pizza ad in the next few weeks. Call (734) 461-2300.

ZorroApps of Belleville offers website design, artificial intelligence, IT support, e-commerce websites, mobile apps, customer software, and now, they've

created a COVID-19 program where the customer can remotely screen employees prior to each work shift for COVID-19 symptoms with a program that tracks employees health symptoms and reports their results back to the owner. To learn more, call Michele at (734) 325-5800.

Dr. Gable and Dr. Reynolds of the Chiropractic center at 9910 Belleville Rd. welcome Dr. Dan Halaberda, chiropractic physician, to their practice. The office reopened last weekend. Dr. Halaberda will be available for patients on Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m. With more than 40 years of experience, Dr. Halaberda has been involved on local, state, and national levels with continuing education programs, instruction and helping other chiropractors with their practices. Regular weekly business hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday hours are 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Until further notice, self-distancing restrictions are in place and masks must be worn inside the office. Masks will be available if you don't have one. Walk-ins are welcome, too. Call (734) 697-4446 and visit www.docgable.com.

Garden Fantasy Greenhouse on Tyler Road, just east of Morton Taylor Road, is officially open for the season offering curbside pickup, phone orders, and walk-ins -- as masks and self-distancing practices are in place inside. Choose from a great selection of flowers, flats, hanging baskets, patio pots, perennials, herbs and starter vegetable plants, rose bushes, seed packets, bagged soil, and lots more. They're open Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. But this Mother's Day Sunday they will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Now through Sunday purchase two, 10-inch hanging baskets and get one free. Call (734) 697-1765 and check out their Facebook page. See their ad in today's paper and visit www.thegardenfantasygreenhouse.com.

Happy Mom's Day to all the moms this Sunday, May 10. Be sure to pick up an Independent in our news box outside our office at 152 Main St., or at many other essential places around the town. You can also view the newspaper online at www.bellevilleareaindependent.com. Be safe and take care of each other.

All the best to Belleville's Mike Foley (of Frosty Boy) who's recuperating following surgery last week at St. Joe's. A large group of friends and family gathered outside the hospital's main entrance on Tuesday holding well-wishing signs and released balloons so Mike could see them outside his window. Cool. Get well, Mike!

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.

Imagination Station offers internet science from Toledo center

TOLEDO, Ohio – Imagination Station is still connecting with the community even though the outbreak of COVID-19 has brought communities across the nation to a halt.

The science center is continuing to bring the wonder of science into homes across the region.

Even though our doors aren't open, Imagination Station is working to continue to open the minds of members, visitors and the community by offering Stay at Home Science experiments, live virtual workshops and other resources to keep kids and families busy and learning from the comfort of their homes.

It may not be the same as a visit, but it's sure to spark a passion for science in the whole family. All of the science center's experiments and activities can be found on Imagination Station's Facebook page and at www.imaginationstationtoledo.org.

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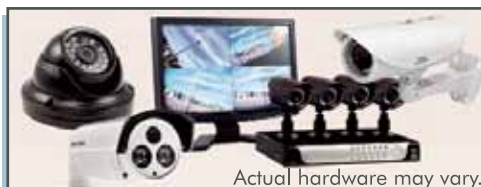
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Visteon Corp. announces first-quarter loss of \$35 million on April 30

Visteon Corp. (VC) on April 30 reported a first-quarter loss of \$35 million, after reporting a profit in the same period a year earlier.

The company, based in Van Buren Township, said it had a loss of \$1.25 per share. Losses, adjusted for restructuring costs, came to 32 cents per share.

The results topped Wall Street expectations. The average estimate of six analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for a loss of 50 cents per share.

The auto parts supplier posted revenue of \$643 million in the period, also beating Street forecasts. Five analysts surveyed by Zacks expected \$607.8 million.

Visteon shares have decreased 31% since the beginning of the year. The stock has decreased 9% in the last 12 months.

"I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize."
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May 14, 6 p.m.

Copies of the Budget for the listed Public School Academy will be available on the Transparency page of the school's website.

Published: May 7, 2020

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.



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More Letters

Win or lose, I'll ensure no tampering with votes

To the editor and the people of Sumpter Township:

It would have been challenging to submit my candidacy by the April 21st deadline if so many people were not as accommodating. I want to express appreciation for the notaries, and especially the residents signing petitions. I extend my thanks to those who participated in helping all of the candidates, because there has been no leniency, despite the ongoing health crisis.

I was forced to gather twice as many petition signatures and four separate notaries due to incorrect documents issued and because nobody was available at the township to receive certified mail.

As supervisor, I will fight to ensure accuracy, health, and safety first for the township workers and individuals seeking offices moving forward.

I am very confident in my plans for Sumpter Township. There are three groups who have been shoved aside far too long. Our seniors struggle with fixed incomes and rising taxes each year. Much can be done to alleviate hardships for the seniors, and it should have been done a long time ago.

Next, the firefighters in our township need stability. Right now, fire rescue workers are risking their health, and the health of

families at home to keep us all safe. They should live here in the township they work for, but many can't afford it. A new fire truck is a great addition, but it does not address the real problem; they are not paid fair wages for what they are trained to do.

Finally, we need infrastructure for our young adults. Without opportunities for the average resident within the township, we are losing one of our greatest assets and denying them the comforts they deserve.

Sumpter is unfairly abandoning almost every demographic in our township. The result is low favorability towards the government and losses in tax revenue. We don't need higher taxes, we need more taxpayers who are proud to live in a township as beautiful as Sumpter. The budget is also misappropriated. Your tax dollars are being used to fund endless lawsuits and excruciatingly high wages compared to other municipalities. Rebalancing the budget with more focus to the community will directly improve your quality of life.

This is our opportunity to change the administration. Decades have gone by with very little opposition, creating a career in politics for many of the officials seated on the board. It is no secret that career politicians can be extremely dangerous for a community.

We need to vote in the August primary. That is the only way to move Sumpter Township forward. Conditions depending; we should vote in person this year. We will do everything we can to avoid absentee ballots. I have heard alarming stories from many people involved with township elections.

Win or lose, I have set aside a fund to recount votes and ensure there has been absolutely no tampering this election. My voter security plan can be executed without sitting as a supervisor. I intend to be very aggressive in monitoring polls, and other details I will only discuss internally with

my team.

Thank you,

Nelson S. Po

Any comments are appreciated and you can send me a note here: P.O. Box 2293, Belleville, MI 48112, or NelsonPo8822@gmail.com

Sumpter Township sets special, in-person meeting on May 5

Sumpter Township Supervisor John Morgan called a special, in-person meeting of the township board for 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, with six items on the agenda. Later, after building department clerk Brad Wheelock resigned, the agenda was revised to list seven items.

After that, the agenda was revised to list eight items under New Business.

The agenda was scheduled to include payment of the following warrants:

- Processed payments through March 31, 2020, totaling \$90,014.23;
- Processed check run April 15, 2020, totaling \$90,362.78;
- Processed check run April 29, 2020 totaling \$153,570.03; and
- Extend authorization approved at the March 24, 2020 regular board meeting for payment of essential bills and warrants with finance director review and approval (as directed by post audit policy) through May 29, 2020.

New Business items were:

- Consider approval to cancel May 12 and May 26 board meetings due to Stay Home Order;
- Consider approval to post signage that, when facilities are reopened to the public, upon entering the township hall and senior

center a mask or face covering is required;

- Consider approval of the fire tax renewal language for one mill for four years to be placed on the Aug. 4, 2020 ballot and Resolution #2020-09;

- Consider Resolution 2020-10 approving \$5 per hour Duty Pay for the essential workers that are currently working, for hours worked April 6-May 3 with reevaluation after that by the township board on whether to extend it;

- Consider approval to purchase a UniMac commercial turnout gear washer for the fire department from Universal Laundry Machinery at a cost of \$7,596;

- Consider approval to adopt a \$5,200 salary amendment (raise) to the finance director's contract;

- Consider approval to advertise for a building department clerk due to the resignation of Brad Wheelock; and

- Consider approval to name Supervisor as person authorized to call back furloughed workers.

(When information is available from this meeting, the *Independent* will report on whether the above is approved. The minutes and the video of the April 2 special meeting are yet to be released to the public.)



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City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville Switches to Bi-monthly Utility Billing

Due to Covid-19 and the ongoing public safety concerns it presents, the City has switched to bi-monthly utility billing. What does this mean? You will not receive a bill from the City in the month of May. You will receive your next bill from the City on approximately June 15th. Payment will be due by July 6th.

Questions? Call the Water Department at 734-697-9323 extension 7014.

Republic Waste Services Returns to Regular Full Services on Thursday, April 30th

Starting Thursday, April 30th, Republic Waste Services will resume all services including yard waste pickup.

Please help us keep trash off the streets by making sure it is securely bagged before placing in trash roll-out cart.

If you need to reach Republic Waste Services, you may contact the office at 800-858-0089. You will need to call this number to schedule a bulky item pickup such as a mattress or appliance.

Publish: April 30, 2020; May 7, 2020

City Council

(continued from page 3)
closed, because they still have to pay fees, keep the lights on, pay the water bills. He said Egan's donated 17 gallons of bleach to the Van Buren Township Fire Department and they would like to donate in the city. "If we do things right, we can be a great community";

- Heard Mayor Conley say she would work at getting a committee set up and it could look at alternatives to help people; and
 - Heard DPW Director Rick Rutherford announce that as of Thursday the ban on construction was lifted. He asked for permission to go out for bids in the paper for the fence on top of the seawall and get the old fencing down. He said he doesn't want to lose the grant they got, which was good through the end of July. He said he didn't know if the state will extend the deadline, but he wants to use the grant. He also said there is a backlog of building permits pending, "but that's a good thing."
- The next city council meeting will be at 6 p.m., Monday, May 11, via Zoom to discuss the budget. The next regular meeting is May 18 and it will be Zoom or live.

Birthdays

- May 5 – Marie Goldowski, Belvie Ivan
May 9 – Joyce Rochowiak, Marilyn Locke, Dawn Edice, Joe Watkins
May 11 – Ron Pyzik
May 12 – Verlinda Hinton
May 17 – Sherry Yaeger
May 20 – Anna Hoose
May 23 – Ed Armatis

Man charged with ethnic intimidation for threats to Sen. Geiss

Police have charged John Mailley, 59, of Garden City with ethnic intimidation felonies after he allegedly left threatening emails for state Sen. Erika Geiss, D-Taylor, according to the *Lansing State Journal*.

Mailley had previously been convicted on ethnic intimidation and other charges.

Mailley allegedly left three voicemails in June, threatening to kill Muslims in one of them, according to a Michigan State Police affidavit.

"For each Jew and for each Christian that dies in this country cuz [sic] of a Muslim, there'll be a whole bunch of Muslims dead and I'm going to start killing them one at a time," a transcript of one of the voicemails read, according to the *State Journal*. "Children and all, we don't give a [expletive] you little Muslim scum."

Geiss said it is peculiar that the caller made so many threats against Muslims, since she a Roman Catholic.

"The only logical connection for a highly illogical constituent is that I am close with Rashida Tlaib," Geiss said, referring to the Detroit congresswoman from the 13th district. "We did a town hall together. I have visited the Islamic Center and appropriately and respectfully covered my head. I have stood outside with those protesting the Muslim ban. I believe in treating everyone with dignity and I've always been consistent about that."

Mailley left two other similar voicemails overnight June 28, police said. In each one, he threatened to kill Muslims and called Geiss expletives.

In March 2004, Mailley was convicted of two counts of ethnic intimidation and one count of malicious use of

telecommunications in Wayne County, the *State Journal* reports. He was sentenced to 13 months to two years in prison.

When police spoke to Mailley in October, his wife told them he was an alcoholic and had a history of ethnic intimidation,

according to records.

Geiss was elected to the state Senate in 2018 and represents Romulus, Taylor and part of Van Buren Township. She previously served two terms in the state House.

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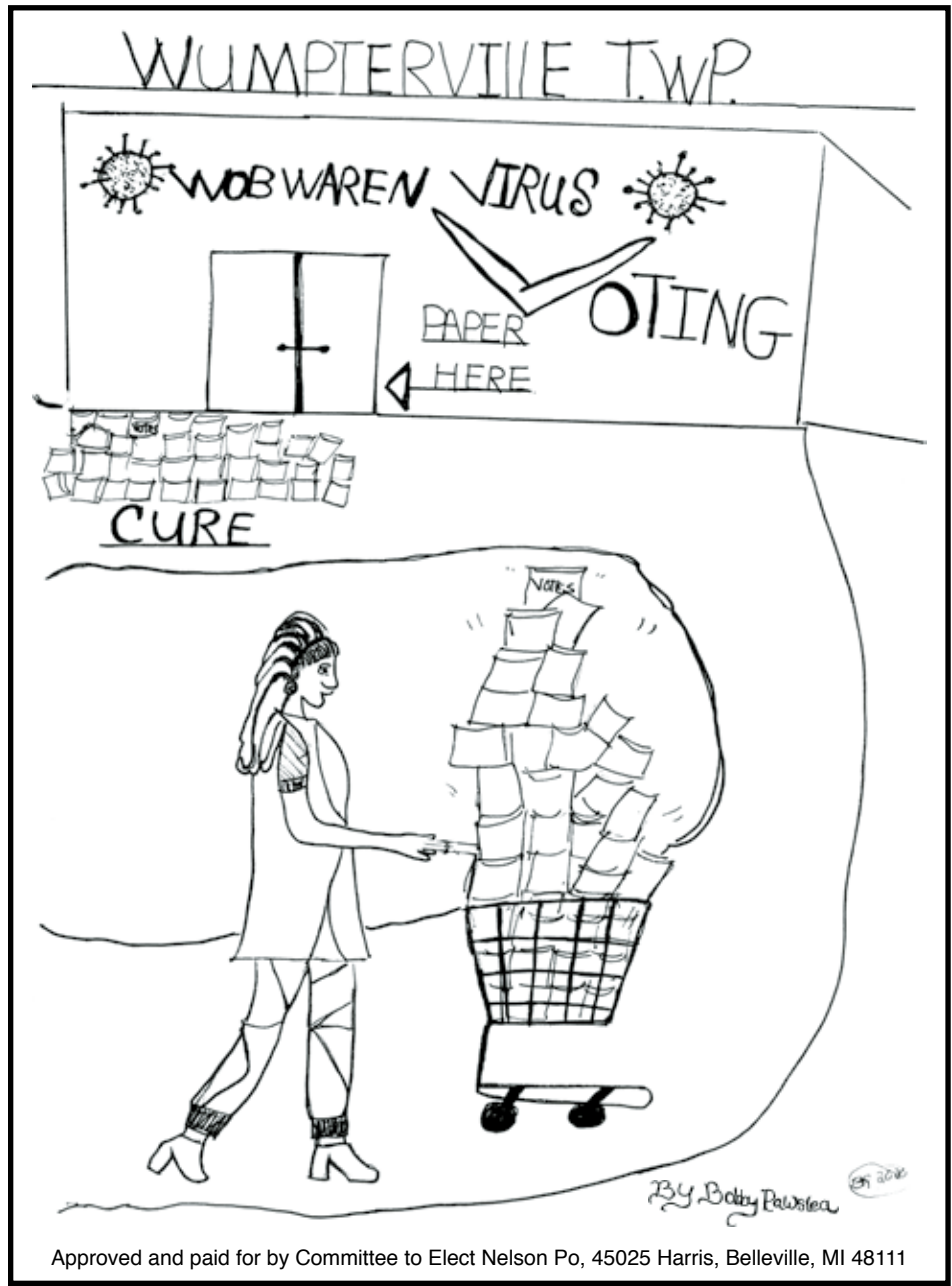
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More Letters

A lot are praying for the good of Sumpter Twp.

To the editor:

I am writing to air some issues that have been troubling me for several months. Presently, we as **residents can no longer attend board meetings**. My first issue is about all the raises given to contracted at-will employees for the past year or two. Our Chief of Police, Chief Luke received a \$12,000 raise and was given the position as Safety Director. In contrast, our Fire Chief Joe, after attending a Fire Chief Course that was made mandatory by

Supervisor, John Morgan, was promised a \$5,000 raise upon completion. Instead, shortly after completing the course, Chief Joe was told that he was going to be terminated. I was a Trustee at that time and was also the liaison to the Fire Department. I spoke at that board meeting that night, **where residents were in attendance**, and the board decided to renew his contract and give him the \$5,000 raise.

Compare that to the previous Finance Director Scott Holtz receiving a \$5,000 raise before he had completed one year of employment with the Township. Two weeks later Holtz resigned because of the fiasco he created when he transferred the employees' pension benefits from Nationwide to MERS, and it was going to take five years before all the money would be available to the employees.

Holtz received all his directions from the Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis. Holtz conveyed to me that he felt that he could no longer continue working with her, taking the daily hits and that it was not worth the money anymore.

The next raise was given to Michelle Bellingham. Originally, they were going to give her \$5,000, but after pressure was put on the board by concerned residents, the raise was lowered to \$2,500. Plus, in a year she would also get whatever percentage raise the union employees receive, along with an extra two weeks of vacation time. **This was approved without mention to the residents.**

A special meeting has been called by Supervisor, John Morgan, for May 5, 2020. **Another meeting where residents will not be allowed to attend.** The newest Finance Director, Michelle Cole (hired Sept. 23, 2019), is getting a \$5,200 raise, retroactive back to Feb. 15, 2020. The reason they are giving her such a raise is for taking on additional responsibilities during the Corona Virus. For those who may not know, contracted at-will employees have a stipulation in their contract that they work for the Board of Trustees. It stipulates that they are to perform their duties as the Board directs. So why is she getting a raise when she has not even completed one year of employment? I believe it is because Karen Armatis chose to put the Water Billing Clerk on furlough and have Cole do the water billing. **Karen Armatis is great at working behind the scenes, while trying to appear hands off!** I was told by a reliable source that the Water Billing Clerk was willing to come in and made it perfectly clear that she wanted to do her job!

Another troubling issue is that our wonderful Fire Department has not been treated with the same respect as our Police Department. I believe that the evidence shows that our Fire Department has been short changed! Anytime that the Fire Chief comes before the Board to get an item approved, the current Board of Trustees (The Morgan Team), acts like it is not important enough for approval. Not only that, they took away much of the Fire Chief's control by putting the Safety Director (Police Chief Luke), above our Fire Chief to make it appear that Fire Chief Joe could not handle his department. What a smack in the face to that whole department, especially Chief Joe!

Only after Nelson Po, who is running for supervisor in our next election, reassured the Fire Department publicly that they will be treated equally once the Morgan Team is gone, has anyone on the Morgan Team been speaking up on behalf of the Fire Department. The board has now approved a new fire truck, and on the agenda of May 5, 2020, is an item for them to approve them getting their long-awaited industrial washer. They have been asking for this washer for several years now! It is necessary to be able to wash their turn-out gear thoroughly.

My final thought is about how our attorney, Rob Young, only works for John Morgan and his Deputy Karen Armatis. I wish they would leave our beloved township and go and "play" in their own backyards! Neither of them lives in Sumpter Township, but they sure do love spending our tax dollars! Just look at the raises that they give to the employees who are willing to do their dirty work. And, I hope everyone starts seeing how John Morgan always comes out of every situation looking innocent. He allows others to take the hits for him. His hands never get dirty. I have news for Supervisor John Morgan. You should have gotten out of office while you still had a little dignity left! I will promise you that there will be no golf course in Sumpter Township named after you! This is what I believe, and I also believe the residents of Sumpter Township will see that the proof is in the pudding! My prayer is that God's will is going to be done in this election. A lot of residents are praying for the good of our Township!

Peggy Morgan
Sumpter Township

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

These are the 156 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week.

Sunday, April 26:

0144 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
0205 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0412 – suspicious person/vehicle, McKinley St.
0426 – breaking & entering, W. Huron River Dr.
0608 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
0912 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
1112 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
1324 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1428 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1547 – suspicious circumstances, Victoria St.
1602 – domestic, Lighthouse Dr.
1758 – welfare check, Robson Rd.
1826 – missing person, Meadows Cir.
1910 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
2030 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
2127 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bog/W. Adams
2303 – family trouble, Landmark

Monday, April 27:

0026 – animal complaint, Van Born/Haggerty
0048 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
0457 – family trouble, Belmont Dr.
0530 – family trouble, Belmont Dr.
0808 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0845 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
0923 – welfare check, Bog Rd.
1101 – animal complaint, Madison Dr.
1103 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1352 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1354 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Westlake Cir.

1404 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1512 – suspicious circumstances, Village Green Ln.
1519 – suspicious circumstances, Ecorse Rd.
1632 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
1649 – neighbor trouble, S. Bellridge Dr.
1653 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1907 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.
1916 – larceny, S. Bellridge Dr.
1947 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2029 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Green Ln.
2113 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.
2120 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
2131 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
2219 – harassment call, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2301 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beacon Trl.
2258 – welfare check, Rose Blvd.
2358 – harassment call, Colony Ln.

Tuesday, April 28:

0102 – larceny from auto, Savage Rd.
0121 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
0201 – noise complaint, Estates Dr.
0220 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Ln.
0448 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.
0957 – animal complaint, Martz Rd.
1137 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1213 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.

1520 – assist other dept., Michigan Ave.
1606 – misc. complaint, Willow Way
1614 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Tyler Rd./Morton Taylor Rd.
1714 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1809 – traffic offense, Hull Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1812 – felony assault, W. Archwood Dr.
1823 – found property/child, Sunrise Ln./Belleville
1835 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1940 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1957 – welfare check, Jackson St.
2043 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
2128 – operating while intoxicated, N. I-94 Service
2142 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2248 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.

Wednesday, April 29:

0003 – noise complaint, Fret Rd.
0057 – disorderly, Beacon Trl.
0118 – noise complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0159 – domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0303 – domestic, W. Archwood Dr.
0604 – 911 welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1123 – intrusion alarm, Cedarhurst Dr.
1134 – noise complaint, Hamilton St.
1222 – abandoned auto, S. I-94 Service Dr. /

Haggerty Rd.

1347 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1433 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1454 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.
1638 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
1704 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1727 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
1739 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1853 – road hazard, Sunrise Ln./Belleville Rd.
2001 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr.
2021 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
2221 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sondra Dr.

Thursday, April 30:

0125 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0153 – domestic, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0443 – welfare check, Morton Taylor/Van Born
0657 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0710 – assist fire dept., E. I-94 Belleville ramp/N.

Belleville I-94

0821 – trespassing, Village Center Dr.
1108 – fraud, Bradley Dr.
1146 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
1231 – harassment call, W. I-94/Belleville I-94 ramp

W

1241 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1442 – abandoned auto, Van Born Rd.
1513 – civil matter, Daisy Blvd.
1620 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1625 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1712 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2031 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park
2204 – breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.

Friday, May 1:

0151 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
0226 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
0935 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0942 – intrusion alarm, Michigan Ave.
1052 – animal complaint, Sugarbush Ln.
1112 – animal complaint, S. Timberview Dr.
1207 – threat, Van Buren St.
1218 – ordinance violation, Michigan Ave./Old Michigan Ave.

1252 – malicious destruction of property, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1258 – property check, Mission Pointe
1400 – assist other dept., Haggerty Rd.
1439 – unauthorized driving away of auto, E. Sadie Ln.

1533 – juvenile complaint, Belle Pointe Dr./Sondra
1622 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.
1655 – larceny, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1704 – intrusion alarm, Winding Pond Dr.
1709 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.

1722 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Coolidge St.
1754 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1927 – assist other dept., Bog Rd.
2047 – suicidal person, Lindsey Dr.
2155 – malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse Dr.

2235 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
2331 – noise complaint, McBride Ave./Pierce St.
2354 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ladonna/Morton Taylor

Saturday, May 2:

0242 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.
1026 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1043 – harassment call, Liberty Ln.
1102 – welfare check, Huron River Dr. DNR
1109 – fraud, Oak Ln.
1308 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1332 – traffic offense, Jackson/Hamilton
1351 – larceny from auto, Salem Ct.
1406 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1416 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ladonna
1428 – traffic offense, Fret Rd.
1445 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1627 – breaking & entering, Peninsular Dr.
1648 – private property/property damage accident, Water's Edge Ln.

1838 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
2145 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2256 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2324 – intrusion alarm, S. I-94 Service Dr.

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

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 26:

0102 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
0133 – suspicious person/vehicle, South St./Main
1531 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1556 – misc. complaint, Main St./N. Liberty St.
1855 – breaking & entering, Main St.

Monday, April 27:

0455 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr./Main
0702 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.

Tuesday, April 28:

1049 – suspicious person/vehicle, Wexford Ave.
1258 – animal complaint, Wexford Ave.

Wednesday, April 29:

0021 – domestic, N. Aberdeen Ct.

Thursday, April 30:

0211 – assault & battery, Belle Villa Blvd.
1457 – domestic, Church St.

Friday, May 1:

0000 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.
0020 – noise complaint, Potter Dr.
1519 – civil matter, Main St.
1519 – property damage accident, Owen/Sumpter
1859 – animal complaint, Harbour Pointe Dr.

Saturday, May 2:

1444 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1610 – suspicious person/vehicle, Carmell St.
1645 – larceny from auto, S. Edgemont Ave.
2018 – found property/child, Main St.
2129 – suspicious person/vehicle, Loza Ln. / E. Huron River Dr.

There were no traffic stops on the log this week.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 26:

0052 – suspicious circumstance, Edgewood Dr.
0418 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.
0912 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
1453 – malicious destruction of property, California St.

1700 – off road vehicle complaint, Harris/Lohr
1850 – off road vehicle complaint, Sumpter/Judd
1948 – felonious assault, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
2024 – fire dept. assist, Willis Rd./Lohr Rd.
2156 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
2318 – suspicious circumstance, 50000 bl. Judd

Monday, April 27:

0059 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0127 – suspicious circumstance, Brookview Dr.
0351 – fire dept. assist, 9200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0733 – death investigation, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
0951 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.
1115 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1134 – malicious destruction of property, Nevada
1332 – suspicious circumstance, Timberlane Dr.
1718 – off road vehicle complaint, Karr/Willis
1827 – off road vehicle complaint, 19000 bl. Karr
1955 – 911 hang up, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Tuesday, April 28:

0946 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1127 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1334 – shots fired, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1527 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1718 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2005 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2011 – civil matter, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2139 – traffic hazard, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

Wednesday, April 29:

0001 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Carriage Ln.
0018 – assist other agency, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
0922 – citizen assist, Brookview Dr.
1200 – follow up investigation, Carriage Ln.
1242 – trespassing complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1325 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
1519 – fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1558 – civil matter, Carriage Ln.
1919 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1943 – 911 hang up, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
2009 – welfare check, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2107 – mental health call, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
2120 – welfare check, Knollwood Dr.
2202 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

Thursday, April 30:

0847 – fire dept. assist, Dogwood St.

0904 – family trouble, Edgewood Dr.
1202 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1442 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1451 – suspicious vehicle, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1518 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1639 – 911 hang up, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.
1904 – neighbor dispute, Rustic Ln.
1929 – subpoena service, Carriage Ln.
1946 – follow-up investigation, 27000 bl. Elwell
2018 – suspicious person, 8600 bl. Rawsonville
2113 – citizen assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Friday, May 1:

0052 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0117 – subpoena service, Carriage Ln.
0414 – suspicious circumstance, 23000 bl. Bohn
0500 – death investigation, Wayside Dr.
1146 – civil matter, Knollwood Dr.
1311 – civil matter, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1403 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1431 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster St.
1830 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1921 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
2027 – civil matter, 46000 bl. Reed Ave.

Saturday, May 2:

0140 – welfare check, Second St.
0237 – assist other agency, Second St.
0433 – 911 hang up, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0502 – neighborhood trouble, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0744 – 911 hang up, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
0745 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
0958 – warrant arrest, 2100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1055 – civil matter, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1201 – fire dept. assist, Dogwood St.
1722 – citizen assist, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1734 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1958 – neighbor dispute, Carriage Ln.

Also on last week's dispatch log are 51 patrol checks, seven miscellaneous details, and five traffic stops.

City of Belleville Proclamation in honor of Sumpter Twp.'s 180 years

WHEREAS, the original survey granted to Sumter Township was approved on Nov. 5, 1819 and federal land in the Township began to be sold to individuals in the 1830s, WHEREAS, Sumpter Township was officially formed on April 6, 1840 and named after General Thomas Sumter, WHEREAS, the misspelling of the Township's name, with the added "p", was at first used by the Clerk, Reuben Merritt and has remained so to this day, WHEREAS, the first settlers to the Sumpter area were primarily farmers, WHEREAS, today, Sumpter Township is a place where residents and visitors alike have much to enjoy in terms of natural beauty including woodlands, wetlands, and prairies, WHEREAS, Ira P. Beach was elected as the first Supervisor of Sumpter Township and John W. Morgan is the current Supervisor who serves with his Deputy Supervisor, Karen E. Armatis, WHEREAS, the Township incorporated with only 228 residents and is home to 9,549 residents today. NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that on this date, April 14, 2020, we, the Mayor, Council Members, and Residents of the City of Belleville, recognize and honor Sumpter Township and its fine people on the anniversary of their 180th year of establishment. Mayor Kerreen Conley Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte Council Member Kelly Bates Council Member Thomas Fielder Council Member Kenneth Voigt

Editor's Note: The above was introduced at the March 2 meeting of the Belleville City Council and was to be presented to Sumpter Township at its April 14 board meeting when it will mark its 180 years. But the township board cancelled all meetings in April.

Robert Coutts of VBT announces candidacy for 34th District Court judge

Attorney Robert Coutts announces his candidacy for 34th District Court Judge. The 34th District Court serves the cities of Romulus and Belleville, and the townships of Huron, Sumpter, and Van Buren.

Coutts, who lives in Van Buren Township, is a practicing trial lawyer with 30 years of experience with trials in a wide range of areas in the law, including federal

district court, state district and circuit court, bankruptcy adversary trials, divorce, custody, workers' compensation, felony, and misdemeanor criminal trials.

While maintaining his full-time law practice, Coutts is also active in the community where he resides.

He is a former member of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education,

Belleville Rotary Club member (2001-present), president of Belleville Rotary Club for two terms, presently on the board of directors of the Rotary Club's Charles Cozadd Foundation, on the scholarship committee



for the Rotary Club, and administrator of the Belleville Moose Lodge #934 (2010-present). The Moose is a non-profit organization designed to assist children and senior citizens.

Coutts also serves as legal counsel to the National Strawberry Festival in Belleville (2005-present).

VB Public Schools Education Foundation grants announced

At the April 27 virtual meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education the follow were announced as receiving grants from the Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation:

Connie Testorelli, Media Center Mind Builders, Megan Holmes, Paula Slingerland, Stefanie Halliday, Susan Duda-Oberne, Christine Smith, Cindy Jordan, Debbie Gerst, Joelle Emerson, Kristy Hickson, Marva Hopewell-Hatcher, Nancy Bateman, Vikki Kasperek, Cassidy Taylor, Ethel Frankling and Katerina Tyner and Becky Ross, Jackie Swisher, Norma Richards, Antoinette Smith, Christine Morton, Christine Morton,

Jason Strzalkowski, Sarah Igonin, Tina Peebles, Debbie Johnson, Jennifer Lange, Kimberly Rhodes, Laura Fleming, Mark Scarbrough and Kathy Courter and Joe Marino, Virginia Falk, Angie Ashford, Deb Rushlow, Deborah Mounsey, Debra Meier, Erin Mastrogiacomio, Jackie Floro, Jessica Adelman, Kristina Brashear, Shandra Pettway and Joanne Grant and Debby Cunningham and Spring Jackson, Stacey Lucas, Tracy Bryant, Virginia Hogg, Felecia Frederick, Julie Dobek, Kelly Jesue and Cristen Belloni, Lisa Preuss, Marva Hopewell-Hatcher, Rebecca Tennis, Sarah Lang and Angela Harding, Aleisa Pitt, Alexandra Richardson, Amy Morning,

Angela Scroggie, Christine Roperti, Diane Spence, Erica Johnson, Erica Johnson (Media Center), Holly Sullivan, Jaclynn Behrendt, Janice Fidh, Jennifer Kitchen, Jill Johnson, Nicole McCraight, Rachael Hatcher, Sarah Taylor, Shannon Youngs, Tania Bos, Ursela Wester

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Vikki Kasperek

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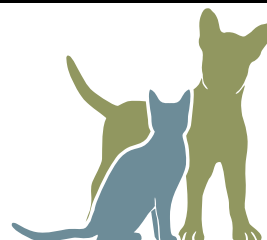
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41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits - 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. \$135,000

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41577 MCBRIDE, VAN BUREN
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23560 SUMPTER, SUMPTER TWP
RESIDENTIAL OR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY. Possible Residential, Day Care, Group Home, Apartments or Your Ideas Large front covered porch. Fire System. 10 Bedrooms, 2 Apartment Kitchens, 5 Bathrooms. \$225,000

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17164 RENTON, VAN BUREN TWP
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