



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.26 Thursday, June 25, 2020

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



*Independent photo by James Otzman*

On Sunday the annual Father's Day Car Show put on Cinnamons was held at Victory Park with social distancing and some masks. This is the first car show of the year since the COVID-19 shutdown and car-lovers came out to enjoy the day. The Cinnamon car show usually is part of the Strawberry Festival, but there was no festival this year. Promoters of the annual Monday car show on Main Street are hoping to be allowed to begin that weekly show in July.

## VBT PD gives detailed report following protest march against brutality

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

Van Buren Township police officials gave a detailed report on their department's arrests for the past two years following the June 12 march against police brutality that ended up at their headquarters.

At the beginning of the June 16 virtual Zoom meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Public Safety Director Greg Laurain and Police Chief Jason Wright were present virtually.

Director Laurain said the previous Friday there was a protest without incident with 150 to 200 attendees. He said they made contact with march organizer Survivors Speak and told them VBT police would be there that day to make sure they were safe.

He said there was an operational plan.

Laurain said it went two-and-a-half hours without incident, except that a woman collapsed from heat exhaustion.

"I participated and I thought it was well-handled," said Trustee Sherry Frazier, adding there was a police presence, but not over-presence.

Trustee Kevin Martin said they did an excellent job and people were compliant. He said he appreciated the work the police did and everyone was respectful.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said the City of Belleville lent the township its officers and he thanked them.

Trustee Paul White said he stayed at the township hall instead of marching. He said

*(continued on page 8)*

## Van Buren Twp. candidates introduce themselves

The absentee ballots for the Aug. 4 primary election are expected to be mailed out this week and so the *Independent* is providing the responses candidates gave to our questionnaires so voters can consider their choices.

In Van Buren Township, the supervisor, clerk, and treasurer are unopposed, but there are seven running for four trustee seats. Six trustee candidates are Democrats, plus one Republican.

### Kevin McNamara for supervisor - D

Kevin McNamara, 61, 44712 Greenbriar Dr., who is completing his first four-year term as supervisor, has filed for reelection.

McNamara is married to Aida and has a son Cullan and daughter Jamie. He has lived in the township for eight years. He has a bachelor's degree in Political Science / Urban Planning from the University of Michigan and also graduated from Harvard University's Executives in Government Program.

He served as Wayne County Commissioner and was a member of Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees.

He has been appointed to the following public offices: SEMCOG Executive Committee - Chairman of Finances, Detroit Wayne County Airport Board of Directors - Chairman of Audit, Detroit Wayne County Mental Health Authority and many other boards and commissions.

The clubs and organizations to which he has belonged includes: Most Holy Trinity Church (past chairman and grand marshal of St. Patrick's Downtown Parade), Chamber of Commerce, WAVE (help pay indigent residents' water bills), Lions, Eagles, Moose, BYC, Friends of Library, Museum (BAM), Council of the Arts, ACLU, Sierra Club, Southwest Wayne County Democratic Club, and Western Wayne NAACP.

McNamara said he is running for office to continue the township's plan to create a Premier Community, with exceptional amenities like rebuilt parks, walking trails,

playgrounds, a community center, splash pads, pickle ball courts, and a new lakeside park.

"As a lake community, I would like to improve our lake amenities while protecting the health of our number-one asset - Belleville Lake," he said. "To constantly improve our police and new full-time firefighter forces. To build a community that works together, embraces our diversity, and celebrates our accomplishments - Together."

Once he is reelected his goals are: "To maintain the second-lowest municipal taxes in Wayne County, the lowest water rates, and driving the cost of homes to create wealth for our residents. To create synergies to pay for expanded amenities through public and private grants and working with local charities, non-profits and the community fund to create these amenities (the same system we used to build the Splash Pad). To control growth that does not fit our community character (like purchasing the Ford Land at Tyler and Belleville Road). To continue to provide a safe place for families to live and raise their children. To continue to fiscally guarantee that our community can do all of these things without raising taxes."

### Leon Wright for clerk - D

Leon Wright, 59, 9961 Andover Dr., is running for reelection as township clerk. He has lived in the township for 26 years.

He and his wife Janice have two sons, Leondre and Jabari.

Wright has earned designation as Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) from Central Michigan University. He has served as VBT clerk since his first election in 2008 and has been reelected since.

Wright belongs to the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Association of Wayne County Clerks, and Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority.

*(continued on page 3)*



McNamara



Wright

*Postal Regulations Require  
 This Space On The Front Page.*





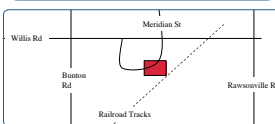
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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## VBT candidates

(continued from page 1)

Wright enjoys golfing, running, and biking and belongs to the Wyoming Warriors, a church golf league.

"Prior to being elected clerk in 2008, I was a business owner in the community in which I live," Wright said. "I was actively engaged in the political landscape and was asked to run for local office. The reason I'm running for this office again is because I really enjoy what I do. I enjoy engaging with the public and working to make a change in what they can see. I believe I have done so and I still have the passion to do more."

His goals once elected: "Although we have made great strides in election reform, I believe there is still room for improvement. We need to offer every process which proves itself to be efficient and safe regarding elections. This will continue to offer voters every accessibility possible to express their vote."

### Sharry A. Budd for treasurer - D

Sharry A. Budd, 78, 42700 N. I-94 Service Dr., is running for reelection as treasurer.

She has lived in the township for 56.5 years and her spouse is deceased. Her children are James, Jeffrey, and Jay and all are married. She has eight grandchildren.



Budd

Budd is a graduate of Huron High School, New Boston; Wayne County Community College District, and is a Certified Public Finance Official.

She also was elected to the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education and as VBT treasurer. Budd was appointed deputy clerk of Van Buren Township in 1992.

She belongs to September Days, the Historical Society, the Van Buren Civic Fund, as well as Michigan Municipal Treasurers and Wayne County Treasurers.

Budd said she is running for reelection because, "I want to continue to serve our community. I believe I understand the needs and wants of our residents. My commitment and integrity will help Van Buren Township grow responsibly."

Budd said, "My goal after the pandemic and unrest is to help our community be safe and to treat everyone equally. We had projects going before the shut down and together we will come back."

Six Democrats and one Republican are running for four trustee positions open.

### Sherry Frazier for trustee - D

Sherry Frazier, 71, 41167 S. I-94 Service Dr., a Democrat, is running for reelection as trustee. She has lived in the township for 38 years. Her husband Wayne is deceased and their children are William, Suanna, and

Andrew.

Frazier is a retired educator and current realtor. She has bachelor's degrees from both Eastern Michigan University and University of Michigan.

She served on the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education for 11 years, being elected three times and is completing her four-term term as a VBT trustee after her first election to the board.

Frazier was appointed to the board of TLN (The Library Network), formerly known as Wayne Oakland Library Federation, and was appointed to RESA – the Regional Education System Association.

Frazier belongs to the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, the League of Women Voters, Southwest Wayne County Democratic Club, Friends of the Library and Museum Historical Society.

She said she is running for office "To continue progress and growth of VBT. To develop more resident involvement and better transparency. We need more recreation and education opportunities for all – young and old. Attract public transportation, so all residents have access."

Once elected she would like to: "Build community pride. To attract quality businesses to grow our tax base. To develop property across from township hall into what the residents see as VBT pride."

### Kevin Martin for trustee - D

Kevin Martin, 64, of 9405 Madison Dr., is running for reelection as trustee. He has lived in the township for 23 years.

Martin is an electrician at General Motors and attended Henry Ford College Apprenticeship Training and general studies. He was elected trustee in 2016.

He belongs to the following organizations: A. Philip Randolph Institute, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Regional Advisory Council on Civil and Human Rights and the UAW. His hobbies include reading and gardening.

Martin said he is running for reelection to continue the work started in his first term as Van Buren Township trustee.

"If I have the privilege of being reelected, my goals are to work with Supervisor McNamara, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd and the other trustees to build a community center to expand the programming of the Recreation Department, support the Public Safety Departments by ensuring that they receive all of the training and equipment necessary to maintain our reputation



Frazier

as a safe community and work towards expanding suitable housing options for our senior community with developments that blend seamlessly into their surroundings," Martin said.

### Reggie Miller for trustee - D

Reggie Miller, 13697 Pond Bluff Dr., has lived in VBT for 20 years, after first moving to Belleville in 1996. She is completing her second term as trustee.

She earned her bachelor's degree in Business Administration, where she majored in marketing and graduated *summa cum laude* from Cleary University, Ann Arbor. She also earned an Associate degree with a double major in marketing and communications from Purdue University North Central, Indiana.

Miller also is a graduate of the Michigan Political Leadership Program at Michigan State University, from the multi-partisan progressive leadership program on effective governance. She also is a graduate of the Township Governance Academy from the Michigan Township Association.

Miller began serving as VBT trustee in 2012. Since then, she has served as the board liaison for both the Senior Endowment Committee and the Elections Committee and she's an active member of the Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club, a member of the Lions Club, and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, to name a few.

Previously, Miller served as the former vice chair of the Public Safety Committee, Executive Director of the National Strawberry Festival, and vice president of the Belleville Downtown Development Authority. She is a member of the League of Women Voters. She has volunteered for two homeowners associations, serving in different roles, and was a former Savage School volunteer in the resource room and has volunteered over the years throughout the community. She also volunteers for the Salvation Army annual holiday kettle drive.

Miller is a member of the alumni groups of Cleary University, Purdue, and Michigan State University.

She is married to her college sweetheart and they raised their two children in the community. She enjoys gardening, photography, traveling, and bike riding. She and her husband are members of Trinity Episcopal Church.

"I am running again for township trustee because I believe that local government works best when focused on serving residents' needs, and I will continue to bring that same level of service and commitment to the VBT board with complete passion. As township trustee, I will continue to



Miller

work hard to develop Van Buren Township to be a vibrant and welcoming township that provides a substantial quality of life for all.

"The decisions at our township matter because local government impacts the everyday life of township residents. These decisions impact your home, garbage collection, police and fire services, the aging population, community events and venues, to neighborhood parks and trails. These key factors contribute to quality of life for everyone.

"As your township trustee, most importantly, I will continue to be your voice and will bring forward the issues that matter most to you. I will continue to preserve, promote and protect our community, while being fiscally responsible with our township budget. I will continue to take a common-sense approach to serving the hardworking taxpayers of our community by listening to their concerns.

"I also believe in community service work and recently secured grants for the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund and have helped many residents during the pandemic with issues that ranged from unemployment, food assistance, and child-care-related issues. I will work hard for you because I have a passion for the work that I do as your public servant."

As to her many goals, Miller said, "I am running with the vision to preserve, promote, and protect Van Buren Township...

"I will be a voice for the residents and not for personal gain," she said. "I hope to be reelected because I feel that we need to work towards a sense of openness, fairness, and civility among the people who work, live, and serve our township.

"I have gotten to know many of the police, fire, and township personnel, and they are also a great asset to the township. I have worked very hard for the residents, and I do my homework on agenda items. My commitment to the township has been demonstrated by an excellent attendance record," she said.

### Paul White for trustee - D

Paul White, 79, of 17329 Haggerty Rd., has lived in the township for 55 years. He is seeking his second term as trustee. He previously served as township supervisor.

He is married to Sue and they have one son. White is retired from Kroger after serving as a meat manager. He graduated from high school and has two years of college.

White enjoys travel, fishing, photography and helping the Blue Bird population to increase.



White

(continued on page 10)

# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Absentee ballots should be on the way to you any minute

According to the schedule released by the state the absentee ballots should be on their way any minute to local clerks who will then be sending them out to voters to fill out for the primary election.

We worked to get information on local candidates so voters will have time to read their backgrounds, look at their pictures, and consider their choices. We know the election isn't until Aug. 4, but once the ballot is in your hands, the election has begun.

Some prefer to vote in person, but with the coronavirus still in the air, those voters may be fewer. This is looking to be a record year for absentee ballots.

We appreciate the candidates who cooperated with our project and sent in their thoughts and their versions of their backgrounds for voters to consider. Of course, there is always more to each story, but this is what they are presenting for your consideration in their own words.

Some didn't send pictures. One township candidate didn't send anything, so we wrote up his section from his 2016 answers. Should be pretty close.

There are 17 candidates running for seven offices in Sumpter and 10 candidates running for seven offices in Van Buren. We ran out of space in this week's paper, so information on the candidates for 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge and Michigan House Districts 12, 17, and 21, which cover this area, will be published next week.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

On Monday, the 34th District Court tried to hold a preliminary exam via Zoom. The prosecutor, defense attorney, defendant and Judge Tina Brooks Green were all ready to start with their pictures in place on Zoom and good audio.

The only witness was Sumpter Township Police Sgt. Brian Steffani. He was sworn in via Zoom from his home and then his testimony began.

He said it was shortly after 3 a.m. March 2 on Oakville Waltz Road at Haggerty where he was sitting stationary in a fully marked, Ford Explorer police car doing his sergeant's duties, working at correcting officers' reports, when a larger pickup truck went by eastbound, loud and traveling close to 80 mph in the 50 mph speed zone. Sgt. Steffani testified he was facing westbound, so he turned his car around and ...

Sgt. Steffani's image was frozen and his voice kept coming and going. Crackling. Earlier his image had been freezing and blacking out with static. Judge Green asked him to go outside and noted that often you can lose cell phone service in certain areas of Sumpter Township. She asked where Steffani was and he said if he stepped back any further, he'd be in Lake Erie. He wasn't in Sumpter.

Judge Green said, "The witness is the only one who isn't fine. He's freezing in and out. It's just not acceptable for testimony. We're going to have to reschedule. You have to get a connection. Maybe, you'll have to go to the police department."

Sgt. Steffani said he couldn't leave his home just then because he's got his children to watch. The preliminary exam was rescheduled until Wednesday at noon,



which was good with Steffani, and Judge Green told him he should be somewhere with a stable connection.

These Zoom connections sometimes don't work out so well for meetings. It's better than not meeting at all, but when the images and voices freeze, it is so hard to continue. It will be nice when we can all get back to do business face to face – mask or not.

\*\*\*

One person told me she drank wine while watching a municipal Zoom meeting at home. It made the boring meeting go better.

When I signed on to the Van Buren Township DDA meeting on Tuesday afternoon, some of the members were talking about what was the best wine to drink while taking part in a Zoom meeting.

I noticed one board member at another Zoom board meeting was drinking out of an insulated cup. It looked like it could have been coffee, but at 8 o'clock at night? I'm betting it was another wine sipper.

\*\*\*

I've been told that on Monday, Meijer asked the Channel 2 TV camera truck, that was in its parking lot for the Egypt Covington protest, to move, so it did go over to Quirk Park. The television report on the protest march was on the 10 o'clock news from the park. Family and friends were asking for justice for Egypt, who was murdered three years ago. No one has been arrested or prosecuted for the crime and

they are upset that Van Buren Police haven't arrested anyone. They have put increasing pressure on township officials to give the case to the Michigan State Police if VBT can't solve it. VBT police have said they believe they know who did the crime, but don't have enough hard evidence to prosecute successfully.

On Monday, the protestors walked with their signs to the township hall to voice their request again and then to Quirk Park where the memorial to Egypt stands, put there by her father.

We're sure the VBT police also want to find justice for Egypt. It's breaking everyone's hearts.

\*\*\*

I received three reports over the week end of two women seen taking piles of our papers from places where we distribute them in Sumpter Township to destroy them.

Must have been a really good issue.

We used to have that problem 25 years ago when we were first starting up our paper and then again years later when other papers were trying to put us out of business. We just keep plugging away.

\*\*\*



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## Letters

### To Gretchen: Working people won't forget

To the editor:

Here's my message to the governor. Dearest Gretchen, let's talk.

Since this whole Covid virus took place, you have basically shut down business in the state of Michigan. Point in case, your continual extending the date to allow Michigan to be able to fully open up, has caused small businesses like mine to lose almost 90% of their business.

Oh, before you say it, I have only been around for less than three years, and have 0 employees, thus I don't qualify for any government dole. I have to make it on my own. And, with you closing every kind of industry, my simple lines of product has fallen flat, period.

I do realize, according to the media, that every one should be at home, joyfully either living off the money that they have saved or on the government dole. See, the problem you and your leftist media friends have laid out, no real working person can live by; fact of the matter, not every one works for the auto industry.

Even high-paying jobs are all disappearing, since, well, you closed them up. They aren't coming back. CEOs are using these excuses to "right size" their businesses, cutting loose millions of people.

You have championed face masks, social distancing, and staying home. The first two, can easily be done, and returning the work force to its former glory. Oops, I already mentioned how you have killed that, sorry.

I guess those long boat rides up north, means screw you, silly ordinary folks. Everyday people are losing everything, and there are no easy answers to what they (we) are going to do. At least, you have several more years on your contract, then you will face the folly of your actions with the voters. Just because you are a Democrat, does you no good; people remember who put them out on the street, destroyed their lives and killed it for the small businesses in this state.

You see, you really believe the poop you spew; that doesn't pay our bills or feed the millions of people in this state. We (and I) can no longer afford your policies. We demand you open up the state, for businesses, and allow all of us to make a living, and go back and better our lives.

If you are going to keep our state closed, at least do us the favor, and pay us the lost and future wages we are due. If not, enjoy the rest of your time as governor; it will be a very short while, thankfully for the working people of Michigan.

Bob Balderston  
Belleville

"Genius without education is like silver in the mine."  
— Benjamin Franklin

## Celebrating fathers brings many emotions

To the editor:

This is a day, weekend that has many emotions. It is the celebration of fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, fathers-to-be and to those fathers who have made their transition. It is a weekend that brings about remembrances of days, times that were happy and carefree. It is a melancholy week end.

Fathers from all eras, walk of life can enjoy the honor of their children, family giving them gifts of a variety of items; little ones shining their dad's shoes, helping to wash his car -- many different ways of celebrating our fathers -- drawing special pictures, cards, all expressing memorable events.

Yes, there will be tears of sadness and of joy. Giving Dad a big hug tells a story of how fathers can be the best influence on his family, community and the world.

Bless the fathers who are in the military and cannot be home with their families; a prayer for those fathers who have lost their lives.

I drop tears for the service of these fathers who have given so much to society.

Marian Caldwell  
Ypsilanti/Belleville

## Thank you, St. Jude

To the editor:

I have been blessed two times from St. Jude's Novena. Say this prayer nine times a day. By the eighth day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. It has to have publication in the paper. S.F., Belleville

St. Jude's Novena

May the sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the helpless, pray for us.



June 24 – Carol Dolph  
June 27 – Tim Craiger, Jeff Schonscheck  
June 28 – Mary Ann Loechli, Jean Wilder  
July 1 – Helen Wylie  
July 2 – Becca Roberts, Linda A. Mitchell  
July 3 – Karen Monte  
July 4 – Independence Day, America  
July 5 – Don Johnson, Anthony Richendollar, Joseph Sixbey

Do you or someone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* and we will publish as soon as possible.



# Obituaries



Diana Jean Campbell

## DIANA JEAN CAMPBELL

(June 12, 1948 – June 19, 2020)

Diana J. Campbell, age 72, of Belleville, passed away on June 19, 2020. Beloved wife of Ronald Campbell. Loving mother of Brian (Julie) Campbell and Michael (Kelly) Campbell. Dearest grandmother of Mckenzey, Trevor, Blake and Seth and great-grandmother of Zander and Colton. Dear sister of John Bokon and Jackie Kremhelmer.

Diana was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan on June 12, 1948. She graduated from Belleville High School in 1966 and worked for Van Buren Public Schools for over 30 years with her longest tenure being at Haggerty Elementary School. She was known by all as Lady Di. She was married to Ronald Campbell on September 7, 1968. On May 8, 1971 and on May 10, 1974 she welcomed her two handsome boys Brian and Michael.

Diana was a founding executive board member of the Belleville Band Boosters. She was the very first Belleville Band Booster secretary and the second person to hold the office of band booster President. Years after leaving office, she remained a proud supporter of the program. Diana enjoyed reading, flowers, crocheting, genealogy and spending time with her family, especially her grandkids. She was a well-known cook both for dinners and sweets, especially her Chicken Paprikash and sugar cookies! Diana was a highly organized person who was extremely self-less and would take care of others before herself.

She will be dearly missed by many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends, especially her family. She is preceded in death by her parents Louis and Jane Bokon.

Services were 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Michigan Memorial Park.

## Jonathan Damon, Megan Martin named to Northern Mich. Univ. Dean's List

Northern Michigan University has announced the Dean's List for its 2020 Winter semester.

Jonathan Damon of Belleville qualified with a grade point average of 4.00.

Megan Martin of Belleville qualified with a grade point average of 3.50-3.99.

## Keystone Academy Board reelects Vesta Losen as president

Vesta Losen of Van Buren Township was reelected president of the Keystone Academy Board of Directors at its annual meeting held as a virtual Google Meet on May 14.

Losen has been a member of the board since Keystone started 18 years ago and its president for many years. She also had been an elected member of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education before that.

Darren Higgonbottom was reelected vice president, Charlene Derrick was reelected treasurer, and Patricia Kirkpatrick was elected secretary taking the place of secretary Connie Shull who is leaving the board.

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| Casket 5 colors made in U.S.A. .... | \$1,395.00 |
| Grave Liner .....                   | \$700.00   |
| Register Book Package .....         | \$140.00   |
| 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 |
| Register Book Package .....    | \$140.00   |
| Crematory .....                | \$180.00   |
| Cremation Authorization .....  | \$75.00    |
| Total .....                    | \$6,380.00 |
| Same Day Service .....         | \$5,885.00 |

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# Obituaries



David M. Makarewich

## DAVID M. MAKAREWICH

David M. Makarewich, age 77, of Augusta Township, MI, passed away Monday, June 15, 2020 at Superior Woods Healthcare Center, Ypsilanti, MI.

He was born in 1942 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of Alex & Mae (Walikainen) Makarewich. Dave graduated from Lincoln High School in 1960. After graduation he served our country in the U.S. Navy for three years. After his service he earned an Associate Degree from Washtenaw Community College in Skilled Trades. He was employed for many years in the Tool Room at the Rawsonville Ford Plant. Dave enjoyed gardening and golfing with his wife Barbara, who he married in 1965. Sadly, Barbara passed away in 2012. In his retirement Dave enjoyed attending EMU football and basketball games. Every person he met became his friend.

Dave is survived by his sister, Jean Helzerman and brother-in-law Lyn; his brother Dan and sister-in-law Barbara and nieces, nephews and their children. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Barbara and older brother Alex. Dave was a member of Stony Creek United Methodist Church. The family would like to thank the staff of Arbor Hospice and Superior Woods Health Care Center, especially Erin Barker.

According to his wishes, a dignified cremation has taken place. A family internment service will be conducted at a future date. Memorial contributions may be made to Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

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Susan K. Cappelli

## SUSAN KAY CAPPELLI

Susan K. Cappelli, age 63, of Sumpter Twp., June 18, 2020. Beloved wife of David Cappelli. Loving mother of Tammy Nichols. Dearest grandmother of Kyle, Allissa and D'Anthony. She is also survived by her brother Danny (Helen) Knox and her sisters Debbie (Douglas) Downard, Anita Knox and Dorothy (Ron) Parker. She is preceded in death by her parents Charles and Clara Knox and her brother Jimmy Knox. Service was Monday, 3:00 PM at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation was Monday, 1:00 - 3:00 PM. She will be taken by Horse-Drawn Carriage to Michigan Memorial Park for interment.

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Rhonda Kay Webb

## RHONDA KAY WEBB

(April 19, 1968 – June 18, 2020)

Rhonda Kay Webb, age 52, Belleville-area resident, passed away suddenly, early Thursday, June 18, 2020 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, MI.

She was born April 19, 1968 in Wayne, MI, daughter of Lynn Evelyn Mason. She was a member of the Lincoln High School class of 1986. She enjoyed taking nutrition classes at Eastern Michigan University and received her certificate in 1993. Rhonda was a former board member and 4-H Alumni, County and State (5th place) and Homemaker of the Year Award Winner 2003-2004. She was an avid community Volunteer for Tri-City (Now Connections), Walker-Winter Elementary School, Wayne County Fair Grounds and various 4-H clubs until health complications arose. She truly loved giving back and helping bring beauty into the world.

She is survived by her loving husband of 18 years Ronald J. Webb; two daughters, Rebecca (Eric) Gilbert of Belleville, MI and Renée Webb of Belleville, MI; grandson Sawyer Gilbert; granddaughter Eliana Gilbert; mother Lynn Elliott of Belleville, MI; two brothers, Carl (Anita Arika) Mason of Ypsilanti, MI and Michael Elliott of Belleville, MI; also extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her father.

According to her wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded. A Memorial Celebration is being planned and will be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue or Huron Valley Humane Society and would be appreciated.

## DONALD EDWARD FARMER

(March 29, 1992 – June 21, 2020)

Age 28, of Belleville, passed away suddenly. Survived by his parents Don and Barb Farmer of Belleville, grandfather Cecil Farmer of Harrison Township, sister Crystal, son Lucas and his mother Brittney Ferguson of Taylor.

[www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com)

## Motorcyclist dies after collision with deer on Bemis Rd. in Sumpter

At about 9:47 p.m. Saturday, six motorcycles were eastbound on Bemis Road west of Renton Road when several deer entered the roadway and the lead cyclist was unable to avoid a collision. The driver lost control and was thrown from his bike, said Sumpter Township Police Chief Eric Luke. The driver, a 22-year-old Belleville man, sustained severe injuries and was transported by ambulance to a local hospital where he died.

Two other riders also crashed after striking or attempting to swerve around the first crashed bike. One sustained moderate, non-life-threatening injuries, and was taken by ambulance to a local hospital, Chief Luke said.



# VBT

(continued from page 1)

he was very thankful it was peaceful and the police did a magnificent job of keeping oversight of this march.

Trustee Reggie Miller said she was unable to attend because she had an injury and was on crutches. She said as leaders they will need to keep watch on this and, "We will shape this process going forward."

Supervisor McNamara said three years ago VBT adopted President Obama's deescalating policies.

"I was asked to sign the Obama pledge and I did," he said.

McNamara said the happiest thing was that the officers' arms were tired because they were waving at so many citizens who were waving at them.

"Mr. George Floyd has sparked protests," Laurain said, adding his death was "grotesque, inhumane, and just wrong."

He said it sickened law enforcement across the country and especially Van Buren Township. He said the township has professionals answering calls.

Because of the actions of a few rogue cops, police policies and procedures are under a microscope and rightly so, he said.

Laurain said the police manual was reformed in 2015 and officers get the latest in contemporary training.

"We prohibit neck holds and restraints... and require verbal warnings before deadly force ... and there is comprehensive reporting... It's already in our manual," he said.

Chief Wright said the use of force is critical and police leaders need to know the details. He said officers use deescalation, must intercede if excessive force is being used, report excessive force, complete excessive force form and this is reviewed several times. He said excessive force is only when necessary.

Chief Wright said there is annual training on the use of force and yearly reports on what the department does.

Chief Wright said in 2018 there were 23,592 calls for service, 1,394 arrests, and 22 uses of force, which were reviewed and found appropriate.

"People fail to comply causing us to use force," Wright said, noting a fleeing felon had to be tackled and a taser was pointed

at a felon with weapons. And, they had to euthanize a deer that was hurt.

In 2018, of the 22 uses of force, it was 7 female and 15 male; 9 African-Americans and 13 Caucasian, with an average age of 34.

In 2019, there were 24,172 calls for service and 1,549 arrests. There were 36 uses of force – all appropriate – and a couple of animals were euthanized, he said.

In 2019, of the 36 uses of force there were 10 females and 26 males; 22 African-Americans and 15 Caucasian, with an average age of 28.

There were 200 more physical arrests, Wright said.

"We don't allow any kinds of neck controls," Wright said.

He said in 2018, they discharged their tasers twice and in 2019 they pointed the tasers three times to get compliance, but there was no firing.

In 2018, one officer was bitten and five subjects were injured, one with a self-inflicted gunshot and one with a self-inflicted cut.

In 2019 one officer was bitten and three had self-inflicted injuries.

"Our officers are deescalating," Wright said. "We don't want to hurt anyone and bring improper conduct to the newspapers."

"We've never reported these numbers before," said Supervisor McNamara.

Trustee Martin thanked Chief Wright for the report, adding this is transparent and it makes the board aware of what township police are doing and how they are trained.

Clerk Leon Wright thanked them for the report and said the township has "a very, very good police department. And, it comes from the top down. Starting with the township board down. Putting out the right message."

Clerk Wright said, "More is caught than taught. We can talk but how we act makes the difference."

He said 2% make police departments look bad, 2% elected officials, 2% lawyers.

"You have to put it in action. Kids catch the action they see, not what you tell them. Your actions get their attention," he said. "You need to walk the talk."

"I don't think the rally had much to do with our department at all," Clerk Wright said. "We want to talk about it."

Trustee Frazier thanked the director and

chief for proactive policing attitude, which is out in front and makes an excellent police force that does their job. People look to the police as their friend and she appreciates them reaching out to the schools, as well.

"I'm proud of our police department and what they've done," said Treasurer Sharry Budd.

Supervisor McNamara said there will be more reports in the future.

"This is a tough job cops have got ... That's why we track these things," he said, adding the township will join with the City of Belleville in hosting the Listening Tour and it probably will be held at Belleville High School Auditorium.

He said the 18 communities in the Council of Western Wayne and the NAACP will have several stops on its listening tour where they will hear underlying issues.

"It's our job to listen," McNamara said.

In other business in the almost two-hour meeting, the board:

- Approved the final reading of an ordinance change to rezone a part of 1043 Savage Rd. from M-1, Light Industrial, to R-1B, Single-Family Residential. This is the sixth parcel rezoned without charge from the township in that area;

- Heard an update on Parks & Recreation reopening of parks;

- Approved an audit by Plante Moran of all township funds for the 2019 fiscal year. The audit received an unmodified opinion, the highest level;

- Learned the COVID-19 activities are costing more than anticipated and so approved adding money to the line item. Treasurer Budd said they got a \$25,000 grant and the township added \$10,000 which totaled \$35,000 in the COVID

revenue line item. She said they've spent \$44,000 so far, so she asked for \$60,000 to be put into the COVID expense line item and the board voted unanimously to do so. "We'll only spend what we need to spend," Budd said. "The rest will go back anyway";

- Heard Supervisor McNamara say he wanted the weblink for the Zoom meetings on the front page of the website next time because people are having problems finding how to sign on;

- Heard Clerk Wright announce the township offices will be closed on Friday, July 3 in observance of the Fourth of July holiday. Also, he said the township has 23,000 registered voters and there have been 4,160 requests for absentee ballots, averaging 300 per day. He said it looks like a record turnout for the primary;

- Heard James Foley say he disagreed with the township board's vote at the June 2 meeting to not bring the German volunteer to the senior center this year. McNamara said it can be brought back to the agenda if two trustees ask in writing for it to come back and give it to him. Frazier and White said they would do so. Foley said he had more important information to share with the board about the German student who is coming from a community of 36,000 people that had 200 COVID-19 cases and no deaths. He said 50-60 volunteers have been accepted in the U.S. for 2020. "I don't believe it's an impossible obstacle to overcome," Foley said. McNamara said he would talk with Foley the next day; and

- Heard Clerk Wright say some employees have concerns with their health and want to work from home. McNamara said he did not want to discuss this in public.



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## Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Congratulations to members of the Belleville High School Class of 2020 as they hold their ceremony this Saturday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the BHS football field. The grads will line up in groups alphabetically and a limit of four people may attend per senior. Seniors must wear masks and social distancing guidelines will be in place. No messaging or advertising on graduation caps allowed. Visit the Van Buren School's website for the group times. I know it hasn't been easy for students, staff and everyone behind the scenes this second semester, but we'll get past this. All the best to you this summer and beyond. A special shout out to my great-nephew and John Glenn senior John Thaddeus Mytych. You did it, buddy. Xoxo

As of this week, and as the country continues to re-open, our Thunder Over Michigan Air Show at Willow Run Airport is still on for Aug. 29-30 with tickets available on its website at [www.yankeeairmuseum.org](http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org). The headliners are the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and the F-35 Lightning II Demo Team, battle re-enactments, warbirds and flyable aircraft the museum owns, and other civilian and military performers. The daily schedule is out and is being updated all the time. The airport grounds will open at 9 a.m. with two sessions of performances each day beginning with Act 1 from 10:30 a.m. until noon, and Act 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. The F-35 Demo is going to be incredible, never seeing it perform before in public. It's their first season for the demo team based in Utah. But the coolest fact about the team, is that its lead pilot is a female. It's about time. In fact, she's number one for this inaugural season and for 2021. Can't wait.

The Thunder Over Michigan airshow will also feature airplane rides, a kids' zone, and photo tours, like in the past. Their list of attending aircraft should be posted soon and updated as we move through summer. The Air Force Thunderbirds have a female pilot (lead solo) for their second air show season in a row. Perhaps the Blue Angels will have one or two female pilots in the coming years. Hurry August, but take your time getting here. LOL.

How is everyone hanging in there during our community wide time-out, sort of? If you're like me, you're venturing out cautiously hitting your favorite restaurants and stores, going after some of those essential items that seem to be a tad easier to find these days, while practicing social distancing. I've heard that some restaurants and businesses in the area are seeing more traffic. I know I've never been to our hometown Sumpter Ace more than I have these past few months and I might as well throw A&W into that mix. I'm getting used to wearing masks at CVS, Menards and Meijer and I wish I could earn frequent flyer miles on Amazon. Has anybody bought from Wayfair? Got my eyes on a few things I didn't know they sold in stores. I miss tennis and my Tigers, at least on tv. My water garden at home could be on the cover of Pond Illustrated, if there was such a publication. Please continue to support local businesses.

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

## Local Democrats to hold Zoom session with Kym Worthy, Puri, Petzold

The Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club will hold an on-line Zoom meeting at 7 p.m., Thursday, June 25, with special guest speaker Wayne County Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy, who is running for reelection.

Also present and making remarks will be Michigan House District #21 Democratic candidates Ethan Petzold and Ranjeev Puri.

Join the Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89938953737?pwd=VldiRVFONk9VbnpxVzMrWllzVloyQT09>

Meeting ID is 899 3895 3737 and Password is 479808.

Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and click on "Join Meeting" and enter the meeting ID and password.

If you are unable to join via internet, call (312) 626-6799, enter the meeting ID and password and you can connect via cell phone.

For more information, contact club president Terree O'Neil Darling at (313) 971-5027 or secretary Debbie Chamberlain at (734) 634-3569.

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# VBT candidates

(continued from page 3)

He said he is running for office to try to control unnecessary public expenditures and general expense of public funds, plus outrageous raises to friend.

Once reelected his goal is to open the door for residents to speak out on excessive spending and provide recreation activities for all residents.

## Donald Boynton, Jr. for trustee - D

Donald Boynton, Jr., 57, 13237 Dover Ct., is running for election as trustee. He and his wife Karen have been married for 25 years and marrying her has been "without a doubt, the best decision of my life," he said.

Boynton has lived in the township for 15 years and this is his first run for elective office. He currently is serving his fourth term (13 years) on the VBT Planning Commission and he also is serving as the commission representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

He belongs to Country Walk 3 Homeowners Association and was elected president in 2006. He is a golf aficionado and belongs to the American Association of Planning, Michigan Association of Planners, and Michigan Township Association.

When asked why he is running for office, Boynton said, "Van Buren Township has it all: family-oriented neighborhoods and suburban amenities in conjunction with a unique relationship alongside a strong agricultural background. Two square miles of lake providing fantastic recreational amenities and magnificent business / commercial / industrial development opportunities served by intermodal transportation.

"Over the past 13 years I have participated in a solid, progressive, and collaborative environment in the development of Van Buren Township. This accomplishment is due primarily to taking the views, comments and concerns of my fellow residents to various sub-committee meetings (e.g. Medical

Marihuana, Belleville Lake, Master Plan and overlay district plan reviews, Zoning/General Ordinance revisions) to provide the required services and protections for the residents and property of the township.

"I am a proven leader and manager known for budgeting and forecasting, technical/product knowledge, conflict resolution, team building, personable nature, fair decision making, understanding personality, ethical behavior, integrity, sharp perception, good communication, teamwork, wisdom, inspiration and motivation. Additionally, I am skilled in building productive relationships with co-workers, administrators, and officials in both the private and public sectors.

"Decisions made by our township board impact all aspects of both value of property and quality of life of us all, young and old. I pledge to represent the residents of VBT with my proven leadership, experience, with integrity and transparency; endeavor to prescribe financial efficacy of our tax dollars through strategic planning and forecasting; aim to deliver knowledgeable and sensible decisions on community services and conservation of our natural environment; and maintain and/or improve the quality of life for all residents and advocate unity throughout the township," Boynton said.

His goals are to form a Homeowners Association Coalition or Council, establish a community park/center adjacent to the lakefront to provide access/enjoyment for all township residents; and oversight of township HR policies and procedures such as labor relations management, recruitment, employee relations, employment law compliance, health and safety, staff training and development.

Boynton said his education includes: Northwood University, production and operations management; Michigan State University Business & Management Center, criminal law-paralegal certificate; MSU Extension, urban planning/land use policy - Master Planner Certificate; and University of Michigan Labor Studies Center, labor and industrial relations - Specialist Certificate.

## Walter S. Rochowiak for trustee - D

Walter S. Rochowiak, 75, 43250 Tyler Rd., is running for election as trustee. He has lived in the township for 71 years. He

is married to E. Joyce Rochowiak.

He has owned and operated his own business - Garden Fantasy - for 47 years. He graduated from Belleville High School, attended two years at Cleary College, and attended DuPage Horticulture School in West Chicago.

He serves on the VBT Water and Sewer Commission and is legislative aide to Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous.

Rochowiak belongs to the Van Buren Eagles, Belleville Moose, St. Anthony's Men's Club, Chamber of Commerce, BYC,



Rochowiak

Friends of Belleville Area District Library, Wayne County Farm Bureau, Southwest Wayne Democratic Club and Metro Detroit Flower Growers' Association.

"I decided to run for office because of the many requests I received to help get the board back on track to working together and stop grandstanding and accomplish projects in a timely fashion and move forward and still keep the people's interests in the forefront," Rochowiak said.

"There are a few trustees that are not working as a whole to accomplish that and have their own agenda. I have watched over the funds in the Water and Sewer Commission for 30 years and feel I can do that as a trustee as our water rates are one

(continued on page 11)



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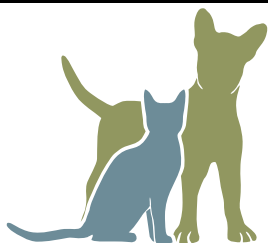
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# VBT candidates

(continued from page 10)

of the lowest around," he said.

As far as his goals, "If I get on the board, I hope to bring all of my knowledge and expertise to the table for the people and the community and be sure that whatever comes to the board is good for everyone."

"The vision has changed over the years and I hope to influence those projects to the

21<sup>st</sup> Century and help make this community a place that the people would be proud of," Rochowiak concluded.

## Cameron Porzondek for trustee – R

Cameron Porzondek, 56, of 14204 Briar Dr., is running for trustee on the Republican ticket. This is the first time he has run for elective office.

Porzondek has been married for 32 years and they have one adult child. He has lived in VBT for 40 years and 16 years in the City of Belleville.

He retired Dec. 1, 2008 as a patrol sergeant with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department after 24 years of service.

He attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor for two years. He belongs to the Wayne County Sheriff Retirees Association. His hobbies include riding bikes, playing cards, working in his yard, traveling, and cruises.

"I am running for office because I think I would add some knowledge to the elected board due to living in the area for my entire life," Porzondek said. "My upbringing and



Porzondek

beliefs are to do the right thing and would add good decision-making during board meetings and elections."

As to goals once elected, "My goals are to work for the community, if elected. The township needs to work closer with Wayne County to make repairs and upgrades to the gravel road, ditches, and drain systems throughout the township. The infrastructure is a mess on the majority of roads in the township. There needs to be some kind of committee put together to work with Wayne County to get the gravel roads repaired, the ditches cleaned and cleared of brush and debris, and the drainage system working properly. With my 24 years working for Wayne County, I think that I would be a good person to get things done to improve these problems."

## Sumpter Township candidates share backgrounds

There are 17 candidates running for seven positions on the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees. The Aug. 4 primary election will whittle that down to nine candidates: seven Democrats and two Republicans.

Four Democrats and one Republican are running for supervisor.

### John W. Morgan for supervisor – D

John W. Morgan, 87, 27555 Sumpter Rd., is running for reelection as supervisor. He has been a Sumpter resident for 44 years. He is married to Beatrice and their children are Jacqueline and Gary.

He retired from the Romulus Community Schools in 1997. He earned a bachelor of science in Education from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from EMU. He



Morgan

also is a U.S. Army veteran.

Morgan was elected Sumpter Township trustee in 1978-80, appointed Sumpter Township treasurer in 1982 and elected treasurer in 1984-2012. He was appointed supervisor in 2014 when the elected Supervisor Johnny Vawters resigned for health reasons. He ran for election in 2016 and won.

Morgan enjoys gardening, fishing, and golf.

"More than any other time, this township needs qualified leaders with experience in solving complex problems and developing strategies to meet new challenges that emerge," said Morgan. "I vow to keep Sumpter safe and secure, as I have for years."

As to his goals, "I am committed to maintaining the rural character of Sumpter Township to the extent that is possible. I will encourage a frugal approach to spending in order to reduce the need for any new taxes. Supporting public safety will be a high priority, along with keeping this township free of commercial marijuana grows," Morgan said.

### Denise Komora for supervisor – D

Denise Komora, 18717 Haggerty Rd., has lived in Sumpter for 55 years. She has a daughter Tomarilyn.

Komora is running for supervisor, her first attempt at elective office.

She graduated from Belleville High School in 1983 and has two years of biology and two years of property tax assessment training. She currently is unemployed.

Komora belongs to the Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club, League of Women Voters, Goodfellows, and Michigan Democratic Club.

She said she is running for supervisor because Sumpter residents deserve a good supervisor that has the knowledge and enthusiasm to make Sumpter a great place to live.

Once elected, Komora's goals are: "Work with Wayne County, especially roads. Make sure our roads are graded and chlorided, as needed. Work with the DNR to keep our township's country atmosphere."

She said, "I offer the residents 13-plus years' experience working in the supervisor's office under Johnny Vawters. I have 10 years experience as a state-certified Level 2 Assessor."

"My goals as supervisor are to make sure our roads are graded and chlorided as needed, make sure our parks are clean and compliant with code. I will always have an open-door policy for the residents that need my assistance. Make sure our property taxes don't increase and they are assessed fairly. Work with our police department closely to provide new training to all officers. Also, to work with county and state officials that will benefit the residents, such as applying for grants for our seniors, our parks, safety, and our over-

(continued on page 12)

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- Legislative aide for Al Haidous- Wayne County Commissioner
- Grand Marshal- Belleville Christmas Parade
- Distinguished Graduate Award BHS 2020
- Founding member of Tri-Community Democratic Club
- Recipient of Ted Kluckeman Service to the Community Award
- Cooks turkeys for 250 seniors annually
- Volunteers for the Van Buren Eagles, Belleville Moose, BYC, Rotary, Huron Valley Conservation Club, St. Anthony Boy Scouts, BAWC Fashion Show, Lions, Yankee Air Museum, Wayne County Fairgrounds and 4 H-Club.

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# Sumpter candidates

(continued from page 10)

all environment," Komora concluded.

## Antoine Jordan for supervisor – D

Antoine Jordan, 44946 Judd Rd., who was born and raised in Sumpter, is running for supervisor. He graduated from Belleville High School in 2002 and earned a bachelor of science in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and a Master



Jordan

of Business Administration in Human Resources from the University of Phoenix.

He has coached varsity boys' basketball at BHS for seven years and currently is the head of fund-raising. This involves setting up youth leagues, tournaments, camps, and many other activities to advance the program.

He is a member of Spiritual Israel Church and its Army, whose membership has been rooted in Sumpter for many years.

"When elected, my chief priorities will be to keep 'Country Living at its Finest,' while looking to diversify income, develop and/or enhance current senior programs (Progressive League, Civic League, etc.) and last, but not least, develop beneficial programs for our youth," Jordan said.

"These initiatives will make Sumpter Township a place where the elderly feel a sense of fine country living and people want to raise families," he said. "Developing positive, productive programs for our youth here in Sumpter is vital."

Jordan said the most crucial issue currently facing the office he is running for is "to mediate for and satisfy the needs of the township's citizens in a legal and beneficial way that can be amicable for all parties."

"To address this matter and be successful doing so, I will do my due-diligence to make sure I am well-informed on all topics (both public and private) involving community action as well as those that involve any and all members of township offices," he said. "Once elected to the position of township supervisor, my approach to researching, providing feedback, and being transparent will allow for residents to gain faith in my decision-making and the direction of the township."

## Nelson S. Po for supervisor – D

Nelson S. Po, 72, of 45025 Harris Rd., is

running for supervisor. This is his first try for elective office.

He and his wife Clarita have lived in Sumpter for 12 years.

Po said he was self-employed, then became a farmer, and now is an aspiring politician.

He earned a liberal arts degree in pre-med, but did not continue to medical school.

His hobbies include community well-being involvement, especially for those disenfranchised. He is a regular contributor to local charities.

"My goal is to make Sumpter Township a better place for all current and future residents," Po said. "The weight of the current administration is too great for the legs of our township to hold up. Their overstay has caused great financial stress while the taxpayers struggle to issue their entitled salaries and endless legal escapades."

As to goals once elected, "There are six objectives I will work as hard as possible to complete as supervisor: Cut the unnecessary spending of township funds to save more than \$1 million within the first year; Eradicate all of the waste and abuse that has been costing the township greatly; Create value and opportunity to prevent the outflow of young adults; Support and reinforce the seniors of Sumpter Township with a carefully planned senior living center; Refurbish and restructure the fire department to have adequate equipment and fair wages compared to the rest of our municipal employees; and Put an end to the regular tax increases and fees residents experience each year."

## Tim Bowman for supervisor – R

Tim Bowman, 61, of 21321 Karr Rd., has lived in Sumpter for 51 years. He is married to Liz and they have three children, TJ, Travis, and Taylor.

He has been a general contractor in the community for 40 years. His education is high school and tech school.

He is running for supervisor on the Republican ticket and this is his first try at elective office.

Bowman's hobbies include architecture and boating.

"I'm running for office because it's time for change," he said. "It's time for new infrastructure, new opportunity, new businesses to provide job opportunities for residents and new revenue for the township."



Po

"My goal is to make changes in how the township is run and to provide a better community for the residents," Bowman said. "No more 'I don't live here, but I want to run your township.'"

## Esther Hurst for clerk – D

Esther Hurst, 61, 46323 Arkona Rd., is running for reelection as clerk. She has lived in Sumpter since 1959 on a family owned homestead established in 1934.

Hurst is a widow and has two children, James and Jennifer and four grandchildren.

She has worked at Sumpter Township in various capacities for 35 years and has extensive knowledge in ordinance, planning and zoning, elections, building, administrations, and clerk's office functions, as well as township and board of trustees protocols.

She is a members of MAMC-Clerk's Professional Association, Michigan Townships Association, and Wayne County Clerk's Association, and is a Notary Public.

Hurst has shown active support in the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Sumpter Senior-Community Center, and numerous township events, including Sumpter Country Fest and holiday events.

"For over 35 years I have been a key member of the township leadership responsible for the service provided to residents, with much of this time in the clerk's office operations," she said. "I 'live' the mission of service to my fellow Sumpter residents with proven results and the experience to continue to be a key contributor to Sumpter Township and our residents. I am proud of my service to our community and truly feel that it is



Hurst

my responsibility to be here for you, the residents of Sumpter Township."

As far as goals, "The clerk's office is not a function that one receives formal education. It is learned over years of active service, involvement and experience," Hurst said. "Having this experience is critical for Sumpter Township to take advantage of future opportunities, and I have this experience."

"Experience to insure the proper handling of all deeds, contracts and planning and zoning records, the application of technology to improve efficiency and cost reductions; Experience to drive future projects such as e-file media, the expansion of our website-based content to keep our residents informed of all issues, like the recent national health emergency (COVID-19); Experience, like the preservation of our local environment by expanding current recycling resources within the township recycling center; Experience to insure highly accurate

(continued on page 13)

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
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|                              | Haggerty Sub Park<br>Van Buren Park Beach                                                                                                                       | <b>CLOSED</b><br>until further notice |                              |  |
|                              | Play Structures<br><small>All play structures WILL NOT be sanitized, please follow the social distancing guidelines when using the amenities.</small>           | <b>OPEN</b><br>June 22                |                              |  |
|                              | Bathrooms<br><small>Excluding Van Buren Park's front loop &amp; Quirk Park bathrooms which will open on June 22.</small>                                        | <b>CLOSED</b><br>until further notice |                              |  |
|                              | Splash Pad<br><small>Please follow all social distancing guidelines and practice proper hygiene when entering the Splash Pad. Water is not chlorinated.</small> | <b>OPEN</b><br>July 6                 |                              |  |



# Sumpter candidates

(continued from page 12)

election results within the stringent and ever-changing State of Michigan audit practices and election law – without one audit fail. Experience to provide these services to our residents within a well-balanced budget and invest in Sumpter Township's future and stability for us all. I have this experience."

## Sherry Olds for clerk – D

Sherry Olds, 73, of 43181 Harris Rd., is running for township clerk. She is a 45-year resident of Sumpter.

Her husband Milton is deceased. She has a son Vincent (Laura) Olds and a son Brett (Catharina) Olds.

She is retired after a career as a real estate broker and owner.



Olds

Olds said she has had many work-related courses over the years in financing, assessing, values of property, negotiating, contract law, and she has held licenses in the State of Michigan for Real Estate Broker, Builder's License, and Insurance.

She is a member of Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club, Moose, U.A.W. Local 735 affiliate member, Sumpter Senior Center, former Southwestern Michigan Association of Realtors, and has worked many elections for Sumpter Township.

Olds is a former member of the planning commission, former members of Assessor Review Board of Appeals.

Her hobbies include volunteering and in the past worked with the Michigan State University Extension workshop, social services, nursing homes and senior center, also like to work out at the Romulus Athletic Club and hang out with her dogs.

She said she is running for office because, "I believe Sumpter must be represented with an open ear for the people, by the community leaders and not with a surveillance system in place that intimidates some of the public.

"It also seems to me that there are stagnation problems in Sumpter Township. The fix: new leadership and brave changes.

"With my public background, I'm sure I will come off the line running to bring about a more efficiently run clerk's office," Olds said.

As to goals, there are four: "1. A new outlook with a more efficiently run clerk's office with an open ear for the residents that I will represent; 2. An open communication with the public and a way to discuss matters without surveillance, when needed; 3. That the parties in authority all understand they are public servants and that the clerk's office will understand the meaning of the word Fiduciary, that is someone that works

in the best interest of another.

"4. Last, but not least, DTE and our power outages in Sumpter Township. I would like to be their best friend or their worst nightmare. Their choice. These are issues I will start with," Olds said.

## James Clark for treasurer – D

Since the present treasurer is not running for reelection, there are two running for the seat.

James Clark, 23623 Sumpter Rd., who has lived in the township for more than 50 years, is running for treasurer.

He is married with five children and nine grandchildren. He is a retired from Ford Motor Co. as a quality engineer.

He earned a degree in accounting and engineering at Wayne State University. He previously was a licensed builder and licensed real estate agent.

He previously ran for township trustee and currently is a member of the planning commission. Previously he served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and was a building inspector.

He is a past member of the Belleville Moose.

Once elected, his goal is to keep a balanced budget and serve the community.

"I hope to keep taxes down because Supervisor John Morgan, now in office, and current Clerk Esther Hurst tried to vote for tax increases," Clark said.

## Vincent Warren for treasurer – D

Vincent Warren, 45465 Dunn Rd., is running for treasurer.

He and his wife of 31 years of marriage, who have resided in Sumpter for 11 years, have eight children and five grandchildren. His children and grandchildren attend and have graduated from the Belleville K12 school system.



Warren

"I have dedicated over 25 years of service to our nation's service men and women," Warren said.

He has a master's degree in marriage and family counseling with a Baccalaureate in Liberal Arts. His wife Cindy is completing her Doctoral program to join him in advocating for families and our youth.

"I serve as Peer Advocate for our nation's veterans at the Department of Veteran Affairs (Ann Arbor). I served our country during the Persian Gulf/Desert Storm Wars from 1988-1994. I discharged honorably from the U.S. Navy, with a goal to advocate for our nation's veterans.

"I currently advocate for our nation's veterans in eight counties in Michigan and Toledo, Ohio. I advocate in regard to healthcare, employment, family counseling, finances, and end-of-life support. I was voted trustee of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Post 4434, Sumpter Township Progressive League, Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development resident facilitator, and a state-certified Hospice Chaplain.

"If elected Sumpter Township treasurer I

will continue to advocate for the residents, build on current system processes, perform my legal statutory duties to lead the office with a team spirit, transparency, and commitment to the office," Warren said.

There are four incumbent trustees running for reelection and four candidates challenging the incumbents.

## Don LaPorte for trustee – D

Don LaPorte did not return his candidate questionnaire form, but this is his information based on the 2016 questionnaire he returned.

LaPorte was first elected trustee in the 2016 election. He was a sitting trustee at the time, appointed to the position following the death of Trustee Bill Hamm.



LaPorte

LaPorte of 19240 Sumpter Rd. has been married to Robin for 32 years and they have two adult children, Don. J. and Samantha. He has lived in Sumpter for 50 years.

After graduating from Belleville High School in 1984, he began working at L&W Engineering, starting as a production operator and progressing to a tool maker. After eight years of service he hired into Ford Motor Co. in 1994, working production then skilled trades.

While working at Ford, he was able to get his state medical certification to provide community service by working for the Sumpter Fire Department, starting in 2006. Since working for the fire department, he has earned several certifications in fire-related training, including fire inspector.

He is past president of Michigan Association of Fire Fighters Local 343, Sumpter Fire Department, and is a past member of the Sumpter Planning commission.

LaPorte is a Medical First Responder, fire fighter, and has been fire instructor for Sumpter Township for 14 years.

Since being appointed to the township board in late 2015, LaPorte has taken classes through the Michigan Township Association on being a trustee, learning of his responsibilities.

In 2016 he said, "I have great pride in learning all that I can and sharing what I have learned with the residents. I believe in being fiscally responsible with our money and I also believe it is paramount to be transparent in spending. Things that are personal in nature between the employee and the township should be kept private and only discussed between the two parties."

His goal, in 2016, was to "continue to strive to make a better police and fire department with hands-on training, to oversee the fiscal responsibilities of the township for both elected and employed persons, and to keep the country-like atmosphere within Sumpter Township with rural zoning in mind."

He also said he wants to increase the business base within the commercial area of the township to provide residents with convenient and local resources. Also, he

(continued on page 14)

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# Sumpter candidates

(continued from page 13)

said in 2016, he wants to continue to be the very best husband and father that he can be for his wife and children.

## Matthew Oddy for trustee – D

Matthew Oddy, 52, of 17638 Odyssey Dr., has lived in the township for 40 years. He is married to Beth and they have two daughters, Mikayla and Madilyne.

His occupation is General Manager.

Oddy earned a bachelor of business administration in accounting and strategic management



Oddy from Eastern Michigan University.

He was elected Sumpter Township trustee in 2016, after being appointed trustee in 2014. He is running for reelection.

Oddy said he enjoys golf, scuba diving and fishing. He is a volunteer for Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation.

Oddy said he is running for reelection because, "I believe that you need to do more than just live in a community. You must contribute to the success for your community. To accomplish that you must actively volunteer and participate in its management, planning and development.

"I enjoy serving the residents of Sumpter Township in an oversight capacity to ensure that the township continues to operate efficiently, economically, and provide the best police, fire, water, and general services possible.

"Twenty-seven years of accounting, budgeting, and management experience, and 12 years of public service experience makes me a highly qualified candidate for re-election to provide the leadership, experience, trust, and stability that the residents deserve from a Sumpter Township trustee," Oddy said.

As to his goals, "If reelected I want to continue moving the township forward representing the residents in a leadership capacity and to be their voice and advocate in developing a future for our community with the highest standard of living possible," he said.

"Since taking office in 2016, Sumpter Township has accomplished great things," Oddy said. "Some of the highlights are \$2.7 million increase in the general fund, \$160,000 in reduced pension debt, secured \$280,000 in block grants, secured \$60,000 in police/fire grants, secured \$32,000 in park grants, opened a new Library Media Center, purchased a new fire truck, updated the township street lighting to LED saving the residents thousands in electric bills, redesigned the township webpage, purchased new police body cameras, and became the 52<sup>nd</sup> safest place to live in Michigan.

"I pledge that I will continue to dedicate myself to maintain and improve the township's financial stability, work to secure alternative revenue sources, implement best practices to improve township services, analyze expenditures and implement cost-saving measures, lobby for road funding and maintenance, improve our parks and recreational activities, and design and plan future growth that balances 'County Living at its Finest' and urbanization to meet the changing culture and environment," Oddy concluded.

## Don Swinson for trustee – D

Don Swinson, 57, of 46490 Claxton Dr., is running for reelection as trustee. He has lived in and around Sumpter Township for most of his life. He is married to Holly and they have a daughter Selena.



Swinson is employed at Atchinson Ford and has been on the sales team for 23 years. As a trustee, Swinson is liaison to the Parks and Recreation commission. He also works with the Sumpter Country Fest Committee, making sure that all aspects are covered, along with the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, the Annual Family Fun Day, and their Annual Turkey Shoot, and in 2019, the first Gabby Games (in memory of Gabby Barrett), where he worked closely with the police and fire departments.

Swinson works closely with the township parks administrator. In the last five years, the township has received for both parks

(Banotai and Graham parks) approximately \$72,000 of Wayne County Park Millage funding.

He served as chairman and co-chairman for the Parks and Recreation Commission and served five years on the Planning Commission. Swinson also was appointed to the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce to represent and be the voice of Sumpter Township. He is a member of the BYC (Belleville Yacht Club).

He is a 1980 graduate of Belleville High School, master-certified through Ford Motor Co., and achieved a Level 3 Employee Excellence Award. He graduated from Dale Carnegie, majoring in effective

speaking and human relations; completed Dynamics of Personnel Leadership; and Industrial Engineering Methods programs.

Swinson enjoys spending time with his family, fishing with his daughter, golfing, going Up North, and community volunteerism.

He said his objective is to maintain a high level of effectiveness and productivity by contributing his talents and efforts to a community that encourages productive thoughts and positive results.

Swinson says he possesses integrity, strong moral beliefs, common sense, objective thinking, self-motivation, excellent

(continued on page 15)

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# Sumpter candidates

(continued from page 14)

communication skills, organization and a goal-oriented philosophy. He said he is a well-disciplined individual who is very personable and conscientious toward others.

Swinson said his goals are, "to keep an open forum for residents to be able to have an integral involvement in township issues/concerns and decisions, to maintain financial stability for the township, to seek new businesses for a solid tax base, to continue to focus support for the township's police and fire departments, and to find a way to integrate renewable energies for our township and our residents. Also, to work on a better plan for recycling within our township."

## Sheena Barnes for trustee – D

Sheena Barnes, 60, of 28321 Sumpter Rd., has lived in Sumpter all 60 years. "I am a proud resident of Sumpter Township," she said.

She has three children: Julius III, Sharnice, and Jamarrea and three grandchildren, Julius IV, Ava, and Sophia. Her parents are Louise Barnes and the late Nathaniel L. Barnes.

Barnes graduated from Airport High School in 1977 and attended Wayne County Community College, CID Trade Business School.



Barnes

"My family ran a family business – Nate Barnes Market – for over 49 years," Barnes said. "I am continuing the tradition with my own business: Sheena Barnes BBQ Bones."

Barnes said, "Growing up in a family business taught me honesty and integrity. Working alongside my family instilled family values, faith, and love for my community. We were always encouraged to speak up for what's right. And, strive to be the best you can be. And, help those who cannot help themselves."

Barnes was appointed Sumpter trustee in 2018 and was unsuccessful in her run for election as Sumpter clerk.

She is Resources Coordinator for Ann Arbor, a part of the Community Action Network, Student Advocate Center, Ann Arbor Housing Commission, Peace Neighborhood Center and Pine Lake Community Center.

She also is an art teacher for the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Department of Recreation and in Detroit at the University Preparatory Academy Schools.

Barnes said she has Michigan State University Safe Food Certification and is a proud sponsor of Nate Barnes Tributes and Soul Roll Festivals.

She is a member of Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club and Belleville Area Council for the Arts. Her hobbies are sewing, fashion design, cooking, art/sculpture, and singing.

She said she is running for office because, "I would like to have the opportunity to move Sumpter Township forward, get

involved in public administrative township functions, and the duties of the official in the office as a trustee, and provide and implement quality leadership."

As far as goals, "grants for family development and after-school programs. And, provide youth job creations," she said.

## Ken Myers for trustee – D

Ken Myers, 37, of 19700 Karr Rd., has lived in Sumpter Township for seven years.

He is a fire fighter and a businessman in the construction field, specifically in epoxy coatings. His education includes high school, trade school, and Michigan Residential Builder and Fire/Hazmat/EMS training.

His hobby is nature and chickens.

He is married to Kaila and they have a son Blake and a daughter Lillyan.

"About six years ago, my family and I were in the market for a new home and were looking for the small-town, country lifestyle," Myers said. "When we found our home in Sumpter Township, we fell in love and have since grown more appreciation and love for our township."

"After moving here and getting established, I joined the Sumpter Township Fire Department and became a fire fighter, EMT and WC Technical Rescue Team member. Thanks to all the veteran fire fighters on the department, I have learned a lot and continue to learn more every day.

"It has been one of my most enjoyable endeavors in life. I truly enjoy serving our community in this aspect and would like to take it to the next level in becoming a trustee. I am a dedicated individual and love to learn. So, if the people of Sumpter Township will give me the chance, challenge accepted!"

"I am not going to come into this election promising I will do this or that, as I will only be one piece of a bigger puzzle, but



Myers

I will guarantee that all of my endeavors as trustee will be in the best interest of the township and its residents, uninfluenced by anyone.

"I promise to listen to the people of Sumpter Township and do my best to meet your needs. As I stated earlier, I love our township and want to keep the small-town, country feel while at the same time doing what we can to advance our township and keep us moving forward in the right direction," Myers concluded.

## Peggy A. Morgan for trustee – D

Peggy A. Morgan, 61, of 300 Edgewood Dr., points out she has never been related to Supervisor John W. Morgan. She is running for trustee.

She was appointed treasurer in February 2017 and served in this position through November of 2018. She served as trustee from November 2004 through January 2017.



Morgan

"I attended board meetings nearly 10 years prior to running for office," she said. She also served on the Board of Review, the Economic Development Committee, and volunteered for the Neighborhood Watch Program in the 1990s. She was board liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Fire Department and the Water Department.

She belongs to the Michigan Democratic Party, Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club, Sumpter Seniors and the Women of the Moose 1135.

"I have lived in Sumpter for 35 years," Morgan said. "I'm recently divorced, while still remaining friends with Bud. I have two loving sons with five beautiful grandsons. I love spending time with my family and friends. I enjoy traveling, camping and working in the yard. I like Football and NASCAR!"

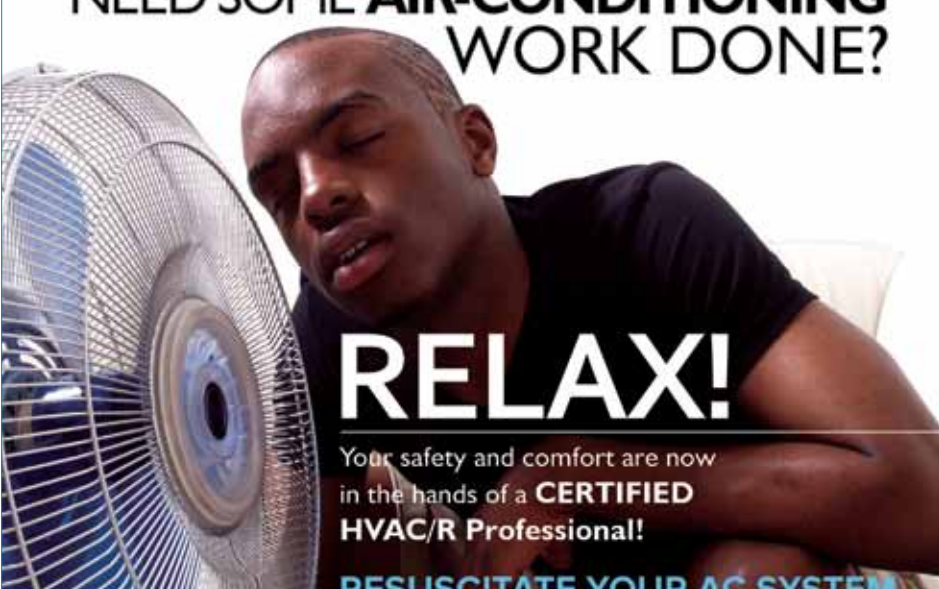
Morgan said, "Priorities I will set for myself when elected are as follows: accountability, working endless hours to deliver results for the taxpayers. Hire grant writers to develop opportunities to our families and find grants available for all departments. Hire youth for summer jobs. Seek alternative revenue, offer town hall meetings, giving our residents the opportunity tell the board in what direction they would like to see their township moving forward. Look at the Eight-Step Program benefit our community and the police department. Mandatory cultural training and diversity classes for police and fire departments.

"Offer equal opportunity to minorities. Restructure Parks and Recreation Commission bylaws with families in mind. I will persistently work hard to maintain a balanced budget. I will push for hiring an accounting firm, auditing firm and attorney firm," Morgan said.

"I work for you and I ask for the opportunity to build a brighter future for the Sumpter residents and their families. I am very passionate when it comes to

(continued on page 27)

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– Harry S. Truman

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## West Wayne County NAACP, CWW leaders set listening tour

The Conference of Western Wayne mayors and supervisors, Western Wayne County police chiefs, and Western Wayne County NAACP have announced their “Partnerships for Progress Listening Tour.”

The tour is a collaborative effort to bring open conversation and active listening to the Western Wayne County region in light of ongoing protests around Southeastern Michigan seeking new discussions and reforms in the communities.

On June 16 at Westland City Hall, the new Partnership for Progress collaborative effort announced the first of three planned listening meetings in the CWW region.

The goal is for community members to be able to ask police and elected officials questions, share stories and offer ideas for solutions and change. The Listening Tour meetings are an extension of ongoing discussions that recently began between Western Wayne police chiefs and the Western Wayne County NAACP.

“We realized that for far too long, many members of the community felt like they have not been heard by the elected officials and law enforcement in their communities,” said Western Wayne County NAACP President Gina Wilson Steward.

“The recent killing of unarmed black people and the resulting global protest says it is time to do something different,” Steward said.

The City of Livonia was to host the first listening engagement on Wednesday, June 24, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Livonia Clarenceville High School Auditorium.

The next one will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m., Aug. 13, at Inkster Recreation Center, 2025 Middlebelt Rd., Inkster.

To accommodate social distancing required due to the ongoing COVID-19

pandemic, the events are limited to 100 people attending in person and personal protection equipment is provided.

The events also are livestreamed via Facebook Live at [www.facebook.com/conferenceofwesternwayne](http://www.facebook.com/conferenceofwesternwayne).

The meetings will include time for questions. Community members who register at [www.c-w-w.org](http://www.c-w-w.org) can submit proposed questions and/or statements in advance.

The events are being moderated by Daicia Price, a member of the Wayne County Crisis Intervention Team, which supports collaborative efforts to sustain more effective interactions between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

“The leadership of the Western Wayne County NAACP began our Conversations with Police Chiefs last week because we must continue to work to change policies so that black people can live without the fear of being stopped, arrested, or killed by police officers,” Steward said.

“The information shared between the police chiefs and the questions asked by the community proved that more conversations need to be had. We partnered with the Conference of Western Wayne to continue our Listening Tour,” she said.

“We believe that continuing to learn what happens when police officers interact with black people will help us determine which changes police chiefs and elected officials can implement that will benefit the lives of black people,” Steward said.

City of Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley is chairwoman of the Conference of Western Wayne.

“The message we have consistently received from the organized protestors in

the Western Wayne County region is that they need to be heard,” Mayor Conley said. “As elected officials and police chiefs, we understand that necessity and we hear you. This is the time for open and honest discussion and communication that can facilitate real change.”

“The Partners for Progress Listening Tour will give community members the ability to ask the questions they need answered, to share their stories and to also offer ideas for solutions,” Conley said.

“We know that we need to give people the opportunity to be heard and we need to listen to them. Our intent with these tours is to create an environment in which all parties feel comfortable to express their concerns, questions, and ideas for change,” she said.

City of Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik said, “We see this as an opportunity for both the Western Wayne County Police Chiefs and the community to learn from each other.”

“Through these open dialog forums, the police chiefs will be able to gain a greater perspective from our communities of their specific concerns.”

“While doing so, the community will have the opportunity to see and hear first-hand how many Western Wayne County Police Departments have already implemented the training, the policies, and early warning systems that the community is asking for,” Chief Jedrusik said.

“Moving forward, the Listening Tour will give us an excellent opportunity to create the model of community partnership for the rest of the nation to follow,” he concluded.

The Conference of Western Wayne is a group of 18 Western Wayne County communities that coordinates 911 services for its 700,000 residents and 360-square-mile region. CWW also meets monthly to discuss issues including legislation, transportation, public safety, substance abuse prevention, community and economic development, employment, and the environmental health of the region.

CWW and Western Wayne Police Chiefs represent Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne, Westland, Canton Charter Township, Huron Charter Township, Northville Charter Township, Plymouth Charter Township, Redford Charter Township, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Charter Township.

The Western Wayne County NAACP represents citizens in the communities of Allen Park, Belleville, Brownstown, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Garden City, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Livonia, Melvindale, New Boston, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, River Rouge, Romulus, Sumpter, Taylor, Van Buren, Wayne, Westland, and Wyandotte.

In a recent Belleville City Council meeting, Mayor Conley said she expects one of the stops on the Listening Tour to be a joint effort between Belleville and Van Buren Township and it could be held in the Belleville High School Auditorium.

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# VBT Environmental Commission hears report on local dam

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

"At French Landing, there are no problems," said Mark Gross, senior vice president of operations at Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, which runs the dam owned by Van Buren Township.

Gross was speaking from North Carolina during the VBT Environmental Commission meeting via Zoom on June 17.

Gross said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission says the dam is in good shape.

He said they do have to replace the rip rap on the upstream side and they do that regularly because it is eroded by the wake of turning boats.

He said the bypass gates are also set to be inspected to assure they are assessing all the deficiencies.

Gross said he was sent the story from a local paper on the dam and it was misleading because it tried to imply the dam was classified as a high-hazard dam. He said the Army Corps of Engineers rating of the dam as high-hazard was based on the impact if the dam were to fail, not the construction of the dam.

He said there's nothing wrong with being classified as high-hazard.

Gross said Eagle Creek has a very rigorous program on dam safety and there are annual inspections.

"Even though there is no reason to think the dam would fail, FERC requires an emergency action plan and we have the right plans in place," Gross said.

"Just because the dam is high-hazard it is not unsafe. The designation is based on what's downstream of the dam," Gross said.

"As FERC said, it is performing as designed," Gross said. "All dams are different. They look at how could this potentially fail and look at everything. It's not impossible because things could happen. Make sure we understand that there were mistakes in 2019, but everything is fine with the dam."

"We have a high-hazard classification, but it doesn't mean that it is unsafe," said Environmental Commission chairman David Brownlee. "It doesn't make sense."

"We go by FERC," Gross said.

"But it doesn't mean it's unsafe," Brownlee said. "I'm struggling with that."

Gross said it deals with the population downstream which is completely independent of the dam. They look at the

topography.

"We have to look at new residential developments or shopping centers," Gross said.

"It's not so much the condition of the dam, but what it would damage downstream if it failed," Brownlee said.

"Who owns and operates Ford Lake Dam?" asked Brownlee, referring to the dam immediately upstream of Belleville Lake.

Matt Best, director of public services, said he believed it is owned and operated by Ypsilanti Township.

Brownlee said probably the worst case for residents would be a dam failure at Ford Lake Dam. He asked Gross if his group ever went through a scenario of failure at Ford Lake Dam.

"We would be a part of their emergency action plan," Gross said. "You're probably a holder of one of your EAP documents. What would be inundated if their dam failed?"

"The water goes over the wall, erodes the berm and a small breach becomes a big breach," Brownlee said. "That would be the impact of Ford on the French Landing Dam."

"I did participate in one of their safety sessions," Best said. "If something happens at their dam there would be phone calls to the public safety department and dispatch and the supervisor ..."

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"What is the likely scenario?" Brownlee said. "Does it include the loss of our dam?"

Gross said he was not familiar with anything upstream and that's a good question.

"It should have been asked and answered," Brownlee said. "I'm curious ... Who has downriver liability if something happens downstream?"

"It's a better question for a lawyer," Gross said. "We do not own the facility."

Best said the township is owner of French Landing Dam. In 1986 or 1987, DTE transferred ownership to VBT. He said the township took over the dam because DTE

was going to remove it.

Brownlee asked what the classified information on the dam would include.

Gross said what would be the impact if the dam failed and what a terrorist could do with that information if it were public. He said if, for example, there were a secret tunnel it could be used by a terrorist to destroy the dam.

"We wouldn't want ways to destroy the dam so critical infrastructure information is classified," Gross said.

"If Ford failed..." Brownlee said.

*(continued on page 19)*

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## Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

### Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

Belleville Area District Library Board Candidates who wish to seek office at the November General Election must file with the Wayne County Clerk (2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 502, Detroit, MI) before July 16, 2020 at 4pm.

A candidate may run for a four year term or to fill the vacancy of a departing board member (2 years).

Nominating petitions can be obtained from the Wayne County Clerk or from local municipal clerks on a general form, accepted by Wayne County. Signatures from each community (Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren) must be on separate petitions. The total number of signatures on the petition(s) shall be no less than 40 nor more than 100. In lieu of filing a nominating petition, a candidate may file a \$100 non-refundable fee, to have their name placed on the ballot. In addition to the fee or petition, the candidate must file an affidavit of identity.

**DUE TO COVID-19 & REQUIRED OFFICE PREPARATION TO ADHERE TO CDC SOCIAL DISTANCING STANDARDS, THE WAYNE COUNTY ELECTION DIVISION IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

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CONTACT 313-224-5525 for more information.

Publish: June 25, 2020

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## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



**VAN BUREN**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS PROJECT 2020

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids to provide construction and renovation services to the proposed Van Buren Township Outdoor Pickleball Courts on the corner of Beckley Rd and Denton Rd (Parcel # 83-077-99-0002-007) in Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS PROJECT" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. EDT Tuesday, July 7, 2020. Bids will be publicly opened at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 11:00 am at the project site.

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

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid. If you have any questions please contact Elizabeth Renaud in the Public Services office at [erenaud@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:erenaud@vanburen-mi.org).

Published: 6-25-20

## Environmental

(continued from page 18)

"It should be in the emergency action plan," Gross said.

Trustee Paul White, who is the board liaison to the Environmental Commission, said he has fished Sanford Lake and Wixom Lake, formed by the dams that failed in Midland, and in his opinion they both are very similar in construction to French Landing Dam.

Trustee White said at Sanford Lake a small spit of water finally ruptured the earthen dam. He asked how safe Edison Lake/Belleville Lake is from the wave action. He asked how deep under the surface of the water is the wave action?

Gross said the wave action is on the surface, but wave action from a storm or wind could be lower and crest the dam. He said they are putting more rip rap at French Landing Dam, which is armor protection for the earthen bank.

"We'll restore that," Gross said.

Environmental Commissioner Peter Creal asked when was the last time the dam was inspected and is that report available to the township so residents could have some comfort.

Gross said it was inspected in 2019 and the township should have a copy of the report.

Best said he has a copy of the report and he reviewed it.

"It is operating as designed and in good working order," Best said.

Best said he has been at VBT since 2015 and this is the third time the rip rap has been refreshed.

Brownlee said David Bittenbetter, Jr., lives locally and has knowledge of dam structure. He gave a status report of his knowledge and he said there is no evidence of any leeching or seeping.

"He seems to know a lot," Brownlee said. "This is to quell any concerns."

Commissioner Benjamin Ross asked if

the bypass gates will be inspected this year.

Gross said they are inspected every five years and this year they will climb on and walk around. There is no suspicion of there being a problem, but he said this is a hands-on inspection to see.

Trustee White said French Landing Dam was built around 1924. Best said there was a special assessment district the residents paid for to reconstruct it when it was turned over to VBT.

Creal said he checked and found Ford Lake Dam was built in the 1930s and is owned and managed by Ypsilanti Township.

Township Trustee Reggie Miller asked the lifespan of a dam and if a drawdown would be a benefit or a problem or challenge of any kind.

Gross said a drawdown doesn't help or hurt the dam if done properly, but it could give the opportunity to make repairs, if necessary. It could perform well for another 100 years, he said.

Brownlee asked when the dam releases the maximum amount is there flooding downstream and Gross replied, "Probably."

Brownlee asked if the township got to the point it had to open the dam completely, would the township be liable?

"You don't want the water to go over the top of the dam," Gross said. "The emergency action plan would be in effect."

Best said in 2018 that happened and people in the plan were contacted. He said there was no dam failure, but they had to notify the people downstream.

### Iron Belle Trail

Best reported that the COVID-19 expenses at the state level mean tighter funding. The township has been pursuing grants for the Iron Belle Trail, but the grants have been put on hold by the state.

He said the section of the trail from Edgemont to Martinsville had a state grant of \$300,000, with the township paying \$100,000. The engineering is paid for, but

(continued on page 20)

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR WEBSITE PROJECT 2020

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting virtual bids for a new website. Bids must be emailed to [Communications@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:Communications@vanburen-mi.org) with the subject listed as "Website RFP 2020". Bids will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. EDT Friday, July 31, 2020. Bids will be publicly opened at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020.

Specifications may be obtained from the Communications Department during normal business hours.

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

Published: 6-25-20



# Environmental

(continued from page 19)

the grant was put on hold because the state has to look at revenues.

“It’s just sitting in limbo, right now. On hold,” Best said.

He said the \$1.2 million Washtenaw County to Van Buren Park section is still being worked on. The Van Buren Park Saddle Paving has a half-million-dollar grant from Wayne County Parks.

“That project is moving forward to use the back portion safely,” Best said.

He said the bridge to Denton Road is

well on its way with private funds from the Ralph Wilson Foundation and others, and is still moving forward.

“This is an eight-plus mile trail through our community,” Best said of the Iron Belle Trail.

Brownlee said typically the commission suspends its July and August meetings, but if a meeting is necessary they could hold it. The next meeting would be July 15, if held.

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## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** Pursuant to the State of Michigan Governor’s Executive Order #2020-129, this meeting will take place electronically due to health concerns associated with COVID-19. The BZA will consider the following variance request related to 17160 Renton Road (parcel number 83 140 99 0047 000), zoned AG – Agriculture and Estate District:

**Case # 20-011-** A request by Nicole Butzin for relief from the following section of the Van Buren Township zoning ordinance to construct a 30’ x 40’ detached accessory building:

- **Accessory building requirements** of 7.202(a) (Accessory Structures and Buildings – All Districts) of the Zoning Ordinance, which regulates the location of detached accessory buildings:
  - o **Required:** The detached accessory building shall be located in the rear or side yard.
  - o **Proposed:** The detached accessory building is proposed in the front yard.

Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) beginning **July 10, 2020**. On this website, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting**, including a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page ([www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)). Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

A complete **procedure for public comment by electronic means** is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website ([www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments via e-mail to [dpower@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:dpower@vanburen-mi.org) by **Noon, Monday, July 13, 2020**, which is the day before the meeting. Members of the public may also contact [dpower@vanburen-mi.org](mailto:dpower@vanburen-mi.org) to be connected with members of the Planning Commission prior to the meeting by e-mail.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk’s Office at 734.699.8900 extension 9205.

Posted: 6/19/2020  
Published: 6/25/2020

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

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**Case # 20-009-** A request by Beth Ernat of Clover Communities Van Buren LLC for, for variances from the following sections of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance:

- **Architectural standards** of section 6.309(C) (Belleville Road Overlay District - Architectural and Site Design Standards) of the Van Buren Township Zoning Ordinance and relatedly section 5.143(I)(5), which requires that senior housing buildings located within the BROD shall comply with the architectural standards set forth in Section 6.309:
  - o **Required:** Use of use of unpainted red brick, brown brick, natural stone, or similar high-quality materials as the primary building material.
  - o **Proposed:** Application of hardieplank siding to approximately 70% of the building façade.
- **Accessory building requirements** of 7.202(a) (Accessory Structures and Buildings – All Districts) of the Zoning Ordinance, which limits the size of detached accessory buildings:
  - o **Required:** The maximum lot coverage of all detached accessory buildings on any lot shall be 4,800 square feet.
  - o **Proposed:** 9,600 square feet of total detached accessory garage building area.

Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – [www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org) beginning **July 10, 2020**. On this website, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting**, including a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page ([www.vanburen-mi.org](http://www.vanburen-mi.org)). Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

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Posted: 6/19/2020  
Published: 6/25/2020



# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



# VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP HALL  
46425 TYLER ROAD  
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, MI 48111

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. THE PUBLIC HEARING IS TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT #25. THE DESCRIBED PARCELS THAT WOULD DESIGNATE THE PROPOSED DISTRICT ARE AS FOLLOWS AND TOTAL 293.81 ACRES.

TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH, AND PROVIDE ESSENTIAL PROTECTIONS TO VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS; THIS PUBLIC HEARING HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS REGARDING REMOTE PUBLIC MEETINGS. (SUBJECT TO CHANGE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN GUIDELINES.)

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VIRTUAL MEETING, THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA FOR THAT MEETING DATE (POSTED 3 CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO JULY 7, 2020) WHICH WILL BE LOCATED AT <https://vanburen-mi.org/meetings-agendas-and-minutes/board-of-trustees/>

#1: 83-008-99-0002-703

SPLIT/COMBINED ON 10/22/2013 FROM 83 008 99 0002 702; COMMENCING AT THE S 1/4 CORNER OF SEC 2, T3SR8E; TH S90D 00M 00S E 350.00 FT ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SEC 2 AND CENTERLINE OF ECORSE RD FOR A PLACE OF BEG; TH N00D 24M 19S W 1614.16FT; TH N18D 42S 09M W 1114.86FT TO THE CENTER POST OF SAID SECTION; TH S 89D 59M 43S E 2156.75FT ALONG THE E-W 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION; TH S 00D 14M 07S E 1670.03 FT; TH N90D 00S 00M E 180.74 FT; TH S 00D 14M 07S E 480.00 FT; TH N90D 00M 00S W 180.74 FT; TH S00D 14M 07S E 459.99FT; TH N90D 00S 00M W 743.35FT ALONG A LINE 60 FT NORTHERLY OF AND PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION; TH N 00D 14M 07S W 15.00FT; TH N90D 00M 00S W 935.80 FT ALONG A LINE 75 FT NORTHERLY OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SEC 2; TH S 00D 33M 03S E 75FT; TH N90D 00M 00S W 120.09 FT ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION AND SAID CENTERLINE OF ECORSE RD TO THE PLACE OF BEG. BEING A PART OF THE SE 1/4 OF SAID SEC 2 AND CONTAINING 114.10 AC OF LAND

#2: 83-008-99-0037-701

SPLIT/COMBINED ON 10/22/2013 FROM 83 008 99 0037 000; COMMENCING AT THE SE CORNER OF SEC 2, T3SR8E, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, STATE OF MICHIGAN; TH DUE N 60 FT ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 2; TH N89D 37M 00S W 483.07 FT ALONG THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ECORSE RD FOR A PLACE OF BEG; TH N89D 37M 00S W 60 FT ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE; TH N00D 09M 30S E 459.99 FT; TH S89D 37M 00S E 60.00 FT; TH S00D 09M 30S W 459.99 FT TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. BEING A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 2 AND CONTAINING 0.63 ACRES OF LAND MORE OR LESS.

## Belleville Lake to close in front of BYC July 3 for fireworks display

Belleville Lake in front of the Belleville Yacht Club will be closed for safety reasons from 9 to 11 p.m. on Friday, July 3, to all westbound to eastbound boat traffic for the annual BYC fireworks from a barge.

Rain date is Saturday, July 4.

A no-wake zone will be enforced by Van Buren Township Marine Patrol, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Wayne County Sheriff in front of the BYC from 7 to 9 p.m. The fireworks show will begin at dark.

Regulations require a 450-foot exclusion zone around the fireworks barge.

For safety reasons, law enforcement will completely close the lake to boat traffic directly in front of the BYC from 9 to 11 p.m.

Those needing to be back to Sandy's Marina, the DNR boat launch, or any other site east of the BYC after 9 p.m., must be east of the BYC by 9 p.m.

The DNR reminds all that the boat launch is only for those launching and retrieving vessels. The BYC encourages the public to come by boat for the best viewing and to follow social distancing guidelines.

"The BYC and Michigan Fireworks Club is proud to once again provide an amazing fireworks display for residents," said a statement from the BYC. "Since all other municipal fireworks shows have been cancelled, we thought this would be a great way to celebrate our country's independence while offering a much-needed escape from the recent turmoil we have experienced. We truly hope you will enjoy the show."

## COVID-19 death count in 48111 zip code increases one on Mon.

The tri-community, which includes Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter in the 48111 zip code, had one additional death attributed to COVID-19 on Monday and this is the first new death since May 29.

It was in Van Buren Township.

The coronavirus total death toll in the tri-community now is at 30, according to numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 went up to 378 on Sunday.

On Tuesday, the separate numbers released by the health department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 189 positive cases, 15 deaths; City of Belleville, 154 positive cases, 14 deaths, and Sumpter Township 35 positive cases, 1 death.

**One Call Does It All . . .  
. . . At the Independent  
699-9020**

(Continued on page 22)



# VBT reopens parks, play structures, restrooms, Splash Pad

Van Buren Township announces that in response to the State's recommendations Van Buren Park, Quirk Park, French Landing Park and Riggs Park reopened on Monday, June 22.

Under the Governor's Executive Order, any outdoor park amenities where proper social distancing can't be maintained will remain closed. So, Haggerty Sub Park and Van Buren Park Beach will remain closed until further notice.

All park patrons are asked to follow the CDC and State's social-distancing guidelines and practice proper hygiene when entering any VBT parks to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

All play structures will not be sanitized so families are asked to follow the social-distancing guidelines when using the structures.

Van Buren Park's Front Loop restrooms opened on June 22, but the restrooms in the Back Loop will remain closed until future notice. The Park Beach will remain closed for the remainder of the summer due to the size of the beach and not being able to properly social distance.

The Quirk Park Splash Pad will open on Monday, July 6, and will not be sanitized. The Splash Pad is an open-water system that does not use chlorine for treatment. The system pulls fresh water from the township. Water is not reused. Follow all social-distancing guidelines and practice proper hygiene when entering the Splash Pad. Restrooms opened June 22 at Quirk Park.

Riggs and French Landing Park restrooms will remain closed until further notice.

All pavilion rentals have been canceled and refunds will be mailed to those who have already paid. Van Buren Parks and Recreation offices will remain closed to the public until further notice. All Parks and Rec. classes, events and activities have been canceled for the summer. Refunds will be mailed out to participants who paid for classes.

Residents are invited to Join Parks & Rec. online, Monday through Friday, for a Five-Minute Fun Break, which will include quick activities, nature news, storytime, and more. Join the conversation and fun via Facebook. At the end of each week, a random drawing will take place for participants to win a prize.

For more information visit: <https://vanburen-mi.org/parks-and-recreation/>. Those who had been enrolled in classes, summer camps and pavilion rentals (when the building closed in March) will be issued a full refund. To get a refund call (734) 699.8926.

*News release*

**One Call Does It All . . .  
... At the Independent  
699-9020**

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

*(Continued from page 21)*

#3: 83-008-99-0014-701

\*02S 10 TO 13\* PT OF THE SE 1/4 SEC 2 T3S R8E DESC AS BEG N 89D 37M 00S W 60.00 FT AND DUE N 1726.00 FT FROM SE COR SEC 2 - TH N 89D 59M 56S W 599.08 FT - TH N 00D 14M 07S W 264.01 FT - TH S 89D 59M 56S E 598.36 FT - TH S 00D 23M 30S E 264.01 FT - POB. 3.63 AC

#4: 83-005-01-0034-301

\*02A34,T2\* LOT 34 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE ALSO N 1/2 ADJ VAC BEVERLY ST 86FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67 WCR-K-6.02 - ALSO PT OF THE SE 1/4 SEC 2 T3S R8E DESC AS BEG N8 DEG 33M 32S W 60.04 FT FROM E 1/4 SEC 2 -- TH S00DEG 12M 11S W 35.79 FT - TH N87DEG 59M 49S W596.58 FT - TH N00DEG 12M 11S E 19.52 FT - TH S 89DEG 33MIN 32S E 596.13FT TO POB 0.38AC

#5: 83-005-01-0033-300

\*02A33\* LOT 33 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#6: 83-005-01-0032-300

\*02A32\* LOT 32 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#7: 83-005-01-0031-300

\*02A31\* LOT 31 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#8: 83-005-01-0030-300

\*02A30\* LOT 30 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#9: 83-005-01-0029-300

\*02A29\* LOT 29 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#10: 83-005-01-0028-300

\*02A28\* LOT 28 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#11: 83-005-01-0027-300

\*02A27\* LOT 27 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#12: 83-005-01-0026-300

\*02A26\* LOT 26 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#13: 83-005-01-0025-300

\*02A25\* LOT 25 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE ALSO N 1/2 ADJ VAC GERBSTADT ST 60FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67 WCR

#14: 83-005-01-0024-300

\*02A24\* LOT 24 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#15: 83-005-01-0023-300

\*02A23\* LOT 23 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#16: 83-005-01-0021-300

\*02A21\* LOT 21 ALSO ADJ VAC TAYLOR ST 30FT WIDE--- TAYLORS SMALL FARM SUB T3S R8E L70 P67

#17: 83-005-99-0004-000

02CD1 PT OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 1238.38FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH N89DEG 51M 50S E 146.41FT TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 2906.08FT TH WLY 146.57FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 2900.27FT POB 9.75 AC

#18: 83-005-99-0005-000

02CD2 PART OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 1091.98FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH N89DEG 51M 50S E 146.40FT TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 2900.27FT TH WLY 146.95FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 2888.72FT POB 9.73 AC

*(Continued on page 23)*



# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

(Continued from page 22)

#19: 83-005-99-0006-000

02CD3 PT OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 865.78FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH N89DEG 51M 50S E 226.20FT TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 2888.72FT TH SWLY 228.34FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 2859.43FT POB 14.93 AC

#20: 83-005-99-0007-000

02CD4 PART OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 733.96FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH N89DEG 51M 50S E 131.82FT TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 2859.43FT TH SWLY 133.44FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 2835.85FT POB 8.62 AC

#21: 83-005-99-0010-000

02D5B PART OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 585.78FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR SEC 2 TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 2246.62FT TH N89DEG 51M 50S E 148.18FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 2246.62FT TH S89DEG 51M 50S W 148.18FT POB 7.64 AC

#22: 83-005-99-0008-000

02C5 D5A PT OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 51M 50S E 585.78FT AND N0DEG 17M 40S E 2246.62FT FROM CEN 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH N0DEG 17M 40S E 557FT TH NELY 151.88FT TH S0DEG 17M 40S W 589.23FT TH S89DEG 51M 50S W 148.18FT POB 1.95 AC

#23: 83-005-99-0009-701

\*02CD6A,F2,G1,H2,N1B\* PT OF NE 1/4 SEC AND NW 1/4 SEC 02 T3S R8E DESC AS BEG AT THE CENTER OF SEC 02 - - TH S89 59 43E 585.78 FT- TH N00 09 17W 2810.89 FT- TH S76 27 50W 343.74 FT- TH S00 44 50E 239.30 FT- TH S76 27 50W 287.49 FT- TH S00 45 56E 938.11 FT- TH S89 38 26W 482.12 FT- TH S18 42 08E 1565.47 FT TO POB - 44.41 AC

#24: 83-005-99-0009-002

02CD6B PT OF NE 1/4 SEC 2 T3SR8E BEG N0DEG 18M W 2424.26FT FROM THE CEN 1/4 COR SEC 2 TH N0DEG 18M W 239.30FT TH N76DEG 54M 40S E 286.70FT TH S0DEG 18M E 239.30FT TH S76DEG 54M 40S W 286.70FT POB 1.58 AC

#25: 83-008-99-0006-701

\*02S1,T1\* PART OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 37M W 60FT AND DUE N 2518FT FROM SE 1/4 COR OF SEC 2 TH DUE N 111.29FT - TH N88DEG 02M 30S W 596.58FT - TH S0DEG 09M 30S W 127.68FT - TH S89DEG 37M E 596.55FT POB 1.64 AC - ALSO PT OF THE SE 1/4 SEC 2 T3S R8E DESC AS BEG N89 DEG 33S W 60.04 FT AND S00 DEG 12M 11S W 35.79 FT FROM E 1/4 COR SEC 2 TH S00 DEG 12M 11S W 7.21 FT - TH N89 DEC 33M 32 S W 596.13 FT - TH N 00 DEC 12M 11S E 23.48 FT - S 87 DEG 59M 49S E 596.58 FT TO POB 0.21AC - K - 1.85

#26: 83-008-99-0021-701

\*02S 17-23 PART OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 2 T3S, R8E,DESC AS BEG N87DEG 36M 47S W 60FT AND DUE N 1066FT FROM SE COR OF SEC2- TH N89DEG 37M 00S W 600.57FT- TH N00DEG 09M 30S E 462FT- TH S89DEG 37M 00S E 599.28FT -TH DUE S 462FT TO POB 6.36 AC

#27: 83-008-99-0008-000

02S9 PART OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 37M W 60FT AND DUE N 1990FT FROM SE COR OF SEC 2 TH DUE N 66FT TH N89DEG 37M W 597.82FT TH S0DEG 09M 30S W 65.99FT TH S89DEG 37M E

#28: 83-008-99-0007-000

02S2 PART OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 37M W 60FT AND DUE N 2452FT FROM SE COR OF SEC 2 TH DUE N 66FT TH N89DEG 37M W 596.55FT TH S0DEG 09M 30S W 66FT TH S89DEG 37M E 596.73FT POB 0.90 AC

#29: 83-008-99-0011-000

02S7 PT OF SSE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N N89DEG 37M W 60FT AND DUE NORTH 2122FT FROM SE COR OF SEC 2 TH DUE N 66FT TH N 89DEG 37M W 597.46FT TH S0DEG 09M 30S W 66FT TH S89DEG 37M E 597.64FT POB 0.91 AC

#30: 83-008-99-0012-700

PT OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 02 BEG N 89D 37M W 60 FT AND DUE N 2056 FT FROM SE COR OF SEC 02 TH DUE NORTH 66 FT TH N 89D 37M W 597.64 FT TH S 00D 09M 30S W 66 FT TH S 89D 37M E 597.82 FT TO POB 0.91AC

(Continued on page 24)

## VBT board rejects German volunteer for 2020 in 4-3 vote

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

After a lengthy discussion on whether it would be wise to bring a volunteer from Germany to help the Senior Department this year, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees voted 4-3 to suspend the program for 2020 because of COVID-19.

The proposal to bring a selected volunteer to VBT Senior Center, as had been done for 10 years, was put on the agenda by Supervisor Kevin McNamara during the Zoom meeting of the township board on June 2.

He said last year they decided not to do it this year because the township decided it couldn't give the volunteer a car as in the past when it provided a car, insurance, and gas.

Supervisor McNamara said a young man wants to come and he will take the COVID-19 test and provide his own car and pay for the insurance. He said they still have time to bring someone over.

Treasurer Sharry Budd said her concern is that he would have to be quarantined for 14 days and where would he stay? Also, he could get the disease on the airplane and someone would have to be responsible for him.

Treasurer Budd said while she supports the volunteer for the seniors, "This is not the year to bring someone from a foreign country. Maybe, next year." She noted the senior center was closed now.

Senior Director Lynette Jordan, who said they have the opportunity to have a bright young man arrive in August or September, with the approval of the board and the lifting of international travel restrictions.

She said she has a place for him to quarantine for 14 days and a place for him to recover if he gets COVID-19. His housing will be with her and her husband.

"He will purchase a car and insurance," she said, adding the seniors are excited to bring the program back. She said the volunteer gets \$275 a month for a 40-hour per week position.

She said the front desk is run by volunteers, but she can't guarantee any would come back because of the virus.

"We want him to be the liaison between the senior center and the homebound unable to get out and may not come back because of fear of getting the virus," she said.

She said the volunteer knows three languages, is a good student, and did a short internship with the police on drugs and safety. He is age 18 and plays the piano. He could teach German and French.

Jordan said the Senior Endowment Committee has been unable to meet, but members show an interest in donating to the program. Every year they have donated to the program if funds are needed.

(continued on page 25)



# Michigan Supreme Court suspends Judge Parrott with pay

On June 17, the Michigan Supreme Court announced it has suspended two judges with pay. Judge David Parrott is a 34th District Court judge in Romulus and Judge Kahlilia Davis is at 36th District Court in Detroit.

Judge Parrott was charged in February with assaulting a woman at their Van Buren Township home and he took a leave from the bench to get counseling since then and has yet to return.

The misdemeanor domestic violence charge was moved from the 34th District Court to 35th District Court in Plymouth. Judge James A. Plakas is scheduled to preside over Parrott's pretrial exam on July 6. The exam was delayed because of the coronavirus.

Parrott also is awaiting a decision by the Michigan Court of Appeals on a Dec. 25, 2018, drunk driving charge in Manistee County. His attorney Mike Nichols of Lansing said they are awaiting a ruling from the court of appeals to admit evidence

that they believe will help clear his name of the OWI charge.

The other judge suspended, Judge Davis, was accused by the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission of not using official recording equipment while hearing cases

in early 2019. Commission investigators said Davis recorded hearings with her personal phone and posted some on the internet. In response, Davis' attorney said she was not trained by court staff to use courtroom technology.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

(Continued from page 23)

#31: 83-008-99-0013-000

02S9 PART OF SE 1/4 OF SEC 2 BEG N89DEG 37M W 60FT AND DUE N 1990FT FROM SE COR OF SEC 2 TH DUE N 66FT TH N89DEG 37M W 597.82FT TH S0DEG 09M 30S W 65.99FT TH S89DEG 37M E 598.01FT POB 0.91 AC

Written comments may be forwarded to the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township, MI 48111. If you have any questions regarding the public hearing, please contact Clerk Leon Wright at 734-699-8909.

Published: June 18, 2020  
June 25, 2020  
July 2, 2020

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## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 2020 ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order electronically via Zoom meeting ID 99223132913 at 6:00 p.m. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, and Trustee Miller. Late Arrival: Trustee White (Others participating, facilitating and monitoring the meeting: Secretary Montgomery, Public Services Director Best, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Zaenglein, Public Safety Director Laurain and Deputy Director (Police Chief) Wright, Communication Specialists Albrecht and Nichols and a maximum audience of forty-five (45).

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

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** Frazier moved; Miller seconded to approve the revised agenda to add discussion and to consider approval of the Covid-19 funding. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin and Miller. Absent: Trustee White (6:14 p.m.). Motion Carried.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Martin moved, Frazier seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Board Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2020, Prepaid List of June 4, 2020, Prepaid List of June 11, 2020, Voucher List of June 16, 2020] Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin and Miller. Absent: Trustee White. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:** Eagle Creek will do a presentation to the Environmental Commission on the French Landing Dam on June 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The Meeting will be broadcast on zoom and recorded for future viewing. Conference of

Western Wayne in conjunction with Belleville, Van Buren and the NAACP will participate in a listening tour to hear residents' concerns. The Township Administrative offices will be closed July 3rd in observance of the 4th of July holiday. As of Monday morning, there are 6,933 voters on the permanent absentee voter list representing 29% of all registered voters in Van Buren Township. The Clerk's Office has 4,160 requests averaging 300 per day. State began allowing residents to request an absentee ballot, register to vote, track their application and track their ballot. Anticipating a record absentee turnout.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business):** No public comment.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Miller moved, Frazier seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 6-2-20 (1) to rezone parcel V-83-105-99-0035-000 (1043 Savage Rd) from M-1 (Light Industrial) to R-1B (Single Family Residential). Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Parks and Recreation Update. Parks and Recreation is closed to the public but is handling resident concerns as needed. All events and classes have been cancelled through Labor Day. Refunds are being issued. Van Buren Park, Quirk Park, Riggs Heritage Park and French Landing Park will be open on June 22, 2020. The play structures will be open for use but will not be sanitized. All pavilion rentals have been cancelled and refunds are being processed. The front rest rooms will be open and maintained at Van Buren Park however rest rooms at French Landing Park and Riggs Heritage Park will remain closed. The beach area will remain closed for 2020. The Splash Pad at Quirk Park will open July 6th, 2020. There will be no sanitation of equipment. Park goers are requested to observe social distancing and proper hygiene. The park in Haggerty sub

will remain closed. All pavilion rentals have been cancelled but pavilions will remain open for use and residents are encouraged to follow CDC social guidelines and sanitation practices. Public Safety Update. The recent protest was peaceful. The success was made possible by the group presenter and the Van Buren Public Safety Department. The Public Safety Department provided protestors a safe passage during their march from the Meijer parking lot to the Township hall. Supervisor McNamara thanked the assistance of the City of Belleville Police Department. Director Laurain, on behalf of the Township Police Department, denounced the actions of officers in the George Floyd assault. The Department has undergone police policy reform over the past year specifically in regards to the use of force. They are the latest in contemporary procedures in policing. De-escalation, the banning of choke hold, required intervention by other officers in all use of force which is reported and reviewed. In 2018 there were 23,592 calls for service, 13,049 arrests, 22 uses of force all reviewed and deemed appropriate. In 2019 there were 24,172 calls for service, 15,049 arrests, 36 uses of force which were all reviewed and deemed appropriate. The Public Safety Department is committed to protecting and serving the community with professionalism and respect for human life. Presentation by Plante Moran. Budd moved, Frazier seconded to accept and approve the 2019 Annual Audit of Township Funds. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The Township received the highest level of assurance of audited funds which included General Revenue Funds, Special Revenue Funds, Water and Sewer Funds, DDA Funds and LDFA Funds. Board members acknowledged the professionalism of the auditing firm of Plante Moran, the efforts of Deputy Treasurer Bellingham, Accounting Coordinator Towles, Bookkeeper Tyler, and the Clerk's and

Treasurer's Office staff for their assistance with the audit process.

Discussion on and to consider approval of an increase of ten (10) thousand dollars to the Covid expense line item. McNamara moved; Frazier seconded to approve an increase of ten (10) thousand dollars to the Covid expense line item. Budd moved to request a friendly amendment, supported by Frazier to increase the Covid expense line item to sixty (60) thousand acknowledging the current thirty-five (35) thousand in revenue. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA**

**ITEMS:** Public commented on the following: Resident wanted to know if the German Volunteer position was voted down and if it could be brought back again. McNamara indicated the motion failed and would require two trustees in support of bringing it back up again in the future. Frazier and White indicated they would support bringing it back to the board for discussion and McNamara indicated he would have further discussion with the resident. Resident questioned why the Haggerty subdivision park would not be opened. McNamara indicated it is too small to monitor and social distancing is difficult.

**BOARD COMMENT NON-AGENDA**

**ITEMS:** Clerk Wright requested support of the Board to consider allowing Department Directors the opportunity to perform some of the work duties at home.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Miller moved; Frazier seconded to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk  
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor  
Published: June 25, 2020

# VBT Board

(continued from page 23)

“Overall, I understand the concerns,” Jordan said “I face-timed with him and met his family online. We are fortunate to have him. Trust me in my judgment and let it go forward. If they don’t lift the international travel, he can’t come.”

Trustee Reggie Miller said this is for a \$275 monthly stipend, but with the travel

ban the township doesn’t know when he’d come.

“He would like to come in late August or September or when the travel ban is lifted,” Jordan said. “If he was here in September, he’d be here through August next year.”

“We’re not questioning your judgment, it’s the risks,” Trustee Miller said. “A liaison to shut-ins? How would that work?”

Jordan said he would take them food from the pantry and get connected through

Zoom, teaching seniors technology.

“I do have the funds,” Jordan said, noting it would be \$3,300 for the year and she has that in her budget right now. “The possibility of this young man giving COVID at homes, is the same as any other person.”

Miller said with him coming over here and going to 100 residents there is a risk. Other volunteers are already here, she said. Also, this is additional liability for the

township and is a difficult situation.

“COVID is not gone. Is it worth the risk?” Miller asked.

Clerk Leon Wright said he is the risk manager for the township and this has a bad risk assessment.

“To bring anyone over from overseas now to deal with seniors?” Clerk Wright asked. “It would be a liability.”

He suggested finding someone from the University of Michigan or Eastern Michigan University who would be just as smart and could do the same thing.

“Why do we have to look abroad?” Wright asked. “It’s a question I’ve always asked ... to do the same thing our young men can do?”

Trustee Kevin Martin said this volunteer has an impressive resume, but he has to agree with Treasurer Budd on the risk of COVID or the car.

“In the past, we have given them a car to drive,” said Wright. “The MMRMA encouraged us not to do that,” he said, referring to the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority.

Trustee Paul White said he is in agreement with the program. He said the volunteer couldn’t get here until Sept. 1 and he should pass a COVID test or be sent home.

He said seniors enjoyed talking to the German volunteer. He said they won’t get any U.S. citizen to work for \$275 a month.

“We have a young man willing to take the risk... I don’t think we should cower, fear what might be,” said Trustee Sherry Frazier. “He’s not coming until September. He knows the risk ... a good resource for our seniors ... We could all get COVID, too.”

McNamara made the motion to approve the program for this year, with Trustee Frazier seconding the motion. The vote was three yes and four no, with the motion failing.

Voting yes were White, McNamara, and Frazier. Voting no were Miller, Martin, Budd, and Wright.

Miller suggested Jordan come back to this the first of the year.

“It’s a great program,” she said. “It’s just the time.”

In other business at the one-hour-and-23-minute meeting, the board:

- Discussed the governor’s latest move and heard McNamara announce that employees will return to work on June 8 and open the township hall doors to the public on June 15. All events through July 5 are still canceled. Employees will use hand sanitizer, stay back six feet, and use face shields and plastic shields that are in place at the office front desks; and

- Approved the first reading of Ordinance 6-2-20 (1) to rezone 3.29 acres at 1043 Savage Rd. from M-1 (Light Industrial) to R-1B (Single Family Residential), as requested by owners Charles and Patricia Reavis. Their land had split zoning and this will put it all into the present use. This rezoning is part of a series of rezonings done by the township without charge to property owners in that area. The residential zoning enables sale of the property and obtaining a mortgage.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE 06-02-20(1)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ZONING ORDINANCE 05-2-17(2) AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

#### The Charter Township of Van Buren Ordains:

#### SECTION 1. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The Zoning Map in connection with the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance shall be amended as follows:

##### Ordinance No. 06-02-20(1)

An ordinance to amend the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 05-02-17(2), as amended, to amend the zoning map by rezoning parcel V- 83 105 99 0035 000; otherwise known as 1043 Savage Road from M-1, Light Industrial to R1-B, Single Family Residential.

This property is located on the north side of Savage Road between Arlene Lane and Martinsville Road.

#### SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

In the event any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

#### SECTION 3. REPEALER.

Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

#### SECTION 4. 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.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

YEAS: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Leon Wright, Clerk

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Adopted: June 16, 2020

Published: June 25, 2020

Effective: July 3, 2020



## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*There were 384 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.*

### Sunday, June 14:

0035 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./E. I-94  
0040 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
0046 – shooting, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0132 – assault & battery, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
0133 – disorderly, Hamilton St.  
0212 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service  
0238 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville  
0325 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.  
0404 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.  
1040 – parking complaint, W. Walden/Scenic Dr.  
1212 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.  
1245 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1315 – suspicious person/vehicle, Outer Dr.  
1340 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1428 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service  
1537 – missing person, Ecorse Rd.  
1622 – trespassing, Wildbrook Dr.  
1635 – private property/property damage accident,

Belleville Rd.  
1638 – neighbor trouble, Fret Rd.  
1754 – intrusion alarm, Ecorse Rd.  
1803 – family trouble, Westlake Cir.  
1902 – lake complaint, E. Huron River Dr.  
1908 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.  
2014 – parking complaint, Filmore/Van Buren  
2016 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.  
2033 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.  
2034 – disorderly, Parkwood Dr./Tyler Rd.  
2123 – suspicious person/vehicle, Vine St.  
2141 – disorderly, Westlake Cir.  
2201 – traffic offense, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.  
2201 – family trouble, Andover Dr.  
2313 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville

### Monday, June 15:

0318 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck Rd.  
0346 – noise complaint, Locust Dr.  
0433 – harassment call, E. Schooner Dr.  
0605 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. /  
Savage Rd.  
0723 – parking complaint, McBride  
0753 – intrusion alarm, Rawsonville Rd.  
0942 – assist other dept., Outer Dr.  
1011 – welfare check, Sheldon Rd.  
1107 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1248 – traffic offense, Martz/tracks  
1325 – 911 welfare check, S. Prairiegrass Ct.  
1508 – lost property/child, Winding Pond Dr.  
1540 – mental subject, Parkwood Dr.  
1602 – fight, Sawgrass Ct.  
1701 – trespassing, Rose Blvd.  
1735 – assist other dep., E. Main St.  
1746 – 911 welfare check, Maple Dr.  
1731 – assist other dept., Main St.  
1812 – animal complaint, Robson Rd.  
2028 – family trouble, Sonrisa St.  
2212 – suspicious person/vehicle, McBride Ave.

### Tuesday, June 16:

0000 – noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0033 – harassment call, Van Buren Ln.  
0626 – intrusion alarm, Patty Ln.  
0824 – private property/property damage accident,  
Tyler Rd.  
0916 – shooting, Brookside Dr.  
1021 – assist fire dept., Park Estates Dr.  
1040 – intrusion alarm, Packard Ct.  
1046 – road hazard, Dellor/Mott  
1102 – assist fire dept., Ecorse Rd.  
1108 – traffic offense, E. I-94/Belleville Rd.  
1212 – intrusion alarm, Cambridge Ct.  
1229 – property damage accident, E. Huron River

Dr. / Haggerty Rd.  
1412 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.  
1535 – trespassing, Bog Rd.  
1629 – vehicle lockout, Victoria St.  
1725 – fraud, Montague Ave.  
1734 – welfare check, Meadows Cir.  
1826 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.  
1833 – neighbor trouble, Ecorse Rd.  
1959 – abandoned auto, Haggerty Rd.  
2101 – fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2113 – noise complaint, Pond Bluff Dr.  
2231 – harassment call, S. Ponderosa Trl.

2321 – personal injury accident, EB I-94 /  
Rawsonville Rd.  
2339 – fraud, Village Green Ln.

2355 – suspicious person/vehicle, Edwards Rd.

### Wednesday, June 17:

0015 – suspicious person/vehicle, Preswick Ct. /  
Andover Dr.  
0104 – assist fire dept., Hamlin St.  
0145 – assist fire dept., W. Archwood Dr.  
0818 – sex offender registration, Tyler Rd.  
0956 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd.  
1002 – sexual assault, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1038 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1143 – welfare check, Ecorse/Morton Taylor  
1147 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.  
1152 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1335 – fraud, Beacon Trl.  
1344 – domestic, E. Archwood Dr.  
1454 – fraud, Woodbury Dr.  
1508 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.  
1525 – malicious destruction of property, Milton  
1539 – fraud, Barnwell Dr.  
1615 – traffic offense, Westlake  
1646 – vehicle lock out, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1650 – traffic offense, Haggerty Rd./Riggs Rd.  
1700 – harassment call, N. Ponderosa Trl.  
1840 – animal complaint, Ventura Dr.  
1919 – suspicious person/vehicle, Andover Farms  
2002 – welfare check, Independence Ln.  
2044 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.  
2107 – assist other dept., Church St.  
2230 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.

### Thursday, June 18:

0021 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.  
0235 – domestic, Oak Ln.  
0304 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.  
0613 – personal injury accident, Ecorse Rd./Beck  
0645 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /  
Westlake Cir.  
0940 – lost property/child, W. Walden Dr.  
0952 – property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.  
1001 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.  
1016 – ordinance violation, Van Buren/Filmore  
1016 – animal complaint, McBride Ave.  
1132 – animal complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1213 – private property impound, Van Born  
1301 – breaking & entering, W. Huron River Dr.  
1303 – family trouble, Peachtree Ln.  
1317 – domestic, Ash Dr.  
1309 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1512 – suspicious person/vehicle, Holly Ln.  
1522 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1534 – larceny, Sumpter Rd.  
1600 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd.  
1633 – threat, Cross St.  
1723 – unattended death, Hull Rd.  
1842 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.  
1854 – neighbor trouble, Peachtree Ln.  
1950 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River  
2105 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
2157 – shooting, Wildbrook Dr./Savage Rd.  
2245 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hayes St.  
2357 – missing person, Ayres Ave.

### Friday, June 19:

0230 – assist other dept., W. I-94/Haggerty  
0502 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.  
0620 – disorderly, Andover Dr.  
0842 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0900 – intrusion alarm, Brookview Dr.  
0948 – larceny from auto, Village Green Ln.  
1040 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.  
1303 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1331 – assist other dept., Sumpter Rd./Bemis Rd.  
1410 – private property impound, Hull Rd.  
1446 – family trouble, Maple Dr.  
1508 – fraud, Denton Rd.  
1538 – fraud, S. Bellridge Dr.  
1548 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.  
1739 – fraud, Lenmoore Ave.  
1815 – fraud, W. Huron River Dr.  
1829 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1849 – road hazard, Ecorse Rd./N. I-275  
1903 – threat, Denton Rd.  
1920 – traffic offense, Maple Dr.

1923 – leaving the scene of a property damage  
accident, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.  
1929 – traffic offense, Cobblestone Cir.  
1945 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.  
1952 – parking complaint, Haggerty Rd.  
1958 – property damage accident, Victoria St.  
2038 – parking complaint, Beacon Trail  
2049 – private property/property damage accident,  
Denton Rd.  
2110 – noise complaint, Beacon Trl.  
2114 – 911 welfare check, Ecorse Rd.  
2202 – fireworks, Country Walk

2226 – fireworks, Springwood Blvd.

2307 – shooting, Sondar  
2330 – noise complaint, Andover Dr.  
2356 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.

### Saturday, June 20:

0027 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.  
0036 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.  
0047 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.  
0101 – family trouble, Oak Ln.  
0115 – domestic, Lighthouse Dr.  
0142 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / N.  
I-94 Service Dr.  
0207 – intrusion alarm, Riggs Rd.  
0221 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / N.  
I-94 Service Dr.  
0903 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.  
1015 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.  
1037 – assist fire dept., Estates  
1053 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.  
1140 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.  
1223 – private property/property damage accident,  
S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1334 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service  
1413 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1428 – intrusion alarm, Stonebridge Dr.  
1510 – intrusion alarm, Fay Dr.  
1511 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1530 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service  
1724 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1929 – lake emergencies, Lake Pointe Pas  
2145 – personal injury accident, Bemis Rd.  
2213 – family trouble, Quirk Rd.  
2224 – fireworks, Jackson St./McBride Ave.  
2300 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.  
2301 – fireworks, Bog Rd.  
2313 – family trouble, Timberview Ct.  
2335 – noise complaint, Milton Dr.  
2335 – noise complaint, Birch Dr.

Also, on this week's log are 137 traffic stops, with 93  
being on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, June 14:

2042 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Columbia  
2231 – animal complaint, N. Liberty St.

### Monday, June 15:

0009 – intrusion alarm, N. Liberty St.  
1016 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.  
1629 – vehicle lock out, N. Liberty St.  
1734 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.  
1856 – civil matter, Church St.  
1929 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Davis St.  
2044 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.

### Tuesday, June 16:

1742 – malicious destruction of property, Owen  
2031 – fight, Belle Villa Blvd.  
2121 – assist citizen, Belleville/I-94 Service  
2149 – domestic, Loza Ln.

### Wednesday, June 17:

1214 – property damage accident, Main/Second  
1628 – threat, Sumpter Rd.  
2018 – family trouble, Church St.

### Thursday, June 18:

1519 – lost property/child, Owen St.  
1901 – property damage accident, E. Huron River  
Dr. / N. Liberty St.  
2045 – traffic offense, Church St.

### Friday, June 19:

0201 – traffic offense, Second St. alley  
0203 – traffic stop, Second St./N. Liberty St.  
0847 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.  
1135 – property damage accident, E. Huron River  
Dr. / Clarence St.  
1416 – harassment call, Henry St.  
1448 – assist citizen, S. Industrial Park Dr.  
2214 – shooting, Robbe St.  
2343 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

### Saturday, June 20:

2040 – animal complaint, Brain St.  
2216 – assist other dept., Quirk Rd.

On this week's log there was one traffic stop.

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## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

### Sunday, June 14:

0127 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Carleton West  
0534 – property damage accident, 48000 bl. Judd  
0720 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.  
1343 – civil matter, Redwood St.  
1624 – shots fired, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.  
1906 – civil matter, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
2121 – suspicious circumstances, Edgewood Dr. /  
Rustic Ln.  
2350 – suspicious vehicle, Rustic Ln.

### Monday, June 15:

0159 – noise complaint, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.  
0216 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.  
0614 – fire dept. assist, Wayside Dr.  
0623 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.  
1207 – malicious destruction of property, Rustic Ln.  
1404 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Sumpter  
1440 – neighborhood trouble, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.  
1522 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1555 – civil matter, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1613 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1728 – alarm, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1834 – civil matter, Redwood St.  
1840 – ORV complaint, Elwell Rd./Wear Rd.  
2114 – juvenile complaint, E. Arizona St.

### Tuesday, June 16:

0056 – malicious destruction of property, E. Arizona  
St.  
0056 – noise complaint, Greenmeadow Dr.  
0831 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1030 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1250 – neighborhood trouble, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.  
1539 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1600 – identity theft complaint, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1627 – animal complaint, W. Arizona St.  
1646 – civil matter, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1813 – malicious destruction of property, Wyoming  
St.  
1824 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2245 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.

### Wednesday, June 17:

0043 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1021 – welfare check, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1146 – follow-up investigation, 22000 bl. Elwell  
1405 – suspicious circumstances, 47000 bl. Judd  
1525 – citizen assist, Rawsonville/Bemis  
1702 – 911 hang up, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1710 – traffic complaint, Rustic Ln./Creekside Dr.  
1934 – neighborhood trouble, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2027 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2215 – suspicious person, 10000 bl. Rawsonville  
2313 – suspicious circumstances, Rustic Ln.  
2329 – suspicious person, Wyoming St.

### Thursday, June 18:

0015 – follow-up investigation, Wyoming St.  
0259 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
0836 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0916 – suspicious circumstances, 17000 bl. Lohr  
1143 – 911 hang up, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1248 – civil matter, Second St.  
1309 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.  
1311 – suspicious person, Sherwood Rd./Willis  
1348 – property damage accident, Willow/Sumpter  
1427 – suspicious circumstances, 22000 bl. Fenster  
1605 – noise complaint, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1653 – fire dept. assist, 19000 Sumpter Rd.  
1710 – alarm, 43000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1830 – civil matter, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1953 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Wear  
2004 – civil matter, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2034 – welfare check, Willow Rd./Elwell Rd.  
2121 – neighborhood trouble, 46000 bl. Claxton  
2232 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Claxton  
2250 – suspicious circumstances, Willis/Sharon Ct.

### Friday, June 19:

0007 – neighborhood trouble, Green Meadow Dr.  
/ Carriage Ln.  
0303 – suspicious circumstances, Creekside Dr.  
0409 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1121 – larceny, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1321 – flee & elude, Rustic Ln.  
1426 – death investigation, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1439 – found property, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1503 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1537 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1556 – follow-up investigation, Sumpter/Willis  
1600 – animal complaint, Edgewood Dr.

*(Continued on page 23)*

# DOWNTOWN ON THE LAKE

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## Sumpter candidates

(continued from page 14)

the Sumpter Township community. So, I promise you this will be my last time that I will run for office. I just have the heart to help with a fresh start to a real new beginning that is long overdue," Morgan said.

### Eric Partridge for trustee – D

Eric Partridge, 56, of 45633 Willis Rd., has lived in the township for 30 years. He is the owner/operator of an artistically minded construction company. He has two associate degrees: Liberal Arts and Science/Mathematics.

He has never married and has no children. This is his first try for public office.



Partridge

His hobbies include home improvement projects, making beautiful loop potholders on his looms, and mostly enriching his knowledge through reading, word games, and watching PBS television and listening to NPR.

Partridge said he is running for office because: "I would like to offer up a fresh and different voice to our township board. I am not beholden to anybody in Sumpter Township, so my input will be unbiased. I believe in term limits, and it is time to end some terms locally. I have been attending board meeting as often as possible the last 18 months. It seems there is a lot of 'going along to get along' presently. I believe as a contractor for the last 25 years, I can help reign in some of the unnecessary spending, and at the same time strengthening our township motto "Country Living at its Finest." I am a common sense, and logical candidate."

As to goals, once elected: "Again, I

really believe we can strengthen our identity as "Country Living at its Finest" with some new annual events that would support that image. Such as a rodeo or a Hunting/Fishing Derby, and some events celebrating our agriculture and wildlife. I think too many communities chase 'so-called conveniences' to be like their neighboring towns. We are a very unique community, so let's embrace it," Partridge concluded.

### Tim Rush for trustee – R

Tim Rush, 61, of 28941 Martinsville Rd. is the only Republican running for trustee and he is an incumbent. He has lived in Sumpter for 32 years and is single.



He graduated from the National Institute of Technology in 1986, class valedictorian associate's degree. He is a licensed Federal Communications Commission engineer. His career for the last 27 years has been working as a corporate/private Security Consultant. For the last 28 years he also has been working with Washtenaw County Emergency Services Division as Amateur Radio Communication Coordinator for SKYWARN, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service and Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

He also has served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission for Sumpter Township.

Rush is an alternate member of the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission and is a member of the American Radio Relay League since 1982.

When asked why he is running for trustee he cites, "Pressure from citizens of the township to run again! I was elected again as trustee in 2018. Sumpter Township needs qualified, professional and experienced people in elected office to assure that the township is run like a business with elected officials that understand the constitution -- state and federal -- and abide by them."

As to his goals, "Keep moving the township forward! Sumpter Township currently enjoys a balanced budget and we have added \$2.7 million to the general fund during the current administration! Creative thinking in financing for example, the new fire engine we were required to purchase was self-financed at 0% interest saving thousands of dollars because of our excellent bond rating! New web site with on-demand streaming of board meetings under budget, Storm Ready certification with the National Weather Service (first township in the state), just to name a few. Sumpter Township also enjoys one of the finest police and fire departments in southeastern Michigan, the 52<sup>nd</sup> safest community in Michigan!" Rush said.

"I can promote positive change in Sumpter Township by utilizing my problem-solving abilities that I have acquired through years of education and experience," he said.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued on page 22)

1630 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Bohn  
1645 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1722 – welfare check, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1731 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Bohn  
1759 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1800 – follow-up investigation, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2058 – civil matter, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.  
2203 – fire dept. assist, Timberlane Dr.  
2221 – noise complaint, 46000 bl. Bontekoe St.  
2332 – larceny, Carriage Ln.

### Saturday, June 20:

0746 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.  
1037 – 911 hang up, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1134 – civil matter, Hampshire Dr.  
1149 – fire dept. assist, 9100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1237 – animal complaint, Savage Rd./Harris Dr.  
1321 – follow-up investigation, Hampshire Dr.  
1838 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1852 – follow-up investigation, Second St.  
2110 – shots fired, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2141 – 911 hang up, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2147 – fatal traffic crash, Bemis Rd./Martinsville  
2259 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Karr Rd.

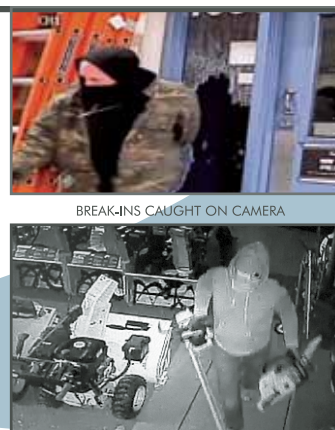
Also on this week's log are 65 patrol checks, eight miscellaneous details, and four traffic stops.

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**48024 BEMIS, VAN BUREN TWP**  
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**42101 S I-94 SERVICE DR VAN BUREN**  
**YOUR OWN PRIVATE WORLD** A Total of 5,263 Square Feet! 4 Bedroom 3 Full and 2 Half Baths, INTERIOR POOL, High End Premium Built Brick 3 Level Home. 100+ Feet Lake Frontage, Double Dock-SAND BEACH. \$898,900

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**45180 ROBSON, VAN BUREN**  
**A PERFECT COUNTRY SETTING.** Beautiful and Updated 3 Bedroom Ranch with Spacious Kitchen, Extra Large Master Bedroom with Doorwall to Patio, Landscaped Yard a Summer Front Porch to Enjoy Every Day. \$150,000

#### GREAT FOR COMPANY



**13285 EDGE DALE, VAN BUREN**  
**SENSATIONALLY SPACIOUS!** Large 5 Bedroom 2 Bath Brick Home. Family Room, Fireplace, Premium Kitchen, New Roof in 2018, New Furnace in 2015. One of the Finest Neighborhoods in Van Buren Township. \$229,900

#### 5 ACRES-3,000+ S F-BASEMENT



**47037 HULL, VAN BUREN**  
**CUSTOM BUILT** 3,000+ Square Foot 4 Bedroom 3 1/2 Bath Home w First Floor Master, Family Room, Fireplace, Sunroom. Finished Basement, Second Garage This Property provides Unlimited Fun plus Deck on Five Landscaped Acres. \$385,000

#### 2,332 SQUARE FEET



**12828 MARTINSVILLE, VAN BUREN**  
**THREE BEDROOM - TWO BATH RANCH** Remodeled Kitchen, Hardwood Floors, Family Room, Covered Deck, Michigan Riverstone Fireplace, 90+ Three Zone Furnace and Central Air, Hot Tub and Newer Roof \$239,900

#### LAKE POINT CONDO



**13282 LAKE POINT, VAN BUREN**  
**GREAT 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath Condo** in Lake Point of Van Buren Township. Large Upper Bedrooms with Full Bath. Finished Basement with Bar Area plus Large Storage area. First Floor Deck, Upper Bedroom Deck. \$120,000

#### 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. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. \$135,000

#### LARGE BRICK RANCH



**41577 MCBRIDE, VAN BUREN**  
**KING SIZED BRICK** and Vinyl Ranch 1,484 Sq Ft Ranch featuring 3 Large Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths 15X12 LivingRoom, 15X20 FamilyRoom, Wallside Windows, Central Air, Deck, 2 1/2 Car Block Garage. \$150,000 Imm Occupancy

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SUMPTER EXETER TWP 8 ACRES \$65,000  
19 AC BREST ROAD TAYLOR \$550,000

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CAPERNALL 8 AC EXETER TWP \$70,000  
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000  
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000  
24053 BOHN 3.3 ACRES SUMPTER \$67,000

SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEAR \$225,000  
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000  
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

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MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$25,000  
10 AC BUNTON YPSILANTI TWP \$155,000

JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$80,000  
HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$50,000  
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$60,000  
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$55,000  
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