



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 30.29 Thursday, July 18, 2024

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

F R E E

City Council gives \$10,000 raise to city manager

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After a lengthy review process to assess the work of city manager Jason Smith, on Monday the Belleville City Council voted unanimously to give him a \$10,000 raise in pay.

His salary went from \$85,000 to \$95,000. He started work last October.

Mayor Ken Voigt recommended the increase, saying the city wants to stay competitive and wants to keep Smith as city manager. He said with his present pay, Smith was paid \$5,000 below one of the city's department heads.

A convoluted method to assess his work had Mayor Voigt reading scores on 15 different performance categories. The scores assessed by each council member was kept secret, and the mayor read comments in each of the 15 areas by anonymous council members.

When the mayor added up the scores, he assessed Smith's final score as "outstanding," but council member Julie Kissel said the numbers actually added up to just below "outstanding," in the "excellent" range.

Mayor Voigt pronounced the final score as "excellent, just shy of outstanding."

City manager Smith said, "I absolutely love it here, have put in roots here. I would like to move the contract from three years to 'evergreen' and stay as long as you want me."

Mayor Voigt said this should not be considered a merit increase, but to keep the city in competition with other communities. He referred to what the department heads get paid at Van Buren Township, next door.

Councilman Randy Priest made the motion to approve and said he considers it a merit increase.

"I've been here 46 years," Voigt said,

(continued on page 3)



Photo courtesy of Belleville Rotary Club

At its meeting on July 9, the 2024-25 officers for the Belleville Rotary Club were installed. From left are Brian Pearcy, treasurer; Erin Prior, vice-president; Rachel Kozlowski, president; Loren Sanders, secretary; Mary Jo Suchy, president-elect; Britany Sanders, director; and Corinne Flynn, past-president / board member.

VBT planners postpone action on Sheetz plan for gas station

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After more than two hours of discussion on the plans for a Sheetz project that includes a gas/EV station, drive-thru and sit-down restaurants, and convenience store, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission postponed action for more information.

This was at the regular planning commission meeting on July 10.

The applicant was Skilken Gold on behalf of property owner Premier-Dequindre II LLC for a 6,139-square-foot convenience store and drive-thru restaurant and a 4,786.7-square-foot canopy with 12 fueling pumps and 12 EV charging stations at the southwest corner of Ecorse and Haggerty roads. It is just west of I-275.

The site includes 15.95 acres of property

on two parcels.

Eight people spoke at the public hearing which started the meeting, with just one praising the Sheetz family gas station/restaurants and the rest critical.

• First speaker at the 18-minute public hearing was Michael Awada who gave 11250 Haggerty Rd. as his address (the address of the Mobil station now being rebuilt). He said he is upset the commission is considering another gas station. He said his site has been closed for several years because of no demand.

• Next was Jeff Foley of Jackson Street challenged commission members to walk and look at this property which has a storm drain from Walden Woods going through it that flooded the intersection last August. He said turtles, ducks, and frogs are living there and he couldn't think of a dumber

thing to build on the property because of the danger of spills.

• Dan McCause said he has lived at 328 N. Haggerty Rd., Canton, for 44 years. He said he travels that route and into Ohio because he is a patient at the Cleveland Clinic. He said he also goes to and from Florida and just went all the way to California and back. He said Sheetz has great coffee and is a clean, safe place to go. He said this place would be for the regional/state traveler who wants consistency and familiar surroundings on the road.

• Donna Eickhoff of 41560 Ecorse Rd. said there is a lot of riff-raff there now at the truck stop gas station at the northeast corner and there would be riff-raff at this one too. She said she doesn't like it having driveways off both Ecorse and Haggerty

(continued on page 16)

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US Postage Paid
Belleville, MI
48111
Permit No. 26

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



**The Denton Road bridge
has been closed by
Wayne County for
655 days as of today.**



WILLIS FEED MILL

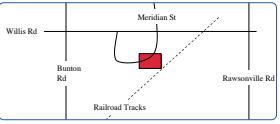
Nutritiously Sound Quality Pet/Animal Food

- Dog and Cat Food
- Wild Bird and Squirrel Food
- Certified Organic Products
- Hay and Straw • Poultry Food
- Horse and Livestock Feed

10200 Railroad Street, Willis, Michigan
(South end of Meridian St, off Willis Rd, Between Rawsonville and Bunton)
We look forward to seeing you soon. **(734) 461-1111** willisfeed@att.net

HOURS:
MON-FRI 9AM-6PM • SAT 9AM-5PM
SUN 10AM-4PM

Live Us On 




Affordable Rental Communities for Seniors

BELLEVILLE CO-OP

For over 75 years as a mission-driven non-profit, we exist solely to provide the highest quality, affordable housing communities possible for seniors.

575 Sumpter Rd, Belleville
For more information call:
734-699-8676
M-W-F 9am-Noon



Amenities

- 100% Smoke free campus
- Individual heating & cooling
- Emergency in-unit pull cords
- Subsidized rent
- On-site laundry
- Transportation available

www.csi.coop **(800) 593-3052** TDD (800) 348-7011



NEW ITEMS... FURNITURE!

DAVE'S TREASURE TROVE

Private Sale Cash or local checks

Hunting Gear
Guns, Bows
Knives
Fishing Poles
Fishing Lures
Lionel Trains

Sports Memorabilia
Tools and Collectibles
Boating
Accessories

(734) 699- 4438
Tuesday - Saturday
12 Noon to 5 PM

668 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111



White Pine DENTAL HEALTH

Your Smile Comes First!
Affordable, Kind, and Convenient.

Call Us Today: (734) 252-6002 187 Main Street, Downtown Belleville
www.WhitePineDentalHealth.com

Meet our Dentist: Dr. DeAngelo S. Webster is an award-winning dentist, author, and a University of Michigan graduate.

• Now Booking New Patients •
Open Evenings and Weekends
Family Friendly Dentist for Adults and Kids

SERVING BELLEVILLE & SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN!

BARNETT

Roofing and Siding, Inc.

OVER 50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Roofing • Siding • Flat Roofs
FREE ESTIMATES!

NOW THRU SEPT. 9, 2024
RECEIVE OUR CERTAINTEED ROOF 4-STAR EXTENDED WARRANTY FOR FREE! CURRENT & PAST MILITARY MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A \$250 CABELAS GIFT CARD!

Licensed & Insured
CALL (734) 397-8122
Visit us @ www.barnettroofing.com
41700 MICHIGAN AVE. – CANTON



Protect your eyes from the summer sun

Come shop our huge selection of sunglasses

Now located at 240 Main Street in downtown Belleville

Dr Robert Kennedy, O.D.
240 Main Street
Belleville, MI 48111
734.699.1010
perspectiveeyecare.com



SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council

(continued from page 1)

referring to his employment in the police department and activity in city government. "He's so far the best we have," he said, adding on second thought, Kerreen Conley and Bob Herron were very good.

Any contract changes will be considered when the contract is up for review.

In other business at Monday's more than two-hour meeting, the council:

- After brief presentations by two proposals for the city's refuse/recycling pickup, the board chose Stevens Disposal over Priority Waste, the firm presently doing the service. Priority Waste offered to match Stevens Disposal bid, which was lower, "dollar for dollar," but the council did not take them up on that offer. Stevens, a family owned firm, will take over pickup when the transition is worked out. Ninety-five-gallon recycling bins were part of both companies' proposals and the price is expected to be similar. There will be no recycling bin left unattended at the DPW yard because it can't be monitored;

- Approved SLC Meter as the new water meter contractor at a cost of \$612,683.85, as recommended by the city manager, despite not being the low bidder;

- Approved Westshore Services (Federal Signal) to provide a new tornado siren for the city at a cost of \$27,900, the lower of two bids, as recommended by the city manager. It will be placed at the DPW yard and Van Buren Township Dispatch will push the button for the siren to sound. Both VBT and Sumpter Township have Westshore Service. The corner of the city that this siren doesn't reach in Harbour Pointe subdivision, is being serviced by a Van Buren Township siren 1,000 feet away, city manager Smith said;

- Approved purchase of a Sany Tracked Excavator at a cost of \$111,498.59, as recommended by the city manager who said the DPW needed something more nimble than the large excavator it now uses. DPW Director Tony Bollino said it will be used for digging graves. It has zero turn and can go down 19-20 feet. Councilman Jeremiah Beebe asked if the city should have bought this instead of a backhoe and Bollino said yes, but they'll keep the big backhoe and use it for snow plowing in the winter;

- Approved tree trimming behind the city hall building and along the drive at the street to improve visibility while turning onto N. Liberty Street as proposed by Leffler's Property Maintenance at a total cost of \$1,800, as recommended by the city manager. The 14 stumps left at this location and others will be milled, Smith said;

- Approved the Giffels Webster quote received for the complete rewriting of the Master Plan, which was last rewritten in 2006. Since then it has occasionally



Belleville Police Officer Charlie Brooks was introduced to the city council at Monday's meeting. He retired as a sergeant in the traffic bureau after 24.5 years with the Garden City Police Department.

been updated. By law it is supposed to be addressed every five years. The bid of \$26,650 from Giffels Webster, the city's current planning consultant, was the only quote received;

- Marked the retirement of police officer Bart DeVos and was introduced to two new police officers, Charlie Brooks and Michael Pearl;

- Approved accounts payable of \$148,121.03 and departmental expenditures of more than \$500: to Advanced Underground Inspection \$2,443.75 on June 12 and \$6,768.75 on June 26 for emergency camera work, cleaning, jetting and vac of storm sewer; to Core & Main, \$969.78 for water and sewer repair on June 26; and to Amazon (Benchmark Tool & Supply), \$1,087.14 for a laser level kit with tripod for grade work;

- Was advised city manager Smith has been appointed to SEMCOG's Legislative Policy Platform Task Force;

- Heard city manager Smith remind the council he is going to be gone Tuesday through Friday this week because he is going to a convention in Marquette and will be moderating one session and presenting a session on Wednesday;

- Heard Mayor Voigt say that the city's state representative and state senator announced that the city will be getting \$750,000 for Horizon Park bank stabilization in October. It's in the approved state budget, he said. Mayor Voigt said that maybe they can start construction this winter;

- Heard some thoughts on school safety from Ray Martin of Victoria Commons, who said he saw the recent incident with teens fighting in front of a house in his subdivision and Belleville police came



Belleville City Clerk/Treasurer Briana Hootman, right, swears in new police officer Michael Pearl at Monday's city council meeting. Officer Pearl served on the Williamston Police Department and has four years of experience. Police Chief Kris Faull said "he is a local guy" who was driving all the way to Williamston and back to work. His wife and baby were present for the meeting.

Independent photos by Rosemary K. Oztman

with Van Buren Township police backup. He said last week there was a break in at Owen School, next to the subdivision, and Belleville police got the young lady in custody. He said he is working with the Fortis Group that is doing training to augment police departments and two students from Belleville he tutored are now in in the Youth Challenge Academy in Battle Creek. He mentioned active shooter events and said the community has to protect its children and the schools.

Court Watching

Asim Akil-Walsh Williams

Asim Akil-Walsh Williams, 45, of Van Buren Township was set for his pretrial on July 10 before Judge Brian Oakley at 34th District Court. He is charged with domestic violence on July 1 in Van Buren Township. Personal bond is \$1,000.

On July 10 he pled no contest to the charge and a pre-sentence interview was set for July 24 in the probation department. His bond order of no-contact with the victim was changed to no assaultive contact.

Ramon Omar Dorr-Horton

Ramon Omarr Dorr-Horton, 32, of Van Buren Township and formerly of Belleville and Willis, was before Judge Lisa Martin on July 9 on five bench warrants from Van Buren Township and the city of Belleville in 2019 and 2020, mostly driving while license suspended. There also is a charge of carrying a concealed weapon, open intoxicant in a vehicle and disorderly person. A probable cause conference was set for July 17. Personal bond is \$5,000.



Bart DeVos, who retired as a Belleville Police Officer on May 1 after eight years with the city was honored at Monday's meeting of the city council. He was given a retirement badge, a plaque, and a fond farewell by Police Chief Kris Faull. He also had served 37 years at the Van Buren Township police department before retiring from that department, as well. "He's one of the best," said Mayor Ken Voigt. "No doubt about it."

**Read The Newspaper
On The Web!
The Belleville-Area
Independent Website
is Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com**

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

This is the weekend we all look up to see annual air show

Every year there is a summer weekend when we raise our eyes to the heavens. And it's here again: the annual air show at Willow Run Airport.

Thunder Over Michigan, presented by the Wayne County Airport Authority, is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, with the air shows beginning at 10 a.m. each day with a break from noon to 2 p.m.

The Viper Pit is celebrating 50 years of the iconic F-16 Fighting Falcon, including a performance by the USAF F-16 Viper Demo Team. Lots of demonstrations.

There are all kinds of aircraft to see on the ground, including planes from World War I forward.

People who don't want to pay the price and fight the heavy traffic into and out of the airport, get on their boats and go out into Belleville Lake to watch the show. Or, they go to the former Kmart shopping center and park their cars and bring out their coolers. Or, just sit in their yards and watch the show.

Last year there was a crash and pilots parachuted into the lake with minimal injuries. Pieces of plane were all over an apartment complex. Lots of excitement.

We live in a special kind of town. Aircraft over the weekend and then, on Monday, people come from many miles around to display old, new, and special cars for the summer's Main Street car show. Our streets are full of cars to marvel over. But then, sometimes it rains.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The Belleville City Council approved purchase of a new tornado siren on Monday that will be placed at the DPW yard. The old one is on the roof of city hall and someone has to be on site to operate it. The siren was slightly damaged during city hall re-roofing and had to be fixed. That's what brought the siren to everyone's attention.

The new one will be operated by Van Buren Township dispatch by pushing a button. VBT dispatches for the city. The new siren will be on the same frequency as the sirens in VBT and Sumpter Township.

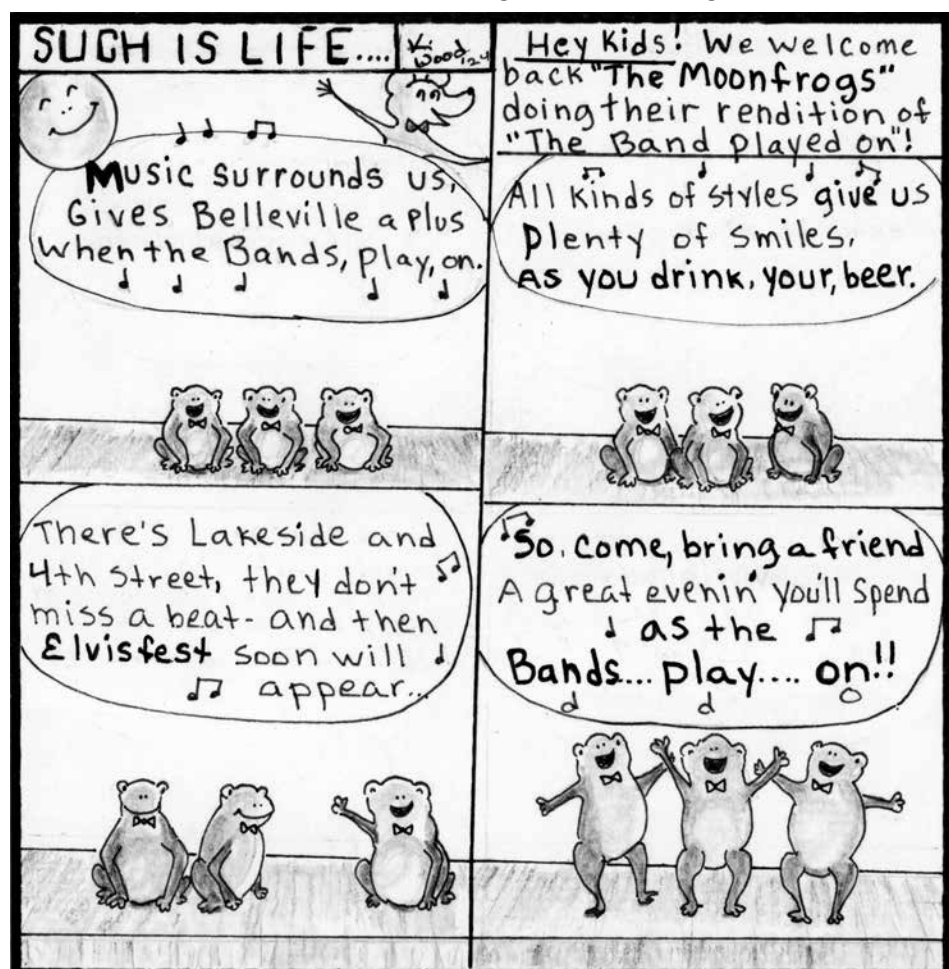
Although a corner of the city, in Harbour Pointe subdivision, will not be able to hear the new siren, there is a VBT siren just 1,000 feet away that those residents can hear, according to city manager Jason Smith.

He said he thought it was a good idea to get a more technically advanced siren so that city police officers who are out on a call will no longer have to decide whether or not to leave their emergency and rush back to city hall to push the button to save lives.

Smith said the Belleville Area Museum has shown interest in having the old siren once it is removed from city hall roof, since it's a relic. No one seems to know for sure how old it is.

City manager Smith said a film crew is due to be working in Belleville July 18-23 and it will be filming parks and city signs and public spaces where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. He said the crew's identity is not being announced to the public.

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



The Belleville Police Department is now up to full status with its new hires and the woman officer who took time off to have a baby will be back on duty in August.

Mayor Voigt said not many police departments can say all their slots are filled.

At its meeting Monday, the city council was provided with a monthly acknowledgement report on claims received from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority about a 10-year-old child being bodily injured by falling through the dock at Horizon Park when the wood broke on June 24.

Mayor Voigt said that area is now cordoned off and the DPW is taking steps to patch the holes. He said the rest of the boardwalk is safe for now and they are considering possible replacement of the entire thing.

City manager Smith said the child is OK and the city is getting proposals for changes.

A man named Bob Burns dropped by to see me on Monday. He is from the BHS class of 1956, the year my sister graduated. He lived on Lenmoore Road and he remembers having to walk the long road up to Savage Road to get on the school bus. My sister, who was a cute little blonde, already was on the bus since we were picked up on Haggerty.

Bob said after he graduated he went to

the Air Force Academy and then spent many years in the Air Force and then was an airline pilot.

Now he is retired and lives in Dallas with his wife. He was in town for a Burns family reunion.

He said he was going to drive over to Lenmoore to get a look at it now. He remembers a lot from those days.

He said his son is soon to retire from his job as an appeals court judge and other of his close relatives were lawyers and judges.

I told him to look for some big signs on Lenmoore because someone who lives there is also running for a judgeship in the upcoming election.

He found that very interesting.

Monday night was interesting, since the school board had moved its meeting from its regular day to the day the city council always meets, so I had two meetings on one night.

They did that last year, too, so I have it all worked out. I go to the school board for about 15 minutes (it starts at 7 p.m.) and then rush over to city hall to get there in time for the 7:30 p.m. meeting to start.

The city manager said he was worried about me because I wasn't there early as I usually am. But then I showed up and all was well.



www.bellevilleareaindependent.com
baindependent@ameritech.net

BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone (NO ADS, PLEASE!): 697-1294

Advertising Manager:
Janet Millard

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager:
James Otzman

Office Manager: Elaine Gutierrez

The Independent is owned and operated by a Michigan Limited Liability Company made up of members of this community.

Member: Michigan Press Association

Entire contents of this paper is Copyrighted © 2024 - All rights reserved.

This paper is available free at sites throughout the community. To get the Independent delivered by mail, cost is \$55 per year for postage, Outside of Michigan - \$60 per year, outside of the USA - call. Also available free to download on our website.

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

152 Main St., Suite 9,
Belleville, MI 48111

734-699-9020

FAX 734-699-8962

Belleville Area Independent™ is a Trademark and is registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Reg. No. 3,751,670
Belleville Area Independent Holding Company, LLC (Michigan Limited Liability Company)

JOE'S APPLIANCE REPAIR

In-Home Service
Calls on Most
Major Appliances.

(734) 697-3206

Columbia Court Apartments

275 W. Columbia • Belleville
For 1 Bedroom & Studio Apartments Only.
Accepting Applications for Individuals 62 & Older
H.U.D. Guidelines Apply
A Senior Facility of National Church Residences
Affordable Housing • Sec 8-202

Minutes From Shopping, Freeways & Restaurants

734-697-8200

For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips.
One call does it all: 734-699-9020
The Belleville-Area Independent

CHINA KING

45915 S. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville
Next to the Belleville Post Office

(734) 699-1550

See our menu online at chinakingbelleville.com

LUNCH • DINNER
Best Buffet Around!

DELIVERY AVAILABLE THRU UBER EATS, GRUBHUB & DOOR DASH!

BEER & WINE AVAILABLE • DRIVE-THRU PICKUP

10% OFF
Any Entree (Includes Carry Out Orders)
or Buffet Purchase Per Person

DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT
Chinese & American Food

CHINA KING COUPON
COUPON EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2024

OPEN HOURS
MONDAY-THURSDAY
11:00AM - 9:00PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
11:00AM - 10:00PM
SUNDAY: 11:30AM - 9:00PM

WiFi HOTSPOT

Belleville Tax & Accounting Service, Inc.

Criss, Wilmarth & Parr
Certified Public Accountants



Denise W. Baker, MSA, CPA Gayl Parr, CPA

Providing Services to Small Business and Individuals

- Small Business Accounting & Financial Statements
- Payroll Services
- Business and Personal Tax Returns
- Small Business Advising and Start-Up Consultation
- Quickbooks Training and Support

Visit our website www.bellevilletaxservices.com

Call Us Today!
(734) 697-8000

All major credit cards accepted

152 Main Street
(in The Professional Building)
Belleville, MI 48111

DISCOVER VISA MasterCard IRS e-file

Letters

Key found in large bag of recycled bottles

To the editor:

At least 10 large bags of plastic bottles and some smaller ones were donated to the Emergency Food Closet at Belleville First United Methodist Church located at 417 Charles St., July 3-5.

When the bottles were being recycled, a set of keys was found in one of the bags. One key is for a Dodge Ram and the other for a Jeep. House keys are also on the ring. A blue GPS tag with the number 28739 is on the ring.

If these belong to you, you may pick them up at the church office from Terri, the church secretary, or Pastor Greg. The church is open Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or call to arrange a pick-up time at (734) 697-9288.

Marilyn Wood, coordinator
Emergency Food Closet
Belleville First United Methodist Church



Can someone clean up train derailment?

To the editor:

Do you remember when the train derailed in Romulus? Some of you may have forgotten. But I have not, because I get to see this wonderful site every day on the way to work.

Can someone get ahold of the company in charge and get these picked up? Pretty soon the weeds will grow right over!

Jeff Kotlarek
Romulus

One Call Does It All...
...At The Independent
734-699-9020

GET THE SCOOP
644 E. Huron River Drive

MONDAY SPECIAL
Banana Split
\$3.50

Build your own. 26 flavors

Thank you, Jim Foley, for helping us out

To the editor:

We want to thank Jim Foley of Van Buren Township for helping us out when we needed it. And, a shout out to all our wonderful neighbors. They have helped us many times throughout the years.

Gary and Patricia Marshall
Van Buren Township

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, July 18** – The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presents Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. Tonight the music is by “Tequila Mockingbirds.”

• **Friday, July 19** – Steak Roast at 5 p.m. at the Van Buren Eagles #3996, at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township.

• **Friday, July 19** – It's BBQ Time from 5-7 p.m. at the Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. Two hot dogs or one hamburger, sides and dessert for \$10. After dinner Music Binger, \$5 per player. All proceeds go to the Building Fund. (734) 941-3030

• **Saturday, July 20** – Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser to support Romulus Mayor Robert McCraight while he takes on the Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge of 10,000 miles in 10-14 days. Spaghetti from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., \$12 adults, Pvt. James D. Donovan/Romulus VFW Post 78, 39270 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus. (734) 941-3030. All proceeds benefit local veterans.

• **Wednesday, July 24** – Ted Scott Campus of Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Rd., presents Power Play Detroit band. Open to the public at no cost. Bring your chair and refreshments; no alcoholic beverages on the premises.

• **Thursday, July 25** – The Belleville Area Council for the Arts presents Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park. Tonight the music is by “Joseph and the Velozians.”

• **Thursday, July 25** – Wayne County Community College's Ted Scott Campus, 9555 Haggerty Rd., presents an outdoor movie, Disney and Pixar's “Elemental,” a new, original feature film set in Element City where fire-, water-, land-, and air residents live together. Bring your blankets, chairs, and coolers. No alcohol permitted on premises. Open to the public at no cost.

KAREN'S PLACE
A Salon For Everyone

36968 Huron River Drive
New Boston, Michigan
Appointments & Walk-ins Welcome
734-753-9130
OPEN: Tues.- Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-3

Obituaries



Robert Williams "Bob"
Gerick

ROBERT WILLIAMS GERICK

(August 4, 1941 – July 14, 2024)

Robert Williams "Bob" Gerick, age 82, of Ypsilanti, MI, passed away Sunday, July 14, 2024, at Angela Hospice Care Center, Livonia, MI, surrounded by family. He was born August 4, 1941, in Ypsilanti, MI, son of William Clark & Harriet Jessie (Williams) Gerick. He graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1959. He received his Bachelor of Science from Eastern Michigan University, Master of Arts degree from Eastern Michigan University, and a Specialist in Arts from Eastern Michigan University. He taught science at Adams Junior High School for one year before transferring to John Glen High School, where he retired at the age of 50, after nearly 30 years as a science and biology teacher. He enjoyed genealogy, fishing with his friends, and was an avid woodworker. He loved time with family, especially his grandchildren.

Bob is survived by his wife of 60 years, Karen Marie (Snell) Gerick; three children: Karla (David) Brodoski of Canton, MI, Kent Gerick of Phoenix, Arizona, and Kristina (Jamie) Bever of Ypsilanti, MI; 3 grandchildren: Erica (Noah Moyer) Hall of Belleville, and Sarah & Nathan Brodoski, both of Canton, MI; sister Judy (Paul) Pleva of Belleville, MI; also numerous extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation was 2-7 PM Wednesday, with a 12 noon funeral Thursday, July 18, 2024, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Gordon Moore will officiate. Interment will be in Denton Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Angela Hospice and would be appreciated.
www.davidcbrownfh.com

FMAR celebrates 20 years of serving community on July 27

The public is invited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the incorporation of Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue at a big party from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 27.

The event will be held at the FMAR headquarters at 51299 Arkona Rd., Sumpter Township, just off Rawsonville Road.

Members of the public are invited to tour the facility, hang out with the animals, get their faces painted, eat food from special food trucks, and learn what FMAR does every day.

IMPORT AND DOMESTIC



Burkhop's Collision

BODY AND FENDER REPAIR
COMPLETE GLASS INSTALLATION
(734) 699-3641
FAX: (734) 699-3856

112 Davis St.
Belleville, MI 48111

Towing Available
Open Weekdays 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.



The Hair Station (734) 796-4795

151 Main Street
Belleville MI 48111

**PLEASE INQUIRE ABOUT OUR
SPRING/SUMMER SPECIALS!**

thehairstation151@yahoo.com



George E. Long, III Attorney & Counselor At Law

**Federal & State Criminal
and Civil Defense**

DUI • Wills • Probate Matters
Divorce • Social Security Disability
Notary Public

734-697-4455

321 MAIN STREET, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111 **GLONGLAW.COM**

exp[®]
REALTY

Angela Lee

Direct: 313-626-1822
Office: 313-214-2419
Angela.Lee@exprealty.com
www.AngelaLeeYourRealtor.com
#LookAndListWithLee
The Lee Team



**SUMPTER
COLLISION**
"A Family Tradition Since 1957"

James Chudzinski - Owner
Kevin Schewe - Manager
21585 Sumpter Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111



734.699.7758
sumptercollision@gmail.com

All Insurances Welcome
Ltd. Lifetime Guarantee
Onsite Rental Cars



R.V. Repair
Auto Glass
Motorcycle
& Watercraft



THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?

**YOUR HOME IS UNIQUE,
AND SO IS OUR APPROACH.**

Contact Coldwell Banker Professionals
for a
rewarding
customer
experience
unlike any
other.

TO VISIT
RealEstate48111.com

SCAN
ME!



**COLDWELL BANKER
PROFESSIONALS**

11752 Belleville Road
Van Buren Twp, MI 48111
734-697-1800



Jessica Jones
Manager



James Morgan
Manager

HOURS: MON-FRI BY APPOINTMENT ONLY,
SATURDAY 11AM-3PM OPEN TO PUBLIC

Friends of MI Animals Rescue

Promote a Healthy and Safe Environment for All

ADOPTIONS BY
APPOINTMENT



**51299 Arkona Road
Belleville, MI 48111**

734-461-9458

info@friendsofmichigan.org
www.friendsofmichigan.org

**PRO
PLUMBING**

Free Estimates
Service & Repair
Drain Cleaning
Gas Lines & More

Licensed & Insured
Honest & Reliable

Caleb Windiate
734.307.6478

ProPlumbing734@yahoo.com

WEST BRANCH BUILDERS



LICENSED
INSURED

SERVING OUR
COMMUNITY FOR
OVER 38 YEARS

**21321 KARR RD
BELLEVILLE, MI 48111**

RESIDENTIAL AND
COMMERCIAL

TIM BOWMAN

westbranchbuilders@yahoo.com

PHONE 734-476-1098

J.R's Tree Service

734-250-3855

Jeremy Reber
owner

Free Estimate's
Tree Removal
Tree Trimming
Stump Removal
Fire Wood
Lot Clearing
Fully Insured

Arrwood Construction

Grading, Excavating, etc.

Bill Arrwood

owner

313-363-6590



49450 Judd Rd.
Belleville, MI. 48111

arrwoodconstruction@yahoo.com

Golf Courses
Graduations

Picnics
Construction Sites

**Parkway
Services, Inc.**



PORTABLE TOILETS • SEPTIC CLEANING
LUXURY RESTROOM TRAILERS

For All Outdoor Activities

Office: (734) 482-7633

www.ParkwayServices.net

Fax: (734) 482-7632

SERVING BELLEVILLE, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP & VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP FOR OVER 41 YEARS

David C. Brown Funeral Home

Live ~ Laugh ~ Love ♥ Remember

David C. Brown, Founder • Shelly A. Brown-Chudzinski, Manager

(734) 697-4500www.DAVIDCBROWNFH.com

Complete Line of Monuments & Markers.



460 E. HURON RIVER DR., BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

*Patronize Our Advertisers!
They are the ones who give
you this free paper!*



BELLEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Moving forward 417 Charles
in Christ together! Sunday 10am
bellevillefirstumc.org 734.697.9288

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6020 Denton Road
Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 483-2276
www.faithchurchdenton.org
Sunday Worship at 9:30am. Bible Study &
refreshments after Worship.

BELLEVILLE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday Mornings
Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:30
89 South Edgemont
bellevillesda.com

BELLEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

BETHANY BIBLE CHURCH

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

faith
Community Church
REACH • CONNECT • SERVE
JOIN US IN PERSON, ONLINE &
FOLLOW US ON

SUNDAYS @ 10 A.M.
Connect Classes
11 a.m. Sunday Worship
WEDNESDAYS @ 6 P.M.
S.O.S. Recovery & Support Group
WEDNESDAYS @ 7 P.M.
Bible Study & Youth Groups
894 E. Huron River Dr.
Belleville

Ridge Road Church of Christ

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

RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

16650 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111
All services are open to in person or live stream.
Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Adult, Youth & Children @ 7 p.m.
Visit rol-ag.com (734) 699-6700

ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

409 W. Columbia Avenue (734) 697-1211
• Saturday Mass: 6:00pm
• Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 10:30am
• Mondays: 6:30pm Adoration
www.stanthonybelleville.com

**Would you like to have
YOUR CHURCH LISTED IN
THIS DIRECTORY?
CALL ADVERTISING
MANAGER JANET MILLARD
AT 734-699-9020 TODAY!**

Obituaries



Nancy Carey

NANCY CAREY

(January 18, 1938 – July 4, 2024)

Nancy Carey, of Van Buren Twp., Michigan, and formerly of Norwalk, Ohio, age 86, passed away on July 4, 2024, at home in hospice care surrounded by family. She was born on January 18, 1938, in Norwalk, Ohio, to Robert and Jane (Dippel) Stryker. After she graduated from high school she married and started a family. Nancy was a homemaker and enjoyed her time in the home rearing and caring for her family. She was also a member of the First United Methodist Church in Belleville, Michigan and a member of the Eastern Star. Nancy was known for her baking skills. She made numerous cakes out of her home kitchen. Many neighbors and friends counted on her fine baking skills to make their cakes the best around. Most of all though, she loved her family.

Nancy is survived by her loving husband of 67 marvelous years Richard Carey, her daughters Susan and Sylvia, 4 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren, as well as many friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

According to her wishes, dignified cremation rites have been accorded with the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI. A memorial is being planned for September 14, 2024 at Belleville First United Methodist Church. Donations to Belleville First United Methodist Church can be made in Nancy's memory.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

ELIZABETH McCLOUD

(January 8, 1973 – July 10, 2024)

Age 51 of Van Buren Township. Survived by husband Erik McCloud, son Colin McCloud, parents John and Catherine Fife, siblings John Fife and Colleen Chapman. Service was July 15 at David C. Brown Funeral Home.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

CREMATION
\$895.00 complete
NO Hidden Service Fees

(800) 331-5051

**DUZAK Funeral &
Cremation Center, Inc.**

Southeast Michigan's Lowest
Cremation Cost Provider
Since 1977

www.duzakcremation.com



Francis "Fran" Soja

FRANCES SOJA

(February 10, 1934 – July 10, 2024)

Heaven gained an angel, after a long journey of Alzheimer's, Frances "Fran" Soja, age 90, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, July 10, 2024. She was born on February 10, 1934 in Belleville, MI, daughter of John Price and Mary (Peszek) Price. Fran graduated from Belleville High School in 1951. Fran married the love of her life Robert Soja in June 1955. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to all that knew her. She enjoyed traveling, playing cards, reading, sewing, crocheting, canning, gardening, and making the best Polish food west of Hamtramck, MI. Most of all she loved having her family together for traditional gatherings.

Fran retired in 1997 from Belleville City Hall, after 10 ½ years as the city bookkeeper, to travel and enjoy life. Fran was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, MI. For many years she had worked Bingo at the Strawberry Festival, and she counted money for the parish for numerous years as well.

Frances is survived by her three girls: Diane (Mike) Chartier of Belleville, MI, Karen (Brian) Good of Tecumseh, MI, Brandon (Jessica) Ley of Belleville, MI, Matthew and Jessica Ley of Willis, MI, and Janae Good of Tecumseh, MI; her great-grandchildren Waylon and Margaret Nicholson, Theo Fahrion, Amelia Good, and Elizabeth Ley. She is also survived by her sister Jena Kornacki of Brighton and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband Bob in 2023, granddaughter, Allison Ley in 1993, also 3 brothers and 5 sisters.

A heart of gold stopped beating, two hard working hands at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us he only takes the best.

Visitation will be Friday July 19, 2024 from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI 48111. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday July 20, 2024 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave. Belleville, MI, 48111, at 11 a.m. with an hour visitation before the Mass. A burial will take place at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock MI. Memorial contributions may be made to: Trinity Health at Home-Hospice, 20555 Victor Parkway, Livonia, MI 48152 and the Alzheimer's Association. www.davidcbrownfh.com

WILLIE FINLEY

Willie Finley, age 90, of Sumpter Township died July 4, 2024. Family hour will be from 10 to 11 a.m. on Friday, July 19, 2024, at Kernan Funeral Home, 1020 Fort St., Lincoln Park. The funeral service will follow from 11 a.m. until noon.

*To build a better
world, start in your
own community!*



Photo courtesy of Debbie McWilliams
This is one of the three picnic tables and 26 benches made possible by Marina Gerick as part of her Girl Scout project. This table is outside of the administration building of the Van Buren Public Schools. Marina, with the help of the community, was able to save more than 5,700 pounds of caps and lids to recycle to make the benches/tables.

**Read The Newspaper
On The Web!**
**The Belleville-Area
Independent Website
is Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com**

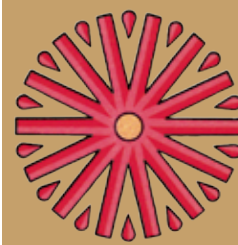
SPECIALIZING IN LARGE AND HAZARDOUS REMOVALS

**PROFESSIONAL
TREE SERVICE**

24 Hr. EMERGENCY SERVICE
TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL
STUMP & SHRUBBERY REMOVAL
CRANE SERVICE • FIREWOOD
FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES
SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

**EMERGENCIES &
BELLEVILLE AREA**

Call Joe (734) 664-9285
10% OFF MENTION AD
Call Tom (734) 864-2243



Revolutionary Gardens

Landscape Rejuvenation, Preservation,
Design and Planting

josephs@revolutionarygardens.info

Your Personal Groundskeeper

734-507-2440

Family Owned Since 1941

Moe's Farm

20684 Sumpter Rd.
(Next to Sumpter Fire Hall)

All of our produce is grown on site!

**SEASONAL
VEGETABLES**

OPEN 7 DAYS • LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

VOTE

**Vincent
Warren**

**NEW VISION
NEW FUTURE**

**FOR SUPERVISOR
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**

**A LEADER PEOPLE CAN TRUST
LET'S MAKE SUMPTER GREAT**

**FOR THE TOWNSHIP
2024**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT VINCENT WARREN, 45465 DUNN DR., BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

**VOTE AUGUST
6TH**

**TODD L. BARRON
34TH DISTRICT
COURT JUDGE**

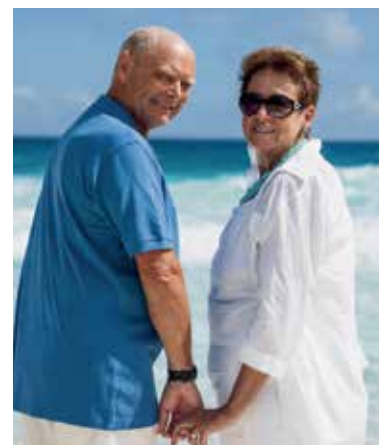
**FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT
WWW.BARRONFOR34.COM**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TODD L. BARRON 36870 GRANT ST BIRMINGHAM, MI 48174

**MEDICARE choices
getting in the way of
enjoying retirement?**

We CAN Help!

We can help you
find a plan that's
right for YOU &
YOUR BUDGET.



**health
markets.**

Stop in or call for
personalized
local service

(248) 210-9192
186 Main Street, Belleville

MEDICARE HEALTH DENTAL+VISION SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE

25 YEAR RESIDENT OF VAN BUREN TWP

ROBERT
COUTTS
for
34TH DISTRICT
JUDGE

313-363-8882 or 313-381-1440

COUTTS4JUDGE@FACEBOOK.COM

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Robert Coutts 34th District Judge, 13200 Lenmoore Rd., Van Buren Township, MI 48111

A PERSON OF INTEGRITY AND VISION

*** E L E C T ***
TIM
CRAIGER
for Wayne County Commissioner

DISTRICT 11

TimCraiger.com

CraigerForCommissioner@gmail.com

PAID FOR BY THE CITIZENS TO ELECT TIM CRAIGER • 41166 Lakeview Ct Van Buren Twp 48111



Sense of Community



Paid for by David Morgan, 46330 Claxton Dr., Belleville, MI 48111

School Board OKs parking lot expansion at Early Childhood Center

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At Monday's meeting, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved bids for expansion of the parking lot at the Early Childhood Center.

T&M Asphalt Paving and Douglas Electric Company were approved for a total award of \$241,100. T&M's part is \$194,620 and Douglas Electric Company's is \$24,560. A project contingency of 10%, \$21,920, is included.

T&M was low bidder of three and Douglas was low bidder of three.

In other business at Monday's meeting, held at the administration building, the board:

- Approved hiring Lemanzer Williams as assistant principal for Owen Intermediate School as of Aug. 1. He also had worked in Ann Arbor and Okemos. School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the district had 78 applicants for the position and took three rounds of interviews;

- Approved hiring, all as of Aug. 28, Erin Martell as speech pathologist at the Early Childhood Center; Trisha Matelaski, as Spanish teacher at Belleville High School; Melissa Carr as resource room teacher at BHS; Ozenia Cosey-Nolen, as cosmetology teacher at BHS; Karen Morelli as CI teacher at BHS; and Aimee Griffin, as resource room teacher at Rawsonville Elementary;

- Approve hiring Leslie Harris as a school bus driver as of July 8;

- Canceled the July 29 meeting. The next regular meeting will be Aug. 12 in the administration building;

- Heard Supt. Kudlak update the new

(continued on page 10)

SAFEHOUSE FUNDRAISER
CENTER
FRIDAY AUGUST 9th

Van Buren Eagles #3996
9961 Beck Rd Belleville, MI

it's a luau
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

\$20 per person
includes 1 Food Truck Combo, 5 Raffle tickets, and Door Prize entry

Scan Me for Tickets

Food tickets available until August 1st
LIMITED food tickets at the door.

4:30pm - Food Truck Open
6:30pm - Guest Speaker
7:30pm - DJ Anthony Richendollar

Basket Raffles/Lotto Board/Games
4:30pm - 8:30pm
Raffle Drawings
9:00pm

100% OF PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ANN ARBOR SAFE HOUSE

foe3996.com or Facebook

Relax & Renew
A Massage Therapy Company

Book 4 Massages & Get The 5th One FREE With Mariann!

(734) 707-6348

KAYROUZE JEWELRY



- Bridal Rings & Wedding Bands
- Creation Diamonds
- Natural Diamonds

504 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111

734.444.2323

Tony Kayrouze

tony@kayrouzejewelry.com

- Custom Design Jewelry
- Repairs on the Spot
- Watch Battery Change
- Buying Gold



The Pharmacy on Main St that's here to stay!

MILTON'S Pharmacy

248 Main St
Belleville, MI 48111

Transfer to Milton's TODAY

Old Pharmacy



1 Call Milton's at 734-391-0190

2 Tell us you want to transfer to Milton's

3 Done, we do the rest!



VBPS

(continued from page 9)

Strategic Plan that listed his goals. He said they were reviewed in December when the board did his evaluation and this is an update because they have finished the first year of the plan;

- Heard Marina Gerick give a wrap-up of the Benches for Belleville program she started in 2018 as her Girl Scout Silver Projects. She said with community support

she saved more than 5,700 pounds of caps and lids and brought back 26 benches and three picnic tables. She received her Girl Scout Silver Award in 2020, and the project continued. She said after their first seven-hour trip to pick up benches, she said she would continue until she was 18. At the end of this month, she turns 19; and

- Held a closed-door session to consider reinstatement of student 23-24-011 for the upcoming school year. The board voted in open session to reinstate the student with conditions.

AUGUST 6TH 2024

Vote JAMES FRAZIER

FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

PRESERVING OUR PAST PIONEERING OUR FUTURE

VOTEJAMESFRAZIER.COM

Paid for by the Friends of James M. Frazier for Sumpter Township 44030 Harris Rd, Sumpter Twp MI 48111

Notice for Seniors

Do You Want To Hear Better?

Beltone, the MOST TRUSTED NAME IN HEARING AIDS, wishes to test a remarkable new hearing instrument in the area. This offer is free of charge and you are under no obligation. The revolutionary 100% Digital instruments use the latest technology to comfortably and almost invisibly help you hear more clearly. This technology solves the "stopped up ears", "head in a barrel" sensation some people experience, and has been clinically demonstrated to improve hearing in noisy environments. If you wish to participate, you will be required to have your hearing tested in our office FREE OF CHARGE to determine candidacy.

A limited number of qualified seniors are needed to try this product. NO PURCHASE is necessary, however you may purchase Beltone Serene™ Technology at a reduced rate.

The Serene™ Technology

- **Instant fit** - a single office visit is all it takes
- **Easy to use and wear** - All-day comfort
- **Hear effortlessly** in noisy places, watching TV, or on the phone.
- **Tiny size** and great price!

SAVE \$1000 THIS WEEK!*

Look!
She's wearing new open ear technology!

BONUS OFFER
\$20 Gift Card**



Free Hearing Screening For The NEXT 5 DAYS!

We support & honor Medicare and discount plans including BCBS and TruHear, and United Healthcare. We offer professional award-winning service, technology, and a **FREE LIFETIME BELCARE TREATMENT PLAN.**

OPEN LATE ON TUESDAYS AND SATURDAY - CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT!

Belleville	Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor
35 Main St., Suite 101	4076 Packard St.	283 S. Zeeb Rd., Suite F
734-256-4113	734-389-8725	734-274-6794

WWW.BELTONEHEARINGAID.COM

*Offer valid toward the purchase of two Beltone Serene™ hearing instruments. \$500 off a single instrument.
**Must complete hearing screening to be eligible for gift card. See store for details. Beltone 2024™

Family owned and operated for over 20 years. We take pride in our work and our company.

DON'T LET THE ELEMENTS CATCH YOU BY SURPRISE!

We're there for you every SEASON!

FULLY INSURED

WE SPECIALIZE IN ROOFS AND ROOFS ONLY!

FREE ESTIMATES!

DIVERSIFIED ROOFING

Quality Keeping You Covered...not only our logo, it's our motto!

★ Replacements ★ Recovers ★ Repairs ★ Commercial ★ Residential

ALL TYPES
Flat & Shingled • EPDM
Modified Rubber
Cedar Shake • Metal

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

NATIONAL ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

WE ACCEPT
VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, AMERICAN EXPRESS

734-429-5840

CUSTOMER CHECKLIST

☐ Insured	☐ Office/Showroom (not home or truck)	☐ In Business Over 5 Years
☐ Licensed	☐ Workmanship Guarantee	☐ Factory Certified Installers
☐ References	☐ Check BBB	

779 W. Michigan Avenue • Saline, MI 48176 • www.diversifiedroofingllc.com • 1-800-668-1928

QUALITY KEEPING YOU COVERED

DIVERSIFIED ROOFING

QUALITY KEEPING YOU COVERED

Shingle, Flat Roof & Metal Roofs
Removals, Recover & Repair

\$500 OFF Full Roof Replacement
Expires: 07-25-2024

Residential • Commercial
Free Estimates
State Licensed
Fully Insured

www.DiversifiedRoofingLLC.com

800-668-1928

ORPHAN OF THE WEEK YAHTZEE



HI, I'M YAHTZEE!

I'm just the right size and as sweet as they come. The volunteers say that my spots make me look like a cow (what do you think?). I definitely don't moo, but also don't bark a bunch. I'm only about 2 years old and I have a lot of love to give to someone who will give me a chance to be a part of their family. I'm a pretty active guy, and my tail and butt won't stop wiggling!

If you would like to meet me, please submit an application for me on our website <https://www.friendsofmichigan.org/adoptable-dogs>. I am neutered, up to date on all age appropriate vaccines, heartworm negative, microchipped, and on monthly flea, tick, and heartworm prevention.

FMAR is Running a Promotion This Summer!

Bring a copy of this article with you when you come to meet me, and my adoption fee is **50% OFF!**

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

51299 Arkona Road
Belleville, MI 48111

734-461-9458

www.friendsofmichigan.org

Keystone school directors OKs plan to add 50 more seats

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on July 11, the Keystone Academy Board of Directors approved a plan to add 50 more seats to

its approved enrollment for the 2024-25 school year, as recommended by National Heritage Academies which manages the school.

There will be 25 more seats for the seventh grade and 25 more seats for the eighth grade up from the 56 that had been planned in each grade. This will total 81 seats in the seventh grade and 81 seats in the eighth grade.

"This adds our third section of seventh and

eighth grade back and I'm so excited," said Principal Jorvonna Drain. She said now they will be able to provide a core class for math and then ELA (English language arts) and science and social studies.

She said she already has two teachers ready to move into the positions this opens up. This makes a total of 771 enrollment approved for the new school year.

In other business at the 44-minute meeting, the board:

- Postponed, because of her absence, the swearing-in of Charlene Derrick to serve an additional three-year term on the board, with a term to expire June of 2027;

- Noted the presence of Christina Dare, who at the last meeting was recommended by the board to succeed Derrick as the parent board member. She is waiting for official approval by Bay Mills Community College, which granted Keystone's charter;

- Heard Principal Drain announce the Parent Satisfaction Survey results of 93% satisfied or highly satisfied putting Keystone fourth or sixth of the 101 NHA schools in its rating. "It's really hard to please parents when you're teaching and disciplining their children," Drain said, noting this result was very rewarding, since

(continued on page 12)

Summer SPA DAY 2024
BOOK TODAY!

Get your Pups Beach Buff!

FREE Teeth Brushing
Upgraded Shampoo & Conditioner
FREE Blueberry Facial
(A \$50 value with any full groom or full bath booking).

\$5 Paw Treatment **NEW!**

Mention **"SUMMERSPA24"**

Book online at Mainstreetpups.com

MAIN STREET PUPS Inc.
DOG GROOMING

177 MAIN STREET BELLEVILLE, MI 48111 - 734.325.6069

WE'RE OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8AM-6PM

Schedule Your Appointment Today!

AMC
OF VAN BUREN

ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER of VAN BUREN

Scott Driscoll, DVM Keri Dasher, DVM

491 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111

734-699-6510

www.amcvanburen.com

T-N-T

TREE SERVICE, INC.

Tree Removal • Tree Trimming
Tree Pruning • Brush Removal
Stump Grinding

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FULLY INSURED

Free Estimates • Senior Discounts
No Tree Too Big, No Tree Too Small

734-753-5800

TNTTREE.COM

GMS

COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

SEALCOATING & STRIPING **HOT ASPHALT PAVING**

- Sealcoating
- Hot Rubberized Crack Filler
- Striping & Painting Roads
- Curbs & Parking Lots
- All Cement Work
- 2 Course Paving
- Driveways • Parking Lots
- Churches & Schools
- Basketball & Tennis Courts
- Apartments • Roads

Grant Memering - Owner Operator

734-775-8341

INITIAL NEW TEAR OUT & REPLACE
CAPS & PATCHES
INSTALL ASPHALT CURBS
WE BUILD OUR ASPHALT TO LAST A LIFETIME!

ASPHALT SEALCOAT ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE!

WHY SHOP AROUND?

GET THE BEST AROUND!

Licensed - Bonded - Insured - Free Estimates

Keystone

(continued from page 11)

anything 80% and above is considered very good;

- Discussed reports showing student proficiency and growth. "We're really proud of where we are," Drain said;

- Adopted the Continuous School Improvement Plan;

- Approved the 2025 Children's Internet Protection Act Form 479. All NHA schools and other public schools are required to take part and the schools get reimbursed for certain equipment purchases. NHA representative Andrew Roth said, as an example, NHA worked with the Michigan State Police on solving a cybercrime;

- Approved the 2025-27 Letter of Agency for E-rate Funding;

- Approved a board grant of \$3,500 for Family Fun Night, held the Wednesday before school starts, to help purchase the ride. The board was advised there is

\$62,400, plus, in its budget to spend;

- Approved a board grant of \$3,000 for Summer Learning Check to pay for all kids completing their summer workbooks so they could enjoy a roller skating or trampoline park event without cost; and

- Heard NHA representative Roth say he would like to plan something in August or September to honor former board president Vesta Losen, who retired May 1 after being on the Keystone board for 20 years. He said he thinks having the event when school is open it will be more fun and will be a chance for staff to say thank you and have kids in the background. He said it needs to be arranged and it will be non-intrusive to the school schedule.

Upcoming Meetings

- Tuesday, July 23 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 3 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop/regular meeting, 6 p.m.

CASH FOR YOUR HOME

ANY CONDITION OK

CALL US AND GET YOUR PRICE.

AERO REALTY

35890 GODDARD

ROMULUS, MI 48174

313-402-0187 OR 734-941-4595

\$

Budd's Produce

**Growing Locally
for Over 150 Years!**



 Like us on facebook

OPEN 7 DAYS
Monday – Saturday 9am - 7pm • Sunday 9am - 6pm
(734) 697-9465
42500 N. I-94 Service Dr., Belleville

KP& T AUTO SERVICE NOW OFFERING

RUSTPROOFING

Protect your vehicle from harsh winter snow and road salt. Call for an appointment today!



at it's *Best!*

NH OIL UNDERCOATING

PROTECT THE NEW, PRESERVE THE OLD!

- CARS, TRUCKS, SUVs & TRAILERS -

590 E. Huron River Drive – Belleville 734-391-7292



FREE CONSULTATION AND ESTIMATE

734-280-2683

Residential & Commercial

- Lawn Care
- Snow Removal
- Mulching
- Hedge/Tree Trimming

- Spring/Fall Clean Up
- Garden Bed Install
- Hardscaping
- And Much More!

www.GroundControlLandscapeLLC.com

**TOP-RATED TRIAL ATTORNEY FOR 30 YEARS,
IN COURT EVERY DAY ON A VARIETY OF CASES,
INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR 25 YEARS**

ROBERT

COUTTS

for **34TH DISTRICT**

JUDGE



VOTE AUGUST 6TH

ENDORSED BY:

- ☒ KEVIN McNAMARA, VBT SUPERVISOR
- ☒ SHARRY BUDD, VBT TREASURER
- ☒ BRYON KELLEY, VBT TRUSTEE
- ☒ TIM BOWMAN, SUMPTER SUPERVISOR
- ☒ ESTHER HURST, SUMPTER CLERK
- ☒ ERIC LUKE, SUMPTER CHIEF OF POLICE
- ☒ BART PATTERSON, SUMPTER TREASURER
- ☒ ROB YOUNG, SUMPTER TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY
- ☒ TIM RUSH, SUMPTER TRUSTEE
- ☒ MATT ODDY, SUMPTER TRUSTEE
- ☒ DON LaPORTE, SUMPTER TRUSTEE
- ☒ PEGGY MORGAN, SUMPTER TRUSTEE

COUTTS4JUDGE @FACEBOOK.COM
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT ROBERT COUTTS 34TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE.
13200 LENMOORE, VBT 48111 313-363-8882 OR 313-381-1440

Musings

By Janet Millard
Independent
Advertising Director



Well, Air Show week is finally here. Without either the Blue Angels or Thunderbirds this year it will be interesting to see how many planes will be flying over

town during the week. It will probably take me a year to remember their new name, but I'll most likely keep calling them Yankee until forced to keep looking it up. Hope many of you get to enjoy all the fighter planes on display at Willow Run Airport during Thunder Over Michigan.

LifePointe Church on Hull Road is hosting a 3-day Vacation Bible School on July 24-26, 6-8:30 p.m. They have also

scheduled a Family Fun-Day on Sunday, July 28, after their morning service. All are invited to enjoy an afternoon with food, games, fellowship, and fun!

It is Third Thursday, and the downtown will be filled to capacity. This is shoppers' specials tonight at many of the downtown businesses. The Belleville Area Museum will have a discussion led by Dave Booher at 6 p.m. on The Creation of Belleville Lake and the French Landing Dam. And Performing at Music Lakeside on High Street is the Tequilla Mockingbirds with classic and current hits from 7 to 9p.m.

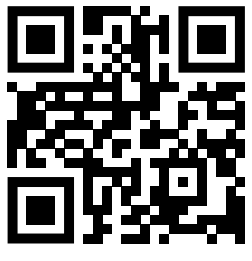
Recently having someone turn left in front of me at the light at Denton and Liberty

reminds me of the other two things that irk me while driving. The second, is – the left-turn lane is not for turning right. You make me jump when you come out full throttle like you're going to run me over. Doing either or both of these can get you a ticket. But the worse one is coming off the ramp to make a right-hand turn and the car to my left pulls way up so I almost have to go out in the road to see if a car is coming. I think the law allowing us to turn right on red was brilliant, but don't get in my way!

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Janet Millard at (734) 699-9020.

Thinking of buying or selling?

Our knowledge & Experience will guide you along the way



RON & JANE VESCHE
734.740.4165
WWW.VESCHETEAM.COM



St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital

HOUR
Real Estate
All-Star

Quality Homes & Maintenance Services

Belleville, MI 48111



Kitchens • Bathrooms
Flooring • Decks & More

www.AQHMS.com

35+ Years Experience

Licensed
Insured

Rick Smith
Electrician/Builder

Wayne County 734-968-4509

Ogemaw County 989-836-3575

Rick@AQHMS.com

Belleville Farmers Market

4th Street Place & Square
Mondays 4 - 7:30 PM
June thru October 14

LOCALLY GROWN MADE CRAFTED
Belleville Farmers Market

Thanks to Our Sponsors

JACK DEMMER FORD, COLDWELL BANKER PROFESSIONALS, WCCDF, Rotary Club of Belleville, Clement Insurance, Edward Jones, bacc, KSpringer Media Management, BUTCHER Shop, exp, THE LEE TEAM, Belleville DDA, BELLEVILLE DOWNTOWN ON THE LAKE, VILLAGE TOWNHOMES

Join Us! MONDAY NIGHT MAIN STREET CRUISE Classic Car Show
June thru September 6-8 PM

Birthdays

July 19 – Shae Millard

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

Court Watching

Cylenthia LaToye Miller

Cylenthia LaToye Miller of Flat Rock was present by video July 15 for her adjourned arraignment/pretrial before Judge Lisa Martin at 34th District Court. Miller, who is a Wayne County Circuit Court Judge, is charged with a check-point violation at Detroit Metro Airport on June 8. Her original arraignment/pretrial was set for July 1 and adjourned until July 15.

Transportation Safety Agents reported she carried a loaded firearm through the airport and they alerted airport police who brought the charge. She was on her way to catch a flight on June 8 and the TSA found a loaded .380 caliber Smith and Wesson firearm in her purse through the x-ray scanner.

Defense attorney Todd Perkins said his client pleads not-guilty to the charge and he asked for personal recognizance bond and an adjournment of the case because there is a tangentially related matter and he would like closure on a global scale. He also asked that his client be permitted to travel because she has a pre-existing date in September.

Judge Martin set the personal bond at \$5,000, adjourned the pretrial until Aug. 1, and said she may travel on a pre-planned trip.

Elect **Teresa PATTON**
34th District Court Judge

VOTE FOR
TERESA
AUG
6



EXPERIENCE | INTEGRITY | SERVICE | COMMUNITY

Diverse Experience

- ★ Probation and court clerk
- ★ Attorney for 24 years
- ★ Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
- ★ Private Attorney (criminal, civil, landlord-tenant, family, probate)

Judicial Virtue and Temperament

- ★ Strong Legal Knowledge
- ★ Committed to properly applying all Constitutional, state and local laws
- ★ Committed to treating all people with respect, dignity and fairness

Legal Service to 34th District Court and Communities

- ★ State Prosecutor
- ★ Court Appointed Attorney
- ★ Indigent Defense Coordinator (Administers the appointed attorney program)

Proudly Endorsed by:

Al Haidous - Wayne County Commissioner, Brian A. Oakley - Chief Judge of 34th District Court, Ellen Craig-Bragg - Romulus City Clerk



I am committed to serving with judicial virtue, legal integrity and proper judicial temperament.

Paid for by Committee to Elect Teresa Patton, 13712 Pond Bluff Dr., Van Buren Twp., MI 48111

GWD'S BLIND WAREHOUSE

"We Bring The Warehouse To You!"

CUSTOM BLINDS, SHADES
AND VERTICALS

FACTORY DIRECT PRICES

FREE ESTIMATES

SENIOR & VETERANS DISCOUNTS

Call (313) 303-1299



INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC

6130 Rawsonville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 482-1502

Notice is hereby given that on 7/24/24 at 12:00 P.M. thru 7/31/24 at 12:00 P.M. contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold online at:

Bid13.com

SPACE # I14 – Malaika Williams; D37 – Anthony Parker; J31 – Arielle Pipkins

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

Publish: July 11, 2024 and July 18, 2024

FOR SALE

POWER RECLINER LIFT CHAIR. Like new, rarely used. You pick up, Ypsilanti. \$700. (734) 483-5081 07/25

BRAND NEW LUMEX WALKER with seat & metal basket. \$90. (734) 718-3425 08/01

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2000 GMC YUKON SUV. Loaded, very clean. Must see. \$5,450 OBO. Private owner. (734) 695-0819 07/25

2009 KIA SPORTAGE SUV. Great mileage, low miles. Private owner. \$5,950 OBO. (734) 695-0819 07/25

IT'S A HARD TOP CONVERTIBLE. 2009 Pontiac G5. Must see. Excellent condition. Best offer. (734) 695-0819 07/25

2010 FORD FUSION 4 Door. Very clean. Low miles. \$2,350. (734) 695-0819 07/25

1979 FLH CLASSIC HARLEY DAVIDSON. \$8,000 or best. 33,000 miles. Engine - 1200 cc. In great condition. (734) 637-7011, (734) 672-0863 07/18

2006 HARLEY DAVIDSON Heritage Softail. 14,000 miles. \$8,000 or best. Mint condition. New tune-up & new tires. (734) 637-7011, (734) 672-0863 07/18

1981 C10 PICKUP Long bed. Strong, solid truck. 350 SB, Auto Trans. \$7,600 firm. Leave message, no texts. (734) 699-9663 07/18

2007 DODGE DAKOTA PICKUP with toolbox. No rust. Good condition. Needs blower motor for AC & defrost. \$3,500 OBO. (734) 787-5948 08/01

2008 FORD TAURUS ALL-WHEEL DRIVE. 35,111 original miles. Good condition. \$7,000 OBO. (734) 957-4268 08/01

FREE

FREE FILL. Delivery available. (734) 697-1183. Yost Sand & Gravel. Belleville. TFN

FREE ADORABLE KITTENS. Neutered, spayed & first shots. Belleville. (702) 277-1099 07/25

"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

– Mark Twain

SERVICES

A&L SERVICES

Home Improvement & Handyman Service

Painting, Drywall, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath. Serving Belleville Since 1995. Call Aaron Schultz @ 734-740-0628

PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

Gutters Cleaned! Power Washing! CALL US!

Local To The Belleville Area. Call (313) 740-6276. Ask For Bill.

BEYOND HOME IMPROVEMENT

Kitchens – Baths
Plumbing – Concrete
Doors – Windows – Siding
Gutters – Basements
Drywall – Painting
Senior & Veteran Discounts
Call Pete – (734) 636-3741

LARRY'S HANDYMAN SERVICE. No job too small. Interior/exterior painting, hang wallpaper, powerwashing & carpentry. (618) 267-7774 10/03

RANDY'S HANDYMAN SERVICE. Specializing in power washing, painting & other home repairs. (734) 306-8909 07/25

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE. Painting, roof leaks, cleaning & gutter repair, landscape maintenance & power washing. (734) 796-3628 08/01

DEPENDABLE LAWN SERVICE COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL. Lawn cutting – Aerating – Mulch – Shrub Trimming – Spring Clean-up – Power Raking – Sod & Seeding – (734) 587-2410 or (734) 693-4712 08/29

Read The Newspaper On The Web!

The Belleville-Area Independent Website is Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com

WANTED

ADVANCED H & W PAYING CASH

Buying Junk Cars & Trucks. Free 7 Day Pick Up. Call Today!
(734) 223-5581
(517) 605-6388

D.K. JUNK CAR BUYERS PAY CASH

We Work Monday – Saturday.
734-368-5088
734-545-5195

WANTED – ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

CASH FOR YOUR CAR TODAY. Must be in good condition. Don't trade it in, sell it to me. James' Gems (734) 695-0819 07/25

CASH PAID FOR Sports Cards and Comic Books. 50s, 60s, 70s. Private collector can come to you. (734) 697-3546 07/18

CAREGIVER LOOKING for new clients. Hours open for discussion. 13 years' experience & references. \$20/hr. (734) 740-5532 or vstalnaker42@gmail.com 07/25

FIELDSTONE, 18-30 inches. Will pick up. (734) 740-0277 07/25

Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

FOR SALE

YORKIES, YORKIPOOS, CAVAPOOS & other pups. \$899-\$1,199. Frisky & vet checked. Ypsilanti. View puppies at petcitypets.com. (734) 487-0800 07/18

'87 CELEBRITY 19 ft. CUDDY CABIN. Low hours. Stored indoors. Very clean. \$5,800. BARBIE DOLL. 1st Yr., Day of the Dead. Never opened. \$450. (734) 740-0277 07/25

GRASS, CLOVER HAY, no weeds. Large round bales. (734) 699-6508 07/25

DOG FOR SALE. 6 month Jack Russell male. All shots + rabies. Extra Supplies. \$695. Call (734) 502-8122 07/18

**INDEPENDENT
CLASSIFIED ADS****HELP WANTED****CDL DRIVER NEEDED****Immediate Position.****Local Driving, Home****Every Night.****Kovalak Excavating
Company****Call 734-461-6838****Local Excavating Company****has openings for****LABORERS****Wages Negotiable.****Kovalak Excavating
Company****Call 734-461-6838****Read The Newspaper
On The Web!****The Belleville-Area
Independent Website
is Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com****SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

Having trouble finding the Belleville-Area Independent on the newsstands or just want to subscribe? Fill out the form below and send a check for \$55(in Michigan), \$60 everywhere else in the U.S. 6 month subscriptions are available for just \$27.50. To subscribe even faster, call us Monday - Friday between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (local time) at (734) 699-9020. We accept almost all credit/debit cards. We also have gift subscriptions available for any occasion. Thank you!

Name: _____**Address:** _____**City, State, Zip** _____**Phone#** _____Just in case we have any
trouble with your order.

**Mail to: Belleville-Area Independent
152 Main St., Suite 9
Belleville, MI 48111**

**SUBSCRIBE
TODAY!****Guiding
Harbor****By Jennifer Trotter**

Kids enter foster care due to no fault of their own. In most cases, their parents are struggling with addiction, mental illness, poverty, and/or poor choices. The Court makes the decision to remove children, the family then gets referred to a foster care agency, like Guiding Harbor, for support and to ensure the safety of the children while they are in foster care.

Originally known as Girlstown, Guiding Harbor has been supporting children and their families for more than 65 years right here in Belleville. Thanks to the dedicated women of an organization known as GFWC-Michigan, who had a vision for what could be.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is an international organization dedicated to improving local communities through volunteer services. Through monthly group and annual meetings, women of influential status within their communities could have their feelings heard. They were able to meet with state officials to have a say in community events. Until the right to vote was granted, these women's clubs were the best outlet for women to be heard and taken seriously.

Female activists used traditional constructs of womanhood, which imagined all women as mothers and homemakers, to justify their entrance into community affairs. They wanted to clean up cities and see after the health and wellbeing of their neighbors. They used what they knew, motherhood and nurturing, to make an impact.



Original Girlstown on N. Liberty St.

In the early 1950s the women of GFWC-Michigan wanted to "salvage the lives of teenage girls who were at risk of being lost to society." The vision was for a rehabilitative program not a soulless institution. Rather, teen girls could learn life skills that would lead them towards a path of a productive life. Originally called the "Girlstown Project", it was modeled after Boys Town in Nebraska – which at that time was a very renowned treatment facility for boys.

The GFWC visionaries partnered with the University of Michigan, School of Social Work, during development of the project. The clubwomen were determined to raise the necessary funds. Each of the 30,000 members donated \$1, they also used other means such as card parties and cookbook sales to raise a total of \$80,000. That money purchased the lakefront Victorian home located on what was then called Edison Lake, but is now known as Belleville Lake at 330 Liberty St, Belleville. In May 1958 Girlstown Foundation opened. As an homage to the nearby bodies of water, Edison Lake and Huron River, the house was named "Loch Rio" which means Lake River.

For two decades, the Girlstown project at Loch Rio provided specialized care for girls ages 10-14 whose family problems were such that they could not be cared for in existing community facilities. The general intent of the residence was to serve as a means by which girls who were not able to live in their own home, or a foster home, be helped so they could eventually return to traditional community living. This hasn't changed much in the past 66 years.

In the 1970s and with the effectiveness of the work being done at Loch Rio, a second

location on Quirk Road was planned to expand the number of girls served. The proximity to mental health services at Hawthorne Center and the University of Michigan, which were often consulted, made Belleville an ideal location. Meanwhile, Loch Rio was faced with major repairs due to issues in the home not meeting the fire code. The Loch Rio house was sold for \$65,000 and the residents moved into the Quirk Road location. Years later, in 1978, a housefire destroyed the home at 330 Liberty.

The Belleville-area community has always shown support for Girlstown. The public school system was, and is extremely cooperative. Our girls were accepted and thrived in the local schools. Community members, civic groups, and service organizations such as the Kiwanis have helped with providing donations, supplies, and even Christmas trees to support the residents.

Over the years, the services offered to children in foster care has expanded. To reflect inclusivity of those we serve, the name was changed to Guiding Harbor in 2012. Around town, people still refer to us as Girlstown.

My name is Jennifer Trotter. I am a social worker and the CEO of Guiding Harbor. When I tell someone from Belleville where I work, they almost always share with me a story of someone they knew from Girlstown, or they remember the Liberty Street house being so beautiful. These stories demonstrate the legacy and lasting impact of lives touched by Guiding Harbor.

Through this monthly series in the Belleville *Independent*, I hope to highlight the work being done, in your community, to support children and families.

*To build a better world,
start in your own community!*

VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

roads.

• A man from 41358 Ecorse Rd., where the Burger King/gas station is located, said this does not offer anything new to the community. The township already has gas stations and there are lawsuits against them in progress. He said this would add more environmental hazards and is a very bad idea.

• John of 41360 Ecorse, the address of the truck wash, said accidents are common at the Haggerty/Ecorse intersection. He said there are two gas stations to the north and two gas stations to the south and this is overkill.

• Michael, who said he was the Tim Horton franchisee at 11175 Haggerty Rd. at I-94, said Sheetz is a big company run by a private equity firm. He said gas stations lose 8-10% of their business each year because the vehicles are more and more efficient. He said Sheetz is looking to get those trucks that have torn up Haggerty for the last 20 years. He said Speedway got bought up by 7-Eleven and gas stations are dinosaurs.

• Frank, 39315 Ecorse Rd., Romulus, said he owns and operates the gas station at Ecorse and Hannan roads. He said the whole Sheetz site is a floodplain and they want to put tanks in that ground. He said soils in that area are not the greatest. He said that area gets floods regularly. He said Sheetz does not own the property, but leases it, and puts the competition out of business.

The public hearing closed and the commission then considered Mobil gas station's request to alter the proposed architecture at its station being rebuilt at 11250 Haggerty Rd. He wanted to add aluminum fins to the façade to improve the design. After discussion, the request was unanimously approved by the commission.

The only other requests on the agenda were for the Sheetz project, so commissioners got back to the request for a special land use. According to the newer, tighter ordinance on gas stations this request required the public hearing and a recommendation to the township board which would make the final decision.

Direct of planning and economic development Dan Power said he had sent a copy of the purchase agreement and traffic impact study to commissioners that afternoon as well as the request to waive the stacking requirement for the drive-thru restaurant.

Director Power said the site is located near industrial users and I-275. He said there are multiple charging stations and a state-of-the art construction. He said they are also mitigating some wetlands. He recommended special land use approval.

Applicant David Bruckelmeyer of Sheetz said all of their sites are irrigated for the landscaping, pedestrian accessible and have bike racks.

He said the business was started in 1952 by Bob Sheetz who had a restaurant and store. They added fuel in the 1980s as

the business evolved. He said it is family owned and operated and uses no private equity funds as claimed. He said there are 14 outdoor dining areas and 30 interior tables. There is touch pad ordering in the restaurant and outside and also on its website. There is a full kitchen 24/7 – 365 and customers can get anything they want.

Bruckelmeyer said they have a coffee bar and espresso bar and a massive convenience store. He said Sheetz gives back to the community, to charities and schools, Special Olympics. There are 60 high-definition cameras on each site monitored by Sheetz employees, 24/7-365. He said they are considered the #1 Tesla charger.

He said the 2005 lawsuit was not about the environment, but had to do with monitoring and now they are compliant.

He said there are flood issues on the property and they are working on it. He said the stacking request is based on their best stores only serving 10 customers an hour at the drive-thru at lunch time. The canopy has been placed in the back, as requested by the township.

Bruckelmeyer said the public knows they are a restaurant/convenience store with clean restrooms. When the EV charging station is being used, the public can sit

down for 20 minutes to eat while the car is being charged.

He said Sheetz donates to sports teams, food banks, Special Olympics and Forgotten Harvest. It is not set up to have large trucks. There are no showers and they do not have that kind of customers.

He said they feel confident in the traffic study and also Sheetz is purchasing this site, although they do lease about 50% of their properties.

The township's engineering consultant Mike Leppek of Fishbeck said a county drain runs through the site and storm water management and storm water detention is handled through Wayne County. He said they recommended the developer begin conversations with the county on this. He said plans call for a sanitary sewer to cross the drain, a water line to cross the drain, and a drive to cross the drain. Flooding issues are the county's.

Township Treasurer Sharry Budd, who sits on the commission as board liaison, said flooding happens at that intersection and Ashley Capital cleaned part of that drain into Romulus.

"I haven't heard anyone say it's going to

(continued on page 17)

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



The Law Office of

Amy M. Eversole

• Estate Planning • Probate • Property Law

152 Main St. Suite 11
 Belleville, Mich. 48111 Call 734-718-8574
www.amyversolelaw.com

HONESTY IS OUR POLICY!



AT 5-POINTS

LONNIE'S
Auto Repair

A/C SPECIAL \$99⁹⁹

WITH COUPON • LONNIE'S AUTO COUPON EXPIRES 7-25-24 BA1

DISC BRAKE SPECIAL

PREMIUM PADS & ROTORS,
INCLUDES LABOR, STARTING AT \$300

Most Cars. Restrictions Apply.

WITH COUPON • LONNIE'S AUTO COUPON EXPIRES 7-25-24 BA1

SENIORS, VETERANS &
ACTIVE MILITARY TAKE
10% OFF YOUR TOTAL BILL

WITH COUPON • LONNIE'S AUTO COUPON EXPIRES 7-25-24 BA1

SUMMER IS HEATING UP!
VEHICLE CHECK
Belts, Hoses, Etc.

50 South Street at 5-Points, Belleville • 734-325-7065

Open Monday – Friday 8am - 6pm

STUMP GRINDING

Fully Insured • Experienced • Free Estimates

Howard Branham

734.497.5737



734-624-2273

carsonspowerwashing.com

House Washing
Roof Washing
Concrete Cleaning



Exterior Cleaning That Makes You Smile

VBT Plan

(continued from page 16)

work,” she said.

Bruckelmeyer said the plan is for them to release runoff slowly and meet all the standards. He said the drain is an issue. He said they are building detention on their property to serve the additional floodplain.

He said they hired a hydrologic engineer and a local traffic engineer for a traffic study, which turned out to be 75 pages long.

Commissioner Bernie Grant said the speed limit is 45 mph for Ecorse and Haggerty and maybe there should be some turn lanes at the drives.

Engineer Leppek recommend the applicant review the study. He said they all are county roads and any changes that need to be done would come from the county.

Director Power said there should be more

feedback from the county on the drains and the McClaughrey Drain has a major problem down the way to the lower Rouge River.

Bruckelmeyer said he would work with the township staff to get an approved traffic study.

Commissioner Jeff Jahr said one of the requirements for the special land use is that the project “can” be served by public services, not that it “is” served.

Leppek said the township has more stringent water management rules than the county. He said the township designs for 100-year storm and don’t put more than that on a developer.

Commission chairman Brian Cullin asked about development of the whole corner.

Bruckelmeyer said the extra property is all flood plain and there is no intention to expand into that because it would be exceptionally expensive to develop.

McKenna planner Gage Belko said the special land use approval runs with the land.

Treasurer Budd said there are two parcels and they should be combined into one parcel.

Belko said there will be a combination or a split and Power added the applicant is to combine those parcels.

Leppek noted that storm water management is different from flood plain management, which both are shown on the site plan.

Budd said Vidya Krishnan, the consultant regularly working with the township but absent from this meeting, said this separation of the two parcels MUST be corrected.

Bruckelmeyer said they will certainly address the discrepancy.

Commissioner Juriga then asked for a straw vote on whether to table the special land use. Power said if they did that they technically would also table the requested preliminary site plan because they go together.

Bruckelmeyer said he is publicly stating that they will not develop the western part of the property and a conservation easement could be formed.

Budd said she doesn’t want to take this to the township board the way it is now. Commissioner Jahr said that Budd sits on the township board and he respects her opinion.

The public asked to speak again.

Foley said he worries about a fuel spill and the spill would go into the county drain.

“We’ve had four 100-year floods in the last few years,” Foley said. “Drive down there and look at it. I would deny it.” [the

project]

Sam Salamey, who gave his address as 41358 Ecorse Rd., the Burger King/gas station, said you cannot mitigate damage to wetlands. They are protected and cannot be disturbed, he said citing an EPA lawsuit. He said there is new legislation introduced and the township could be liable. The request should be denied, not tabled, he said.

Awada of the Mobil station said they should know that it was a well-respected judge they just heard from. [Salamey was appointed 19th District Court Judge in Dearborn last year and now is running for election to the position, in which he had also served in previous years.] Awada said the property is full of wetlands and spills do happen. He asked the commission not to table, but to deny.

A man from Ecorse Road showed a picture of the flooding from Aug. 23, 2023.

The franchisee of Tim Horton’s said Sheetz can say they won’t develop that extra land, but they can come back and do whatever they want.

McCause said, “There’s a lot of passion in this room ... I don’t think slandering each other is the way to go ... I was excited about Sheetz. Don’t beat each other up. Be productive.”

Foley said he didn’t know you could show pictures so he brought his phone up to the commission table. He asked what a certain structure was in his picture and Power said it diverted sewage from one sewage district to another.

John of 41360 Ecorse Rd., the truck wash, asked when the traffic study was done, noting Haggerty was closed and their numbers would be low. The last part of the study was done in February 2024, Power

(continued on page 19)



Dudek Heating & Cooling

Service and Installation LLC

**Licensed and Insured • Free Estimates • Furnaces • Boilers
Air Conditioning • Duct Work • Humidifiers • Water Heaters
Generators • Electrical • Plumbing**

Keith Dudek : Owner
11681 Rawsonville
Belleville, MI 48111

Office: (734) 461-6165
Cell: (734) 730-9733

FILL SAND SPECIALS!

TOPSOIL DELIVERED SPECIALS *Plus Tax

3 Yards Credit \$100*, Cash \$96*

5 Yards Credit \$140*, Cash \$134*

6 Yards Credit \$155*, Cash \$150*

TOPSOIL - U-PICK UP

\$19* Yard Credit, \$18* Yard Cash

Garden Blend Topsoil & Compost

100% Compost

Hours

MONDAY – SATURDAY
8 A.M. – 6 P.M.

SUNDAY
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

DELIVERY AVAILABLE!

Website: yostsandandgravel.com
Email: yostsandandgravel@gmail.com

YOST SAND & GRAVEL

734 697-1183 45697 Ecorse Rd. • Van Buren Twp.

• Colored Mulch/Playground

• Sand – Pool, Fill & Sharp

• Hardwood Mulch

• Decorative Stones

• Driveway Gravel

• Pea Gravel • ¾ Float

• Asphalt Millings

• 1” – 1.5” Egg Rock

• 2” – 4” Round Rock

• 4” – 12” Oversize Rock

WE INSTALL GRAVEL DRIVEWAYS AND PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPING!



LOOKING FOR A MASTER BARBER, STYLIST, COLORIST? CALL ME...

Marlene

Denny's Barber Shop / Hott Hair Salon

(734) 697-4485

Walk-Ins & Appointments

36 Main St. Belleville

Hair

Now taking reservations for private training

Call for a no cost, no obligation discussion of how I may help out with:

- ✦ Beginner-level behavior issues
- ✦ Socialization challenges
- ✦ Preparation for therapy dog certification

dogs by janet ~ Belleville

Janet Deaton
Certified Dog Trainer

janet@dogsbyjanet.com (734) 604-1720

© 2022-2023 All Rights Reserved, USA

AUTO-LAB[®]

COMPLETE CAR CARE CENTERS

10625 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-2424

HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. • SATURDAYS 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Same management and staff, just a new brand to give you even more customer service benefits!

We offer a 24-month/24,000-mile warranty on parts AND labor!

- State-Certified Mechanics • Oil Changes • Tune-Ups • Brakes • Shocks/Struts
- Front-End Work • Alignments • Batteries • Charging Systems
- Radiator & Transmission Fluid Changes • Check-Engine Light Diagnostics
- Receive **\$10 OFF** your next service when you mention this ad!

***Limited time offer, see store for details.**

www.autolabbelleville.com for coupons and to schedule service.

Financing available for those who qualify, see store for details!

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 294 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, July 7:

0029 – private property impound, Edison Lake
0055 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Archwood Dr.
0105 – disorderly, Maple Dr.
0324 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.
0851 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
1043 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck Rd.
1241 – vehicle lockout, Van Born Rd.
1250 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave.
1303 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
1302 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1321 – intrusion alarm, Arborview Ln.
1349 – welfare check, Rawsonville Rd.
1416 – 911 welfare check, Ashbury Dr.
1459 – assist fire dept., Stephanie Dr./Belleville
1522 – juvenile complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1635 – assist other dept., Belleville Bridge
1636 – traffic offense, Belleville Lake Cove
1648 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
1822 – civil matter, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1820 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd.
1846 – civil matter, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1930 – animal complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2204 – welfare check, Martinsville Rd.
2212 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
2341 – welfare check, E. I-94/Belleville Rd.

Monday, July 8:

0014 – family trouble, Solitude Ln.
0353 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0412 – property damage accident, Anna Dr.
0522 – welfare check, Lighthouse Dr.
0920 – assist fire dept., Belleville Rd.
0934 – juvenile complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1052 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.
1011 – parking complaint, Greenwood Dr.
1049 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd./Martz Rd.
1127 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1153 – welfare check, Fret Rd.
1249 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd./Alden Ave.
1255 – threat, Edison Lake
1314 – larceny, Tallgrass Ct.
1324 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Savage Rd./Martinsville Rd.
1329 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1340 – 911 welfare check, Tyler Rd./Andover Dr.
1445 – family trouble, Arlene Ln.
1450 – breaking & entering, Ecorse Rd.
1511 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1555 – mental subject, Walden Blvd.
1606 – malicious destruction of property, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1603 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1648 – larceny from auto, Bemis Rd.
1625 – assist fire dept., Outer Dr.
1738 – welfare check, Riggs Rd.
1822 – vehicle lockout, Sumpter Rd.
1854 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
1819 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1941 – noise complaint, Buchanan St.
2011 – intrusion alarm, Parkwood Dr.
2101 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
2220 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.

Tuesday, July 9:

0020 – noise complaint, Westlake Cir.
0020 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.
0713 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
xxxx – repossession, Village Green Ln.
0814 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1252 – welfare check, Sheldon Rd.
1322 – welfare check, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1529 – welfare check, Sawgrass Ct.
1540 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1616 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, McBride Ave.
1628 – assist other dept., Wildflower Ct.
1715 – assist other dept., Holly Ln.
1826 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Savage Rd.
1836 – trespassing, Ecorse Rd.

1847 – harassment call, Richards Run
1900 – family trouble, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1912 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Ct.
1923 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.
1938 – domestic, Freedom Way
1951 – domestic, Redwood Dr.
2003 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
2052 – assist fire dept., Denton Rd.
2121 – missing person, Rose Blvd.
2114 – assault & battery, Hamilton St.
2142 – family trouble, Arlene Ln.
2205 – domestic, Tompkins St.
2215 – intrusion alarm, Shagbark Ln.
2238 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Martinsville Rd.

Wednesday, July 10:

0028 – welfare check, Bemis Rd.
0301 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0508 – vehicle lockout, Ecorse Rd.
0732 – malicious destruction of property, Village Green Ln.
0822 – abandoned auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1003 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0935 – vehicle lockout, Michigan Ave.
0951 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1114 – assist citizen, Ecorse Rd.
1127 – malicious destruction of property, Village Green Ln.
xxxx – private property impound, Southport Apts.
1221 – intrusion alarm, Zachary St.
1419 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1420 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Zachary St./Jackson St.
1440 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1552 – civil matter, Van Buren St.
1635 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Estate Dr.

1640 – trespassing, Independence Ln.
1828 – civil matter, Lake Villa Dr.
1959 – juvenile complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2010 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2113 – intrusion alarm, Amanda Dr.
2123 – noise complaint, Fret Rd.
2222 – shooting, Borgman Ave.
xxxx – neighbor trouble, Fret Rd.

Thursday, July 11:

0017 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd.
0123 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Belleville Rd.
0146 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Ecorse Rd.
0202 – intrusion alarm, Van Born Rd.
0356 – family trouble, Outer Dr.
0653 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0701 – assist other dept., Red Oak Dr.
0829 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0846 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0847 – animal complaint, S. Woodbury Dr.
0905 – larceny from auto, Pebblebrook Dr.
xxxx – misc. complaint, Jackson St.
0931 – larceny from auto, Pebblebrook Dr.
0945 – larceny from auto, Pebblebrook Dr.
0958 – larceny from auto, Pebblebrook Dr.
1004 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1017 – larceny from auto, Pebblebrook DR.
1117 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Van Born Rd.

1217 – private property impound, Van Born Rd.
1147 – family trouble, Kirkridge Park Dr.
xxxx – larceny from auto, Lighthouse Dr.
1217 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1413 – welfare check, Morton Taylor/Van Born
1438 – larceny from auto, Ironwood Dr.
1442 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.

1642 – larceny from auto, Brookside Dr.
1643 – larceny from auto, Rock Creek Dr.
1857 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, W. Huron River Dr.

1911 – family trouble, Dewitt Rd.
2035 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
2051 – traffic offense, Van Born/Thornwood Dr.
2147 – welfare check, Lancaster Dr.
2244 – motorist assist, E. Michigan Ave./Ecorse

Friday, July 12:

0230 – assist other dept., Westlake Cir.
0300 – property check, Belle Pointe Dr.
0718 – noise complaint, Woodgrove Dr.
0721 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes,

Tavistock Dr.
0740 – dumping complaint, Beck/Ecorse
0746 – larceny, Brookside Dr.
1014 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Heatherfield Blvd.
1040 – assist fire dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1223 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
1313 – lost property/child, W. Huron River Dr.
1340 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1407 – mental subject, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1445 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
1500 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / S. Lotz Rd.
1505 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1546 – road hazard, Hull Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1550 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Parkwood Dr.
1541 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1606 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1711 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
1721 – fight, Belleville Rd.
xxxx – welfare check, Lake Villa Dr.
1906 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1940 – motorist assist, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1953 – intrusion alarm, Colonial Rd.
2026 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
2044 – welfare check, North Shore Dr.
2130 – fireworks, Bak Rd.
2216 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.

2220 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
xxxx – welfare check, Sylvia Dr.

Saturday, July 13:

xxxx – misc. complaint, Greenwood Dr.
0222 – misc. complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0316 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.
0618 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
0758 – intrusion alarm, Beck Rd.
0816 – intrusion alarm, Deanna Dr.
1100 – intrusion alarm, Kouza Ct.
1106 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.
1252 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1255 – suicidal person, S. Woodbury Dr.
1343 – intrusion alarm, Pebblebrook Dr.
xxxx – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
1400 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1450 – neighbor trouble, Sunrise Ln.
1456 – civil matter, Haggerty Rd.
1538 – malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse Dr.

1606 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1617 – breaking & entering, Belmont Dr.
1640 – civil matter, Lohr Rd.
1658 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1728 – suicidal person, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1835 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1907 – parking complaint, Fret Rd.
1847 – welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.
2108 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2128 – animal complaint, Harmony Ln./Wilson

Also, on this week's log are 89 traffic stops, 20 of which were on the I-275 and I-94 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 7:

1134 – threat, Main St.
1651 – private property impound, W. Columbia
1814 – larceny from auto, Church St.
2303 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St.
2305 – misc. complaint, Main St.

Monday, July 8:

0053 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, N. Liberty St.
1041 – harassment call, Main St.
1141 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1354 – found property/child, Sumpter Rd.
1413 – harassment call, Carmell St.
1739 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Tuesday, July 9:

0134 – assist other dept., Sumpter Rd.

1238 – background investigation, Main St.
Wednesday, July 10:
1259 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, E. Thornhill Ct.
1810 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Main St.
Thursday, July 11:
0023 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1013 – ordinance violation – all 7300 MICR codes, Edison Ave.
1203 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Main St./N. Liberty St.
1732 – suspicious person/vehicle/circumstance, Menlo Park Dr.
2023 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
2104 – motorist assist, W. Columbia Ave.

Friday, July 12:

0245 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
0455 – assist other dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
0540 – motorist assist, South St./E. Columbia Ave.
0945 – traffic offense, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1342 – larceny, Sumpter Rd.
1835 – intrusion alarm, Fourth St.

Saturday, July 13:

0954 – family trouble, Anaheim St.
xxxx – warrant arrest, Main St.
2211 – motorist assist, Main St./Roys St.
2302 – noise complaint, Potter Dr.
2306 – disorderly, Main St.

There are 81 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 7:

0038 – family trouble, Virginia St.
0110 – 911 hangup, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
0337 – welfare check, Creekside Dr.
0433 – suspicious circumstance, Creekside Dr.
0836 – 911 hangup, Timberlane Dr.
0919 – animal complaint, Willis Rd./California
1010 – 911 hangup, Virginia St.
1520 – civil matter, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1623 – civil matter, Carriage Ln.
1803 – harassment complaint, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1843 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Willow Rd. / Rawsonville Rd.
2051 – juvenile matter, Virginia St.
2212 – suspicious circumstance, Magnolia Dr.

Monday, July 8:

0325 – civil matter, Greenmeadow Dr.
0409 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
0534 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
0625 – mental health call, Rustic Ln.
0740 – welfare check, Magnolia Dr.
0941 – civil matter, Oregon St.
0949 – mental health call, Creekside Dr.
1016 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
1057 – traffic complaint/hazard, Willow/Haggerty
1351 – 911 hangup, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1437 – civil matter, Edgewood Dr.
1441 – traffic complaint/hazard, 27000 bl. Sumpter
1648 – 911 hangup, Mulberry Dr.
1802 – neighbor dispute, Walnut St.
1844 – 911 hangup, Timberlane Dr.
1948 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1953 – assault, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1953 – fire dept. assist, Alaska St.
2105 – juvenile matter, Rustic Ln.
2318 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

Tuesday, July 9:

0528 – traffic complaint/hazard, 19000 bl. Elwell
0837 – follow-up investigation, 42000 bl. Harris
1129 – 911 hangup, California St./Delaware St.
1158 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1508 – larceny, 45000 bl. Bontekoe Ave.
1530 – noise complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1602 – suspicious vehicle, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1633 – suspicious circumstance, Utah St.
1659 – suspicious circumstance, 44000 bl. Arkona
1638 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
1950 – follow-up investigation, Colorado St.
2006 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2223 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.

Wednesday, July 10:

0201 – 911 hangup, Rustic Ln.
0405 – assault, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
0425 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Willis
0619 – civil matter, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
0700 – 911 hangup, E. Arizona St./California

(Continued on page 19)

BEST CHIMNEY

OUR 62nd YEAR! & MASONRY CO. OUR 62nd YEAR!

- ★ CHIMNEYS BUILT, REPAIRED & CLEANED
- ★ MASONRY WORK
- ★ SCREENS INSTALLED
- ★ TUCK POINTING
- ★ GUTTERS
- ★ RESIDENTIAL
- ★ COMMERCIAL
- ★ VIOLATIONS CORRECTED
- ★ FLEXLINERS
- ★ CERTIFICATIONS INSPECTIONS

Licensed & Insured
State Lic # 40800
Family Owned



WE DO PORCHES

Workers Compensation & General Liability to Protect Homeowner



(734) 242-2992
bestchimneyandroofing.com

FREE Estimates

Since 1962

Accurate Dental Denture Inc.

"Serving the Belleville and Van Buren community for over 20 years with quality and caring service."

CROWNS • ROOT CANALS • EXTRACTIONS • FILLINGS
WHITENING • BONDING • DENTURES (SOFT & FLEXIBLE)

Quality Dentures at Affordable Prices!

HEALTHY KIDS DENTAL
Accepting Blue Cross Complete, Molina, Wellcare, Meridian & Medicaid!



SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS

SAME DAY DENTURE REPAIRS
Immediate Dentures and Flippers Available.

734-697-5477
781 Sumpter Rd. Belleville (In Belle Plaza)

COMPLETE DENTURE or PARTIAL \$549⁰⁰
WITH COUPON

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL \$49⁹⁹
WITH COUPON

Includes Exam, Cleaning & X-Rays

IS YOUR BUSINESS A TARGET FOR BURGLARS?

734-697-2888

Get SERIOUS about your Security!
WE CAN PROVIDE A REAL SOLUTION for BOTH your Business & Home...

- Remote Control-View-Playback
- Email / Smartphone Alerts
- PC / Mac Support
- No monthly fees

\$1500 Includes:

- Installation
- 4) HD Cameras (bullet or dome)
- 19" Monitor
- DVR (2TB)

Actual hardware may vary.



innovative COMPUTERS
Full-Service IT • Networks • Cameras

A veteran-owned company, supporting Michigan businesses since 1995.
Serving Metro Detroit to Lansing • InnovativeComputers.net

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

1217 – civil matter, Colorado St.
1444 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1724 – civil matter, Carriage Ln.
1821 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2042 – fire dept. assist, Arizona St.
2110 – alarm, Virginia St.
2120 – family trouble, Hampshire Dr.
2125 – traffic complaint/hazard, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.
Thursday, July 11:
0449 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
0648 – 911 hangup, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0720 – traffic complaint/hazard, Bemis/Sumpter
1120 – alarm, Rustic Ln.
1301 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1309 – 911 hangup, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1426 – 911 hangup, Birch Dr.
1452 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1534 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1643 – suspicious circumstance, 20000 bl. Griffin Ct.
1904 – down wires, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1925 – civil matter, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2119 – animal complaint, Bemis/Lohr Rd.
2136 – 911 hangup, Pecan St.
2235 – suspicious circumstance, Wyoming St.
2307 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2333 – welfare check, Virginia St.
Friday, July 12:
0409 – civil matter, Georgia St.
0502 – 911 hangup, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
0719 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0831 – citizen assist, 27000 bl. Karr Rd.
0937 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico St.
1011 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1105 – suspicious circumstance, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1118 – 911 hangup, Washington St.
1443 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
1452 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1617 – welfare check, 49000 bl. Collyer Ln.
1744 – disorderly person, Indiana St.
1815 – 911 hangup, Timberlane Dr.
1907 – suspicious circumstance, 45000 bl. Dunn
2002 – traffic complaint/hazard, 40000 bl. Willis
2030 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2056 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2103 – suspicious circumstance, 24000 bl. Elwell
2104 – suspicious person, Elwell Rd./Wear Rd.
2146 – 911 hangup, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
Saturday, July 13:
0124 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Willis Rd./Sherwood Rd.
0245 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1103 – motorist assist, Sumpter Rd./Willow Rd.
1225 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1404 – suspicious person, Wyoming St.
1438 – fire dept. assist, Colorado St.
1558 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico St.
1631 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1728 – suspicious person, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1735 – family trouble, Magnolia Dr.
1807 – suspicious vehicle, 20000 bl. Martinsville
1825 – follow-up investigation, Magnolia Dr.
1837 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1935 – ORV complaint, Sully Dr./Lohr Rd.
2024 – 911 hangup, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2102 – mental health call, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2234 – 911 hangup, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
Also on this week's log are 143 patrol checks, 90 traffic stops, and 13 misc. details.

Read The Newspaper On The Web!

The Belleville-Area Independent Website is Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com

VBT Plan

(continued from page 17)

said, adding the first two studies were done in 2023.

Engineer Leppek said the township requested Ashley Capital to hold off on making its traffic study until after Haggerty and I-275 construction work are done.

Jahr made the motion, seconded by Peter Creal, to postpone for more recommendations on the parcel split, traffic study revisions, the stacking issue, and a staff analysis and report.

Creal amended the motion to add directing the staff to see if the wetlands are in violation of the law. Jahr noted also any mitigating information from the applicant and further information. The amended motion was passed unanimously.

Budd said the preliminary site plan should also be postponed so it can include any changes that need to be made.

Jahr and Creal made the motion to postpone the preliminary site plan decision based on postponement of the special land use and the motion passed unanimously.

"We don't feel comfortable going forward," chairman Cullin explained to those present in the audience.

Commissioner Medina Atchinson asked staff to find out if there is a need for additional gas stations in 48111.

"I don't want to live in a community with all gas stations," she said, adding there are 200 car wash applications in Cape Coral, FL. She said the township already has gas stations in its neighborhood and she doesn't want to put them at a disadvantage.

Jahr said the ordinance for gas stations was tightened up and this is the first gas station to apply since the change in 2022. He said there is usually not this much attention to a gas station project.

Commissioner Bernie Grant said this is transitional from a standard gas station. The restaurant is open 24/7 and it has EV charging. It has a different kind of service, he said.

Power said the township is development-ready and it doesn't go out getting new businesses. He said now he has two gas stations seeking approval.

After the business was complete, Creal commented that the weeds and grass were out of control at a development site on Belleville Road and he would like them to maintain the lot prior to ground breaking. Power said the ordinance has a process there.

Foley asked the commission to reach out to Romulus to see if they have a problem with their Sheetz.

McCause complimented the commission, saying it was nice and engaged with the public. He said false information on gas prices was given out. He said as far as flooding, the whole infrastructure has been neglected. He said leaders need to get together because drainage is a real problem.

*To build a better world,
start in your own community*



RE/MAX

CROSSROADS III

418 Main Street

Belleville, Michigan 48111

email: mrsold@mrsold.com

website: mrsold.com

WE DON'T CHARGE WHAT THE OTHER BROKERS CHARGE - NO DOCUMENT STORAGE FEES NO COMPLIANCE FEES NO JUNK FEES

GLENN SILVENIS

www.MrSold.com

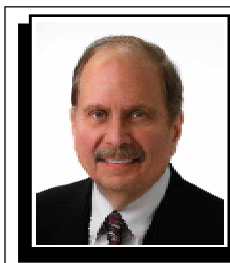
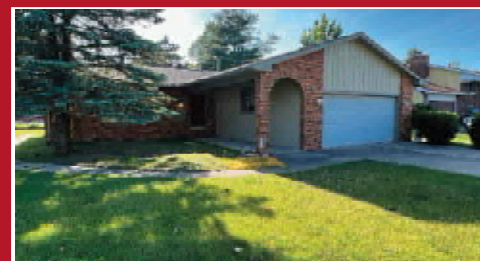
SELL PHONE (734) 740-3000

Office (734) 699-4000

Prior #1, #2 and #3 RE/MAX
Agent Southeastern Michigan

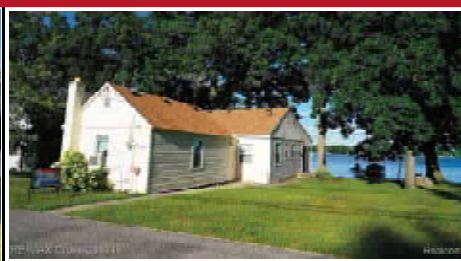
Mayor City of Belleville
1987-1995

Real Trends Verified
Rankings Top 1%
Nationwide



7986 BUNTON, YPSILANTI, TWP

CAREFREE 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch. Large Family Room with Fireplace, 1,934 Sq Ft, Larger 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage. Brick and Vinyl Siding, Deck & More. \$329,900



8370 HORTON BEACH RD MANITOU BEACH

DEVILS LAKE. 3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, 3 Seasons Lake Room and 3 Car Garage on a Separate Lot. 75 foot of Lake Frontage with Dock and More. None Better at \$690,000



48320 MARTZ, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

2022 CONSTRUCTION Featuring Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring, Open Floor Plan, 4 Bedrooms and 3 Full Baths. Premium Kitchen w/Quartz Counter Tops \$465,000.



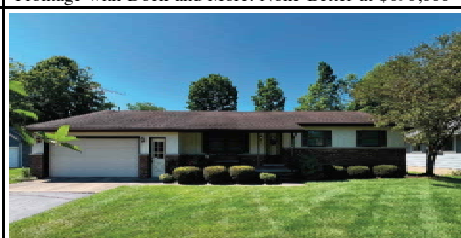
13300 EDGEDALE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

THIS IMPRESSIVE VICTORIAN home offers an open family room and dining room with Hardwood flooring showcasing the arched windows. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms \$289,900



45716 VICTORIA, SUMPTER TWP

BEAUTIFUL VINYL SIDED COUNTRY RANCH Featuring 3 bedrooms, 1 large bath, open kitchen, new furnace, roof is 3 years old, built 1996. It's a real clean dream. \$179,900



1140 E HURON RIVER DR VAN BUREN TWP

SPACIOUS BRICK RANCH Featuring 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Big Family Room, Large Living Room. Covered Porch and 2 1/2 + Car Garage with Workshop. \$314,900



6777 BELLEVILLE ROAD, VAN BUREN TWP

A MOST REFINED and private world. Offering 3 Bedrooms 1 1/2 Baths, Family Room, Living Room, Basement with Fireplace. 3+ Car Garage, Gazebo and Kennel 3.4 Acres \$375,000



209 MAIN STREET, BELLEVILLE

IT'S A POSSIBLE AIR B&B 7,000+ Square Foot Building on High Traffic Main Street. Large Rooms. Finished Basement and 6 plus Car Garage. \$749,000 or Lease

BELLEVILLE 3 RESIDENTIAL LOTS ONE PRICE. TOTALING .41 ACRES WITH CITY WATER AND SEWER AT STREET ACROSS FROM BELLEVILLE LAKE NOW \$49,000

3 ACRES - COMMERCIAL CORNER AT SUMPTER AND WILLOW NOW \$150,000

GRANT & WAHRMAN 4 ACRES LT IN DBY METRO AIRPORT \$250,000

SUMPTER RD EXETER **SOLD** \$80,000

VACANT JUDD SUN **PENDING** \$39,500

VACANT JUDD 8.7 **PENDING** > \$75,000

HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000

WILLIS RD 1 AC SEWER & WATER \$60,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 AC \$29,500

HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$29,900

WILLIS & M **PENDING** 1.64 AC \$65,000

20728 GRIFFIN SUMPTER 1 ACRE \$45,000

50540 BOG RD ONE HALF ACRE \$55,000

7 PARCELS ON THE CORNER OF BEMIS ANI **SOLD MORE TO GO** ICED \$40,000 and \$50,000 BUILDER SPECIAL for 3 LOTS

SUMPTER TWP **SOLD** 17+ AC \$199,500

BROWNSTOWN 27102 DEBIASI \$85,000

VACANT MARIO ANN ROMULUS \$33,000

6551 BUNTON, TWP 427 X 1019 10 ACRES PAVED STREET NOW \$200,000

19+ ACRES BREST RD, TAYLOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY - PAVED STREET NEAR INKSTER ROAD. \$550,000

VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$55,000

IT'S A GRAND OPENING
AND WE'RE CELEBRATING WITH GREAT DEALS ON OUR '83 FORDS.
There is a New Dealer in Town!!

That's right! Mr. Kurt Atchinson, a community leader in Belleville, has become Ford Motor's newest Ford dealer. What is Kurt doing for motorists of this event? "Pile them high and watch them fly." Everything goes of 30000 over invoice! Now that's the deal! The boss said it, we'll do it!!

8.8 FINANCING on certain models

REBATES UP TO \$500 on selected models

COMMEMORATIVE TEE SHIRTS

FREE REFRESHMENTS

COUPON Bring in this coupon for a **FREE DIAGNOSTIC CHECK 25% DISCOUNT** ON SERVICE AND ALL INSTALLED PARTS

ATCHINSON FORD SALES, INC.
"THE SWIFTEST GROWING DEALER IN W. MICHIGAN COUNTY"
9800 BELLEVILLE ROAD, BELLEVILLE

ATCHINSON FORD YEAR END SALE

BE BUDGET MINDED BE A WISE BUYER

We're setting the pace for '69 Car Sales! in

OFFERING "FANTASTIC BUYS" ON ALL BRAND NEW 1968 MODELS LEFT IN STOCK
PLENTY TO CHOOSE FROM
SEE THE
Going Thing at
Atchinson Ford Sales, Inc.
9800 BELLEVILLE RD. / BELLEVILLE, MICH.

GRAND OPENING

ATCHINSON FORD

9800 Belleville Rd. 697-9161

1968 LTD BROUGHAM \$5,975

1968 LTD BROUGHAM \$8,406

8.8% financing

FREE REFRESHMENTS

Register To-Day

FREE

SERVING BELLEVILLE

SINCE 1961.

ATCHINSON



9800 BELLEVILLE RD., BELLEVILLE, MI | (734) 697-9161