Michigan’s Rochester Hills makes the list, Fenton’s population keeps it from qualifying

By Yvonne Stegall
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Money magazine recently released a list of the top places to live in the U.S. Although the tri-county area did not make the list, Rochester Hills did — as well as many cities in Minnesota, Colorado and Texas.

Looking at the list of contenders, it’s easy to see that Fenton missed the boat because of its smaller population. The popular magazine looked at factors, such as the local economy, population, and amenities available for residents.

Many of the top places to live include southern charm or a wonderful cultural background. Not all of them have that beautiful historical downtown that is much loved, like this area, but they all offer many of their own interesting attributes.

Many offer beautiful waterways, such as ours, with fun in the sun and water for everyone. However, which city can compare with the “Onion Capital of America,” Eagan, Minnesota, which only missed the top 10 by one.

No. 1
McKinney, Texas
Population: 140,864
Census Region: South
Median Family Income: $96,143
Median Home Price: $217,879
Average Property Taxes: $5,142
Projected Job Growth: 13.1 percent

No. 2
Maple Grove, Minnesota
Population: 63,395
Census Region: Midwest
Median Family Income: $109,397
Median Home Price: $225,300
Average Property Taxes: $3,562
Projected Job Growth: 6.5 percent

How does Fenton compare?

Fenton could not be considered, as the population of just under 12,000 was well under the 50,000 required.

Population: 11,574
Median family income: $44,857
Median home price: $97,317
Average property taxes: $2,636
Projected job growth: 33.6 percent

Fenton matches the quaintness of a small town with the accessibility of the big city. It offers the genuine feel of old Americana in its downtown area, with brick buildings and locally owned stores. Fenton offers growth and fun for families and individuals, with a unique history, beautiful parks and numerous lakes within the area.

Fentonbecloser.com, the city’s promotional website, points out, “Generations of families live together in Fenton neighborhoods; the business community is cohesive and supportive.”

The town is a hub for those wanting big city amenities without the big city traffic. It borders three counties — Genesee, Livingston and Oakland. “The city remains in touch with the cutting edges of education and innovation with great schools and entrepreneurship,” according to the city’s website.

“You won’t ever want for something to do in this area with many restaurants, great shops for new and used items, a theater company, lots of nature and something fun for everyone.”

Sources: census.gov, city-data.com, bestplaces.net, fentonbecloser.com

Think varicose veins are just a cosmetic issue?

Varicose veins are a sign of vein (venous) disease.

Symptoms may include pain, swelling, restlessness, burning, itching, fatigue of the legs as well as skin damage. Learn more about vein disease at www.flintveins.com
NO. 4 Castle Rock, Colorado
Population: 51,871
Census Region: West
Median Family Income: $105,811
Median Home Price: $305,000
Average Property Taxes: $3,317
Projected Job Growth: 17.1 percent

NO. 5 Kirkland, Washington
Population: 84,786
Census Region: West
Median Family Income: $110,194
Median Home Price: $442,925
Average Property Taxes: $4,655
Projected Job Growth: 4.5 percent

NO. 6 Columbia & Ellicott City, Maryland
Population: 172,745
Census Region: South
Median Family Income: $133,682
Median Home Price: $359,916
Average Property Taxes: $4,830
Projected Job Growth: 8.7 percent

NO. 7 Clarkstown, New York
Population: 85,613
Census Region: Northeast
Median Family Income: $123,460
Median Home Price: $372,750
Average Property Taxes: $10,054
Projected Job Growth: 5.6 percent

NO. 8 Ames, Iowa
Population: 60,489
Census Region: Midwest
Median Family Income: $77,444
Median Home Price: $145,750
Average Property Taxes: $2,363
Projected Job Growth: 0.6 percent

NO. 9 Rochester Hills, Michigan
Population: 71,128
Census Region: Midwest
Median Family Income: $95,710
Median Home Price: $223,754
Average Property Taxes: $3,401
Projected Job Growth: 4.3 percent

NO. 10 Reston, Virginia
Population: 61,177
Census Region: South
Median Family Income: $142,404
Median Home Price: $395,550
Average Property Taxes: $4,619
Projected Job Growth: 1.8 percent

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Tune out the downers

Reaching for the car radio dial to catch a weather report seemed so natural. We were heading for Arizona that winter and wondering what kind of weather we’d face on this long journey. Who knew we’d discover a weather reporter who specialized in storms?

Anticipating this trip, we had envisioned the pleasure of driving to ever-warmer weather and the beauty that accompanies that transition: green grass, flowers, birds on the wing as they joined us on their annual flight to warmer climes; but none of these pleasant scenes were described by our gloomy weather reporter. This negative forecaster focused on nothing but bad weather so we tuned him out. We wanted to enjoy the beauty of the moment, remember the glories of fall and look forward to what was ahead.

The enduring classic devotional guide, ‘Streams in the Desert,’ calls for giving thanks for the planned kaleidoscope we call the year, that the earth in its journey makes the one cycle a perpetual delight, emphasizing how this is especially true in the season of splendor that arrives every October, asking: ‘Who with the least bit of love of nature in his disposition has not gone out of his way to see hills covered and vales filled with the glory and splendor of falling leaves.’

Solomon said God has made everything beautiful in its time (Ecclesiastes 3:11). And the splendor of fall may make it the most beautiful time of all.

Who can doubt the existence of God in October? Bushes are ablaze, reminding us of Moses turning aside to view the burning bush from which God would call him to become the deliverer of his people.

Multicolored leaves decorating trees during this season of splendor ought to remind us that we’re both indebted and accountable to Him. Responding to His love with appreciation and dedication makes life truly beautiful.

Thomas Carlyle, the Scottish historian, wrote, ‘I believe you will find in all histories that no nation that did not contemplate this wonderful universe with an awe-stricken and reverential belief that there was a great unknown, omnipotent and all-wise and all-just Being superintending all men in it and all interest in it ever came to much, nor did any man who forgot that.’

Who wouldn’t enjoy the season of the Divine artist’s crowning glory? A few months after the autumn, Solomonic nations discover a weather reporter who specializes in doom and gloom forecasters.

‘I can’t enjoy the beauty of fall,’ said one, ‘because I keep thinking about what’s soon to come: winter.’ No wonder Jesus warned against facing tomorrow’s difficulties today (Matthew 6:34).

Are you troubled by some forecaster of gloom who’s robbing you of the blessings of today? Do you doubt that great blessings are ahead for your church, your family, your future?

Consider the source of this negativity and reject these doom and gloom forecasters.

The beauty of fall should convince us all that God is alive and cares.

Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rcministry@ameritech.net.
**Turn your home into a smart home**

**GE Profile Series wall ovens with Brillion Technology**
Wall ovens are equipped with GE’s Brillion technology, letting you remotely turn them on, start preheating, and set the timer. On double ovens, you can even control each oven separately.

**OnSpa Wireless Hot Tub Control**
This wireless system allows you to use your smartphone to control your hot tub. You can operate the jets, set the temperature, and even stream music through the Bluetooth module.

**Cyber Rain Sprinkler System**
The coolest feature of this irrigation system is its ability to connect to the Internet to check the weather and then adjust your watering pattern accordingly. Cyber Rain replaces your current controller or timer. And, oh yeah, it can be programmed and monitored with your iPhone too!

**Wemo Light Switch**
With the Wemo Light Switch, you’ll be able to control the lights remotely from any corner of the world via WiFi. The app allows you to create schedules that will automatically turn the light on at a certain hour or that will program the lights to go out at a certain time.

**August Smart Lock**
The August Smart Lock uses its keyless technology to keep your home safe, even when you’re not around. From your smartphone, you can let guests in, check to make sure that you locked up before you left the house, keep a record of who’s entered and exited, and unlock your door as you trudge up to your home after a long day’s work.

**Honeywell’s Lyric thermostat**
You come and go at different times each day. The Lyric uses its 500-foot to 7-mile adjustable geofencing feature to automatically adjust the temperature in your home depending on your location. No rigid scheduling. No learning period. Just comfort when you’re home and savings when you’re away.

**Whirlpool washers and dryers with 6th Sense Live**
Not only can you control all functions of the machine from your smartphone or tablet and set up washing and drying schedules, you can also activate “Smart Nudges and Alerts” that will text you to let you know about problems like low water pressure.

**LG Smart ThinQ refrigerator**
Sure, you can run diagnostics and put this fridge into vacation mode from any Wi-Fi-enabled device, but this clever appliance can communicate with you too by sending temperature readouts and coordinated inventory and shopping lists to your phone.

**Sources:** bobvila.com, gadgetreview.com, homedit.com

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Which well known woman do you most admire?

- Oprah came from nothing. She helps people, helps herself. She’s been through it all. — Chauncey Wolbert, Flint
- Susan G. Komen was the driving force behind breast cancer awareness, and coming up with solutions. — Cheyenne Wells, Warren
- I’m torn between Jacqueline Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt and Hillary Clinton for their tenacity and courage. — Wynelle Swystun, Fenton
- I think Celine Dion, who sang in Titanic, is fabulous. — Christine Cartwright, Fenton
- I like all women in politics. Women who have broken through the male-dominated world. — Beth Przybyloki, Fenton Township
- “Amelia Earhart was a woman before her time. She didn’t let anyone tell her she couldn’t do something.” — Jackie Bartnick, Linden

House Bill 4624: Allow multi-department efforts to arm a fire station. To prohibit a fire department from prohibiting its firefighters from also working as volunteer, part-time or paid call firefighter with another department, if this does not conflict with the original employment. Also, to make this issue a prohibited subject of collective bargaining between a fire department and a government employee union.
Passed 109 to 0 in the House
Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) • YES • NO
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) • YES • NO

House Bill 5385: Expand drunk driving provisions to include illegal drugs
To expand the law that requires a person stopped for drunk driving to take a breathalyzer or field sobriety test so that it instead refers to “a preliminary roadside analysis,” expanding this law to suspected driving while drugged cases. The bill would not explicitly authorize the use of a roadside saliva test for marijuana, which has been challenged as inaccurate. This is part of a package extending the same or similar procedures to both drunk and drugged driving cases.
Passed 35 to 0 in the Senate
Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) • YES • NO
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) • YES • NO

House Bill 5606: Expand “protectionist” auto dealer provision
To prohibit vehicle makers from preventing a dealer from taking on extra fees that are permitted by a law that empowers the state to enforce exclusive new car dealer “territories” and regulate the terms of commercial relationships between dealers and manufacturers.
Passed 21 to 17 in the Senate
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) • YES • NO
Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) • YES • NO

House Bill 991: Let terminal patients try non-FDA approved treatments
To establish that a person diagnosed with a terminal illness has a “right to try” experimental drugs or therapies not approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration, subject to various conditions specified in the bill. The bill would prohibit state officials from interfering, and ban licensing boards from sanctioning health care providers who participate, subject to specified conditions. Drug makers who comply with the specified conditions would be immune from liability if the patient is harmed. The bill responds to criticism that FDA’s “safe and effective” standards are not appropriate in these cases.
Passed 109 to 0 in the House
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) • YES • NO
Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

OCTOBER 6, 2014

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday October 6, 2014 at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan and took the following actions:

1. Supervisor Mathis led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
2. Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.
3. Approved the agenda as presented.
4. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of $349,833.00.
5. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-29, confirming the special assessment roll for the Lake Fenton Improvement Special Assessment District.
6. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-30 approving the transfer of two existing Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates from the City of Saginaw for CMF-Schnelbe Company for equipment in their facility at 3081 Thompson Road.
7. Received the third quarter report from Fire Chief Ryan Volz.
8. Adopted Ordinance No. 770, a Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-11-537-026 (2273 Sonora Drive) from C-2 to R-5.
9. Adopted Ordinance No. 771, a Zoning Ordinance amendment to revise language regarding nonconforming structures.
10. Adopted Ordinance No. 772, a Zoning Ordinance amendment to revise language regarding height requirements for communication tower equipment structures.
12. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-31, opposing the proposed ET Rover Pipeline project.
14. Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting and any ordinances adopted at the meeting are on file and available for review at the Fenton Township Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014 AT 7:00 PM BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AT 12060 MANTAWAUKA. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

NEW BUSINESS:
ZBA14-032 Chad Craddock, 12519 Torrey, Fenton:
Requesting a slight line variance to replace and expand a deck. parcel 06-11-300-004
ZBA14-033 David Duprey, 5417 Dooley, Linden:
Requesting to construct a detached accessory building on property that does not contain his principal residence. parcel 06-29-100-024
ZBA14-034 Jack Darrell, 11422 Torrey, Fenton:
Requesting an allowable maximum sq. ft. variance to rebuild pole barn destroyed by fire. parcel 06-03-400-013
ZBA14-035 Rick & Paula Manzardo, 12159 Margaret, Fenton:
Requesting front, side and total two sides variances to reconstruct a garage and build an addition attaching it to the residence. parcel 06-11-501-064
ZBA14-036 Wesley & Tara Nolde, 15099 Marl, Linden
Requesting a maximum allowable sq. ft. variance to replace a barn. parcel 06-28-200-004 located at 4211 Silver Lake Rd.

RENEWAL OF HOME OCCUPATIONS
H002-001 Mark Wendling 12075 Torrey Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate gun sales business in residence, parcel 06-11-503-021
H002-002 Janice Rockakelow 11372 Main Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate small operations business in residence, parcel 06-02-100-031
H002-004 Craig Allen 11533 Torrey Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate an auto wholesale business in residence, parcel 06-02-300-042
H002-005 Gifford Goodrow 11250 O’Dell Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to have photography studio at residence, parcel 06-05-200-008
H002-010 Ronald Kellaway 1473 Wiggins Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate gun sales business in residence, parcel 06-01-300-020
H002-011 Stephen Raslich 5213 Ray Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate retail gun shop in residence, parcel 06-05-200-003
H002-012 Tonya Gerow-Borucki 2352 Belle Glade Cl.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate dog grooming business in garage, parcel 06-02-553-006
H006-039 Teryl Masse 13187 Lakeside Landing: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate auto wholesale business in residence, parcel 06-13-501-009
H007-040 Sharon LaFee 2509 Fenton Creek Ln: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate a sewing business in residence, parcel 06-23-503-017
H008-042 William Muples 2355 Thompson Rd.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate a small deck installation business from residence, parcel 06-02-552-006
H008-043 Lee Osborn 3444 Breeze Pte: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate a retail gun sales operation in residence, parcel 06-15-601-006
H010-045 Vito Accetta 4036 Shadow Oak Cl.: Requesting to continue home occupation permit to operate Flairite Inc. an internet based seller of industrial seals, parcel 06-33-529-009
H012-048 Diane Tushim 3332 Horrell Ct.: Requesting home occupation permit to operate a pet service establishment in residence, parcel 06-15-501-013
H012-049 Carl Savage Jr. 2477 Davis St.: Requesting home occupation permit to continue to operate a consulting firm in residence, parcel 06-02-554-006
H012-050 Dennis Siodski Jr. 13227 Linden Rd.: Requesting a home occupation permit to continue to operate a lawn care business from residence, parcel 06-17-100-005
H013-052 Sarah Stengel, 13109 Ripley: Requesting a home occupation permit to operate a taxidermy business at residence, parcel 06-16-601-008
H013-053 Sharon Schneider, 15074 Meadow Lane: Requesting a home occupation permit to operate a salon at in her home located at 15074 Meadow Lane, parcel 06-30-601-012.

COPIES OF THE ABOVE LISTED APPLICATIONS AND THE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE FOR YOUR REVIEW. YOUR OPINIONS MAY BE EXPRESSED VERBALLY AT THIS HEARING OR IN WRITING TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS PRIOR TO THIS HEARING. THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ENCOURAGES YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE APPEALS.

This notice is published in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Fenton Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days notice to Fenton Township.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Fenton Township by writing or calling the following: Robert Krug, Fenton Township Clerk, 12000 Mantawauka Dr, Fenton, MI 48430, (810) 629-1537.

Ordnances, meeting schedules and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT KRUG,
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
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Tag your Fenton photos with #heartoffenton on Instagram and we will display it on tctimes.com for 70,000 monthly visitors to see. You will also have the chance to have your photo in the prime edition of the Tri-County Times and the 2015 Source Book. To see other #heartoffenton photos go to the tctimes.com homepage.

Profiles set to private will not be displayed on tctimes.com.
Uncle wants to be sugar daddy for college student

DEAR AMY:
I started college this year. For a gift, my uncle wants to set up an account for me at his credit union and give me a debit card. He wants to reward me for working hard and wants to give me the flexibility to have some fun in college. It’s more for things like shopping or movies and the like, things that aren’t covered by my college tuition, but that my parents won’t pay for either. The thing is, he doesn’t want me to tell my parents. I’m 18 — I’m not about to complain! I really appreciate the gift and would really like to accept it. But should I clue my parents in? — Wondering

DEAR WONDERING:
This doesn’t smell right. I’m not suggesting your uncle has nefarious motives, but if he wants to give you a cash gift, he should give you a cash gift of a specific amount. This looser arrangement could eventually give him too much financial control over you. Regardless, your uncle should know better than to ask you to keep a secret from your parents. You do know better. You are 18 and can accept this gift if you want to, but you are right to question the judgment of the person offering it. Most important, even if you can’t quite put your finger on why something is wrong, you should always listen to your gut. Then you should do the right thing. Respond to your uncle: “I appreciate your gift, but I don’t keep secrets from my parents, so it would be great if you could run this past them.”

DEAR AMY:
Last week my boyfriend told me he received an email from an old ‘close’ female friend who I know he was once intimate with. She searched him out online and asked that they reconnect. He told me about this email and said we would both enjoy her friendship. My first thought was that a woman doesn’t go searching out old boyfriends online to enjoy a friendship with him and his new girlfriend. My boyfriend says I am being overly jealous. I think opening doors to past lovers is always a bad idea. What is your advice? — Intruded Upon

DEAR INTRUDED:
Developing a theory about why this person has contacted your boyfriend doesn’t mean you are jealous; it means you are a sentient woman who is able to understand the obvious. You should be open to meeting her but skeptical if he chooses to revive contact privately. He did the right thing to share this with you, but he can’t control how you react to it.

SUNDAY SCRAMBLER

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

DON’T BE A

Answer key located in this edition

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