Construction is booming in tri-county area

Residential new-builds are on the rise, despite labor shortage, high cost of building materials

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

J.P. and Holly Farmer are ready to trade their 1,000-square-foot starter home in Grand Blanc for a brand new 2,300-square-foot home in Mundy Township, in the Lake Fenton school district.

Their move-in date is about six to eight weeks away, and they couldn’t be more excited.

“We looked for three years and couldn’t find a pre-existing home, so we decided to build,” said Holly, 37, a stay-at-home mom of son, Landon, 8.

“We found this property in a sub, bought it in May and started construction in October.”

The Farmers are just one of dozens of other families who are building a home in the tri-county area, creating a construction boom for local builders.

Mike Reilly, city of Fenton building and zoning administrator, issued 649 building permits last year, including 44 new housing permits. “We had $23.19 million in new construction values last year.”

Informal discussion is taking place about three new subdivisions in the city, said Reilly, and Building Junkies have already started a new four-unit condo building at the Waters Edge residential development, priced in the $189,000 range. “There’s definitely increased interest in the city of Fenton,” Reilly said.

See CONSTRUCTION on 4B

(Above) Carpenters Scott Duthorn and Martin Schroeder frame a house on Ponemah Drive in Fenton Township on Thursday, Jan. 11. This new build is by Fenton Lakes Building & Design. (Below) This new build on Rolston Road in Fenton Township is in the final stages of construction. It overlooks Squaw Lake.
The day my first sweet boy was born

He wasn’t due until Jan. 26, 1990, but our son, Sean, arrived two weeks early. A few days ago, on Thursday, Jan. 11, we celebrated our beautiful baby boy’s 28th birthday.

The birthing process really began the day before, on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1990. I was sick and tired of being fat, swollen and pregnant so I agreed with my husband when he suggested we go “back-riding” in his old green Ford pickup truck. You would think that going up and down the bumpy gravel roads in January would do the trick, but no, nothing happened. So we decided to go bowling. That didn’t work either.

The next morning I started feeling a little weird. I had a pain in my lower back. It was not that bad, just different. I was convinced I was in labor and insisted we go to the hospital. My husband, having experienced this twice before with his two oldest sons, said I might be jumping the gun a little bit. Eventually I gave him “the look” (learned from my dad, it’s awesome) and off we went.

Throughout my entire pregnancy, I craved Taco Bell. Because I knew I would not get any food when we got to Hurley Hospital, I insisted we stop at Taco Bell on the way. My husband ordered something for himself and I had my usual two tacos and a big chocolate shake.

We made it all the way to Saginaw Street in downtown Flint, somewhere in the vicinity of Fourth, when it occurred to me that I was having a baby that day. I was suddenly so panicked I got sick to my stomach. While our vehicle was still moving slowly, I ripped open the passenger door, hung my head out and donated my Taco Bell to the environment. My husband, not to be left out, opened his door and did the same.

We must have been a pitiful sight.

Anyway, we somehow pulled ourselves together and made it to Hurley. We got situated in a little area in the emergency room waiting for a room for me upstairs. While we waited, there was a lady behind the next curtain carrying on like you would not believe. She sounded like a dying cow! I whispered to my husband, “Would you listen to her carrying on.

This (labor pains) isn’t that bad.”

My husband, once again drawing from experience, whispered back, “Shut UP Vera, shuuunnt uuuuuu!” OK, he was right about that because a few short hours later I sounded like that dying cow. Carol Burnett was right. Giving birth to a baby is akin to pulling a Buick out of a keyhole and that is the truth.

During the actual birth, my obstetrician, a nice chubby young man named Dr. Dew, who did say he was from the hills of Kentucky, told us (like we were into making conversation at that point) that it is an old Indian tradition to name a baby after the first thing the mother sees when he is born.

So Sean, honey, you can thank your mama that your name is not “Chubby Mountaineer Doctor Dew.” Just sayin’!

Family of dentists work together in newly remodeled Fenton office

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com 810-629-8282

Downtown Dental, formerly Oak Tree Dental in Fenton, was purchased in June 2017 by the Burau family of dentists in Grand Blanc and has recently undergone a complete renovation. Sasha (Burau) Meyer is married to one of the dentists, Dr. Dan, and is practice manager.

Dentistry certainly does run in your family.

Yes, we are truly a family practice, started in Grand Blanc in 1965 by my grandfather, Roger Burau, DDS, and his wife, Shari, a dental hygienist. They had three sons, and one daughter; all three sons went to dental school and worked in the family practice. Today, my father, uncle, brother and husband all are Drs. Burau, DDS, in our two locations in Grand Blanc and Fenton.

What specialties do you offer?

We see all ages and types of dentistry. Each of the doctors also has a mini-specialty: Dr. Brad — cosmetic dentistry; Dr. Scott — denture patients; Dr. Dan — oral surgery/extractions and Dr. Alex — root canals. Our patients get the expertise of different opinions without having to visit other offices. We focus on families, being open convenient hours (until 8 p.m.). We also have special glasses hooked to Netflix for patients to enjoy during treatment.

What renovations have you completed?

We expanded our dental operations to six and upgraded all the equipment, especially the X-ray system, which now uses significantly less radiation, while providing optimal diagnostic information. We installed intra-oral cameras so patients can see what’s going on inside their mouths — they can see what we see.

What improvements did you make to the exterior?

We are the blue building at 500 N. LeRoy St. next to the 76 Gas Station. We are new to Fenton but not new to dentistry or the area and we have loved the warm welcome that we’ve gotten from the community.

(810) 629-8272
Hours: Mon. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wed.-Thurs. 1 to 8 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
www.fentondentists.com

Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com
Michigan’s Secretary of State speaks at Chamber’s Forecast Breakfast

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Fenton — Local leaders share an optimistic view of 2018, based on comments made by municipal leaders and business professionals at the annual Chamber Forecast Breakfast on Wednesday, Jan. 10.

The event was held at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center and hosted by the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Guest speaker Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson provided positive views of Michigan’s growth, including population increases, low unemployment, job creation and a more favorable corporate tax environment for businesses. She also encouraged the use of new technology tools through the Secretary of State to reduce wait times for services.

“Don’t ask, just do,” was the inspiring message offered by guest speaker Keith Green of BRSi Retirement Solutions of Linden, who spoke of his three battles with cancer in 2011, 2016 and 2017.

Green is a former chairperson of the chamber’s board of directors and was instrumental in merging the Fenton and Linden chambers into a regional organization.

Local government leaders then took to the podium to give their forecasts for 2018:

LYNN MARKLAND
Fenton City manager

Following a year of high-profile projects, including the Caroline Street extension, Poplar Street reconfiguration, The Horizon Building construction, CRUST bakery expansion, street improvements, “The Game” sculpture and more, Markland said that most 2018 projects will be smaller projects throughout the city.

These include:
• a new parking lot by the Jack R. Winegarden Public Library
• a connector between Shiawasse and Elizabeth streets
• a butterfly garden around the city butterfly sculpture, to name a few

Other issues will be:
• traffic signal replacement with LED lighting will be a long-term project at a cost of about $750,000
• finding ways to fund city road projects will likely include an extra millage
• planning is underway for 2019 to relieve the congestion of North and Torrey roads and will probably include a signal
• conducting a traffic study on Silver Lake Road between Silver Parkway and Poplar

DANIELLE CUSSON
Linden mayor

“It was a great year in 2017,” she said. “She’s looking ahead to:
• Bridge Street rehabilitation Project, beginning in May
• mechanical work at the Linden Mill building
• additions made to Memorial Park to honor veterans before the annual Memorial Day Parade and Community Picnic
• restrooms completed this summer at Eagle’s Wooden Park
• future plans for the River Walk area, including retail development
• Shiawasse River Trail awaiting designation as a heritage trail
• New building to be constructed on former Union building site by Dr. Nicole Wax

JERRY WALKER
Holly Village manager

A new partnership between the village and Holly Township is an important theme for 2018, with the possibility of shared services and consolidations.

Also in 2018:
• many new businesses opened, with the downtown continuing at 100 percent occupancy
• renovation of the 100-year-old former Holly High School building into a boutique hotel, a $4.5 million investment initiated by Cari Cucksey, who also opened The Vault in the former Holly village offices
• new Assistant Village Manager/DDA Director Katy Hughes and new Clerk/Treasurer Deborah Bigger were announced.

In other municipal news:
• Holly Township Supervisor George Kullis said that the new Off-Road Vehicle Adventure Park in Groveland Township and backside of Holly Township will be the largest ORV park in the Midwest when it opens for limited-use events later this year and will be fully operational in 2019.
• Mike Cunningham, supervisor of Tyrone Township, said that land use permits have doubled each year in the number of new homes being built. This year, there will be two new housing developments, including 38 homes on Runyan Lake Road and a new subdivision across from Lake Shannon. He also introduced new Tyrone Township Clerk Jennifer Eden.

Keynote speaker was Rich Studley, chief executive officer and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, who said, “I hope each of you appreciate what you have here in Fenton. When you have a strong chamber, you have a strong community.”

He praised Chamber Executive Director Shelly Day, saying that she’s a role model for chambers, big and small. “She will represent Fenton on the Michigan Chamber Board of Directors this year,” he said.
Lake & Land Custom Homes

pecializes in mid-priced homes and large custom builds

By Sally Rummel
news@cttimes.com; 810-629-8282

Jeff Wedding grew up in the grandson of a master carpenter and has had a passion for building ever since. After two decades in the corporate world and large commercial construction, he founded his own residential home construction company in 2015, Lake & Land Custom Homes, P.O. Box 394, Fenton.

“I grew up building bridges for my toy cars and anything else out of my grandfather’s scrap wood pile,” Wedding said. “I spent 12 years at a Big Three automaker, managing the installation of large overhead power and free conveyors for truck body shops throughout North America. For 10 years, I managed large scale commercial construction projects for a local general contracting company.”

Lake & Land Custom Homes has found its niche in the local building market. Wedding and his crew focus on new home construction, from mid-priced 1,800-square-foot ranches up to 4,000-square-foot custom homes, plus interior and exterior renovations of existing homes and interior renovations for retail and food service space.

“We have partnered with local developers to complete the build-outs of existing developments that may have vacant lots still available,” Wedding said.

“Years of experience in construction has set Lake & Land Custom Homes apart and has allowed us to nail down the wall of the house on West Four Lakes Drive in Fenton Township. The 22-year-old male driver failed to navigate the curve and struck a tree. His vehicle came to rest on the lawn of a nearby residence.

At 11:35 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11, STAT EMS, Fenton Township Fire Department and Genesee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a personal injury crash on Butcher Road near Oyster Lake in Fenton Township. The 22-year-old male driver failed to navigate the curve and struck a tree. His vehicle came to rest on the lawn of a nearby residence.

CONSTRUCTION

Continued from Page 1B

Commercial construction is also booming in Fenton with The Horizon Building wrapping up the exterior of the building, with work slated for interior design soon.

Cornerstone Phase II is still in process, but timeline and dates are not formalized. “We know that the project is coming, but nothing has hit our building department yet,” said Reilly.

In Fenton Township, Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk Tom Broecker said that last year’s 88 new building permits were a huge increase from the 66 permits in 2016.

“We’ve already had seven since the start of this year,” he said. “That’s a good sign. Maybe we’ll even get to 100 this year. We’ve had a number of subdivisions approved before the downturn, and now we’re seeing interest from builders again.”

Many skilled trades workers left the state during the recession, while others have aged out and retired. But the demand for construction workers and skilled trade workers continues to grow, according to a recent report from CNBC.

Even with a labor shortage and increased construction costs, builders are lining up jobs for this spring and completing projects from 2017.

“The labor shortage hasn’t affected me because people have worked for me for a long time,” said Scott Tarkleson of Fenton Lakes Building & Design. “The trick is to schedule trades people at least 60 days in advance.”

Tarkleson realizes though, that the labor shortage is a huge reality for trade contractors who are looking for good help. “It’s hard to find someone with a good driving record and who’s reliable,” Tarkleson said. “People who are good, are good, and they’re working.”

Builders who stayed active through Michigan’s construction recession and recovery, are now reaping the rewards of their efforts.

Continued on next page
This new 2,300-square-foot home will replace the 1,000-square-foot starter house that has been “home” for the Farmers’ entire 13-year marriage.

CONTINUED from previous page

Jeff Widing of Lake & Land Custom Homes in Fenton is already ahead in 2018 compared to last year. “Right now, I’ve got four new homes underway and expecting four more by the end of February,” he said. His project duration doesn’t change, even with an industry labor shortage. “It’s anywhere from eight to 12 months,” said Widing. “I’ve got loyal, established contractors, so I don’t have a labor issue, but I can definitely see it would be challenge if you don’t have those relationships.”

Patrick Widing Custom Homes is working on three new builds right now, with several projects in the works, plus a handful of remodeling jobs.

Because he has built relationships with work crews over a number of years and can select the projects he wants to take on, Widing hasn’t experienced many issues in this labor shortage. “It’s more a matter of getting all the workers’ schedules coordinated with the timing of our projects because everyone is so busy,” said Jen Williams, office manager.

“We’ve got lots of projects underway,” said Chris Weir of Weir Building Company. ‘The market really turned the corner in 2013. When The State Bank started lending again in construction, that played a critical role in upstarting construction again.’

Weir said that materials have definitely gone up, especially in lumber, drywall and cabinetry, but that labor costs are holding steady. “We’re fortunate to have trade teams that have been able to keep up with our work,” Weir said. “We’ve worked with them for a very long time. We don’t have to fight the labor battle.”

Michigan’s 38 senators and 110 representatives missed 1,153 roll call votes in 2017 according to the Missed Votes report compiled by Jack McHugh, editor of MichiganVotes.org.

Six senators and two representatives each missed 50 or more votes in 2017, led by Coleman Young II in the Senate and LaTanya Garrett in the House, who failed to vote 144 times and 96 times, respectively. There were 15 senators and 85 representatives who missed no votes this year. The 1,153 missed votes in 2017 is down from 1,228 in 2016, but is up in percentage terms because fewer roll call votes were taken.

Excluding purely procedural votes, the Senate voted 570 times in 2017 and the House 511 times, for a total of 1,081 roll call votes by the entire Legislature. In 2016 there were 1,614 roll call votes taken by both bodies.

The number of missed votes has fallen dramatically since the 2001-2002 Legislature, which was the first session covered by MichiganVotes.org. Over that two-year period, individual Michigan lawmakers failed to cast a roll call vote 21,162 times.

“Legislators’ habits changed almost immediately when MichiganVotes.org began making this information easily accessible to voters,” McHugh said.

The full Missed Votes report can be viewed at www.michiganvotes.org/MissedVotes.aspx, and can be sorted by name or by the number of missed votes. By clicking on a legislator’s name, users can see a brief, plain-English description of the actual votes he or she missed. Missed vote totals for previous sessions can be viewed by entering a different date range.

McHugh noted that in most cases, missed votes occur when other demands within the legislative process call a lawmaker off the floor for a few minutes or when serious family or personal issues require an absence of an entire day or longer.

“Legislators are people, too,” McHugh said. “No one should jump to conclusions or assume bad faith, but voters have a right to ask why a lawmaker missed a large number of votes.”

While the missed votes report is a popular year-end feature, McHugh said it is just a small piece of MichiganVotes.org’s capabilities.

MichiganVotes.org was excited this year to add a new ‘golden button’ feature that gives users one-click access (plus entering their zip code) to a list of how the lawmakers who represent their community voted on the most meaningful measures of the current legislature,” McHugh said. “This is something users always said they wanted, and now it’s here.”

MichiganVotes.org was started to give citizens more information to help make democracy work better, and its main benefit has been increased transparency and accountability. The site’s database now contains 17 years’ worth of legislators’ votes — complete records of the full legislative careers of many lawmakers.

LOCAL LEGISLATORS

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)
Missed 3 votes of 570 roll calls
Missed 0 votes of 570 roll calls
Missed 0 votes of 570 roll calls
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)
Missed 0 votes of 570 roll calls
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)
Missed 14 votes of 570 roll calls
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)
Missed 10 votes of 570 roll calls
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Dist. 51)
Missed 0 votes of 511 roll calls
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)
Missed 0 votes of 511 roll calls

Saturday, January 13, 2018

58

www.tctimes.com

Carpenters are in the beginning stage of framing a new home on Ponemah Drive in Fenton Township on Thursday, Jan. 11.
HELP WANTED TO FIND
A LARGE 8 PT. & 11 PT. WHITETAIL
DEER MOUNTS
My home in Lake Orion was broken into in the 80’s by a man and woman
who we believe lived in Holly, MI. Any leads would be appreciated.
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Fenton, MI 48430

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Powerpoint and database
applications. Must be
organized, task oriented and
friendly. Part-time position,
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Please send your resume to admin@allor.com

REVIEW THE CLASSIFIEDS
AND ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS TODAY!
The Rose Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Township Meeting Hall at Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Thursday, February 1, 2018. The Planning Commission meeting starts at 7:00 PM. The estimated time of the “Winery, Small” public hearing is 7:05 PM.

The public hearing is for the purpose of considering amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (Public Act 12 of 2008). The following is a summary of the amendments proposed:

- Section 38.116 to amend the site plan review by adding Section 38-116 for “Hazardous Waste Sites.”

The Ordinance text is available for public inspection at the Township Offices, during regular business hours between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM. Any resident or property owner may participate in the hearing, or submit written comments to the Township prior to Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

For more information, please contact the Zoning Administrator at 248-634-0290.

Debbie Miller, MMC, CMMC
Rose Township, Clerk
248-634-8701
**Service Directory**

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- **Fencing**: Call 810-735-7967 for fence repairs.
- **Handyman Services**: Handyman Mike offers all types of home improvements, repair, and maintenance services. Contact 810-964-9559.
- **Fence Repairs**: Fenton Fence Company at 810-735-7967.
- **Landscaping Services**: For all your landscaping needs, call 810-735-7967.
- **Painting Services**: Contact Cody's Outdoor Painting at 810-625-4034.
- **Founders Heating & Cooling**: Call 810-629-8194 for all your HVAC needs.

### Heating & Cooling
- **First Choice Heating & Cooling**: Call 810-750-8100 for all your heating and cooling needs.
- **Energy Savings with Free Estimates**: Call 810-750-1640 for a free estimate.

### Electrical
- **Lauricella Painting**: Contact 248-210-8392 for all your painting needs.
- **Mariska Hargitay**: Tctimes (810) 750-1640 • (313) 690-9085 Cell.

### Snow Removal/Plowing
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### Notice of Public Hearing

**ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS**

TAKE NOTICE that the Argentine Township Board of Trustees intends to apply to the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF) in 2018 for the following project:

- Development of the Argentine Community Pathway described as approximately 2.1 miles of separated-use trail, from Chestnut Way to Haviland Beach Drive.

The application for said grant will be discussed and public comment can be heard at the regular meeting of the Argentine Township Board of Trustees at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Rd. Linden, MI 48451 on February 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to attend or written comments can be sent to Denise Graves, Clerk 9048 Silver Lake Rd. Linden, MI 48451.

Denise Graves, Argentine Township Clerk
PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
PUBLIC NOTICE OF ADOPTED AND PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

At their meeting of January 8, 2018, the Fenton Township Board took the following actions regarding ordinances:

1. Adopted Ordinance No. 799, a Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-31-400-003 (16362 Linden Road) from R-3 to AG.
2. Conducted the first reading of a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to revise the PUD conditions of a previously approved PUD project on parcel 06-09-300-036, (4486 Lahring Road), to permit both attached and detached single-family residential units.

Complete copies of the adopted and proposed ordinances may be obtained at the office of the Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. The ordinances are also available on Fenton Township’s website at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
JANUARY 8, 2018

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday January 8, 2018 at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan and took the following actions.

1. Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.
2. Supervisor Mathis led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
3. Approved agenda as amended.
4. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of $228,275.48.
5. Conducted a public hearing on, and first reading of, a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to revise the PUD conditions of a previously approved PUD project on parcel 06-09-300-036, (4486 Lahring Road), to permit both attached and detached single-family residential units.
6. Received the 2017 4th quarter and annual fire department reports from Fire Chief Ryan Voiz.
7. Received the 2017 4th quarter report from Ordinance Enforcement Officer Patrick Shaw.
8. Adopted Ordinance No. 799, a Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-31-400-003 (16362 Linden Road) from R-3 to AG.
9. Debated a motion to approve a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-23-530-026 (14090 Swanee Beach Drive) from R-3 to AG, with conditions.
10. Accepted the donation of three shipping containers from TIDI Products, LLC to be used by the Fenton Township Fire Department.
12. Scheduled a public hearing for January 22, 2018 to obtain citizen input regarding potential local road improvement projects for 2018.
13. Approved a counter-offer to an offer to purchase tax-reverted property from Fenton Township.
14. Adjourned at 9:00 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

Sunday Sudoku
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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Sunday Crossword
PUZZLE CLUE:
FRATERNITY CHARACTERS

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JoAnn Allor

Phyllis Drewett

Hugh Bolt

Burnell Jenkins

Stephen “Steve” Woodrow Long
1940-2017
Stephen “Steve” Woodrow Long - age 77, of Holly passed away peacefully December 26, 2017. Steve was born in New Madrid, MO on October 28, 1940. Steve was a meat cutter for 55 plus years, he found his passion working for local farmers processing beef, chicken, lamb, pork, or any other needs that the farmers requested. He also was well known in the community for processing deer during hunting season. Steve moved on and worked at major grocery retailers such as Holly Family Butcher Shop, Hamady Brothers, Kessel, and Kroger where he retired from with customer service awards. He was also well known for his famous Christmas sausage mild or spicy that he shared with family and friends. Steve is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Kathryn L. (Rhoads) Long and survived by five children: Thomas (Cheryl) Long, Sandra (Mark) Matheson, Dennis (Linda) Long, Shelley (Paul) Kruger, and Chris Long. Steve is also survived by 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Steve was the loving brother of Jimmie (the late Marilyn) Long, Virgil (Betty) Long, Sharon (James) Red, Pamela (Paul) Liscom, and the late Lloyd (Linda) Long. He was preceded in death by his mother, Virginia and father, Woodrow Long. We will celebrate Steve’s life on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 2 PM at Holly Baptist Church, 5030 N. Holly Rd. Holly, MI. Reception to follow.

Susan Ellen Smith

Carol S. Pedrosa

Marcella V. Kanitz

Pamela M. Perry

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How to maintain a saltwater aquarium

The intense colors and beauty of saltwater marine life compels many people to consider setting up saltwater aquariums in their homes or places of business. Many people find maintaining aquariums to be a rewarding hobby that provides a way to relax and show one’s appreciation for marine life. And while modern technology has revolutionized the way freshwater saltwater aquariums are kept, maintaining them can still be time-consuming and require consistent care so that delicate marine life can thrive. Saltwater fish are native to vast ocean environments, which can make it challenging to replicate the same conditions in a tank - more so than with freshwater aquariums. But there are ways to maintain such environments and reap the rewards of such maintenance.

MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT SCHEDULE

According to saltwater aquarium expert Timothy Hovancik, Ph.D., proprietor of Dr. Tim’s Aquatics, putting off the work in a saltwater aquarium will cause fish to suffer and die sooner than procrastinating with regard to maintaining freshwater tanks. That’s because saltwater environments in nature do not change much in terms of salt concentration, pH, temperature, or other chemical composition. Saltwater fish are less capable of adapting than freshwater fish, unless they can swim away to another environment that is more conducive. That isn’t possible in a contained environment.

EXPERT ADVICE

It’s a good idea to consult with a saltwater fish expert and read as much as possible on the subject prior to purchasing any equipment. The For Dummies resource says that testing for saltwater aquariums is essential and fish-only or reef tanks may require different pH and chemical testing. An expert can also help prospective owners choose the right fish so that habitats will be successful.

PATIENCE NEEDED

It can take weeks to months to properly set up saltwater aquariums. That’s because, even after the hardware and mechanisms are in place, the aquarium needs to stabilize. Allow time for helpful bacteria growth and to ensure correct ammonia levels and salinity. Plants and natural coral can offer natural filtration in addition to mechanical filters. Fish should be added gradually so they can acclimate to the environment and contribute to the overall balance in the aquarium.

LARGER SIZE

Saltwater aquariums are generally larger than freshwater ones in order to have the best chances at maintaining proper temperature and chemistry over time. Also, many saltwater fish tend to be larger than their freshwater cousins. Naturally, a larger aquarium comes with increased cost and upkeep, which may deter some people.

Saltwater aquariums can be beautiful additions to homes. But such additions require daily care so they can remain healthy environments for marine life.
There are many terms used to describe spinal disc pathology and associated pain, such as “herniated disc,” “pinched nerve,” and “bulging disc,” and all are used differently and, at times, interchangeably. Unfortunately, healthcare professionals do not agree on a precise definition of any of these terms, and patients may be frustrated when they hear their diagnosis referred to in different terms. The unusually wide range of terms used to describe spinal disc problems (such as ruptured disc, torn disc, slipped disc, collapsed disc, disc protrusion, disc disease, and black disc) can add to the confusion.

Regardless of what type of issue you are experiencing, there is one thing you need to know. You have options when it comes to being properly diagnosed and getting the appropriate care to heal from almost all back and neck dis-ease. Surgery should always be your last resort because it is the one option that can not be undone. Let’s first go through some of the Myths and Facts when it comes to disc and nerve issues in the spinal column and then we can go through some treatment options you have to choose from.

Herniated Discs, Bulging Discs and Pinched Nerves all affect the nervous system. Unfortunately, its not just about pain and other symptoms. To effectively resolve Disc issues and avoid future surgery, it’s not just about pain and other symptoms. The ability to control the bowels, bladder and sexual potency along with a slew of other organ issues- leading to embarrassing situations and long term health concerns.

Facts when it comes to disc and nerve issues in the spinal column and then we can go through some treatment options you have to choose from.

MYTH: Back pain and discomfort stemming from Disc & Nerve Problems will just “go away” with some rest.
FACT: When dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, seek help from a Spinal Bone and DISC specialist immediately. Left untreated, misaligned spinal bones and DISC problems can get worse.

MYTH: Pain is the Only problem associated with a Bulging Disc, Herniated Disc or Pinched Nerve.
FACT: In severe cases, this problem can lead to the inability to control the bowels, bladder and sexual potency along with a slew of other organ issues—leading to embarrassing situations and long term health concerns.

Facts when it comes to disc and nerve issues in the spinal column and then we can go through some treatment options you have to choose from.

MYTH: Pain medications can help with problems associated with DISCs. Pinched Nerves and Bones that are shifting out of their proper position.
FACT: Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, pain killing injections, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications can cover up and mask your symptoms but they will not cure bulging spinal DISCs, herniated spinal DISCs or pinched nerves.

MYTH: Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to let the Bulging DISC recover.
FACT: Staying active can help to relieve the pain and prevent the pain from getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

MYTH: Surgery is required to fix a Bulging DISC. Herniated DISC or remove pressure from a nerve due to a spinal bone shift.
FACT: NO! There’s been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of Bulging DISCs, Herniated DISCs, Pinched Nerves and Spinal Misalignments and Curvatures of the spine. It’s a new corrective procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. Success rates are up to 88%.

MYTH: “There’s nothing anyone can really do. I’m just stuck with this for the rest of my life.”
FACT: With the correct treatment from a healthcare professional who specializes in corrective care of the spine, you can find relief from the core cause and the symptoms.

MYTH: Getting a Bulging DISC properly diagnosed is expensive.
FACT: Not true. Dr. James Ide of Painless Chiropractic of Fenton MI specializes in motion study x-rays to properly diagnose using X-Ray analysis, the root cause of your symptoms and utilizes a custom treatment protocol, referred to as Non-Surgical Reconstructive Spinal Care to treat and correct the underlying issue. They accept insurance and have many options to help people with special financial needs.

Dr. Ide described his office as “Not your average Chiropractic office”, he said they focus on rapid corrective care and though they love having life time patients, “our goal is to set up a plan to correct the underlying issue so the same problem doesn’t keep coming up, then we teach the patient proper spinal hygiene that they can do at home with periodic visits to a chiropractic office for traditional chiropractic care”. “It’s like Spinal Care Boot Camp, you go all in and work hard and the efforts pay off, at that point they can do their traditional care at our office or someplace closer to their home”. When asked what options people have when it comes to seeking relief from their back pain associated with a Bulging Disc, Herniated Disc, Pinched Nerve or Shifting of the Spinal Bones, Dr. Ide said “Well there are really only two options, you can fix the problem or you can mask it. Pain pills mask the pain. Injections are really just a pain pill, in an injectable form but less harmful. The issue with masking the pain is that you can further injure yourself and you put off dealing with the problem, leading to further problems. Surgery doesn’t always work and it limits your options cause it cannot be undone so it should always be a last resort. Physical therapy alone usually gets things moving and many times helps people feel better but a few weeks or months after their program is finished, may people experience the same problem again”. He said at his office they work to correct the issue and the way that each patients program is set up, is based on their particular problem area but they see great success and have helped many local Genesee County residence avoid surgery and get their lives back.

Catherine B. of Fenton said “My daughter has had back problems ever since she was 10 or 11 and I have taken her to specialists. I learned more at Painless Chiropractic than I was taught by other specialists that I did in 4 years from the other specialists that I took her to. I too have signed up as well as my daughter and I’m getting great results. Thank you so much”.

If you are interested in having your back or neck issues properly diagnosed and corrected Dr. James Ide’s office is located in Fenton MI directly off of US-23 at 2803 W. Silver Lake Rd. at the light on Fenway in the Classic Corners Plaza, by Nutrition Weeks Vitamin Shop and the Mug and Brush Barber Shop. Their phone number is 810-771-0222.

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Dr. Ide has agreed to offer the Times readers a special offer to enable them to take action and live healthier and happier in 2018. Call now and mention the above code and the office will reduce their normal fee of $195 for a consultation and full exam to just $27. If you feel that your injury is something that can be helped they will move further into the process. Furthermore, they do accept insurance and at the time of your consultation and exam, if you are a candidate for care they have assured us they are happy to do a complete and complimentary benefit check to inform you of what options you have and what insurance coverage will do for you. Call them now and get a full and thorough examination and consultation and save $168. For obvious reasons they can’t help everyone so they have asked us to please share with you this. "If you are not serious about taking action and taking control of your health please reserve your call for a point in your life when you are. “We love helping people reach their health goals but unfortunately you can not want a better life for someone more than they want it for themselves” Dr. Ide said. Don’t hesitate, call now and don’t forget to mention the code TIMES2018. 810-771-0222. The office is very busy so if you reach the answering machine, please feel free to leave a message to hold your space, this offer is limited to the first 18 people who call.