Bars, restaurants close dine-in services

■ COVID-19 outbreak leads to restricted restaurant services; closings for gyms, fitness centers and more

By Hannah Ball

Starting on Monday, March 16 at 3 p.m., all dine-in services at bars and restaurants in Michigan were shut down, following an executive order signed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, due to the coronavirus outbreak. Takeout and delivery services are still allowed.

This restriction is in effect until March 30.

So far, Michigan has 65 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Experts have recommended social distancing, which entails staying at home as much as possible to slow the spread of the virus.

Mark Hamel, co-owner of The Laundry,

See **DINE-IN CLOSURE** *on 2*

"I'm really scared for my employees who depend on this income."

Jason Warda

The Barn, Fenton Pub, Ponemah Lakeside Lodge owner

Jason Warda. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

PAGE 3

LOCAL COUPLE HAS 907TH MADE CORVETTE

Midweek Times

VOL. 27 NO. XI WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020 $1.00

Fenton declares state of emergency over virus

■ Municipal offices closed, meetings canceled, parks closed and more

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn declared a state of emergency within the city of Fenton due to COVID-19 concerns, according to a press

See **COVID-19** *on 6*

Fenton woman killed, child injured in crash

■ Medical emergency prior to rollover could be cause

By Sharon Stone

A 61-year-old Fenton City woman was killed and an 11-year-old girl was in-

See **CRASH** *on 5*

Feeding our children during a crisis — Revive Sips & Sweets owner Liz Scott (red sweatshirt) works with volunteers to provide sack lunches to Holly kids on Monday, March 16. Businesses and schools have worked to provide lunches to children in need during the school shut down. **See story on page 8** **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

Area children to get free meals

■ Holly Area Schools teams with Chartwells; recipients need not be enrolled in Holly schools

Compiled By Vera Hogan

Holly Area Schools in partnership with Chartwells School Dining is offering free breakfast

See **FREE MEALS** *on 8*

Price gouging is a crime

■ Whitmer signs order enhancing gouging restrictions during COVID-19 state of emergency

By Vera Hogan

On Sunday, March 15, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an executive order temporarily

See **PRICE GOUGING** *on 10*

"It is great how our local restaurants are stepping up to help feed our kids who rely on the breakfasts and lunches that they get free or at a reduced price while at school. I love this community."

"Vera Hogan is awesome. Best advice ever: 'Stop the madness' and 'everyone calm down.' Thanks, Vera."

"Please pray for guidance for all of our elected officials and please keep all our first responders safe."

DINE-IN CLOSURE

Continued from Front Page

CRUST and El Topo in downtown Fenton, said, "It's absolutely devastating for our industry. We're shutting down our dining. We're still staying open for takeout and to-go orders."

Starting Tuesday, March 17, Hamel said they're looking at a potential reduced menu.

"We are focused on resources for our employees as far as what is out there for them," he said. "The average person cannot survive two weeks without a paycheck. We set up a human resources department just to answer questions and to point them in the right direction. It's really hard to navigate."

Monday afternoon, The Laundry dining room was shut down. The dining rooms of CRUST- a baking company and El Topo will follow at 3 p.m.

"We're trying to keep as many people as possible employed but on the other hand, we have to be realistic about making sure we're still around when the ban is lifted," he said. "It's very somber, particularly for the servers who rely heavily on tips. It's not like you can run out real quick and get a temporary job or even switch careers. They're just not hiring right now. It's the great unknown."

Hamel said the public can help by continuing to order takeout.

"Call your local representatives and tell them that we need assistance from the government. Call your congressman and let them know," he said.

Jason Warda, owner of The Barn, the Fenton Pub and Ponemah Lakeside Lodge, said he was worried when other states announced the same change.

"I'm really scared for my employees who depend on this income. The announcement was until March 30. That's two weeks without pay. That could be crippling for a lot of them," he said.

Warda said he will probably keep Ponemah Lakeside Lodge and the Fenton Pub closed. The Barn will have takeout options, along with a limited menu and hours. They might try some delivery options as well.

"But the business model is based on alcohol sales and without that, it's pretty tough to make ends meet," he said.

His employees are "terrified."

"A handful of them came up here today because they're scared and they don't know what to do," he said. "These are going to be hard times for everyone."

Under Executive Order 2020-9, effective Monday, March 16 at 3 p.m., the following places of public accommodation will be closed; restaurants, cafés, coffee houses, bars, taverns, brewpubs, distilleries, clubs, movie theaters, indoor and outdoor performance venues, gymnasiums, fitness centers, recreation centers, indoor sports facilities, indoor exercise facilities, exercise studios, spas, and casinos.

These restrictions do not apply to the following locations: office buildings, grocery stores, markets, food pantries, pharmacies, tribal casinos, drug stores, and providers of medical equipment and supplies, health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities, warehouse and distribution centers, and industrial and manufacturing facilities.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

DECEASED MAN FOUND IN FENTON HOME

Fenton police responded to a home on Main Street at approximately 9:20 p.m., Sunday March 15, to conduct a welfare check on a 59-year-old man, at the request of his wife who had received a message from him. Upon police arrival, they observed a male inside the home who walked out of view. Police heard one gun shot. As a precaution, the Michigan State Police bomb squad was called and the surrounding area was blocked off. Once the bomb squad's robot was in position, it broke a window to provide visual inspection of inside home. One deceased male was found inside the home. The Genesee County Medical Examiner's Office was called. Fenton police cleared the scene at approximately 6 a.m.

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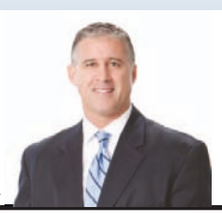

MATTHEW J. ABRAHAM, ESQ.

To Our Clients, Colleagues, Neighbors, and Friends:

Abraham Law is closely following the developments with the global COVID-19 pandemic and we are continuing to take measures to protect the health and safety of our personnel, clients, and all of our families. As with you, the situation is forcing us to change the ways we do business, but our commitment and ability to provide outstanding client service remains unchanged.

Rest assured that none of our operations have been interrupted, and we have taken measures focused on maintaining a healthy workplace and business continuity. Presently we have undertaken the following:

- We have implemented protocols and equipped lawyers and staff to work remotely with full access to firm files and resources, while still ensuring privacy and data safeguards.
- We have scheduled personnel into divided groups who will work physically in our offices on alternate days.
- When reasonable, we are restricting communication with clients to email, telephone, and videoconferencing instead of in-person meetings.
- We have canceled all non-essential business travel for our personnel.
- We continue to monitor updates from the Centers for Disease Control, the federal government, and state agencies in Michigan.
- We are scheduling in-person meetings by appointment only.
- We are requesting clients and personnel not come to our offices if they do not feel well or experience any flu-like symptoms.

Despite this unprecedented pandemic and the actions and safeguards it demands, we will continue to be responsive, minimize disruptions, and accommodate the protocols of our clients, colleagues, and local community.

If Abraham Law is currently handling a matter for you, please contact our office. If you are not yet a client and are in need of legal assistance, please contact us and we will be happy to help any way we can.

Please stay safe, and we will continue to provide updates as things change. We will continue to post updates and resources via our website at www.AbrahamPC.com.

Sincerely,
Matthew J. Abraham, Esq.
Attorney and Counselor
www.AbrahamPC.com
810.750.0440

Local couple has 907th made Corvette — likely first in area

Vic Canever sells new, high demand mid-engine sports car

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — When Robert and Cathy Burgess of Tyrone Township took delivery of their 2020 "torch red" Corvette Stingray on Wednesday, they were a little awestruck.

It arrived wrapped for shipping at Vic Canever Chevrolet and this was their first time seeing it in full blazing glory.

This mid engine Corvette is also likely the first sold in the area, and is only the 907th built in the country, according to the vehicle identification number (VIN). "Mid engine" means the engine sits in a compartment behind the passenger seats, not under the hood in front.

This is the couple's fifth Corvette, but their first mid engine Corvette. The news of this car's development prompted the sale of their 2014 model.

"It's been a long, long, long wait, and this is the very first one, actually," said Larry Lewis, Vic Canever sales representative, referring to the long talk of reconfiguring the iconic Corvette into a mid engine car, which he said was just released. He said there are a lot of people waiting to get their hands on such a car. The Burgesses credit Lewis with making the sale happen.

See **CORVETTE** *on 5*

Robert Burgess of Tyrone Township takes the first look at his new 2020 Corvette Stingray, parked at Vic Canever Chevrolet, Wednesday, March 11. It's within the first 1,000 made. **Photos: Tim Jagielo**

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Sharin' the spotlight

Supporting each other in challenging times

By Editor Sharon Stone

Social distancing. Wash your hands. Cough into your elbow. Push open doors with elbows. Don't touch your face. Stay home. Call your doctor first before going to an emergency room if you feel sick. Use sanitizing wipes. Spray handles often with Lysol.

Sharon Stone

All of these strongly advised suggestions are enough to rattle the nerves of just about anyone.

My concern goes out to every small business owner and their employees. My thoughts also are with every first responder, nurse, doctor, lab technician and firefighter who are all working through their own fears and taking extra precautions to provide necessary services to the community.

As an employee at a local news outlet as well as a small business owner here in town, I can tell you that we all need to take a deep breath, preferably outside in the sunshine, and stay level headed. We need to support each other. We also need to monitor our elderly loved ones.

These next few weeks will challenge us all. Some of us will continue making deliveries, or working at the office while others are forced to work remotely. Some people will be laid off.

Our first responders and everyone in the medical field are rising to the challenge even though they don't know what they are walking into when they respond to a 911 call. These heroes don't know for sure how ill a person is or whether they might be exposed to the COVID-19 virus.

I'd like to acknowledge all the school leaders and day care center owners who have had to make difficult decisions on whether to stay open or close. I'm confident they did what they had to do to protect the children and their families. What a horrible situation to be in.

To all of the parents of school age kids. Hang in there. Reading books, coloring, making blanket forts, running around in the backyard, shooting baskets in the driveway, playing board games, completing textbook assignments from their teachers could be just what the doctor ordered.

To show how optimistic I am, I have not canceled my spring break plans yet.

Sharon Stone is the editor of the Tri-County Times. To contact her, email her at sstone@tctimes.com or call her at (810) 433-6786.

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All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

YOU DON'T LIKE Joe? Joe has never been accused of disrespecting a woman in a dressing room. So you think Joe would make Obama vice president? That's ignorant.

■■■

TRUMP DISBANDED THE Governments Pandemic Response Unit in 2018 and he now blames others for the slow response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

■■■

IF YOU WANT to get accurate information on the COVID-19 virus, go to the CDC website.

■■■

AS OF DEC. 17, 2019, the age to purchase tobacco went from 18 to 21. It is now the law nationwide. Don't know where people are getting their information that it's still 18 but it's not.

■■■

BORDERS MATTER.

■■■

IT'S AS IF we don't get enough poison on our food (herbicides and pesticides), now they want us to put poison on our doorknobs, light switches, and phones.

■■■

MOTT BOND PASSES. Frightening to know there are so many dopes in my locale.

■■■

street talk

What was your reaction when the winter and spring sports seasons were suspended until April 5?

Compiled by David Troppens, sports editor

"I was obviously shocked. It's unprecedented and I feel really bad for our seniors. It looks like it may be a necessary thing we have to do. It's better to be safe than sorry."

Kurt Herbstreit
Fenton varsity boys golf coach

"I certainly believe that it is necessary to stop this virus and keep it from becoming unmanageable. In part, I'm happy to do what we have to do to stop it."

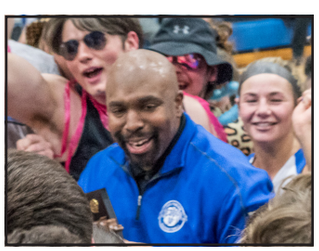
Amos Rinks
Lake Fenton varsity softball coach

"As coaches, the safety of our athletes comes first. We understand the reason behind it, but it's unfortunate because our swimmers missed out on the state finals."

Brad Jones
Fenton varsity boys swim coach

"It's a bunch of different reactions. It's confusion. It's shock. It's sadness. It's frustration."

Chris Root
Linden varsity boys basketball coach



"It's disappointing because we've advanced to a certain point and now you wonder how far this could've gone."

Brian VanBuren
Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach

MCC moves to online course delivery through April 5

Mott Community College (MCC) will close all College sites to the public from Saturday, March 14 through Sunday, April 5. The MCC Board of Trustees meetings and the Board Committee meetings will take place and are open to the public for college business continuity purposes.

There will be no face-to-face classes from Saturday, March 14 through Sunday, April 5. There will be no on-campus food service offered during these three weeks.

During the week of March 16 – 22, college faculty, staff and students will prepare for tele-work and tele-learning. Extensive training opportunities will be offered on campus and online for using the new learning management system Canvas, Zoom videoconferencing and other technology products. The dates and times will be listed on the MCC COVID-19 information webpage at mcc.edu/Coronavirus.

Additionally, MCC is canceling all non-essential events and gatherings regardless of their size at this time through the end of April. Events related directly to spring 2020 graduation are still considered to be scheduled (not yet canceled), but are being assessed daily for their feasibility. Students, faculty and staff should continue to monitor their MCC email and for all updates. The public is encouraged to visit mcc.edu/coronavirus for the most recent notifications about MCC operations.

Jason Wilson, vice president of Student Success Services, and Dr. Russell L Bush are the College's liaisons to the Genesee County Health Department. They will ensure they follow CDC guidance for higher education institutions and coordinate appropriately with local and state health officials.

MCC encourages the campus community to remain home if they are sick and follow CDC-recommended protocols to avoid contracting the coronavirus.

College leadership will continue to monitor and assess the situation. Because the situation continues to be fluid and changes rapidly, plans may be altered daily. Please review frequently the MCC COVID-19 Information webpage to gather the latest information about MCC operations.

CRASH

Continued from Front Page

jured in an automobile crash at 6:20 p.m. on Monday, March 16 in Hartland Township.

Deputies with the Livingston County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a single vehicle rollover fatal crash on northbound U.S. 23 south of Highland Road in Hartland Township.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that the woman was driving a 2004 Honda northbound on U.S 23. The vehicle left the roadway, struck a tree and overturned. She was pronounced dead at the scene by Livingston County Ambulance.

The vehicle was also occupied by an 11-year-old passenger from Fenton. She was transported to U of M Hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Alcohol and speed do not appear to be a factor in the crash. The driver was wearing her seatbelt and appears to have suffered a medical emergency prior to the crash.

Deputies were assisted on the scene by Hartland Area Fire Department, Livingston County Ambulance, and Michigan State Police. This incident remains under investigation by the Livingston County Sheriff's Office Major Crash Team.

CORVETTE

Continued from Page 3

According to Car and Driver, a mid engine configuration improves acceleration, braking and handling. This is the first mid engine Corvette ever, since its first run in 1953. Other mid engine manufacturers include Ferrari, Lamborghini and Audi. Ford's GT is mid engine also.

Car facts:

8 speed automatic, dual clutch
6.2 liter V8, 3LT Z51 package
455 horsepower
Price: Starts at $58,900

(From left) Cathy Burgess, Manager Jeff Canever, Robert Burgess and sales rep Larry Lewis check out the Burgess' new Corvette. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

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COVID-19

Continued from Front Page

release on Tuesday, March 16.

This declaration follows the national, state and county announcements, and it will make the city eligible for state, federal and county resources to respond as the city continues to address changing conditions.

The city has no confirmed cases of coronavirus. Osborn said, "This is a serious situation and a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens in our community. While it is important not to panic, it is time to be prepared to take actions for the safeguard of our community and to make sure that the delivery of essential public services is not disrupted."

Fenton City Hall is closed to the public until further notice. Alternative means for providing documents and paying bills will be posted to the city's website, cityoffenton.org.

To read the full state of emergency language, go to myfenton.com. Many local municipal offices are closed in response to COVID-19.

The government offices of Linden, Fenton, Fenton Township, and Argentine Township are closed to the public in an effort to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Fenton Township

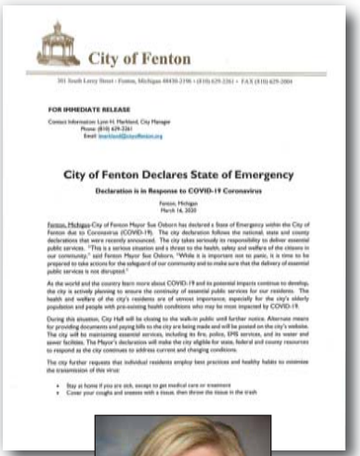
The Monday, March 16 Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting is canceled.

On Monday, March 16, Thomas Broecker, operations manager/deputy clerk, of Fenton Township released the following statement:

"In a proactive effort to prevent or slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and in response to Governor Whitmer's Emergency Declaration, beginning at 12 p.m., Monday, March 16, 2020, and until further notice, the Fenton Township Office will be closed to the public. The Township's office staff will continue to work, providing service to the public through alternate means.

In general, the payment of bills or the submission of forms and documents may be accomplished via U.S. Mail or by use of the drop-box next to the township office entrance. Some information may be submitted via email (info@fentontownship.org), or fax (810-629-9736)."

Detailed procedures for the alternate methods of providing service can be found at fentontownship.gov. For all other inquiries or questions, call the Fenton Township office at (810) 629-1537 during regular business hours, Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.



City of Fenton

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information: Lynn H. Markland, City Manager
Phone: (810) 629-2261
Email: lmarkland@cityoffenton.org

City of Fenton Declares State of Emergency

Declaration is in Response to COVID-19 Coronavirus

Fenton, Michigan
March 16, 2020

Fenton, Michigan-City of Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn has declared a State of Emergency within the City of Fenton due to Coronavirus (COVID-19). The city declaration follows the national, state and county declarations that were recently announced. The city takes seriously its responsibility to deliver essential public services. "This is a serious situation and a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens in our community," said Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn. "While it is important not to panic, it is time to be prepared to take actions for the safeguard of our community and to make sure that the delivery of essential public services is not disrupted."

As the world and the country learn more about COVID-19 and its potential impacts continue to develop, the city is actively planning to ensure the continuity of essential public services for our residents. The health and welfare of the city's residents are of utmost importance, especially for the city's elderly population and people with pre-existing health conditions who may be most impacted by COVID-19.

During this situation, City Hall will be closing to the walk-in public until further notice. Alternate means for providing documents and paying bills via the city are being made and will be posted on the city's website. The city will be maintaining essential services, including its fire, police, EMS services, and its water and sewer facilities. The Mayor's declaration will make the city eligible for state, federal and county resources to respond as the city continues to address current and changing conditions.

The city further requests that individual residents employ best practices and healthy habits to minimize the transmission of this virus:

- Stay at home if you are sick, except to get medical care or treatment
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash

Linden

Mayor Danielle Cusson has been in contact with their city manager, Ellen Glass, as well as Police Chief Scott Sutter and Fire Chief Brian Will to discuss operations of city business.

Sue Osborn

On Friday, March 13, she released a statement with temporary changes. City hall is closed to the public. All residents needing to visit city hall are asked to make an appointment by calling (810) 735-7980 or via email at clerk@lindenmi.us.

All city facilities and parks will be closed to the public until further notice, including Eagle's Wooden Park and the Mill building, which includes the library and museum. For utility bill payments, use the silver box located behind city hall or pay by phone (888) 891-6064, option 1, U.S. Mail, or online.

"The Clerk's Office is requesting the use of the drop-box or U.S. Mail for returning Absentee Voter Applications," according to the press release. "Police and fire operations have developed and continue to create response plans in conjunction with approved Emergency Management Plans and local government and health agencies and will keep the public informed as developments warrant. Department of Public Work has suspended non-emergency appointments but will be responding as always to emergency calls for assistance.

Building and fire permits can be found online, and payments with filled-out permits can be placed in the drop-box.

"Additionally, I have been in contact with the Loose Senior Center, and they have canceled all activities for the weekend. They are limiting their activities with bare essential appointments and will have lunch on Monday. The Loose Senior Center is not able to completely close unless the county directs it to close," she said.

"I encourage people to follow the recommendations put out to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and be patient as we move forward in these uncertain times. I would also like people to check on their neighbors to see if they can help. Parents will need to help their children with schoolwork and may need childcare assistance.

"Elderly and other vulnerable members of the community may need extra help as well. I encourage Linden to continue to Pay it Forward and help each other through this difficult time," she said.

Argentine Township

Supervisor Brian Saad said the municipal offices are open, but the doors are locked. People can drop things off through the slot in the door.

"As long as someone isn't showing signs of sickness, they can come in," he said.

They plan to open as long as they can.

"Scientists are saying people already have it and don't know it. For the older people, it's a big deal. This is a real serious thing," he said. "We'll take a deep breath and we'll get through it."

Saad has been in contact with the senior care homes.

Holly Village

Village President Tom McKenney said, "The Village has received communication and protocols from the State of Michigan and Oakland County. The Village is communicating with Holly Area Schools. I have been advised by senior living facilities that visits to those facilities are restricted to emergencies.

"Our residents should know that our police, fire and public works departments are on duty cooperating with, and following the protocols promulgated by the state and county. It is a good time to listen to, and heed the advice from our public health experts," he said.

Spring arrives Thursday

■ First day of spring leaps forward to March 19 because of Leap Year

By Sally Rummel

Spring has almost sprung, arriving this Thursday, March 19 at 11:50 p.m., EDT for those of us living in the Northern Hemisphere.

If this date sounds early, it's not your imagination. This year, the March 19 equinox is happening in all U.S. time zones, the earliest date of spring's arrival since 1896.

According to almanac.com, spring always falls on March 19, 20 or 21, and this year's early arrival is because of Leap Year 2020.

The word "equinox" comes from the Latin words for "equal night." The vernal equinox in March marks the moment the Sun crosses the celestial equator — an imaginary line in the sky above the equator.

If you were standing on the equator, the Sun would pass directly overhead on its way north. On this date, the length of day and night is nearly equal in all parts of the world. The amount of sunlight will increase incrementally until the first day of summer, on Saturday, June 20.

Equinoxes are the only two times a year that the Sun rises due east and sets due west for everyone on Earth. After the spring equinox, the Northern Hemisphere tilts toward the Sun, resulting in longer, sunnier days.

While there's hope for sunnier days ahead, don't look for the sun to come out much on our first spring day this Thursday.

Spring 2020 forecast from JR Kirtek, ABC-TV12 chief meteorologist:

Likely overall temperatures this spring will continue to run at above-average levels, but probably a little closer to where readings should be.

The latest 90-day outlook is also calling for precipitation to run a little above the average. That, of course, isn't what most people are hoping for — especially those living near the Great Lakes. Also, keep in mind for the late spring and summer, that most rainfall is dictated by thunderstorm activity. Typically, thunderstorms can produce heavy rain, but on a more scattered basis.

The weather forecast is for up to a half-inch of rain beginning in mid-afternoon through the evening hours, according to wunderground.com. Temperatures are more spring-like, however. Forecast is for a high of 56 degrees F and a low of 55.

Linden logo contest open until March 31

■ Design will help celebrate Linden's sesquicentennial; winner will receive $150

By Hannah Ball

For Linden's 150th birthday in 2021, city volunteers are planning a celebration and the first thing needed is a logo.

The deadline to enter the logo contest is March 31. The contest is open to everyone — not just Linden students and residents. Guidelines state the logo should be a "unique representation of Linden… Be creative. Don't limit yourself."

Volunteers encourage participants to draw from Linden's historic background, and it must include "150th." See application online at myfenton.com.

The winner will receive a $150 gift card. Submissions are due March 31. Entries can be addressed to "Happening in Linden" P.O. Box 565 Linden, MI 48451 or can be dropped at Linden City Hall.

Mark McCabe
67th District Court
Ask the judge

The Standardized Field Sobriety Test

Typically, when a traffic stop is made of a suspected intoxicated driver, the police officer will request that they comply with a number of requests not the least of which is to take three tests, which are collectively referred to as the Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST).

This is to preliminarily assess their level of intoxication from alcohol, drugs or another substance.

These consist of the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), the walk and turn, and the one leg stand.

Observations are made by the officer of the subject when these tests are performed to determine how well they did and whether further testing is required.

The following is an excellent summary of the SFST by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

HGN — When a person is impaired they will have trouble tracking a moving object and/or exhibit involuntary jerking of their eyes as they gaze to the side. This test has the officer observe the eyes of the subject as they follow a slowly moving object horizontally which is usually a pen or a small flashlight. If the eye can't follow the object or if there is sustained jerking, it is an indication of either alcohol or drug consumption.

Walk and Turn — The subject is directed to take nine steps, touching heel to toe along a straight line, turn on one foot and return in the same fashion. The officer is looking for eight signs of impairment: balance while listening to the instructions, beginning before the instructions are complete, stopping to regain balance, not walking heel to toe, using arms for balance, stepping off the line, incorrect number of steps, and improper turn.

One Leg Stand — This test requires the subject to stand on one leg and count until told to put their foot down. Here the officer looks for swaying while balancing, using arms for balance, stopping to maintain balance and putting the foot down too soon.

If a driver does not do well on the SFST and subsequent preliminary breath test, an arrest is normally made. However there are police officers who have specialized training in determining if a driver has drugs in their system and an additional evaluation may be made.

Next week — Drug Recognition Experts

In a pandemic, businesses step up for students

■ Free or reduced lunches offered by businesses; schools adapt with free lunch hours

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — In a large side room of Liz Scott's business, long tables are covered with hundreds of pre-packed sack lunches.

A volunteer backs up her SUV and several brown bags are loaded in, bound for children in local manufactured home communities.

Monday, March 16, marked day one of an at least three-week school shut down statewide, due to COVID-19.

When school closures were announced, concerns circulated quickly for children who qualify for free and reduced lunches that they might go hungry without school in session.

According to the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program, 54 percent of Genesee County children qualify. Oakland County has 29 percent and Livingston, 17.

By Monday, local districts had publicized their plans for these students, but this didn't stop local businesses from doing their part also.

Scott owns Revive Sips & Sweets on Saginaw Street. She offered free sack lunches, no questions asked, through a March 13 Facebook post.

"We knew there was enough need for kids on free and reduced lunches," she said. "We figured we would make some sandwiches and get some sack lunches out."

She didn't expect the idea to go viral with 5,600 shares and 209 comments, but with the help of volunteers and donations, they assembled approximately 300 lunches.

Less than an hour in, they gave out 80, and 150 had been distributed to mobile home parks. They have peanut butter and jelly, turkey and cheese, ham and cheese, gluten free and ramen noodles as well.

"We found out our post had gone viral, so our need grew quite a bit, but we've had a lot of donations."

Liz Scott
Revive Sips & Sweets owner

Other businesses offer to help

In light of the need, several businesses in the tri-county area had offered free or reduced lunches. For example, The Barn in Fenton offered free lunches to children before restaurants were ordered closed.

Jersey Mike's in Fenton is offering $2.99 lunch deals for students.

Schools adapt for students

Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS)

FAPS is providing free cold lunch and breakfasts to anyone under age 18. Current available dates are Wednesday

Continued on next page

FREE MEALS

Continued from Front Page

and lunch for all children up to 18 years old and special needs children under age 26.

Free meal distribution began Monday, March 16 and will run through Friday, April 3, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Holly Elementary School, 801 E. Maple St., Holly.

Each bag will contain a breakfast and a lunch. Friday bags will include breakfast and lunch for the weekend.

Children do not need to be present for a parent to pick up their meals and do not need to be enrolled in Holly Area Schools.

Menus will have assorted choices and will include fruit, vegetable and milk.

According to the Holly Police Department, vehicles may pull up to the front door and staff will come out to you for drop-off at your vehicle. Please stay in your vehicle. Additional distribution locations may be added as needed.

For more information, call Joanne Schebil at (248) 328-3033 or Steve Lenar at (248)328- 3151.

Genesee County government closes to public

■ Offices will be closed through April 5

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Genesee County Board of Commissioners Chairman Martin Cousineau, in consultation with all County elected officials, has ordered that all Genesee County buildings will be closed to the public starting March 17, until April 5. This action is being taken as a way to pre-load precautions in an attempt to delay the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

"Consistent with Executive Orders issued by the State of Michigan I believe that this action is necessary in order to help slow the spread of the coronavirus," Cousineau said. "Genesee County has a duty to protect our residents and staff, putting the public in continued close contact with each other, as a result of the design of our older buildings, goes contrary to all guidance being given by national, state and local health authorities."

Genesee County will continue to monitor this constantly changing situation and will adjust policies and responses to current conditions as they are warranted. Essential services, including those impacting public health, safety and delivery of meals, will continue as normal. Individual departmental plans will be made available to the public as changes occur.

"Staying home when sick, practicing appropriate social distancing and diligent hand-washing remain the most effective way to stop the spread of this virus," John McKellar, Genesee County Health Officer said. "We are committed to the health of our residents. Closing our offices to the public is just one step towards ensuring the health of everyone."

Genesee County declared a Local State of Emergency on March 13, in response to the ongoing health threat that the coronavirus poses. The Genesee County Emergency Response Team is meeting daily to address any changes to current conditions. The declaration allows Genesee County to be in a state of preparedness during this process.

"Our residents should not panic," Cousineau said. "Stockpiling toilet paper isn't going to stop you from getting coronavirus. Genesee County has been through hardship before; we'll certainly manage our way through this. I very much appreciate our residents following the recommendations of our Health Department and they should continue to look to them for guidance as we move forward."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IN HER MARCH 12 address, Gov. Whitmer perfectly embodied the evils of big government; 'In an abundance of caution' I order schools closed. Whitmer infantilizes an entire state. You are no longer qualified to make your own decisions. Welcome to Whitmer's nanny-state. Be quiet and do what you're told.

■■■

THANK YOU SPEAKER Pelosi for a bill that makes sense.

■■■

TO 'I'M AT a point in my life.' Amen.

Continued from previous page
through Friday, March 18 to 20, and Monday through Friday, March 23 to 27.

Walk-up distribution is at Fenton elementary schools: Ellen St. Campus (West Street parking lot); North Road Elementary (lot nearest kitchen); State Road Elementary (bus loop doors); Tomek-Eastern Elementary (cafeteria doors).

FAPS also have mobile "grab-and-go" stops via school bus. The following are offered between 11:30 and 11:50 a.m.: Dauner Haus entrance; Fenton Oaks entrance and Georgetown Apartments entrance. The following are between 12:10 and 12:30 p.m.: Fifth Third Bank (Trealout Drive/N. LeRoy Street); Silver Lake Hills; East Bay. If you have trouble making one of these locations, you can call (810) 591-4717.

Linden Community Schools (LCS)

LCS will provide lunches at school buses beginning Tuesday, March 17, through Friday, March 27, (Monday through Friday only) from 11 a.m. To noon. Locations are: Linden Elementary School, 400 S. Bridge St.; Tyrone Woods, 8318 Hogan Rd., Fenton; Pine Ridge, 9348 Silver Lake Rd., Linden.

Those with specific dietary or transportation needs can call the Linden Community Food Service Department at (810) 591-0435.

Holly Area Schools (HAS)

HAS established six locations to provide free breakfast and lunch for all children under 18, and all special needs children under 26. Times vary by location.

Holly Elementary School: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Holly Hills Manufactured Home Community (parking lot by clubhouse): noon to 1 p.m.; Meadow Lake Mobile Home Park (parking lot by clubhouse): noon to 1 p.m.; Groveland Manor (driveway by the pool): 10 a.m. To 11 a.m.; Oakhill Estate (parking lot by the clubhouse): 11 a.m. to noon; Springrove (front entrance): noon to 1 p.m.

Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS)

LFCS is providing free cold lunch and breakfasts to anyone under age 18. Current available dates are Wednesday through Friday, March 18 to 20, and Monday through Friday, March 23 to 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Locations are Lake Fenton Middle School (front doors), and West Shore Elementary (gym doors.)

Meals are also available to mobile locations, via school bus. (These are "grab and go," not to be eaten onsite.) The following locations are from 11:30 to 11:50 a.m.: Lake Ponemah Mobile Home Park (Torrey Beach/Eastview Drive); Lake Fenton Estates (N. Lake Drive/Harbor Rd.) and Lake Park Village.

Distribution at Lake Fenton High School is 12:10 to 12:30 p.m. If anyone has trouble reaching a site, they can call (810) 591-2532.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE FOOL who thinks only parents of school age children should pay taxes for schools. What affect do you think successful and high ranked schools have on your property value? Don't pretend a school district has no impact on you just because you don't have a child in the district.

■■■

VERA HOGAN'S ARTICLE on Sunday made me smile. The 'MacGyver' reference was fantastic. I'm a fan of both the original and reboot series. Thanks for a bright spot in all this COVID-19 chaos.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IT'S SHAMEFUL. THE cashier at a local business asked if I would do him a favor. Then he asked for a cash donation. I won't do business there again.

■■■

THIS INDEPENDENT CONTINUES to receive donation solicitation texts from Republicans. I will take them at face value until a credible source produces evidence showing otherwise.

■■■

SOCIAL SECURITY IS still a socialist Ponzi scheme. The government spends it. Somebody making $50,000 per year for 40 years would save $248,000 with yours and employer's contributions. With 6-pecent interest that IS $770,000, which would give you $30,800 per year at a 4-percent withdrawal rate — $2,566 per month, while it keeps growing.

■■■

HA HA, HA, Biden will restore honor. Thanks for the laugh.

■■■

OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POLICY is correctly designed to favor families over the elderly and single with no children.

■■■

HYSTERIA! THIS IS what it looks like.

■■■

HEY MILLENNIALS, PAY attention. Compare today's 'end of world' apocalyptic predictions against the mundane reality that will return in the near future. The forces driving today's COVID-19 panic are the same that push climate change. Just as COVID-19 hysteria will pass so too shall climate change.

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Our Future

Meet

Rebecca Costigan

- Invoved in NHS, other groups
- Swim and ski team member
- Future engineer

Compiled by Tim Jagielo

Rebecca Costigan, 17, is a Holly High School senior. She lives with parents Jamie and Kristina, and siblings, Lauren, 16 and Nathan, 14. Sister Natalie, 19, attends Grand Valley State University. Rebecca is also interested in skiing, camping, reading and music. She plans to attend Michigan Tech to study engineering.

In what ways do you feel that you've matured over the last year?

I have progressed a lot in the area of decisiveness. Throughout my childhood and teen years, I was very indecisive, but having to make important decisions about my future has helped me to be more confident and know what I want out of life.

Tell me three things you remember from kindergarten.

I remember eating in math. The constant supply of M&M's and Fruit Loops is probably what got me so interested in what is now my favorite subject. I remember when we wrote stories and our teacher had to write what we meant to say underneath so that our parents could read our awful spelling. I remember meeting a girl on the playground and being too scared to talk to her for weeks. She eventually became one of my best friends.

Do you know what a rotary phone is?

Yes, I do, although I never knew it by name until recently. A rotary phone is a phone with a circular dial that you rotate back and forth to dial a person's number. When I was a kid my siblings and I used to have a toy rotary phone, and we would pretend to call people on it.

If you had to give up your cell phone/internet for a weekend but were able to do anything, what would you choose?

If I had to spend a weekend without my phone, I would go camping. I love nature, and I love hiking and traveling.

What superhero power would you like to have?

I would love to have the power to teleport because I hate driving; it just seems like a major waste of time.

What do you love best about nature?

I love how nature is so pure, unaffected by humanity. It reminds me of how I try to be my own person without letting the actions of others affect who I am.

When your parents start a sentence with "When I was your age ..." what are you thinking?

I actually get pretty curious. My mom always says that I am a lot like she was when she was my age, so I like to listen to stories about her childhood.

What do you wish your school would teach that is not currently being taught?

Underwater basket weaving. One of my teachers used to make jokes about this, but I would love to try it.

BEALE ST. SMOKEHOUSE BBQ CUSTOMERS...

BEALE ST. SMOKEHOUSE BBQ

Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ will continue to be open for To-Go orders and will be doing Deliveries during the temporary government shutdown of restaurants and pubs because of coronavirus concerns.

For To-Go or Delivery call us at **810-750-0507**. To see our menu, go to **www.BealeStSmokehouse.com.** There is a nominal fee of $5 for orders delivered within 10 miles of Beale St. Deliveries beyond 10 miles may be higher. Customers can also order deliveries online from **Fenton Food Express at fenton.express** (check their website for applicable fees). Our hope is that everyone stays healthy during this difficult time. Thanks for being a loyal Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ customer!

PRICE GOUGING

Continued from Front Page

enhancing restrictions on the over-pricing of goods, materials, emergency supplies and consumer food items linked to the coronavirus (COVID-19) state of emergency.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel said at a press conference Sunday afternoon that they have gotten numerous complaints about upcharging on supplies like cases of water and bottles of hand sanitizers.

Nessel shared that an Ann Arbor store was allegedly selling bottles of hand sanitizer for $60, $40 and $20 a bottle. In another example, a Farmington Hills retailer increased the price of grocery items like rice and lentil beans by 60 percent. Another retailer was allegedly selling cases of water for $35, and another allegedly separated face masks into individual bags and was selling each individual mask for $6 each.

"Businesses cannot and will not use this state of emergency as a business opportunity," Nessel said. She said as of now, they're deeming anything over a 20-percent mark-up to be grossly excessive — unless the price increase can be attributed to the cost of bringing the product to market.

These enhanced restrictions went into effect Monday, March 16 at 9 a.m., and will remain in place until Monday, April 13 at 11:59 p.m., and are to be punishable with a misdemeanor, for now.

Those who see or have experienced price gouging are encouraged to report it to the attorney general's office. Nessel asks that you take a picture of the product and, if you still plan to make the purchase, save your receipt.

You can make a report by calling the consumers' protection hotline at (877) 765-8388, or file a complaint online at michigan.gov/agcomplaints. People may also file a price-gouging complaint online with the Better Business Bureau of West Michigan (bbb.org/western-michigan/price-gouging). The BBB will will pass it along to the attorney general's office.

The Michigan attorney general's office said it received over 75 complaints of price-gouging on Sunday, March 16.

HMSAA — All athletic activies suspended until at least April 5

By David Troppens

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has halted all prep activities at least through April 5 due to the threat surrounding the coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, Friday.

The new guidelines published on the association's Website today at 2 p.m. fall in line with Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's order that all Michigan schools remain closed for the next three weeks in order to deter the spread of the coronavirus.

All spring athletics activities — including practices, scrimmages, strength training, conditioning and competitions/games — have been suspended. Winter tournaments were suspended on Thursday.

"By suspending all sports activities for the next three weeks, we are taking an additional step to maintain safety and minimize risk first, and also keep a level playing field for our schools and teams during this time of uncertainty," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Sports Times

Lake Fenton's Sydney Hammis (left) is one of the seniors on the Blue Devils' girls basketball team. Lake Fenton is hoping its suspended regional tournament will continue after the MHSAA's April 5 suspension date. **Photo: Mark Bolen**

Suspended events creating mixed feelings for winter teams

By David Troppens

Brenden Miller had a checklist of things he wanted to accomplish this off-season as a senior member of the Linden varsity boys basketball team.

On June 11, the team was one step away from accomplishing one of them.

The Eagles defeated the Holly Bronchos in a thrilling come-from-behind 67-66 victory at Howell High School and were deep in celebration. The victory earned Linden a spot in the Division 1 district title game on Friday against the squad that defeated the Eagles in last year's district championship bout.

"One-hundred percent, that was our main goal," Miller said. "We wanted to get revenge against Howell. We've been living the whole year to get that revenge and to get to that moment."

Even at the end of the game there was a sense of what may be happening. Due to the spread of the coronavirus, the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) was already discussing the possibilities of playing future winter post-season games with a limited audience. But by Thursday afternoon, the MHSAA suspended all winter and spring sporting activities until at least April 5. Of course, it created a bunch of mixed feelings, especially for seniors who were seeing their winter sports careers end without a true ending. Of course, the winter events that have not been played — many girls and boys tournament basketball games, the state gymnastics meets and the state boys swimming and diving meet — could still be rescheduled after April 5, but that seems highly doubtful.

"We ended our season with an 'if' because we don't know what would've happened if we played," Miller said. "We never got our second chance (against Howell)."

See **SHOCK** *on 12*

Sports fans struggle finding live events on television

By David Troppens

With the coronavirus (COVID-19) impacting pretty much every aspect of people's lives, it may have been the sports world that it hit the quickest.

During a period of time when one still could routinely grocery shop, go out to eat for dinner or go to school, it was the world of athletics started seeing cancellations as early as March 11.

On that date, the NBA suspended its season after a player tested positive for COVID-19. The next day, the National Hockey League, Major League Baseball, Major League Soccer, U.S. Soccer and major collegiate sports followed suit. Eventually European soccer leagues followed suit as did the Xtreme Football League.

With all the cancellations, was there anything sports fans could watch live on television last weekend? Believe it or not, there were a few events.

World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) is still going strong, albeit in a rather strange fashion.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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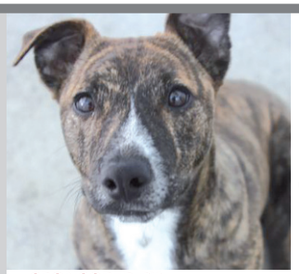

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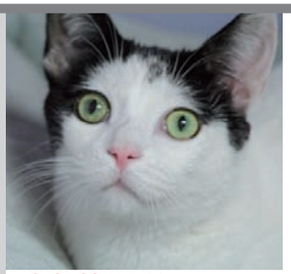

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Holly's Hunter Jackson (right) scored seven points in his last game of his Bronchos' career.

Div 1 District semifinal boys basketball

HOLLY vs. LINDEN

Holly starters	2FG	3FG	FT	Pts
Ben Wilson	1	1	2-3	7
Hunter Jackson	2	0	3-4	7
Dylan Hignite	2	0	1-3	5
Vaughn Peters	1	2	0-0	8
Daniel Mathews	7	2	14-17	34
Bench scorers				
Logan Dzendzel	1	0	0-0	2
Ryan Ortiz	0	1	0-0	3
Totals	14	6	20-27	66

Linden starters	2FG	3FG	FTM	Pts
Eli Beil	3	1	1-3	10
Blake Lund	3	1	9-13	18
Seeger DeGayner	3	0	2-3	8
Brenden Miller	0	0	0-0	0
Reichen Lund	3	3	0-0	15
Bench scorers				
Shane Eberhard	4	0	3-4	11
Gavin Wildeman	0	0	1-2	1
Ryan Gillespie	2	0	0-1	4
Totals	18	5	15-26	67

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Tot (Record)
Holly	23	16	16	11	66 (11-10)
Linden	15	16	21	14	69 (19-2)

Team Shooting: Holly 20-for-45 (44.4%). Linden 23-for-54(42.5%). **Turnovers:** Holly 17, Linden 12. **Technical fouls:** Holly bench. **Biggest leads:** Holly 53, Linden 35, 4:52 left in third quarter; Linden 67, Holly 66, 52.8 seconds left in fourth quarter.
Individual Rebounds: Holly - Andrew Simmons 2, Wilson 4, Dzendzel 1, Jackson 4, Hignite 3, Peters 4, Mathews 7. Linden - Beil 5, Eberhard 1, Wildeman 1, Gillespie 3, B. Lund 7, DeGayner 6, R. Lund 1. **Individual Steals:** Holly - Simmons 1, Wilson 2, Jacob Welch 1, Jackson 1. Linden - Beil 1, Eberhard 1, Wildeman 1, DeGayner 1, Brenden Miller 1.

Linden's Eli Beil (right) scored 10 points and dished at least three assists.

Blake Lund missed the district tournaments due to injury the last two season. Playing in his first district game ever, he ended up leading the Eagles with 18 points. He also scored the game-winning point.

Holly senior Daniel Mathews had a career game in his final contest with the Bronchos, scoring a game-high 34 points. He also grabbed seven rebounds.

Linden's Reichen Lund (right) netted 15 points in the Eagles' victory. He scored 10 of those points in the second half while the Eagles their comeback from being down by as many as 18 points

Photos by Mark Bolen

SHOCK

Continued from Page 10

Linden varsity boys basketball coach Chris Root last saw his team after Wednesday's victory. He never got a chance to see the team before Thursday's news of the suspensions.

"I didn't get a chance to talk to the team and that's part of the huge frustration for me," Root said. "Last time I got a chance to see the guys was Wednesday in the locker room. Since then I've been able to talk to them through texts saying 'Hey, this is the deal' and that's pretty frustrating."

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team was having its best season in 18 years. After winning a regional semifinal contest against Marine City 74-31, the only team keeping the Blue Devils from a regional title was Imlay City, a squad Lake Fenton defeated 59-43 earlier during the season. The Blue Devils would've been a big favorite in the regional contest.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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Choose safe and durable chew toys

Most dogs explore and learn about their world with their noses and mouths. Chewing is a normal part of canine development, and the ASPCA says that dogs will chew in many stages of life.

Young dogs chew to alleviate pain caused by the eruption of adult teeth. Adult dogs chew to keep their jaws strong and their teeth clean. Chewing also can alleviate boredom or tame mild anxiety or frustration. Chewing is a healthy response, but dogs will need to learn which items are appropriate to chew and which ones, such as furniture, are off limits.

To encourage healthy chewing, pet owners should keep plenty of items that are safe to chew around the house. Here are suggestions on picking the best and safest options, courtesy of The Humane Society, Hill's Pet Nutrition and other pet advocacy organizations.

• **Consider age.** A young pup with baby teeth will need soft rubber toys or plush stuffed toys for their delicate teeth. But those same toys can be a hazard when bite strength increases, as parts of the toy can be bitten off and swallowed. As puppies age, their chew toys may need to be replaced with more age-appropriate items.

• **Consider the size of the dog.** A Yorkshire terrier will not have the same bite strength and jaw size as a Labrador retriever. Look for toys that list the breed size or chewing strength on the package.

• **Know your dog's personality.** Is your dog a "gulper" who bites off large chunks of toys and swallows them fast? Does he or she nibble? What about a dog that seems to destroy every toy in a minute? A dog that bites off hunks of toys or tears them to shreds will need something very durable.

• **Assess pet preferences.** Dogs gravitate to the same types of toys again and again. Some dogs like the feel of rope toys, while others may prefer edible toys and bones that simulate the aromas and flavors of real food. Selecting toys that interest the pet can direct its attention away from furniture and shoes.

• **Keep safety in mind.** Chew toys have their pros and cons. For example, a rawhide bone can provide hours of stimulating chew time, but for dogs who break off large pieces, the rawhide may become lodged in the trachea or intestines. Bully sticks, which are popular chews made from bull pizzle, tend to be expensive and are high in calories, so dogs shouldn't eat too many in a short period of time. Rope toys or less durable items may break apart and cause obstruction hazards.

Chew toys provide stimulation, alleviate pain and can even entertain dogs. When using chew toys with dogs, monitor the pet during play and replace the toy if it becomes dangerous.

THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU HAVE LOST OR FOUND A PET...

1. Visit Tri-County Times Lost & Found on Facebook
2. Register with Adopt-A-Pet, 810-629-0723.
3. Call your local vets.
4. Place an ad in the Tri-County Times, 810-433-6787.
5. Check out previous lost and found pets on the classified section of our website at myfenton.com
6. Make posters
7. Visit all local dog pounds and animal shelters

visit myfenton.com

Midweek Sudoku

FUN BY THE NUMBERS
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.

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	2				5		4	
				8				7
	3				7	9		6
1				3		2		
					8			
8	6			2		4		3
	4		8			5	3	
5	9			6				
					4			

Level: Intermediate

Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GAUVE

TOMOT

RNINEW

CROTHO

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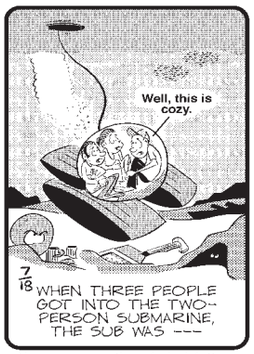
Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) - ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

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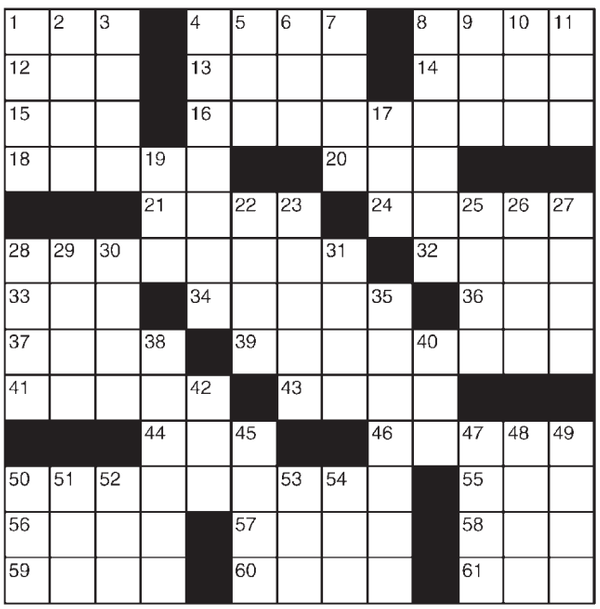
Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

Midweek Crossword

KING FEATURES



ACROSS
1 Satchel
4 Nowhere to be seen
8 Visored military cap
12 — out a living
13 State
14 Object of worship
15 Have a bug
16 Dilute
18 Up to
20 Finish
21 Second letter
24 Sponsorship
28 Negative aspect
32 Took the bus
33 Fire residue
34 Oodles
36 Wager
37 Amorphous lump
39 Onion rings, e.g.
41 Takes to the skies
43 Carry on
44 "That feels so good!"
46 Black board?
50 Exemplar of dullness
55 Cattle call
56 Leading man
57 Volcanic flow
58 Request
59 Floor cleaners
60 Gasoline, e.g.
61 Born

DOWN
1 Suitor
2 Related
3 Moolah
4 Anarchic
5 Eggs
6 Prepared
7 Genealogy chart
8 Actress Margot
9 "Green" prefix
10 "Bam!"
11 Hostel
17 Genetic stuff
19 — Saud
22 Twitches
23 Fire-fighting legend Red
25 Asian desert
26 Mid-month date
27 Green or Rogen
28 Slight touches
29 Norway's capital
30 "Halt!"
31 Icelandic poetry
35 More than just a few
38 Lullaby composer
40 Society newbie
42 Tool with teeth
45 50 percent
47 Muscat's land
48 Small winning margin
49 Oxen's harness
50 Water barrier
51 Berlin's "What'll —?"
52 Potential syrup
53 Greek cross
54 56-Across' partner

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Horoscopes

For the week of **March 16, 2020**

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
You may be facing the consequences of a little overindulgence this week, Aries. It may take a bit for you to get back on track. Use every opportunity to rest up.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, if you are moving from one job to another, you may have to put your social life on hold for a bit until all components of this transition are working smoothly.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, obligations at work or at home are building up and you may be experiencing extra stress. The key to feeling better is to take some of the responsibilities off of your plate.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, a lack of communication between you and a close friend or relative may have you wondering if this person is okay. Just be persistent with your inquiries.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, caution is called for any time a financial presentation is made that affects your finances. Properly vet all potential investments and anyone guiding you in this process.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you may be putting your best self forward, but unless you get others to take notice, you won't be able to make an impact. Enlist others to help.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, your ingenuity and imagination have been wavering lately. Thankfully, that doesn't mean you won't be able to get things working again. Stay the course.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
Financial matters come to the forefront this week, Scorpio. You may have depleted your reserves a bit faster than expected. It's probably time to curtail your spending.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, you may need to say something to a loved one that shows how much you support this special purpose. Give careful consideration to what you want to say.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
Use this week as an opportunity to catch up on some rest, Capricorn. Your schedule has been jam-packed for some time now, and your energy stores are depleted.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, you may be stuck in the middle of a situation with two people you care about. Be an impartial listener to both instead of taking sides. Offer advice if it's sought.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, you may be hit with a bit of melancholy this week, but it quickly subsides when you touch base with someone whose energy is contagious.

MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, Feb. 28.

Senate Resolution B: Deny Heartwell nomination to chair Natural Resources Commission

To disapprove the appointment by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer of former Grand Rapids mayor George Heartwell as chairman of Michigan Natural Resources Commission. This follows the (reportedly related) Feb. 13 denial of Anna Mitterling's appointment to this commission, which has "exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game and sportfish" and designating which species may or may not be hunted. Heartwell's nomination is opposed by the National Rifle Association because of his role as a "state membership coordinator" of antigun groups organized by former New York City mayor and current Democratic presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg.

Passed 20 to 17 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) did not vote
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 669: Revise state hospital rationing law "certificate of need"

To revise the powers of a state Certificate of Need (CON) commission that are related to "capital expenditures" for a new hospital or clinic, or expansion of an existing one. This commission has the power to approve or deny facility expansions, as well as any changes in the location, purpose or number of beds allowed in an existing facility, or plans to offer more clinical services. The Senate Fiscal Agency reports that the proposed change would have little practical effect because these regulated capital expenditures "are used to finance expansions of facilities and those expansions themselves require a certificate of need" from the commission. This and similar laws in other states were enacted under a federal mandate in the 1970s with the intention of lowering health care spending by reducing investment in the field; 15 states have repealed the laws but 35 states, including Michigan, still have them.

Passed 21 to 16 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) did not vote
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 672: Revise psychiatric hospital rationing "certificate of need"

To exempt psychiatric hospitals or units from the rationing restrictions imposed under a state Certificate of Need law that requires medical service providers to get permission from a panel of existing providers before adding new or expanded facilities. In return for the exemption, private psychiatric hospitals and units would have to maintain half their beds for "public patients," defined as ones receiving social welfare benefits, or subject to a treatment order signed by a clinical psychiatrist, or deemed by a court to be a threat to themselves or others.

Passed 21 to 16 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) did not vote
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 686: Create state employee whistleblower protection law

To establish a state employee whistleblower protection law that prohibits a state department or agency from retaliating against a person for communicating with a legislator on the way the department or agency is performing its duties.

Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) did not vote
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

House Bill 5266: Require electric co-ops give telecoms equal access to utility poles

To require member-owned electric cooperatives to provide video, broadband, wireless or other telecommunication service providers with "nondiscriminatory" access to their utility poles under reasonable rates, terms and conditions, and also establish a process for resolving disputes.

Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) did not vote
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

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