Fenton teachers agree to two-year contract

■Includes pay increase for 2019/2020 school year and higher sick day cap

By Sharon Stone

The Fenton Board of Education approved a two-year contract with the Fenton Education Association (FEA) on May 11 and the FEA ratified the contract May 12. The contract runs

through June 30, 2021.

Negotiations have been taking place since last year and both sides worked to come to an agreement.

Kim Gruber, Fenton Board of Education vice president, said,

"The Fenton Board of Education is pleased we were able to come to an agreement that works within our budget and still provides teachers with a significant salary increase. We appreciate

See TEACHERS on 32

Work hard over the COVID-19 shutdown and to be able to agree on this contract before the summer is a true testament of our ability to work together. 77

Adam Hartley

Fenton Area Public Schools superintendent



WeekendTimes

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020

\$1.00

Where does the 6-foot rule come from?

■Studies began in the 1930s and 1950s, updated again two decades ago

By Tim Jagielo

Late this past winter the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began urging Americans to stay 6 feet away from one another in public.

Handshakes became inadvisable as many adhere to this guideline designed to avoid spreading the COVID-19 virus.

But where does this 6-foot rule come from? While the CDC recommends 6 feet, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends 3 feet.

Grocery stores and many other essential businesses began mark-

See 6-FOOT RULE on 16



ACCIDENT CAUSES RAW SEWAGE LEAK — On Monday, May 11, a private landscaping contractor was installing a seawall on a homeowner's property on Stages Island on Lobdell Lake and hit a shut-off valve while operating an excavator. This resulted in 800 gallons of diluted raw sewage being released into Lobdell Lake.

See story on Page 6. Photo courtesy of Genesee County Drain Commission.

Pandemic disrupts graduation ceremonies

■School officials release information on commencement plans

By Hannah Ball

The end of spring is supposed to mark a celebratory time for high school seniors when they finish their exams, get their caps and gowns and walk across the graduation stage to receive their diploma

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders, an actual in-person event may not be possible. The "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order was extended until the end of May.

See GRADUATION on 15

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE 810-771-TEXT



save a lot of money by lowering Congress pay and benefits. They don't need

\$174,000 per year. Put them on an hourly wage just for the hours they are actually in Washington, D.C., working."



Attention Walmart shoppers.

Please pay attention to the direction arrows in the aisles. They are there to

help protect you and your fellow shoppers from the spread of COVID-19."



LETHANK you to the lady who bought my half-gallon of milk at Alpine

on Monday, March 28. I didn't realize there was a limit."



Lieu We can get through this if we all stay together — and keep apart?"

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New ribbons for active duty members

■Holly group prepares sendoffs, ribbons, care packages and more for those who serve

By Hannah Ball

When driving down E. Maple Street in Holly on Wednesday, May 13, more than a dozen cars honked to show support for "Hometown Support for All on Active Duty" volunteers as they replaced ribbons on a tree to commemorate people from Holly who are on active duty.

Jim and Ina Golden and Katrina Berger, from the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center, enjoyed the nice weather as they placed the ribbons around the tree. They were joined by the family of Holly High School senior Annah Charles, 18, who left the prior weekend for Army boot camp.

Charles now has a ribbon on the tree. "Hometown Support for All on Active Duty" is a program that organizes memorable sendoffs for Holly area people leaving for active duty. They write the names of these



Jim Golden and Katrina Berger, both from the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center, place new ribbons around the tree in front of Holly Elementary School on Wednesday, May 13. Each ribbon commemorates an active duty service member from Holly. Photo: Hannah Ball

people on a yellow ribbon and tie it around a tree in front of the Holly Elementary School. They started doing this September 2019. This is the first time they've refreshed all of the ribbons.

See RIBBONS on 13

just loves to hire the veterans. They go to the top of the list. 77

Jim Golden

Holly Area Veterans Resource Center volunteer

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A message from the superintendent

#LINDENEAGLEPRIDE

few weeks ago, schools across the state were scrambling to implement a Continuity of Learning Plan that would allow students continued opportunities to stay educated. We are now scrambling to put together multiple plans for the start of the 2020-21 school year.

Like you, we are asking ourselves the same question — what will

school look like for our students in the future? School districts in the tri-county area have been spending time putting together multiple plans and scenarios in preparation for the 2020-21 school year.

These plans include traditional face-to-face instruction that we are accustomed to, virtual learning opportunities, and a combination of both while keeping in mind the potential social distancing guidelines that we may have to follow, how transportation will work, and what



Russ Ciesielski Linden Community Schools superintendent

happens if another outbreak occurs.

Basically, we're trying to think of the third and fourth orders of the effect of returning to school all while keeping students safe and in an environment that is supportive of learning.

Regardless of the situation, be assured that we will be ready to provide

our students with opportunities to continue with their learning.

As we near the end of the 2019-20 school year, I would like to congratulate all graduates. Your hard work and determination has paid off. Use the adverse situations you have faced as stepping stones to being a leader amongst your peers and in your community. Your time in Linden schools may have been cut short, but your legacy as a Linden Eagle will last forever #lindeneaglepride.

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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.

I JUST WANT to thank Dr. Wax for buying my breakfast Monday morning. Thank you for making my day, and everything you do for the community. I will pay it forward. Thank you.

WELL, ISN'T THAT special? U.S. Attorney General William Barr is starting to make some progress into the investigation into Obama's administration. This is good news for the citizens of the USA.

GOVERNOR WHITMER CLAIMS she is saving lives. That is bull. I want her to prove it. She is ruining lives. The authority has gone to her head.

IT'S TIME TO start defying the dictatorial rules that our governor is imposing on us. So, please, go out, be brave. If you have a small business, open up. I trust our local authorities will not arrest you for trying to make a living.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

What movie or video always makes you laugh no matter how many times you watch it?



"The Princess Bride.' A few of us watched together (virtually) on a Zoom call several weeks ago."



"Couple's Retreat, namely the 'yoga' scene, and the 'shark' scene. 'Four Christmases,' the scene when Vince Vaughn reacts to the baby puking on Reese Witherspoon. Huge Vince Vaughn fan."



"100 percent 'The Hangover.' A true classic."

streettalk

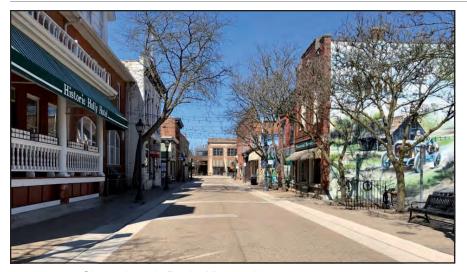


"Overboard," with Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell."

Kelly Miller Argentine Township Kim Muszynski Pinckney

Jason Abbey Fenton Township

Jana Leining Fenton



Shown here is Battle Alley, looking west. Photo submitted.

Battle Alley to become temporary walkway

■Closure will allow for people to enjoy walks, take-out meals at tables spaced far apart

By Sharon Stone

On Tuesday, May 12, Holly Village Council approved the closure of Battle Alley to through-traffic to allow for it to temporarily become a pedestrian walkway and outdoor seating area. Battle Alley is in downtown Holly's historic shopping district.

Katy Golden, assistant Holly Village manager and Holly Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director, said that due to the current social distancing requirements, the restaurants at this time are only allowed to offer carryout.

New street furniture will soon be added to Battle Alley. High-top tables, and tables and chairs will be placed in the Alley (with required space in between) so that people can pick up their carryout order and enjoy their meal outdoors in Battle Alley.

Since Battle Alley will be closed to traffic, Junction Street, which is the short one-way cut-through road that runs parallel to the railroad tracks, will reverse the flow of traffic. This change has not happened yet, but signage will be in place soon.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THOSE DARN POLITICIANS, always taking away our rights. How dare they tell us how fast we can drive, or that we can't text while driving. It's just a slippery slope. Or maybe we can't trust everyone to be responsible and not put others in danger.

THANK YOU, FENTON Township, for mowing and cleaning up the Thompson Road exit ramps. It looks nice. I hope it's in the budget to keep it trimmed. Maybe some landscaping and welcome signs in the future?

NICE, POSITIVE ARTICLE from Julie Williams, the Lake Fenton Community Schools superintendent.

RESTAURANTS, CHURCHES, HOSPITAL visits and group gatherings are being slowly destroyed. Common sense restrictions can be put in place to allow us to gather responsibly. Our leaders are using this pandemic fear to hijack our freedoms and eliminate our constitutional rights. Enough is enough. This is America, the land of the free — let's start acting like it again.

THE YEAR 2020. The year senior skip day got out of hand.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY HEALTH

Department has just started counting 'probable' COVID-19 cases to the actual case total. Hmmm.

PREDICTION: THE GOVERNOR will ease up a little on her lockdown. We will then see an increase in the numbers. This will justify her ordering voting my mail only for Michigan. Let the corruption begin.

I AM SO proud of Karl Menke, the 77-year-old barber in Owosso. That guy has more bravery in his pinky than most have in their entire body. Stay strong Mr. Menke.



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Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

Accident causes raw sewage leak in Lobdell Lake

44 What was a

sewer line impact

this week, could

easily be a gas

line rupture next

week, leading to

much more serious

consequences. 77

Genesee County Drain

Commission

■ Valve shut off, 'relatively small amount' of sewage in lake

By Hannah Ball

Approximately 800 gallons of diluted raw sewage was released into Lobdell Lake after a construction accident on Monday, May 11, according to a statement released by the Genesee County Drain Commissioner's Office.

A private landscaping contrac-

tor was installing a seawall on a homeowner's property on Stages Island on Lobdell Lake and hit a shut-off valve while operating an excavator.

"This caused a break in an underground sewer line, leading to an SSO discharge of 800 gallons of diluted raw sewage," according to the GCDC. "Not

only was the private contractor completely at fault for the SSO (sanitary sewer overflow), the contractor also failed to call Miss Dig prior to construction. A simple routine phone call to Miss Dig would have prevented the sewer line break and associated discharge entirely. The sewer line was adjacent to Lobdell Lake, causing runoff to enter that body of water."

Kevin Sylvester, deputy drain commissioner, said as soon as they were made aware of the accident, they shut off the valve to the main sewer line to prevent additional sewage from entering the lake. They isolated the impact area with sandbags and are making repairs to the valves.

"Outside of those and other mitigation efforts, there is no way to remove the sewage directly. I should state it is a relatively small amount, and has been diluted and dispersed through-

View stories at myfenton.com



out the lake," he said.

Sylvester said there is a potential for EGLE (Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy) to fine the contractor.

"The contractor was operating without a soil erosion permit, so our office will be doubling those fees per our policy. In addition, we will look to recoup any costs for mitigation and repairs from the contractor," Sylvester said.

The GCDC-WWS (Division of Water and Waste Services) has worked with municipalities over the years to encourage them to utilize best management practices when checking for underground infrastructure.

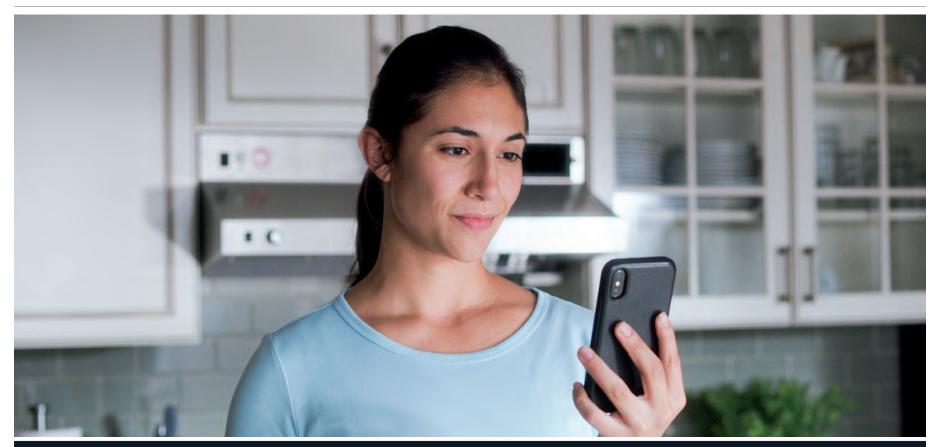
"GCDC-WWS adopted the Gold Shovel Standard in September of 2018, establishing criteria

for construction involving underground infrastructure and emphasizing the vital need that contractors establish increased safe working conditions and practices. Many communities across Genesee County have adopted the Gold Shovel Standard, based on GCDC-WWS' recommendation," according to the statement.

The GCDC encourages all communities to adopt these policies that require private contractors to obtain information prior to any project.

"What was a sewer line impact this week, could easily be a gas line rupture next week, leading to much more serious consequences," according to the statement.

Jeff Wright, Genesee County Drain Commissioner, said, "Whether it is adopting the Gold Shovel Standard, or issuing other requirements, both local communities and private contractors must work together to ensure agencies like Miss Dig are consulted prior to work being done. The stakes are simply too high, and the public health and people's lives depend on taking the appropriate precautions."

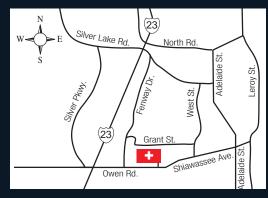


EMERGENCIES DON'T WAIT FOR COVID-19

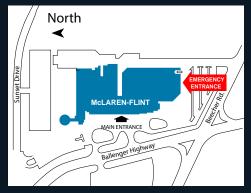
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HOT LINE CONTINUED

HOW CAN A governor unilaterally take total control of a state, violate the 1976 Michigan law, suspend the Freedom of Information Act, make up her own rules, and picking one business over another for an indefinite period of time?

IF THE MICHIGAN legislature is shut out from any input into the 'Whitmer Lockdown,' how are Michigan citizens being represented? We're not.

NEW NORMAL IS doublespeak. Don't buy into it.

OUR STATE LEADERSHIP needs to use common sense. Why on earth can dozens of shoppers be in Target and Walmart, and small locally

owned businesses have to remain closed? This makes no sense.

WE ARE DONE following the heavy-handed rules of our governor. We know how to stay safe, social distance and wash our hands.

I CANNOT BELIEVE people are tattling on others if they defy the stupid rules imposed by our governor, without any input from us. I say more

power to our neighbors who had family over. It's a virus, people. It will get you whether you are at home or at a store. A virus will subside after it runs its course.

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Alcoholism is a public health problem. Everyone must stop drinking. Shut down the economy and ban liquor stores and bars.

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Diabetes is a public health problem. Shut down the economy, ban all products containing refined sugar.

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Obesity is a public health problem. Shut down the economy and ban all animalbased foods and products.

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Heart disease is a public health problem. Shut down the economy except for gyms and require citizens do three hours of exercise per day.

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Prescription drug overdose is a public health problem. Shut down the economy, ban all pharmacies and confiscate drugs from homes.





Studies show that families are spending much more time watching shows on TV to alleviate the boredom of having to stay home during the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo: Metro Creative

Technology, social media use up

■Streaming services see surge in use

By Hannah Ball

Technology use is up because many people are stuck at home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to App Annie, daily time spent in apps on Android devices increased 20 percent in the first quarter of his year.

Social media use increases

Social media use is up. Online communication is more important than ever when people can't meet face to face, and social media is a popular medium for news consumption.

A study by Kantar of 25,000 consumers across 30 markets showed engagement increasing 61 percent over non-pandemic rates.

Web browsing has increased 70 percent, traditional TV viewing has increased 63 percent and social media engagement has increased 61 percent more than normal usage rates.

Twitter has 23 percent more daily users now than a year ago.

Messaging across Facebook, Insta-

gram and WhatsApp has increased 50 percent in countries hardest hit by the virus, according to Kantar.

This rise is most prevalent in the 18-34 age group. WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram have seen more than a 40-percent increase in usage from under-35-year-olds.

TikTok is the number one app being downloaded during quarantine.

Streaming services used more

Americans are relying on streaming services such as Netflix, Disney+, Hulu and Amazon Prime now more than ever to fight boredom. According to a survey by Invoke, a market research company, 75 percent of respondents (80 percent of those age 35 and younger) are watching more streaming content than before the pandemic started.

Nielson reported that the use of streaming platforms increased by 34 percent over two weeks at the beginning of March. Collective usage went from 116.4 billion minutes the week of March 2, to 156.1 billion in the week of March 16. The total for March 16-22 was more than double compared to the same week in 2019.

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They interview you, and unlike some other firms, an actual attorney immediately files your application. Over 70 pages of documents must be completed during the application process. Often an answer given on one of the multiple confusing forms is actually used by the government to deny your case, not just on the first step, but in later appeals. The firm does the paperwork for you. Forms are sent to your doctor to bolster your case. They follow up to determine the status of your case. Winning your case results in up to thousands of dollars in monthly benefits and early Medicare coverage. Attorneys JB Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have been winning the vast majority of their cases at

the application level and beyond. Between them they have 50 years of combined experience in only Social Security disability matters. They have won over 7,000 cases and have won over \$100 million in lump sum benefits for their clients.

In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law, attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. They will promptly inform you if they can make a difference at the application stage. Also, many people don't realize they often can file even if they're still working part-time.

If you have filed on your own and have been denied call immediately. No fee charged until after case is won.

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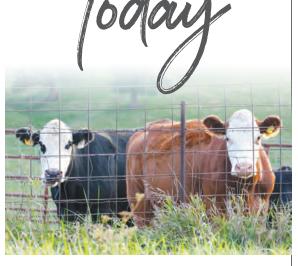
Most farm, ag-business operations considered 'critical infrastructure'

RICHFIELD TWP. — In accordance with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" executive order that went into effect March 24 through April 13 and then extended to the end of May, most workers in Genesee County's food and agriculture sector are considered "critical infrastructure workers" under the order and may leave their homes to perform that work in-person as necessary.

All in-person work must be carried out consistently with the mitigation measures, including social distancing, heightened cleaning and sanitation protocols, worker health checks, and other measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Under the guidance of the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development, any in-person, non-mandatory activities in the food and agriculture industries must be delayed until normal operations resume, and all workers are encouraged to work remotely to the greatest extent possible. Businesses and operations with critical infrastructure workers include:

- Workers supporting groceries, pharmacies, and other retail that sells food and beverage products.
- Workers supporting and operating gasoline stations.
- Workers supporting restaurant carry-out and delivery food operations.
- Food manufacturer employees and their supplier employees including those
 employed in food processing facilities (packers, meat processing, cheese
 plants, milk plants, produce, etc.); livestock, poultry, seafood slaughter
 facilities; pet and animal feed processing facilities; human food facilities
 producing by-products for animal food; beverage production facilities; and
 the production of food packaging.
- Farm workers including those employed in animal food, feed, and ingredient
 production, packaging, and distribution; manufacturing, packaging, and
 distribution of veterinary drugs; truck delivery and transport; farm and fishery
 labor needed to produce our food supply domestically.
- Workers who care for animals at veterinary clinics, animal shelters and research facilities. Veterinary clinics should only be performing essential life-saving procedures; all other non-essential procedures should be delayed.
- Farm workers and support service workers including those who plant, grow, and harvest agricultural commodities; commodity inspections; fuel ethanol facilities; storage facilities; and other agricultural inputs.
- Employees and firms supporting food, feed, and beverage distribution, including warehouse workers, vendor-managed inventory controllers, and blockchain managers.
- Workers supporting the sanitation of all food manufacturing processes and operations from wholesale to retail.
- Company cafeterias, specifically in-plant cafeterias, used to feed employees only.
- Workers in food testing labs in private industries and in institutions of higher education.
- Workers essential for assistance programs and government payments.
- Employees of companies engaged in the production of chemicals, medicines, vaccines, and other substances used by the food and agriculture industry, including pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, minerals, enrichments, and other agricultural production aids.
- Animal agriculture workers including those employed in veterinary health; manufacturing and distribution of animal medical materials, animal vaccines, animal drugs, feed ingredients, feed, bedding, etc.; transportation of live animals, animal medical materials; deceased animals for disposal; raising of animals for food; animal production operations; slaughter and packing plants; and associated regulatory and government workforce.
- Workers who support the manufacture and distribution of forest products, including but not limited to timber, paper, and other wood products.
- Employees engaged in the manufacture and maintenance of equipment and other infrastructure necessary to agricultural production and distribution.



Michigan pork and beef producers adjusting for COVID-19 to ensure continuity of meat supply

Consumers urged to shop as they normally would

LANSING — Michigan's animal agriculture leaders have responded to state and national news of processor shutdowns that some fear will create food shortages around the country.

In particular, the leaders said Michigan is working quickly to help ensure grocery stores are able continue to offer ample supplies of pork and beef.

"Michigan's animal agriculture industries, like every business and every industry around the country, are making adjustments to their businesses to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Gary McDowell, director of the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development.

"While this could lead to some near-term speedbumps, everyone should recognize these changes will deliver long-term supply chain strength and, most importantly, improved safety for workers throughout the agricultural industries."

Leaders from the Michigan beef and pork industries said processing in Michigan has slowed and occasionally stopped briefly in recent weeks as they install new safety measures for employees.

"Worker safety is job one," said George Quackenbush, executive director of the Michigan Beef Industry Commission. "A safe and healthy workforce is the key to bringing us back to full production. And we know it's important that we get this right, so we don't have to do it twice."

Mary Kelpinski, chief executive officer of the Michigan Pork Producers Association, urged shoppers to resist panic buying of meat products in the weeks ahead.

"We have determined that with production facilities continuing to function and plenty of meat in cold storage around the state, consumers should expect to continue to see meat products in grocery stores," she said. "The only way we could encounter a problem is if consumers start panic-buying. We want everyone to know that production in Michigan remains strong. Don't buy more than you need."



Genesee County ag businesses eligible for new SBA loan program

GENESEE COUNTY — This time of COVID-19 is bringing many firsts, and the latest could benefit farmers and ranchers. This week the U.S. Small Business Administration announced that Genesee County agricultural businesses are now eligible for Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and EIDL Advance programs.

SBA's EIDL portal reopened Monday, May 4 as a result of funding authorized by Congress as part of the Paycheck Protection Program and Healthcare Enhancement Act. The legislation was signed into law the week of April 27 and provides added funding for farmers and ranchers and certain other agricultural business affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

In a release about the program's expansion to agriculture, Jovita Carranza, SBA Administrator, commented: "For more than 30 years, SBA has been prohibited by law from providing disaster assistance to agricultural businesses, however, as a result of the unprecedented legislation enacted by President Trump, American farmers, ranchers and other agricultural businesses will now have access to emergency working capital."

The program will provide low-interest, long-term loans to help keep ag businesses viable while bringing stability to the food chain, Carranza said.

Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue added: "America's farmers, ranchers and prodcuers need the same help that other American businesses need during this unprecedented time." The loan program had been closed since April 15, but the agency was able to reopen May 4, in a limited capacity, due to the new funding.

Under the program, eligible agricultural businesses include those engaged in the legal production of food and fiber, ranching, and raising of livestock, aquaculture and all other farming and agricultural related industries. Eligible businesses must have 500 or fewer employees.

The SBA will begin accepting new EIDL applications on a limited basis only, in order to provide relief to U.S. ag businesses. The agency is reopening the portal for ag businesses only. For ag businesses that submitted an EIDL loan application through the streamlined application portal prior to the legislation change, SBA will move forward and process those applications without the need to reapply. All other EIDL loan applications submitted before the portal stopped accepting new applications on April 15 will be processed on a first-in, first-out basis.

You can learn more at sba.gov/disaster.

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Holly Academy teacher named charter school teacher of the year

■Educator of 28 years discovers her win over Zoom call

By Hannah Ball

A Holly Academy teacher has been named the 2020 Michigan Charter School Teacher of the Year.

Kindergarten teacher Jennifer Melero won the award from the Michigan As-

sociation of Public School Academies. She said it was a "great honor" to receive the recognition.

"I, quite honestly, was shocked and surprised. I truthfully didn't think that I had won this award. I have been named as one of the Top 5 Charter School Teachers of the Year for the State of Michigan two

times prior to this and being named an unprecedented three times in the last four years was an honor in itself," she said.

"I was so shocked when I was added to Holly Academy's Zoom 'staff meeting' to find 98 people on the call and then to hear a knock at my door to find my teammates, administrators, friends and family congratulating me while social distancing. It was so wonderful to see so many that I have not seen in person since mid March including my family, even from a distance."

Melero has been teaching for the past 28 years. She's spent the last 21 years teaching kindergarten at Holly Academy since the school opened.

Some of her current and past students were able to join the Zoom call to surprise her. Melero has received messages, emails, calls and letters of congratulations, which she said means a lot to her.

"I appreciate all of the outpouring of love and support that I have received from the administration, staff, parents

and students at Holly Academy," she said.

The transition from teaching in-person to online due to the pandemic was "made effortless," she said, because she's been able to be creative and flexible due to the trust and relationships she's built with parents and students.

"By the aid of technology, I have been

able to maintain the relationships with my students," she said.

Teachers are finding ways to be resourceful, engaging, and innovative in meaningful ways now more than ever, she said.

"While academics are very important to a child's life, the care, concern, and connection that you make and maintain with a child and their family is even more important. As we face the next chapter in education, it will take dedication, ingenuity, flexibility, and grit to carry us through this uncertain time," Melero said. "As a collective team, we will weather this uncertain time with a newfound appreciation for the important role that educators and parents play and how key relationship building is during circumstances such as this."

Both of her parents were educators in Alma for 30 years. Her father died in January. She hopes to carry on his legacy of fostering and relationship building, and "conveying to each child that they need to believe in themselves like I do and know that I will always be there for you and your family too no matter when or how old you are."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WE'RE ALL IN this together. Teen pregnancy is a public health problem. Shut down the economy, close all schools, and impose stayat-home orders.

WE'RE ALL IN this together, until it's time to die.

OKAY, I'LL WEAR a mask, but I'm not staying home anymore.

I GUESS NOW in Michigan we're seeing the old adage 'power tends to corrupt, absolute power corrupts

absolutely.'

Jen Potteiger, Curriculum Director, said, "Jennifer Melero is so deserving of this award. She is a dedicated educator whose passion for teaching and forging life-long relationships with her students and their families exemplifies our mission at Holly Academy. Jen leads by example and rises to whatever challenges come her way. I have been fortunate to have taught in our building with her, been a parent in her classroom, and now, work with her as part of our administrative team."



Jennifer Melero

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On Wednesday, May 13, the family of Holly graduate Annah Charles, who recently left for boot camp, came out to see her name be added to the tree in front of Holly Elementary School, Shown above are (from left) Lynnette Ostrowski. Jeannette Charles, Sarah Charles, Lisa Charles and April Cohoon. Photo: Hannah Ball

RIBBONS

Continued from Page 3

"The weather is hard on them," Ina said. Currently, there are 31 ribbons, but the number changes depending on how many people are on active duty. Once someone comes back, they can get their ribbon. The tree has a sign in front of it that reads "Hometown Heroes," which was donated by Michigan Laser Engraving.

Ina said, "Something we're proud of is hundreds of kids walk by here all the time, and there's no vandalism, no destruction."

Jim Golden had the idea for the ribbons after he met Holly schools graduate Cecelia Velazquez this past fall when she worked at Subway. He asked her what she was planning to do after high school, and she said she was joining the Air Force.

"She kind of ducked her head like she was ashamed of telling me that. I told her, 'that is the greatest thing I've ever heard. I am so proud of you...you made my whole day," he said, adding that he told her that she would see the world, and that she would be so employable when she left the Air Force. "Every employer just loves to hire the veterans. They go to the top of the list."

He told Ina about it and they decided to do something to honor her. This past January, they organized a sendoff for her with a police escort and performance from the Holly High School band and choir.

Jim is a Vietnam veteran and said they were shunned when they came home.

Ina, also a veteran, said, "Jim and

I came from the era where this never would have been done. Vietnam era... when we came back after our year, we were in civilian clothes and didn't tell anyone (about their service)."

"We got to show the world that young sons and daughters from Holly are in the active duty military, something to be proud of," Jim said.

They started the ribbon tree and send care packages four times a year to active duty members with soap, razor blades, toothpaste, candy, nonperishable foods and more. Jim said he asked an Army recruiter, who works on Baldwin Road and has kids who attend Holly Academy, what they wanted while they were deployed to find out what to send. They plan to send more packages soon.

"Some are thrilled to death to get their care packages. They share them with their buddies," he said.

The organization stays in touch with active duty members through family and social media. Some are on ships, some are in Afghanistan, and some can't reveal their location.

Once they get out of the military, "Hometown Heroes" can help them find a job by contacting Helmets to Hardhats, an organization that helps active duty and transitioning service members find work.

"They're just people like us, these military kids. They came from our homes. They're our children, your nephews, your nieces, your cousins, grandchildren. Very few people realize there's that many active duty people from the Holly area currently out there today," Jim said.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

FACEBOOK JUST SILENCED

380,000 Michigan Facebook group members who disagree with the governor and found a form to journal their personal and economic suffering because of excessive restrictions in state area when the data shows otherwise.

MICHIGAN VOTERS NOTE:

Governor Whitmer has shared no data to support extending the stayat-home order. Only three counties in the entire state show concern, specifically Wayne, but the entire state has been forced to shut down. She has no basis for decisions and complete lack of Michigan leadership direction.

GOVERNOR WHITMER HAS

decided that she writes the laws and enforces the punishment. She sent in the state police to shut down a 77-year-old barber. This is Whitmer's police state. She has forgotten her oath to uphold the Constitution.

DON'T YOU JUST love it when you are enjoying a peaceful walk through the Dauner Martin Preserve and

people come clomping along talking loudly, laughing and being oblivious to their surroundings? Me neither.

WAKE UP, GOVERNOR Whitmer. Why don't you get control of 200 people in Hine's Park playing basketball and smoking pot instead of a barber in the middle of the state practicing social distancing cutting hair? Michigan leadership useless.

I GET THAT you want to open the economy. I do too. It seems unfair to have a society based solely on money and then select which ones can participate. However, what has that to do with wearing a mask? Why pretend we're not really in danger?

GORGEOUS DAY, OUT planting our

garden and the neighbors light up and burn a major brush pile, sending the smoke our way. Really?

FACEBOOK HAS BECOME a

monopoly (good for them), but now as a platform for the left. Congress should continue to develop a reasonable solution. Remember Hillary's 'Fairness Doctrine?' the censorship is primarily on the left.





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Genesee County warms of 'spoofing' phone scams

■Suspects use local phone numbers to trick unsuspecting victims into providing personal information

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Genesee County Health Department has received a number of inquiries from residents about phone calls that were made using the Health Department's name and phone numbers.

These calls, however, were not made by any of its staff and the Genesee County Health Department never asks for personal or financial information over the phone.

The scammers are using a technique called "caller ID spoofing." Individuals are falsely displaying the Health Department's information on consumers' caller IDs and attempting to obtain Medicare insurance information or other sensitive information from the public.

The scammers tend to use a local number or a number from a trusted business to increase the likelihood that unsuspecting residents answer the phone. In this case, they are using Genesee County's Health Department's phone numbers (810) 742-2255 or (810) 257-3612. The Health Department's number shows up on your caller ID, but it's really a scammer on the line.

If anyone receives one of these calls, simply hang up. If you get a message on your answering machine, do not return the call. And most importantly, never give out personal information over the phone, such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, a mother's maiden name or passwords to an unsolicited caller or if you are at all suspicious.

The health department is working closely with the county's IT department and have been assured that no data breach has occurred. This is from an outside source and has no connection to Genesee County.

Those who wish to file a complaint can do so by visiting the Michigan Attorney General Consumer Protection Division at Michigan.gov/ag and search robocalls.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WE DID NOT need or ask for stimulus checks and have decided to donate the money. To show our patriotism and love for America, my wife and I are donating it all to the Trump 'Make America Great Again' campaign. His 'America First' beliefs 'trump' the anti-American, Socialist/ Democrats.

YOU CAN'T FIX stupid. Both sides think they are right and no amount of coffee and talk will change the other's mind. So agree to disagree and be civil about it.

FAUCI HAS BEEN studying science since college in 1957. He has been the country's infectious-disease leader since 1984. Yet many who have 'studied' this virus for 10 weeks feel it fair and righteous to call him a

fraud and believe media screamers
— we need to trust scientists.

IF YOU THINK these freeloaders drawing unemployment for the next 39 weeks are going to look for work before that expires, you're all crazy. Drawing \$700 to \$1,200 a week is far better than they could ever earn. Lunacy!

FOR ALL THOSE people who will not wear a facemask while shopping, will you wear a facemask when it is required by your employer for your job? Maybe you will just tell your boss your civil liberties are being denied, other excuses or just where he or she can go.

PEOPLE SHOULD REALIZE that Governor Whitmer relies on scientists and medical professionals to make plans for our state not the Hot lines.

The buck stays here!

Spend it here. Keep it here.



GRADUATION

Continued from Front Page

Mark Suchowski, Fenton High **School** principal, sent a presentation and a survey to all seniors and parents about these plans. The school sent out scholarship information May 12. For the seniors' honors assembly, the school is organizing a Google slides presentation that will be posted at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 27 to announce seniors' achievements in academics, clubs and sports. On May 28 and 29, parents of seniors will be invited to a 'drive-thru' distribution of caps, gowns, yearbooks if seniors ordered one, and academic awards through recognition of senior honors. FHS administrators, teachers, counselors and staff will be in the bus loop in front of the building, wearing gloves and masks if necessary, to place all items for each senior in the trunk of cars as they drive through.

The planning committee for the baccalaureate ceremony will meet online starting May 18 to organize this event. They're expected to share information with seniors by Thursday, May 28.

The school presented two options to seniors and parents for the graduation ceremony. One was to wait until in-person gatherings were allowed and host an in-person event.

The second option, which will be used if the stay-at-home order is extended more, involves FHS staff filming all the normal graduation speeches in the gym.

Each senior will be allowed to have up to four family members accompany them into the gym as they walk across the stage and receive their diploma. Every graduate's parents will be assigned the role of awarding their child their diploma on stage. Then, all filmed parts of the ceremony will be edited into one presentation/video that will be published for all to view on a date and/or at a venue to be determined.

An announcement will be made June 1 for this.

Possible plans for members of the Class of 2020 to celebrate their graduation at Project Graduation may include an alternate event at a date, time and location yet to be determined.

"The survey also asks seniors and their parents for their preference for how late into summer would seniors and parents be interested and available to participate in a traditional graduation ceremony, if we were allowed to hold such an event. We have had some folks indicate that after mid-July, many seniors will be ready to move on as they take first steps into their future plans," Suchowski said.

Chris Belcher, **Lake Fenton High School** principal, said they remain hopeful that they can still honor graduates with an in-person ceremony at The Whiting.

"We have reserved June 20 and July 17 and are waiting to see where our state stands at that time," he said. "The Whiting has shared options for what phase of release we are in at those times. We are also preparing for a virtual ceremony in the event we are not permitted to gather in person. We are in the process of recording speeches and putting the presentation together in case it is needed."

Darin Dreasky, **Linden High School** principal, said he's been in contact with

44 We want

them to

walk across

a stage

in some

form. **77**

Darin Dreasky

Linden High School

principal

school seniors and parents about their plans. He's been looking at Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive orders about mass gatherings and phases for opening the state.

They have plans for a virtual ceremony Saturday, June 13 for the baccalaureate ceremony in collaboration with Hope Lutheran Church. More information will be sent out as the date approaches.

On Sunday, June 14, the district plans to have a virtual commencement with awards and scholarships. The school is working to get scholarship information to families.

Dreasky said he and staff are coordinating with Project Graduation to drop off yard signs, and caps and gowns at the houses of school seniors Wednesday, May 20. They're going to arrange goody bags for seniors, similar to what they would have received at Project Graduation.

When the shutdown began, many students left their lockers full of their belongings. Dreasky said if the stay-athome order is lifted by then, they hope to open the school to allow students to get their belongings.

If possible, in the next few months, they also plan to set up a stage with a formal background at the school and have seniors walk across the stage and get a diploma and give family a chance to take photos.

"Even if it is a modified format, we certainly want to do that," he said, adding that they would still follow proper social distancing guidelines. "We want them to walk across a stage in some form."

Dreasky said they're keeping in mind the health of their staff and the community, and many plans depend on the governor's executive orders.

Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools superintendent, said, "We are continuing to work with our senior leaders on our final plan for a graduation ceremony. Within the next two weeks or sooner, we should have our final plan ready to share."



NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF HOLLY OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS SECURED BY THE TAXING POWER OF THE VILLAGE AND OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM THEREON

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Council of the Village of Holly, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, intends to authorize the issuance and sale of limited tax general obligation capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended, in one or more series, in a total principal amount of not to exceed Two Million One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$2,150,000), for the purpose of paying part of the cost to acquire, construct, furnish and equip various capital improvements, including water main improvements, road and intersection improvements and ADA compliance improvements, together with all related site improvements, appurtenances and attachments.

BOND DETAILS

The bonds will mature no later than twenty-one (21) years after the date of issuance, with interest rates to be determined at a public or negotiated sale but in no event to exceed the maximum permitted by law on the unpaid balance from time to time remaining outstanding on said bonds.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF BONDS

THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS shall be payable from the general funds of the Village lawfully available for such purposes including property taxes levied within applicable constitutional, statutory and charter tax rate limitations.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS UNLESS A VALID PETITION REQUESTING SUCH A VOTE SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE IS FILED WITH THE VILLAGE CLERK WITHIN FOUR (45) DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. IF A VALID PETITION IS FILED, THE BONDS MAY NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT AN APPROVING VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE VOTING THEREON.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 517, Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended.

Deborah J. Bigger Village Clerk/Treasurer

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HOLLY TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Holly Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on:

DATE: June 2, 2020

TIME: 6:30 PM or as soon as possible thereafter PLACE: ELECTRONICALLY AS FOLLOWS:

Please click the link below to join the webinar: https://zoom.us/j/93763277557 Or iPhone one-tap:

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Webinar ID: 937 6327 7557

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider the proposed amendments to the Township of Holly Code of Ordinances to:

CHAPTER 32 ZONING, SECTION 32-6 DEFINITIONS AND CHAPTER 32 ZONING, ARTICLE IV SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS, ADD SECTION 32-168 AGRITOURISM

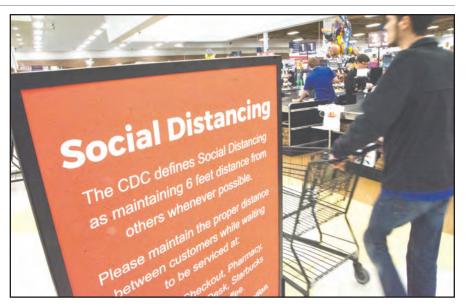
The hearing is open to the public to voice their views and/or to submit written comment. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the hearing. The Holly Township Planning Commission will consider any public comments received at this time. Written comments may be submitted prior to the hearing by writing to: Clerk at 102 Civic Dr., Holly, Michigan 48442.

A copy of the proposed ordinance revisions may be reviewed at the Clerk's office at the above-mentioned address by appointment. Call 248-634-9331 ext. 301.

Handicap persons needing assistance to attend or participate in this hearing are asked to contact the Township Clerk at 248-634-9331 x 301 or by writing to the above-mentioned address at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Karin S. Winchester Clerk/Zoning Administrator





The VG's store on Silver Parkway in Fenton is clearly marked with signs urging patrons observe social distancing guidelines. Times file photo

44 Hopefully with

everyone wearing masks

and at least 6-feet social

distancing, we will be

safe in public. 77

Ann Marie

Tri-County Times reader

via Facebook

6-FOOT RULEContinued from Front Page

ing the 6-foot distance on floors to remind their patrons.

It hasn't always been known that pathogens like viruses, such as CO-VID-19, can be transmitted through tiny droplets of water and inhaled.

According to a Harvard Medical School publication, this discovery is commonly credited to William Wells, a

sanitary engineer at Harvard who was tasked with figuring out why New England Textile Mills workers were falling ill. He discovered it was through unsanitary vaporized water.

Scientists began studying how far droplets could travel between people. According to radio science program Radiolab, scientists in Salisbury, United Kington, started studying this after World War II. They used volunteers, offering couples a 10-day allexpenses-paid vacation in the Salisbury countryside, but with a catch — many were knowingly infected with a flu virus. Scientists wanted to see who else would get sick in their cohort of volunteers.

Later, scientists would test transmission in other ways, like having an infected person play cards with a non-infected person.

Through these studies, they determined that 3 feet, or 1 meter, is the distance to stay if someone who is infected sneezes.

The 3-foot rule was the prevailing science until about 20 years ago, after several different outbreaks, like SARS and swine flu. Scientists looked at data from airline seating charts. They found that to be safer, one should be two rows away from an infected person—or about

6 feet. According to Radiolab, the CDC updated its guidance based on this.

But now, this rule has been studied by the New England Journal of Medicine, which suggests that 6 feet may not be

enough. The CDC is currently maintaining the 6-foot rule along with businesses that are still open.

Timesreadersprovided their thoughts on the 6-foot rule on Facebook.

Brenda Coleman believes the 6-foot rule is safe if someone is wearing a mask. "If not, the spread of a cough or sneeze could go farther," she said.

Ann Marie said she sometimes can't maintain such a distance in stores. "... so I hold my breath and turn my head when I have to pass someone," she said.

Richard Parker said people need to respect personal space, but doesn't want the social distancing guideline to be a law.

America's reliance on the automobile continues

■Buying or leasing one during a pandemic may seem complex, but rest assured, our local dealers are ready to help

By Sharon Stone

Just because we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-athome orders issued by the governor of Michigan, driving remains necessary for many people nevertheless.

What happens if your car lease has expired or is expiring soon? What happens if your old clunker is beyond repair and you need to buy a new vehicle?

The Times reached out to Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton to answer our questions.

Jeff Canever, general sales manager for the dealership on Owen Road, said because of the governor's executive orders, the dealership is allowed to be open, with limited hours Monday through Friday. Customers are not permitted in the showroom.

Canever said generally, people are already familiar with what vehicles are



available and many do much of their research online. He suggests customers check out viccaneverchevy.com to see what vehicles are available for purchase or lease.

Although the showroom is off limits temporarily, customers can peruse the vehicles outside in the lot. If they are interested in a vehicle, they are advised to call the dealership or their sales rep personally to obtain more details.

Interaction between customers and

sales personnel takes place outside, in a covered and heated area, said Canever. While social distancing, customers and their sales rep can discuss options.

Test drives of vehicles is still permitted and Canever said the dealership goes to extreme measures to clean and disinfect the vehicles between customers. They also have fog machines, which disinfect large areas quickly. "We're doing this to make sure everyone is safe," he said.

In compliance with the governor's

orders, Canever said masks are required of everyone who enters their buildings.

Manufacturers are promoting incentives, such as zero-percent interest for 84 months or 120-day payment deferrals on certain vehicles. "They're really trying to help the customer," he said, adding that there could be credit stipulations.

Canever said there are also some good deals on leases right now. For those who have leases on their vehicle, financial institutions, such as GM Financial, will automatically extend the lease another month if the customer has gone 10 days beyond their contract. He advises people with a soon-to-be-expired lease to be in contact with their sales rep to learn their options.

Trucks in general and the Chevrolet Equinox are top sellers right now, said Canever. He added, "Cars in general have slumped in sales because of the crossovers. That's the trend nationwide." Their main cars are the Malibu, Corvette and Camaro.

See AUTOMOBILE on 30





Alex Castro *Lake Fenton High School*



Kyle Cygnar Linden High School



Jack Gundry Fenton High School



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Erica Behnfeldt Fenton High School



William Sewell III Lake Fenton High School



Savannah Belcher Linden High School



Samantha Whaling Fenton High School



Nicole Prast

Holly High School

Aaron ThielenHartland High School



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Trent Carter *Lake Fenton High School*



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Tyler Soule Fenton High School



Fenton High School



Lake Fenton High School



RJ Stack Fenton High School





Melanie Storm

Lake Fenton High School

Sydney Acho Fenton High School



BACKYARD LIVING Summer 2020



CREATING THE MOST INVITING BACKYARD

From shade tarps, movie screens, classic swings to lawn games, ideas are plentiful and fun to make

By Sharon Stone

With so many public pools, water parks, roller coaster and theme parks closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, families will likely be spending much more time at home for the next few months.

Now's the time to start planning entertainment and play areas in your backyard that will provide hours of fun for kids and adults alike. Here are just a few ideas so let your imagination go.

OLD-FASHIONED SWING

An old-fashioned tree swing could add some nostalgia to your backyard. Materials that you will need include, a 20-inch long, 5/4-inch-thick piece of pressure-treated decking board, eyehooks, bolts, washers, quick links, 40 feet of metal



chain, spray paint, miter box saw, drill, measuring tape, pencil and bolt/chain cutter. For complete instructions, go to hgtv.com and search for classic tree swing.

CANVAS SHADE

It's just a matter of days or a few weeks before the tri-county area will be blanketed in warmer temperatures and tons of sunshine. Maybe your patio or deck could use some shade and a little style at the same time. If so, a three-sided canvas tarp in any color or design could be just what your yard needs.



To start, you'll need three 4x4 posts, See BACKYARD

on 25

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DESIGN A DREAM OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING SPACE

Your family and friends may never want to leave

Upon the arrival of warm weather, many individuals prefer to spend their free time outside, enjoying the fresh air and sunshine and evenings spent under the stars.

But cracked patios and makeshift chairs and tables may not establish the desired ambiance. An outdoor entertaining area that offers the same amenities found inside a home can make outdoor retreats both comfortable and functional. Creative planning can help homeowners design dream areas perfect for hosting friends or family.

ESTABLISH GOALS

As with any project, the first step when coordinating outdoor living areas is to determine what you hope to achieve with the space. Will it be a location for lounging? Will people be cooking meals outside? Is the pool the central focus of the yard? Answering these questions and more can help homeowners decide how to design their entertaining spaces.

Remember, however, that goals may evolve as landscape designers and even architects make their own suggestions for the space or present limitations.

EVALUATE THE SPACE

Look at the lot and decide what will go where, such as where to place the party space, where to create a quiet hideaway and where to locate a poolhouse or outdoor shower.

A large, flat yard can be divided into a series of patios that serve different purposes. Yards that are built on a hill or a slope can still be utilized with creative design elements, such as multi-tiered decking. By working with qualified designers, homeowners can bring their ideas to life.

See OUTDOOR on 22

An outdoor entertaining area that offers the same amenities found inside a home can make outdoor retreats both comfortable and functional. Creative planning can help homeowners design dream areas perfect for hosting friends or family. Photo: Metro Creative Connection







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TIPS TO MOW LIKE A PRO

Wider blade grasses, like Kentucky bluegrass and fescue, are easier to stripe for the manicured look

If you're a homeowner who already has a nice lawn but you are looking to take its appearance to the next level, striping is a quick and easy way to do it, according to experts.

"All we're doing with our equipment is we're making our grass lay down in two different directions so that it looks nice and intentional," said Brian Latimer, a landscaping expert and 2020 Exmark partner. "It's simple to do, but gives the lawn a nice, professional, crisp look."

Latimer, who also is a professional bass angler on the FLW tour, shared his lawn striping secrets in a recent episode of "Done-in-a-Weekend Projects," an Exmark Original Series. In the episode, Latimer noted that while having a striping kit can help you achieve the right look, it isn't necessary, and you can stripe your lawn whether you are working with a 21-inch walk-behind mower or a 60-inch riding mower.

See MOW on 25



OUTDOORContinued from Page 21

EASY FOOD AND DRINK ACCESS

Traipsing in and out of the house for refreshments can become tiresome when entertaining outside. In such situations, people also can track dirt inside of the home or leave a trail of pool water in their wake. Outdoor kitchens allow easy access to food and drink that makes outdoor entertaining much easier. The experts at Angie's List suggest outdoor kitchens be built close to the house to make it easier to run electricity and plumbing to the outdoor kitchen.

Outdoor kitchens should include a sink, small refrigerator, built-in grill, and bar area.

CREATURE COMFORTS

Homeowners should think about the things that make the inside of their homes so comfortable and then replicate that outside. Sofas and loveseats covered in fabric suited for outdoors and plenty of pillows can make for great lounging.

Lighting that can be adjusted for day or night, or even to set the mood, is another consideration. Shade structures, like a trellis or retractable awning, will keep the area comfortable and can also define outdoor "rooms" and establish privacy.

FIRE IT UP

Many homeowners enjoy having fire elements in their yards. Lanterns and candles may create a romantic feel, but a fire pit or outdoor fireplace may help extend use of the outdoor entertaining area beyond summer.

Entertaining outdoors is made that much more enticing with a dream outdoor living space full of amenities.









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CONTAINER GARDENING FOR BEGINNERS

Liven up a drab and quiet area of your backyard with a colorful container garden

Gardening is a rewarding activity that gardening enthusiasts can't wait to get back to once the weather warms up. An extended weather forecast for the tri-county area hints at temperatures in the low 80s.

Many gardeners find getting their hands dirty while tending to a garden can be a great form of escapism. In addition, growing one's own fruits and vegetables can be great for the environment.

Though it's easy to assume gardening is an activity exclusive to homeowners with their own yards, that's not the case at all. Container gardening can make it possible for anyone to garden regardless of where they live.

The benefits of container gardening go beyond making gardening accessible to everyone. Many plants grown in containers are less susceptible to disease than plants grown in the soil, which can reduce reliance on potentially harmful pesticides. Container gardens also tend to be easier to maintain than traditional gardens, making gardening more doable for people with especially hectic schedules.

Container gardening can be simple, and novices can consider these tips when planning and ultimately tending to their first gardens.

- Conduct a light audit. Walk around your home to determine where your plant can be placed so it gets as much light as it needs to thrive. Some plants need a lot of light, while others can thrive with a lot less. By conducting a light audit before choosing plants, you can determine if your home is most conducive to plants that require a lot of a light or those that need little light to get by.
- Make sure containers have ample drainage. The gardening experts at Good Housekeeping note that drainage holes are essential when choosing containers. Waterlogged soil can be fatal for plants, so there must be ample drainage in the container. Don't focus too much on the size of the holes, just make sure that they



Container gardening can be simple, and novices can consider these tips when planning and ultimately tending to their first gardens. **Photo: Pinterest**

allow excess water to drain out from the pot.

- Don't forget to feed your plants. Potting soil won't necessarily have nutrients that plants can access, so many container gardeners must fertilize the soil so plants can thrive. Good Housekeeping notes that watering with diluted fish emulsion, seaweed extract or compost tea can help plants thrive. Feed once every two weeks to start, adjusting the schedule thereafter depending on how the plants respond.
- Seek advice. Local gardening centers can be great resources for novice container gardeners. Such centers can recommend plants with a history of thriving in the area as well as plants that might be more compatible when containers are placed next to one another.

Container gardening can bring gardening to any home, whether it's a light-filled private home or an apartment where sunlight is sparse.

BACKYARD

Continued from Page 20

post hole digger, fast-setting concrete, spray paint, 3/8-inch sisal or Manila rope, a drill, wood screws, three boat cleats, triangular shade sail, fabric glue, and scissors.

Mark on the ground where the posts will be erected. Set the posts. Wrap the posts in rope for a decorative touch. Add cleats about 6 inches from the top of the post. Add ribbon around the border of the sail. Tie the shade to the post cleats and enjoy a cool break from the afternoon sun.

For complete instructions, go to hgtv. com and search for shade sail.

LAWN GAMES — HANDS-OFF ENTERTAINING

Let these backyard games do the work so you can relax and socialize on your own terms.

Using an old sheet, draw large shapes and cut holes. Finish edges of the holes with colorful tape. Make holes across



the top of the fabric, similar to holes in a shower curtain. Weave rope or twine through the top leaving about 5 feet of

excess rope on each end to tie to tree, porch columns or some other vertical post. Guests score points by throwing a football through the numbered holes.

For complete instructions, go to hgtv. com and search lawn games.

MOVIE NIGHT

Your family will certainly enjoy watching a movie in the backyard on a DIY movie screen. You will need two tall Shepherds hooks, a white sheet, a black (or dark colored) sheet to help keep light out, two shower curtain rods, tie wraps, and shower curtain hooks/ clips. Similar to the photo shown here, the curtain rods inserted into a casing at



the top and bottom of the sheet will be attached to the tall Shepherds hooks. Decorate the area around the movie screen with flowers and don't forget the popcorn and lemonade.

Backyard movie projectors can be bought online and start at approximately \$100.

For complete instructions, go to hgtv.com and search for outdoor movie theater.

RING TOSS

Retrieve some discarded wine bottles or tall thin bottles from the recycle



bin and cover them in spray paint or glitter for a whimsical look. Decorate several 6-inch plastic rings found at craft

stores to toss over the bottles. Decorate a shallow crate or cardboard box and set the bottles inside so that they cannot fall over and break.

Create your own scoring system and prizes. For complete instructions, go to hgtv.com and search ring toss.

GIANT TIC TAC TOE

Using nine hula hoops, you can create a large backyard sized tic-tac-toe



game, enjoyable for any age. You will also need 10 plastic plates. On five of the plates, using tape or paint,

make a large X on the front. You and your game partner can compete and whoever gets three Xs or three Os (the

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plain plates), wins.

For complete instructions, go to hgtv. com and search giant tic tac toe.

ORGANIC BUG SPRAY

Mosquitoes and bugs love our backyards just as much as we do. With a few readily available products, families can create organic bug sprays that are safe for everyone.

You'll need 2 ounces of distilled water, 2 ounces of witch hazel, ½ teaspoon of glycerin, 15 drops of quality essential oil. Experts suggest using three



essential oils together, including 15 drops of lavender to deter mosquitoes, 15 drops of rose-

mary to deter ants and mosquitoes and 15 drops of peppermint to deter deer ticks. Mix all in a small spray bottle. Label the bottle with a decorative sticker and be sure to list all ingredients.

For complete instructions, go to hgtv. com and search organic bug spray.

MOW

Continued from Page 22

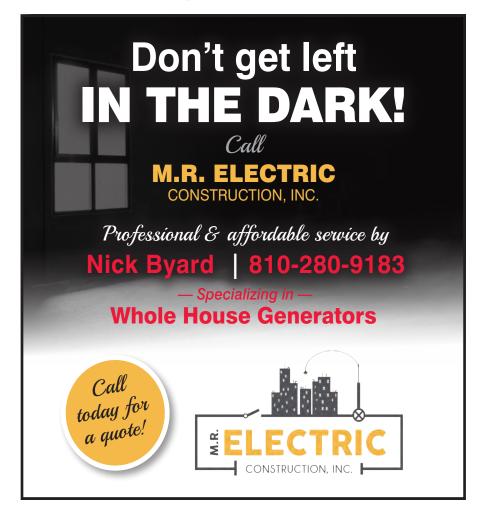
Another thing to consider, according to Latimer, is the type of grass you plant. Typically, the wider blade grasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass and fescue stripe better and are generally easier to mow. Whereas some of the grasses that you mow a lot closer, like centipede grass and Bermuda grass, are tougher to mow and don't show their stripes quite as well. He suggests that for these grasses, it is best to use a striping kit.

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Whatever type of mowing equipment or grass you have, you can achieve more visually defined lawn stripes by making multiple passes.

To learn more, check out "Mow Like a Pro," in which Latimer walks show host and landscape designer, Doug Scott through the finer points of lawn striping by visiting Exmark.com/Backyard.

With the right strategy, you can mow with greater confidence to achieve a lawn that looks professionally landscaped.







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Some chefs like to accompany their steak with a little grilled Napa cabbage, pickled mustard seeds, mustard jus made from the trim of the meat, tater tots and sauce gribiche. Photo: STATEPOINT.NET

PERFECTING YOUR NEXT RIBEYE STEAK

Learn to grill with confidence

Besides a great looking lawn, nothing showcases the backyard quite like a cookout. But anything worth doing is worth doing right. So when it comes to grilling your next ribeye steak, take a cue from world class chefs who are all turning up the heat.

"All my chef buddies are cooking on high, intense heat, getting their castirons blistering and getting their grills ripping hot to keep everything from sticking and to get that super fast char," said former "Iron Chef Showdown" winner, David Bancroft. "The chef's secret is to really push that boundary on temperature and finding confidence there."

As host of the new Exmark Original series "Prime Cuts," Bancroft spends a lot of time talking to some of the world's best grill chefs. In a recent episode, he teamed up with the 2017 James Beard Award winner, Best Chef Midwest, Chef Kevin Nashan to show viewers how to prepare the perfect ribeye steak.

Nashan shared his secrets for ribeye success: he likes to use the heart of the ribeye over a really hot grill, adding a little oil "as an insurance policy," for a little sear, and then finishing it off in the oven.

He accompanies his cut with a little grilled Napa cabbage, pickled mustard

seeds, mustard jus made from the trim of the meat, tater tots and sauce gribiche.

"No one thinks to grill cabbage, but cabbage can stand up to the heat of the grill, plus it has a little horseradish nature to it, and of course ribeye and horseradish go hand-in-hand," Nashan said.

To watch the complete "Prime Cuts" episode, plus bonus content, complete recipes, cooking prep tips and more, visit Exmark.com/Backyard. As part of a unique multimedia destination called Backyard Life, which has a focus on giving home and acreage owners tips and know-how to make the most of their outdoor experience and live more life outdoors, you can also access content on lawn-and-garden, outdoor cooking and living and rural lifestyles.

As you heat up the grill, stoke the fire and throw on a prime cut, Bancroft encourages you to do so with confidence.

"The common trend here with all the chefs cooking in the backyard is getting confident with your cooking vessels," Bancroft said. "Know what your temperatures are, know your hot spots, know your cold spots and get confident."

From ribeye to fish, with a few pointers and the right attitude, you can nail your next feast on the grill.

Source: statepoint.net

Sunken Concrete?

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David's Dabblings Some thoughts about sports and others not dealing with sports at all

A BUNCH OF RANDOM THOUGHTS

So will there be fans at Detroit Lions' games if the season is played out as the National Football League hopes, or will there not?

It seems it depends on who you ask the question.

The Detroit Lions said in statement earlier this week, "Given the evolving circumstances surrounding COV-ID-19, contingencies are needed and will be in place. We are evaluating all facets of the game day experience, and will do what is required to maintain a safe and healthy environment at Ford Field where our fans can feel comfortable." That sounds like a team expecting fans.

However, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer seems a bit less optimistic about that, saying this during a recent radio morning show. "We also have to (temper) their expectations and say 'Life is going to be different.' We're not going to be filing stadiums this fall."

It'll be interesting to see what ends up happening.

ESPN's "The Last Dance" and the Bad Boys

The ESPN series featuring Michael Jordan's career has little importance to me, but I did make sure to watch the episodes that involved the Detroit Pistons and the "Bad Boys."

At a time when the National BasSee **DABBLINGS** on 29

MHSAA makes changes to some district/regional tourneys

By David Troppens

There will be some changes to the postseason prep athletic formats during the 2020-21 academic school year.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) plans on creating a seeding system at the regional level in ice hockey as well as creating adjustments to basketball and soccer districts.

Staring next winter, hockey will have a seeding process where the top two teams

in every regional will be on opposite sides of the bracket. That means if both teams win throughout the regional, the top two seeds will meet in the regional title game.

Teams will be seeded based on the Michigan Power Rating (MPR), a computer formula the MHSAA used for seedings during the 2019-20 basketball seasons and boys soccer season. The teams with the highest ratings by a given

point of the regular season will earn the top seed in their regional followed by the teams with the second-highest point total taking the second seed.

The basketball and soccer seasons used seedings during the 2019-20 school year but will take them a step further. If a bracket has a bye, the top seeded team will earn that bye.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020 | PAGE 28 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Eagles win Metro soccer contest vs. Fenton

By David Troppens

Editor's note: With the loss of the spring prep sports season, we'll remember the 2019-20 athletic year with occasional stories from the fall and winter. This story will feature the Fenton-Linden boys soccer rivalry, This was one of three games between the two squads during the fall of 2019.

Fenton — At the start of Linden's varsity boys soccer season keeper Ian Downarowicz didn't know what to expect out of his squad.

"No offense to anybody, everyone were great players but this team wasn't as beefy as the lineup we had last year," Downarowicz said.

Downarowicz's opinion has

changed. The Eagles defeated the Fenton Tigers for the second time this season, beating the Metro League's defending champions 2-0 on Fenton's own home turf Wednesday.

"We have improved a lot and I'm happy with it," Downarowicz said. "It means a lot. I'm pretty sure this is the first time we've got a shutout with me in goal. Last year we had a pretty good game against them before the playoffs. This time we got them."

"It's awesome to come here and beat them," Linden senior Ryan Gillespie said. "It's always a tough match against them. They always come and fight. They always play hard. But we were able to come

See EAGLES on 29



Linden keeper lan Downarowicz makes a save during the Eagles' 2-0 victory against the Fenton Tigers during the fall of 2019. It was one of three games the two area rivals played against each other last season. Photo: David Troppens





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DABBLINGS

Continued from Page 28

ketball Association and the Chicago Bulls wanted to see Jordan take the crown as sports top media king, the Detroit Pistons made sure that didn't happen for a few seasons by pounding the Bulls, and Jordan, into submission while the Pistons won consecutive NBA titles. In the third episode, Jordan said "Oh, I hated them," talking about the Pistons. "And that hate carries even to this day."

The Pistons' fan in me kind of likes hearing that. Possibly the greatest player in NBA history still allows the Bad Boys to have that type of power over him. It feels kind of nice.

Will there be any pro sports this spring/summer in the US?

Well, the answer of that question may already have been answered by the time anyone reads this column. NASCAR has a race scheduled at Darlington Raceway on Sunday. That will be the first of seven races over an 11-day span at two different tracks. The Ultimate Fighting Championship also has started hosting events.

It's starting to look like other sports are going to be starting soon as well. The PGA Tour hopes to return to action on June 11 with the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial Country Club.

Getting my sports fix through old radio broadcasts

I collect Detroit Tigers radio broadcasts of old games. The oldest of these games came during the Tigers' American League pennant winning season of 1934. Probably 66 percent of the games the Tigers win, but I do have plenty of regular season games the Tigers lose. Without some losses, that takes away some of the drama. The other day I listened to a game from a past season and the Tigers won in the bottom of the ninth. It's silly but while listening to the game in my backyard it's easy to treat the game as an actual contest being played at that moment. It's not like anything changed. That Tiger team still had the same final-season record, but to me they are 'new games' and it's thrilling to relive these victories.

Tomorrow's game could include Mark Fidrych on the mound, Al Kaline at the plate or maybe Charlie Gehringer playing second base. During these times I'm glad I have these tapes.

1984 Tigers keep on winning through mid-May

By David Troppens

Editor's note: The Major League Baseball season hasn't yet and may not. To make up for the loss of the season, we'll be reliving the last Detroit Tigers' World Championship season, 1984, with occasional stories. We'll be looking at mid-May in this edition.

The Detroit Tigers were 27-3 after their first 30 games of the 1984 season — 26-4!!! It was a record for the best start in Major League Baseball (MLB) history, and remains it to this date. How good of a start is that? If the Tigers won just half of their games the rest of the season, the team would've won 92 games, which would've been enough victories to win the American League East. Well, the Tigers didn't stop at 26-4. They went on to break a few more records before one-fourth of the season was over.

It looked like the Tigers were about to cool down (at least a little) when the California Angels came to Tiger Stadium and won an NBC Game of the Week contest 4-1

against Detroit. Tommy John scattered eight hits, and Reggie Jackson hit his second home run of his career over Tiger Stadium's rightfield roof, leading the Angels to the victory. Jackson's first rooftop shot came during the 1971 All-Star Game. The Angels had stolen the thunder during the national broadcast, and Detroit was now 26-5. The Tigers started Sunday's game but it ended up being a rain out.

The Seattle Mariners came to Tiger Stadium during the start of the next week and the wins began to come once again. Tied at 5-5 entering the bottom of the eighth, the bench started the winning raly in the opener. Rusty Kuntz, who was batting .440 after the contest, started a rally with a double. Pinch hitter Dave Bergman hit an RBI-triple, giving the Tigers a 6-5 lead. Lou Whitaker followed with an RBI-single and the Tigers had their 7-5 victory.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM



Detroit Tigers' manager Sparky Anderson had to miss a series during mid-May due to the death of his father. Yet, the Tigers kept on winning and were still breaking records for its fast start to the 1984 season.

EAGLES

Continued from Page 28

here and get the win."

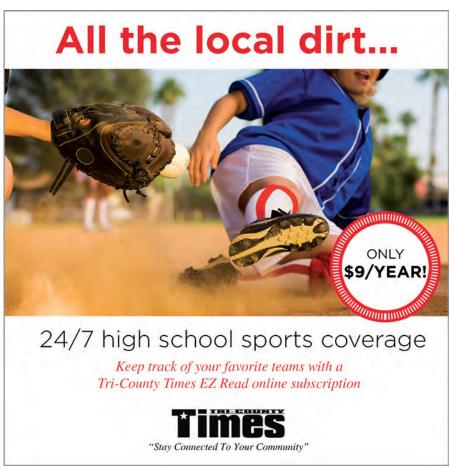
Downarowicz's strong keeping (he made 14 saves) and the offense's two first-half goals made sure the Eagles stayed within a loss away from first-place Goodrich in the loss column in the Metro race. Fenton also is a loss behind Goodrich, but still has a huge contest against the Martians at Goodrich on Wednesday.

The first of the two goals was one the English Premier League will have troubles duplicating. Gillespie sent a pass to Aiden Miller who took a shot from about 30 yards out off the volley for a goal just under Fenton's crossbar. Linden led 1-0 with 30:13 left in the half.

With 11:51 left in the half, Gillespie assisted another goal This time it was a shot by Alex Smith from about 10 yards out. Fenton was enjoying a good chunk of the possession and led in shots, but now trailed 2-0.

"We weren't really after it after those goals," Fenton varsity boys soccer coach Matt Sullivan said.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM



HOT LINE CONTINUED

DESPOT, I THINK you have the wrong government official. One person can plant a seed and change minds. Seems some can't get past their ego to even want to share their knowledge to teach or help others to understand. I have an open mind and wanted to genuinely listen and learn.

EVERY DAY WE are exposed to risk. It's the amount we are willing to accept. If wearing a mask will protect me and my family, I'm going to wear a mask. You don't get to infect my family by not wearing one.

THERE IS NO correlation between the number of deaths caused by vehicle accidents and COVID-19. There is a cure for vehicle deaths. Vehicle deaths can be prevented by not drinking, not texting, paying attention while driving and driving in a safe manner. So what is your point?

THANK GOODNESS GOV.

Whitmer is taking expert recommendations to extend the stay-at-home order. She has been nothing but logical and heartfelt during this pandemic. Too bad all the naysayers are making it political.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE



TWO CAN AM MAVERICKS STOLEN

On Saturday, May 2, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to Lake Fenton Middle School in Fenton Township for an unauthorized driving away of auto (UDAA). Deputies on scene received information of an orange Can Am Maverick and a blue Can Am Maverick x3 stolen from the parking lot. The investigation was turned over to Genesee Auto-Theft Investigation Network (GAIN). If anyone has any information contact Sgt. Curt Harrington at (810-257-3422). Shown here is a similar Can Am Mayerick.

FRAUD ON MINNETONKA

On Friday, May 1, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office took a complaint by telephone from the 4000 block of Minnetonka in Fenton Township for a fraud. The incident remains under investigation.

DISORDERLY ON BELLE GLADE COURT

On Sunday, May 3, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the 2000 block of Belle Glade Court in Fenton Township for threats. Citations were issued to a 67-year-old female and a 37-year-old male for disorderly conduct.

FRAUD INVOLVING ELDERLY VICTIM

On Tuesday, May 5, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the 6000 block of Lakeview Park Drive in Fenton Township for a fraud involving an elderly person. The incident is under investigation by the Sheriff's Office Elder Abuse Division.

LARCENY ON NORTH LAKE COURT

On Saturday, May 9, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to the 11000 block of North Lake Court in Fenton Township for a larceny. The incident is currently under investigation.

AUTOMOBILE

Continued from Page 17

For anyone considering a new car, Canever said, "It's easier to shop from home than you think." He said the purchase of a new vehicle can be substantial, but it can be personal and professional despite the current COVID-19 standards businesses must adhere to.

Canever said the most important thing right now is that potential customers know that the dealership is taking extreme safety precautions to keep everyone safe.

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Times

LOOKING BACK

at this week in

HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

MAY 17

2004: Marcia Kadish, 56, and Tanya McCloskey, 52, of Malden, Massachusetts, marry at Cambridge City Hall, becoming the first legally married same-sex partners in the United States.

MAY 18

1989: A crowd of more than 1 million protesters marches through the streets of Beijing calling for a more democratic political system.

MAY 19

1935: T.E. Lawrence, known to the world as Lawrence of Arabia, dies from injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident six days before.

MAY 20

1862: President Abraham Lincoln signs the Homestead Act, which opens government-owned land to small family farmers. The act gave "any person" who was the head of a family 160 acres to try his hand at farming for five years.

MAY 21

1881: In Washington, D.C., humanitarians Clara Barton and Adolphus Solomons founded the American National Red Cross.

MAY 22

1802: At age 70, President George Washington's widow and the nation's first ever first lady, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington, dies at her Mt. Vernon home.

MAY 23

1934: While driving a stolen car near Sailes, Louisiana, notorious criminals Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow are shot to death by Texas and Louisiana state police.

Source: history.com

View stories at myfenton.com





REAL ESTATE

OBITUARIES

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LifeStyles

Sunday, May 17, 2020

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Ground has been broken

■The Rock Church of Fenton begins construction on \$3-million, 32,000-square-foot building

By Sharon Stone

The Rock Church of Fenton (Tyrone Township) has begun construction on its new building at 11499 Linden Rd.

The congregation has been saving money over the past few years and reached its goal to cover the \$3 million cost of the new building.

Neil Thompson, director of ministry operations, said after a couple of set-

backs with permitting in the past few months, all permits have now been approved. The Tyrone Township board approved the church's plans at its last board meeting via Zoom.

Thompson said reaching their goal and getting permits approved has been an inspiring moment for the body of believers at The Rock.

"Over the past nine weeks, the church has not been meeting in person," Thompson said. "Instead, we have been meeting on the weekends digitally on Facebook, YouTube, and a weekly



Neil Thompson, The Rock Church director of ministry operations, stands atop the product of 15 acres of woodland clearing for the church's new site at 11495 Linden Rd., in Tyrone Township. They've cleared the pine to make way for a 32,000-square-foot facility which should be finished by Christmas. Photo by Tim Jagielo





outreach special on Fox66.

"While this has been a challenge, it's exciting to see what God and the church can do, even during a pandemic."

Church leaders anticipate this new building to be an outreach to the com-

munity, a beacon of light. Thompson added that it will be a place where anyone can feel comfortable to attend no matter what they believe or are seeking.

See THE ROCK on 32



TEACHERS

Continued from Front Page

the time and effort put forth by both sides of the bargaining table to reach this positive outcome."

The two-year contract includes a full step and a 1-percent increase across the salary grid for the 2019-2020 school year with no additional compensation for 2020-2021.

The contract also includes items such as a higher sick day cap and increased payment in lieu of taking their medical benefits. If a teacher does not take the



benefit package, they receive money that is placed in a 403 B retirement account.

The FEA and the Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) administration will be collaborating on the 2020-2021 school calendar and will publish the calendar by Aug. 1.

Adam Hartley, superintendent of FAPS, said, "I am appreciative of the FEA and the Board of Education for working together to come to an agreement so we may focus on preparing for next school year during this unprecedented time in education.

"Our teachers have continued to work hard over the COVID-19 shutdown and to be able to agree on this contract before the summer is a true testament of our ability to work together."

FEA President Pam Hayes added, "I am very pleased that we have come to terms on a contract. Although it's taken a long time and has been difficult for both sides, I am relieved that in the end, we were able to work together to do what's best for everyone involved."

The FEA's last contract expired June 30, 2019. Union negotiators began meeting with district officials in March of 2019.

LOST SOMETHING? **FOUND SOMETHING?** POST IT ON TRI-COUNTY'S LOST AND FOUND **FACEBOOK PAGE** A page devoted exclusively to the recovery of pets and personal property. www.facebook.com/tricountylostfound

Just sayin'...

Dirt, raw eggs and swimming hole water — we swallowed it all

VERA HOGAN

hen our boys were growing up, my husband used to say, "If Mom sneezes, we're all

gonna die!" The reason was that I very rarely got sick. Everyone at his work, my office and the kids' school could be sick with colds and flu, but I usually never got what they had. He thought for sure that I was a carrier.

Now that I'm getting older, I do get sick from time to time, but

not "real" sick, and I have a couple other minor ailments.

I often wonder if my immune system is stronger because of the way I grew up.

When I was a kid, it was nothing to get very dirty while playing outside and even swallow some of that dirt, accidentally of course. During the summer, we swam in an old limestone quarry that was turned into a swimming hole. The water we swam in was ripe with vegetation, fish, turtles, snakes and other critters. I know I swallowed a lot of that water, and a few bugs.

We rarely ate processed food, except maybe breakfast cereal. My dad had a vegetable garden and most of our side dishes were fresh. We ate a lot of chicken and not too much red meat. My mother used to wrap leftover food in wax paper. She never threw that wax paper away but

instead reused it again and again until it fell apart.

One of my favorite things to do was lick the beaters and bowl af-

> ter my mom put a cake or cookies, with raw eggs in the batter, in the oven. Another thing my mother made that was a Christmas Eve treat and still one of my favorites was steak tartare. That's ground up raw meat mixed with onion, salt and pepper, and raw eggs.

Until about 25 years

ago, I never heard of E.coli or salmonella.

Because I loved playing outside and rolling around in the grass, I sometimes got chigger bites. Chigger larvae attach to a person and the itching is terrible. My parents didn't give me antiitch cream or antihistamine pills. They covered each bite with clear nail polish. When it dried, the little suckers just died, and their tiny corpses peeled away with the polish a day or so later.

Don't get me wrong, with today's pandemic I am very cautious. And whenever I go out, which isn't often, I always practice social distancing and wear a mask to protect other people from me — in case my husband was right.

Just sayin'!

Opinions offered in Just Sayin' are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Vera at vhogan@tctimes.com.

THE ROCK **Continued from Page 31**

In a press statement, Thompson said, "The building's design will be utilitarian in nature; it will not have stained glass or fancy decorations. It will be plain in nature; the building is simply a tool to show people that God loves

them no matter what they have done and that they can find peace in Him. By building it in this way, it allows us to continue to be debt-free, allowing us to continue to serve the community in whatever way we can."

Church leaders hope to see a finished product by Christmastime.

Best books, films & shows about

PANDEMICS

By Hannah Ball

The COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home order are keeping people inside. If you're not too tired of hearing about pandemics, here are some of the best books, films and TV shows about how deadly disease can ravage cities and populations.

BOOKS

"A Journal of the
Plague Year"
by Daniel Defoe

From 1665 to 1666, the bubonic plague returned to Britain and roughly killed one quar-

ter of London's population in 18 months. Daniel Defoe drew upon historical documents to write a realistic account of the plague's effects on the city.

"Pale Horse, Pale Rider"

by Katherine Anne Porter

During the Spanish flu pandemic in 1918, a young woman falls in love with a soldier, as both influenza and World War I loom.

... Typhoid Mary: Captive to the Public's Health"

by Judith Walzer Leavitt

This is the tragic story of Mary Mallon, an Irish immigrant cook, who became known as "Typhoid Mary"

when she presumably infected 51 others with the deadly disease. This book shows her life during the typhoid outbreak as the poster "healthy carrier" of Salmonella typhi, and her life-long isolation from the public until her death 30 years later.



"Contagion"....)
This 2011

PALE RIDER

KATHERINE ANNE PORTER

film directed by Steven Soderbergh follows a celebrity ensemble of a cast, including Gweneth Paltrow and Matt Damon, as a lethal airborne virus kills people in days.



Available on HULU

"Outbreak"

A fictional town in California is quarantined when it becomes ground zero for an Ebola-like out-

break. It shows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and military medical researchers trying to contain and treat the infected.

Available on

"The Flu"

In this South Korean film, a deadly strain of H5N1 tears through the city of Bundang and kills those who contract it within 36 hours.

Available on

TV SHOWS

"Pandemic: How to Prevent an Outbreak"

This Netflix show features real scientists and disease experts in different countries handling outbreaks of Ebola, trying to create a vaccine for the



33

influenza, and preparing hospitals for highly contagious diseases.

·"Containment"

This 2016 CW limited series shows a deadly and mysterious outbreak of a virus in Atlanta,

leaving a section of the city in quarantine. Things turn violent.

"The Walking Dead"

The popular show on AMC, based on comics by Robert Kirkman, starts with a man

waking up from a coma to discover that a zombie outbreak has taken over the world.

Sources: vulture.com, fast-company.com,

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RICK HODGES

Finance & Business Director

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Kids: Lauryn 29, Abby 25, Jake 21, Peyton 19

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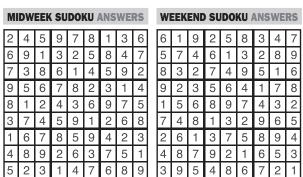




MIDWEEK CROSSWORD

123 Actor Bruce

Midweek Sudoku, Crossword Puzzle and Jumbles are located in the last Midweek's issue. All other puzzles are located throughout this edition of the Tri-County Times.



129 Acoustic pair

MIDWEEK JUMBLE ANSWERS:

pampering?

material?

PANDA, FABLE, VALLEY, UPHILL Answer: The bird never got upset or perturbed and was always composed. He was — UNFLAPPABLE

WEEKEND SCRAMBLE ANSWERS: CARESS. ALERT REFUSE, ETHER

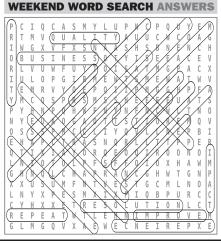
Answer: FATHER

island

80 Mr. Bia









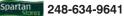
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WEEKEND PAPER HELP WANTED DEADLINES

WANTED DEADLINES



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The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they all make real words you can find in the dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble for Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer







:JewsnA

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Weekend Sudoku

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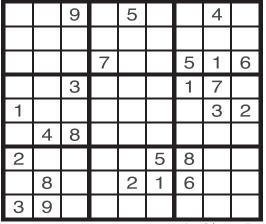
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Timebevel: Intermediate

Weekend Scrambler Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag! **SCARES** Sharp LATER Debris UFREES **HEETR** TODAY'S WORD "You're lucky, I have to put up with him AND his Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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Obituaries

Leslie Duane Scott

1931 - 2020

Leslie Duane Scott - age 88, of Fenton, died Sunday, May 3, 2020, son of Leslie Earl Scott and Mildred (Starr) Scott. A funeral service, due to COVID-19, was held for immediate family only

on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., with Rev. Dr. Tara Sutton of Halsey United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was held at Flushing Cemetery. Mr. Scott was born August 13, 1931 in Flint and married Mary Lou (Langdon) Scott in 1949. He lived in Flint and the Fenton area for the past 46 years. He graduated from Central High School in 1949. He started his career at Buick Motor Division as an apprentice electrician. Going to college part-time he earned his Associates degree



from Mott Community College, where he later returned to a part-time teaching position for the college. At Buick, he became a "Test Engineer" later retiring from the GM B-O-C

Division at the GM Proving Grounds. Surviving are three children, Michael (Nancy) Scott of St. Louis, MO, Leslie Andrew (Penny) Scott of Nashua, NH, Susan (Mohamad)
Amlani of Lake Fenton; six grandchildren, Karen and Michael of St. Louis, MO, Evan of Novi, Alikhan, Adam and Karima of Lake Fenton; four great-grandchildren, Kaillyn, Madison, Kennedy and Quinn. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Margaret E. Nance

Margaret E. Nance - age 78, died May 11, 2020. www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome. com.





Glenda J. Beasley

Glenda J. Beasley - age 71, died May 10, 2020. www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome. com.



Armond C. Martin

Armond C. Martin - age 85, died May 14, 2020. www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome. com.



myfenton.com

Walter Allen Henry

1942 - 2020

Walter Allen Henry - age 77, of Fenton, passed away surrounded by his loving family after his long battle with Pancreatic Cancer, Wednesday, May 13, 2020. Those desiring

may make contributions to the Walt Henry Fall Classic, 14091 Landings Way, Fenton. Walt was born November 19. 1942 in Swartz Creek, the son of Willis Charles and Carletta Irene (Putnam) Henry. He was a 1960 graduate of Swartz Creek High School and he received an associate degree from Flint Junior College where he was the High Jump National Champion in 1961. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in Korea. He married Therese Marie Horan June 20, 1987 in Swartz Creek. Walt had resided in Fenton since 1987 comina from Argentine, Swartz Creek, Lennon. He retired from the Genesee County Road Commission as a Supervisor. He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and a life member of the Fenton V.F.W. Curtis Wolverton Post #3243. He enjoyed playing cards with his brothers and nephews. He enjoyed all sports however he excelled in fast pitch softball and was an avid golfer. Surviving are his beloved wife of 32 years, Therese; children, Allison (Leon) LaVene of Fenton, William (Jody) Henry of Freeland, Nancy (Dr. Steven) Taft of Flushing, Kali (Matthew Dignan) Chapelle of Northport, Kory (Kelly) Chapelle of CA, and Kurt (Danielle) Chapelle of Fenton; grandchildren, Lee

(Jessica) LaVene III, Alex



Henry (Fiancé, Amanda), Zach (Alyssa) LaVene, Kayla Henry (Fiancé, Ed), Karina Henry, Luke Taft, Grant Taft, Brishom Dignan, Gunner Chapelle, Rhett

Chapelle, Pierce Chapelle, and Wren Dignan; greatgrandchildren, Jackson, Emerson, Adalynn, Tanner, Riley, and Harper; brothers, Tom (Sharen) of Swartz Creek, Bill (Doris) of Swartz Creek, Don (Parna) of Montrose, Ted (Jennifer) of Swartz Creek, Rick (Joan) of Swartz Creek, Doug (Linda) of Swartz Creek, and Randy (Tami) of Swartz Creek; special nephew, Matt Henry and many other nieces and nephews; mother-in-law, Maggie Horan of Fenton; sisters-in-law, Chris Henry of Swartz Creek, Berta Henry of Elmira. Marcie Gormlev of Fenton, and Cathie Horan of Fenton; brothers-in-law, Dan Horan of St. Ignace, Jeff Horan of Fenton and Brian Horan of AL: Walt's Foreign Exchange son, Teemu (Micale) Oksa and their son, Sebastian; and special friend, Derry McDonald of Linden. He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Penelope: brothers, Jack, George, Earl, Charles, and Pat Henry; sisters, Ella Mae Halka and Bonnie Baker: brother-in-laws, Charles Baker and Donald Halka; and fatherin-law, Dan Horan. The family wished to extend special thanks to Dr. Wollner and his nurse Danielle of Henry Ford Hospital Systems. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Arthur Yack Jr.

Arthur Yack Jr. - age 58, died May 8, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.

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Carolyn Butler

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Col. Sam Smith

Col. Sam Smith - age 82, died May 6, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Dorothy Stowe

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Herbert McKone

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Jacqueline Dean

Jacqueline Dean - age 81, died May 101, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



William Duso

William Duso - age 70, died May 7, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Obituaries

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John Schaefer

John Schaefer - age 97, died May 12, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Joyce Edwards

Joyce Edwards - age 75, died May 10, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Joyce Ptaszenski

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Leila Schaefer

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Lori Patsey

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Michael Eberhardt

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Pastor Dr. Connie Meier

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Paul Vanston

Paul Vanston - age 84, died May 11, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Pauline Priestley

Pauline Priestley - age 86, died May 13, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Thomas Hanson Jr.

Thomas Hanson Jr. - age 58, died May 10, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Randy Selley

Randy Selley - age 64, died May 9, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Stanley Zwierzynski

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Richard Johnson

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Robert Odor

Robert Odor - age 62. died May 9, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.





Sandra Skene

Sandra Skene - age 78, died May 9, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Steven Wallace

Steven Wallace - age 58, died May 7, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.





Warren Ankney Jr.

Warren Ankney Jr. - age 69, died May 11, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Roberta Risner

Roberta Risner - age 81, died May 14, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Arthur Burt Wermuth

1938 - 2020

Arthur BurtWermuth - age 81. of Holly, died Sunday, May 10. 2020. Cremation has taken place and private services have been held. Arthur was born August 6, 1938 in Detroit.





Butterfield. Ericka and Nathan Butterfield, LeAnn Oda. Barbara Nelligan, Shannon Hohl, Dennis and Shannah Wallace, Rick Wallace. Susie Wallace, Jamie and Shelly

Blackwell; the Roberts family, Kay, Ronald, Carol, and Louis. He was preceded in death by sister. Rosa (Wermuth) and husband, Evan Roberts; brother-in-law, Donald and Joan Oda; sister-in-law, Linda (Oda) and Edward Blackwell; and nephew, Jeffery Wallace. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Those desiring may make contributions to the Loose Senior Citizens Center or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.





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