

# 'People are tired of fighting'

■ Local sheriff's actions, words during Flint protest heard around the world

By Sharon Stone

Genesee County Sheriff Christopher Swanson has gained worldwide notoriety for what he did Saturday,

May 30 in Flint Township, just minutes north of Fenton.

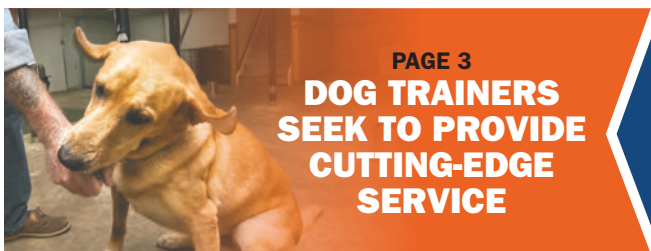
In a whirlwind of on-air interviews, Swanson, of Fenton Township, shared his experience of joining Flint area residents in a tension-filled but peaceful protest in the wake of the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Min-

nesota on Monday, May 25.

Derek Chauvin, a former Minneapolis police officer, was caught on cell phone videos as well as surveillance video pressing down on Floyd's neck with his knee until he was unconscious. Floyd was handcuffed and **See SHERIFF'S ACTIONS on 10**



Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson walks with protesters showing a united front. Submitted photo by Johnie Franklin III



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**DOG TRAINERS  
SEEK TO PROVIDE  
CUTTING-EDGE  
SERVICE**

# Midweek Times

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\$1.00

## City fields complaints over yard waste

■ Republic Services commits to being caught up with refuse, recycling and yard waste this week

By Sharon Stone

Due to extenuating circumstances with its Northern Michigan division, many of Republic Services' additional resources have been dispatched to assist with the recent flooding in Midland, Arenac and Gladwin counties.

Republic understands that this has created some delays in waste services collection and they apologize.

**See YARD WASTE on 9**

## FHS seniors celebrate graduation in church parking lot



A graduating senior in the Fenton High School Class of 2020 walks across the Freedom Center parking lot Sunday, May 31. Organizers wanted to make sure students had the opportunity to celebrate their high school accomplishments.

**See story on Page 8. Photo: Hannah Ball**

## Bars, restaurants allowed to reopen June 8

■ Gatherings of up to 100 people may resume now with social distancing guidelines

By Sharon Stone

Michigan bars and restaurants in southern and central Michigan can reopen to indoor dining at 50-percent capacity Monday, June 8. This comes after the Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan businesses were allowed to reopen May 18.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer made the announcement during a televised press conference Monday, June 1.

Whitmer said it's been a tough **See REOPEN on 5**



“So proud of Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson for what he did with protesters in Flint

Township. Our community is fortunate to have a leader like him.”



“Alright Michigan. Now that most industries have opened back up, it's

time to support them. Let's all commit to shopping in our hometown. Let's help out these poor businesses that suffered during COVID-19.”



“Healing starts with us — one at a time — UNITED. Great words from our sheriff.”



# COVID-19 testing

## ■ Know the difference between viral and antibody tests and what the results mean

By Sharon Stone

Two kinds of tests are available for COVID-19 — a viral test and an antibody test.

A viral test tells you if you have a current infection. An antibody test tells you if you had a previous infection.

An antibody test may not be able to show if the individual has a current infection, because it can take one to three weeks after infection to make antibodies. The Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC) does not know yet if having antibodies to the virus can protect someone from becoming infected with the virus again, or how long that protection might last.

### Who should be tested?

To learn if you have a current infection, viral tests are used, but not everyone needs this test, according to the CDC.

Most people will have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care and may not need to be tested.

CDC has guidance for who should be tested, but decisions about testing are made by state and local health departments or healthcare providers.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and want to get tested, call your healthcare provider first.

You can also visit your state or local health department's website to look for the latest local information on testing.

If you test positive for COVID-19 by a viral test, know what protective steps to take if you are sick or caring for someone.

If you test negative for COVID-19

by a viral test, you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. However, that does not mean you will not get sick. The test result only means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time of testing.

If you test positive or negative for COVID-19, no matter the type of test, you still should take preventive measures to protect yourself and others.

### LATEST MICHIGAN NUMBERS

Cumulative total of recovered COVID-19 cases, as of May 29: **38,099**

### CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES BY JURISDICTION UPDATED JUNE 2

**Genesee County** – 2,004 confirmed cases, 252 deaths

**Livingston County** – 395 confirmed cases, 26 deaths

**Oakland County** – 8,319 confirmed cases, 983 deaths

**Michigan** – 57,532 confirmed cases, 5,516 deaths

Source: [Michigan.gov/coronavirus](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus)

### TESTING SITES

Individuals who require assistance accessing this content are encouraged to contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 or email [COVID19@Michigan.gov](mailto:COVID19@Michigan.gov) for more information.

Testing criteria for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) has been expanded in Michigan to include individuals with mild symptoms and essential workers still reporting to work in person, whether they have symptoms or not.

Please call the testing site or your health care provider before you go for testing.

[michigan.gov/coronavirus](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus)

### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (888) 535-6136

Testing criteria for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) has been expanded in Michigan to include individuals with mild symptoms.

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- Screening required

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### ASCENT URGENT CARE - HOWELL

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# Dog trainers seek to provide cutting-edge service



Jack Grigg of Paradise Dog Training in Tyrone Township rewards Rudy, a 6-year-old yellow lab, for finding bedbugs to demonstrate how they might detect the COVID-19 virus using similar training techniques. **Photo by Tim Jagielo**

■ In desperate need of COVID-19-infected gloves, socks in order to teach dogs the scent

**By Sharon Stone**

A local dog training company is embarking on a cutting-edge program in an effort to train dogs to detect active COVID-19 virus on humans.

Lori and Jack Grigg, owners and trainers at Paradise Dog Training in Tyrone Township, are eager to begin this new project. However, they will need volunteers to donate gloves or socks that have the active COVID-19 virus on them. Lori said after 48 hours the virus on the material would no longer be active and the dogs would then be trained to detect the scent.

With privacy laws, Lori said it's impossible to know who might have the virus or virus-contaminated socks or gloves. If anyone would like donate to this specific training, call their training center at (810) 714-4861 or go to their website at [paradise-dogtraining.com](http://paradise-dogtraining.com).

See **CUTTING-EDGE** on 9

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## Building Brands

## Discretionary spending is coming back, is your advertising?

It wasn't that early, but my neighbor apologized for the early text. She stressed, however, "It's important." Then she sent me a link from the spa we go to offering a \$100 gift card for \$50. I text her back "already bought it!"

The COVID-19 pandemic changed my spending habits quite a bit. Just a couple of months ago I spent with abandon, and I'm proud of all of the work I did to keep the economy rolling along.

When the Stay Home order started a lot of my spending ended. And while I could have spent the last 10 plus weeks online shopping, a general sense of uncertainty slowed my normal pace of play.

As we get closer to the Stay Home order ending, or at least shifting in scope, I'm feeling a little more confident in getting back out there — cash in hand — hence the spa certificate purchase. Turns out, I'm not alone in my pandemic spending habits.

McKinsey & Company, an American management consulting firm, released the findings of their latest survey about a week ago. From the survey: "U.S. consumers' optimism

has remained relatively consistent since last week, with 34 percent of consumers expecting an economic rebound within two to three months. Americans are feeling the financial impact of COVID-19, with half of respondents reporting they're being very careful about how they spend their money. Looking ahead, 32 percent of

consumers say they will reduce their spending over the next two weeks. However, discretionary spending is starting to rebound since our first survey, led by food, alcohol, pet care, and skin care and makeup."

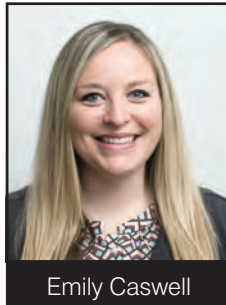
Given this information, here's what brands need to think about right now. For a lot of people, it's been weeks, months even, since they made a purchase that wasn't absolutely necessary. Especially if your brand

is in the "want" category, now is the time to remind consumers you're there, you're awesome, maybe offer something special and flat out ask for their business. If you aren't out there asking for a consumer to return to you, they could forget about you or worse, wonder if you're worth it.

I received a complaint from a reader a few months back that this column was too "sales-y." I took it as a compliment. Part of my job in writing this column is to remind businesses that our team is here to help you achieve your goals. Whether through branding services, event sponsorship or print advertising, our help sometimes comes with a price tag.

I'm proud to sell what we do here, and you should be proud to sell your goods and services too.

Whether your brand is a need or a want it's important to get your ask out there and in as many avenues as possible. With any luck, my neighbor will wake me up with a text about your offer this week. Want help? Our team is here, contact me at [ecaswell@mihomepaper.com](mailto:ecaswell@mihomepaper.com).



Emily Caswell

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

## What would you say to the rioters or protesters?



"I see you. I hear you. Black Lives Matter."

Alexandra Knoerr  
Fenton



"Stop hurting your cause with violence and looting. That solves nothing and hurts innocent people and businesses."

Jesse Goudeseune  
Brighton



"Thank you Flint for showing America how to honor George Floyd with peaceful protests!"

Debra Coffin Christman  
Fenton



"I stand with you. BLM."

Andrew Spiece  
Fenton

## Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at [myfenton.com](http://myfenton.com)  
or text to 810-771-8398

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.

**TWO OF THE** most important documents the founders of our nation created specifically state a right to life, hence my statement people have a right to live. If you disagree, then document your evidence and tell everyone why you do not believe people have a right to live.

**FOR THE INDIVIDUAL** stating that coastal states are worst hit, remember that Florida and Texas are coastal and they had such better COVID-19 outcomes. Also, what's your explanation for Michigan?

**NO INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS** supersede the rights of the many, nor are they absolute. If you doubt this, I suggest you slander or libel someone, or perhaps go into a crowded building and start yelling fire. You can claim First Amendment rights in your defense, but see how much that helps you.

## POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

### GRAND BLANC MAN REPORTS PISTOL STOLEN IN HOLLY

On Monday, May 25, Holly police were dispatched to speak with a 68-year-old Grand Blanc man who reported he had parked his vehicle in the parking lot of a business on S. Saginaw Street in Holly Village on Wednesday, May 20. He was going to enter a business and had his pistol on him so he chose to remove it and place it in a compartment location behind the driver's seat. The man reported his vehicle was unlocked and the windows were down. When the owner returned to his car after a few minutes, he drove directly home and discovered the firearm missing. Holly police are reviewing store video and investigating the theft.

### MISSING CREDIT CARD, GIFT CARDS IN HOLLY

On Thursday, May 28, a Holly police officer took a report from a 34-year-old Holly woman who discovered an unauthorized charge to a missing credit card. In addition, it was discovered that seven gift cards also are missing. The victim reports a family member and his friend were at the residence Jan. 19 and were in several rooms of the home. Once the fraudulent charge was discovered, she looked for the credit card and discovered it and the gift cards are all missing. Holly police are investigating.

### STOLEN BIRD UNDER INVESTIGATION IN HOLLY

On Friday, May 29, employees of a local pet store on N. Saginaw Street in Holly Village reported to Holly police that a bird for sale in the store had been stolen. The employees had recently fed the bird, and a couple had entered the store that had previously been at the store asking about the bird. The couple bought feed consistent for caring for a baby bird and were seen by the cage. After they left the store, the bird was missing. Holly police are reviewing store video and are investigating.

## REOPEN

### Continued from Front Page

three months for Michiganders. She said everyone's been dealing with the global COVID-19 pandemic, historic racial injustice related to the death of George Floyd in Minnesota and a 500-year flood in mid-Michigan.

Because the coronavirus numbers continue to improve, Whitmer said effective Monday, June 1 she was rescinding the stay-at-home order. She also is easing the state into her fourth phase of reopening the economy.

Effective Monday, June 1, groups of fewer than 100 people may gather as long as they adhere to strict social distancing guidelines. Outdoor fitness classes can resume. Office work can resume at the office, however, Whitmer said office employees who can work at home should continue working from home.

Drive-in movie theaters and housecleaning services may resume.

Across the entire state, bars and restaurants can reopen at 50-percent capacity Monday, June 8.

Andrea Chapin, whose family owns Andy's Place in Holly, said after the governor's press conference that they are really excited to get their customers and music back. "We miss our customers," Chapin said. She admits she does have some questions on details of the reopening, but is still "very excited to get back to some type of normalcy."

Andy's Place has outdoor seating and their take-out orders have gone well. "We're surprised with the business we've had," she said.

Marlina Dedivanaj, owner of The Meeting Place (TMP) in Fenton, said, "Our entire being is based around hospitality. It's in our heart, it's what we do.

"I'm sure all restaurateurs felt the same as us, like a part of you is missing. So many of our patrons kept calling during this and asking 'can we just come in to eat?'"

"Finally, we can welcome them inside and do what we do best.

Thank goodness we are already extremely dedicated to being clean and sanitary so that will not be something new for us. All new precautions will be taken for everyone's safety. We can't wait to open our doors to everyone again."

Nick Sorice, owner of the Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille, said, "We are very excited." He said his employees will return June 8 to prepare for a Thursday, June 11 reopening. "It takes time to get orders," he said.

Being more of a destination restaurant, the Fenton Hotel did not offer carry-out. "It just didn't make financial sense," Sorice said. "Every restaurant is different."

Sorice said they'd be back to as normal as possible and stay in compliance with social distancing with tables more spaced out. Patio seating will be adjusted as well. He also said they plan to continue offering live music Wednesday through Saturday. "It's been a rough three months," Sorice said.

Day camps for children and pools



It's a family atmosphere at Andy's Place in Holly, with mom Andrea Chapin helping out and daughter Liz Chapin working as service manager.

Times file photo

can open Monday, June 8.

Some businesses where close contact is necessary — gyms, hair salons, indoor theaters and casinos — will remain closed.

Retailers can reopen to customers without an appointment tomorrow Thursday, June 4.



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**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

**YOU ARE THE** ignorant person. You are comparing a 'contagious' disease to health issues that are not 'contagious.' I could be in a room with a person afflicted with any of these health issues and never contract the problem. Can't say that about COVID-19.

**IF WHITMER WERE** the governor of Minnesota, she would have stopped the rioters immediately. No, not because the rioters were burning down buildings and destroying private property but because they weren't social distancing.

**IN RESPONSE TO** 'boomers invented participation trophies.' You have the wrong generation. Parents in the late 1990s is more like it, along with the time-out chair.

**THE 'NEW NORMAL'** is yet another psychological term being used to lead us like sheep toward God knows what.

**THIS YEAR, SEEK** out candidates who are pro-America and not recycled, connected Washington, D.C. bureaucrats. Please do your homework.

**PLEASE STOP WATCHING** all cable propaganda media and question the slant in AP and USA Today articles that are in most every newspaper. Five corporations own the media and are aligned with the globalist left and establishment Republicans.

**IT IS FRAUD** for our Michigan Secretary of State to send out voter applications statewide when having knowledge of thousands of dead or ineligible people on the voting rolls, and fights to not remove them.

**CALL THE GOVERNOR'S** office and demand statistics on the number of deaths of our family members in Michigan nursing homes.

**IT'S SO MUCH** easier to stay home and live off the government than to go out and take chances and make a better life for yourself, but ask yourself, what is more rewarding? Stealing from your fellow citizens (taxpayers) or knowing that you are self-sufficient? I know my answer.

**THERE ARE TWO** major groups in this country who think they are above the law; many law enforcement people and most politicians.



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

**The Brady Rule**

In 1963, the United States Supreme Court announced its decision in Brady v Maryland. The case involved a defendant named John Brady who had been convicted of murder and robbery along with his co-defendant Donald Boblit.

When Brady went to trial, he and his lawyers claimed that Boblit had acted alone in the killing of the victim.

As it turned out, they later learned that Boblit had in fact confessed to being solely responsible for the murder although Brady was present.

This information had not been disclosed by the prosecutor even though it had been requested by the defense.

The Supreme Court held that such suppression was a violation of Brady's due process rights and made disclosure of this type of information a constitutional pretrial obligation of prosecutors.

This decision has come to be known as the "Brady Rule."

Since then the law in this area has been developed and now if there is a failure to disclose, and there is a conviction, it is considered a "Brady violation" and could be grounds for a new trial.

In its simplest form the test for determining a Brady violation is for the defendant to show that the prosecutor did not disclose evidence favorable to the defendant which is material.

Favorable evidence is that which is either exculpatory or could be used to impeach or call into question the evidence to be presented against the defendant.

Material means that there is a reasonable probability that had the evidence been disclosed the results of the proceedings would have been different.

A reasonable probability is a probability sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome.

All federal and state courts have their own procedural requirements for Brady Rule disclosures. Michigan has a court rule requiring disclosure upon request.

Additionally, a prosecutor not only has an affirmative duty to disclose such

**Fenton Township opens beach to public**

■ Outside gatherings of 100 people are allowed

By Hannah Ball

Mantawauka Park, the small beach area behind the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, is now open to the public.

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees made the decision at the Monday, June 1 meeting over a conference call.

"With the onset of warmer weather, the Township has received inquiries regarding the beach and when it might be open for use. After consulting with township attorney Jack Belzer, it made sense to place the issue on the agenda for discussion," said Thomas Broecker, operations manager/deputy clerk in the meeting packet.

Supervisor Bonnie Mathis said she wanted input from the board. Trustee Mark Goupil said they should open it.

Trustee Vince Lorraine said they should take into consideration Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's latest executive order, which allows for gatherings of 100 people outside. He said he's never seen 100 people at the Mantawauka Park at one time.

"I think it would be a good gesture on the township's part to open up that beach," he said.

Broecker agreed, and said it would be up to the people at the park to maintain social distancing.

The board discussed ensuring that there was hand sanitizer in the porta potties.

evidence in their possession, but also must determine if there is required disclosure evidence in the possession of other governmental agencies.

The rationale for the rule is simple — to ensure that an innocent person isn't convicted of a crime.

All of us should want a system of justice, which strives to convict the guilty and acquit the innocent.

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# Drain commission urges water system safety

## ■ Unused water facilities can hold bacteria

### Compiled by Hannah Ball

The Genesee County Drain Commission (GCDC) is reminding businesses to take precautionary measures for their internal water systems, especially systems that have been unused these past few months.

“This applies to all unused facilities, whether they are on the Genesee County Water System, the Great Lakes Water Authority, city of Flint, or other local or private water supply,” according to a GCDC press release. “If water is not used for a long period of time it becomes stagnant in the building plumbing, creating the potential for growth of bacteria in the water. When buildings and homes are vacated for an extended period, the stagnation of water inside a business or home’s internal plumbing can lead to water quality deterioration that may be associated with public health risks.”

To avoid bacteria growth in internal piping, water suppliers and experts are urging business owners, property managers and residents to follow state and federal guidelines to re-engage idle water systems.

Buildings most at risk are commercial buildings, schools/daycares, medical and outpatient facilities, cultural buildings, dental offices, primary care facilities, eye surgery offices, workout facilities, hospitality and manufacturing.

The type of systems that need to be monitored and addressed are portable water systems, non-potable water systems such as water features/fountains, ice machines, ventilation and air conditioning, filters, cooling towers, hot tubs/spas and pools.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has guidelines for how to prevent Legionnaires’ disease in water management for businesses, hotels, hot tubs, and plumbing in healthcare facilities. Tips include making sure your water heater is properly maintained and the temperature is correctly set, flush your water system, clean all water features such as fountains, and ensure cooling towers are clean and well maintained.

Safety equipment, such as fire sprinkler systems, eye wash stations and safety showers should be clean and well maintained.

Step by step tips from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy:

1. Turn off the supply valve to your water heater, if possible, and bypass water softeners and/or whole house filters if you have them.
2. Locate the faucets to be flushed and make sure the drains are open.
3. Remove aerators and screens from faucets and shower heads.
4. Open all cold water taps. Leave all faucets running during this process.
5. Leave all faucets running for at least 30 minutes.
6. Turn off the first faucet you turned on (basement or lowest floor).
7. Turn off all other faucets in the same order you turned them on.
8. Turn on each kitchen or bathroom tap, one at a time, and run each for 10 minutes or more. Make sure only one tap is run-

ning at a time.

9. Clean and re-install aerators and screens on each faucet and shower head.

For more information, go to [michigan.gov/egle](http://michigan.gov/egle).

For questions about water supply/systems:

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# FHS seniors celebrate graduation in parking lot

■ Freedom Center hosts outdoor event; students walk through rows of parked cars

By Hannah Ball

As schools work out how to celebrate graduating seniors while dealing with restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a few local residents worked out how to help their students “walk.”

On Sunday, May 31, approximately 250 Fenton High School graduating seniors walked through the Freedom Center parking lot after Youth Pastor JD Wiegand announced names for the class of 2020 over the speaker system.

Students, in their caps and gowns, wove through rows of cars with decorated windows, signs and balloons and waved to cheering parents, siblings and other loved ones.

Samantha Whaling, graduating senior, 18, was worried about not being able to have any kind of ceremony.

“I thought it was really good. I really like it. I’m glad they did it,” she said.



A group of graduating seniors gathers to take a photo in the Freedom Center parking lot Sunday, May 31. Photo: Hannah Ball



Youth Pastor JD Wiegand delivers a short sermon for students, families, friends and loved ones before approximately 250 Fenton High School students walk through the church parking lot. Photo: Hannah Ball

of the students before they walked.

Because Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s mandate for social gatherings allows religious services, the event became a youth service to honor the students.

“Pastor JD did a small sermon, prayed over the kids, and we made it an event for families to celebrate their kids,” Kromer said. “Everyone I’ve spoken to said, ‘this is such a great way to celebrate these kids.’ The kids have had a great time.”

There are about 280 students in the Fenton High School Class of 2020, but some did not attend the Sunday event. Kromer and Bossenberger said they still don’t know exactly what the district administration will plan for students as a graduation ceremony.

“Today might have been the only time this class came together in their caps and gowns,” Bossenberger said.



A graduating senior smiles for photos after hearing his name announced by Youth Pastor JD Wiegand. Photo: Hannah Ball

A few parents, Tami Kromer and Jackie Bossenberger, started organizing the event three days before on Thursday. Kromer, creator of Clara’s Hope, said they wanted to do something to recognize graduating seniors, and someone asked if anyone had an in at the Freedom Center because the facility has a large parking lot.

The Freedom Center told Kromer, “Here’s everything you need. We will support you.”

The large parking lot allowed families to stay by their cars or sit in their open trunks to social distance while seniors walked by. Students were allowed to walk in groups of 10 so they could walk with their friends. They broadcasted the announcements over a radio signal, which attendants could tune into. A photographer took photos

“Everyone I’ve spoken to said, ‘this is such a great way to celebrate these kids.’ The kids have had a great time.”

Tami Kromer  
Ceremony organizer

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Jack Grigg of Paradise Dog Training in Tyrone Township hopes to train a bedbug-sniffing dog like Rudy, a 6-year-old yellow lab, to detect the COVID-19 virus.

Photo by Tim Jagielo

## CUTTING-EDGE

Continued from Page

The Griggs have trained dogs to be diabetic alert dogs that can detect if their owner has had a drop in their blood sugar level. They are also certified to train dogs to detect bed bugs.

Lori is confident that they can train the dogs to detect COVID-19 on humans, even people who show no symptoms of the virus. She sees these COVID-19 sniffing dogs working at airports, schools, apartment complexes and more. She estimates each dog could sniff between 200 and 250 per hour.

Lori said Penn State is working on this type of training, as well as a program in the United Kingdom.

"It's one more way to utilize our dogs," she said. "The training would be the same as training for detecting bed bugs." While bedbug sniffing dogs sniff beds and couches for example, COVID-19-sniffing dogs would sniff people.

Lori said there would be no harm to the dogs with this training and she and Jack would take every precaution with the donated materials.

Wayne State medical students typically take on a project and they are hopeful that future medical students could help with their research.

## About Paradise Dog Training

Jack and Lori Grigg founded Paradise Dog Training (PDT) more than 25 years ago, concentrating on teaching basic obedience classes and private lessons. In 2009, they expanded their training to include assistance, hearing and therapy dogs utilizing Lori's 25 years' experience in the Service Dog Industry. Since then, they have successfully placed over 25 dogs with various clients including diabetic alert dogs and dogs for children with autism. They train assistance dogs for different types of disabilities other than visually impaired.

PDT is also one of the first in the nation to place therapy dogs in facilities such as schools and hospitals where the facility actually owns the dog. They assist in training the volunteer handlers and help set up the program. One of their most successful programs has been placing six therapy dogs in the St. John Providence Health Care System. They also are working with Henry the Black Lab at Henry Ford Hospital in West Bloomfield.

In 2010, they started training scent detection dogs to locate bed bugs to fulfill a need culminating from the bed bug epidemic. They have placed numerous scent detection dogs with several different pest control companies. They also have their own bed bug dog Ditto and perform inspections themselves.

## YARD WASTE

Continued from Front Page

In a press release posted on the city of Fenton website Friday, May 29, Republic Services stated, "Our goal is to have all waste services caught up by the end of next week. To help in this recovery, Republic will have a contractor conducting a sweep of the entire city to recover yard waste/compost on Sunday. To help in this recovery, Republic will have a contractor conducting a sweep of the entire city to recover yard waste/compost on Sunday, May 31."

By the negative comments posted on social media by Monday, June 1, it was apparent that the entire city was not serviced, as well as other municipalities.

Michael Hart, Fenton City assistant manager and Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director, said Monday, June 1, that he too heard many complaints from residents regarding their yard waste that was not picked up as promised.

Regular pickup days in Fenton are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

This week, Hart said pickup days will be pushed out one day, to Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. "It was haphazard on who got serviced," Hart said.

Parts of the city had refuse picked up, some parts of the city had recycling picked up and part of the city had yard waste picked up, said Hart.

Because Republic Services was doing what it could do to help with the cleanup in mid-Michigan after the flooding, communication was not timely enough with the city of Fenton. Other areas that Republic Services covers were negatively impacted.

"We wish we had known earlier to let our residents know," he said. "It was not timely enough."

Hart said the city has a commitment from Republic Services that it would be caught up with all services this week.

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■■■■  
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■■■■  
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■■■■  
**PREDICTION — YOU WON'T** even hear about COVID-19 after the November election. You all know why.



Johnie Franklin III of Flint Township holds a Black Lives Matter sign as he leads a protest Saturday, May 30 in Flint Township. He and the other protesters were joined by Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson in a show of unity. **Submitted photo by Johnie Franklin III**

## Flint protest organizer speaks out

By Hannah Ball

Johnie Franklin III, a Flint Township resident who's played drums at the Freedom Center on the creative team for two years, was one of the organizers for the Saturday, May 30 protest in Flint that has now gotten worldwide media attention. The protest was entirely peaceful, with Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson choosing to walk with the protesters.

Franklin, whose father was an officer in Mt. Morris Township before he retired, didn't know Swanson was also involved with the Freedom Center before this past weekend.

"That was the first time meeting him, on Saturday," he said. "Saturday went really well. It pretty much sparked a wildfire. We didn't expect it to go the way it did. People brought signs. We met in the Target (Miller Road) parking lot."

Target, and a few other stores on that street, shut down. Attendance grew and grew as they walked down the street. Flint Township police got involved and started blocking off the road.

"It turned into this big protest, a replica of what the nation is going through," he said.

Franklin said while rioting is a part of protesting and he supports rioting in general, the organizers discouraged

any attendees from rioting on Saturday.

"I just really don't think that we have the type of money to rebuild. Big corporations have insurance, but some of these small businesses don't. Why would we go destroy everything on Saturday? We'll have nothing. I'm definitely against the rioting here, but I'm not against rioting in general. I think MLK said it best. 'A riot is the language of the unheard,'" he said.

They decided to walk to the police station "on a whim," he said.

"A lot of people are angry, frustrated and sad. People have lost loved ones because of this," Franklin said, adding that he's experienced racial profiling and police brutality more than five times.

When they arrived at the station, some officers were out with riot gear and batons, which Franklin said was "a little bit unwarranted," because they were just going to stop in front of the station, not go in.

Then Swanson came out and told officers to put their batons down, which was the first step, Franklin said.

"It was a monumental moment that can hopefully replicate that message across the nation," he said. However, he doesn't have much hope for that to happen nationally, in part due to President Donald Trump's rhetoric.

**See PROTEST on 11**

## SHERIFF'S ACTIONS

Continued from Front Page

was heard on video saying he could not breathe.

Chauvin was later charged with third-degree murder and manslaughter. Three other officers who were with Chauvin also have been fired and they face charges in Floyd's death.

Protests and riots have popped up in multiple major cities across the country, including Detroit and Flint.

Just a week prior to the protests and riots, Swanson was interviewed by the Times on how proud he was that the coronavirus was kept away from the inmates at the Genesee County Jail in Flint.

This show of solidarity between a hands-on sheriff and residents protesting police abuse toward African Americans was a stark contrast of what was seen round-the-clock on TV news.

Swanson said Tuesday that all of this attention to what he did and the people of Flint has been insane.

Speaking about last Saturday evening, his decision to remove his protective gear was spur of the moment, and from the heart. This is the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his law enforcement career and for years he also has been involved with mission trips to help people. "It's all about taking care of people," he said.

"I saw the breakdown (Saturday) and I saw fist-pumps," he said. "The tension was off the charts."

In a split second, Swanson shared a hug with a leader of that protest. (See related story at left.) He said history was made when he said, 'walk with us,' when I asked what he wanted police to do."

On Monday, June 1, Swanson did 37 interviews with news organizations around the world and Tuesday he began a round of interviews at 6:30 a.m.

When asked how it felt, Swanson said, "The whole world needs hope. We have so much discord and people are tired of fighting."

Being on the frontline, Swanson said in an instant police went from hero to villain and he is honored and privileged to bring calm and peace to the nation.



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**Times** media





A small group of protesters hold signs in front of the Fenton Police Department on Monday, June 1. Photo: Hannah Ball

## Protesters hold signs in front of Fenton Police Department

By Hannah Ball

Protesters held signs in front of the Fenton Police Department on Monday, June 1, for a few hours during the day.

Signs read "Black Lives Matter" and "No Justice, No Peace."

This comes a week after George Floyd, 46, died in Minneapolis after a police officer pressed his knee to Floyd's neck for more than 8 minutes. America has seen dozens of protests across the country.

Jody and Sophia Vitarelli, 10, from Fenton, brought a sign that said, "Race issues start in the heart."

"We want people to know that God loves them and we want this hate to end. We do believe that race issues start in the heart, we want people who are feeling that they are hated to know that they are loved, and we especially want our black brother and sisters to know we stand with them," Jody said.

### PROTEST

Continued from Page 10

"His choice of words, his choice of message is not going to change anything. We're still gonna' march and do things behind the scenes, have meetings, to better the relationship between law enforcement and people of color," he said. "The color of my skin does not mean I'm evil."

He praised Gov. Gretchen Whitmer for not bringing in the military.

"The conversations are switching. People are switching to what the real problem is," he said, adding that they're focusing on educating people on who to vote for, and how to help and uplift one another.

A lot of press coverage focuses on the violence and riots, and many overlook the peaceful daytime protests, Franklin said. He doesn't want the purpose of the protests to be forgotten.

"It's not about (Swanson). It's about George Floyd. It's about Breonna Taylor. It's about Ahmaud Arbery. It's about Philando Castile. It's about the racial disparities," he said. "We can't leave Minneapolis by themselves. That's a good trait about African Americans. We will not leave each other by themselves."

Franklin said officers need to educate themselves on racial issues and citizens need to educate themselves on their Constitutional rights.

"It has to be with both sides. Everyone has to know this message is two-fold. It has to be a give and take situation," he said.



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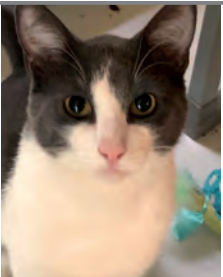
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# Obituaries

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## Sara Joan "Sally" Martin

1935 — 2020

Sara Joan "Sally" Martin - age 84, of Fenton, passed Wednesday, May 27, 2020. A Memorial Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 1 PM Wednesday, June 3, at St. Rita Catholic Church, Holly with Father David Blazek, Celebrant. Social distancing restrictions will limit attendance to family only. The Funeral Mass will be live streamed at the Facebook page at [www.stritaholly.org](http://www.stritaholly.org). Interment will be in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Sara was born at home in Tyrone Township on August 24, 1935, the daughter of Elvin and Pauline (Hogan) Trollman. She graduated from Hartland High School in 1953 and then graduated from Baker Business University. After her graduation, she was employed by General Motors Metal Fab in Flint for nine and a half years. She married



James Martin on April 28, 1962. Shortly thereafter she left General Motors and became a full time housewife and mother to her children, a position which she dearly loved. She is

survived by her husband of 58 years, James; children, David Martin of Kalkaska and fiancée Michelle Riess, Steven Martin and wife Anna-Maria of Warren, Denise Martin of Waterford; sister Virginia of Kalkaska; and six nieces and nephews. Sara was preceded in death by her parents. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Rita Catholic Church or the American Cancer Society. A Celebration of Sally's life will be held at a later date when all her family and friends are able to gather together. Online tributes may be shared at [www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com).

## Patricia "Diane" Coleman

1942 — 2020

Patricia "Diane" Coleman - age 77, of Holly, passed away Saturday, May 30, 2020. Funeral services will be held at 11 AM Wednesday, June 3 at Sharp Funeral



Along with her husband Gary, Diane was a member of Fenton Rotary Club and Consortium for Child Abuse and Neglect. During her career with Dort Federal, Diane

was fortunate enough to be involved in several commercials. She made a commercial with Detroit Tiger announcer, Ernie Harwell on her back porch, she also made a commercial in a hot air balloon and was an engineer for the Huckelberry Railroad. Surviving are husband of 57 years, Gary Coleman of Holly; daughters, Dana Weeks of NC; Julie (Ralph) Prouty of NC; grandchildren, Josh Braden, Nick Olano, Dylan Coleman, Grace Prouty, Cassidy Prouty, Brian Prouty; great-grandson, Blaize Braden; sister, Lori Geror and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by parents; four brothers, Larry Riley, Richard Riley, Butch Bencheck and Randy Bencheck; one sister, Debbie Bencheck. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page of [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).

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## FUNERAL ETIQUETTE

When you arrive at the funeral home, go to the family, and express your sympathy with an embrace or by offering your hands. Don't feel as though you must avoid talking about the person who has died. Talking can help the grieving process begin. If you were an acquaintance of the deceased but not well-known to the family, immediately introduce yourself. Do not feel uncomfortable if you or the family member becomes emotional or begins to cry. Allowing the family to grieve is a natural healing process. However, if you find yourself becoming extremely upset, it would be kinder to excuse yourself so as not to increase the strain on the family.

Source: [thefuneralsource.org](http://thefuneralsource.org)

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# Low Back & Sciatic Nerve Pain

By Erica Rainer

**P**ain is the bodies natural, God given alarm system and as odd as it may sound, we are extremely lucky to have this sense. Even though it can (quite literally) be a REAL PAIN IN THE BUTT at times. Sciatica is pain that begins in the nerve roots, located on either side of the lower spine, moving through the sciatic nerve which runs the length of each leg from the buttocks, down to the foot. The leg agony, called radiculopathy, "it can be worse than back pain, and can come and go at times but if left untreated can lead to much worse problems in the future" Dr. James Ide, clinic director at Painless Chiropractic & Neuropathy Treatment Center of Fenton "It's very common for patients to come in describing an agonizing, sharp, shooting, burning pain that starts in the buttocks and flows down to the leg and at times into the foot with numbness, tingling and cramps in the leg." The sensation "can be intolerable," says Dr. Ide. "Some people describe it to be similar to the nerve pain you experience when you have a toothache.

After reviewing many different treatment options we have found that typically the average person who suffers from Sciatic pain usually experiences the same frustration when seeking help. They tend to start off going to their doctor who prescribes them one or more of the following; Muscle Relaxers, Pain Pills or Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs. The Muscle Relaxers tend to make patients tired but do relax the muscles. The Pain Pills mask the pain while on them but tend to make many people tense, nauseous, constipated and unable to focus. The Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs give some people weakness, moon face, weight gain, insomnia and mood swings. All in all the pain usually comes back once the drugs are gone because nothing was ever corrected just masked. These drugs all focus on the symptoms and not the problem.

This is often the case with most pain related to the spine and nerves, regardless if your issue is in your issue

is in your neck, resulting in headaches or pain, numbness, tingling and/or muscle weakness in the arms and hands or down in the low back and buttocks, resulting in Sciatic Pain. Once the patient goes to their MD, takes their prescriptions and then goes back, still in pain, they are usually referred to physical therapy, pain management or a surgeon. Most patients respond to physical therapy however, once the program has finished many report the pain returns. When they visit pain management, they may be prescribed the same types of drugs their MD gave them or they may jump straight to the steroid based epidural shots, injected directly into your spinal column (which may not be FDA approved so please be advised to do plenty of research if you ever find yourself in this situation). As for

having surgery... well we all know that surgery is risky and should always be the last resort. Once you make the decision to have surgery, there is no going back and undoing it and many other options are off the table after surgery. Regardless of how the symptoms are treated, the number one problem with finding relief through these treatments is that they only focus on treating the symptoms and not the underlying issue.

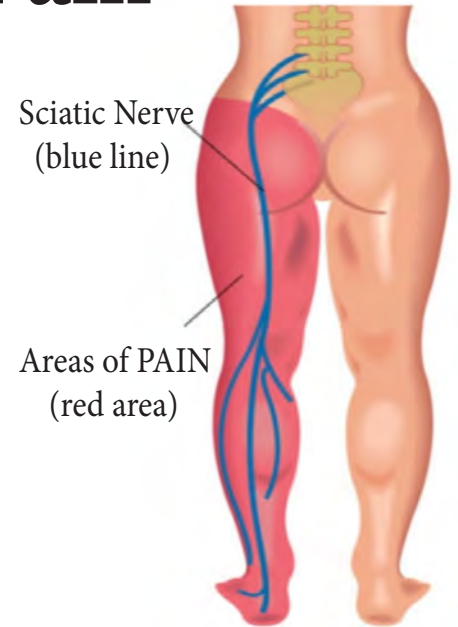
**This condition will eventually lead to muscle wasting, nerve damage, numbness, constant tingling down to the toes and eventually sexual dysfunction, even loss of bladder/ bowel control. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.** People lose hope and have no idea where to turn.

**That is until now...**

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% many back surgeons are now recommending their

patients try this treatment first before having surgery. Now, right here in Fenton MI, at Painless Chiropractic you can try Non-Surgical Reconstructive Spinal Care under the direct supervision of low back and sciatica specialist Dr. James Ide D.C. The fully trained spinal care team have helped countless patients find relief from their agonizing back and sciatica problems. "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology not utilized elsewhere in the area for precisely diagnosing the cause of your pain; and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people" said Dr. Ide.

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their



## New Treatment Options for Nerve Pain

*"Thanks to the Painless Team, I don't need to use my walker or cane anymore." ~Louis K.*

pain. However, as Dr. Ide says "we are happy patients experience less pain but the pain is just a symptom, our goal is to correct the underlying structural. problem which is structural. The pain is usually the last thing to show itself and the first thing to disappear and if not properly treated and maintained, will show up again in the future."

If you are ready to get to the bottom of your debilitating shooting, stabbing and burning pain stemming from your low back, buttocks and sciatic nerve, Painless Chiropractic is ready to deliver the same positive results to you as they have to so many others. That is why the Times has teamed up with the clinic to spread the news and showcase the offer they put together for our readers. Call them now and get a full and thorough consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of

your problem for just \$47.

The normal cost of such an exam is \$195 so you will save \$148!

Don't suffer with pain and immobility any longer. **The clinic is open!**

Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve. Call and set up your appointment now. Mention the code PAIN2020 and Call Today 810-202-2608.



Dr. James Ide with daughter Faith.

Painless Chiropractic & Neuropathy Treatment Center of Fenton MI  
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