

PAGE 11  
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VOL. 27 NO. XXXIII

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020

\$1.00

# Midweek★Times

## Fenton included in GHOST sting yielding 17 arrests

■ Charges include possession of child porn, accosting a child for immoral purposes and using computer to commit a crime

By Hannah Ball

At a Friday, Aug. 14 press conference, Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson announced the arrest of 17 people from seven different sting operations relating to crimes involving child pornography or human trafficking.

One of these sting operations took place at a Fenton hotel when officers arrested a person from Saginaw who set up a meeting with an underage person with alleged plans to have sexual relations.

“Even during COVID and all the things that have happened around the nation, we have continued to seek out people that are here to

See **GHOST** on 8

“When I’m talking child pornography, I’m talking below the age of 7. When he was arrested, a comment was made, ‘there’s things on my phone I know are going to be bad.’”

**Chris Swanson**  
*Genesee County sheriff*



Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson addresses the media at a Friday, Aug. 14 press conference about recent operations to apprehend human traffickers and people who sought out sexual relations with minors. Photo: Hannah Ball

## Fenton man dies in ‘double fatal’ crash

■ MSP says investigation underway to discover if drugs or alcohol were a factor

By Hannah Ball

A 33-year-old Fenton man died in a “double fatal” crash that occurred in Tyrone Township on Friday, Aug.

14 around 8:30 p.m., according to the Michigan State Police.

The MSP tweeted that the Brighton Post was investigating a “double fatal traffic crash” that occurred in Tyrone Township, in Livingston County.

See **DOUBLE FATAL** on 6

## Pretrial Aug. 19 for Fenton Township man

■ Faces 14 felony counts related to possessing child sexually abusive materials

By Sharon Stone

Robert Langdon is expected back in Genesee County 67th District

Court on Wednesday, Aug. 19 for a pretrial hearing in Judge Mark McCabe’s courtroom.

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Computer Crimes Unit, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force arrested Langdon, 53, of

See **PRETRIAL** on 7



“Maybe we should just have three political parties, ultra-left,

ultra-right, and a middle party. That way those of us who are in the middle won’t have to side with either extreme.”



“Why don’t we ever see what caused all these accidents that’s been happening on 23.

What’s going on? Never see a thing about it in this paper.”

[Editor’s note: The cause of most crashes are part of investigations that are not made public until they are resolved in the court system.]



“Is anybody out there as tired as I am of all the political ‘stuff’ out there all ready?”



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# Broncho community honors Kent Barnes

■ Former superintendent demonstrated Broncho Pride before, during and after school, mentored students and educators

Submitted by Holly Area Schools

His “radio voice” may have been silenced, but his legend lives on loud and clear.

The entire Broncho community today honored former Holly Area Schools Superintendent Kent Barnes, who died Aug. 12 at age 69. Barnes, who served as superintendent from 1999 through 2013, is remembered as a champion for all Bronchos,

and a dedicated civic leader.

“On behalf of our entire Broncho family, I’d like to offer my deepest condolences to Kent’s family and friends during this difficult time,” said Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools Superintendent. “Kent represented what Broncho Pride is all about, including working tirelessly to provide innovative learning opportunities for all Bronchos that positioned them for success and bright futures, no matter their aspirations. His leadership both in our district and throughout Holly will be greatly missed.”

See **KENT BARNES** on 10



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Hot Line .....myfenton.com  
Fax .....810-629-9227  
Email .....[news@tctimes.com](mailto:news@tctimes.com)

### EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor Sharon Stone .....810-433-6786..... [ssstone@tctimes.com](mailto:ssstone@tctimes.com)  
Associate Editor Vera Hogan .....810-433-6823..... [vhogan@tctimes.com](mailto:vhogan@tctimes.com)  
Media Editor Tim Jagielo.....810-433-6795..... [tjagielo@tctimes.com](mailto:tjagielo@tctimes.com)  
Staff Reporter Hannah Ball .....810-433-6792..... [hball@tctimes.com](mailto:hball@tctimes.com)  
Features Writer Sally Rummel ..... [news@tctimes.com](mailto:news@tctimes.com)  
Sports Editor David Troppens .....810-433-6789..... [dtroppens@tctimes.com](mailto:dtroppens@tctimes.com)

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## Sharin' the spotlight

By Editor Sharon Stone

**A**s I watched the Fenton City Council meeting last week from the comfort and safety of my home, I was curious as to what plan they would come up with to help restaurants and retailers increase their business during this COVID-19 pandemic. There were fewer than a dozen people logged into the Zoom meeting and there were no comments from the public.

I was glad to see that the city leaders were discussing and approving the idea of letting restaurants and retailers expand their areas into the sidewalks and roads for a few evening hours two days a week. This idea, which is optional for the businesses to take part in, could be a great opportunity to showcase their creativity.

With the streets closed to vehicle

traffic, people can spread out and enjoy the downtown area.

My husband and I regularly walk downtown and visit several of the businesses. Since it's usually after business hours, we park in The State Bank parking lot and walk a big loop around town. We'll head south, stop at Bridge Street Exchange, maybe dine at Ciao Italian Bistro, stop at the farmers market on Thursdays, check out the beautiful flower boxes, take in the views of the Shiawassee River and sculptures and see if we know anyone fishing or enjoying a frozen custard.

We'll continue south and check in at Yesterday's Treasures and then sometimes we visit The Laundry for a cocktail or appetizer.

At this point we start heading north on the other side of the street. We will stop at the retail shops that are open to see what they are offering.



Sharon Stone

## Experimenting with ideas during a pandemic

While we are all coping with this pandemic the best we can and in our own ways, you'd have to admit that the tri-county area has had some beautiful weather this summer and perfect for taking an evening stroll. Getting out in the fresh air and walking for enjoyment and exercise helps build our immunity. Based on the number of others who are also walking the downtown area, I am not the only one who feels this way.

I welcome and look forward to heading downtown on Thursdays or Fridays to see what our local businesses, run by local residents, are doing. I feel that I need to support them now more than ever so that they will be there for when this pandemic is over.

I appreciate Fenton city leaders and our local business owners for experimenting with this opportunity.

**Sharon Stone is the editor of the Tri-County Times. To contact her, email her at [ssstone@tctimes.com](mailto:ssstone@tctimes.com) or call her at (810) 433-6786.**

## Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at [myfenton.com](http://myfenton.com) or text to 510-771-5295

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.

**VOTING FOR THE** other guy just because you don't like the president doesn't make sense. Do your homework. This isn't a personality contest.

**YOU SAY TRUMP** plagiarized using the statement: 'Make America Great Again.' I say thank goodness we finally got a President that has done exactly what he said he would do in his rallies and he has made America great.

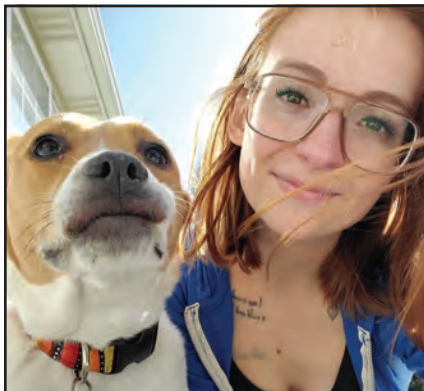
**I'M EXCITED FOR** the LAFF pathway, but have the individual municipals considered areas for bike parking? My family would love to attend the festivities without always bringing the car.

**THE FLU VACCINE** would be more effective if more than 40-44 percent of the population every year would get the flu shot.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

## What was your first car? How long did you have it?



"I drove a Smart Car. Unfortunately, it only lasted a little over two years and had to be retired. I miss that little guy every day!"

**Nichelle Curtis**  
Holly



"1969 Volkswagen Bug, stick on the floor in a town full of steep hills, navy with a 'moon roof' that leaked. Loved that car! Driven for two years until it died."

**Susan Lasak Balmas**  
Fenton



"'96 Dark green blazer. I got it December 27, 1998 on my birthday and crashed March 22 '99 in The Laundry's yard. It flipped and hit an ambulance."

**Carrie Lyn Bard**  
Fenton



"My first car was a 1990 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme. I had it for two or three years until the head gasket blew. It was a hand-me-down from my grandpa."

**Courtney Gregory**  
Grand Blanc

## | streettalk



# Holt man heads to trial

■Charged with breaking into the Target store in Fenton

By Sharon Stone

A 25-year-old Holt man's case has been bound over to Genesee County Circuit Court.

Mark Anthony Pierce was arrested by the Livingston County Sheriff's Office in the early morning hours of Saturday, May 2 following a break-in at the Target store in Fenton and the Target store in Hartland Township.



Mark Pierce

Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department said Fenton police were dispatched to the store at 3:15 a.m. on May 2 for a burglary alarm. Police also received a call

from Target's security team that monitors all of the Target camera systems.

As previously reported in the Times, security employees told Fenton police that an individual was inside the store and attempted to break into the glass cases where iPads and iPhones are kept. The suspect was unsuccessful at breaking into the case. The suspect was then seen exiting the store on the east side of the building, near the Fenton schools' bus garage.

It was evident that the suspect used a concrete block to break a front window of Target to gain entry. A K-9 unit followed the suspect's trail but lost the scent where police believe the suspect fled in a vehicle.

Pierce was arraigned on one count of breaking and entering of a building in Genesee County District Court on May 9. This offense is a 10-year felony.

On June 30, Pierce was bound over to circuit court for a jury trial. He was released on bond until his circuit court hearing.

A circuit court pretrial has been scheduled for Aug. 21 at 8:15 a.m.

Pierce also was arraigned Monday, May 4 at the 53rd District Court in Howell on burglary forced entry charges. He was given a \$5,000/10-percent bond for the incident. This case is pending.

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STARTING

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## DOUBLE FATAL

Continued from Front Page

“Preliminary investigation indicates that a pickup truck crossed the center line on Faussett Road and struck another pickup truck head on. Drivers of both vehicles died at the scene,” the tweet reads.

Police identified the victims as Michel Ryan Heidtman, a 38-year-old male from Howell, and Rodney Leonard Rukkila, a 33-year-old male from Fenton. The first victim was wearing a seatbelt and the other was not, according to MSP.

“A passenger in one of the vehicles was taken to a local hospital to be treated,” according to the tweets.

The MSP is waiting to hear from the medical examiner’s office to determine if drugs or alcohol were a factor. Troopers were assisted on scene by Hartland Fire Department and Livingston County EMS.



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

# judge

### Constitutional Rights you may not know you have

I believe most people are at least generally aware of some of their Constitutional Rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to a jury trial and other more “publicized” rights.

However, there are some Constitutional Rights which most people have never heard of but are equally as important. For today’s column, I will talk about four of those.

#### 1. The Privileges and Immunities Clause

The Constitution provides that “No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States.”

This means that if a resident of one state travels to another state, they have the right to be treated in the same way as citizens of the state they travelled to. This includes the right to acquire property,

access to the courts, to pursue happiness and safety, and to government protection to enjoy life and liberty.

#### 2. Freedom from Bills of Attainder

A “Bill of Attainder” in English criminal law was an Act of Parliament which declared that a person or group of persons was guilty, without a trial, of the crime of treason or another felony, which would then result in a death sentence and forfeiture of all property and nobility titles.

#### 3. The Prohibition of Ex-Post Facto Laws

Ex-post facto laws are defined as being when an act is declared to be criminal that was innocent when done or that inflicts a greater punishment than the law annexed to the crime when it was committed.

Another word for ex-post facto is “retroactive.”

#### 4. The Right to a Writ of Habeas Corpus

The term Habeas Corpus is Latin for “you have the body” and is a legal procedure which allows federal courts to determine the legality of a federal or state prisoner’s detention.

It is statutory in nature and can only be suspended when there is a rebellion

See **JUDGE** on 7

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## PRETRIAL

Continued from Front Page

Fenton Township, for possession of child sexually abusive materials and using a computer to commit a crime.

Langdon turned himself in following an investigation in which digital evidence was seized from his home. He was arraigned Dec. 20, 2019. He was released on personal bond.

The investigation was initiated when it was learned that Langdon was viewing child sexually abusive materials on the internet.

Following a forensic examination of the digital evidence, Langdon was charged with seven counts of possession of child sexually abusive materials and seven counts of using a computer to commit a crime.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**SEVERAL TRI-COUNTY** area students attend Powers Catholic? Many local students attend and should be given the same ink as the other local schools.

**WHAT IS WITH** that ugly tan brick on the new Cornerstone building? Why not something historic looking following the master plan? Was that the brick in the rendering?

**YOU THINK TRUMP** had the guts to face reporters? Why is he always walking off and not answering questions he doesn't like? Not only that, but he insults reporters he thinks are 'fake.' Real classy, not.

**TO THE HOTLINER** who is tired of the word 'safe.' I'm tired of people who don't want to wear masks, who won't social distance and who think this virus is a hoax. Safe does not mean 'afraid.' It means I won't bring it home to my family so they can die.

**SO TRUMP HIRES** Lewis DeJoy, a strong Trump supporter, to deliberately screw up the United States post office to rig the election in Trump's favor. I guess there isn't anything Trump could do to lose his cult-like followers.

**THE NEWS COVERED** Kamala Harris more because they believed that more people wanted to see that information. If a presidential press conference doesn't get lots of coverage, that means few want to see it.

## Mall assault suspect pleads guilty

### ■Requests Holmes Youthful Trainee Act status

By Sharon Stone

Damire Canell Palmer, 18, of Mt. Morris Township, is facing one count of assault with intent to do great bodily harm, a 10-year felony.

On Wednesday, Aug. 12, he appeared in the Genesee County 67th District Court courtroom of Judge Jennifer Manley for his preliminary hearing with his defense attorney, Denise Ketchmark.

Through a plea agreement, Palmer pleaded guilty to assaulting a 50-year-old manager working in the men's clothing department at Macy's department store at Genesee Valley Mall in Flint Township on June 15.

The Macy's store at Genesee Valley Mall is the closest Macy's to the tri-county area and frequented by tri-county area residents.

With the guilty plea, Palmer will be requesting Michigan's Holmes Youthful Trainee Act (HYTA) status. HYTA gives a youthful offender (ages 17 to 23) a chance to keep a criminal offense, including felonies, off his or her record.

A presentencing investigation will be conducted and the circuit court judge will decide if HYTA status should be granted. Manley told Palmer that if he is granted HYTA status, there would be no trial and he would be charged with a one-year misdemeanor for aggravated assault, not a felony.

The judge said the victim has agreed to this deal.

Manley denied Ketchmark's motion to release Palmer on his own recognizance and tether. The judge instead ordered Palmer to remain in the county jail.

The assault was caught on store surveillance video as well as a cellphone video made by Palmer's brother, which went viral after he shared it on social media.

As previously reported in the Times, Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said that despite public comments on social media, the police investigation did not uncover any evidence of provocation by the store manager.

"This was an unprovoked attack on a Macy's employee," Leyton said in July upon Palmer's arrest. "This behavior as seen on the video is unacceptable, it is criminal, and it cannot be allowed."

In court, Palmer testified that he had asked the store employee a question about clothing. He said his brother, who was with him in the store, told him that the employee called him a racial slur, which upset Palmer.

Angered, Palmer testified that he assaulted the employee. He said his brother later told him that the employee had not said anything.

Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 1 in circuit court.

## JUDGE

Continued from Page 6  
or invasion and public safety requires it.

Our Constitution is an important and powerful document, so well written that in over 200 years, there have been only 27 Amendments. It isn't very long and is readily available on the internet and elsewhere. For those so inclined, I urge you to read it from beginning to end. You'll be glad you did.

## HOLLY TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

DATE: September 3, 2020  
TIME: 6:30 PM or as soon as possible thereafter  
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The purpose of the public hearing is to consider a Special Land Use Permit by the following applicants:

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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 during regular business hours Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-4:30 and Wednesdays 8:30 – 6:00 except holidays.

**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 7 business days prior to the meeting.**

Karin S. Winchester  
Clerk/Zoning Administrator

## GHOST

Continued from Front Page

harm your kids, my kids, your grand-kids — people that are pedophiles and predators, people that seek to harm those that can't protect themselves," Swanson said. "We at GHOST are the voice for the voiceless, and we do that with our partners, partners from all over."

GHOST stands for the Genesee Human Oppression Strike Team, a task force within the Genesee County Sheriff's Office that seeks to apprehend people who attempt to have sexual relations with children.

"If you are not aware that human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise, then unfortunately that message hasn't gotten out strong enough," he said on Friday.

On the dates of March 12, April 23, Aug. 12, Aug. 13 and Aug. 14, GHOST completed seven operations throughout Genesee County. Of these, six were undercover sting operations and one was a rescue mission.

In the six undercover sting operations, officers with the GCSO posed as 15, 14 and 13-year-old children and talked to people online who set up a time and place

to meet for sexual relations. These officers used social media sites that U.S. teens use today, such as Kik.

The sting operations took place at the following locations: in Fenton off of Silver Lake Parkway; Grand Blanc near Holly Road and I-75; in Davison near I-69 and M-15; and Flint Township near I-75 and Miller Road.

Two arrests took place in Fenton on Friday, Aug. 14.

"It's in every one of our communities," Swanson said. "What we need to do is be vigilant on finding where these people will come and what they will do, and they didn't come just from Genesee County."

In total, 17 people were arrested as a result of these six sting operations. One person they arrested in Davison had more than 1,000 child pornography images and videos on a device.

"When I'm talking child pornography, I'm talking below the age of 7. When he was arrested, a comment was made, 'there's things on my phone I know are going to be bad,'" Swanson said.

The GCSO forensic department is working on sifting through the relevant technology. Some of those 17 people who were arrested brought methamphetamine,



Jared Hudson, one of the operatives in the Genesee Human Oppression Strike Team (GHOST), speaks to reporters at the Friday press conference.

Photo: Hannah Ball

cocaine, and weapons to these meetings. Swanson said they are working "hand-in-hand" with the prosecutor's office on these cases. The Genesee County prosecutor is David Leyton.

GHOST operators did a "phenomenal job," Swanson said. There were no injuries during these operations. While doing this work, Swanson said they talked to more than 2,000 people wanting to have sexual relations with kids age 15 and under.

Swanson said they will release information on those arrested at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 19. One person arrested was a former police officer and firefighter in Burton, who's now been charged with two 20-year felonies and a four-year felony.

Those apprehended in these cases will face multiple charges: using a computer to commit a crime, a 20-year felony; accosting a child for immoral purposes, a four-year felony; and possession of child sexual abusive material, a 20-year felony.

### Friday, Aug. 14 rescue operation

GHOST has conducted rescue operations in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

"These are the children that are 17 and

below that are what I call 'the forgotten population.' Lost in the cracks," Swanson said. The GCSO receives information on missing children from numerous sources, such as the Genesee Intermediate School District, local schools as well as police departments, including Argentine Township.

The Friday, Aug. 14 operation included seven four-man teams going across the county in an attempt to find 27 missing kids. From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., seven children were rescued. One of those seven included a 16-year-old girl in Montrose who was locked in a barn surrounded by a fence with barbed wire on top.

"She was trafficked. She was taken out of the county," he said.

Swanson gave thanks to former Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell, and spoke about the origins of GHOST. Swanson had the idea when he was overseas working with an international organization, Operation Underground Railroad.

He thanked Jared Hudson, a Navy Seal, who's one of the operators of GHOST. Hudson, who met Swanson in Haiti, said that he wanted to work with law enforcement to get bad people off the streets.

"During COVID, during crisis, we're out there protecting people," Swanson said. "Those that are vulnerable are being protected."

He encouraged people to have discussions about vulnerability and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

"Those predators go out there and try to seek, to give vulnerable people shelter and food and love and attention, and that is called grooming. And then they groom to bring in, and then once you're in, you're in," he said.

Since GHOST started, officers have made 73 arrests and the county has not lost one of these cases in court, Swanson said.

For more information and where to find help for people who have suffered these crimes, go to ourrescue.org and polarisproject.com.

## GREAT OPPORTUNITY

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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**IF SO CALLED** 'liberal socialism' is popular in a large political party, then maybe lots of people want it, or maybe you don't understand how the democratic platform works.

**SEATBELTS KEEP THE** driver in a better position to control the vehicle after an accident because the driver is

less likely to be ejected from the driver seat in an accident.

**JUST BECAUSE THE** media disagrees with you, doesn't mean they're untrustworthy.

**TEACHERS SHOULD GET** a pass because of how schools work with the amount of people they have. A school with 1,000 kids will spread COVID.



## Pontiac man sentenced

■Pleaded guilty to amended charge of larceny from a person in Fenton

By Sharon Stone

Ward Alvin Goodnight III, 22, of Pontiac, was sentenced July 20 in Genesee County Circuit Court.

Fenton police arrested the man Dec. 29, 2019 for an armed robbery, which was reported Dec. 5, 2019. Fenton detectives Scott Townsend and Dale Rauch were credited with solving the case and locating the suspect.

Goodnight III was charged with one count of armed robbery and one count of felony firearm. Armed robbery carries a prison term of life or any term of years in prison. Felony firearm is a two-year felony.

As previously reported, a 23-year-old

Holly man agreed to meet an unknown buyer, later identified as Goodnight III, for his PlayStation 4 in the parking lot of a big box store in the 3700 block of Owen Road in Fenton at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019. The Holly man and Goodnight III had communicated through the app "letgo," which lets people buy and sell used items.

The Holly man gave Goodnight III the PlayStation 4 and he allegedly pulled out a handgun, pointed it at the Holly man and told him to get back into his car. Goodnight III got into a vehicle and drove away.

On Jan. 15, Goodnight III pleaded guilty to an amended charge of larceny from a person and felony firearm, a two-year felony. He was put on probation for the amended charge of larceny from a person.

## See your lifetime earnings with My Social Security

■Ensures you receive the benefits you've earned

Submitted by Vonda Van Til

Did you know you can see your work history online all the way back to your first job? Your earnings history is a record of your progress toward your Social Security benefits. We keep track of your earnings so we can pay you the benefits you've earned over your lifetime. This is why reviewing your Social Security earnings record is so important.

If an employer didn't properly report just one year of your earnings to us, your future benefit payments could be less than they should be. Over the course of a lifetime, that could cost you tens of thousands of dollars in retirement or other benefits to which you are entitled.

It's important to identify reporting problems as soon as possible. As time passes, you may no longer have easy access to past tax documents, and some employers may no longer exist or be able to provide past payroll information.

While it's your employer's responsibility to provide accurate earnings in-

formation to us, you should still review and inform us of any errors or omissions so you get credit for the contributions you've made through payroll taxes. You're the only person who can look at your lifetime earnings record and verify that it's complete and correct.

The easiest way to verify your earnings record is to visit [ssa.gov/myaccount](https://ssa.gov/myaccount) and set up or sign in to your personal my Social Security account. You should review each year of listed earnings carefully and confirm them using your own records, such as W-2s and tax returns. Keep in mind that earnings from this year and last year may not be listed yet.

You can find detailed instructions on how to correct your Social Security earnings record at [ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf](https://ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf).

Let your friends and family know they can access important information like this any time at [ssa.gov](https://ssa.gov) and do much of their business with us online.

*Vonda Van Til is the public affairs specialist for West Michigan. Write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at [vonda.vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov).*

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— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, July 31.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PAVING PROJECT FOR AUDUBON MEADOWS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON, GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of petitions of property owners within the township signed by the record owners of land whose frontage constitutes more than 50% of the total frontage of the proposed district, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton proposes to repave Audubon Drive, Rolling Meadow Drive and Waterside Drive, and to create a special assessment district for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows:

#### Units 1-13 and 15-36 of the Audubon Meadows Condominium Subdivision

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has received preliminary plans showing the improvements and an estimate of the costs of such construction, contingencies and related services in the approximate amount of \$118,250, has placed the same on file with the Township Clerk, and has passed a Resolution tentatively declaring its intention to make such improvement and to create the special assessment district. The Township Board has also tentatively found the petitions for the improvement to be in compliance with statutory requirements.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that said plans, estimates of cost, proposed special assessment district and petitions may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk from the date of this Notice through the date of the public hearing and may be examined at such public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing upon such petitions, plans, district and estimate of costs will be held by telephone conference call (Phone Number: (844) 855-4444, Access code: 323110#), commencing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday August 31, 2020.

At the hearing, the board will also consider any written objections to any of the foregoing matters filed with the board at or before the hearing as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments or changes to said plans, estimates, costs or special assessment district.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the hearing and to submit any comments they may have.

ROBERT E. KRUG  
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK  
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE  
FENTON, MI 48430-8817

The legislature is scheduled to meet next on Thursday, Aug. 6. The Senate held a pro-forma session with no voting. Rather than votes, this Roll Call Report describes some topical school-related bills of interest.

#### Senate Bill 1038: Suspend state 11th/12th grade math/reading tests

Introduced by Sen. Rosemary Bayer (D), to suspend in the coming 2020-2021 school year a law that requires public schools to administer a state learning assessment exam to all students in either 11th or 12th grade. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

#### Senate Bill 1039: Suspend building-level school performance measurements

Introduced by Sen. Rosemary Bayer (D), to suspend in the coming 2020-2021 school year a law that requires the state Department of Education to assign each public school a letter grade based on the educational progress of its students during the past year. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

#### Senate Bill 1040: Suspend annual teacher performance ratings

Introduced by Sen. Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D), to suspend in the coming 2020-21 school year a requirement

that school districts perform annual year-end evaluation ratings of classroom teachers and rate each as either highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

#### Senate Bill 1043: Suspend school performance measurements

Introduced by Sen. Sean McCann (D), to suspend in the coming 2020-21 school year a sampling program intended to determine whether Detroit children enrolled in kindergarten have the skills required to participate. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

#### House Bill 5833: Authorize "school liaisons" to communicate state education regulators

Introduced by Rep. Brad Paquette (R), to require the Michigan Department of Education to establish and implement a program of "school liaisons" who "are able to communicate directly with department staff on matters of relevance to the school." House Bill 5834 would require the Michigan Department of Education to host periodic statewide networking conferences for all these "liaisons." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

## KENT BARNES

### Continued from Page 3

A Kentucky native, Barnes launched his teaching career in 1980 at Murray High School in Murray, Kentucky, and went on to teach and coach football in several other Kentucky districts. Before arriving in Holly, he was superintendent of the Greenup County School District in northeast Kentucky from 1994 through 1999.

Barnes, who took the Holly position to be closer to and care for his wife's family, retired as superintendent in 2013. He remained active in the Holly Area School district long after retirement by substitute teaching, volunteering in Holly Elementary School classrooms, attending special student events, and participating in numerous civic groups.

He was known for having a distinct "radio voice" recognizable during athletic events and when calling families at the crack of dawn to declare a snow day. He was also a pioneer in using podcasts

to send video messages to families, staff and local residents to highlight the latest Broncho happenings.

Barnes played a central role in passing the district's 2003 and 2006 bond proposals that improved buildings throughout the district to best serve the needs of all students. During the Great Recession of the late 2000s, Barnes had to make difficult decisions to continue classroom programs and keep the district moving forward.

"Kent was truly a one-of-a-kind leader and continued to mentor teachers and staff to provide a world-class education to all students long after he left our hallways," said Steve Lenar, Holly Area Schools assistant superintendent of administrative services, who worked alongside Barnes for many years. "He embodied what it means to be an educator, working around the clock to serve his students and community. Kent has left a huge void in our district we will strive to fill for years to come."

View a Holly Area Schools video celebrating Barnes' life at [hask12.org](http://hask12.org).



## LFHS senior earns 'Distinguished Expert' status

■ Junior Rifle Program rewards her with custom engraved Ruger American .22 rifle

By Sharon Stone

Taylor Landon, a Lake Fenton High School senior, earned Distinguished Expert as part of the Junior Rifle Program at Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club on Butcher Road in Fenton Township.

She earned the Distinguished Expert qualification in smallbore rifle competition. She was first in more than 15 years to achieve that level in the youth rifle program at Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club. After earning her expert status she needed 40 target with 90+ out of 100 while shooting all four positions in each session. The prone, sitting, kneeling, and standing position require a very different procedure to maintain accuracy so that shooting four positions in a session makes achieving distinguished status much more difficult than the previous 14 levels from Provisional Marksman through Expert combined.

For her accomplishment, the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club Board of Directors honored her with a Ruger American .22 rifle that included a stock engraving highlighting her Distinguished Expert status.



Taylor Landon earned Distinguished Expert as part of the Junior Rifle Program at Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club. Submitted photo

If you would like more information about the Junior Rifle Program at Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club, send a message to ClubJrRifleMgr@fentonlakes.com and they will provide you with information. You can also visit fentonlakes.com.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**IF YOU'RE CALLING** Biden weak because he supposedly 'hides in his basement,' don't forget when Trump hides in his bunker.

■■■  
**I'M CONFUSED ABOUT** mail in balloting. I got seven applications at my house. Do I send them in one at a time or all at once?

■■■  
**THE UNITED STATES** Postal Service had no problem getting all the mailers from the political candidates to my home on time. And I got none delivered to my house late after the election.

■■■  
**PEOPLE NEED TO** thank our governor for keeping us safe. If she bowed to Trump and opened early like the Republican states, we would be in that mess. Self centered people whining because they can't get a haircut or party are pathetic. I'm safe, so are my kids.

**DEMOCRATS RAISED \$48** million dollars in the two days following the VP announcement. Sounds like donors were simply waiting for a pulse before donating.

■■■  
**DR. ANTHONY FAUCI** said there is 'no reason' Americans can't vote in person for the 2020 presidential election.

■■■  
**FENTON SCHOOLS ARE** doing online learning for students' safety. But Fenton teachers have to be in the classroom, leaving their own school age children at crowded daycares? Who's helping them with online learning? Daycares are safer than a school? Hardly.

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# MHSAA suspends prep football season until at least Spring 2021

COVID-19 has made its impact on another prep sports season.

The 2020 prep football season will be suspended at least until the spring of 2021.

The Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) announced on Friday it will move the 2020 Fall football season to Spring 2021, due to football's higher risk for spreading COVID-19. At this time the rest of the prep fall sports season is still proceeding as scheduled.

"At the end of the day, we did everything we could to find a path forward for football this fall," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "But while continuing to connect with the Governor's office, state health department officials, our member schools' personnel and the Council, there is just too much uncertainty and too many unknowns to play football this fall.

"No one is willing to take the risk of COVID being passed on because of a high-risk sport. Decisions have to be

made on our other sports as well, but none of those carry the same close, consistent, and face-to-face contact as football."

The MHSAA said a total of 34,219 student-athletes played football during the 2019 season, including hundreds from the tri-county schools. Area teams began practices on Aug. 10 and some were at practices when the announcement was made.

The spring sports football format has yet to be established and will be over the

next few months according to the MHSAA.

Girls golf and boys tennis can begin competitions today. They are considered low-risk sports. Cross country, another sport considered a low-risk event, can begin competing Friday.

Volleyball and boys soccer are considered moderate-risk sports. Guidelines for boys soccer, volleyball and swimming are expected to be announced today by the MHSAA.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 | PAGE 12 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

## Sports Times

### Spencer ending seven-month layoff with bout on Saturday

Linden resident and professional boxer Joey Spencer hasn't competed in the ring in more than seven months.

But that run between matches will end Saturday when Spencer competes in his 11th bout (10th on television) against Shawn West in a six-round super welterweight bout.

The still only 20-year old Spencer, who is 10-0 with seven knockouts, is excited to get back in the ring.

"It feels good. It's been a long time," Spencer said. "I've had three training camps with no fights. I'm excited to get back in the ring again."

The last time Spencer fought in the ring was January 18 when he defeated Erik Spring (13-3-2) in a six-round bout by unanimous decision. Before this gap, the longest Spencer has gone between professional bouts was 105 days between knockout victories against Cory Macon (Sept. 30, 2018) and Brandon Harder (Jan. 13, 2019). Of course, the layoff was due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since turning pro at 18, Spencer has kept up a pretty busy schedule of bouts, with all but his first fight on television.

This one at the Microsoft Theatre in Los Angeles also will be televised. FOX will televise it nationally with action beginning at 8 p.m.

Spencer was initially expected to compete on April 11 when the virus post-

poned that bout. He was hoping to fight July 25, but that bout also was canceled. Even the current date came with some hiccups. Spencer's initial opponent tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, forcing him to find a new opponent late in the process. There have been some positives with the long layoff.

"I keep telling my wife and my family that this is the best I've ever felt because I have a renewed energy and love for the game," Spencer said. "I haven't had to fight and having this time off has been really good for my body. I was able to rest and heal and now I had the best training camp I've ever had.

"My whole excitement and love is coming back. When you do it over and over again, you become fatigued, you go with the flow and it's not that same excitement. I'm refreshed and have that newfound excitement again."

Like previously mentioned, West wasn't the fighter originally scheduled due to his original opponent testing positive for the COVID-19 virus. West has competed in many one-on-one combat sports including boxing, kickboxing and mixed martial arts.

"He has fought his whole life," Spencer said. "He has a lot of experience in the octagon and the ring. It will be a good fight. I'm going to look for a knockout win. If we go the distance, we go the distance and I'll show my stamina."



Linden's Joey Spencer (right) returns to professional boxing action Saturday. His 11th professional bout will be televised on FOX network. **TrappFotos**

With all his experience, it's easy to forget Spencer isn't even 21-years-old. Spencer is still growing into his adult body. Spencer began his career at 18 and is considerably younger than most

highly thought professional prospects. Spencer said he can feel how much his body has physically matured just in the last two years.


**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**



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# Obituaries

Times



## Gordon Dean Lane

1936 – 2020

Gordon Dean Lane - age 83, of Holly, died Wednesday, August 12, 2020. Private family funeral services were held at 1 PM Saturday, August 15, 2020 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Visitation was from 6 - 9 PM Friday, August 14, with social distancing restrictions. Military honors and burial will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly at a later date. Mr. Lane was born in Pottsville on February 14, 1936 to Leroy and Fern (Rogers) Lane. He was a US Navy veteran. Family was first for Gordon, and he also enjoyed bowling, wood working, fishing, and spending time in his work shop. He is survived by his wife, Bernie; eight children, Debbie (Randy) Gurski, JR Lofquist, Wendy (Steve) Farmer, Connie (George) Baker, Scott Lane, Duane (Kelly) Wagner, Mark (Melody) Wagner, and Tricia (Dave) Gaddis; 28 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; brother, Herman (Diana) McConnell; sister, Diane (Al) Windquist; and sisters-in-law, Ruth Lane and Betty Lane. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Roger, Kenny, and Pearce Lane. Memorial donations may be given to the family. [www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com)

## Lorraine Rita Lohaus

1935 – 2020



Lorraine Rita Lohaus - age 84, of Linden, died Sunday, August 16, 2020. Funeral mass will be celebrated 11 AM Thursday, August 20, 2020 at St. John the Evangelist

Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton with Fr. Ryan Riley celebrant. Interment will follow at St. John Cemetery. Visitation will be held 10 AM - 11 AM Thursday at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Lorraine was born November 2, 1935 in Detroit, the daughter of Frederick and Anna (Klaes) Bloink. She married John A. Lohaus on May 21, 1960 and he preceded her in death on January 10, 1999. She was an active member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church volunteering both at the parish and the parish

school. She was a former member of St. Rita Catholic Church. Lorraine was an avid gardener and enjoyed quilting and porcelain dolls. Surviving are daughter, Agnes (James)

Skrzycki of Farmington; son, John Lohaus of Linden; four grandchildren, Amanda (Nathan) Skrzycki-Cisneros, Vincent Skrzycki, Catherine (Cameron) Skrzycki, Johnelle Lohaus; two great-grandchildren, Nolan Gray and Remi Lorraine Hill; sister, Katie Cook. She was preceded in death by her husband; and ten siblings. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St., Linden. Tributes may be shared at [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



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KING  
FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

ACROSS

1 Homer's cry

4 Commotion

7 Couturier Bill

12 — out a living

13 America's uncle

14 They're usually covered in white

15 Auto

16 Cartoon canary

18 Suitable

19 Point of view

20 Effervescence

22 Squirrel's home

23 Mediocre

27 Samovar

29 Sister of Venus

31 Kin of "Abra-cadabra!"

34 Crucifixes

35 Sufficient

37 "Brady Bunch" girl

38 Cash-drawer compartment

39 Swelled head

41 Marvel Comics group

45 Clutch

47 Anger

48 16-Across' pursuer

52 Legislation

53 Praiseful rendition

54 Clean Air Act org.

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DOWN

1 Starbucks selection

2 Giraffe's cousin

3 Avis competitor

4 "The Thin Man" pooch

5 Suddenly occur to

6 Last letter

7 Information unit

8 Myrna of Hollywood

9 Matterhorn, e.g.

10 Tackle moguls

11 Away from NNW

17 Reindeer kin

21 Boer fighters

23 Cheer-ful part of NYC?

24 Zodiac feline

25 Moreover

26 Owns

28 Tatter

30 Detergent brand

31 Dog's doc

32 Individual

33 Tiny particle

36 Towel word

37 Andrew Lloyd Webber title role

40 Microsoft big-wig

42 Where to see "The Last Supper"

43 Poets' Muse

44 More recent

45 Hackman or Wilder

46 Beseech

48 Masseur's workplace

49 Sweet potato

50 Mainlander's memento

51 U-Haul rental


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Midweek Sudoku

FUN BY THE NUMBERS

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

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

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

CLXEE

MALPC


SOPOPE

PXTEEM

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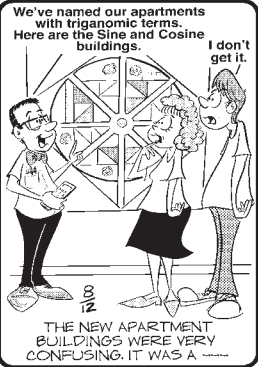


FREE ESTIMATES  
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Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

We've named our apartments with trigonometric terms. Here are the Sine and Cosine buildings.



I don't get it.

THE NEW APARTMENT BUILDINGS WERE VERY CONFUSING. IT WAS A

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

Horoscopes

For the week of  
August 17, 2020

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you feel a desire to be of service to others. Humanitarian tendencies are a trait that you should be proud to display. Keep up all of the good work.

GEMINI

May 22/June 21

Several powerful events have the potential to improve the positive energy surrounding you, Gemini. Bask in this warmth and the good news it is likely to bring.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you have been seeking a romantic partner you may fall in love over the next few days. For those who are in relationships, the bonds of love only grow stronger.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Some exciting experiences are coming your way this week, Leo. You may discover a talent you didn't know you had, or you may involve yourself in a creative endeavor.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you usually approach situations rationally and scientifically, but sometimes you need to throw caution to the wind. You might be surprised with the results.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, this week you may be feeling more intuitive than ever before. It may seem like you have psychic abilities. Pick up on the feelings and bits of information coming.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Business and money are going well for you, Sagittarius. You might be thinking in terms of making a big career change or even starting your own business.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, you tend to be sensitive to the feelings of others, and this is a good approach that will serve you and others in various ways. Maintain this sense of compassion.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, now is the right time to be more idealistic. Embrace that mood. Put your energy toward being sensitive to social and political conditions and get your voice heard.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

You may be inclined to be more spiritual or metaphysical in the days to come, Capricorn. Explore all avenues of higher thinking, especially if you find it calming.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

You tend to see those people closest to you in their best light, Pisces. Encourage them to do the same if a situation arises that requires it.

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