Fatal house fire under investigation

**Victim identified as 43-year-old Fenton man**

By Sharon Stone

The city of Fenton fire and police departments responded to a house fire Friday, Oct. 16, at 5:50 a.m. in the 800 block of W. Shiawassee Avenue in the city of Fenton.

There were two occupants in the home at the time of the fire and there was one confirmed fatality. On Tuesday, Oct. 20, Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department said the victim was Brian O’Donnell, 43, of Fenton. O’Donnell lived at the house. Firefighters located him on the second floor of the house. Another individual who did not live at the house, but was there at the time of the fire, was able to escape uninjured.

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said the fire department was assisted at the scene by STAT EMS and the following fire agencies: Fenton Township, city of Linden, and North See FIRE on 5

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A tribute to the souls lost to COVID-19

As of Tuesday, Oct. 20, Karen Breasbois has 324 small American flags placed in her front yard. Each flag represents a Genesee County resident who died from COVID-19. Her goal is to remind people that the virus affects local communities. See story on page 5. Photo: Hannah Ball

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School solves traffic problem

**North Road Elementary adds staff member to monitor parking lot and keep cars moving along**

By Sharon Stone

When classes began in person for some students at Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) on Oct. 1, the amount of congestion in the parking lots was above the norm.

Fearful of putting their kids on buses, or students who are possibly “school of choice,” more parents were driving their children to and from school. School of choice students are typically from neighboring school districts. They are allowed

See TRAFFIC on 6

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Hogan Road bridge to be replaced in 2023

**Bridge has been one lane only since 2017**

By Hannah Ball

The Hogan Road bridge is approved to be replaced in 2023. The bridge has been broken, with only one lane operational, since 2017.

See BRIDGE on 6

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“Thanks to the Road Commission of Oakland County for the great job they did engineering the reconstruction and paving of North Holly Road, including raising the low spots to help with flooding, building the wall at Belford Road to improve visibility and anti-skid coating the curves.”

“Since it’s election time, who is responsible for the useless bike path down the middle of N. Saginaw? They get a no vote from me.”

“Thank you LAFF Pathway organizers. My husband I look forward to finally buying bicycles next spring so that we can check out the new path.”
Get rid of unwanted medications — no questions asked

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday

By Sharon Stone

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed nearly everything in our day-to-day lives. But one thing remains a constant — the need to rid our homes of expired and unwanted medications.

In response, law enforcement agencies across the U.S. are hosting “Take Back” events.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will provide the public the opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

Bring your pills for disposal to the Livingston County Jail at 150 S. Highlander Way, in Howell.

Please note that this site cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This October event is DEA’s 19th nationwide event since its inception 10 years ago.

In 2019, Americans turned in nearly 883,000 pounds of prescription drugs at nearly 6,300 sites operated by the DEA and almost 5,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners.

To keep everyone safe, collection sites will follow local COVID-19 guidelines and regulations.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse.

Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

In addition to DEA’s National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, there are many other ways to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs every day, including the 11,000 authorized collectors that are available all year long. For more information, visit DEA’s year-round collection site locator.

The FDA also provides information on how to properly dispose of prescription drugs. More information is available at fda.gov.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 24 Take Back Day event, go to DEATakeBack.com.

Oakland County announced its “take back” plans. It will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Orion Township Substation, 2525 Joslyn Rd., Orion Township. A second site is the Independence Township Substation, 6560 Citation Dr., Independence Township.

Any individual wishing to drop off their outdated or unused prescriptions is encouraged to drop them off at any of the above-listed sites, or any site listed at the DEA’s website https://takebackday.dea.gov.

This effort is an extension of the efforts put forth by the Oakland County Sheriff’s Operation Medicine Cabinet program, which launched in 2009.

For more information on Operation Medicine Cabinet, a year-round, ongoing prescription drug collection program sponsored by the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, visit oakgov.com and search for Operation Medicine Cabinet.

FENTON CITY

The Fenton Police Department is participating in this take-back event. A drop box for prescription pills is available 24/7 in the station’s lobby, 311 S. LeRoy St., Fenton. Pills only, no liquids or syringes.

HOLLY VILLAGE

Join the Holly Area Community Coalition this Saturday. Come to Holly Police Department at 315 S. Broad Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and bring unused prescription pills for safe destruction.

When packaging pills for drop off, please make sure of the following:

• Pills are removed from bottles with patient information. Place pills in a clear plastic bag.
• No fluids please.
• A sharps container is on-site for used sharps. Please do not mix them with prescription pills.

DO NOT BRING:

Illegal drugs (to include marijuana or methamphetamine), liquids, inhalers, mercury thermometers, aerosol cans, bio-hazardous materials (anything containing a bodily fluid or blood), flares, personal care products (shampoo, soaps, lotions, sunscreens, etc.), household hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, chemicals, oil, or gas), no unmarked acids.

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Police & Fire Report

Compiled by Sharon Stone

FRAUD REPORTED ON SILVER LANDINGS IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Wednesday, Sept. 30, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 16000 block of Silver Landings in Fenton Township for a fraud complaint. The victim received a text message stating he was the winner of a $50,000 lottery. The suspect asked the victim to buy $1,500 worth of iTunes gift cards, take pictures of the serial number and send them. The suspect asked for another $5,000 worth of gift cards. The victim became suspicious and called the sheriff’s office. The sheriff’s Elder Abuse Taskforce is investigating this incident.

Elderly resident a victim of lottery scam

On Wednesday, Sept. 30, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the Pheasant Run apartment complex for a fraud complaint. The elderly victim received a text message stating he was the winner of a $50,000 lottery. The suspect asked the victim to buy $1,500 worth of iTunes gift cards, take pictures of the serial number and send them. The suspect asked for another $5,000 worth of gift cards. The victim became suspicious and called the sheriff’s office. The sheriff’s Elder Abuse Taskforce is investigating this incident.

Fraud reported on Silver Landings in Fenton Township
Holiday tree brings joy throughout the year

From New Year’s Day to Christmas, Fenton Township woman decorates office tree for every occasion

By Vera Hogan

While the pandemic has rendered many people down in the dumps this year, Denise Ketchmark of Fenton Township and her staff have found a way to bring a little joy to the clients who visit her Flint law office.

Ketchmark not only boasts a Christmas tree in her lobby, but after the yuletide season ends, the tree is decorated to highlight each coming holiday or special occasion.

Currently, the festive Halloween tree is in place, but other decorated trees throughout the year celebrate Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter, Spring, Mother’s Day, Memorial Day (with a veteran’s acknowledgement), Dads and Grads, Summer, Fourth of July, Back to School, Labor Day, 9/11, Fall, Hunting Season and Thanksgiving.

“We have been doing the tree decoration for about a year,” Ketchmark said. “My office manager Debi recommended it because she used to decorate the office at her previous workplace.”

Ketchmark said her clients and delivery people love it.

“My firm is like family and celebrating is part of being a family,” she said. “Part of my practice is being a professional guardian for our vulnerable population and being a federal fiduciary for our veterans. We treat our clients like family as well. So our holiday trees are just one way to honor our veterans and celebrate with our work family.”
Anyone who’s celebrated a birthday in the last six months can attest to how weird it is to celebrate during a pandemic. I knew my birthday wouldn’t be a typical one, so I asked my youngest sister to take some fun photos of me in the woods. That may sound strange to anyone who doesn’t know me, but I like a good birthday photo and knowing one wouldn’t just happen organically (no party, no travel, etc.) I needed to stage it wouldn’t just happen organically (no party, no travel, etc.) I needed to stage.

After the photo shoot we had an amazing meal prepared by my mom. During dinner, the conversation turned to astrological signs. My youngest sister said people in our family have strong traits of their sign. I’m a Libra and as my sister began reading the characteristics of a Libra, we all started to laugh. It’s as if someone who knows me wrote a brief summary about my personality. Here are a few of the qualities: Charming — Check! (At least, I like to think so) Well-balanced — Check! Thrive on making things orderly and aesthetically pleasing — Check! Like making peace between others — Check! Can be equally as self-indulgent as they are generous — Check!

That last one is right on the nose. I’m a self-proclaimed, self-involved person (hello, birthday photo shoot), but I’m also generous. So much so that I share my birthday week with National Newspaper Week.

Held each year to honor the importance of newspapers, this year’s celebration was Oct. 4-10. It marked the 80th anniversary of the celebration and brought attention to an industry that has been more important than ever in 2020.

In honor of the week, Randy Evans, executive director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, wrote an editorial shared in newspapers nationwide. Here’s an excerpt: “The coronavirus pandemic and a variety of major news events across our land have tested newspapers, and our communities, in ways we might never have fathomed.

Taking stock of the contributions by newspapers, large and small, serves as an important reminder of why our Founding Fathers wrote freedom of the press into the Constitution’s Bill of Rights — and why the theme for this year’s National Newspaper Week, ‘America Needs Journalists,’ is so appropriate.”

I’ll add that America needs local journalists. The pandemic highlighted the importance of local news. The fact is, what’s happening outside of your front door is what’s most important to making your day-to-day decisions. Newspapers, of course, do more than just report on the hard news. We’re there for the good news, the events and the people too.

Newspapers make you think, keep you informed and even make you laugh. (Included photo is proof!)

The bottom line: The newspaper is your trusted friend.

And because I work here, I’m your friend too, which means you should get me a gift for my birthday. Well, actually, it’s a gift for you, but it will make me feel good, too. All you have to do is call (810) 629-8282 or email me at ecaswell@mihomepaper.com and subscribe to the Tri-County Times.

Emily Caswell is the brand manager for VIEW Group, the branding division of View Newspaper Group.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

Question asked to Tri-County Times’ Facebook followers

Movie theaters are reopening. Are you comfortable going and what movie do you want to see?

“I would go. Not worried about Covid, but are there even going to be new releases right now? That’s what would keep me from going.”

“I will go as long as they limit number of people and have mandatory face mask.”

“I need confirmation that the theaters have been deeply cleaned. Seats, floors, walls, bathrooms.”

“No problem - looking forward to seeing the new ‘Top Gun’ when released.”

“I took my boys last Thursday night and there was nobody there. Literally two other people in the theater. Everything looks the same as before except popcorn seasonings were not out.”

Marcy Andrews Deffendal
Fenton

Tamara A Robins Jaksa
Flint

Judy Crimando
Grand Blanc

Don Schmid
Fenton

Nadia Johnson
Fenton
Resident displays flags for each county resident dead from COVID

Display meant to show how virus hits home communities

By Hannah Ball

COVID-19 death rates appear only as a number when they flash across the TV or online, but the impact is different when those numbers, and people who died, are represented by something physical — like an American flag.

Karen Breasbois of Fenton Township placed a small American flag in her yard for every person in Genesee County who has died as a result of COVID-19. She has more than 324 flags in the grass.

“Lots of people have stopped and taken photos. Some people have said they thought it was only bad in Detroit. It means more when you bring it home to your particular community,” Breasbois said.

The display is meant to help people realize that the pandemic is affecting Genesee County and the tri-county area.

“We usually hear the national figures, the state figures,” but not always local numbers, she said.

Breaosbois, who worked as a nurse for 45 years and has been retired for 10 years now, constantly looks at numbers and information from the county and state health departments. She worked in Texas, South Carolina and Michigan. A man she knows from South Carolina, who she said was “relatively healthy,” spent weeks in the ICU battling COVID before he was released.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 20, there were 324 COVID-19 deaths in Genesee County, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Genesee County is currently seeing an uptick in cases. More than 1,000 cases were reported in the past three weeks, rising from approximately 3,700 cases in late September to more than 4,700 on Thursday, Oct. 15. That number is now more than 6,000 COVID-19 cases in Genesee County.

Out of the local municipalities, Fenton has had the most COVID-19 cases.

- **Linden:** 71 cases, 1.4 percent of cases
- **Fenton Township:** 53 cases, 1 percent of cases
- **Gaines:** 44 cases, 0.9 percent of cases
- **Argentine Township:** 42 cases, 0.8 percent of cases

City of residence and zip code data are not a complete picture of community exposure since they only reflect case addresses of record for positive test results and not necessarily where COVID-19 exposure occurred. Testing capacity has been limited to date.

Medical professionals know more about the virus and how to treat it now compared to in the spring, when the county saw the highest death rates. Breasbois has multiple friends who’ve had a COVID-19 scare.

She thought she may have contracted the virus over the summer, but the test was negative.

She describes this type of atmosphere as the “worried well.”

Breasbois was inspired to put out the flags and poster after seeing a segment on a national talk show of a woman who did something similar, but she placed a flag for every American who died from COVID. Breasbois wanted to keep it local.

Her husband helped her set the lines for the flags, and the display runs in straight rows.

The yard is large enough to hold “thousands” of flags she said, adding, “but I don’t want it to.”
TRAFFIC
Continued from Front Page
to attend with approval, however, the families must provide their own transportation.
Traffic at North Road Elementary on North Road was especially impacted by the increased traffic when parents attempted to pick up their child or children. Traffic backed up down North Road, prompting some motorists to use the center turn lane to get around the waiting cars. Using the center turn lane is illegal, and Fenton police did respond to at least two collisions after school.

Between the principal, the superintendent and the police department, an assessment was completed.

Superintendent Adam Hartley said that they added a staff member to help line up cars and worked with Fenton police to rework how parents line up to alleviate the traffic on North Road.

“After assessing the situation and problem solving with ideas we found a way that worked,” Hartley said.

For now the traffic seems to be flowing better, however, the traffic situation will continue to be monitored.

NEWS
BRIEFS
COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

SEWER REPAIR WORK IN LINDEN — ROAD CLOSURES BEGIN WEDNESDAY EVENING
On Wednesday, Oct. 21, at approximately 5 p.m., the city of Linden will close the eastbound lane of W. Broad Street from Hyatt Lane, approximately 900 feet east for sewer repair work. The eastbound lane of W. Broad Street will be closed until Monday morning, Oct. 26. Businesses within the area will be accessible. There will be no thru traffic to the downtown area during this time. Detour route signage will be in place with the detour route for eastbound traffic being routed south on Hyatt Lane to Stan Eaton Drive ending on S. Bridge Street for access to the downtown area and places east of the work site. Westbound lane of W. Broad Street will remain open to thru traffic during this time.

The importance of voting, some election laws and legal news
Thomas Jefferson once said, “We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.”

There are a number of ways to participate, but it has long been recognized that chief among them is exercising our right to vote.

Because of a number of factors, including the coronavirus, there has been a massive national movement to encourage people to vote in this year’s election either in person with appropriate safeguards, or by absentee ballot.

In Michigan, we have seen this in a number of ways including public service announcements, which remind us of the importance of voting and include information on requesting absentee ballots from our local government clerks.

No reason need be given for the request pursuant to Michigan’s new law, which went into effect in 2018.

It is not too late to ask for an absentee ballot, which must be returned to the clerk personally, by an immediate family member, or by mail.

The Secretary of State webpage has full details including the availability of drop boxes.

This year promises to be an all-time record for absentee voting. Reportedly, there have been almost three million ballot requests. Due to this demand, a new Michigan statute was enacted in October allowing local clerks to begin opening and sorting (but not counting) absentee ballots at 10 a.m. the day before the election to facilitate counting them after the polls close.

Because of concerns that mailed ballots might not be received in time, a lawsuit was filed requesting that the deadline be extended for 14 days for ballots postmarked before election day, and allowing duly authorized non-relatives to personally return them commencing Oct. 30 at 5:01 p.m. up to Nov. 3.

A lower court granted the relief, but on Oct. 16, the Michigan Court of Appeals reversed this decision and held that all ballots had to be in by Nov. 3 and keeping intact the requirement for personal delivery by the voter or immediate relative.

Comedian George Carlin most certainly wasn’t a government official but he had it right when he said, “If you don’t vote you lose your right to complain.”

Let us all hope that this year’s election results are a true reflection of the people’s will.

BRIDGE
Continued from Front Page
At its Monday, Oct. 19 Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting, which took place over a conference call, Thomas Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk, updated the Board of Trustees and said funding has been approved for 2023.

At the April 6 meeting, the board authorized a letter of support to the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) committing $188,400 for the year 2023 toward the replacement of the bridge, which goes over the Shiawassee River.

The board passed similar statements of support in the past, in 2018 and 2019, but the full efforts for funding to replace the bridge were unsuccessful at the county those years.

“This year, the third year, was the charm,” Broecker said.

The total cost of the project is approximately $1.57 million. The GCRC will fund $188,400 and the Michigan Department of Transportation Bay Region Bridge Project will fund the rest, which is $1,193,200.

The township will set aside $50,000 from the general fund balance each year until they reserve the $188,400.
POLICE & FIRE REPORT
COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

ATTEMPTED B&E ON LINDEN ROAD
On Tuesday, Sept. 28, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 12000 block of Linden Road in Fenton Township for an attempted breaking and entering of an attached garage. Damage was made to the door and it appears someone attempted to pry the door open. Entry was not made and no items are missing. The incident remains under investigation.

DOMESTIC ASSAULT UNDER INVESTIGATION
On Sunday, Oct. 4, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 11000 block of Jennings Road in Fenton Township for a domestic assault complaint. The alleged assault occurred on the 12000 block of Windsor Beach Drive in Fenton Township. The incident remains under investigation.

SUSPECTS THROW FOOD AT JENNINGS ROAD HOME, CAR
On Sunday, Oct. 4, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 11000 block of Jennings Road in Fenton Township for a malicious destruction of property report. The suspects threw various food products at the residence and on a vehicle that was parked in the driveway. The incident remains under investigation.

CHAINSAW STOLEN FROM LAHRING ROAD HOME
On Tuesday, Oct. 6, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 6000 block of Lahring Road in Fenton Township for a larceny complaint. The victim reported that his orange Stihl chainsaw, was stolen from in front of his garage. The incident remains under investigation.

WHITE MINIVAN OBSERVED DRIVING OVER MAILBOX ON MARGARET DRIVE
On Tuesday, Oct. 6, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the 12000 block of Margaret Drive in Fenton Township for a destruction of property complaint. The victim reported that a vehicle drove over his mailbox. A neighbor witnessed a white minivan run the mailbox over and leave the area. The incident remains under investigation.

TRAIL CAM STOLEN IN FENTON TOWNSHIP
On Thursday, Oct. 8, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to Thompson and Fenton roads in Fenton Township for a larceny complaint. The victim stated he hunts in the area and his trail camera was stolen. The incident remains under investigation.

FLINT MAN ARRESTED FOR USING DRUGS AT FENTON TOWNSHIP GAS STATION
On Saturday, Oct. 10, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to the Beacon and Bridge on Thompson and Torrey roads in Fenton Township for a report of a male using drugs in his truck parked at the gas pumps. The deputies arrived and made contact with the suspect. The suspect consented to a search of the vehicle, where deputies found a syringe and a pipe used to smoke crack cocaine. The suspect admitted that the syringe was used to inject heroin. The suspect took responsibility for the items. The suspect is a 32-year-old male from Flint. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Genesee County Jail and lodged for possession of drug paraphernalia. The incident remains under investigation.

DOMESTIC ASSAULT
On Sunday, Oct. 11, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched the 13000 block of S. Horrell Road in Fenton Township for a domestic assault complaint. Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the victim, a 48-year-old female. The victim stated her husband, a 53-year-old male was in the residence and currently had a handgun on him. The victim stated he came home highly intoxicated and began arguing with her, ultimately pushing and grabbing her. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Genesee County Jail and booked on domestic violence charges. The suspect was arraigned and given a personal recognizance bond.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IF BIDEN HAS such a great plan to help the middle class, why wasn’t it good enough for Obama to use? 

IN YOUR BIASED opinion of the second amendment, you leave out a very important part which states, ‘the right of the people to keep and bear arms.’ I love how you Democrats pick out parts that fit your agenda and leave out the rest. The people are not the militia. 

THE LEFT IS never Right. 

NEVER BEFORE HAVE children in our country faced the onslaught of false ideas and explicit media that kids do today. Pray that the Lord will protect children across our country from exploitation and ask Him to reach those who don’t know Him with the love and truth of Jesus Christ.

NEARLY TWO-THIRDS of people in the U.S. say they don’t believe in absolute standards for right or wrong; instead, they think morality depends on the situation. Pray that many of these Americans discover the truth of God’s Word. Authentic America is at risk. Vote for those who support Authentic America.
Fentons Taylor Huntoon won the Flint Metro League Stripes Division meet Saturday, leading the Tigers to a division title.  

By David Troppens  

The Fenton cross country legacy in the Metro League continued on Saturday.

For the fifth season in a row, the Fenton varsity cross country program will be enjoying another season of championships. The Tigers won the Flint Metro League Stripes Division crown for both genders by winning the final Stripes Division events of the year on Saturday at Corunna High School.

The Fenton girls won their event by a tad larger amount, scoring 35 points compared to second-place Linden’s 48 points. Meanwhile, the Fenton boys defeated Flushing by a 45-55 margin. Both teams won all three Stripes Division races this fall.

The Tigers also enjoyed two individual Stripes Division champions. Michael Crane won the men’s race by about nine seconds with a time of 16:17.19. Flushing’s Blake Chipman took second (16:26.68) while Holly’s Nolan Weisdorf was third (16:35.27). Taylor Huntoon captured the women’s title by posting a time of 19:17.70. Holly’s Andrea Ruiz was second (19:23.0).

“What an amazing day,” Fenton varsity cross country coach Kelley Miller said. “As a new coach, I knew going into the season that both teams had the goal of defending their titles. To see their hard work and dedication come to fruition was thrilling to say the least.

“To have two individual league champions, Michael Crane and Taylor Huntoon, is just

By David Troppens

Swartz Creek — For a half, the Swartz Creek varsity football team gave the defending Flint Metro League champions all they could handle Friday night.

The Dragons held on to the ball and took two seven-point leads. When the squads went into halftime, the Tigers were deadlocked in a 14-14 tie.

The second half was a different story.

The Fenton Tigers looked very much like the squad that has won at least a share of eight of the last nine Flint Metro League crowns, recording a 33-14 Metro League

By David Troppens

Brook Herbstreit has spent the last four seasons with the Fenton varsity girls golf team, being one of the program’s leaders during that entire time.

She’s also been able to make it to the state meet each year on the squad and see the team place in the top 10 each season.

She’s also been able to do something else. She’s experienced her career with her dad, coach Kurt Herbstreit.

Those four years together with the Tigers came to a conclusion at the Division 2 state golf meet on Friday at Forest Akers West Golf Course. Fenton earned its fifth straight top 10 finish at the event (and fourth straight with Brook Herbstreit) with a tie for fifth-place effort at the one-day tourney, scoring a 363, 31 strokes behind state champion South Lyon.

“Being able to be at practice and tournaments with my dad through my four years, and really for the last 14 years since he has been coaching, has given us a relationship that no one else has,”

See GOLFERS on 10

Fenton golfers finish fifth at state meet, tourney marks end of era

See STRIPES on 11

By David Troppens

Tigers’ XC program makes it a clean sweep in Metro’s Stripes title run

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Bonser
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1023 N. Bridge St • Linden
810.735.8822
By David Troppens

The Linden varsity girls cross country team gave the five-time Metro champs Fenton a battle during Saturday’s final Metro League Stripes Division meet, but fell a bit short.

The Eagles (48 points) placed second at the meet and second in the final standings. The Holly girls placed fourth with 100 points. Fenton won with 35 points.

In the boys’ race, the Holly Bronchos moved up to third in the final meet, scoring 61 points, while Linden took fourth just one point behind Holly. Fenton won the meet and the Stripes crown with 45 points while Flushing was second with 55 points.

Swartz Creek was in fifth (145).

The Linden girls had its entire top seven finish within the top 24 places. The team’s top runner was Melanea Strauss in fourth (19:38.50), followed by teammate Alexis Mawhinney in fifth (19:41.00). The rest of the Eagles’ top seven runners were Alyson Kelly in eighth (20:20.20), Jessica Jablonski in 13th (21:07.00), Karyn Taylor in 18th (21:32.10), Colleen Blackwood in 19th (21:32.50) and Nicole Palmer in 24th (22:05.80).

The Holly girls were led by Andrea Ruiz who came within less than seven seconds of winning the race. She finished with a time of 19:23.00. Fenton’s Taylor Huntoon won with a time of 19:17.70.

The rest of Holly’s finishers were Alison Rockafellow in 30th (24:22.60), Chloe Magalski in 32nd (25:19.90), Christine Holmes in 33rd (25:26.40) and Pavitra Tailor in 35th (26:43.80).

Holly’s boys placed fourth in the first two races and jumped to third this time. Three Holly runners finished in the top 10. They were Nolan Weisdorfer in third (16:35.27), Mason Rosa in seventh (16:54.47) and Zachary Rockafellow in 10th (17:19.79). The rest of Holly’s top seven runners were Grant Hoffman in 21st (18:00.82), Benjamin Baxter in 22nd (18:01.39), Adam Booher in 32nd (19:05.48) and Jack Jackson in 33rd (19:06.25).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Blue Devils start strong, but fall to Corunna in second half, 28-20

By David Troppens

It was a great start for the Lake Fenton varsity football team Friday at Corunna High School.

The Blue Devils started out strong and led 20-0 before the Cavaliers even knew what hit them.

However, the second half was a different story for the Blue Devils. Corunna dominated the second half, scoring the game’s final 28 points in a 28-20 Cavaliers’ victory.

“Things were going our way but we were running out of gas a little bit,” Lake Fenton varsity football coach Marty Borski said. “We are a little banged up, but we were still in control of the game at halftime and felt good about what we were doing. Corunna put on a nice comeback. We had turnover issues in the second half and some of the penalties we got were off the charts.”

The Blue Devils started out just fine. Lake Fenton drove the field on its first possession, scoring on a 37-yard Andrew Heron TD run. Ashton Hunter converted the extra-point putting the Blue Devils up 7-0.

On Corunna’s next possession, Lake Fenton’s Zach Hempsall recorded a sack resulting in a fumble by the Corunna quarterback. Mason Skyner scooped up the fumble and scored from 28 yards out. Hunter made the extra point, raising the Lake Fenton lead to 14-0.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM
Bronchos play well, but Eagles soar in second half to 45-13 win

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity football team probably played its best game of the season against the Linden Eagles Friday night.

The Bronchos trailed just 21-13 at halftime, but the Eagles outscored Holly 24-0 in the second half, resulting in the Eagles’ 45-13 victory.

“Holly played really well in the first half,” Linden varsity football coach Denny Hopkins said. “(Holly varsity football coach) Dallas (Lesperance) had them ready to play. We made a couple of mistakes but they were playing hard. We got on a roll a bit in the second half.”

The Eagles improved to 3-2 with the victory, and are in position to earn a high seeding in their playoff district. Holly (0-5) is still looking for its first win and is in the same group of district teams as Linden.

Linden’s passing game had a strong showing with quarterback Gavin Wildeman throwing five TD passes. He completed 19-of-27 passes for 315 yards. Luke Gorkiewicz had two of the TD catches while Austin Jawarski had a 49-yard TD reception and Brandon Green a 12-yard TD catch. Finally, Seth Schuyler had a 31-yard TD reception. Green also scored a rushing TD.

Defensively, Bryce Eliuk had 16 tackles while Kyle Galbraith had eight stops.

“We have played really well the last few weeks,” Hopkins said. “We played well against Fenton and Kearsley and we had a good second half tonight. We are getting better. We just have to be more consistent.”

Holly’s first TD came on a Jacob Gonzales seven-yard run and a Gonzales PAT, cutting Linden’s lead to just 14-7 with 7:48 left in the half. Not too long after that, Jacob Hild completed a 20-yard TD pass to Jacob Chereson with 6:26 left in the half.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Tigers adjusting to COVID, thriving as season nears its end

By David Troppens

Fenton — Just like every other sports season, Fenton’s varsity girls swimming and diving season has had its share of issues during the COVID-19 era.

For the swim team some of the issues weren’t as awful as others. For instance, who doesn’t want to swim in outdoor pools during the late summer days? That’s what the Tigers did while waiting to see if they would have a season this fall.

“Practicing outside wasn’t too different because usually my club team is practicing outside,” Fenton three-time individual state champion swimmer Gracie Olsen said. “But I like being able to be outside. The transition to figuring out what was really going to happen was difficult because we were wondering if we were going to be in the spring or the fall. There was a lot going on.”

The season has started and is in full swing. There are changes. There aren’t the invitational like the Tiger Relays, the County Meet of the MISCA meet, but the Tigers are adjusting to the new schedule. And through it all, things have gone pretty well.
STRIPES
Continued from Page 8
Stripes Division victory. The win meant the Tigers (5-0) are the outright Stripes Division champion and will play in the crossover championship game between the Metro’s two division winners (Brandon won the Stars Division) Friday at Fenton High School. The Tigers are excited about being in the game once again this season.

“It’s being a Fenton Tiger,” senior Josh Thompson said. “It’s something to strive for every single year. We’ve dominated this league for a long time and every year they are telling us we are not going to make it, that Fenton is falling off. I’m just happy we keep the streak alive every year and keep proving them wrong.”

“We have to show everybody that Fenton is still No. 1,” senior Marcus Berkey said. “They say Brandon is going to get it and get the ‘W’ next week, but we are going to practice like they are going to beat us and then we’ll win.”

“Absolutely, titles are important,” Fenton varsity football coach Jeff Setzke said. “Our kids have an expectation when the season starts. We’ve won so many and we are not going to apologize for that. That’s our goal and these kids know we are a good football team and we know we have half of it done. We have the Stripes side done and now we have another chance to get the second consecutive Flint Metro championship with the new set up.”

The contest was tied at 14-all at the break and the Tigers opened the second half with the ball. However, the Dragons’ defense stopped the Tigers and they were punting on a fourth-and-8 play at the Fenton 42. However, a roughing the punter call on Swartz Creek gave the Tigers the ball back. Fenton capitalized, scoring seven plays later on a one-yard TD plunge by quarterback Dylan Davidson. Nick Temple kicked the extra point and the Tigers led 21-14 with 7:34 left in the third quarter. Fenton’s defense, which allowed 138 rushing yards on 24 carries in the first half, stuffed the Dragons’ ground attack on Swartz Creek’s first possession of the second half, stopping two plays for losses. The second loss was on a third down by Eddie Britt and IV, forcing the Dragons to punt.

It was a horrible punt and Fenton took over on the Swartz Creek 27. On the next play, Davidson completed a 27-yard pass to Charlie Hundzinski. Fenton missed the extra point, but led 27-14 with 5:11 left in the third quarter and clearly had momentum on their side.

“Obviously they run their Wing-T offense and we tried to stuff them at the line (in the first half),” Thompson said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

TIGERS’
Continued from Page 8
a testament to what they do everyday in practice, they give 110 percent. When I saw them come out of the woods with about 500 meters left, and both of them were leading in their respective races, I knew they would hold on. They finished strong and did what they had written down in their race plan.”

The Fenton girls placed five runners within the top 11 and the team’s entire top seven within the top 17 positions. After Huntoon, Kaitlin Bayer was sixth (19:54.0), Emily Grob was seventh (20:00.0), Sophia Resa was 10th (20:32.30), Emma Dubie was 11th (20:33.90), Allie Michewicz was 16th (21:25.30) and Maty Temrowski was 17th (21:28.80). Fenton’s eighth runner even finished in the top 20. That was Ella Cox (21:38.80).

“Depth was key for the girls,” Miller said. “They knew going into the race, that Linden was going to be tough. Whenever Fenton and Linden compete, you never know what to expect, and that is what makes it such a great rivalry. However, the girls knew what they had to do, every place mattered, and they rose to the occasion. I was impressed with their ability to work together on the course, and get the job done. Kaitlin Bayer and Emily Grob were within five seconds of each other and Sophia Resa and Emma Dubie were less than a second apart. Our sixth and seventh runners, Allie Michewicz and Maty Temrowski, were 2.5 seconds apart.”

The boys had their top seven finish within the top 16 places and an eighth runner finish in the top 20 as well.

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Edward Lee Boyden
1935 - 2020

Edward Lee Boyden - age 85, of Fenton, passed away Friday, October 16, 2020. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Monday, October 26, 2020 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton. The family will receive friends from 10 AM until the time of Mass. Burial will follow in St. John Cemetery. Those desiring may make contributions to Knights of Columbus, Council 7418.

Edward was born August 4, 1935 in Alma, the son of David and Dorothy (Brenner) Boyden. He married JoAnn Cappo on May 4, 1959 in Fenton; she preceded him in death on November 27, 2016. He was a giver by nature and treated everyone like family. Edward was a great neighbor and the biggest joy in his life was his family. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were everything to him. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, gardening and restoring old cars. He enjoyed being an active member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, where he was a 4th Degree Knight. He loved cutting wood for the K of C Fundraiser. He is survived by his children, Laura Drahms, Edward (Susan) Boyden and Jenny Webb; grandchildren, Amy, Angela, Joseph, Brianna, Edward Jr. and Aubrey; great-grandchildren, Maddie, Alex, Lily and Olivia; sister, Evelyn (Leeman) Shelby; brother, David (Connie) Boyden. He was also preceded in death by his parents; brother, Harry and son-in-law, Raymond Drahms. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Brian Robert O’Donnell
1977 - 2020

Brian Robert O’Donnell – age 43 of Fenton, who celebrated his 43th birthday on October 15 with family and friends, passed away unexpectedly due to a tragic event on Friday, October 16, 2020. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton on Friday, October 23 from 1 - 3 PM, and 5 - 7 PM with a sharing of memories by friends at 7 PM. For those not attending this sharing time will be live streamed and can be viewed at Brian’s obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Funeral services will be held at 11 AM at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, Saturday, October 24. For those not attending the funeral will be live streamed and can be viewed at Brian’s obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Interment will be held privately at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Detroit Model Train Club, the Epilepsy Association of (Michigan/ America) or a charity of your choosing. Detroit Model Railroad Club at www.dmrc.org <http://www.dmrc.org> . Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan at www.epilepsymichigan.org <http://www.epilepsymichigan.org> . Epilepsy Foundation at www.epilepsy.com <http://www.epilepsy.com> . Brian was born in Wyandotte, to Mark and Gwen O’Donnell. In 1978, the family moved to Fenton, where Brian resided for the remainder of his life. He was preceded in death by his father, Mark Anthony O’Donnell; and his brother, Mark Edward O’Donnell. He is survived by his mother, Gwendolyn (Baker) Graham; stepfather, James Graham; brother, Andrew O’Donnell and wife Dana; grandmother, Elizabeth O’Donnell; aunts, Roberta Baker, Ena Baker, Sara Baker, Sylvia Baker, Theresa O’Donnell (husband - Mike Hicks), Patricia O’Donnell; uncle, William Baker and wife Barbara Baker; step-uncle, Mike Policka and many nieces; nephews; and cousins. In addition to family, many close friends, especially those in the Fenton community, grieve the loss of Brian. Brian graduated from Fenton High School in 1996 and continued his education at Michigan Career and Technical Institution in Plainwell. From an early age, Brian demonstrated unique and various passions including astronomy, computers, and electronics. Brian was an active member of the Detroit Model Railroad Club where he worked tirelessly at maintaining inventories of trains, fundraising, and educating the community about historical significance of railroads in Michigan. Several of Brian’s personal collection items are on display at the train club, where they will remain for the community to enjoy. Brian’s servant spirit was reflected in his contributions to Fenton’s community events, such as Applefest and the Fourth of July celebrations. He was always willing to help others in any way he could. Brian was a beloved member of the community and his goodwill and service as a “volunteer ombudsmen” will be deeply missed. Above Brian’s love for serving the community, was his devotion to his family. He was a constant friend and mentor to his brother, Andrew, and was ready to serve as best man at his wedding. His interest in learning continued to grow as he was mentored by his step-father, Jim. Brian had a great sense of humor, loved to laugh, and created bright moments and joy everyday with those around him, particularly with his mother Gwen. Brian had a love for music, especially 1980’s rock-and-roll, and was particularly enthused about tickets for an upcoming Billy Joel concert. He was looking forward to spending time with his brother and his bride at their farm in North Carolina. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
Obituaries

Jessie Doris Beckley
1927 – 2020

Jessie Doris Beckley - age 93, of Fenton, died from natural causes on Friday, October 16, 2020. Funeral services will be held at 1 PM Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Visitation will be from 3 - 7 PM Tuesday, October 20 and from 12 - 1 PM Wednesday. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer’s Assoc. She was born in Indianapolis, IN on September 7, 1927 to Lawrence and Jessie (Holdaway) Cameron. She graduated from Wayne High School in 1945 and from Eastern Michigan University in 1949. She married Wayne Beckley in 1950, and they lived in Holly and then moved to Fenton in 1953. They joined the Fenton United Methodist Church in 1953. She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years, one year in Portland, OR, two years in Huron Valley Schools, and then Fenton Schools until retiring in 1984. She and her husband Wayne spent their retirement years in Franklin, NC where they enjoyed a life of golfing and traveling. Her hobbies were golf, biking, traveling, reading, and painting. Surviving are two children, Pamela (Thomas) McClure and Mark (Dorene) Beckley; five grandchildren, Nicole McClure, Jacob McClure, Cameron Beckley, Kari Beckley, and Ginger Donaldson; five great-grandchildren, Charlie, Maira, Caleb, Katey, and Audrey; and sister, Shirley (Larry) Drewyor. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne and sisters, Mary Patricia Jones and Phyllis Wilson. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com

Patricia Fay Matney
1938 – 2020

Patricia Faye Matney - age 82, of Fenton, passed away Friday, October 16, 2020. Because of Government Mandated Restrictions due to Covid -19, Private Family Services will be held. Private Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel. Memorial Contributions to The American Cancer Society - Reach to Recovery since 1984 after becoming a Cancer Survivor. Patricia was a past Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troop Leader, and a member of VFW Post 3243 Ladies Auxiliary. She enjoyed fishing, camping, snowmobiling, and gardening. Patricia is survived by her children, Cheryl (Charles, Jr.) Green, and Alan (Kathy) Matney; grandchildren, Charles (Sala) Green III, Jennifer Green, Jason (Chelsea) Matney, Bryan Matney, and Laura Matney; six great-grandchildren; siblings, Bobby (Virginia) Batey, and Ruth Ann (Thomas) Barrow; many nieces and nephews. Patricia enjoyed playing Bridge, traveling, reading, and gardening. Her hobbies were golfing and traveling. Her family is appreciative to The American Cancer Society Reach To Recovery. Patricia was born, August 16, 1938 in Paragould, AR, the daughter of Winford McClure and Mark (Dorene) Beckley; five grandchildren, Nicole McClure, Jacob McClure, Cameron Beckley, Kari Beckley, and Ginger Donaldson; five great-grandchildren, Charlie, Maira, Caleb, Katey, and Audrey; and sister, Shirley (Larry) Drewyor. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Odis; brothers, James and (Virginia) Batey, and Ruth (Virginia) Batey; many nieces and nephews. Patricia enjoyed playing Bridge, traveling, reading, and gardening. Her hobbies were golfing and traveling. Her family is appreciative to The American Cancer Society Reach To Recovery. Patricia was born, August 16, 1938 in Paragould, AR, the daughter of Winford

Joan Marie Miller
1933 – 2020

Joan Marie Miller - age 87, of Linden, died Saturday, October 17, 2020. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton, with Rev. Fr. Robert Copeland celebrant. Interment will follow at Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton, MI. Visitation will be held from 10 AM - 11 AM Wednesday at the church. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to the American Stroke Association (www.stroke.org). Joan was born September 13, 1933 in Tweed, Ontario, CA, the daughter of Wilfred and Genevieve (O’Neill) Allore. She married Hugh Joseph Miller on October 12, 1963 and he preceded her in death on January 9, 1995. Joan loved her grandchildren dearly and is survived by two sons, Hugh “Bill” (Bosiljka) Miller and John Miller; two grandsons, Luke and Sean Miller; siblings, Estelle Marecheck, Ernest Allore, Shirley Stanger, Hugh Allore, Louise Soberel, and William Cooper; sister-in-law, Edith Lennox. She was also preceded in death by siblings, Fred Allore, Monica Melick, Clifford Allore, Harold Allore, Louis Allore, Phillip Allore, Patrick Allore, and Jerome Allore. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
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MIDWEEK TIMES
Wednesday, October 21, 2020

KING FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

ACROSS
1 Manhandle
5 Kimono sash
8 Hollywood clasher
12 Otherwise
13 Paid athlete
14 Swindle
15 Glass made of lava
17 Small songbird
18 Series of battles
19 Individual
20 Too thin
21 Prompt
22 Evergreen type
23 Happen
26 Andean vultures
30 Courts
31 Email alternative
32 Pedestal occupant
33 Panacea
35 Golfer’s aid
36 Rowing need
37 Junior
38 Suspicious
41 Pal
42 Hot tub
45 Stereo hook-up
46 Bacon
48 Pod vegetable
49 Plant bristle
50 Fairy tale baddie
7 Charged bit
8 Early era
9 Mentor
10 File command
11 Transmitted
12 Side
14 Scepter
29 Like 22-Down
31 Bear hair
33 Shaft of light
34 Serving note
35 Last few notes
37 Optimistic
38 Buy stuff
39 Woodsy walk
40 Frizzy ‘do
41 Cry loudly
42 Portent
43 Light law aide
44 For short
45 From the beginning
46 Upper limit
47 Mutt

MIDWEEK TIMES
Wednesday, October 21, 2020

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

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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.

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

Horoscopes

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
Carve out some time to tune into your inner muse, Aries. It’s time to have a little fun and put work and household responsibilities to the side.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, don’t blow off your obligations, but find a way to make work more fun. That may happen by teaming up with a coworker who shares your perspective.

GEMINI
May 22/June 21
Gemini, if things get a little confusing over the next couple of days, don’t feel the need to try to figure everything out. Take the time you need to complete the tasks at hand.

CANCER
June 22/July 22
Cancer, while you may not be able to engage in all of your wildest dreams this week, you can give yourself permission to take a day off and get started.

LEO
July 23/Aug 22
Are your intuitive senses ringing off the hook, Leo? Trust your gut when someone asks you to help them with a situation. It may not be all that it seems right now.

VIRGO
Aug 23/Sept 22
Give your analytical brain a rest for the time being, Virgo. Lead with feelings and intuition instead. It may not feel comfortable just yet, but a new perspective may help.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 22
Libra, if you have been trying to be more healthy or get in shape, focus on what you’re gaining rather than giving up. This can make you more successful in your endeavors.

SCORPIO
Oct 23/Nov 22
Romantic vibes are very strong in your life right now, Scorpio. This is great if you’re connected or seeking a relationship. But resist if you’re currently unavailable.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, your domestic life may start to tug at your heartstrings. If you’re balancing work and family, you may regret not spending more time with the kids.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, if you have been quiet in regard to a relationship with someone, it’s time to let your true feelings be heard. It may be uncomfortable for a bit, but it’s necessary.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, money may be a hot topic in your house lately, particularly how more is going out than coming in. Control your spending for awhile as you get things under control.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, you’re never one for following the pack, so don’t start now. Embrace your unique sense of self and continue to march to your own beat.
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