Local leaders comment on COVID-19

■Online meetings, social distancing and rising COVID cases

By Hannah Ball

With cases rising and new shut down

orders in effect, local leaders are encouraging people to stay safe.

Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn

When asked what she thought about the government response to COVID, Osborn said, "I think the Governor is trying to save lives and protect our health care workers."

Fenton is continuing its meetings on Zoom. Links to all the meetings are posted online.

The city has had 329 COVID-19 cases as of Thursday, Nov. 19, according to the Genesee County Health Department, which updates these numbers everyday at 2 p.m.

"The counts from the health department are all cumulative totals and many of them are from our many nursing homes. I think citizens should go to it daily to keep track of the numbers we have in Fenton. The number has See COVID-19 on 10



Genesee **County Jail** inmates, staff test positive for COVID

■Inmates guarantine on same floor: one staff member released from hospital

By Hannah Ball

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson announced that COVID-19 has been found in the county jail in Flint.

As of Wednesday, Nov. 18, the Genesee County Jail had 27 inmates who tested positive for COVID-19, 31 staff tested positive and four vendors tested positive. Swanson made the announcement Wednesday during his weekly press conference.

See JAIL on 7



ADOPTIONS FOR LIFE — Jenae Rollier, kennel attendant and adoption counselor, plays with a cat in one of the new "catios" at Adopt-A-Pet on Thursday, Nov. 19. These porches allow the cats to roam outside, play with toys and watch the birds. With the holiday season approaching, the shelter encourages people to not give pets as a gift. See story in the Wednesday, Nov. 25 Christmas featured section, Photo: Hannah Ball





to those at Linden High. Our family appreciates all that you do. Special thanks to teachers and staff at Vision in Motions, as well. Wishing all a happy and safe Thanksgiving. God Bless."

CSince vaccines will soon be ready, I trust that the **United States** military will be first in line and congress will be last.

Remember the security of

our nation."



C Thank you Linden Robotics for placing a wreath on the headstone of my father and anv

requested veterans at Great Lakes National Cemetery and sharing photos for those of us who can't make it this year."

\$1.00

Pandemic can take toll on our mental health

Know the signs to help vourself or a loved one who is experiencing extreme stress. loneliness

By Sharon Stone

The COVID-19 pandemic may be stressful for many people, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The Times receives local medical emergency alerts and incident reports from local police departments. Earlier this week, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office reported that deputies responded to a home in Oxford for a reported family trouble. The 26-year-old son was intoxicated and threatening to assault his See MENTAL HEALTH on 8



66 We pray that our restaurants and all of their employees will be able to weather this latest shutdown."



Meals to go

Area restaurants closed dining rooms Nov. 18 — many offer to-go options

By Sharon Stone

With indoor dining shut down for a second time beginning Wednesday, Nov. 18, restaurants are once again adapting to keep their customers well fed and their employees working.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced a threeweek emergency order Friday, Nov. 13. With this mandate, restaurants must close their dining rooms.

Area restaurants are attempting to get the word out on what they have to offer. Most in the tri-county area are switching their services to pick-up, curbside pickup or delivery.

Here's several typically sitdown restaurants that are altering their offerings as we head into the Thanksgivingholiday. The emergency order indicated restaurants could reopen Dec. 9. Restaurant hours could change at anytime.

ANDIAMO FENTON

WEEKEND TIMES

102 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton (810) 354-8446

Their dining rooms are closed for three weeks. However, they will still be open for curbside and carryout and offering buy one, get one free entrées from their carryout menu up to a \$25 value Monday–Sunday from 12-8 p.m.

THE BARN

715 North Rd., Fenton (810) 354-8889

Due to the new orders, the Barn paused dine-in services starting Wednesday, Nov. 18. They will be posting updates on our upcoming takeout options. The Barn's sixth annual Thanksgiving CommUNITY Lunch is still on, however, meals will be delivered.

BEALE ST. SMOKEHOUSE BBQ

2461 North Rd., Fenton (810) 750-0507

Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ continues to be open for to-go and delivery. See their menu at BealeStSmokehouse. com. For delivery from Fenton Food Express go to fenton.express Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ. They are taking preorders for Thanksgiving for pickup the day before.

HOURS:

Monday-Thursday:

8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

Closed

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.



Aside from it's food and service, Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ in Fenton is known for its live music, as shown in this 2019 Times file photo.

BLACKTHORN PUB

105 S. Saginaw St., Holly (248) 369-8714 With the new mandate, they will stay open for carry out/curbside pickup. Hour: Sunday 12-8 p.m.; Monday 4-9 p.m.; Tuesday 4-9 p.m.; Wednesday 4-9 p.m.; Thursday 4-9 p.m.; Friday 4-9 p.m. and Saturday 12-9 p.m.

See MEALS on 11



3

FENTON AND BLANCHARD, MICHIGAN U.S. AIR FORCE Master SGT, E-7 Flight Engineer- C-141, E-3, C-5 Master Air Crew Service: March 1967 – May 1987

Vietnam Medals: Air Medal, AF Commendation, Combat Readiness, AF Good Conduct Medal with 3 oak clusters, National Defense Service, AF Longevity Service medal with 3 oak clusters, USAF NCO graduate ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon





sharpfuneralhomes.com 810-629-9321 To submit a veteran, email information and photo to news@tctimes.com



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The VIEW from here

uring the pandemic I've come to be more of a homebody than ever before in my adult life. When I get out, it's usually for something work related, a quick visit with family or a brief

outing to a store to get something we can't order over the Internet or pick-up curbside.

It's a boring life, but relatively safe. The funny part is when I am out and around people, I notice how things have changed in the past eight months.

Masks are one of the biggest changes in 2020. We started out with the

paper surgical masks, the very ones I was already using in crowds and during flu season because I'm a transplant patient.

Gary Gould

When I was first told by my doctors to wear a mask when there were heightened risks to my health, I always hated being the guy in the mask. Kids would point and ask their parents questions. A lot of people worried I was contagious when I had a mask on and would ask, "should I keep away?"

My funniest experience of wear-

Making the best out of wearing a mask

ing a mask pre-COVID was walking into the bank right after my surgery and wondering why the bank tellers were giving me questioning looks as I walked up to them. It wasn't until after I left the bank that it dawned on

> me that masks and banks have never been a real great combination.

My biggest gripe about wearing a mask pre-coronavirus was they looked so plain, so sterile and surgical (I guess because that's what they were intended for). I always wanted a "cool" face covering. With the onset of COVID-19, people had to start wearing masks and they evolved into accessories we now wear with our clothing. Today, all of mine are black, which was something I wanted back when I received my transplant.

It's interesting to see how people carry and store their masks. After seeing other people's masks in their cars, I started hanging one or two from the directional switch on the steering column of my car, so I have one when needed. I've found it beats shoving them into a console or a cubbyhole in the dash of the car.

Some people will hang one loop of the mask from an ear when they are See **MASK** on 25



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

What do you think about high school students having to learn virtually for the next three weeks?



"Always better safe than sorry and you should agree if you really care about your own child."



"I understand it completely but it's still a bummer! But it's better to be safe than sorry."



"Yes, they said data supported them being in school. They got the virus from gathering, other than school. Sad she is destroying people's lives."

Karen LaBelle Brighton

Hotlines

Dubmit Hot lincs online at myfenton. or text to 810-771-8398

Il submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 ords 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

TO ALL THE people saying the votes in Georgia and Detroit need to be recounted and the truth needs to come out. What happens when the truth is the election was not rigged and Biden/Harris won. What will you do then?

TO THE HOT-LINER wondering where the Dems, wanting everyone to come together, have been for four years. We were never invited to the 'party.' Trump had no use for anyone that didn't vote for him. He has threatened to withhold aid to 'blue states.' How about one purple country instead?

WHITMER FOLLOWS THE

science. Not a single case of COVID-19 infection occurred in a Michigan movie theater; therefore, we must shut them all down.

SO I SEE the state, according to the news, has allowed the casino up north to stay open, and I also saw Bishop airport is advertising a flight to Las Vegas. How nice. I wonder how many people will go to these places and bring back the COVID-19 virus?

streettalk



"Linden, Fenton and Holly are all closed down until end of January grades K thru 12."

Nikki Dear Fowlerville



COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

MAIL STOLEN IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to Copneconic Court in Fenton Township for a theft of mail report. The victim reported that she did not retrieve her mail for approximately four days. The victim said when she went to retrieve her mail, there was no mail in the box. She contacted the post office and they advised her that she did receive mail. This incident remains under investigation.

RING DOORBELL RECORDS PERSON GOING IN VEHICLES

On Thursday, Nov. 7, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to the 14000 block of Charles Town Drive in Fenton Township for a larceny report. The resident said they observed a person via their Ring doorbell cameras attempting to get into their vehicles. The suspect was observed walking across the street and attempting to get into another vehicle. No items were reported missing. The sheriff's office is reminding residents to keep a look out in neighborhoods and check cameras periodically. This incident remains under investigation.

COUNTERFEIT BILLS PASSED TWICE AT SAME RESTAURANT

On Friday, Nov. 8, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to McDonald's at 3285 Thompson Rd. in Fenton Township, for a report of a counterfeit \$50 bill used during a transaction. On Nov. 13, deputies responded again to the same McDonald's for another report of a counterfeit \$20 bill used during a transaction. The bills were seized and detectives are being assisted in the investigation by the United States Secret Service.

EXPIRED PLATE ON AVENGER LEADS TO ARREST

On Saturday, Nov. 9, while on routine patrol, deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office

observed a Dodge Avenger driving northbound on Fenton Road near Thompson Road in Fenton Township with an expired registration plate. A traffic stop was initiated and it was found the driver was driving on a suspended driver's license. A records check was performed on the driver and it showed he had a valid felony warrant for fraud out of Oakland County. The driver was

Fenton

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Virtual Tree Lighting and Parade

December 5th and you just might see Santa!

Santa Sightings | 1-3pm

arrested and turned over to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

JEEP DRIVER ARRESTED FOR OWI **IN FENTON TOWNSHIP**

On Monday, Nov. 9, while on routine patrol, a deputy from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office observed a black Jeep driving southbound on Torrey Road near Golden Shores Drive in Fenton Township. A traffic

stop was initiated due to the vehicle not having a license plate. Contact was made with the driver who appeared to be under the influence of alcohol through the deputies' preliminary investigation. The driver failed multiple field sobriety tests and was placed under arrest and lodged at the Genesee County Jail. The driver has at least three prior OWI convictions.



Letters to Santa

The Fenton Kiwanis and KEY Club members are helping Santa keep in touch with kids this year! Drop off your letters to Santa to be mailed to the North Pole by using the special mailbox on the front lawn of the Community Center any day between Monday, November 30th thru Saturday, December 5th! Make sure to include a return address so every child that writes Santa will receive a response in the US mail by December 25th!

Visit www.FentonLindenChamber.com for more information.

Jinglejog Presenting Sponsors:	Jinglejog Lead Car Sponsor:	Jinglefest Presenting Sponsors:	Santa Sightings Sponsor:	Virtual Parade Sponsors:
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- Fenton's Open Book Action Water Sports
- CRUST Presence to Pupils, LLC
- Back to Basics
- · Mitten Life Realty
- Cause & Affect Gallery Tropical Smoothie Café

Spread the Cheer' sweepstakes Contest runs through

Contest runs through Dec. 20 — encourages residents to shop local

If you could give some extra love to any independently owned business in Flint and Genesee County this holiday season, which would it be?

The Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce is calling on community members to answer just that question in the Spread the Cheer sweepstakes. The contest, which is accepting entries through Dec. 20, shines a light on small businesses in Genesee County while encouraging area consumers to shop locally.

Starting Nov. 23, the Flint & Genesee Chamber will randomly select one entry each week, for a total of five winning submissions. The business listed on the entry will receive \$1,000, and the person behind that submission will win a \$500 Visa gift card to put toward their holiday shopping budget.



Now through Dec. 20, people can nominate a locally owned business in Genesee County for the Spread the Cheer sweepstakes.

"This hasn't been an easy year for anyone, let alone small businesses," said Tyler Rossmaessler, director of Economic Development at the Flint & Genesee Chamber. "That's why this contest aims to give a small boost to some of our area businesses and the people who support them."

According to the latest Yelp Economic Average, nearly 100,000 U.S. businesses have permanently closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Locally, the pandemic See **SWEEPSTAKES** on 7



The Home Depot and FARR join forces

To donate food to help local families this Thanksgiving

Compiled by Sharon Stone

On Thursday, Nov. 19, The Home Depot Foundation partnered with Fenton Area Resources and Referral Network, Inc. (FARR) to donate food to help local families this Thanksgiving. In addition to the food, The Home Depot will be providing 250 boxes to contain and transport the donated food items to those in need.

Five volunteers from Team Depot, The Home Depot's associate-led volunteer force, purchased 120 boxes of pancake mix and 120 cans of cranberry sauce from VG's Grocery and delivered them to Fenton United Methodist Church, following all CDC and government safety guidelines.

From there, FARR will manage the distribution of Thanksgiving baskets to local families in need, which will be available for pick-up at the church on Tuesday, November 24 from noon to 3 p.m.

This project in Fenton is part of The Home Depot Foundation's Operation Surprise campaign, when Team Depot volunteers are activated to put good into action and make a difference in local communities across the country. There are many on the frontlines serving communities right now — active military, veterans, first responders, essential workers, healthcare workers, teachers and many more.

Operation Surprise celebrates their selfless spirit by delivering hope, lifting spirits and providing assistance.

This year marks The Home Depot Foundation's 10th seasonal giving campaign. Operation Surprise 2020 runs from Veterans Day, Nov. 11, through December 31.

About Fenton Area Resources and Referral Network (FARR)

The Fenton Area Resources and Referral Network (FARR) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to meet community humanitarian needs. FARR was formed in 1990 by community leaders, churches, service organizations and others to provide assistance to those residents in need. FARR's goal was to create a community where residents were stable and able to maintain their own household. Today, FARR continues to coordinate human services and refer people to or create programs that raise the level of stability for residents of the geographic area of the Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden School districts. To learn more about FARR, visit farrnetwork.org.

Genesee District Library closes

Temporary move is in response to increase in cases of COVID-19 in area

In light of the significant increase in COVID-19 cases in Genesee County, and the recent Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) directive, the Genesee District Library (GDL) will be closed starting Wednesday, Nov. 18 through Wednesday, Dec. 9.

This closure is to assist in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in the community.

GDL leadership will continue to monitor the situation via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the MDHHS, as information changes.

Library users across Genesee more at thegdl.org.

County who have borrowed library materials in their possession do not need to worry about due dates or late fees for the items checked out. Library officials have asked that library users don't return items to the drop box until they reopen. Also, items on hold when GDL closes will still be there when the library reopens.

Digital library services are plentiful, free and available 24/7 at thegdl.org. Library users are encouraged to access books, videos, television, music, comics and magazines from home. Those who need a library card can sign up online at thegdl.org.

GDL offers a wide variety of virtual programming, including story times, play groups, escape rooms, trivia and more at thegdl.org.

myfenton.com

SWEEPSTAKES

Continued from Page 6

has put a strain on businesses as well.

According to Rossmaessler, an important way to support these businesses is to remember the importance of shopping locally, especially during the holiday season. After all, the National Retail Federation reports that a fifth of all retail sales occur in November and December. What's more, The Visa

JAIL

Continued from Front Page

Out of 553 people in the jail, 414 inmates were tested with nasal or

saliva tests. The tests are voluntary. "You can't force a test," Swanson said.

Inmates who tested positive are quarantined on the same floor, and they can go about their normal routine.

One staff member was in the hospital, but is back home and is expected to make a full recovery.

Back to Business Study – Holiday Edition finds that nearly seven in 10 small businesses consider the season a top sales opportunity.

"Small businesses are the fabric of our neighborhoods and communities," Rossmaessler said. "In supporting them, we support the people they employ, the initiatives they champion and the unique community identity they contribute to. It's imperative that we do what we can to keep them around."

WEEKEND TIMES

To show your support through the Spread the Cheer Sweepstakes, participants can complete an entry form at flintandgenesee.org/cheer.

While only one entry is allowed per participant, participants can earn bonus entries every time someone they refer enters the sweepstakes. For a business to be eligible to receive a prize through the sweepstakes, it must meet three requirements. Specifically, it must be independently owned and not a franchise; must be located in Genesee County; and may not have previously won the sweepstakes.

Entries will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Dec. 20, 2020, with the final winning entry selected Dec. 21, 2020. For more information, including contest rules, visit flintandgenesee.org/cheer.

Officers work with the public outside and may contract the virus that way, Swanson said. There also are people who come into the jail after being arrested who may carry the virus. If they're charged with a serious offense, the department may have to keep them in jail.

The jail stayed COVID-free for months.

"We dodged a bullet for a long time," Swanson said, adding that this is the reality everyone is dealing with now.



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ROSA



Sunday, November 22, 2020 7

MENTAL HEALTH **Continued from Front Page**

father. Deputies learned that the son had a shotgun and was possibly suicidal. Eventually, the son surrendered the firearm and he was taken to the hospital for an evaluation.

This report and a few others similar prompted the Times to reach out to area police agencies to see if there was any correlation between the pandemic stress and restrictions and the mental health of their residents.

Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater checked their records and found them to be "pretty consistent." In 2019, from March to November, police received reports of six attempted suicides and two suicides. In 2020, from March to November, they recorded five attempted suicides and two suicides.

"Since the pandemic began, we have noticed increased calls for service to check on mentally unstable persons in our community," Slater said. "Through contacts, we have assisted in getting these individuals mental health treatment through mainly voluntary means."

According to the CDC, public health

actions, such as social distancing, can make people feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety.

Stress regarding this pandemic can sometimes cause the following: • Fear and worry about your own health and the health of your loved ones, your financial situation or job, or loss of support services you rely on

• Changes in sleep or eating patterns

• Difficulty sleeping or concentrating

• Worsening of chronic health problems

• Worsening of mental health conditions

· Increased use of tobacco, and/or alcohol and other substances

Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh said,

"There's no way to accurately measure the connection other than to say we have seen an increase in family trouble, attempted suicide, depression and mental health related calls during the late spring and early summer while people were impacted the most from COVID unemployment and shut downs."



Narsh added that for those amongst us who suffer from depression and mental health issues, adding a pandemic that instantly affects your employment and restricts your movement will almost always create more stress and depression.

"We are restricted from social gath-

erings, but we are not restricted from using all means of social media to have routine connections with those suffering the most," Narsh said. "Call them, text them or better yet Facetime them if you are able. Reach out and encourage family and friends in your circle. Don't assume everyone is doing okay, assume they are not and make a

connection. We need to stay connected to stay strong.

"These are the ghost victims of CO-VID management. They may never test positive, but their lives are being destroyed by the disease and the cure."

Oakland County Undersheriff Michael McCabe said their records indicate attempted suicides and suicides have slightly decreased

How to help

someone in crisis

See link with this

article online at

myfenton.com

since 2018. For example, in 2018, the sheriff's office recorded 529 adults and 16 juveniles attempted suicide, and 41 adults and two juveniles committed suicide. In 2019, 576 adults and 11 ju-

veniles attempted suicide, and 26 adults and two juveniles committed suicide. In 2020, 461 adults and 16 juveniles attempted suicide and 27 adults and one juvenile committed suicide.

Livingston County Sheriff Mike Murphy said, "We have noticed an increase in mental health type calls."

A mental health crisis can take many forms — self-harm, panic attacks, suicidal ideation, getting in trouble with

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHEN WILL THE vaccines for COVID be available in this area?

JUST WONDERING, SINCE the library is shutting down for another month, are we getting a millage refund? They've been closed half the year.

the law, planning or considering hurting one's self or others - but no matter what kind of crisis someone might be going through, you can help, according to National Alliance on Mental illness (NAMI). Make sure to stay with your loved one while they're at risk and do not hesitate to get them professional help.

Reach out for help

If you feel that you are not able to de-escalate the person in crisis without additional support, call someone. You don't need to do this alone. If your loved one has a mental health provider, that would be a good place to start. If they don't, there are organizations who can help you through any crisis safely.

HERE ARE A FEW RESOURCES YOU CAN CONTACT 24/7:

• Call 911 if the crisis is a life threatening emergency.

National Suicide Prevention

Lifeline - Call 800-273-TALK (8255) to speak with a trained crisis counselor.

• Crisis Text Line - Text NAMI to 741-741 to connect with a trained crisis counselor to receive crisis support via text message.

> National Domestic Violence Hotline - Call 800-799-SAFE (7233) to speak with trained experts who provide confidential support to anyone experiencing domestic

violence or seeking resources and information.

National Sexual Assault Hotline –

Call 800-656-HOPE (4673) to connect with a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in your area that offers access to a range of free services. Crisis chat support is also available at Online Hotline.

Source: National Alliance on Mental illness (NAMI.org)

WE SUPPORT LINDEN schools

and they thank us by sticking it to the parents and students once again. Kids need to be in schools - the mental health issues are worse than this virus. Shame on you.

IT'S AMAZING THAT some board members are allowed to walk around unsupervised and without a helmet.

WEEKEND TIMES

L They may

never test

positive, but

their lives are

being destroyed

by the disease

and the cure. 77

Jerry Narsh

Holly Village police chief

LOOKING BACK at this week in **HISTORY**

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

NOV. 22

1988: In the presence of members of Congress and the media, the Northrop B-2 "stealth" bomber is shown publicly for the first time at Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California. The aircraft, which was developed in great secrecy for nearly a decade, was designed with stealth characteristics that would allow it to penetrate an enemy's most sophisticated defenses unnoticed. It rapidly came under fire for its massive cost-more than \$40 billion for development and a \$1 billion price tag for each unit.

NOV. 23

1936: The first issue of the pictorial magazine Life is published, featuring a cover photo of the Fort Peck Dam's spillway by Margaret Bourke-White. Life actually had its start earlier in the 20th century as a different kind of magazine: a weekly humor publication, not unlike today's The New Yorker in its use of tart cartoons, humorous pieces and cultural reporting.

NOV. 24

1859: On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, a groundbreaking scientific work by British naturalist Charles Darwin, is published in England. Darwin's theory argued that organisms gradually evolve through a process he called "natural selection." In natural selection, organisms with genetic variations that suit their environment tend to propagate more descendants than organisms of the same species that lack the variation, thus influencing the overall genetic makeup of the species.

NOV. 25

1952: "The Mousetrap," a murdermystery written by the novelist and playwright Agatha Christie, opens at the Ambassadors Theatre in London. The crowd-pleasing whodunit would go on to become the longest continuously running play in history, with more than 10 million people to date attending its more than 20,000 performances in London's West End.

NOV. 26

1941: President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs a bill officially establishing the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day. The tradition of celebrating the holiday on Thursday dates back to the early history of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonies, when post-harvest holidays were celebrated on the weekday regularly set aside as "Lecture Day," a midweek church meeting where topical sermons were presented.

NOV. 27

2005: Aerosmith and 50 Cent headline a \$10 million bat mitzvah. In exchange for a multimillion-dollar fee, 50 Cent took to the stage at New York City's Rainbow Room in the early morning hours of this day in 2005, joining Steven Tyler and Joe Perry as headline performers at the bat mitzvah of Long Island 13-year-old Elizabeth Brooks.

NOV. 28

1925: The Grand Ole Opry, one of the longest-lived and most popular showcases for western music, begins broadcasting live from Nashville, Tennessee. The showcase was originally named the Barn Dance, after a Chicago radio program called the National Barn Dance that had begun broadcasting the previous year. Source: history.com



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT CITY OF LINDEN – PLANNING COMMISSION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., as part of its regular meeting agenda. This meeting will be conducted virtually (online and/or by phone), due to health concerns surrounding Coronavirus/COVID-19 in accordance with Michigan Public Act 228 of 2020.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide opportunity for public comment on an amendment to Section 154.061 (Accessory Buildings and Structures). A new subsection is proposed that would regulate the use of cargo containers as accessory structures.

In accordance with Michigan Public Act 228 of 2020, the use of electronic remote access will be implemented in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. The public may participate in the meeting. To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodations for this meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Deputy City Clerk at (810) 735-7980, or deputyclerk@lindenmi.us by 4:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting.

To participate remotely, copy and paste the link below or call a number below for audio connection:

City of Linden Planning Commission - Public Hearing for Zoning Text Amendment Monday, December 7, 2020 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81709762043?pwd=WkxwRWpONXFiN1ZBYU9 NZGI4MDFQZz09

Meeting ID: 817 0976 2043 Passcode: 972302 One tap mobile +13126266799,,81709762043#,,,,,0#,,972302# US (Chicago) +19292056099,,81709762043#,,,,,0#,,972302# US (New York)

> Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 817 0976 2043 Passcode: 972302

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kGOElayF9

The text of the proposed amendment is available for public review. Please call (810) 735-7980 to schedule an appointment with City Offices. Persons wishing to comment may do so at the hearing. Written comments may also be submitted prior to 4:00 p.m. on December 7, 2020, and should be addressed to:

Kristyn Kanyak, Deputy City Clerk 132 E. Broad St. P.O. Box 507 Linden, MI 48451

COVID-19

Continued from Front Page

increased considerably the last two months. The city council passed a resolution suggesting all people to wear masks to help control the virus," Osborn said.

She knows several people who have contracted the virus. Some were extremely ill and required lengthy hospitalizations. She is aware of several deaths.

The city has been working with businesses for support.

"Our businesses have been extremely affected. The DDA is working on a program now that should be available in several weeks that will help businesses. I think this program will be a definite help to our community," Osborn said.

She said people should only go out

when "absolutely necessary."

"I am telling people to wear a mask out in public and social distance along with aggressive testing," Osborn said. "It will only be a few months and a vaccine will be available and we will gradually return to normal if everyone does their part. We can do this if we all work together."

Linden Mayor Danielle Cusson

Cusson said the pandemic has had a "drastic impact" on everyone. As of Thursday, Nov. 19, Linden has had 84 COVID-19 cases.

"With the information about CO-VID-19 evolving and precautionary measures changing, all levels of government have had to react and adapt. Like all businesses, we had to change the way we work with the public to protect our staff and community. The amazing

-CARRY OUT-HANKSGING DINNER DINNER Orders must be submitted by Wednesday 1/25/20

HEAT & SERVE • CARRY OUT THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR 4

We are still serving

Turkey • Dressing • Cranberry Sauce Mashed Potatoes • Gravy Sauteed Garden Medley • Pumpkin Pie NO SUBSTITUTIONS • PRE ORDER/PAY

Fenton Hotel tavern & grille 302 N. Leroy St. · Fenton · www.fentonhotel.com · 810-750-9463 events that make life in Linden such a connected community had to be canceled to protect the community," she said.

She misses seeing the faces of volunteers and community members.

"I love living in a small city where we come together to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom at the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony rather than just seeing Memorial Day as the beginning of summer. As a community, we come together to show gratitude and celebrate," she said. "Things may look different this year, but we will continue to adapt. Our city staff and first responders are taking the extra precautions to protect themselves and those they serve."

The Linden City Council held a few socially distanced meetings. The majority of meetings are held on Zoom.

"Our City Manager Ellen Glass has shown tremendous leadership throughout the pandemic," she said. The city is working with businesses to offer support.

"The City has continued to work with the businesses and our business liaison, Bryan Mulanix, has been a big help. I encourage people to shop local to keep these businesses here in Linden," she said.

Cusson encourages residents to take precautions.

"For our citizens, I encourage them to continue to take precautions for themselves and their families. I also ask that people look out for their neighbors," she said. "I know many people have been impacted by the pandemic and many are struggling. We will get through these times by helping out each other. I want people to know that they are not alone. We have many organizations and individuals willing to help our residents; sometimes they just need help making the connection."

Argentine Township Supervisor Brian Saad

Saad has been in quarantine per state guidelines and will be until this coming Monday even though he recently took a test and it came back negative.

Argentine Township has had 215 COVID-19 cases.

"The job remains busy through this crisis and the Board decided last week, before the Governor's orders

to lock the Township office down out of an abundance of caution for the administration staff," he said.

Information is posted on the door and social media. They take appointments when necessary. The township can be reached at (810) 735-5050 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Board has held Zoom meetings for the

last seven months, and the public has been allowed in for meetings. Chairs are spaced out. They've limited the number of people allowed in the hall to six people.

"Public safety teams are working very hard dealing with monstrous issues and could always use more prayers and support," he said. "The Township Board wishes for each individual to make the safest, smartest, best hygiene choices for their personal protection and the well being of others. Please make the best decisions for your family. I want to hug my parents again."



citizens. I

encourage them

to continue to

take precautions

for themselves

and their

families. 77

Danielle Cusson

Linden mavor

MEALS Continued from Page 3

CIAO ITALIAN BISTRO-FENTON

111 S. LeRoy St., Fenton (810) 354-8555 Ciao Italian Bistro-Fenton has decided to transition into daily Carry-Out/Curbside Service until Dec. 8, from 4-8 p.m.

CORNER BAR & GRILL

4015 Owen Rd., Fenton (810) 354-8808

The Corner Bar & Grill is offering a Thanksgiving Style Dinner Special for \$80. It is available to pre-order until Nov. 22 at 3 p.m. Dinner includes turkey breast, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, and dessert. To order, call (810) 354-8808 or visit cbgfenton. com/menu.

FENTON FIRE HALL

201 S. LeRoy St., Fenton (810) 936-0442 They are offering curbside and pickup orders Monday-Friday 4 to 8 p.m., Saturday 2 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, 2 to 8 p.m.

FENTON HOTEL TAVERN & GRILLE

302 N. LeRoy St., Fenton (810) 750-9463

Thanksgiving Day dinners — Heat and Serve Special for Four — \$75 including tax, includes (no substitutions): Turkey and dressing with cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes and gravy, sautéed garden medley, pumpkin pie

All orders must be placed and prepaid before Thanksgiving Day. They are available 12 to 6 p.m. daily to take orders.

WEEKEND TIMES

THE LAUNDRY

125 W. Shiawassee, Fenton (810) 629-8852

Following the new orders from the MDHHS, their dining room will remain closed for now, but starting Nov. 18 they will be open for takeout. Wednesday-Monday, 11:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. they will be offering a selection of their most popular sandwiches and entrées for you to take home. Check out the menu on our website. lunchandbeyond.com.

LEGENDS SPORTS CAFÉ OF FENTON

3235 W. Thompson Rd., Fenton (810) 714-9100 They will be reopening for take-out service Friday, Nov. 27 from 4-8 p.m.

VILLAGERS RESTAURANT

1121 N. Saginaw St., Holly (248) 634-2600 Due to the new orders, their dining room is closed for indoor dining, but are still open for carry out. Check out our menu at villagersrestaurant.com.



The holidays can be stressful. Let us help by providing dessert! Stop by Symphony Linden to tour, learn about our assisted-living and memory-care respite suites, and then leave with a Thanksgiving pie!

Wednesday, November 25 11:00AM - 1:00PM Symphony Linden

202 South Bridge Street, Linden, MI RSVP by November 20 to sviener@symphonynetwork.com or call 810.623.2075.

This event is complimentary, but a non-perishable canned good (low sodium or low sugar preferred) would be a welcomed gift for the local food bank.



HOLLY HOTEL

110 Battle Alley, Holly

(248) 634-5208

At Home" Program. Every weekend

(beginning this week) they'll offer Dinners

to Go, individually prepared each day.

Holly Hotel has launched its new Curbside Meals with "Holly Hotel

A harmonious approach to care.

202 South Bridge Street, Linden, MI 48451 810.735.9400 | symphonylinden.com

A Member of the Symphony Care Network



The Fenton Winery & Brewery in Fenton Township is open for pick-up appointments and the kitchen is open for carryout Thursday through Saturday.



Diners enjoy homemade pizza at The FirePlace Bar & Grill in Fenton Township in this 2019 Times file photo.

FENTON WINERY & BREWERY

1370 N. Long Lake Rd., Fenton (810) 373-4194

For the next few weeks Fenton Winery & Brewery (FWB) will be taking pick-up appointments daily, beyond their kitchen hours. Wine and beer, FWB merchandise and gifts, custom labels, "Make Your Own Wine," and gift certificates are all available daily with a prescheduled appointment. Kitchen is open for carryout Thursday and Friday 3-8 p.m. and Saturday 12-8 p.m.

THE FIREPLACE BAR & GRILL

2238 N. Long Lake Rd., Fenton (810) 629-4505

They are open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. for take out. They will have their normal daily specials. Their Family Specials are available every day with 24-hour notice. Full menu available on fentonfireplace.com. Limited delivery area with minimum purchase.



Somerset Towne Centre • 4290 Miller Road, Flint 810-230-8008 Mon-Thurs 10am-7pm • Fri 10am-8pm • Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 12pm-5pm

Holiday Extravaganza to be drive-thru event

Takes place at M1 Concourse in Pontiac Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Holiday Extravaganza Parade, taking place Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will now take place at the M1 Concourse to verify the Grinch doesn't have access to the long awaited, annual event.

The M1 Concourse is offering its track for the special Holiday Extravaganza Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru Event. Jordan Zlotoff, CEO of M1 Concourse was involved in the decision to host Holiday Extravaganza.

"We are excited to be able to host the 2020 Pontiac Holiday Extravaganza Parade at M1 Concourse," Zlotoff said. "We know how important this annual tradition is to the community of Pontiac. Given our unique venue space, we are glad to be able to host this incredible event in a safe and responsible way that also allows community members to enjoy the parade festivities."

> Partner communities of Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Waterford and White Lake strive to keep this event full of the expected magic, but in a safe way.

Tom Kimble is Chairman for the Greater Pontiac Host Committee, presenters of Holiday Extravaganza. He said, "We are very grateful to

the M1 team for providing families the ability to see the extravagance of the total parade, while staying warm and safe in their cars as they drive through the beautiful track."

A unique Holiday Extravaganza Village will be assembled using professional parade floats, balloons, costume See **EXTRAVAGANZA** on 13

> GENESEE COUNTY PARKS 💋

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A Commission of Genesee Count



State Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) was presented the 2020 Legislative Economic Development Champion award by James McBryde (right), who serves on the Michigan Economic Developers Association board of directors and MEDA's Executive Director John Avery (left). Submitted photo

Horn is legislator of the year

Michigan Economic **Developers** Association honors area state senator

The Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA) recently honored State Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) as the 2020 Legislative Economic Development Champion.

MEDA is a professional society with members throughout the state that attract and grow businesses, create and retain jobs, and make our communities a better place to live. The awards were developed in 2020 by the association to recognize legislators who show a passion for championing economic development work.

Horn was recognized by the organization for his continued support of Michigan businesses and measures that help boost the state's economy. He was nominated by MEDA members

Tyler Rossmaessler of Fenton, director of economic development for the Flint and Genesee Chamber of Commerce; JoAnn Crary, president of Saginaw Future Inc.; and James McBryde, president and CEO, Middle Michigan Development Corporation.

MEDA commended Horn's work on measures like Good Jobs for Michigan, the Going Pro Talent Fund and his continued support of both skilled trades and the state's automotive future.

"During my second term as chair of the Senate Economic and Small Business Development Committee, my colleagues and I on the committee have remained focused on turning Michigan around and continuing the state's strong recovery," Horn said. "As the state continues to navigate the coronavirus pandemic, I remain focused on fighting for small businesses and ensuring we approve measures that protect both residents and our state's economy."

EXTRAVAGANZA

Continued from Page 12 characters and a special social distanced interaction with Santa and reindeer.

Visitors will be able to enjoy their favorite parts of a regular parade from the comfort of their own car.

For updates and additional information about this event, please connect with Holiday Extravaganza on Facebook and Instagram using @

HolidayExtravaganza, or visit our blog at HolidayExtravaganza.org.

Holiday Extravaganza is a parade and festival that takes place on the first Saturday of December each year providing free family fun, food, crafts and live animals. Their mission is to bring together the Oakland County cities and townships of Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Waterford and White Lake for a day of fun.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO COVID-19 Hot-liner looking to 'save a life.' Tyrannical governments are far more efficient at killing than viral pandemics, history proves this. If you are interested in really saving lives, focus on (and oppose) the oppressive, dictatorial, publichealth policies being enacted by Democrat politicians.

LIFE ISN'T JUST existing until you die. Truth is larger than the self. I implore all to ponder these things, to seek to know all, which can be known. There is meaning, point and purpose to it all. Hear Him. Come Unto Christ (.org).

I DISCOVERED THE problem at the Silver Lake Road and the ramp from northbound U.S. 23. People in Fenton don't know how to drive. It's illegal to block an intersection, especially one at a ramp. Come on people, you can do better.

I HAD TO laugh at the person complaining about high taxes, then praying for the first liberal to cry about it. Pot, meet kettle.





Boost is a simple and convenient, high-yield dividend rate checking account that pays up to 5% monthly on balances up to \$10,000.00 when all required qualifications are met. With Boost there are no monthly service or per check fees, no minimum balance requirements and you can instantly receive your debit card. Qualifications are simple:

- Direct Deposit of at least \$900 into membership account per month
- Enrollment in e-statements
- Twenty-five (25) posted debit card transactions to the account per month. ATM transactions do not count.

Visit dortonline.org/boost or call 800.521.3796 to learn more.

*Zero Percent (0.00%) Annual Percentage Yield (APY) will apply in the months when all qualifications are not met and on balances over \$10,000. Limit one (1) checking account per membership. Subject to change. Business accounts do not qualify.

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Township Board expected to vote on debated garage issue

Property is adjacent to trustee's home

By Hannah Ball

On Monday, Nov. 23, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees is expected to discuss and vote on a topic involving seven potential garages built next to a trustee's home.

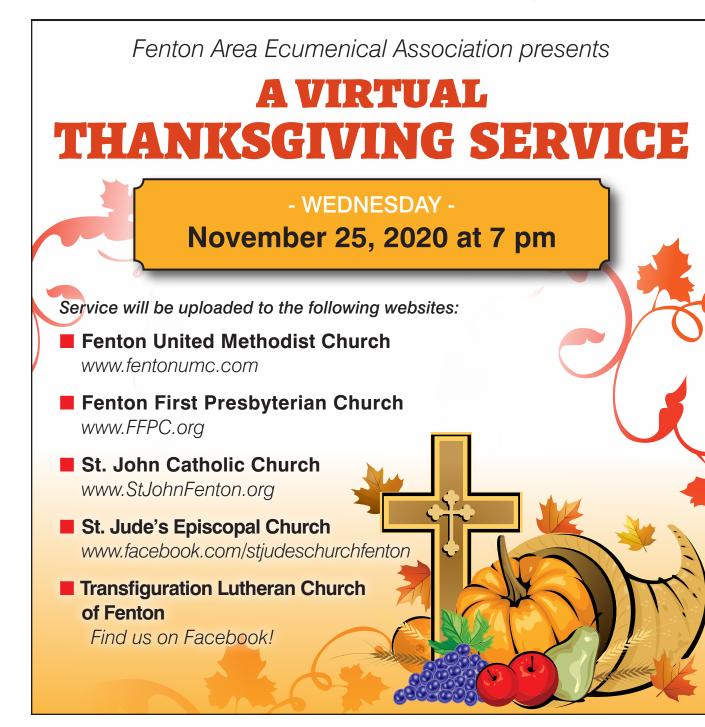
Treasurer, and Planning Commission member, John Tucker recused himself during the first reading which took place during the Monday, Nov. 9 meeting. Tucker is an attorney, and the applicant is a client of his, which poses a conflict of interest.

Trustee Christine Reid is expected to recuse herself from voting on Monday, Nov. 23 because the issue involves her property.

During the Monday, Nov. 9 first reading, the Board and audience debated the topic.

The request is to rezone the property

south of the Gables of North Shore Condominium on Bowles Road from R-5 Single Family Residential to Gables of North Shore PUD (planned unit development). The applicants are requesting to add the vacant parcel adjacent to the Gables of North Shore Condominiums to the existing PUD to allow for the construction of up to seven garages for the residents of the condo association, according to the meeting minutes.



Richard Hamilton, attorney for the Gables of North Shore Condominium Association, reviewed the request to amend the PUD to add property to allow the association members to build garages. At the Oct. 8 Planning Commission meeting, Zoning Administrator Michael Deem said he confirmed with the township attorney, Jack Belzer, that the association has the authority to amend the PUD, and that the Planning Commission was following the correct procedure to amend the PUD.

The maximum number of accessory structures to be constructed on the subject property shall not exceed seven, and the minimum front yard setback for accessory buildings shall be 30 feet.

During the Monday, Nov. 9 Board of Trustee meeting, Reid said this location is immediately adjacent to her home. She said they bought that property so they could have the lake experience, and they bought it knowing it was zoned single family residential.

The Reids belong to the condo association. Reid said there are a few main reasons why she and her husband oppose the amendment. The other residents bought their homes knowing how much garage space was available, and Reid said they feel allowing seven garages on one lot is inconsistent with the general zoning of the whole township.

"We believe living next to a lot full of seven garages will negatively impact the value of our home," she said.

Gerald Hutto, who owns the property where the garages would be constructed, said there are seven people who agreed to buy the lots to build the garages because they want more storage space. The garages will fit with the decor of the condos, and they have a civil engineer working on the project.

According to the meeting minutes, Clerk Robert Krug is "very opposed" to the proposed amendment. He asked who is profiting on this project, and Hutto said no one is, other than the previous owner of the property.

"All costs associated with the purchase of the property would be divided among the seven condo owners. Mr. Krug also suggested that the development of separate garages is not consistent with the Master Plan," according to meeting minutes.



Safely shopping during pandemic

Owners, employees step up to make your shopping experience worry free and convenient

By Sharon Stone

Sometimes you just have to get creative when you are faced with a challenge.

With the holiday shopping season starting to ramp up, the COVID-19 pandemic and all the concerns that come that are affecting the way we shop.

Small business owners have the entrepreneur spirit already, so when the pandemic took over our lives earlier this year, these creative folks scrambled to keep their livelihoods going while keeping themselves, their staff and their customers safe.

Chip Beltinck, owner of Sawyer Jewelers, which is in the Cornerstone building in downtown Fenton, said he and his staff take great pride in how clean the jewelry store is. Compared with big box stores, the number of people who enter the shop is quite limited. "It's sterile, there are very few people, we all wear masks, we clean pens and bathrooms constantly," he said.

As a small business owner in a town he loves, Beltinck said he worries that fear of the virus is sending people to the internet to do their shopping. A selfadmitted sentimentalist, he has deep concerns that See **SHOPPING** on 16



Nicole Medich promotes merchandise she has available at Eclections in Fenton by going live on Facebook. Similar to most shops, she offers in-store shopping, as well as online orders and contactless pickup. **Submitted photo**





Sawyer Jewelers has a "Thankful" tree on display in the showroom. **Submitted photo**





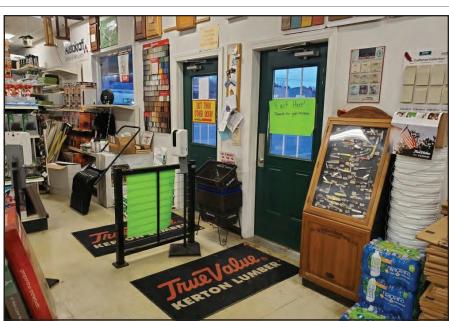
Jewelry and other gift items at Sawyer Jewelers are packaged and ready to be picked up. Submitted photo

SHOPPING

Continued from Page 15 people will lose that personal shopping experience of selecting something out

for the love of your life. Especially with fine jewelry, scrolling through items on Amazon and clicking on something to put in your virtual cart prevents a person from creating an experience and memory. "In my business, how do you buy jewelry online?" he said. "How will you get it serviced?"

Beltinck said for those truly sentimental and truly in love, they have to touch and feel a jewelry piece to know if it's right. Even during this pandemic, Beltinck said his customers should be reassured with the amount of cleaning and safety protocols he and his staff use. "Business owners that I know are aching to do the right thing," he said. "Take the time. Fenton is a beautiful



Kerton Lumber in Holly maintains a clean and sterilized shop for in-store shopping. Nicole Ryan, secretary/office manager says numerous customers also call in their orders and schedule a pickup because of the pandemic. Submitted photo

LEverything

in the store is

Eclections owner

bubble. If you can't find it here, then go online in your search," he said. "I love this town, the people and everything about it."

Beltinck wants to see all of the small businesses to survive and suggests that if everyone could stop by and shop at every local store even just once a year, they would all survive.

Nicole Medich, owner of Eclections

and Nick + Crew in Fenton, has stayed open the entire time. She became more active on the store's Facebook page and she films herself showing off her products during live Facebook videos.

Very early on when

disinfecting products were hard to come by, Medich put up a large board with clips attached outside her front door to hold onto purchases for pickup. She'd watch from inside as her customers drove by and grabbed their purchase from the clip board.

The store is open to the public and face coverings are required. Customers are allowed to try on clothing, however, items not purchased are sanitized with steam before being put back on the rack. Half of the dressing rooms are closed and employees disinfect the rooms in between customers.

Medich said they still offer free home delivery, curbside service or completely contactless service when customers open their vehicle trunk. She added that "everything in the store is available on our website."

Kerton Lumber in Holly has adjusted their store and procedures to help all of their customers.

Nicole Ryan, secretary and office manager at Kerton Lumber, said they have signs on the door to show one

entry door and one exit door. They have signage throughout the store, 6-foot spacing marks on the floor and have hand sanitizer available.

A large Plexiglass divider at the main checkout counter separates employees

from customers. If someone would prefer not to enter the store, Ryan said customers are welcome to call the store to place their order. They do ask to be given notice on phone orders so that they have time to process the order. An employee will carry your order out and put it in your vehicle once you call the store to let them know you are there.

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MOORE **INSURANCE AGENCY** 1549 N. LeRoy Street, Lakewinds Plaza | Fenton 810-629-4179



available on our website. 77 **Nichole Medich**



David's **Dabblings**

Some thoughts about sports and others not dealing with sports at all

A FEW POSITIVES THROUGH COVID-19 ERA

Augh, this pandemic has been awful for everyone.

Certainly families have been devastated and lives have been lost. Those are the primary tragedies involved with COVID-19. No one will ever want to compare other issues created by the virus by comparing them side to side with those two. However, that said, we have all been inconvenienced and prep sports has been dramatically hurt. It's one of the areas I understand from a personal standpoint since about 90 percent of my job (that's a conservative guess) involves prep athletics.

But while a full spring sports season was canceled last year and the end of the winter sports season was also canceled, there have been a few positives that prep sports and the MHSAA have learned during the COVID era. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, maybe this is the right time to reflect on a few of the positives.

It's time to change the prep football playoff format

Talking to coaches there are a lot of people that think maybe the ninth week of the regular prep football season should be the opening week of the playoffs, which would then open up the state tournament to just about every prep football squad in the state of Michigan. It's something I've wanted to see happen for years as well. This season, due to COVID-19, that happened. Due to the shortened season, the seventh week became a playoff week for every team in the state, and it worked really well.

Giving every team a shot at the . See DABBLINGS on 19

Area Powers swimmers earn spots in D3 state swim meet

By David Troppens

Whenever the Division 3 Girls State Swimming and Diving Championship is played out, there will be two tri-county competing at the event.

Powers swimmers Lara Wujciak and Lauren Taylor will be competing at the meet.

Currently the diving portion of the meet is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 22 and the swim portion for Dec. 23 if the current COVID-19 lockdown ends

on Dec. 9 at Lake Orion High School.

Wujciak and Taylor will be on the Chargers' 200 medley relay team while Taylor is a member of the squad's 200 free relay team. Taylor will compete on the 400 freestyle relay. Individually, Wujciak will compete individually in the 100 butterfly and the 100 backstroke while Taylor will compete in the 200 individual medley and the 100 butterfly.

Wujciak is a senior and was an allstate swimmer a year ago. "Last year, I was very sick," Wujciak said. "However, I knew that it was my duty to show up and represent my school, family and team. This year, I would like to do the same, but hopefully feel good in the water and know that I used every ounce of energy I had to perform to the best of my ability."

"This is my third year competing in two relays and two individual events," Taylor said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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Sports Times

Fenton swimmers host their own final meet

Actual state meet could happen near Christmas

By David Troppens

Brad Jones has horrible memories of last March when the COVID-19 pandemic created Michigan's first lockdown.

His varsity boys swim team was preparing to leave to go the Division 2 state meet when Jones, the coach, got some bad news that the meet was being suspended (eventually canceled) due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It happened again to him on Sunday. Less than a week before his Fenton varsity girls swim team was going to head to Grand Rapids for the Division 2 girls state meet, the news came from Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer that another lockdown was starting on Wednesday. The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) followed suit by suspending all athletic activities for three weeks, until Dec. 9.

The Fenton varsity girls state qualifying swimmers are the only fall team among tri-county high school athletes impacted by the lockdown. All other fall sports teams have completed their seasons. All winter sports have already or were expected to start practices during the three-week period.

"Reliving that moment on Sunday was certainly rough for all of us coaches and it was definitely a difficult meeting with girls Monday morning," Jones said.

"We met at the pool and walked our way through it. These are things are out of our control regardless of our preparation and our dedication to the proto-See FENTON on 20



(Left) Some of the Fenton varsity girls swim team huddles up before a relay event begins Tuesday. The Tigers had their own version of a state meet after the actual D2 state meet was suspended and won't happen until at least Dec. 22 and 23. (Below) Halee Alexander was one of Tuesday's competitors.



Fenton swimmers have high hopes for state swim meet

By David Troppens

Whenever the Division 2 Girls State Swimming and Diving Championships occur, Gracie Olsen and the rest of the Fenton varsity swim team understands there will be some differences.

However, one thing won't change. The person that won the two events a year ago will be the favorite to win both events again this season at Grand Rapids Northview High School. The most current potential date for the state meet is Dec. 22 for the diving competition and Dec. 23 for the swimming portion of the competition.

There are other changes that will be made to the state meet. Each event will consist of one swim by each competitor in each event. Also, at this time no spectators are expected to be in the audience. Teammates won't be allowed

DABBLINGS

Continued from Page 18 playoffs will help coaches with programs off to slow starts to have 'If we improve, we can still do some damage in the playoffs.' All games will matter due to playoff seedings and every school will have seven teams they know they can start scouting from the first week of the season in preparation for possible playoff foes. It's time. Put every team in the football playoffs.

The addition of a pre-region cross country round

This was something added this year that was a big plus. Currently the MHSAA hosts regionals of about 16 teams with only three of those squads qualifying for the state meet. Most teams enter the event knowing there's not much chance of qualifying. This year the MHSAA hosted pre-regional rounds where four of eight teams advanced to the actual regional round, creating a system where teams could enjoy success at one round in order to advance to

to stay on the dock.

Olsen will have plenty of teammates with her at the meet. Also qualified for events are Rose Haney, Halee Alexander, Sophie Stefanac, Delaney Fries, Abigail Dolliver and Maddie Kazmierski.

"I think the no spectators may bring the energy down a little bit but that just means we'll have to bring ours up," Olsen said. "So it could be good or it could be bad. I just don't think it will be bad. We will be able to bring the energy. Even though there won't be anyone in the stands we'll be able to make it up by ourselves.

"I think that I'd rather have two swims because I'm a swimmer that needs a lot of warm-up so having that prelim trial swim is nice to see where I'm at (during the preliminary). I get to think about it and what can I do better the next day. Now I'm going to have to think about in the past

the regional round. Only three teams

advanced to state from the regional

meet still, but it gave teams more

chances to have sense success in

an earlier round more obtainable.

For example, Lake Fenton's girls

cross country team advanced to the

regional round by placing fourth in

its pre-regional. That created a mo-

ment the team could celebrate and

next season. It adds another step

of success that is a more realistic

use as motivation to advance further

leap in an earlier round than just one

group of 16 teams. More chances at

week trying to be the top three in a

The importance of being a part

Teams understood that any mo-

ment it all could be taken away from

them. This probably created a sense

day-to-day basis as they understood

they should embrace the days they

have because any given day CO-

treasured their time with teams,

and that's never a bad thing.

VID-19 could strip it away. Athletes

of more pride for every team on a

success is always a plus.

of a team

and apply everything I need to add for that one race."

The Tigers also have an opportunity to do some great damage in all three relays. Last year's 400 freestyle relay team placed third in the event. This year the squad of Olsen, Stefanac, Fries and Dolliver hope to at least match that, if not contend for the event state championship.

"Our 400 placed third and this year I think we can make it first," Olsen said. "We were only a few seconds off our state time at the Livonia meet so I think once we are tapered and ready I think we are going to go a really great time."

The Tigers will have two other relays at the state meet. Olsen, Dolliver, Alexander and Fries will make up the 200 medley relay squad and Stefanac, Fries, Haney and Dolliver will make up the 200 freestyle relay.



Fenton's state qualifiers for the Division 2 for the girls state swim team are (from left starting with the front row) Gracie Olsen, Rose Haney, Halee Alexander, Sophie Stefanac, Delaney Fries, Abigail Dolliver and Maddie Kazmierski. Photo: David Troppens

Individually, Stefanac will compete in the 100 freestyle and the 100 back stroke while Dolliver will compete in the 100 breaststroke. Haney qualified in the 200

individual medley while Carrigan will compete in the 100 backstroke. Sana Saab is scheduled to compete in the 50 freestyle.

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Fenton's Sana Saab competed in the 50 freestyle during the Tigers' personal team meet held on Tuesday to replace the state meet that was suspended at least until Dec. 22 and Dec. 23. Photo: David Troppens

FENTON

Continued from Page 18

cols were supposed to follow. The hardest thing is we followed the rules we were told to do so we could provide a safe environment for the athletes and coaches. To have it canceled this close to the finish line is heartbreaking."

It's heartbreaking now, but all is not lost. First off, the Tigers made the best situation out of a bad one they possibly could by hosting their own personal "state" meet Tuesday at Fenton High School. In it, the state qualifiers competed in their events and tried to break personal and pool records. Second, the state swim meet will probably happen sometime this school year, maybe as early as Dec. 23.

The Representative Council of the MHSAA approved today an adjusted schedule to restart and conclude fall tournaments in football, girls volleyball and girls swimming and diving, and also to resume winter sports after the three-week "pause" in activity ordered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services scheduled to end Dec. 9. All three Lower Peninsula swim finals will be conducted Dec. 22 for diving and

Dec. 23 for swimming. This would allow a two-week practice window of all participating swimmers who have met the qualified times in swimming events and all the regional divers who qualified for the state meet.

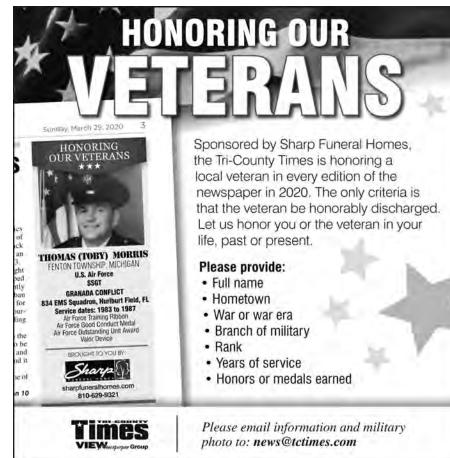
"It's not supposed to be over, but it's supposed to be a pause," Jones said. "It's not exactly the way we wanted to see the season end, but ... that's what was talked about Sunday night is having three weeks off and then have the swim meet."

Tuesday's event was a great way to honor the squad at least until the official state swim meet probably ends up happening sometime this school year.

Three pool records were recorded at Tuesday's meet. The first came in the first event and the third one came in the final event. The 200 medley relay team of Gracie Olsen, Abigail Dolliver, Halee Alexander and Delaney Fries posted a time of 1:49.30. That time would've earned the fifth-place position at the state meet a year ago, the same spot the Tigers held in the event last year with a time of 1:49.02. The 400 freestyle relay team of Olsen, Sophie Stefanac, Rose Haney and Abigail Dolliver posted a time of 3:36.79. That time also would've landed them a fifth-place finish at last year's state meet, the same position Fenton held last year with a time of 3:36.21.

Olsen broke the pool record in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:50.14. The D2 defending state champion in the event posted a time of 1:48.98 at state a year ago. Her time on Tuesday would've earned her the state championship last season as well. She crushed the field by more than two seconds in the event last year. Olsen also swam a time of 56.21 seconds in the 100 butterfly, the event she won her other state title last year.

In other swims the 200 freestyle relay team of Stefanac, Fries, Haney and Dolliver had a time of 1:41.07. Maddie Kazmierski had personal-best performances with times of 1:00.06 in the 100 butterfly and a 5:22.14 in the 500 freestyle. Stefanac also had personal-best times in the 100 freestyle (54.03) and the 100 backstroke (1:00.03). Haney posted a time of 2:18.65 in the 200 individual medley while Abby Carrigan had a time of 1:03.94 in the 100 backstroke. Finally, Sana Saab had a time of 26.08 in the 50 freestyle and Dolliver had a time of 1:09.11 in the 100 breaststroke.





Holly Township resident Alex Caryl wasn't able to take a shot at a buck with a 23-inch outside spread one minute, but was rewarded for his ethics and patience. Later, he used his crossbow from about 30 yards away to earn his trophy when the buck returned. The deer's rack has yet to be evaluated, but it can potentially be in the 150s using the Boone and Crockett scoring system which would qualify it for the Commemorative Bucks of Michigan book.



Not everyone eats turkey on Thanksgiving.

If your family goes in a different direction on the big day, you're not alone. According to the National Turkey Federation, 88 percent of Americans chow down on Thanksgiving turkey. The rest may be vegetarian or vegan, or just taking a stand against a protein that, let's face it, doesn't show up much the rest of the year for a reason.

Webstaurantstore.com



A Good Housekeeping illustrator is to thank for the Thanksgiving Day parade's first balloons. German American illustrator Tony Starg, whose illustrations were featured in Good Housekeeping, also had a passion for puppetry. He used that talent to make some amazing floats come to life in 1927.

Publicdomainreview.com



Americans eat an estimated 50 million pumpkin pies on Thanksgiving.

Many consider pumpkin pie a vehicle for whipped topping and could take it or leave it, otherwise. If you'd also rather leave your pumpkins for Halloween and dig into another Thanksgiving dessert, you're not alone. According to The American Pie Council, more Americans prefer apple pie overall — pumpkin pie only comes in second place.

Inspiredtaste.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Thanksgiving trivia to share with family this Thursday

Compiled by Sharon Stone

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING WAS ACTUALLY A THREE-DAY AFFAIR.

Today, Thanksgiving takes place over one day — maybe two if you count Black Friday on a typical year. In November 1621, the settlers' first corn harvest proved so successful, Gov. William Bradford reportedly invited the Plymouth colonists' Native American allies to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Members of the Wampanoag tribe came bearing food to share. They had so much bounty, the revelers decided to extend the affair.

History.com



Part of Plymouth, Mass., looks just as it did in the 17th century.

If you want to see what Thanksgiving was really like back in the 1600s, the historic attraction Plymouth (or Plimoth) Plantation stays true to its historic roots. You can even celebrate Thanksgiving at the site, which is modeled after a colonist's home and a Wampanoag site. The table-groaning feast typically features authentic courses like a corn pudding and fish fricassee, tales of colonial life, and old-timey songs.

Tripadvisor.com



Colonists and Native Americans may not have had turkey at their feast.

While most of us enjoy turkey as the centerpiece of our table, no one can say for sure whether it was on the menu in 1621. However, they did indulge in other foods like lobster, seal, and swan. The Wampanoag tribe also reportedly brought five deer to the celebration.



You might consume up to 229 grams fat during the big meal.

You might want to put on those stretchy pants before heading to Thanksgiving dinner. There will be about three to four times the amount of fat you should eat in a day. And while this is probably not news to those of us who go for second or third helpings of the big meal, the entire Thanksgiving dinner could total over 3,000 calories.

Countryliving.com



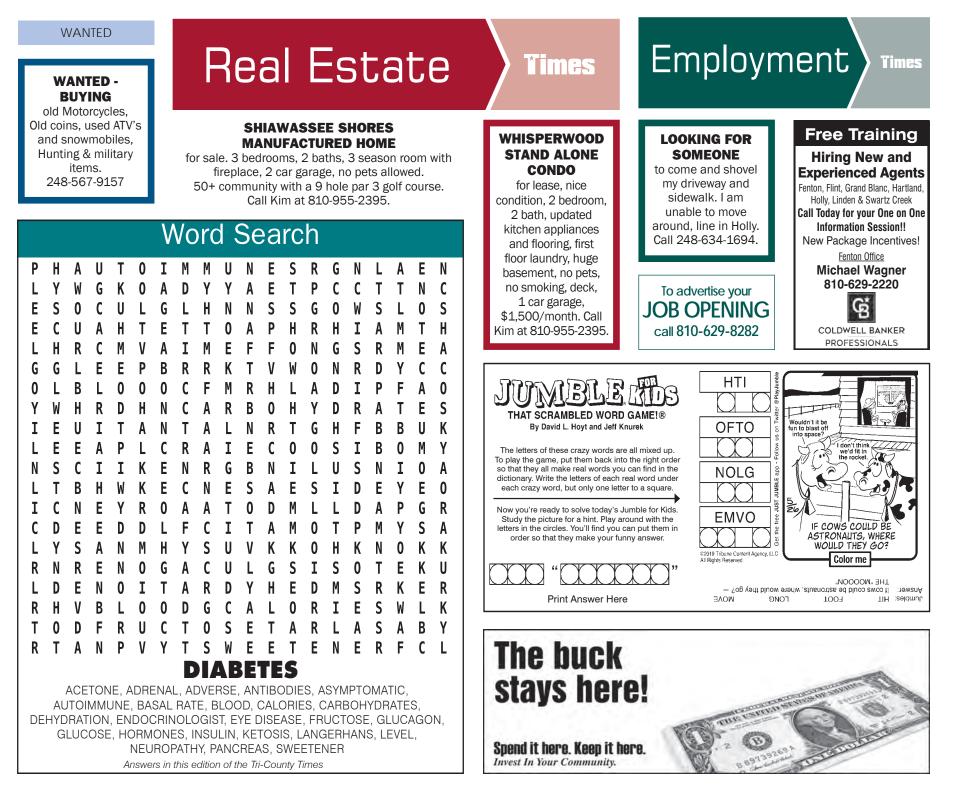
Only male turkeys actually gobble. If you learned in preschool that a turkey goes "gobble, gobble," that's only about half true. Only male turkeys — appropriately named gobblers — actually make the sound. Female turkeys cackle instead. So if you're trying to figure out whether a turkey's male or female, just wait until they open their beaks.

Allaboutbirds.org





DEADLINES: SUNDAY PAPER: Display Ads: Wednesday 3 p.m. • Line Ads: Noon Thursday • WEDNESDAY PAPER: Display Ads: Monday 3 p.m. • Line Ads: Noon Tuesday



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Service Directory

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times



800.521.3796

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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Puzzle Answers

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

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MASK

Continued from Page 4

walking to or from a store. I guess that makes it readily available when you have to put it on. I've seen other people put it down under their chin so they can put it on properly in the blink of an eye.

I like it when I go out to a meeting or event and I have my mask on and people who I know walk right by me and don't recognize me. One person

WEEKEND TIMES

said, "I'm having to learn how to identify people by their eyes." "Didn't know it was you!" I've Admittedly, I've found myself un-

It also works if you're trying to avoid someone.

Masks are also good if you want to mumble something under your breath about other people, but you don't want them to read your lips. I find it's also good if I want to talk to myself in public or sing-along with the store soundtrack. While we may have adapted to many of the changes brought about by COVID-19 I, for one, will be glad when the day comes that we no longer have to practice wearing facecoverings and social distancing. In the meantime, at least, we'll continue to adjust and make the best out of the curve balls the pandemic throws at us.

Gary Gould is the managing editor of the Genesee County View. Contact him at ggould@mihomepaper.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DR. ROGER HODKINSON, a pathologist, told officials in the province of Alberta that the covid virus is the greatest hoax ever perpetrated on an unsuspecting public. He said nothing can be done to stop the spread besides protecting older more vulnerable people. He said masks and social distancing don't work.

WHO DOESN'T CRINGE when you hear that Gov. Whitmer is going to be holding a press conference to talk about her latest news? Sure wish she had more confidence in the adults in this state to make their own decisions based on their own health. She's like nails on a chalkboard.

I WAS WONDERING why doctors and nurses wear surgical masks in the operating room. Do they feel that this is against their 'individual rights?' Is there any scientific reason or logic involved in this or is this just the right thing to do?

THE MODERNA AND Pfizer vaccines are good news. But it will be months before they are available for the masses. The vaccination requires two injections three to four weeks apart, and another week or so for the immune system to respond. May is realistically the soonest we might get back to normal.

BIDEN HAS MADE many promises in the last several months. Come Jan. 21, 2021, I wonder how many of those promises he will keep. The sad thing is when he conveniently 'forgets most of those promises there is nothing the people can do except remember for the next election.

WE ARE NOT the government's children and there is never a good reason to take away our rights or to close our business.

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We Move

certain about the identity of people

when I see them masked. I've walked

right by people I knew because they

were wearing a face covering and I

them call out my name when I pass

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Let us take care of the backbreaking work of moving your contents! Sit back and relax knoing we haveyour covered.

We Store

We place your contents in an onsite locked storage unit so you can rest assured your things are dry and safe.



Watch the transformation as we here, up your space with our lifetime warranted coating system called GatorGuard! Then we return and safely place your items where we found them.

Why Choose GatorGuard?

With GatorGuards proprietary coating technology you will save yourself hours of continued cleaning and money by not choosing a secondary product that will fail and have to be re-coated time after time. Our coatings are non porous, making it easier to clean (when you have to) resistant to cracks and stains-and increase light within your space.



Cannot be combined with any other offer. Ask Estimator for details. Expires 12/31/20

Obituaries

Albert Schwabauer

Albert Schwabauer - age 77, died November 16, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Barbara Kittel

Barbara Kittel - age 90, died November 14, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Carol McKay Carol McKay - age 80, died November 17, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Doris Manns

Doris Manns - age 73, died November 16, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Dr. Regis Benton Jr.

Dr. Regis Benton Jr. - age 69, died November 9, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Edward "Ted" Selves

Edward "Ted" Selves - age 84, died November 14, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Geneva Rickman Geneva Rickman - age 88, died November 16, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Howard Finger

Howard Finger - age 91, died November 18, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Joseph Klobuchar

Joseph Klobuchar - age 93, died November 16, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Kenneth DeCorte

Kenneth DeCorte - age 89, died November 15, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Leota Cook Leota Cook - age 78, died November 15, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Nelson Wooley Nelson Wooley - age 83, died November 10, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Phyllis Smith

Phyllis Smith - age 86, died November 11, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Sandra Miller Sandra Miller - age 85, died November 17, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Thomas Miller

Thomas Miller - age 81, died November 14, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



William Dais

William Dais - age 83, died November 17, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Gordon Hopson III Gordon Hopson III - age 68, died November 17, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Derwin T. Jones Derwin T. Jones - age 87, died November 16, 2020. Temrowski Family Funeral Home





George W. Marshall

1926 - 2020 George W. Marshall - age 94, of Linden, passed away Sunday, November 15, 2020. No services will be held. George was born February 22, 1926 in Flint, the son of Dayton and Margaret Marshall. He is survived by his children, Georgia Berry, JoAnne Hitchcock, Pat Marshall, George Marshall and Neil Marshall; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sisters, Jean Guyer and Florence Vorce. He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia and his daughter, Mary Carol. George is finally free to go fishing and play Euchre with his wife. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes. com.



Donald D. Durbin Donald D. Durbin - age 73, died November 17, 2020. Temrowski Family Funeral Home



Janet L. Moss Janet L. Moss - age 84, died November 15 2020. Temrowski Family Funeral Home



Times



Terri Ann Winter

1943 - 2020 Terri Ann Winter - age 77, of Linden, died Friday, November 13, 2020. No services will be held at this time. Terri was born July 30, 1943 in Greenville. the daughter of David and Shirley (Shields) Leathley. She married Alfred John Winter on October 3, 1964. Terri worked in Administration for Lake Fenton High School, The Valley School and Hensler & Associates. She enjoyed spending time on Lake Ponemah. Surviving are, husband, Alfred Winter of Linden; two sons, Cory M. (Kristen) Winter of Pinckney and Brent G. (Rebecca) Winter of Livonia; three grandchildren, Emma Winter, Jordan and Seth Winter; sister-in-law, Suzanne Leathley; nephew, Ryan Leathley; niece, Meaghan Tieri. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother, David Leahley, Jr. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Olive E. Evans Olive E. Evans - age 84, died November 12, 2020. Temrowski Family Funeral Home



ltimes

Obituaries



Eric C. Averill 1986 - 2020 Eric C. Averill – age 34, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 in New

Orleans, LA, He was born July 16, 1986 in Flint, the son of Doug and Sally (Kuppelweiser) Averill. He graduated from Fenton High School in 2005 and received an associate degree in Marketing from Lansing Community College in 2008. He went on to open several successful restaurants in Louisville, North Hollywood, and Los Angeles. Most recently, he relocated to New Orleans to pursue additional experience in the restaurant business. He is survived by his parents formerly of Fenton; two sisters, Lisa Averill-Frasure (Kyle) of New Orleans and Ann Marie Averill of Los Angeles; and paternal grandmother, Beverly Averill-Wennin (Bob). He leaves to cherish his memory friends Josh, Chris W, Matt, Kyle, Evan, and Chris A. Eric will be remembered for his kindness, generosity, and good humor. Private services will be held due to COVID. Memorials may be made to the charity of one's choosina.

Tina Rickman

Tina Rickman - age 47. died November 18, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Shirley Jo Book - age 82, died Monday, November 16, 2020. Private funeral services will be held 1 PM Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake

Road, Fenton. Live streaming of the service will be available November 21, 2020 at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com. Public visitation will be held at the funeral home Saturday, November 21, 2020 from 11 AM – 1 PM. Those desiring may make contributions to the Whaley Children's Center. Shirley was born October 1, 1938 in Jonesboro, AR, the daughter of Myers Lee Fisher and Druella Smith. She was a 1956 graduate of Jonesboro High School Jonesboro, AR and she received a Masters Degree from Arkansas State University. She retired from Flint Community Schools; and she had also taught for Fenton

Helen McCarnev

Helen McCarney - age 92, died November 19, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Edward Dymowski

Edward Dymowski - age 89, died November 19, 2020. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Shirley Jo Book 1938 - 2020



Community Schools, She had resided in Fenton since 1970. Shirley enjoyed sports, baking, crafts, tennis, ice skating, but most of all she loved her grandchildren. Surviving are son, Tony Book

(Jennifer) of Fenton; daughter, Elizabeth Book (Eric Camp) of Rochester Hills; grandchildren, Leighanne and Remington Book both of Fenton; brothers, Albert Fisher (Selma) of AR, and Bobby Dunn of AL: sisterin-law. Nancy Dunn of AL: cousins, Norma Zimmerman (Bill) of Clinton, Jerry Taylor (Pat) of AR, and Donna Williams of AR; and several nieces; nephews; and other cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents: and brother. Bill Dunn. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes. com.



Joanne Delores Porter

1930 - 2020

Joanne Delores Porter - age 90, of Fenton, died Thursday, November 12. 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions a memorial service will be held at a later date. Those desiring may make memorial

contributions to Adopt-A-Pet, Fenton (www.adoptapetfenton. com). Joanne was born February 13, 1930 in Crystal, the daughter of Otho John and Ruth Irene (Ogreen) Orcutt and was a graduate of Fenton High School, Class of 1948. She married Bryan McKinley Porter on November 25, 1950 and he preceded her in death on January 6, 2005. Joanne was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Fenton, Order of Eastern Stars #248. American Legion Auxiliary # 38, the Child's Study Club and was in the Hand Bell Choir at her church in FL. She was an accomplished seamstress and an avid crafter. Surviving are



eight children, Milton Porter of Fenton, John Porter of Sterling Heights, Timothy Porter of Fenton, Robin (Tom) Vacca of Swartz Creek, Ruthanne (Eugene) Reid of Fenton.

Colleen (Richard) West of Milton, FL, Bryan Porter of Fenton, Tami (Dan) Spiece of Brighton; two daughtersin-law, Rose Porter of Fenton and Teresa Byers of Flushing; 22 grandchildren: 30 greatgrandchildren: sister. Frances Moore of Linden. She was also preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bryan; son, Terry; and grandson, Michael. Arrangements provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.











