

# Indoor dining banned for two more weeks

■ Governor announces Michigan Department of Health and Human Services extends ban until Feb. 1

By Sharon Stone

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer held a press conference and announced that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) extended the ban on indoor dining until Monday, Feb. 1.

According to an MDHHS press release, the MDHHS updated its epidemic order Wednesday to allow re-opening of additional activities where Michiganans can remain masked and socially distanced, as this has been scientifically

shown to slow the virus. This includes indoor group exercise and non-contact sports. The new order is effective Saturday, Jan. 16 and will last until Sunday, Jan. 31.

See **INDOOR DINING** on 13



## Weekend Times

VOL. 28 NO. III

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021

\$1.00

### Most first responders decline vaccine

■ 'I think that number will go up'

By Hannah Ball

Law enforcement and other first responders can now receive the COVID-19 vaccine, yet only 30-40 percent of Genesee County Sheriff's Office first responders have received the inoculation.

Many first responders declined the vaccine, said Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson on Wednesday, Jan. 13 during his weekly press briefing.

Swanson said he was "a little bit" surprised by the number of emergency responders who declined the vaccine.

"But I think the more it rolls out and people aren't fearful of

See **DECLINE** on 21

### Battle Alley closes to cars permanently



Nicholas Klempf, (left) Holly Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director, Holly Village Police Chief Jerry Narsh, and Richard Kinnamon, executive director of the Holly Area Chamber of Commerce, stand in Battle Alley in Holly on Thursday, Jan. 14. The area will be turned into a social district soon.

See story on Page 12. Photo: Hannah Ball

### Genesee County not receiving enough vaccines, officials say

■ County will request 3,000 doses for next week

By Hannah Ball

Like other counties in Michigan, Genesee County does not have enough COVID-19 vaccines for everyone who wants one.

Yet.

County officials briefed the media and public during Sheriff Chris Swanson's weekly briefing on Wednesday, Jan. 13, which is always livestreamed on Facebook.

Mark Young, chairman of Genesee County Board of Commissioners, said Genesee County received the sixth lowest number of vaccines when adjusted for population size despite having

See **VACCINES** on 20



“To the person

throwing airplane liquor bottles up and down N. Oak Street, it's time for you to stop throwing

your bottles in our yards. From Ninth Street to First Street, your bottles have littered the yards.”



“Tweeting is for the birds.”



“I apologize to all who have witnessed my ugly side.”







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# Battle Alley to become ‘consumption zone’

■Holly Village creates ‘social district’ to allow participating establishments to sell food, alcoholic beverages and be consumed on Battle Alley

By Sharon Stone

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, Holly Village Council unanimously approved the creation of a social district in the downtown area. Council will approve the ordinance at its Feb. 9 meeting. A projected start date is March 1.

During the summer of 2020, the Michigan legislature approved the creation of social districts. This new law was signed into effect July 1, 2020 and stays in effect until Dec. 31, 2024.

This new law allows local municipalities to create and self-govern social districts within their municipal boundaries. In these social districts, communities permit designated licensed liquor establishments to allow alcohol and food purchases to be carried to a designated “commons” area for consumption.

In a memo to council members, Village Manager Jerry Walker said village staff recommended a social district to be Battle Alley from



Holly Village Council voted to create a “social district” in downtown Holly focusing on the Battle Alley area. People would be allowed to purchase food and beverages including alcoholic drinks from a participating restaurant in the social district and walk to consume their purchases on Battle Alley.

Saginaw Street to Broad Street and Alley Street from E. Maple to Junction Street, and the west side of S. Saginaw Street from Civic Street to Junction.

During the Zoom meeting Tuesday, the council agreed to revise the boundary so that Bittersweet Café on the west side of S. Saginaw Street could be included in the social district.

Creation of the social district will allow participation by the following licensed establishing, including Blackthorn Pub, The Vault, The Holly Café, The Holly Hotel, Andy’s Place, The Moose Lodge 1168, The Red Devil and any future licensed establishment that locates in the district.

### Cocktails to go

House Bill 5811 was introduced in May 2020 to allow qualified on-premises licensees (bars, restaurants and hotels) to sell alcohol to go in a qualified container for consumption off the licensed premises, and to deliver alcohol until Dec. 31, 2025. These licensees are separate from the social zone licensees and not able to participate for sales to be consumed within the consumption zone.

See **CONSUMPTION ZONE** on 18

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## A message from the superintendent

**A**s we approached and celebrated the beginning of 2021, there was still much uncertainty as to what the New Year would bring. We are still living with a pandemic that is wreaking havoc across our nation, we are still wearing masks and we are still waiting for the days we can gather with our family and friends. What 2021 did bring was hope. It brought hope that the vaccine would get widely distributed, students could begin to return to school and we could begin to feel a sense of “normal” once again. We all know this will not happen overnight, but at least we can see some of the positive strides taking place to take us in that direction.

As you may already know, Lake Fenton High School is a Point of Dispensing (POD) site in Genesee County. We are pleased to serve in this capacity and do our part to serve our community in a time of need. We have received several inquiries about our POD for the COVID 19 vaccine. I am providing a brief Frequently Asked Questions to help you understand how it will work.



**Julie Williams**  
Lake Fenton  
Community  
Schools  
superintendent

## Vaccines and our POD site

**When will the POD site open?** This will be decided by the Genesee County Health Department and the amount of vaccines they have for distribution.

**How do I make an appointment?** If you are identified in Phase 1A or 1B of the Vaccine Prioritization and Availability Chart, you can schedule an appointment at any of the locations currently open by visiting the Genesee County Health

Department website at [www.gchd.us/covid.html](http://www.gchd.us/covid.html). The Vaccine Prioritization chart is also located on their website.

**Why is Lake Fenton High School a POD site?** Several years ago, six school districts were identified to serve as Point of Dispensing (POD) sites for medical information, medication and/or medical care in the event of a natural or human disaster and emergencies. This is part of our county’s Emergency Operations plan and is a collaboration between the GCHD, the Office of the Genesee County Sheriff and the school districts.

**When the school POD site is open, do I call the school to make an appointment?** No. All appointments will be scheduled through the Genesee County Health Department.

See **POD SITE** on 19



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■■■■  
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■■■■  
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■■■■  
**PROVIDING VACCINE** FOR everyone 65 and older has made a long line for 90-year-olds even longer. How stupid.

■■■■  
**MISSING OUR PAPER** carrier in Linden already. She did a great job and always had a smile on her face. Wishing her the best.

■■■■  
**THERE IS A** huge difference between private companies censoring information, and the government censoring information. Please understand the difference before stepping up on your soapbox.

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

## What motivates you to get up in the morning? | street talk



“I hate to waste the day away so I get out of bed and get things done. When I run out of things to do, I either take a walk or dig into some old boxes to decide what stays and what goes. Sometimes it’s nice to go down memory lane!”

**Michele Hornung**  
Holly



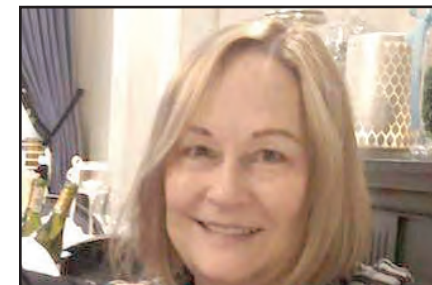
“Kids screaming.”

**Haley Wisenbaugh**  
Fenton



“My cats wanting their breakfast.”

**Michelle Moses**  
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“My internal circadian clock that still goes off at 5 a.m., even in retirement. I enjoy the quiet of the dawn before the day breaks.”

**Susan Lasak Balmas**  
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# One year after change, fire departments respond to fewer medical calls

■ 2020 was first full year with new dispatching rule for Tier 1 medical calls

By Hannah Ball

It's been more than a year since Genesee County 911 implemented a rule that changed how fire departments are called to Tier 1 medical alerts.

This rule, voted in unanimously by the Genesee County Medical Control Authority (GCMCA) and which went into effect in October 2019, means that in Tier 1 medical emergencies, if an ambulance is within eight miles, then the municipal fire department is not called to respond. This was implemented to make dispatching services more consistent.

Tier 1 medical emergencies are urgent and typically involve heart or breathing problems. Since the change went into effect, local fire departments have responded to fewer medical calls.

In 2019, the Fenton Township Fire Department responded to 223 medical calls in which the fire department and

ambulance arrive at the same time, along with 107 medical calls when the fire department arrives first, excluding vehicle accidents with injury.

In 2020, these numbers were 151 and 59 respectively.

When asked about this change in 2019, Fire Chief Ryan Volz said he believed this would mainly affect communities with smaller populations, and fewer first responders would be on scene to assist in these Tier 1 medical emergencies.

"My opinion is still the same. I believe the system needs a major overhaul. Most of the problems will be solved by upgrading our 911 system in Genesee County. This will allow Genesee County 911 to dispatch us in a way that fits our communities," he said. "We need to realize our communities are outgrowing

our public safety services and we need to stay in front of that."

Linden Fire Chief Brian Will said they responded to approximately 275 calls in 2020, with about 80 percent being medical related. This is a decrease from the 330 calls in 2019, and it's mainly due to the change in ambulance protocol.

Linden City is 2.5 square miles in size with a substantial number of senior citizens, mostly because of Shiawassee Shores Retirement Community and the Symphony Linden.

When the change was first announced

in 2019, Will wasn't happy with the change and met with the GCMCA and Genesee County 911.

"After several meetings with other chiefs with those two boards, we came to an agreement that I felt worked for our city and its residents. Since then,

things have been going well," he said.

The ambulance that usually responds to Linden calls is stationed in Fenton and normally arrives within the eight minutes allotted.

"Our department, when dispatched to those predetermined call types, is sent and we are usually on scene one to three minutes ahead of the responding ambulances. We render care as needed and assist the ambulance take care of the situation. The quicker the time the person in need gets attention the outcome is usually a benefit to the patient.

"We have been satisfied like I said with this new protocol and its benefits of service to our community," he said.

When asked if the COVID-19 pandemic affected call volumes, Will said, "I would say it did a little."

"Residents were afraid to go to the hospital in fear of the COVID issues but I cannot say how many decided not to go. Some did suggest when we did respond that they were afraid and really were skeptical about calling to get transported to the hospital," he said.

**“We have been satisfied like I said with this new protocol and its benefits of service to our community.”**

**Brian Will**  
*Linden fire chief*

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# Fenton City audit: Real estate values improve, population grows 11 percent since 2010, pandemic causes unforeseen expenditures

By Sharon Stone

For Fenton City, Fiscal Year 2020 began as a typical year with hopes and expectations of another busy and productive year. However, in January 2020 news began circulating about a novel virus in China and was beginning to spread into the United States and other Countries. The COVID-19 Coronavirus became more contagious, potentially deadly and spread across the globe, quickly developing into a pandemic. In March 2020, the spread of the virus created a medical emergency causing governments to issue executive orders to shut down businesses and issue stay at home orders/advisories.

In addition to a global health crisis, a recession impacted many businesses and industries. Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland said locally, restaurants were forced into providing take-out service only. Retail establishments were restricted to curbside sales. As summer came, the restrictions were eased and the city worked with local restaurants to

create more outdoor dining. In response to the pandemic, the city has worked hard to create a safe work environment for visitors to public buildings and city employees. The city also began purchasing additional personal protective equipment (PPE).

During an audit presentation to Fenton City Council, Markland said these issues caused unforeseen expenditures for the city's General Fund.

The city of Fenton ended the fiscal year in a stable financial condition. However, in the FY 2020 budget, the city had a slight deficit of \$141,005. This was due, in part, to unexpected expenditures because of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. The city did receive some reimbursement from the State of Michigan through the CARES Act funds. The reimbursement of \$168,410 (50 percent of their requested reimbursement) was received after the end of the fiscal year. The reimbursement funds will be included in the revenue for FY 2021. In addition, an

\$81,331 adjustment was made in the General Fund due to a change in the accounting method of the city's Fire Cost Recovery revenue. In the 2020 fiscal year, the city contracted with Universal Credit Service to collect its Cost Recovery Revenue. The uncollected revenue is no longer recorded as a receivable, the city not only includes the funds as revenue when it is received. An accounting adjustment was made to the city's deferred revenue to account for this change and that resulted in an \$81,331 reduction to the fund balance.

Although the fiscal year ended in a deficit, this did not make a significant change to the city's overall fund balance. The city has a General Fund Balance of about 77 percent of annual expenditures.

The Sewer Fund showed a net decrease in cash of \$221,182. Much of this was offset by a SAW Grant reimbursement in the amount of \$192,614 that was requested in July 2020 and received from the State the next month. These expenses were recorded in FY 2020, but GAAP require the reimbursement to be recorded when the reimbursement was requested in FY 2021.

In FY 2020, the Sewer Fund purchased a sewer vacator truck at a cost of \$437,583. Overall, the fund ended the fiscal year in good shape.

During the fiscal year, the city of Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) continued to be very active. The ReJuv Ave. building on Mill Street was completed. ReJuv Ave. began construction of a two-story building on Mill Street during fiscal year 2019. The 111 Leroy Place project is currently under construction. This is a four-story building with the first-floor restaurant and retail. The second floor is planned for office with the third and fourth floor having a total of 14 apartments.

A construction/development company from Macomb County purchased the old Kmart building in FY 2019 and continued the renovation in FY 2020 for several new tenants that include Old Navy, Oshkosh-Carter's, TJ Maxx, Skechers, and Five Below (these store are now open). Several other commer-

cial properties made improvements as well as residential construction that continued.

The real estate values and home ownership have continued to improve in the city. New home construction has continued to improve. The number of new home being build continued to increase in FY 2020. Reported total construction value exceeded \$18.5 million.

The 2010 decennial census count showed a population gain of 11 percent in the previous 10 years. The current population of the city of Fenton is 11,746. The city of Fenton's population growth is an unusual trend in the State of Michigan. Population growth continued during the recession and projections by Genesee County indicate that growth in the city of Fenton will continue through at least 2035. With all of the businesses in the city, the daytime population is estimated at 50,000.

Markland said there is a high level of interest for developing in Fenton, as reflected by interest from business and residential developers. The city's location near several major metropolitan markets and its relatively new position as the commercial hub for southern Genesee, northern Livingston, and western Oakland counties, quality education systems, abundant natural resources, downtown development, commercial redevelopment and the overall quality of life improvements will continue to make Fenton an attractive community.

Markland said the city has continued to implement some cost reductions to address the economic challenges it faces. Wherever possible the City has made use of grants, or low interest funds to help meet the needs of the community.

Markland said it should be noted that the preparation of this comprehensive annual financial report could not have been accomplished without the efforts of City Treasurer Jon Satkowiak. He said Satkowiak's continued efforts to upgrade the City's accounting, financial reporting and information management systems have contributed significantly to the quality of the information being reported to the City Council and the citizens of Fenton.

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## Resident wants political signs removed

■ Says the flags, banners and signs are divisive — city to look into ordinance for any violations

By Sharon Stone

During the Fenton City Council meeting Monday, Jan. 11, via Zoom, Fenton resident James Lengel brought forth a concern of his during public comment time.

Lengel told city council that political signs are still up following the Nov. 3 election. "Is the city willing to enforce its code?" he said. He added that there are still flags, banners and signs.

City Manager Lynn Markland said he has seen mostly yard signs.

Lengel said the ordinance is vague and should be revised. "It's (the signs) divisive," he said.

Mayor Sue Osborn said, "They need to come down. I totally agree

with that."

Lengel said, "I appreciate the mayor. You have the same concern as me."

Councilwoman Tracy Bottecchi said, "When a flag has a year on it, it's more like a yard sign."

Markland said political signs fall under temporary signs within Fenton code of ordinances.

Per the city's website, the definition of temporary sign is: A sign not constructed or intended for long-term use. Examples of temporary signs include signs, which announce a coming attraction, a new building under construction, a community or civic project, or other special events that occur for a limited period of time such as a garage or estate sale.

Markland said he would look into the complaint.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■

**HEY FACEBOOK LOVER:** as private companies, do AT&T, Consumer's Energy and Flint's TV12 get to deny service to whomever they want? Of course not. Then why the exception for Facebook, Twitter and Google? Your, 'they are private' argument doesn't hold water.

■■■

**COMPANIES ARE CHARGING** late fees claiming the post office is not doing its job. No matter where you mail, some received in five days, others two weeks. What gives?

■■■

**NO VOTER FRAUD?** Texas AG just announced the arrest of Rachel

Rodriguez for election fraud, illegal voting, unlawfully assisting people voting by mail, and unlawfully possessing an official ballot. Each charge constitutes a felony under the Texas Election Code.

■■■

**I WILL CONTINUE** to be and vote Republican. Pelosi or no one else will ever scare me away from voting my conscience.

■■■

**SO, JOHN SULLIVAN**, the guy who filmed the shooting of Ashli Babbitt in the Capitol was arrested by the feds. He claimed he was an observer, but FBI says he was a participant in the riot and actually egged people on. If you haven't heard of him, ask yourself why.

■■■

## Fenton approves nine-month extension with Republic Services

■ Provides time for analyzing and comparing four other qualified bidders' proposals

By Sharon Stone

During the Fenton City Council meeting Monday, Jan. 11 via Zoom, the council agreed to an interim extension contract with Republic Services (solid waste, recycle and yard waste services).

The city of Fenton undertook a thorough and comprehensive solid waste and recycle bid process initiated in 2020 with the culmination of bid submission on Dec. 21, 2020. Five qualified bidders from the process submitted proposals. The bids were extensive in nature with multiple options for the city to consider.

In order to have a comprehensive and thorough process to the city's benefit (the city's residents), Michael Hart, assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) executive director told city council that he believes it is in the city's best interest to provide for an interim agreement. This

interim agreement would be for up to nine months ending Sept. 30, while the bids are analyzed and compared.

During the Zoom meeting Councilman Sean Sage said nine months seemed like an excessive amount of time. Hart told Sage and the others that time was needed for negotiations to tie with the fiscal year. Councilwoman Tracy Bottecchi also expressed concerns over a nine-month time period. Hart said the length of time could be much shorter to finalize a selection.

Councilman Scott Grossmeyer said part of the process is to allow whichever business is chosen time to prepare, which could mean making trucks available and to have bins ordered. "There's a lot there," Grossmeyer said.

Mayor Pro Tem Pat Lockwood said she hopes to have this resolved in six months.

At Hart's recommendation, city council voted to approve the interim extension with Republic Services and for the city manager to have the authority to sign the agreement.

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# Task Force accomplishes bipartisan jail reform

## ■ Local rep involved in research, legislation of jail reform task force

By Hannah Ball

The Michigan Legislature accomplished bipartisan jail reform in 2020, and one local state representative was a part of it.

State Rep. Mike Mueller (R- Dist. 51) was appointed to the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration, which was established by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer with Executive Order No. 2019-10 in the summer of 2019.

Since then, the bipartisan task force has pushed dozens of bills meant to reduce Michigan incarceration numbers without endangering the public. Jail populations in Michigan have tripled in the last 40 years, and the task force found that low-level infractions, such as driving on a suspended license and misdemeanors,

were a large reason for this.

"As a former law enforcement officer, it will always be my duty to protect our state and the individuals who reside here. My goal is to help in crafting common sense criminal justice reform that holds the offender accountable while not tying the hands of law enforcement and limiting judicial discretion. Our police officers and judges know the community the best and should not be overshadowed by special interest and elected officials," Mueller said.

The task force saw progress when Whitmer recently signed into law 20 bills related to criminal justice reform.

HB 5846 eliminates suspending some-

one's license for violations unrelated to dangerous driving. HB 5853 reclassifies traffic misdemeanors as civil infractions.

HB 5854 eliminates mandatory minimum jail sentences in the Motor Vehicle Code for certain offenses, deletes provisions that require some sentences to be served consecutively, and allows certain terms of imprisonment to be suspended if the defendant agrees to a specialty court program.

Mueller sponsored SB 1046, which makes changes to the state's junior compensation fund, and he also sponsored HB 5802, which is separate from the Task Force. However, it still relates to jail reform by reducing the penalties for driving with a suspended license. Mueller said

many people can't afford to pay a parking ticket or a speeding ticket, their license gets suspended, and from there, it only takes one run-in with law enforcement for them to get arrested. It passed in the House by a vote of 105-2 in July and is moving through the legislative process.

SB 1046 allows law enforcement more discretion for issuing citations for many misdemeanors instead of making an arrest. SB 1047 ensures that summons will be used for most instances in which someone fails to appear for a court date instead of making an arrest. This relates to first-time failures. SB 1048 states that if a punishment includes imprisonment and a fine, then the court may impose one or the other for most misdemeanors and certain felonies.

The bills also give more leeway for young people who commit offenses. SB 1049 expands eligibility under the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act, allowing for the

See **JAIL REFORM** on 12

**“My main priority on this Task Force was simplifying our justice system while also ensuring that the safety of our citizens and law enforcement officers was held at the forefront of discussions.”**

**Mike Mueller**  
Michigan representative 51<sup>st</sup> District

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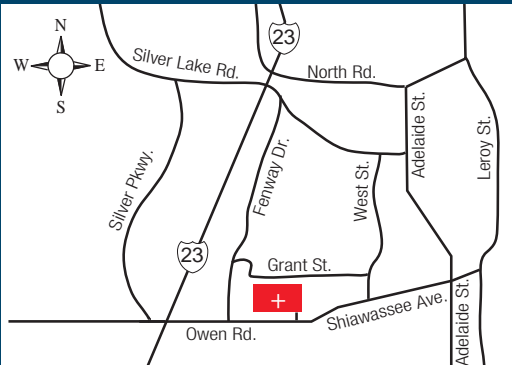
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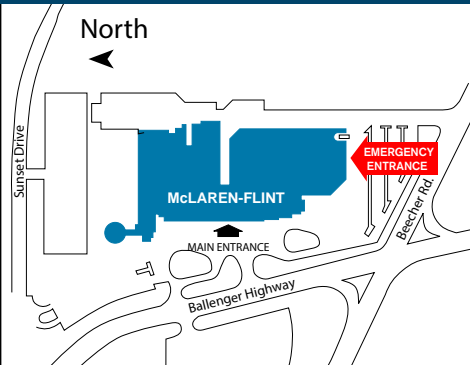




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## PUZZLING

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Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

## Battle Alley closes to cars permanently

■Area reserved for pedestrians is increasingly popular destination for outdoor dining

By Sharon Stone

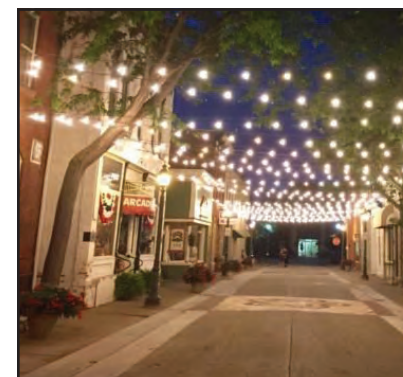
On Tuesday, Jan. 12, Holly Village Council unanimously approved a proposal to close Battle Alley to vehicular traffic between S. Saginaw and S. Broad streets.

The closure has been discussed for years, however, in May 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the village council authorized the closure of Battle Alley Street in order to create an outdoor dining area.

This decision was made to assist the restaurant and bars in the downtown area. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) then purchased outdoor tables, umbrellas and chairs that people used after buying carryout food from local establishments.

Holly Village Manager Jerry Walker explained to council members in a Jan. 5 memo that it was without question that conversion of Battle Alley from vehicle use to a pedestrian corridor and meeting place has been an unmitigated success.

Walker added that comments received from the public and busi-



nesses regarding the conversion have been overwhelmingly in support of leaving it only open to pedestrians.

In the future, if the village council determines they wish to reopen the street to vehicles, it could be accomplished by a majority vote of council.

During public comment time, Kristin Watt of Holly said she was in favor of keeping Battle Alley closed.

"It's a beautiful thing to see," she said. "It's brought new people to town."

Ryan Shiel of Holly also spoke in favor of keeping Battle Alley

closed to vehicles.

Walker said Battle Alley is a very popular pedestrian area. "It's a good environment," he said.

Alley Street will remain open to vehicles.

**“It’s a good environment.”**

**Jerry Walker**  
Holly Village manager

## JAIL REFORM

Continued from Page 10

deferred judgment of guilt for 24- and 25-year-olds. Before this bill, 18-24-year-olds were eligible for status under HYTA, and now it includes individuals that are up to 26 years old.

SB 1050 helps reduce probation terms and caps jail sentences for technical probation violations, and SB 1051 allows the courts to tailor parole conditions to address risks and needs of the individual.

Other bills include Clean Slate for Kids packages and the Good Moral Character Package, which makes it easier for former offenders to obtain occupational licenses so they can move forward with their lives post-conviction.

"The Task Force made great head-

way last year toward accomplishing lasting reforms in Michigan. Despite COVID-19 bringing the entire state to a halt, we were able to create responsible reforms that hold both offenders and our justice system accountable. The Task Force was able to pass legislation that focused on reforming minor driving offenses and low-level misdemeanors. COVID-19 put a huge strain on our state as well as local budgets," Mueller said.

"Because of this, we focused on implementing low cost reforms that would generate the greatest positive impact to individuals of the state. My main priority on this Task Force was simplifying our justice system while also ensuring that the safety of our citizens and law enforcement officers was held at the forefront of discussions."

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# Igloos, tents and heaters coming to Holly

## ■ Village Council executes interlocal agreement with Oakland County to help bars and restaurants

By Sharon Stone

During its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 12, via Zoom, the Holly Village Council approved executing a proposed restaurant and bar relief program — interlocal agreement with Oakland County.

The village of Holly, through the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the village manager's office has been working with Oakland County

on various programs to provide assistance to restaurants and bars affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Village Manager Jerry Walker said assistance from Oakland County has consisted of not only financial support, but Oakland County also is in the process of providing "Outdoor Dining Winterization" packages to requesting restaurants and bars.

As part of this process, the village is required to execute the interlocal agreement between Oakland County and Holly Village.

Through this agreement, there is no cost to the village for participating in



Igloos and tents such as the one shown here are available for Holly Village bars and restaurants after Holly Village Council executed an interlocal agreement with Oakland County. **Submitted photo**

this program. Some of the outdoor dining packages will be deployed to Battle Alley to be used by surrounding food establishments.

Walker said winterization packages include tents, igloos, heaters and more.

DDA Director Nick Klempp will be the contact person for businesses requesting the winterization packages. Currently, the village has two greenhouse type enclosures and five igloo style tents.

Walker said so far, the Holly Hotel, Northern Oak Brewery and Villagers Restaurant are to get the greenhouse style tents. The igloos will be placed in Battle Alley.

## INDOOR DINING

Continued from Front Page

"The efforts we have made together to protect our families, frontline workers and small business owners are working," Whitmer said. "While there has been a slight uptick in our percent positivity rate, our cases per million have plateaued and more hospital beds are becoming available. Today, we are confident that MDHHS can lift some of the protocols that were previously in place."

The epidemic order continues to temporarily pause indoor dining in bars and restaurants, but they can continue to offer outdoor dining, carry-out and delivery. The working plan is to open indoor dining with mitigation measures, capacity limits and a curfew on Feb. 1, but the ultimate decision depends on data continuing to stabilize. Additional details on the reopening pathway are expected next week, according to the press release.

On Wednesday, the Michigan Licensed Beverage Association (MLBA) issued its own statement following the governor's press conference. The statement read, "Bars, restaurants and other businesses in the hospitality industry were looking forward to reopening on Jan. 16," said MLBA Executive Director Scott Ellis. "In fact, we've been ready to reopen for a long time. The state's data indicated that we weren't a problem industry when we weren't unfairly shut down in November."

During her speech, Whitmer said that the reopening would likely require bars and restaurants to abide by strong safety

measures, including mask requirements, capacity limits and a potential curfew.

"We hope this is done right. If requirements are too restrictive, many businesses may choose to remain closed because it just won't be worth it for them," Ellis said. "Businesses aren't designed to survive on 25 or 50 percent of their normal revenue."

Whitmer said that more details regarding the Feb. 1 reopening will be released later this week.

"At the end of the day, an additional two-week closure means more businesses will close their doors forever, communities will lose their gathering places and workers will find themselves desperately seeking employment in an economy that's in shambles," Ellis said.

## COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

### CLOSED

- Indoor dining at restaurants and bars
- Trampoline parks and indoor water parks
- Contact sports, except professional sports
- Any businesses that can have employees work from home

### OPEN

- Indoor group fitness classes and non-contact sports
- Two household gatherings, but with precautions
- Small outdoor gatherings of 25 people
- Funerals, but limited to 25 people
- Theaters, movie theaters, stadiums and arenas

- Bowling alleys, casinos, bingo halls and arcades
- Retail
- Preschool through 12th grade, by local district's choice
- Childcare facilities
- Manufacturing, construction and other that cannot be remotely done
- Public transportation

- Hair salons and barbershops
- Gyms, ice rinks and pools for individual exercise and extra spacing
- Restaurants and bars for takeout, outdoor seating and delivery
- Professional sports, but no spectators

Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services



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## GUEST VIEWPOINT

Michael Mueller  
(R-Fenton Township)  
State representative for  
the 51st district



### Nonsensical indoor dining ban must come to an end

Hardworking Michiganders who make their livings cooking food, waiting tables, washing dishes and running local restaurants were dealt another punch in the gut this week.

The initial “three-week pause” on indoor dining that was put into place by the Whitmer administration Nov. 18, 2020 has again been extended, dealing a tough blow to many in our food and beverage industry who are hanging on by a thread.

With the new orders in place, indoor dining at Michigan restaurants will have been shut down due to the administration’s order for more than 70 consecutive days. Listen to anyone in the industry, as I have, and they’ll tell you that operating a restaurant on take-out orders alone is unsustainable. Families whose livelihoods revolve around operating small restaurants are draining their life savings. Workers who are just trying to pay their bills and put food on the table for their families are at a financial breaking point.

If this goes on for much longer,

we won’t have many establishments left to reopen once the Whitmer administration finally gives their permission.

While the governor has repeatedly promised to revise the emergency health order should COVID cases decline, she has not.

When the indoor dining ban began Nov. 18, 2020, data shows COVID-19 case rate was 776 cases per 1,000,000 residents. As of Jan. 7, our rate was 165 per 1,000,000 residents. Michigan’s share of hospital beds with COVID-19 patients has declined from 17.5 percent on Nov. 18, 2020 to 11.8 percent on Jan. 7. Our seven-day average of positive tests declined from 13.8 percent on Nov. 18 to 9.7 percent on Jan. 7.

All three of those metrics have been identified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as key indicators of a safe restart. We’ve improved. And yet, here we are again with another extension. This time, the governor “hopes” dine-in service will be allowed again once we hit Feb. 1.

This nonsensical ban has gone on for too long and unnecessarily hurt too many hardworking people. To top it off, the governor recently vetoed funding needed to extend unemployment benefits for Michiganders filing in 2021 — denying people who are out of work through no fault of their own the added six weeks of benefits put in place to help address the pandemic.

Instead of continuing to target specific industries, I urge the governor to engage with her partners in the Legislature about how we can safely reopen our economy. The chair of our House Appropriations Committee recently said that’s what needs to happen before we can have meaningful conversations about the next steps in allocating federal COVID-19 relief funds. And I agree. It’s next-to-impossible for my colleagues and I to properly allocate relief funds when the governor will give no real specifics on when all industries will be allowed to safely reopen, or what metrics must be met before they do.

## Monday is Martin Luther King Jr. Day

■ A time to reflect on civil rights issues across the globe

Each year on the third Monday of January we observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This Jan. 18, make the holiday more than just a day off and take time to reflect and take action on civil rights issues across the globe.

### HISTORY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

The concept of Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday was promoted by labor unions. After King’s death, U.S. Rep. John Conyers and U.S. Sen. Edward Brooke introduced a bill in Congress to make King’s birthday a national holiday.

The bill first came to a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1979; however, it fell five votes short of the number needed for passage. Two of the main arguments mentioned by opponents were that a paid holiday for federal employees would be too expensive and that a holiday to honor a private citizen would be contrary to longstanding tradition, as King never held public office.

At the time, only two other figures had national holidays honoring them: George Washington and Christopher Columbus.

Soon after, the King Center looked for support from the corporate community and the general public. The success of this strategy was cemented when musician Stevie Wonder released the single “Happy Birthday” to popularize the campaign in 1980 and hosted the Rally for Peace Press Conference in 1981. Six million signatures were collected for a petition for Congress to pass the law, and is considered the largest petition in favor of an issue in U.S. history.

President Reagan originally opposed the holiday, citing cost concerns. But on Nov. 2, 1983, Reagan signed a bill, proposed by Rep. Katie Hall, to create a federal holiday honoring King. The bill had passed the Senate by a count of 78 to 22, and the House of Representatives by 338 to 90. The holiday was observed for the first time on Jan.



20, 1986.

It’s observed on the third Monday of January rather than directly on Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday because it follows the guidelines of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act.

### 5 LESSER KNOWN FACTS ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING.

- **His birth name** was Michael. The civil rights leader was given the name Michael King Jr. at birth. Later, his father changed his own name as well as of his son to Martin Luther, after the Protestant Reformation leader.
- **King started college** at the age of 15.
- **King skipped grades** 9 and 12, and enrolled at Morehouse College in 1944.
- **‘I Have a Dream’** was not his first speech. Six years before his iconic speech at Lincoln Memorial, King spoke during the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in 1957.
- **King was imprisoned** a lot. According to the King Center, Martin Luther King went to jail 29 times.
- **His last public speech** foreshadowed his death. In his last speech the night before he was assassinated, King said, “Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I’m not concerned about that now, I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.”

Source: [nationalholiday.com](http://nationalholiday.com)

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 Free for members

General admission includes the play area for kids, historic vehicles exhibit, *Roll, Drop, Bounce*, and Education Station activities. Traveling exhibit admission includes *Treasure!* and all general admission exhibits. Sloan Museum is funded in part by the Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment Millage. Your tax dollars are at work.



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## PLAY AREA

The play area has been carefully reconfigured to ensure social distancing. Begin in the house area and play in the grocery store and kitchen. Rotate to the playground area for climbing fun and balance toys. In the young children's area, explore with mats, building toys, puzzles, and a reading nook.



## EDUCATION STATION

Friendly museum educators will guide you through hands-on science activities at the Education Station. Different materials and projects are available every day. Try out experiments and make observations. Practice your making, building, and engineering skills and take your creations home with you.

**Sloan Museum at Courtland | 4190 E. Court St. Burton, MI 48509 | 810-237-3450 | [SloanLongway.org/Courtland](https://SloanLongway.org/Courtland)**



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## Fenton Center of Hope builds community by strengthening families

The vision of the Fenton Center of Hope is to serve neighbors who are hungry and in need of resources resulting in a better quality of life. The nonprofit exists to glorify God as a source of hope for families in desperate need, providing Christ centered programs of excellence to local residents in crisis situations.

Led by Directors Bob and Jennifer Strygulec, the Fenton Center of Hope gives back in four main ways:

### **Food Pantry:**

The Fenton Center of Hope food pantry is set up as a mini grocery store so that people can choose the food they need and prefer rather than simply getting a one-size-fits-all box of food. For more information or to schedule a visit call 810-620-8300.

### **Baby Closet:**

The Fenton Center of Hope operates a one-stop shop for

families in need with children's clothes sizes newborn through size 5T. The organization provides diapers, wipes, formula, baby food and equipment and their team of experienced volunteers are available to help new mothers through life experience and prayers. The baby closet is set up for guests to come in and select clothing and items for their babies and young children by appointment. For more information or to schedule a visit call 810-620-8300.

### **Pregnancy Resource Center:**

The Pregnancy Resource Center provides help and support to women experiencing unexpected pregnancy. The Fenton Center of Hope volunteers believe every baby is a blessing, but they understand that certain life situations may make a new pregnancy seem overwhelming. It's their goal to provide a safe and welcoming environment where new

parents will find support and hope. The Fenton Center of Hope offers individuals and couples support and resources through one-on-one counseling. For more information call 810-620-8167.

### **Classes and Community:**

The Fenton Center of Hope offers:

**Classes** covering topics such as cooking, budgeting, parenting, gardening, crafting, menu planning, nutrition and exercise. The classes change month to month. Contact the Center directly to be updated on the class schedule.

**Job skills training** including resume writing, interview coaching, computer skills and employment searching. The Fenton Center of Hope encourages those desiring to provide for their families by equipping them with the skills needed to make themselves as prepared as possible for employment.

**Small groups** that meet once a week to study a topic, book or video series in a small group environment. The groups provide an atmosphere for personal growth and a place to build friendships. The groups normally require a 6-8 week commitment.

Due to COVID-19 the Fenton Center of Hope had to cancel its biggest fundraiser. That combined with a bigger community need brought on by the pandemic, means the center could use your help. Donations can be given in a number of ways including physical goods like personal hygiene items, money, stock and more. Volunteers are also needed. If you are a resident of Fenton, Holly, Linden or Grand Blanc and are interested in volunteering with the Fenton Center of Hope call the office at 810-620-8300 or visit [www.fentoncenterofhope.org](http://www.fentoncenterofhope.org) for more information.





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## CONSUMPTION ZONE

Continued from Page 3

Restaurants and bars will have to obtain a special license from the MLCC at a cost of \$270 and all drinks must be served in a special cup approved by the village.

Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh researched other areas that had taken advantage of the new social district law and said there were several concepts that Holly could use.

Within the social district, there would be a designated "consumption zone."

Signage would point people to the area where they could enjoy their food and alcoholic beverages. Battle Alley would be the main consumption zone. The Holly Village Council approved the permanent closure of Battle Alley to vehicular traffic on Tuesday, Jan. 12.

Through his involvement with youth groups, Narsh said this type of social district isn't an environment that encourages youth involvement.

Businesses licensed to take part in the cocktails-to-go program in the social district would be required to use clearly

marked or colored cups to show they were purchased at a participating business. "The cups would be recognizable," Narsh said.

An administrative fee might be added to the price of the approved cups in order to cover the cost of additional cleanup in the area.

The police chief said there are three municipalities in Oakland County that have social districts and there are 23 in Michigan. He said police have made no arrests related to public intoxication or disturbances.

"People who participate, get it," Narsh said. "They enjoy it."

"They have all been very successful with very few issues to do with the zone," he said, adding that these social districts, and especially the consumption area, become a "family restaurant without walls."

"It allows for everyone to come to the participating business, grab food and a beverage, and come to that zone and relax with their families. Across Michigan, that has been a success," he said.

Narsh anticipates the social district will be up and running in the next few months.

He called Battle Alley the "perfect commons area," and even after COVID-19, he believes the social district will still be very popular.

Narsh said Holly police and reserve officers would regularly monitor the area and residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to police.

The social district law allows each municipality to have total control of boundaries, signage, hours of operation and other details.

Downtown Holly has become a popular wedding destination. Narsh said if wedding guests want to enjoy a beverage in the consumption zone, they would be required to purchase it from a licensed establishment. You cannot bring in your own alcoholic beverage.

More details about the social district and consumption zone will be discussed at the Holly Village Council meeting in February.

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**Kent County** — Grand Rapids, Rockford

**Lenawee County** — Adrian, Tecumseh

**Muskegon County** — Muskegon

**St. Clair County** — Port Huron

**Oakland County** — Clarkston, Farmington and Lake Orion

**St. Joseph County** — Sturgis

**Washtenaw County** — Dexter, Milan

**Wayne County** — Belleville, Grosse Point Park, Northville

**Wexford County** — Cadillac

POLICE & FIRE  
**REPORT**

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

**GOOD SAMARITAN IN HOLLY  
TURNS IN CELL PHONE**

On Monday, Jan. 4, at 1:50 p.m., a Good Samaritan found a cell phone in the downtown district of Holly and turned it in to the Holly Police Department. An officer was able to determine the owner and returned the lost property.

**HOLLY POLICE ASSIST  
INDIVIDUAL WHO NEEDED HELP**

On Monday, Jan. 4, at 5:22 p.m., Holly police were dispatched to a residential address to assist a family member who had obtained a court order to get mental health care for a relative. The officers located the individual in the Order and transported them to the cooperative person to Common Ground to get needed help.

**ANGRY EX EMPLOYEE?**

On Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 7:21 a.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to the police station to speak with the owner of a business who had recently terminated an employee and may have caused damage to company property. The owner reported records were destroyed or missing that were in the person's control. Holly officers are investigating.

**SUSPICIOUS PERSON IN HOLLY**

On Friday, Jan. 8, at 11:11 p.m., Holly police officers were asked to check a residence for a suspicious person. The homeowner was leaving her work and reported her teenage child and a friend were home and heard someone knocking at a window. The homeowner said she recently received a message from a former boyfriend that he was at her home. Police responded and searched the area. Officers did not locate anyone, or find indications someone was outside the window. Officers are investigating.

MICHIGAN  
**VOTES**

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, Dec. 18. On Thursday, Dec. 17, the House was in past midnight, so this report does not include its votes for that day. A brief supplement be published next Tuesday.

**Senate Bill 1215: Authorize local government bridge operation deals with developers**

To establish rules for a city that contracts with a private developer (a "public-private partnership") to build and operate a toll bridge for as long as 75 years. This is said to be focused on Bay City.

**Passed 94 to 15 in the House**

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES  
YES

**POD SITE**

Continued from Page 4

**Will students be vaccinated during the school day?** No. The current vaccine is only approved for students ages 16 and older. Any individual under the age of 18 will need parent permission to receive the vaccine. Again, this will all be scheduled through the GCHD.

**How will the POD site work?**

Weather permitting, the plan is to run the site in the parking lot. The GCHD has obtained tents, heaters, generators, etc. to help make the process as comfortable and efficient as possible. Vaccines are administered while you remain in your vehicle.

If you have not decided whether you will receive the vaccine and you are looking for additional information, the GCHD recommended Medcram videos, which can be found on YouTube.

Let's stay positive and continue to push forward.

**Senate Bill 1251: Borrow money for Flint water contamination settlements**

To authorize borrowing \$600 million to resolve and settle claims for the Flint water contamination litigation, as part of a settlement agreement. Senate Bill 1252 specifies annual payments of \$35 million through 2050-51 fiscal year.

**Passed 103 to 5 in the House**

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES  
YES

**Senate Bill 1105: Create alternative tax for multi-acre industrial solar installations**

To exempt large industrial solar energy arrays covering many acres from the state "personal property tax," and instead levy a tax on an installation equal to \$3,500 per megawatt of the solar panels' nominal "nameplate capacity," with the revenue allocated to different taxing units using the same formula as regular property taxes. The

Senate Fiscal Agency estimates the bill would likely reduce local collections by a modest amount, but that state school tax receipts potentially could be reduced.

**Passed 73 to 34 in the House**

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES  
YES

**House Resolution 342: Subpeona Detroit and Livonia clerks for 2020 election irregularities information**

To grant the House Standing Committee on Oversight the authority to issue subpoenas, administer oaths and examine books and records of persons, agencies or institutions related to the 2020 primary and general elections. The committee issued subpoenas to the Livonia and Detroit clerks on the same day the resolution was adopted.

**Passed 58 to 51 in the House**

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES  
YES

An advertisement for myfenton.com showcasing a variety of printable coupons. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for News, Sports, Living, Classifieds, Business/Coupons, Video, Opinions, and Obituaries. Below this, several coupons are displayed: a \$9 meal coupon for pizza, a \$85 coupon for a full month of dental services, and a 'FREE CRAZY BREAD' coupon. A large orange banner in the center reads 'PRINTABLE COUPONS!'. At the bottom, there are images of various products including a bag of Lay's Classic Classique potato chips, a bottle of Coca-Cola, a container of Country Crock butter, a bottle of Wisk Deep Clean stain remover, a bottle of French's yellow mustard, and a bottle of Green Works all-purpose cleaner. The myfenton.com logo is prominently displayed in the center.



## VACCINES

Continued from Front Page

the fourth highest number of COVID-19 deaths in the state.

Young said the U.S. Health and Human Services approved Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's request to release the vaccines that were being held back by the federal government as second doses.

"The reality is that in Genesee County, we have been having difficulty getting vaccines from the state, and the state has been having difficulty getting vaccines from the federal government," Young said.

They hope and expect to see this change soon.

Dr. Pamela Hackert, who leads the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) as of last week, said they're working hard to put together a seamless response as they receive more vaccines. Approximately 150,000 people are in Phase 1B. Whitmer recently announced people in this phase can start receiving vaccines.

Those eligible to receive the vaccine are healthcare workers, residents 65 years or older, and now Phase 1B, which is frontline essential workers including police officers, first responders, frontline state and federal workers, jail and prison staff, and preK-12 teachers and childcare providers.

Hackert said they put in a request for vaccines every week to the state, and the state requests them from the federal government.

Last week, Michigan had 260,000 requests for vaccine doses but only received 63,000 doses from the federal government.

"The state doesn't know how many they are getting until they get it, and



Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson speaks during his weekly press briefing Wednesday, Jan. 13. Photos: Hannah Ball

we don't know how many we're getting until we get it," she said.

Genesee County received 975 vaccines this past week. For next week, they requested 3,000 doses. They'll know this coming Monday how many they will receive. Hackert said the goal is for 75 percent of these to go to people age 65 and up, and the remaining will go to other people in 1B.

Eventually, vaccine distribution will take place in multiple locations in the county multiple times a day once they have more supply.

Swanson said they're in contact with different groups for vaccine

distribution, including the National Guard, private EMS workers and more to create different places where people can get vaccinated.

"This is going slow to go fast," Swanson said. "Eligibility doesn't always mean availability."

Sheriff's deputies will be at these locations.

"I've mentioned before how proud I am of the paramedic division. I'm still a paramedic. It's that medic division that's going to be key in giving those vaccinations, to assist the health department, the nurses, the other private EMS that have volunteered to be part of that service. You're going to see faces that you've probably seen before. It'll be a rapid, efficient process. We're going to cover every corner of the county. There's nobody left behind," he said.

The GCHD will post daily updates, including the number of vaccines they receive and the number that's been administered.

"To be unclear is to be unkind. We don't want anybody in our community to feel as though they don't know the answer," Swanson said.

Genesee County was requesting to receive the Moderna vaccine, because it doesn't need

to be stored at very low temperatures like the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, but the Moderna waitlist is longer. They're now receiving the Pfizer vaccine. The



Dr. Pamela Hackert, who leads the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD), talks about the vaccine distribution plan in the county.

county hospitals store the vaccines for county medical professionals.

"We're not sitting on vaccines. If they're here, we're distributing them. There's no weekends and holidays off for us," Swanson said.

They're also working on making sure people who request a vaccine receive confirmation that they've been heard.

### HOW TO REQUEST A VACCINE APPOINTMENT:

Go to [gchd.us/covid.html](http://gchd.us/covid.html) and fill out the information.

Hackert reminded the public to answer your phone even if you don't know the number, because this is how they will contact people.

Even with the vaccine, which is approximately 95 percent effective, Hackert said one in 20 people will contract COVID-19 if exposed to it. People who get the vaccine can still spread it to others.

"Even if you get the shot, we still have to keep our masks on...masks are very protective," she said.

**“The reality is that in Genesee County, we have been having difficulty getting vaccines from the state, and the state has been having difficulty getting vaccines from the federal government.”**

**Mark Young**

*Genesee County Board of Commissioners chairman*

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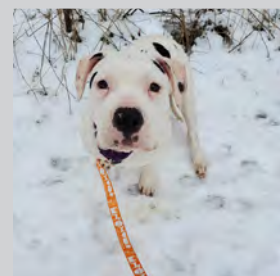
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## DECLINE

Continued from Front Page  
the results and the aftermath, I think they'll be more confident. It's new. Nobody in the world has ever experienced this. I think that number will go up," Swanson said.

Swanson received his first dose of the Pfizer vaccine a few weeks ago. He was a little "achy" after receiving the first dose and he took two Tylenol. His second dose was on Tuesday, Jan. 12. He felt no symptoms after this dose.

"I'm a health professional. I understand that we got the best minds in the world — because it's a world pandemic — and I didn't have any concerns," he said.

Dr. Pamela Hackert, who leads the Genesee County Health Department, said she spoke to the first responders who turned it down.

"They actually are doing it more from a humanitarian benefit, and (they're) saying I am young, I am healthy. I would rather it go to my grandmother or someone else's grandmother right now," she said. "They're saying I want to save it for people who need it more than I do."

Because they're in the Phase 1B group, they can request to get vaccinated at any time.

Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater said the police department had an opportunity to receive the Pfizer vaccine a week ago. He said approximately 50 percent of his staff chose to be inoculated at that time.

Slater got the vaccine and said he took it because he doesn't want to be the cause of someone else getting the virus, by unknowingly spreading it. The only side effect he experienced was that his arm was sore for a short time.

*Editor Sharon Stone contributed to this story.*

**“They’re saying I want to save it for people who need it more than I do.”**

**Dr. Pamela Hackert**  
Genesee County Health Department  
health officer

## NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

### HOLLY CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HOSTS 2021 BLOOD DRIVES

Donors have a choice. The first blood drive is Saturday, Jan. 30 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The second blood drive is Tuesday, Feb. 16, from 1 to 7 p.m. Both are at Holly Calvary United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 15010 N. Holly Rd., Holly. To make an appointment, scan the QR codes, use the Versiti app, call 866-642-5663 or visit Versiti.org. The blood drives welcome walk-in donors when scheduling allows.

**Sat. January 30**

8 am - 1 pm

SCAN ME



**Tues. February 16**

1 pm - 7 pm



The 2021 Tuesday blood drives (1-7 p.m.) are Feb. 16, April 20, June 15, Aug. 17, Oct. 19, and Dec. 14. The 2021 Saturday blood drives (8 a.m.-1 p.m.) are Jan. 30, March 27 and May 22. (Tentative Saturday dates depending on COVID and blood center closures: July 24, Sept. 25 and Nov. 20.) Tuesday blood drives

have a total of 84 appointment times, while Saturday blood drives have 60 appointment times. Go to Versiti.org, versiti.org/ways-to-give/our communities/Michigan or donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip – this is a zip code search for Versiti blood drives near the donor.

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# LifeStyles

Times



The Tryon home “the castle” on E. South Holly Road in Fenton was damaged by fire in 1959 and four children were killed.

## The CASTLES OF FENTON

Treasured works of art by Tryon family —  
and heartbreaking tragedy

### By Sharon Stone

Did you know that Fenton was once home to two castles involving the same family? Most people nowadays do not know that.

One castle that was in town dated back to 1898, when it was built by L.J. Tryon. The address does not exist anymore, however, the ground it once stood on is the northwest corner of where Henry Street would have met (South Street) W. Rockwell Street if Henry Street had not been turned into a dead end street north of this spot. The castle was demolished in 1919 and there are condominiums there now.

The other castle, known as “the castle” was built on E. South Holly Road, just east of Carnes Street, on a small island on the south shore of the Fenton Millpond. It was built in the 1930s by Roy Tryon, the son of L. J. Tryon. It was demolished in 1973. Another home was built in this spot in the 1974, according to Fenton City records.

On the northwest corner of what would be Henry Street and Rockwell Street was a three-story brick mansion owned by Mina Boothe. This mansion was known as the Boothe Home. Mina Boothe gave painting lessons to Fenton residents.

It was destroyed by fire in 1897 when

a kerosene lamp broke. One year later, in 1898, L.J. Tryon acquired the property and with the help of his sons, built a castle with turrets and watchtowers.

A nearby city-owned gravel pit at that time was approaching 60 feet deep and it kept getting larger and closer to Tryon’s castle. Eventually, the castle had to be vacated and demolished. In exchange, the city gave L.J. Tryon’s son, Roy, property on the Fenton Mill Pond.

Following in his father’s footsteps, Roy Tryon, with the help of his son, Luke and brother, Vere, started building a castle. They worked on it for 23 years

See **CASTLES** on 23



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L. J. Tryon built this castle in the area of Henry Street, near Rockwell Street in 1898. It was demolished in 1919. Condominiums are now on this property.



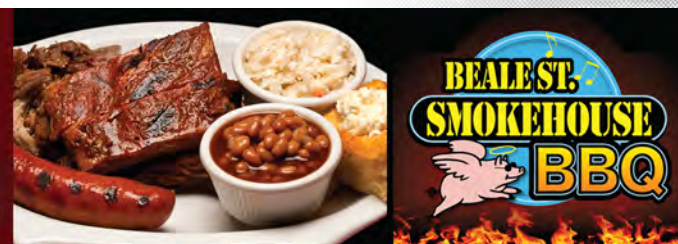
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## CASTLES

Continued from Page 22

and nearly finished it in the 1950s. This castle had turrets, a clock tower, a winding staircase and tunnels. It had a dungeon, banquet hall and fireplace on the second floor.

Having worked as a chemist for Dow, Roy invented the paint that he used on the outside of the castle. It was waterproof and was known to glow in the dark.

On Oct. 9, 1959, an oil space heater exploded in a bedroom. Roy Tryon's four step grandchildren were sleeping in that recently completed addition of the castle. The fire department was called, but couldn't reach the children.

In a Friday, Oct. 9, 1959 article by Richard B. Childs in *The Flint Journal*, it reported that siblings Shirley McKuen, 14, Lawrence McKuen, 13, Stanley McKuen, 11, and Donald McKuen, 10, perished in the fire earlier that day. Their parents were Grace Tryon (now married to William Tryon) and her late husband, Lawrence McKuen, who had died two years prior.

State police told the family that the children were found in their beds, indicating they had most likely died from asphyxiation. They are buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton.

According to the article, the Fenton Fire Department received a call at 3:40 a.m. from a 15-year-old neighbor, Diana Lacy, who said the Tryon house was on fire and the children were trapped inside. Firefighters were hampered when the truck could not cross a narrow bridge leading from the road to the home.

Roy and his wife, Lucy, son, William and William's wife, Grace, escaped and survived. Roy Tryon died in 1966 at the age of 70.

Half ruined by fire and water damage, Roy never rebuilt the castle. He died in 1966. His son, Luke, decided to sell the property.

Four charges of dynamite were used to take down the structure with 14-inch walls.



"The castle" owned by the Roy Tryon family was under construction for nearly 23 years.

The Flint Journal ran a story Oct. 9, 1959 detailing the castle fire that killed four children.

A March 15, 1973 article in the Tri-County News Advertiser by Lu Brabon recorded the demolition of the E. South Holly Road castle. Restoration had been attempted by Roy Tryon and his wife in 1963, who both lived on the second floor of the castle in a small brick and stone section.

Brabon wrote, "Through the year, it was charred by fire, beaten by weather and vandalized by thieves and trespassers. Later, the vandals who faced Roy Tryon on their own were ashamed and apologetic for their wrong doings. They paid for all the damages they did and became frequent visitors at the castle, becoming friends with the Tryons.

A home was built on the property in 1974 and Brent and Denise Griffin purchased it in 2016.

Denise Griffin said, "We love the property. Sitting on our back deck in the summer is like being up north. There are remnants of the castle still present." She said whenever they give someone who has lived in Fenton for a while directions to their home they tell the people, "you know where the castle was on S. Holly," and they instantly know where the Griffins live.

When asked about knowing that four children died in the castle fire, Denise said, "We have no worries about anything that previously happened on the property because when we moved in we prayed over the entire home and property and have had no issues."

Sources: Fenton Historical Society, Fenton Museum, Tri-County News Advertiser, Tri-County Times, Fenton Independent, The Detroit News and The Flint Journal.

**"... when we moved in we prayed over the entire home and property and have had no issues."**

**Denise Griffin**

*Current owner of old castle property*



# Winter sports slowly getting a start to its season

By David Troppens

It's happening slower than most want it to, but steadily it seems the prep winter sports season is gradually evolving to a complete start.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association's Representative Council approved a plan for adjusting schedules for the five winter "contact" sports which may begin non-contact activities on Saturday,

but will not be able to have full-contact practices until February.

Many other non-contact sports have much more promising dates. For example, ski teams have already competed this winter while the non-contact sports of gymnastics, bowling and swimming (boys swimming in the lower peninsula) will also begin Saturday with competitions starting before the end of the month. Swim teams

can start competing Jan. 22 and gymnastics and bowling squads can begin Jan 25. Masks will be required of all participants except when they are participating in gymnastics and swimming or diving.

The fall sports programs that had their seasons suspended have enjoyed success in their potential completions of their seasons. The only area team impacted in those ac-

See **WINTER** on 25



Winter sports are slowly getting started. Contact sports like basketball can hold non-contact practices starting Saturday. Photo: Mark Bolen

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 | PAGE 24 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

## Sports Times



Linden resident and professional boxer Joey Spencer will compete in his 12th bout Jan. 30 when he faces Isiah Seldon. Spencer is 11-0 during his career while Seldon holds a 14-3-1 record. Photo: Trappfotos

# Spencer's next professional bout scheduled for January 30

By David Troppens

Recently, the tri-county area's most popular professional boxer had some good news for his fans wondering when his next bout was going to happen.

"I'm excited to announce that I'm back on Jan. 30th," Spencer wrote on his Twitter account.

Spencer, who is 11-0 during his professional career, has had bouts cut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He had just two fights in 2020. The first was a unanimous decision win against Erik Spring on Jan. 18. The second was a fourth-round knock out victory of Shawn West on Aug. 22, a bout he dominated from the start.

"I'm really excited," Spencer said. "It's been a hard year not being able to fight. I only fought two times but personally it was a great year, being able to spend time with my wife and not having too much fighting to deal with. It's good to be back."

Spencer did have another

### Spencer's Recent Resume

Joey Spencer (11-0) will return to action Jan. 30 when he competes against Isiah Seldon. Here is a look at his last five bouts.		
Date	Opponent	Result
Aug. 22, 2020	Shawn West (5-1-0)	Win - KO 4th
Jan. 18, 2020	Erik Spring (13-3-2)	Win - Un. Dec.
Sept. 28, 2019	Travis Gambardella (5-0-2)	Win - KO 3rd
June 23, 2019	Akeem Black (5-2-0)	Win - Un. Dec.
April 13, 2019	Osias Vasquez (4-2-)	Win - Un. Dec

bout scheduled on Dec. 25 but before that fight was officially announced the pandemic era struck Spencer. He got the virus and had to take some time off.

"I got the virus when I was in Paris during training camp. I was supposed to fight Dec. 25. It was not announced and got pushed Jan. 30. I was supposed to fight then and COVID knocked me out. I had to be quarantined for 14 days. ... It wasn't bad. It was like a cold. After the quarantine it got bad and I had to deal with some symptoms, but I'm ready and excited to fight."

Spencer's opponent will be middleweight fighter Isi-

ah Seldon. Seldon is 32 and had a strong 7-0 start to his career. He now holds a 14-3-1 record with five knockouts for his career. He holds just a 3-2-1 record in his last six bouts, extending back to about the last two years, but during that period he has faced some solid competition. One of his losses was a first-round knock out against 19-0 Tyler Howard. Another of the losses came in October 2019 when he lost to Nikita Ababiy (10-0). His most recent bout was March 7, a second-round TKO victory against Darryl Bunting (4-6-2). Even when he's fought op-

See **SPENCER** on 25





Non-contact winter sports like boys swimming and diving may be able to compete in events before the end of January based on the current MHSAA regulations.

## WINTER

**Continued from Page 24**

tions is the Fenton varsity girls swim team which competed in the D2 state swim meet Saturday.

"We are glad to have three more sports join skiing in returning to full activity, but we understand the disappointment and frustration on the part of our athletes and coaches whose sports are not yet able to restart completely," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "We will continue to adjust schedules to provide all of our winter teams as substantial an experience this season as possible, as part of our greater plan this school year to play all three seasons to conclusion.

"We have shown with our remaining fall sports this month that our schools can participate safely, and we're confident teams will continue to take all the appropriate precautions as we jump back into indoor winter activities."

"I am thrilled that the girls swim team finally gets to finish their season with the State Meet this weekend," Fenton High School athletic director Michael Bakker said. "These ladies have worked so hard all season and have done everything they can to fin-

ish what was already a very successful year. In November when we first were going into the 'pause' we hosted an intrasquad meet and had a lot of fun and they swam really fast, but I told them then that in my heart I thought there was more work to do and now they can see the finish line. I am thrilled that after all the ups and downs and starts and pauses, that it is finally here and that the MHSAA, our team and all those around the state still finishing their season have persevered."

For the winter contact sports, basketball teams for both genders can have their first contact practice Feb. 1 and can start playing contests Feb. 4. The district postseason is scheduled to start the week of March 22 for both genders and the finals will be April 9 for the girls and April 10.

Competitive cheer teams will have their first contact practices Feb. 1 as well and can start competition Feb. 8. Their state tourney run begins with Districts the week of March 15 and ends with the Finals March 26 and 27.

Hockey begins contact practices Feb. 1 and can have their first contests on that date as well. Their postseason schedule follows the pattern of competitive cheer.

## SPENCER

**Continued from Page 24**

ponents with less-than-.500 records, many have been veterans with plenty of fights under their belt. Seven of his last eight fights his opponent had participated in at least 12 professional bouts with three competing in at least 21 professional fights. In his 18 bouts, he's fought 71 rounds, for an average of just more than three rounds a fight.

Some of his fights are available for viewing on the Internet. His fight against Spencer will likely be his biggest challenge of his career.

"I'm looking forward to seeing Isiah climb through the ropes and watch him put on display all the things he's been working on," Seldon's co-manager, Jim Kurtz, said in a recent interview. "We know that a good performance will open up a lot of doors for Isiah."

He's coming down (in weight) to fight me. That's pretty much all I know," Spencer said about his opponent. "He's fought a couple undefeated prospects and has some good experience. He's a bigger guy so hopefully he can take some better shots.

"I think he will be up there with my better opponents, but you never know that un-



Linden resident and professional boxer Joey Spencer celebrates after one of his victories during his career.

Photo: Trapphotos

til you get into the ring."

As has been the case of all but Spencer's first professional bout, the fight will be televised. This time it will be on either Fox Network or Fox Sports 1.

"Everybody tune in Fox on Jan.. 30," Spencer said. "I can't wait to bring some good excitement for my fans. I appreciate support as usual."

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# VILLAGE OF HOLLY PUBLIC HEARING

## Community Development Block Grant Funds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village of Holly will hold a public hearing on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The Hearing will be held for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year 2021 application to fund eligible projects. It will be on February 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM during the regular Council meeting which will be held electronically as authorized under PA 228 of 2020. Members of the public body and members of the public may participate electronically as described below.

Access the meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84719959693>

Or go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us). At the top, right corner, select 'join a meeting'. Enter the meeting ID # 847 995 9693. The bottom left corner is used to start the video and audio feeds. Or you can call in using the following numbers:

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All interested citizens are requested to attend the hearing. Written comments may be submitted by email to the Village Clerk/Treasurer at [dbigger@hollyvillage.org](mailto:dbigger@hollyvillage.org) prior to the meeting.

Individuals needing assistance to participate are asked to contact the Village offices at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at (248) 634-9571 during regular business hours. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.

Deborah J. Bigger  
Clerk/Treasurer  
Village of Holly

Posted: January 13, 2021  
Published: January 17, 2021 Tri-County Times

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By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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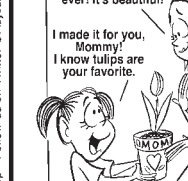
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THE GIRL WHO MADE HER MOM A MOTHER'S DAY PRESENT WAS ---

**Color me**

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

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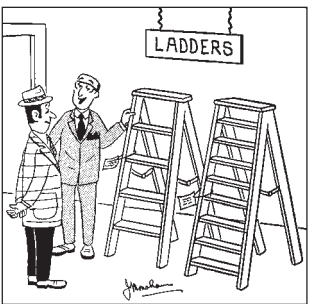
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## Weekend Scrambler

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words.  
Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!



"This one's \_\_\_\_\_."

Creak  
**ORGAN** \_\_\_\_\_

Wild  
**FLARE** \_\_\_\_\_

Lone  
**LOSE** \_\_\_\_\_

Blunt  
**CREDIT** \_\_\_\_\_

**TODAY'S WORD**

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

## Weekend Sudoku

**FUN BY THE NUMBERS**

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

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

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times



KING  
FEATURES

Weekend Crossword

PUZZLE CLUE:  
MULTITUDINOUS

ACROSS

1 Little rascal

6 Mosque officiants

11 Go for a dip

15 Spill the secret

19 Shinbone

20 Local theaters, in slang

21 Had on

22 Go very fast

23 City in which quadrennial games take place

25 Gumbo vegetable

26 R&B singer James

27 Japanese soup paste

28 Fit — queen

29 Sea cargo weight unit

31 Statistic associated with plane riders

35 Threatens to topple

36 Brouhaha

37 Ken is one

38 Viking 1 landing site

39 Fleecy boot brand

42 Guesses at LGA

45 Instructive example

47 “Siddhartha” author

52 Gotten larger

54 UNLV part

56 1977 Triple Crown horse

58 “— & Stitch”

59 Stinging hits

61 TV’s Amaz

62 Not iffy

63 Whitewater transport

67 Vassals

69 Tongue-lash

70 See

71 Goldie of “Laugh-In”

72 Unit of pressure

75 It surrounds the South Orkney Islands

80 Twin of Jacob

81 Secy., e.g.

83 Oozes

84 Jazzy Fitzgerald

85 Pile of trash

89 Enervate

90 Sacred song

91 Muscle twitch

92 Arthurian wizard

94 “Encore!”

96 “Science Guy” of TV

97 Pupil setting

99 Arthurian wife

101 Add- — (annexes)

103 Reviewer of tax returns

107 Disney World roller coaster

113 Moniker for a 1970s sitcom family

115 Go up

116 With 118-Across, bite-size Nabisco cookie

117 With 70-Across, Taj Mahal locale

118 See 116-Across

119 Statement about the end of each of nine answers in this puzzle

122 Meyers of “Late Night”

123 Ball field coverer

124 Candid

125 Cara of “Fame” fame

126 Canadian fuel brand

127 Gin flavorer

128 Burrito topper

129 Winona of “Beetlejuice”

DOWN

1 Walk heavily

2 Paramecium hairs

3 Huge gulf

4 Cocktail at brunch

5 Dad, in dialect

6 Disguised, in brief

7 Gold-medal skier Phil

8 On a plane or train

9 Month, in Spain

10 Retired jet since ‘03

11 Cutlass, e.g.

12 Roused

13 Thorns in one’s side

14 Scant

15 Favre of football

16 Starbucks offering

17 Many a Tony winner

18 Hits on the noggin

24 Alternatively

29 Artificial

30 Two-gender pronoun

32 Utopian site

33 Email giggle

34 Bullring calls

38 Sacred song

39 Wrinkled citrus fruit

40 Smile widely

41 Club game

43 Assuage

44 Bygone Swedish car

46 Smileys’ opposites

48 Inherent natures

49 Slimy garden pest

50 Dried up, old-style

51 Rams’ partners

53 Some babes in the woods

55 Sharp, broken-off piece

57 Purple blooms

59 Colonel Klink’s camp

60 Mail status

64 — carte

65 Nutrition stat

66 Ventilates

68 “Sands of — Jima”

71 Big African beast, briefly

72 Tinkertoy bits

73 PDQ cousin

74 Gilbert of “The Talk”

75 Fire remains

76 Join (with)

77 Zest

78 Join (with)

79 Identify

82 Between urban and country

86 Friendly relationship

87 Letter before beth

88 — colada

90 “21 Grams” actor Sean

93 Cage, to his pals

95 City WNW of Paris

98 R2-D2 and others

100 Skin-related

102 “Our Lady” of churches

103 Humiliate

104 Beseeches

105 Pub missiles

106 Boise setting

107 Brand of mouthwash

108 Outward expressions

109 Port of Japan

110 Felt sickly

111 Words after two or hole

112 Stuff in gunpowder

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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.

MIDWEEK SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

MIDWEEK JUMBLE ANSWERS:

GRANT, HONOR, INSIST, RODENT

Answer: It’s easy to add zero plus zero because there’s — **NOTHING TO IT**

WEEKEND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

WEEKEND SCRAMBLE ANSWERS:

GROAN, FERAL, SOLE, DIRECT

Answer: **FASTER**

MIDWEEK CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Solution Time: 24 min.

G	A	P	C	E	L							
S	E	L	L	I	E							
A	P	N	E	A	G	A	V	E	L	S		
M	E	R	C	U	R	Y	R	I	S	I	N	G
A	W	E	D	U	P	E	S	T	O	E		
	M	I	N	T		H	E	R	E			
S	A	U	T	E		W	A	I	S	T		
L	A	R	D		S	A	I	D				
I	N	E		A	S	T	I	R		B	E	E
V	E	N	U	S	W	I	L	L	I	A	M	S
R	A	C	H	E	L		I	S	S	U	E	
	S	L	E	P	T		N	A	T	S		
A	N	T				E	W	E				

WEEKEND CROSSWORD ANSWERS

S	C	A	M	P		I	M	A	M	S		S	W	I	M		B	L	A	B	
T	I	B	I	A		N	A	B	E	S		W	O	R	E		R	A	C	E	
O	L	Y	M	P	I	C	H	O	S	T		O	K	R	A		E	T	T	A	
M	I	S	O		F	O	R	A		F	R	E	I	G	H	T	T	O	N		
P	A	S	S	E	N	G	E	R		L	O	A	D		T	E	E	T	E	R	S
	A	D	O		D	O	L	L		M	A	R	S								
U	G	G		E	T	A	S		L	E	S	S	O	N		H	E	S	S	E	
G	R	O	W	N		L	A	S		S	E	A	T	T	L	E	S	L	E	W	
L	I	L	O		S	L	A	P	S		D	E	S	I		S	U	R	E		
I	N	F	L	A	T	A	B	L	E	R	A	F	T		L	I	E	G	E	S	
	F	L	A	Y		I	N	D	I	A		H	A	W	N						
P	A	S	C	A	L		A	N	T	A	R	C	T	I	C	O	C	E	A	N	
E	S	A	U		A	S	S	T		S	E	E	P	S		E	L	L	A		
G	A	R	B	A	G	E	H	E	A	P		S	A	P		P	S	A	L	M	
S	P	A	S	M		M	E	R	L	I	N		M	O	R	E		N	Y	E	
	I	R	I	S		E	N	I	D		O	N	S								
A	U	D	I	T	O	R		S	P	A	C	E	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	
B	R	A	D	Y		B	U	N	C	H		R	I	S	E		M	I	N	I	
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E	S	S	O		S	L	O	E		S	A	L	S	A		R	Y	D	I	E	R

WEEKEND WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

H	K	C	N	Z	B	U	U	W	B	R	G	R	G	M	W	D	H	W	C	B	
C	T	H	B	K	M	K	Y	T	I	U	N	E	G	N	I	O	S				
A	N	R	G	L	K	E	O	J	I	R	H	I	P	M	V	N	E	O	S		
I	S	A	A	Q	I	R	R	Y	S	M	L	Z	Z	U	P	U	L	U	D		
V	K	U	B	E	N	S	O	N	T	E	D	Z	S	N	I	U	L	U	D		
I	I	O	F	L	S	E	T	O	S	Z	E	P	T	K	C						
R	S	B	H	O	G	N	Z	N	B	K	U	R	U	I	M	H	I	K			
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Obituaries

Times

Charlotte Mae (Batdorff) Teachworth

1926 - 2020

Charlotte Mae (Batdorff) Teachworth - age 94, of Fenton, died Friday, November 27, 2020. Charlotte was born May 6, 1926 in Fitchburg, MI on the family farm, the daughter of Irving S. and Vida (Holland) Batdorff. She attended Stockbridge MI schools and married Ray Teachworth in Fitchburg on August 15, 1947. After receiving a teaching certificate from Michigan State College, Charlotte became the teacher at Olive Branch School, a one-room school in Holly, where she taught for five years. She remained in contact with many of her students from Olive Branch until the time of her death. Charlotte received her Bachelor of Science in Education from (then) Flint Junior College and University of Michigan Flint. She went on to earn her Master of Science from University of Michigan in 1964. She taught in Fenton Area Public Schools for 26 years, including many in Middle School science, before retiring in 1982, the same year as Ray. They spent many winters in Florida, enjoying the warmth and visits from family and friends. Charlotte loved to sew, especially bears, quilts, costumes, and baby blankets. She loved to share the art of sewing, crafts, and baking with others. She was always a patient teacher. Charlotte was a member of the Fenton United Methodist Church where she was involved with

Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Joy Circle. Flowers from Ray & Char's gardens often adorned the altar of the church throughout the summer. Char & Ray loved their family, their stone house and their friends. Charlotte is survived by two children, Gary (Debra) Teachworth of Midland, Tresa Squires of Galesburg; four grandchildren, Joshua Squires, Nathan (Murphy) Squires, Laura (Greg) Bugosh, Nicholas (Sara Stein) Teachworth; three great-grandchildren, Wyatt and Harper Squires, and Nicholas Bugosh. She is also survived by siblings, Onalee Hartley, Merlin (Kay) Batdorff, and Myron (Phyllis) Batdorff; her longtime friend and neighbor, Bette Groth; as well as many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Monadeen Bradbury; brother, Rolland Batdorff; and her beloved husband, Ray, in 2015. Those planning an expression of sympathy may consider Fenton United Methodist Church, 119 S. Leroy Street, Fenton. Cremation has taken place and interment will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. Memorial services will be held at a future date when gatherings are safer. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sharp Funeral Home in Fenton.



View obituaries at  
myfenton.com

Annie Laurie Gallagher

1929 - 2021

Annie Laurie Gallagher - age 91, of Fenton, died Sunday, January 10, 2021. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Saturday, January 16, 2021 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St, Fenton (A live stream of the Mass is available on Annie Laurie's obituary page at [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com) <<http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com>>). Fr. David Harvey celebrant. Burial in St. John Catholic Cemetery, Fenton. Visitation was held at the church Friday, January 15 from 4 - 8 PM where a rosary will be prayed at 7 PM. Visitation will continue on Saturday at the church from 10 AM with mass following at 11. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to Mount Mary University, 2900 Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee, WI 53222 in Annie Laurie (Bansley) Gallagher's name. Annie Laurie was born November 21, 1929 in Chicago, IL, the daughter of James and Anne (O'Rourke) Bansley. She was a graduate of Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, WI. She married John J. "Jack" Gallagher, December 28, 1954 in Chicago, IL. He preceded her in death December 8, 2003. Annie Laurie retired from St. John the Evangelist Catholic School having taught 17 years, leaving



a legacy of kindness, faith and excellence. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Parish, where she sang in the choir, participated in Bible Study and was a volunteer in the Befriender program. She was also a member of several fraternal organizations including The Red Hat Society and Entre-Nous. She was a proud volunteer for the Fenton Township Election Board for many years. All seven Gallagher children graduated from Lake Fenton HS. Annie Laurie attended every event her children participated in from Sports to Drama. She was a true Lake Fenton Blue Devil Booster. She was a lifetime fan of the Chicago Bears, Big 10 Football and never missed March Madness. As a young girl her Mother took her to a Chicago White Sox game to see Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig play. She enjoyed knitting and was a prolific reader. Her favorite postscript was, "Consider

yourself hugged." Surviving are seven children, John J. (Marla) Gallagher Jr. of Kirkland, WA, Lauriann (Terry) Powers of Grand Rapids, Jim (Danielle) Gallagher of Lafayette, CA, Tom (Molly Jean) Gallagher of Ann Arbor, Dan (Paulette) Gallagher of Jackson, Mike (Cathy) Gallagher of Grand Rapids, and Matt (Ranae) Gallagher of Grand Blanc; 16 grandchildren, Suzanne (Cyrus III) Darling, Jack Gallagher III, Meghan Powers, Tom (Ann Marie) Powers, Joe (Laura) Powers, Claire Gallagher, Tommy Gallagher, Elle Gallagher, Danielle Gallagher, Kaylee Kellogg, Clay (Jamie) Kellogg, Hannah Gallagher, Danny Gallagher, Erin Gallagher, Codi Gallagher, and Maci Gallagher; she was "GG" to nine great-grandchildren; brothers, Jim Bansley of Chicago, IL and Mike (Diane) Bansley of Evanston, IL; sister-in-law, Marilyn Bansley of Chicago, IL; and dozens of nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her parents; sister, Eileen Guldán; and brother, John Bansley. Arrangements provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Tributes may be shared at [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com)



**Stephen Shock**  
Stephen Shock - age 60, died January 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



**Tamara Baxter**  
Tamara Baxter - age 55, died January 5, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



**Thomas Sumpter**  
Thomas Sumpter - age 66, died January 11, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).





# Obituaries

Times

## Aaron Yelland

Aaron Yelland - age 28, died January 7, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Anna "Ceil" Weatherford

Anna "Ceil" Weatherford - age 74, died January 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Carol Lampin

Carol Lampin - age 81, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Carol Tower

Carol Tower - age 83, died January 7, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Carolyn Taylor

Carolyn Taylor - age 77, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Charles Schulz

Charles Schulz - age 95, died January 4, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Dave Lowe

Dave Lowe - age 79, died January 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Dolores "Cookie" Sieradzki

Dolores "Cookie" Sieradzki - age 88, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Douglas Weatherford

Douglas Weatherford - age 78, died January 7, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Gerald Miller

Gerald Miller - age 75, died January 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Glenn Roe

Glenn Roe - age 98, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Jack Davies

Jack Davies - age 81, died January 4, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Jean Myers

Jean Myers - age 97, died January 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Lawrence Schroeder

Lawrence Schroeder - age 88, died January 7, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Jeanette Burman

Jeanette Burman - age 87, died January 6, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Jerry Hillstrom

Jerry Hillstrom - age 80, died January 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## John Mansfield

John Mansfield - age 75, died January 4, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Joseph Burton

Joseph Burton - age 58, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Margaret I. "Peg" Thorsby

1924 - 2021

Margaret I. "Peg" Thorsby 1924 - 2021 Margaret I. "Peg" Thorsby, of Holly, died Tuesday, January 12, 2021. Private family funeral services will be held at 2 PM Monday, January 18, 2021 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly with Pastor Ed Pedley officiating. Burial will be in Rose Center Cemetery, Holly. Visitation with social distancing restrictions will be from 12 - 2 PM Monday. Mrs. Thorsby was born in Clarkston on November 7, 1924 the daughter of Eugene and Leah Cobb. She had lived in Rose Township for many years and had served as Rose Township Clerk, and also a

member of the Rose Township Tax Board of Review, Appeal Board and also a Planning Commission member. She had been a member of the Washington Club for many years and also a founding member of the Holly Historical Society. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Holly. Surviving are two children, Kaye Thorsby and Eugene Thorsby; and one granddaughter, Sara. She was preceded in death by her husband Jack. Memorial donations may be made to the First Baptist Church of Holly or the Holly Historical Society. [www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com).

view OBITUARIES online

## Julie Thompson

Julie Thompson - age 54, died January 11, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Lois Goss

Lois Goss - age 79, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Marlene Donaldson

Marlene Donaldson - age 85, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Maria Groh

Maria Groh - age 93, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Kevin Scheitler

Kevin Scheitler - age 56, died January 6, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Michael Golwitzer

Michael Golwitzer - age 66, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Obituaries

Times

Chontelle Ann Choate

1958 - 2021

Chontelle Ann Choate - age 62, of Linden, passed away on Monday, January 11, 2021. Visitation was held 4 - 7 PM Thursday, January 14 and Friday, January 15, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St., Linden. No formal service will be held. Chontelle was born April 15, 1958 in Flint, the daughter of Floyd E. and Nancy K. (Richards) Bowers. She married Tracy Choate on October 25, 1980 in Linden; he preceded her



in death on February 8, 2010. She worked for General Motors for 40 years. Chontelle is survived by her son, Tracy L. Choate II and wife Candice; grandchildren, Avery and Parker; brothers, Floyd and Scott Bowers. She was also preceded in death by her parents. Tributes may be shared on [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Patricia Kloc

Patricia Kloc - age 84, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Richard "Dick" Clark

Richard "Dick" Clark - age 74, died January 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Patricia Winkowski

Patricia Winkowski - age 79, died January 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Sandra Finateri

Sandra Finateri - age 73, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Phyllis Davis

Phyllis Davis - age 80, died January 8, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



Shirley Toombs

Shirley Toombs - age 81, died January 9, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



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