Online town hall on predators scheduled for Feb. 9

■Event titled 'Inside the Mind of a Predator'

By Hannah Ball

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson will host another live streamed town hall about online predators and pedophiles Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.

It will be shown on the Genesee County Sheriff's Office Facebook page.

"This episode is going to be compelling. It is titled, 'Inside the Mind of a Predator.' You're going to hear the voices of the predators that we've arrested, whose cases are adjudicated, make phone calls, text and confess," Swanson said. "You're going to hear what a predator seeks when they find a 13-year-old victim."

The goal is help people understand the psychology of preda-

tors, and he wants the parents to have these discussions with their kids.

"When you know how the other side is, you have a better defense," he said. "It is harsh. We're not going to be cruel, but we're going to be real."

See **PREDATORS** on 5



Chris Swanson



Weekend Times

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

\$1.00

Township approves buying new firefighting equipment

■More than \$200,000 will go to new breathing apparatuses

By Hannah Ball

/OL. 28 NO. VI

Fenton Township firefighters will soon have new breathing equipment to use when responding to a fire, gas leak, or other emergency.

On Monday, Feb. 1, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees unanimously voted to spend a total of \$209,930 on this equipment.

"I'm glad it worked out. Every firefighter will have an individual mask issued to them," said Fire Chief Ryan Volz.

See **EQUIPMENT** on 21

StoryWalk® time in Fenton



World of Wonder Ellen Street Campus teacher Laura Wagonlander (right) reads the children's book, "First Snow in the Woods" by Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick, aloud to a class of students in Rackham Park on Wednesday, Feb. 3, as part of StoryWalk®. See story on Page 13. Photo: Hannah Ball

Larcenies, retail fraud top crimes

■Tri-county area saw one fatal shooting in 2020

By Sharon Stone

At the beginning of every year, the Times reaches out to our local law enforcement agencies to gather crime stats for the previous years.

Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh said, "Certainly COVID lockdowns have had an effect on the 2020 statistics, but some things just seem to remain constant."

The tri-county area did report on one fatal shooting in 2020. Vincent Merrill, 50, of Springfield Township, was charged with one count of first-degree

See TOP CRIMES on 11



Editor's note: Please keep sending in your veteran so that the Times can recognize their

service to this country. Send their name, hometown, branch of military, years of service, rank, medals earned and a photo to news@tctimes.com."



anyone elsemiss catalogs?
We often bought
things we never
knew were

available by browsing the pages. They may be on computers but we don't browse and find those special items anymore."



GWhat a great fight by Linden's own Joey Spencer. Equally great to see his lo-

cal sponsors, what great community support!"





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reach our 2021 Reminiscent Ball fundraising goal of \$100,000!

Linden grad donates kidney to another Linden grad

■ 'We are shocked that he was such a good match'

By Hannah Ball

Two Linden High School graduates reconnected because one of them donated a kidney to the other.

Ron Parish, who graduated from Linden High School in 1989, said he didn't have to think twice about donating a kidney in January to Mark Rupp.

"It has been an unbelievable and indescribable experience knowing that I gave a good man with a family a second chance at life," Parish said.

Mark Rupp, who graduated in 1989, was diagnosed with diabetes in his 20s. He went to the same doctor's office since he was a kid, but switched to Fenton Family Medicine and saw Dr. Michael Zerafa. The first thing he did was a thorough physical with blood work. In October 2019,

he referred Rupp to a nephrologist for more testing on his kidneys, and he discovered he had stage 4 chronic kidney disease.

"My kidneys



Mark Rupp (left) and Ron Parish take a photo in the hospital the day Parish donated a kidney to Rupp. Both are Linden High School graduates. Before the surgery, Rupp had been on dialysis for six months. Submitted photo

were functioning at about 22 percent. Over the next seven months, my kid-

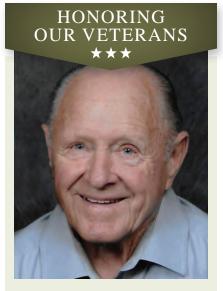
> nevs continued to decline and in July of 2020, I checked into the hospital with breathing complications and a tight chest," Rupp said. His body was

retaining a lot of fluid in his chest cavity, and they started him on dialysis. Rupp was on dialysis three days a week for six months until the day before the transplant surgery, which was January 20.

"When the kidneys got below a certain GFR (Glomerular Filtration Rate) about 15 percent, you should be getting ready for dialysis. Mine was down to 8 when I started. He said I'd be on dialysis

See KIDNEY on 16

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Most of all, I look

forward to having energy

to be able to do things

with our son. 77

Mark Rupp

Linden High School graduate

HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday & Sunday Closed

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READERS

Letters, 150 words or less, must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and liability. Letters must be written exclusively for the Times.

Random Acts of Kindness

Dear Editor,

Late yesterday afternoon checking out purchases at VG's grocery and preparing to pay the bill, a middle aged gentleman stepped in front of me and inserted his credit card into the reader. He said, "You're good, I've got this." I was so taken by this act of generosity that I was speechless for a moment. I think I finally stuttered a thank you as he moved away. A couple of weeks earlier as I pulled up to the Taco Bell window to pay for Sybil's Burritos I was informed that the driver of the previous car (a new white Chevy Suburban) had paid my tab. Those folks are carriers of a condition known as Random Acts of Kindness that I have now caught.

Gerald Lennox, Fenton

A message from the director

t's great to be a Husky. The challenges of this year have made me so grateful for the teaching and support staff that champion our Holly Academy Huskies. Since the first day of our school year on August 31, our staff has worked tirelessly to provide a rigorous learning environment for our virtual students and those who are face-to-face. For this, I am so proud to be a Husky!

Holly Academy is a tuition-free, public school academy and anyone interested may enroll. We are now accepting new students for the 2021/2022 school year. We will hold a virtual New Family Young



Julie Kildee Holly Academy director

5/Kindergarten Meet & Greet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on February 22. Families with students in first-eighth grade interested in enrolling should call the office to set up a tour or to meet with an administrator. Should you wish to know more about the academy, please visit our website at www.hollyacademy.org.

At Holly Academy we honor character develop-

ment along with rigorous academics. This two-fold approach has proven to develop strong, global-ready citizens. Holly Academy has a proven track record as a leader in education in the State of Michigan. It's great to be a Husky!



Submit Hot lines online at myfenton.cor or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

IF YOU GET vaccinated you must still wear a mask. The vaccine is proven to lessen your chance of severe illness, we still don't know if you can transmit it to someone else if you get it, that was not studied.

ONE DOLLAR FOR the Fenton Fire Hall? Does Fenton have any other properties it wants to sell? I'll skip my morning coffee and buv five of them. My life is a comedy.

I WISH WE could get past all the firsts - you know like the first woman, the first teen, the first transgender, the first gay, the first Black, the first this and that. Maybe then we can move on to just selecting the best person for the task at hand.

TO THE PERSON so happy with Biden signing executive orders. I will return my \$1,400 check as soon as you turn off your natural gas to your home and never again put another gallon of gasoline in your vehicle. And return the two checks you received from President Trump.

I'M GLAD ADOPT-a-Pet rescued the dogs. It shows they have good moral values. There are agencies that deal with children in poverty and agencies that deal with animals. Both have a hard job to do.

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

What's your favorite sport to play and/or watch?

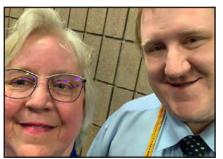


"I was an award winning swimmer in high school. My favorite sport to watch is Tom Izzo, MSU basketball!! Go green go white." **Ann Rogulsky**



"Basketball."

Fenton



"Wrestling."

street talk



"Watching the Olympics and feeling the passion for the athletes that worked tirelessly to get there."

Linden

Oakland County veterans could get up to \$2,500

■COVID-19 Emergency Financial Relief Program has access to \$182,000

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Oakland County veterans, service members and eligible dependents impacted by the pandemic and needing financial help can apply for up to \$2,500 in assistance through the Veterans COVID-19 Emergency Financial Relief Program.

A total of \$182,000 is available through the grant provided by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency. There is a cap of \$2,500 per person, including food assistance, which has a \$150 limit.

The grants can be used for eligible food, utility, property taxes and personal care expenses.

Applications can be completed at oakgov.com/covid/grants.

"There are more than 60,000 veterans in Oakland County and many of them are struggling to make ends meet," said Oakland County Executive

David Coulter. "Some veterans have lost jobs or income, while others may be faced with higher food bills and other increased expenses. These grants are designed to help those who sacrificed for our country in the past get some much-needed help today."

Applicants must be an Oakland County resident and honorably discharged from the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, reserves or women's auxiliaries. Eligibility documentation is required.

Those without access to the internet should contact the Oakland County Veterans' Services Division in Pontiac at (248) 858-0785 for assistance.

"We expect strong interest in this new program," said Garth Wootten, division manager. "The need is there, for the day-to-day living expenses for our veterans have not gone away during the pandemic. We hope these grants make life easier for them as they live through these challenging times."

Oakland County has used \$219 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief

and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding in support of its pandemic response, including more than \$145 million in grants to help stabilize and support small businesses, residents, and communities in every part of the county. The grants were awarded to more than 15,000 local businesses, which employ 65,000 people; 22 local chambers of commerce; 57 cities, villages, and townships, 278 non-profit and 31 veterans services organizations; 28 local school districts as well as retailers, restaurants, and community centers.

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE 810-771-TEXT (8398) TIMES

PREDATORS

Continued from Front Page

This comes more than a week after Swanson held a town hall Thursday, Jan. 28 with Dep. Tori Dallas and Claudnyse Holloman, president and CEO of Voices for Children, to discuss what apps predators use to talk to young teenagers and minors. These apps include Facebook Messenger, TikTok, Twitch and more. Those who watched the live stream on the Genesee County Sheriff's Office Facebook page asked questions in the comments.

"It was an incredibly responsive town hall," he said.

Originally, the Feb. 9 town hall was going to be held at 2 p.m., but it was pushed to 7 p.m.

"There are a lot of people who are working during the day and they want to be with their families, want to be with their churches, want to be with their groups and watch it live so they can be part of the question and answer," Swanson said.

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Holly schools receive 'A' rating for finances

■Bond funds go to school safety, technology

Holly Area Schools announced on Thursday, Jan. 28 it received an "A" credit rating from Standard & Poor's ahead of the latest bond sale that will fund the district's safety, building and technology improvement projects approved by voters in 2018.

It is the latest example of the district's proven track record of investing in the success of students and families while maintaining fiscal responsibility and transparency.

"Our latest credit rating demonstrates our district is on solid financial footing to continue meeting the needs of all Bronchos and planning for any potential emergencies that might arise in the future," said Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "We are excited for our next round of voter-approved bond projects that promote the safety of students and staff, and fund critical safety, building and technology improvements that help prepare all Bronchos for the real world and jobs."

Standard & Poor's assigned an "A" underlying rating to the district's \$13.3 million Series II School Building and Site Bonds. The rating agency listed the strength of the district's available fund balance, lowto-moderate debt burden, proactive budgetary adjustments and the November 2020 renewal of the nonhomestead operating millage as key factors in the rating.

The latest bond sale represents the

final phase of bond sales for the \$38.15 million bond approved by

The Linden Hotel owner dies

Heartbroken family to hold private service at a later date

By Sharon Stone

"We are broken hearted, our hero

passed away. We are so grateful for everything you taught us, we will take it from here. Rest easy." Those are the words written by Jack Furry's family on The Linden Hotel's Facebook page.

Longtime owner of The Linden Hotel, Jack Furry, died Saturday, Jan. 30. He was 77. Cremation has taken place and a private service will be held at a later date.

Furry and his wife, Rosann (Rose), and their children moved from Milford to Linden in 1994.

In addition to owning and running the historic Linden Hotel restaurant and Crow's Nest in downtown Linden.

Furry was retired from Ford Motor Company. He also owned and operated J and R Antiques, Hair Establishment, J & R Video, and Summit Café all in Milford. Furry had been a member of the Milford Police Auxiliary in the '70s and drove ambulances.

> Furry was well known in the Linden community. As a small business advocate, he was a member of the Linden Downtown Development Authority. He ran for Linden mayor in 2016, however, he lost to Mayor Danielle Cusson.

Furry and his wife of 57 years raised three children Karen (Stroud), Sharon (Flowers), and Michael, who

passed away in 2015.

Jack Furry

In a 2015 Times article, Furry told features writer Sally Rummel that back in the days of Prohibition and the Great Depression in the 1920s and early '30s, The Linden Hotel was called the "House of Plenty" and was better known than Frankenmuth.

"It was on the main route from Detroit to Lansing, so a lot of politicians ate here," Furry told Rummel in 2015. "Nearly any evening, one could dine with the elite of Flint or Detroit."

The Linden Hotel was built in 1840. Its original location until 1954 was where the Beacon & Bridge gas station stands today, at the corner of E. Broad and E. Bridge streets.

"The Linden Hotel is the oldest continuously working business in Genesee County," Furry had said. "We offered overnight lodging as recently as 1998, with 11 rooms and a community bath for just \$10 a night."

In August 2016, The Linden Hotel underwent an interior update. Today, the upstairs is The Crow's Nest, a bar/lounge area for the 21-and-older crowd. Below, the restaurant is still well known for its hospitality and large portions of homemade lunch and dinner entrees, plus homemade desserts.

voters in 2018. To fund the bond projects, the district sold the Series II bonds at 2.38% interest, down

> I bonds. The lower interest rate will reduce overall interest owed by the district and improve the district's ability to sell bonds for any future projects.

> "At Holly Area Schools, fiscal responsibility, accountability and transparency are essential best practices to ensure all taxpayer dollars are spent wisely in our district to prepare all Bronchos for bright futures," Roper said. "I'd like to personally thank our community for continuing to invest

in the success of our students as they prepare for college and careers."



Scott Roper Holly Area Schools superintendent

might arise in the

future. 77









Police release name of animal cruelty suspect

■ Sheriff says he traveled south in Michigan

By Hannah Ball

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson gave an update on the suspect involved in three animal cruelty cases.

On Wednesday, Feb. 3, Swanson said law enforcement was still searching for Justin Colin Young-Duncan, 33, whose name was released for the first time during Swanson's weekly press brief-



Justin Colin Young-Duncan

ing. According to Genesee County 67th District Court records, Young-Duncan now has a Detroit address.

The case was first announced Jan. 6. Swanson said a landlord owns the house, and the person liv-

ing there wasn't paying rent. When he went to evict him in late December, there was no heat in the house.

"They saw a tragic scene," Swanson said.

Three dogs were found in a house in three different states of health. The first dog was dead and hadn't eaten for 60 to 90 days. Swanson declined to show a photo of this dog.

The second dog had almost starved to death. The third dog was healthier and walking around. There was no water out for the dogs.

The two dogs that survived have been rehabilitated and they're set for adoption.

Young-Duncan is facing three, fouryear felonies of animal torture/killing, each in the third-degree, and one count of animal abandonment and cruelty, which

is a one-year felony.

Young-Duncan moved to a southern part of Michigan, and law enforcement continues the search for him. Swanson is asking for the public's help to find him.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

HOLLY POLICE LOCATE ASSAULT SUSPECT FOR ANOTHER CITY

On Monday, Jan. 25, the Holly Police Department was contacted by an Oakland County police department, which requested Holly police assist in locating and detaining a suspect in an assault with a weapon that just occurred in their city. The suspect was a 22-year-old Holly woman. Officers were able to locate and arrest the suspect without incident and turned her over to the requesting agency.

FENTON MAN CITED AFTER AUTO CRASH IN HOLLY

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, at 5:50 a.m., Holly police were dispatched to an injury traffic crash on N. Holly Road. As the officers investigated the crash it was determined the responsible person was driving without a valid license. The driver was identified as a 31-year-old Fenton man who was injured in the crash. He was cited and released for medical treatment with a court date pending.

TEENS SMOKING POT IN PUBLIC RESTROOM IN HOLLY

On Thursday, Jan. 28, at 6:31 p.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to the public restrooms on S. Saginaw Street in the Downtown District by a person who entered the restroom as two teenagers were leaving, the witness reported the restroom was filled with an overwhelming odor and smoke of burnt marijuana. Officers arrived and checked the area for the teens but were unable to locate them.

HOLLY MAN ARRESTED FOR DOMESTIC ASSAULT

On Sunday, Jan. 31, at 4:41 a.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to a residence by a female caller who reported that her boyfriend had just assaulted her and fled the home. After taking the report, the 41-year-old Holly man returned to the home where he was taken into custody for domestic assault.



TOWNSHIP OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

2021 PY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Holly Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on February 17, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., or shortly thereafter, by electronic remote access for the purpose of hearing public comments on the use of the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Application. Approximately \$20,011.00 may be available to Holly Township to fund eligible project activities.

Eligible Project List will be available for public viewing, by appointment, at the Clerk's Office, 102 Civic Dr., Holly MI 48442 or online at

www.hollytownship.org/community/legal/publicnotices

The public may participate in the Public Hearing through electronic remote access via Zoom access by computer, smart phone/device using the following link:

https://zoom.us/j/94722240214 Or iPhone one-tap:

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0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799
Meeting ID: 947 2224 0214

The hearing is open to the public to voice their views or to submit written comment. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the hearing. The Holly Township Board will consider any public comments received at this time. Written comments may be submitted prior to the hearing by writing to: Clerk at 102 Civic Dr., Holly, Michigan 48442.

The Holly Township Hall is handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs will be made upon receiving a seven (7) day advance notice. Contact Holly Township Clerk at the number above for special services.

Karin S. Winchester, MMC Holly Township Clerk

saw a tragic scene. 77 Chris Swanson Genesee County sheriff



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TOP CRIMES

Continued from Front Page

homicide and one count of felony firearm in Oakland County. Bond was denied. Merrill's case goes back to Sept. 3, 2020 when the Oakland County Operations Center received a 911 call from a caller, later identified as Merrill, who stated, "I just killed my girlfriend" and then hung up the phone. The victim has been identified as Vicki Diane Fortin.

Larcenies appear to remain consistent from year to year.

Fenton City reports the most retail fraud as officers respond to big box stores on Owen Road on a regular basis. Fraud complaints can include identity theft, using someone's credit card without authority and wire fraud.

Argentine Township saw a spike in operating a vehicle while intoxicated arrests. The number went from 17 in 2019 to 71 in 2020. Police Chief Dan Allen said the OWIs were up because of the stay-at-home order in conjunction with the pandemic. "And I have one new officer who seems to be specializing in OWI enforcement," he said. Allen added that his department has 2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available

noticed other pandemic related issues such as domestic assault, child abuse, overdoses on heroin and prescription related drugs.

Sgt. Andrew Snyder of the Genesee County Sheriff's Office said, "In my opinion, I feel some of the larcenies have decreased due to stepped up patrols. We have an awesome crew of deputies assigned to Fenton Township. My deputies are professional and hungry to eradicate crime."

Michigan State Police typically post the prior year's crime stats in June, so this data is not available at this time.

FENTON CITY

	2018	2019	2020
Shootings	0	0	1
Homicides	0	0	0
Burglaries	21	18	11
Larcenies	77	87	48
Sexual assault	16	9	2
Retail fraud	99	97	120
Fraud	66	60	61
Property damage	53	48	36
OWI	71	108	33
Drug possession	62	24	12

Word Search

D Ι Ε K R X Ι S Υ Ε 0 Υ R Υ R W S C Ε S S G S Ε S C Ε G 0 Ε Τ 0 G Ι Т Ι В Ι

AROMA, BITTER, BLACK, BLEND, CAFFEINE, CAMELLIA SINENSIS, EARTHY, FIRING, FLAVOR, GREEN, HARVEST, HERBAL, LEAF, LOOSE, MATCHA, OOLONG, ORGANIC, OXIDATION, PEKOE, PLUCK, STEEP, TASTE, TEA, WHITE

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

INDE	N CI	ITY

	2018	2019	ZUZU
Shootings	0	0	0
Homicides	0	0	0
Burglaries	4	1	2
Larcenies	14	12	10
Sexual assault	2	0	1
Retail fraud	2	3	0
Fraud	1	1	5
Property damage	10	3	10
OWI	5	4	5
Drug possession	5	19	3

2010 2010

0000

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

	2018	2019	ZUZU
Shootings	0	0	0
Homicides	0	0	0
Burglaries	6	3	6
Larcenies	14	13	14
Sexual assault	2	1	3
Retail fraud	1	1	0
Fraud	10	8	10
Property damage	17	8	17
OWI	10	17	71
Drug possession	5	3	2

FENTON TOWNSHIP

2018	2019	2020
0	0	0
0	0	0
21	11	10
62	58	44
11	6	6
0	0	0
56	59	25
25	24	28
16	31	30
16	3	7
	0 0 21 62 11 0 56 25 16	0 0 0 0 21 11 62 58 11 6 0 0 56 59 25 24 16 31

2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available

2018 2019 2020

HOLLY VILLAGE

	2010	LUIJ	2020
Shootings	0	0	0
Homicides	0	0	0
Burglaries	10	13	9
Larcenies	45	25	41
Sexual assault	5	7	6
Retail fraud	2	2	1
Fraud	12	12	12
Property damage	21	16	20
OWI	9	4	7
Drug possession	7	19	3

HOLLY TOWNSHIP

	2018	2019	2020
Shootings	0	0	N/A
Homicides	2	0	N/A
Burglaries	8	10	N/A
Larcenies	17	17	N/A
Sexual assault	6	3	N/A
Retail fraud	1	0	N/A
Fraud	5	8	N/A
Property damage	9	12	N/A
OWI	19	20	N/A
Drug possession	8	4	N/A

2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available

ROSE TOWNSHIP

2018	2019	2020
0	0	N/A
0	0	N/A
3	2	N/A
9	7	N/A
1	3	N/A
0	0	N/A
4	6	N/A
5	9	N/A
5	9	N/A
1	1	N/A
	0 0 3 9 1 0 4 5	0 0 0 0 3 2 9 7 1 3 0 0 4 6 5 9 5 9

2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available

SPRING TOWNSHIP

	2018	2019	2020
Shootings	0	0	1*
Homicides	0	0	1*
Burglaries	17	11	N/A
Larcenies	35	25	N/A
Sexual assault	4	1	N/A
Retail fraud	0	1	N/A
Fraud	35	29	N/A
Property damage	14	10	N/A
OWI	32	14	N/A
Drug possession	10	3	N/A

*The Times reported Vincent Merrill was charged with fatally shooting Vicki Fortin on Sept. 3, 2020. The 2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available.

TYRONE TOWNSHIP

	2018	2019	2020
Shootings	0	0	0
Homicides	0	0	0
Burglaries	17	10	12
Larcenies	27	29	29
Sexual assault	10	7	2
Retail fraud	1	0	0
Fraud	28	19	33
Property damage	14	13	15
OWI	36	25	0*
Drug possession	13	1	4

*Livingston County Sheriff made no OWI arrests in 2020. MSP stats for 2020 are not available.

— FOR A COMPARISON —

FLINT CITY

	2018	2019	2020
Homicides	29	22	N/A
Burglaries	862	599	N/A
Larcenies	1,551	1,281	N/A
Sexual assault	182	121	N/A
Retail fraud	68	28	N/A
Fraud	391	334	N/A
Property damage	1,113	830	N/A
OWI	118	70	N/A
Drug possession	856	599	N/A

2020 Michigan State Police stats are not available

FTC received 49,627 fraud reports in Michigan

■State's consumers reported losing \$57.7 million to scams in 2020

Compiled by Sharon Stone

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) received 49,627 fraud reports from consumers in Michigan in 2020,

according to newly released data.

Michigan consumers reported losing a total of \$57,506,652 to fraud, with a median loss of \$250.

The FTC's Consumer Sentinel Network is a database that receives reports directly from consumers, as well as from federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, the Better Business Bureau, industry

members, and non-profit organizations.

This year, the FTC welcomed the data contributions of the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection.

Twenty-five states now contribute to Sentinel.

Reports from around the country about consumer protection issues — including identity theft, fraud, and other categories are a key resource for FTC investigations that stop illegal activities and, when possible, provide refunds to consumers.

Across all types of reports, the FTC received a total of 71,328 reports from consumers in Michigan in 2020.

The top category of reports received from consumers in Michigan was identity theft, followed by imposter scams; online shopping and negative reviews; credit bureaus, information furnishers and report users; and banks and lenders.

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday February 1, 2021 via Zoom and took the following actions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

- 1. Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.
- 2. Approved the agenda as amended.
- 3. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of \$217,751.05.
- 4. After conducting a public hearing on same, adopted Resolution No. 2021-04, confirming the special assessment roll for the Loon Harbor Preserve Drainage Improvement Special Assessment District.
- 5. Conducted a public hearing to obtain citizen input on potential local road improvement projects for 2021.
- 6. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-05, adopting the 2021 Property Tax Financial Hardship Exemption Policy.
- 7. Approved the hiring of Meghan Dzido for a full-time clerical position.
- 8. Approved the purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus equipment for the Fenton Township Fire Department.
- 9. Adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting and any ordinances adopted at the meeting are on file and will be available for review at the Fenton Township Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430 when the office reopens to the public. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

Nationally, consumers reported losing more than \$3.3 billion to fraud in 2020, up from \$1.8 billion in 2019. Nearly \$1.2 billion of losses reported last year were due to imposter scams, while online shopping accounted for about \$246 million in reported losses from

Fraud losses up nationwide

The FTC received 2.2 million fraud reports from consumers in 2020, with imposter scams remaining the most common type of fraud reported to the agency. Online shopping was the secondmost common fraud category reported by consumers, elevated by a surge of reports in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Internet services; prizes, sweepstakes, and lotteries; and telephone and mobile services rounded out the top five fraud categories nationally.

In 2020, the FTC introduced ReportFraud.ftc.gov,anupdatedplatform for filing reports with the agency. The FTC uses the reports it receives through the Sentinel network as the starting point for many of its law enforcement investigations, and the agency also shares these reports with more than 2,800 law enforcement users around the country.

While the FTC does not intervene in individual complaints, Sentinel reports are a vital part of the agency's law enforcement mission.

reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL AT 'LIFE THREATENING LEVEL'

On Thursday, Jan. 28, at 5:51 p.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to a residence where a family member was trying to stop an intoxicated family member from driving. Upon arrival, officers located the intoxicated 39-year-old woman of Wayne, who became argumentative and disruptive with the officer. She was taken into custody and it was determined that her blood alcohol level was at a life-threatening level. Officers requested Holly Fire Department, which transported her to a medical facility for detox.

STOLEN VEHICLE FOUND. **HEAVILY DAMAGED IN HOLLY**

On Friday, Jan. 29, at 5:42 p.m., Holly police were called to a Holly business by the owner who reported that a customer's vehicle was taken from their parking lot. The keys had been inadvertently left in the vehicle. The vehicle information was entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) database as stolen. On Saturday, Jan. 30, Holly police received a tip that the vehicle had been found in a wooded area near Fish Lake Road and Academy. Officers located and recovered the heavily damaged vehicle and are investigating the theft. If anyone has information on the theft of this vehicle, they are asked to call the Holly police department at (248) 634-8221 reference case number 21-0556

CAR VS. DEER IN HOLLY

On Sunday, Jan. 31, at 7:50 p.m., a caller reported to Holly police that her daughter had struck and injured a deer that ran into the path of her vehicle on E. Maple Street. The deer was still nearby and severely injured, requiring the officer to use his firearm to end its suffering.

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A story through the park

LThey are so

excited that we're

doing this. 77

Linda Mora

World of Wonder Early Childhood

Learning director

■World of Wonder and Fenton Arts Council brings StoryWalk® to Fenton park

By Hannah Ball

Local educators are finding innovative ways to take their students on field trips during a pandemic.

World of Wonder Ellen Street Campus created a StoryWalk® for the students, which consists of laminated pages from a children's book installed along an outdoor path.

On Wednesday, Feb. 3, all of the Young 5 students at the school took

a walk through Rackham Park behind the Fenton Community and Cultural Center where 35 posters are set up. On these posters are pages from the photographic children's book, "The First Snow in the Woods" by Carl

R. Sams II and Jean Stoick, Michigan award-winning authors, photographers and filmmakers.

The children excitedly walked and ran to each poster to hear teacher Laura Wagonlander read the store aloud.

Linda Mora, director of Early Childhood Learning at the World of Wonder, said they were looking for opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic where we can "be out and about" with the children.

"We're promoting arts and promoting reading with Read Early, Read Often. This is a great connection with that program. Just showing children you can read everything anywhere all the time, and the opportunity to be so close to our school where we can take a walking trip and still be safe during COVID. This is a great way to do it," she said.

The StoryWalk® is one of the PopUp Art Posts for the Fenton Art Council's Arts Are the Heart series. It's sponsored by the Greater Flint Arts Council Share Art Genesee Grant Program, which is made possible by the Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment millage funds. It's also in part sponsored by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowments for the Arts.

The school and city partnered with

the Fenton Arts Council and the Cause & Affect Gallery for the program. Those that go through the park, read the story and take a photo with the last storyboard can take that photo to Cause & Affect and get a CD of the story. All the students from WOW received posters of the book.

Mora said the authors, Sams and Stoick, live in Milford and took the photos themselves, and they donated the CDs and the books that made this StoryWalk® possible. The school has used another of their books for a similar project.

"They are so excited that we're doing this," Mora said.

Sams and Stoick have a common theme in all of their children's books- a love and appreciation for nature and wildlife. Stoick said they slip in les-

sons about nature in every storyline. One of those lessons in "Stranger in the Woods" is that fawns are often by themselves in nature, and that doesn't mean they're lost or need to be rescued.

"It is surprising how much they retain little bits of information. We want to encourage our little people to get out and explore the woods," Stoick said.

They've written and published more than 10 full size, illustrated children's books. They take the photos themselves of deer and other wildlife at Kensington park or at their property in Milford or in the Upper Peninsula.

For the photo on the cover of "First Snow in the Woods," the couple managed to capture two fawns experiencing their first snow. The four books in the "In The Woods" series were all on the New York Times Bestseller list. They're "very glad" for the support they receive from teachers, librarians and grandparents.

Their goal is to inspire kids to enjoy nature more and not be stuck inside on their computers all day. Sams said they want kids to fall in love with nature because they're the ones who will have to protect it.

The school's Read Early, Read Often grant is from the Community Foundation of Flint-Fenton. The funds go to promote reading with young children

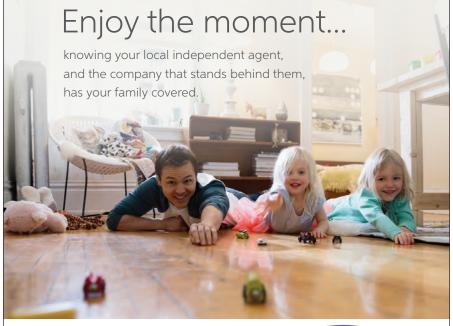


World of Wonder Ellen Street Campus teacher Laura Wagonlander reads more of the StoryWalk® book to the students who took a field trip Rackham Park. Photo: Hannah Ball

and their parents. Mora said they're trying to spread the message that you can read everything, anywhere all the time, especially for young students.

Mora said there used to be a message that parents should let their students learn how to read in school and not work with them on reading comprehension at home. This creates gaps of knowledge in vocabulary. She said children have different needs and they need to identify the gaps in their education.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.





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Eastern Michigan Sportsmen Association promotes outdoor fun, conservation and more

A love for the great outdoors is what drew members to form the Eastern Michigan Sportsmen Association (EMSA) in April 2016.

The club was originally part of the Flint River Valley Steelheaders — a club that dates back to the mid 1970s — but started their own group in order to focus on outdoor opportunities closer to home.

Greg Gumbrecht, President of the EMSA, said the purpose of the group is:

- To promote citizen's effort for protection, preservation, and sport utilization of wild game and freshwater fish
- 2. To work with appropriate governmental, university, and professional agencies to promote wise management of fish and wildlife
- To encourage young and old to experience the great outdoors through interaction with the community
- 4. To introduce the great outdoors to citizens through volunteer efforts and social events such as membership meetings, fishing tournaments, and various outings
- To encourage the strict observation of sport fishing and game laws
- 6. To educate membership on information regarding tackle, fishing and hunting

techniques, laws, legislation, pollution problems, diseases, meetings, research, and other data pertinent to our purpose

In order to fulfil their mission, the EMSA hosts membership meetings with an educational component, tournaments and contests, but like almost every nonprofit, 2020 put a damper on most of the association's activities.

Gumbrecht said the club is optimistic about what 2021 holds and will begin membership meetings again soon, even if they are virtual.

"We're confident members will come back," he



said.

The club has also set the date for their annual Holloway Reservoir Tournament for May 16, 2021. EMSA board member Matt Grobestben said the tournament can host up to 60 boats with each crew given eight hours to catch the best five Walleye they can. The team with the biggest weight in fish wins, with 10 places being recognized.

"We're really looking forward to this year's event," he said, adding that the 2020 event had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

The EMSA also hosts annual Big Fish, Big Buck and Big Turkey contents, allowing members to share what they've caught for a chance to win prizes, a plaque and bragging rights. Three top prizes are given out each year in every category.

In addition to prize money, each EMSA event and membership dues also raise money for the group's philanthropic endeavors, including an annual scholarship.

Gumbrecht said if the pandemic did anything positive it drove people outside, which he hopes helps membership to EMSA grow. Pre-COVID the club had about 100 active memberships, including

family memberships, meaning there were about 250-300 members. He's hopeful those numbers will continue to grow thanks to other stats he monitors closely like the number of fishing and hunting licenses given out in the state.

"People just want to get outdoors and enjoy it," he said.

A regular membership is \$30 with options for junior and senior membership levels as well. Inperson meetings are held at MD's Sports Tavern in Davison and Gumbrecht is hopefully they will begin again soon.

Gumbrecht said the educational component of the membership meetings, among other things, helps those new to hunting and fishing bridge the gap between knowing how to hunt and fish to knowing how to do the activities successfully.

"We'd love for people to get to know us," said Gumbrecht. "Our memberships meetings are open to the public."

For more information on the EMSA, a schedule of meetings, tournament and contest info and more visit www.easternmichigansportsmen.org or follow the group's Facebook page.



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Deadline to register is February 25, 2021

Continuing education contact hours (2 CE) will be available through the Hospice Foundation of America.

Through an expert panel discussion and live and recorded interviews it will help professionals effectively respond to the onslaught of pandemic-related grief and bereavement needs in their communities and equip them with tools to support counseling, treatment, stabilization, and post-traumatic growth.

Recognition of the grief and bereavement challenges the pandemic has posed will enable professionals to better support those who need help with their grief, reflect upon and safeguard their own mental health and wellbeing, and identify opportunities for improvement in grief support.

EXPERT PANEL

- Ken Doka Phd. MDiv. Senior Bereavement Consultant to HFA
- Katherine P. Supiano PhD, LCSW, F-GSA, FT, APHSW-C
- Beverly Wallace MDiv, PhD

MODERATOR

Frank Sesno George Washington University

Funded by a grant from The Community Hospice Foundation Fund of The Community Foundation of Greater Flint in cooperation with Heartland Hospice, Kindred Hospice, McLaren Hospice, Compassus Hospice, Hill Funeral Home, Brown Funeral Home and Reigle Funeral Home.

KIDNEY

Continued from Page 3

until I received a transplant, which is when you go on the national organ donor list," he said.

His wife Jennifer posted on Facebook about the situation in hopes that someone would inquire about being a donor. If someone didn't offer to be a donor, people can be on the national list for years waiting for a match.

Parish saw the post from Jennifer, who he graduated from Linden with.

"My first and only reaction was to contact his wife and ask what I needed to do to help," Parish said. He went to a few appointments at Beaumont starting in August. 2020. "I did testing for about two and one half months. Mostly blood work but also several other tests to make sure I was healthy enough to donate."

To be a live kidney donor, people must meet certain requirements, which usually includes being in good health, having a compatible blood type, knowing the recipient, having normal kidney function and more, according to the Lahey Hospital and Medical Center.

Rupp said Parish had "always been one of the nicest guys you'd ever meet."

"He was pretty quiet in school but everyone knew how nice of a guy he is. It surprised me that after 30 years he came forward and offered, but that's the kind of guy he always has been. After it set in for a couple weeks I started remembering the type of kid he was growing up and I though it doesn't surprise me he offered," Rupp said.

The hospital told them there are six parameters for a perfect kidney donor match, and Parish matched three.

"We were shocked that he was such a good match," Rupp said. "I sat at home crying a few times knowing that Ron was going to give me a second chance at living a full life with my family. It was such a relief to know that I wouldn't have to be on dialysis for years and could start feeling better sooner than later."

"I was actually very excited when I found out I was a match," Parish said.

Rupp was nervous in the days leading up to the surgery, which he said "wasn't bad" once it was over. He's still sore, but recovery is going well. He goes to Beaumont two days a week for blood work and for checkups.

"Most of all, I look forward to having energy to be able to do things with our son," Rupp said, whose son Andrew is 7. "With dialysis, you lose most of your energy and strength and I haven't been able to go out and throw baseballs or footballs around with him or chase him around the yard."

"I don't know how to thank Ron enough for giving me a second chance at life. He did such a selfless act of kindness and heroism to me and my family. It will be an honor for the rest of my life to be able to call him a friend and organ brother and I look forward to the bond we will share from here on out," Rupp said.

Parish said recovery was pretty rough the first week, and while it's the "most pain" he's ever endured, he would do it again.

"To see how happy Mark and his family were/are is beyond worth it. Doctors told me I'll still be sore for a couple more weeks," Parish said. "My feelings about the process now is that I would honestly encourage anyone who may be on the fence about donating to do it."



YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

IMPLANTRETAINED LOWER DENTURE Dentures restore the smile and aid in chewing of food when the natural teeth are lost because of dental disease and/or trauma. The biggest challenge for most denture wearers is the lower denture. Unlike the upper denture which usually has retention and is stable; the lower denture has no retention and is often unstable. Lower dentures float. Most people get along pretty well with their complete upper denture but tolerate, at best, their lower denture. Since lower dentures are less stable and lack retention; eating is often a challenge. Those of us with our own teeth take for granted the fact that we can go to any restaurant and order anything we want from on the menu. Denture wearers are often limited on what they can eat because of their lower denture. Now, I am happy to report that there is hope. With the help of dental implants it is now possible to give a denture wearer a lower denture that is stable and HAS retention. With dental implants it is possible to have a lower denture that DOES NOT FLOAT. Dental implants give a precision, snap fit to a once loose and floating lower denture. An implant retained lower denture can be life changing. Now, with their lower denture firmly and snugly in place, they can eat and enjoy essentially anything they want. If you or someone you know and love is a suffering denture wearer, call my office and ask for a free consultation to learn more about how dental implants can help improve their quality of life.

I welcome your questions and comments. Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net CREATINGBEAUTIFULSMILESFOROVER20YEARS 607 N. Saginaw St. • Holly • 248-634-4671









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EQUIPMENT

Continued from Front Page

This includes the following: 25 new Scott X3 Pro Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses, which each cost \$6,440; 25 Scott Carbon Cylinders-5500psi, 45 minutes, which cost \$1,010; 25 Scott Face Pieces, which

each cost \$310; one Scott RIT-PAK III, which cost \$3,100; three Scott Carbon Cylinder-5500psi, 60 minutes, which costs \$1,300; one Scott Mobile Air Cart, which cost \$2,310; four Scott Ska-Pak Plus Sup-

plied Air Respirator System, which cost \$1,475; and two Scott 100-feet Supply Airlines, which each cost \$360.

Volz said the RIT-PAK is what they use in case there's any need for a safety intervention on the scene of an incident. He said the new equipment they ordered is "way better than what we have."

LEvery

firefighter will

have an individual

mask issued to

them. **77**

Rvan Volz

Fenton Township fire chief

The mobile air cart will be used in confined spaces. When firefighters need to go down in the sewers, they can supply more air with this new equipment.

"We've upgraded our safety for confined spaces, and for RITs and for

new packs," he said.

The new self-contained breathing apparatuses have better communication technology, and firefighters will be able to hear each other better when responding to an emergency.

The previous equipment was 20 years old.

"It was time to upgrade everything," Volz said.

This new equipment is also lighter, which Volz said will help avoid back injuries.

Supervisor Vince Lorraine said the safety of their firefighters is of the utmost importance.

Where's my package?

■Similar addresses, incorrect pins on Google Maps leads to mix-up of deliveries

By Sharon Stone

Have you ever gotten a package by mistake or have you had to track down a missing package that you know was delivered? Welcome to Pam Howd's world.

Howd is a Linden City councilor and lives at a home on E. Silver Lake Road in the city of Linden. About a mile west of her home, there is a home on W. Broad Street in the city of Linden with a matching street number.

Those unfamiliar with the area could be unaware of where Silver Lake Road becomes Broad Street, sometimes including delivery drivers.

Howd said the missed deliveries became noticeable last summer when so many people were ordering items online because of the pandemic. After tracking down her packages, Howd learned that her neighbors down the road were

getting her items and sometimes vice versa.

Attempting to find out why this was happening, Howd asked a FedEx delivery person how they located addresses and was told they use Google Maps. If someone neglected to put East in front of Silver Lake Road, Google Maps would direct the driver to the W. Broad Street address.

Howd said she asked city hall if there was any way to change her address but was told that those addresses were decided by the post office many years ago and that it would be challenging to change them now. She said regular mail and UPS deliveries don't seem to have problems finding her home.

She's attempted to lodge complaints with FedEx but does not know if it will help. The problem is more with the mapping pins.

Believing she is not alone in the problem, Howd is advising residents to check Google Maps to see if the correct location comes up for their address.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

REPUBLICANS CALL US 'socialists.' We just care about other Americans.

WHAT IS GOING on with the post office? A friend in Kansas just received my Christmas card mailed in November. A family member who lives in Fenton mailed a card to me in Holly almost two weeks ago. I live four miles away. This can't all be blamed on covid.

IN REFERENCE TO the comment

about returning our stimulus check if we don't agree with Biden's executive orders. I disagree with them, but I will not return my check. Biden is putting many people in more desperate need thanks to these orders.

WHAT'S GOING ON in Genesee County? I'm hearing of so many old people registering on their vaccine page and not hearing anything. People much younger than some of these elderly people are getting call-backs. Why? Oakland County doesn't seem to have these problems.



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Charles Nelson

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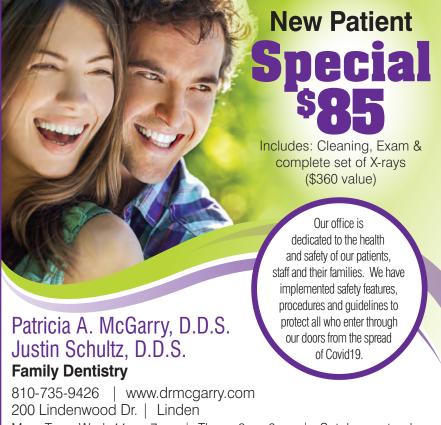
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Winter's contact sports will begin Monday after the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services released an updated emergency order allowing prep sports to start earlier than the previous Feb. 19 date. Photo: David Troppens

Winter prep contact sports returning on Monday

By David Troppens

Prep basketball, hockey, wrestling and competitive cheer are all back.

And pretty much immediately.

On Thursday the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) released an updated emergency order that gave Michigan high schools

the green light for the winter prep sports season's contact sports.

Starting Monday, girls and boys basketball and hockey can actually play their first games of the season if teams so desire. Meanwhile, competitive cheer and wrestling can start Friday. The new order will also allow for middle school physical

contact sports to also begin their seasons.

"Our athletes have been through a lot of adversity over the last 11 months and this update is encouraging in that we now have the opportunity for kids to get back to the sports they love," Holly Area Schools athletic director Casey Lombard

See WINTER on 24

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021 | PAGE 22 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Fenton swimmers embracing what they have, win first meet

By David Troppens

Fenton — Gavin Crews remembers the moment vividly — the moment he found out the Fenton varsity boys swimmers weren't going to be able to compete at the D2 state swim meet due to the sudden COVID-19 outbreak last March.

"It was the last class of our day and the announcements went off saying that the school was getting shut down and all the sports were getting shut down," Crews said. "It was definitely really tough. Working so hard for so long and not being able to represent that and show it off at the state meet was tough."

A year later, Crews, now Fenton's only senior on the squad, has a new approach to his final year with the Tigers.

"It means a lot. I'm taking a new route," Crews said. I want to have as much fun as I can. I want to appreciate the things that I have. I'm blessed to be here and swimming. I love this team. ... I want to appreciate every little thing like every practice and I have so far. If it gets taken away again, so be it. It's not like it hasn't happened before."

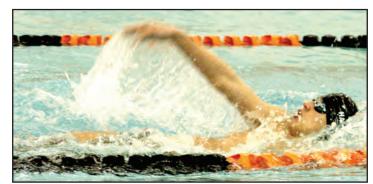
So far the Tigers are off to a strong start, winning all of their events. The second victory came in a 128-42 victory against the Kearsley/Lake Fenton co-op and a third came in a 128-38 win against the Brandon/Goodrich

Despite facing two different teams, the Tigers were able to take first place in 11 of the 12 events. Max Haney and Jack Fries took part in four firsts. They teamed with Braden Falvo and Kaz Sieja to win the 200 medley relay (1:48.56), and also teamed with Sieja and Crews to win the 200 freestyle relay (1:31.98).

Haney also won the 100 freestyle (49.90) and the 100 backstroke (56.85) while Fries won the 100 butterfly (58.07) and the 100 breaststroke (1:06.35).

The 400 freestyle relay team of Crews, Evan Koch, Zach Michelson and Falvo also earned a win (3:39.68).

AT TCTIMES.





Two of Fenton's swimmers are Max Haney (left) and Braden Falvo (above). The Tigers defeated Brandon/ Goodrich and Kearsley/Lake Fenton. Photos: **David Troppens**







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David's **Dabblings**

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



STAFFORD TRADE WAS A THING OF BEAUTY BY LIONS

Something is going to happen in this column that hasn't happened in it in maybe a decade — it's going to be a positive Detroit Lions article.

Of course, the subject involves the Matthew Stafford trade.

It was apparent to everyone and their kid sister that the Lions were going to have to unload their exfranchise quarterback during this offseason. Stafford isn't as young as he used to be, the Lions are in a rebuilding mode and it only made sense for Stafford to want a trade to see if he could find a situation that possibly gave him a better chance of success. But at the same time since reduced the Lions' trading power, or at least the theory goes.

Despite that strike going against Detroit, the Lions were able to trade Stafford to the Los Angeles Rams for their starting quarterback Jared Goff, their third round draft pick in the 2021 draft and their firstround draft picks of the 2022 and 2023 drafts. When that news hit me recently, I was in complete shock. That was way more than I thought the Lions would ever get for Stafford. Somehow, the Lions took a situation that didn't look like

See DABBLINGS on 24 .

Notes: Spencer shows his strength in 12th victory

By David Troppens

Joey Spencer's 12th professional boxing bout was more than a victory.

It showed that he's starting to mature.

Spencer improved his professional record to 12-0 with a knock out of Isiah Seldon in the first round as part of the FOX Network's broadcast of Premier Boxing Champions at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. However, what was probably more impressive than the win was what Spencer displayed during the bout. It's clear as Spencer grows older (he's still only 20), he's getting stronger.

Spencer only took 135 seconds to dispense of Seldon, knocking him down • twice in that period of time. And he only needed to land about 10 punches to finish the deal as well despite the fact that Spencer was fighting in a heavier weight class (158 pounds versus 154 pounds).

Watching Spencer on television it's easy to forget that in almost all of his professional bouts he was a teenager still growing into his body facing much older boxing veterans. Now that he's 20, some of that is changing. It was clear he had everyone knew this, that dramatically . more strength than in his earlier fights when he was a teenager.

> Spencer made some comments about his newfound strength.

> "It's interesting. I'd hear people say when you get older things just change and you become more powerful," Spencer said hours after the fight. "I feel more powerful now. They can't take my punches any more. I feel this different type of energy. My whole body is behind it and it gives me a lot of confidence. Give me one more year, and I'll be ready for anybody."

Of course, training has a lot to do with • his strength as well.

"I've watched the fight one time

through," Spencer said during the same interview. "My sparring sessions have been different. My punches are coming off different now. They are more explosive than ever before. I envisioned that exact punch that overhand right. I had a feeling of what shot was going to get

it done. That's what I like to see. That was a big guy in there. Definitely the biggest guy I have fought. But I hit his chin and he couldn't take the shot."

Spencer dropped Seldon with a right about a minute into the first round. The second came only about a minute later.

Dirty punches by Seldon

f 💆 🖸

In between the knockouts, Seldon, who is nicknamed the Zoo, had one rather embarrassing period within the match. After getting back up after his first time on the canvas, he tangled with Spencer and then hit him across the back of his head three



Joey Spencer (left) won his 12th professional bout when he defeated Isiah Seldon.

times. They were illegal punches and referee Jerry Cantu docked two points from Seldon's card. That didn't end up mattering because less than a minute later, the fight was over when Spencer sent Seldon to the canvas again.

"Normally I would always retaliate," Spencer said. "What that dude did was very dirty. Back-of-the-head shots are the most dangerous shots you can lay in a fight. That was not good. The fact he did it three times tells you he was trying to hurt me. These are the type of shots people have not recovered from."



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DABBLINGS

Continued from Page 23

a huge positive and spun it into a starting quarterback for next season and three draft picks, including two future first-round selections. That means for two years the Lions will be picking two of the top 32 picks in the draft. Now, that's what you need if you are rebuilding. That's a pretty impressive move for rookie General Manager Brad Holmes.

This trade not only gives the picks the Lions need to rebuild but with Goff they now have a QB that they can analyze next season and see if they think he's the guy of the future or just a stop-gap until someone else is ready to take over the reigns. The Lions can still use a draft pick on a quarterback this season, or chose to wait a year. But, they've actually bought themselves some time by getting an experienced starter who has won playoff games. There's a lot of flexibility there. But now comes the hard part — actually making those draft picks work for the Lions. But we'll deal with that when those selections are actually selected. This was a good first step.

Bronchos take many firsts but fall to Davison

By David Troppens

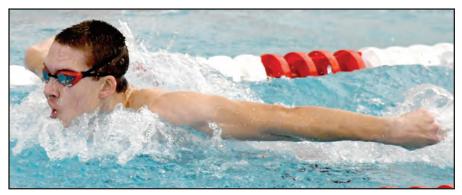
Despite limited numbers, the Holly varsity boys swim team is proving it has the leaders it needs to earn first-place finishes in meets.

The Bronchos earned first place in eight of the 12 events, but lost a competitive 92-81 verdict against Davison, Wednesday.

Holly won two of the three relays and had Drew Hignite earn first in all four of his events. The 200 medley relay team opened the meet with a first-place finish. The team of Zachary Rockafellow, Hignite, Monty Quinn and Collin Wilczak posted a first-place time of 1:55.17.

The Bronchos also won the final race of the night when the 400 free-style relay team of Monty, Rockafellow, Brandon Strickert and Hignite won with a time of 4:07.62.

Hignite also won both of his individual events, earning a first in the 200 individual medley (2:25.35) and in the 100 breaststroke (1:08.65). Hignite has yet to compete in an



Holly's Drew Hignite won the 200 individual medley and the 100 breaststroke in the Bronchos' 92-81 loss to the Davison Cardinals on Wednesday. **Photo: Christopher Summers**

event that didn't take first.

Strickert also had two individual firsts to go with his relay first. Strickert won the 200 freestyle (2:17.83) and the 500 freestyle (6:22.42). Two other of the first-place relay performers also won individual events. Quinn took the top spot in the 100 freestyle (55.71) while Rockafellow won the 100 butterfly (1:09.82).

Holly had two individual secondplace finishes. Both were earned by performers who earned one individual first. Rockafellow took second in the 100 backstroke (1:10.56) while Quinn was second in the 50 freestyle (24.12).

The Bronchos had three individual third-place efforts. Kade Kivari had two of them, taking third in the 100 butterfly (1:18.92) and third in the 100 breaststroke (1:26.71). Nathan Costigan was third in the 200 individual medley (2:46.73).



WINTER

Continued from Page 22

said in a release on the school's athletic page.

"Today is an exciting day for all of us in educational athletics as we are starting to see some light at the end of the tunnel," Fenton Area Public Schools athletic director Mike Bakker said on a release on the Fenton athletics website.

"I am thrilled that we are getting this opportunity to get back to full competition and look forward to watching our student-athletes showcase all of their hard work."

A lot still has to be decided upon. State athletic directors will be working with their leagues and the state to finalize schedules and to do the things that need to be done to allow athletes to play safely and quickly. The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) presented a press release with mask requirements and COVID testing options. Wrestlers will be required to complete a negative rapid antigen test on the day of the meet. The MDHHS will make rapid tests available to all wrestling schools

at no charge according to the MHSAA press release.

Will teams play as soon as Monday? That's not known at presstime as teams were unable to run contact practices in these sports prior to the announcement.

The state tournaments were also set. District competition for prep basketball will begin the week of March 21 with the girls playing on the even dates of that week and the boys playing on the odd dates. The finals will be April 9 for the girls and April 10 for the boys.

Competitive cheer will have districts from March 17 to 20 and their finals will be March 26 and 27.

Hockey will host regional competition between March 15 and 20 with the state finals scheduled for March 27. Finally, wrestling will begin team and individual districts the week of March 14 with team districts being hosted March 17 or 18 and the individual district on March 20. The state team finals will be March 30 and the individual tournament on April 2 and 3.

Due to the condensed seasons, regular season schedules will have some changes as well.

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44 Drumming

STRONGHEART DRUMMEDICINE

■ Fenton man's passion for drum therapy provides healing, peace for followers

Are you stressed? Feeling a little off, isolated or depressed? You might want to consider meditation with drums.

Many people are discovering the positive side effects of drums though StrongHeart DrumMedicine, also known as Ool Pardi of Fenton.

Based in Fenton, StrongHeart DrumMedicine offers drumming meditations, drum circles, sound meditation retreats, private therapeutic drum sessions, art therapy and drum making classes. In addition, Pardi makes and sells drums, with a special interest in large-scale drums.

"COVID19 has made it difficult for us to hold events, which is unfortunate because today, people need drumming more than ever as a result of social distancing," Pardi See **DRUM** on 30 About Ool Pardi

Pardi was born in Estonia, a small country in northern Europe, bordering Russia. When Russia occupied Estonia, Pardi, who was 17 at that time, left and came to Michigan. He bought his first drum, a Sioux ceremonial drum, when he was 26. In 2014, he took a drumming class from Spirit Hawk of the Ojibwa National. Pardi was given the name Strong Heart by Chief White Buffalo. Pardi married Kellie in 2018 and together they provide a range of wholistic treatments and services.

(Photos from left) Ool Pardi sits in their meditation room where he and his wife hold drum making classes. Pardie plays his community drum while he and Kellie are up north for a wholistic community event. Pardi is doing a private therapeutic sound bath. Photos: Kellie Pardi

takes you to places in your mind that provide healing. 77 StrongHeart DrumMedicine (Ool Pardi) Fenton resident

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YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2021 AT 7:00 PM BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ELECTRONICALLY. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

NEW BUSINESS:

ZBA21-002 Lake Fenton Community Schools 11425 Torrey Road, Fenton MI 48430:

Requesting a 50-foot side yard setback variance to allow a parcel split of 11425 Torrey Road, Parcel No. 06-02-300-047 of 1.43 acres and to rezone the resulting parcel from R-4, Single Family Residential to C-1 Local Business to satisfy EGLE requirements.

ZBA21-003 John Denne 12237 Margaret Drive:

Requesting a variance for a 64-foot sight line variance to allow a four-foot-high fence, matching the neighboring property's existing fence 12237 Margaret Drive, parcel 06-11-501-045

To the residents and property owners of Fenton Township, Genesee County, Michigan, and any other interested parties. Please take notice that a regular meeting of the Fenton Township Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Tuesday February 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by ZOOM Meeting. The public may participate in the meeting via the following web link:

http://bit.ly/FentonZBA

Or by telephone by calling into the following number:

Phone Number: (312)626-6799 Meeting ID: 962 5043 4561 Passcode: 918527

Members of the public will only be able to speak during the public comment portion(s) of the meeting and such comment will be limited to three minutes per person. To provide for orderly public participation, when the Chairperson or meeting moderator calls for public comment, a person wishing to speak must state their name and wait to be recognized before speaking. The Chairperson or moderator will recognize all persons wishing to speak during public comment. Prior to the meeting, if members of the public have certain questions or wish to provide input on any business that will be addressed at the meeting, such persons may contact the Zoning Board members through Michael Deem, Zoning Administrator, by email at mdeem@fentontownship.org, or by mail at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. A copy of the meeting material may be found on the Township website homepage at www.fentontownship.org.

The Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 72 hour advance notice by contacting Robert Krug, Township Clerk, by email, phone, or mail at the below.

Robert E. Krug Fenton Township Clerk 12060 Mantawauka Drive Fenton, MI 48430-8817 Phone: (810) 629-1537 x6 Email: info@fentontownship.org

ROBERT KRUG, FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

LOOKING BACK at this week in HISTORY

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

FEB. 7

1962: President John F. Kennedy issues an executive order broadening the United States' restrictions on trade with Cuba. The ensuing embargo, which effectively restricts all trade between Cuba and the United States, has had profoundly negative effects on the island nation's economy and shaped the recent history of the Western Hemisphere.

FEB. 8

1968: On this night, police officers in Orangeburg, South Carolina open fire on a crowd of young people during a protest against racial segregation, killing three and wounding around 30 others. The killing of three young

African Americans by state officials, four years after racial discrimination had been outlawed by federal law, has gone down in history as the Orangeburg Massacre.

FEB. 9

1971: On this day, pitcher Leroy "Satchel" Paige becomes the first Negro League veteran to be nominated for the Baseball Hall of Fame. In August of that year, Paige, a pitching legend known for his fastball, showmanship and the longevity of his playing career, which spanned five decades, was inducted. Joe DiMaggio once called Paige "the best and fastest pitcher I've ever faced."

FEB. 10

2014: On this day, Shirley Temple Black, who as a child in the 1930s became one of Hollywood's most successful stars, dies at her Woodside, California, home at age 85. The plucky, curly-haired performer sang, danced and acted in dozens of films by the time she was a teen; as an adult, she gave up making movies and served as a U.S. diplomat.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT MYFENTON.COM

VILLAGE OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF SITE PLAN REVIEW

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Article 21, Section 2106 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance, that the Village of Holly Planning Commission will consider a request for a Site Plan Review on February 24, 2021 at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) at an electronic Zoom meeting.

Access the meeting at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81136275271

Or go to zoom.us. At the top, right corner, select 'join a meeting'. Enter the meeting ID # 811 3627 5271. The bottom left corner is used to start the video and audio feeds. Or you can call in using the following numbers:

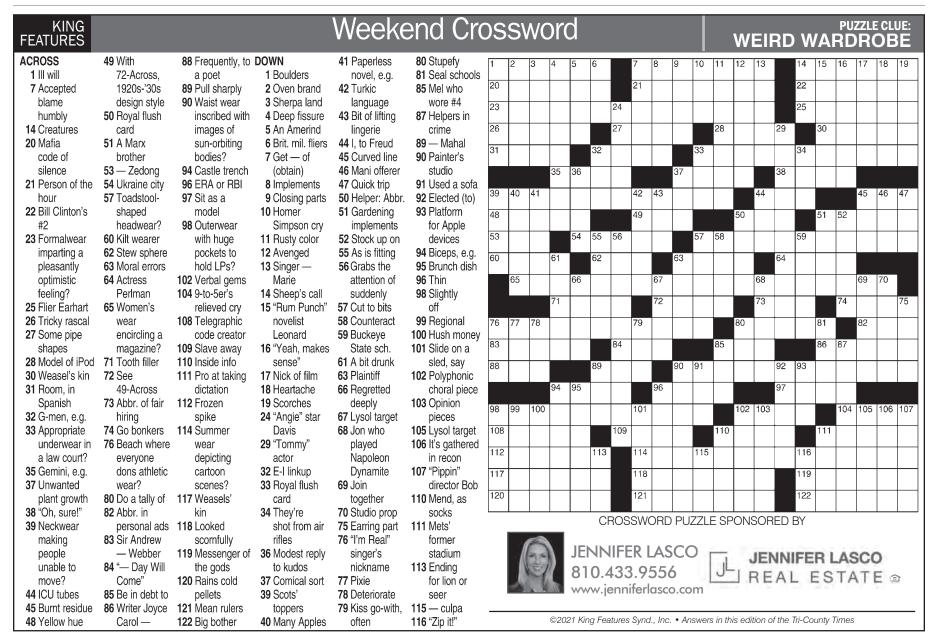
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

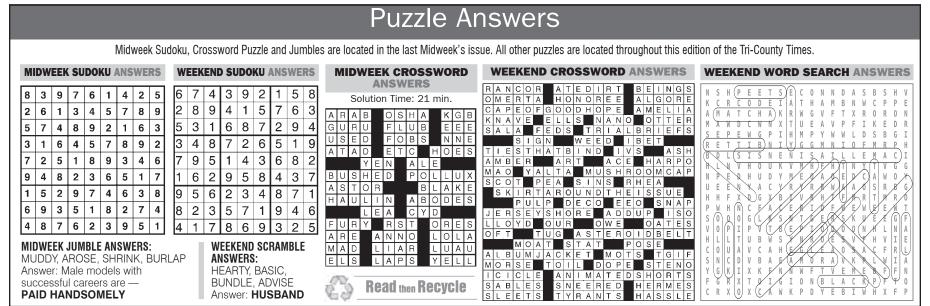
An application for site plan review was filed by R & T Investors Lands Holdings of Holly, LLC, Holly, MI 48442. The proposal is for the site plan for the property located at the NW corner of Holly and Quick Road, Parcel ID # IH-01-21-400-027 and 028

Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk/Treasurer, Karl Richter Center, 300 East Street, Holly, Michigan 48442 prior to the review at dbigger@hollyvillage.org.

Interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend are asked to contact the village offices at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (248) 634-9571 during regular business hours.

Deborah J. Bigger Clerk/Treasurer Village of Holly











Photos, from left. Ool Pardi facilitates a group sound meditation, often called a sound bath. Pardie leads a drum circle at a retreat at the Howell Nature Center. Pardi (left) helps a student make a drum. Photos: Kellie Pardi

DRUM

Continued from Page 27

said. "But we are hopeful that as we get closer to spring we will be able to begin filling our calendar again."

Combine drumming and meditation and you have a very powerful healing tool.

"I struggle to find words for the profound healing and integration I experienced during the drum meditation. If you ever have a chance to attend a gathering like this, make sure you do. What an absolutely amazing and beautiful journey Ool and Kellie facilitate," Jessica Lampkin said.

StrongHeart DrumMedicine also facilitates drum circles, which provide an opportunity for participants to feel connected with others and gain a sense of interpersonal support. A drum circle provides an opportunity to connect with your own spirit at a deeper level.

When Pardi began his journey into sound healing, he had no idea where it would lead. He said he did it because he found it transformational in his own life, which slowly began to spill over into the lives of others. Soon people began asking him to join group meditations, not because they understood all the nitty gritty of the effect of rhythm and vibration on the body, but because it felt good.

"There is a peace that is generated when people gather for meditation," Pardi said. "That peace goes with them into the world and ripples through their lives making the world a better place. Drumming takes you to places in your mind that provide healing."

Drumming

Since the dawn of time, man has used drums for socialization, entertainment, dancing, communication and healing. Each of us begins life listening to the rhythm of our mother's heartbeat. From that moment on we are surrounded by the rhythm of



Ool Pardie and his wife Kellie run StrongHeart DrumMedicine in Fenton. Submitted photo

our own heart, our breath, our blood flow. There is even a sort of rhythm to our days, weeks and months. The rise and fall of the tide. So primal is the sound of a drum that our brains involuntarily respond to the rhythm and vibration, whether we like it or not.

The drum has played

an important role in the development of the human spirit for a very, very long time, and for good reason. It releases endorphins, enkephalins, and alpha waves which are key ingredients for improving your sense of well-being. The sound of drumming also generates dvnamic neuronal connections in all parts of the brain even where there is significant damage or impairment. Drumming generates new neuronal connections in all parts of the brain, integrating our experiences and deepening our sense of self-awareness and therefore is being used in treatment of a variety of conditions, including Parkinsons, Alzheimer's, autism, stroke victims, headaches, addiction, posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression.

How does drumming factor into happiness? Turns out, a lot. You may have heard of Cortisol, a stress

hormone. We need cortisol. It helps us adapt during "fight-or-flight" situations. However, sustained high cortisol levels destroy healthy muscle and bone, slow down healing and normal cell regeneration, impair digestion, metabolism and mental function, and weaken your immune system.

Drumming has been shown to lower cortisol levels in the brain which allows serotonin, the happy hormone, to flow, but much more happens than just an increased sense of wellbeing. Lowering cortisol levels allows the immune system to kick in and the body can begin to heal. A healthy immune system is the key component to preventing infectious diseases. Stress, according to current medical research, contributes to nearly all disease and is a primary cause of many lifethreatening illnesses Source: StrongHeartDrumMedicine.com



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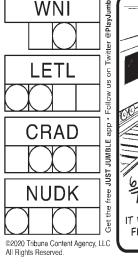
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By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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Simple SCABI	
Package DUBLEN	
DEIVAS	

TODAY'S WORD

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

Weekend Sudoku

FUN BY THE NUMBERS
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down and each small 9-box
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numbers from one to nine.

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

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

Obituaries

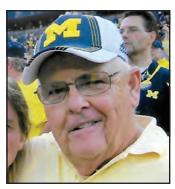
Times

Patrick Howard Kelley

1940 - 2021

Patrick Howard Kelley - age 80, of Fenton, died Thursday, January 28, 2021. Funeral services were held 2 PM Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at Fenton United Methodist Church, 119

S. Leroy St. Fenton (A live stream of the service was viewed on Pat's obituary page at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com). Pastor Michelle Forsyth officiating. Burial in Fairview Cemetery, Linden. Visitation was held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton Monday, February 1, from 4 - 8 PM where a Lion Club Memorial Service was held at 7 PM. An additional celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Those desiring may make contributions to the Linden Sportsmen Club, c/o AIM Program. Pat was born October 23, 1940 in Jackson, the son of Howard Sherman and Ruth E. (Van Etten) Kelley. He was a 1958 graduate of Hoover High School. He married Jovce L. Willcut June 17, 1961 in Jackson. He retired from Asbestos Workers Local #47 after 45 years of service. Pat was a member of Fenton United Methodist Church where he was active with the United



Methodist
Men. He was
a member of
the Linden and
Grand Blanc
Sportsmen
Club's and
was a life
member of
the ATA. He
also was
member of the
Fenton Lions
Club. He was
a charitable

person. Pat was not an ordinary man. He was a protector and provider for his family. He loved his Michigan Wolverines and the outdoors. He was a friend to many, a stranger to none. Best of all he loved his family and would do anything for them. He will be greatly missed. Surviving are his wife of 60 years, Joyce; daughter, Kathleen (Mark) Stadler of Linden; grandchildren, David (Nina) Stadler of WA, Matthew Stadler of WA, Brandi (Corey) Nuckels of Grand Rapids, and Brittany Stewart of Fenton; great grandson, Johnathon Stadler; sister, Karen Resseguie of Burton; sister-in-law, Shirley Kelley of Clio; and several nieces; nephews; and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents: daughter. Kimberly Harris: and brother. Michael Kelley. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.





Thomas E. O'Neil

1942 - 2021

Thomas E.
O'Neil - age
78, of Holly
died Tuesday,
February 2,
2021. Tom
was born on
March 9, 1942
in Cleveland,
OH, the son
of William
and Marcella
(Ouellet) O'Neil.
Tom is survived
by his beloved

by his beloved wife of 57 years, Kathleen (Penny) O'Neil, his five children; Patrick (Laurie) O'Neil, Colleen (Kevin) Pudduck, Kellie (David) Malkowski, Brian (Jenny) O'Neil and Kevin (Marisa) O'Neil. Tom had 10 grandchildren; Brenden & Danny Pudduck, Darcy and Spencer O'Neil, Nicholas, Zachary and Emma Malkowski, and Emilia, Macklin and Liam O'Neil. Tom loved Sunday dinners with family, golf, and reading. Tom was a



of the Knights of Columbus, Tom was a true family man. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make a contribution to the Autism Resource Center of Genesee County. Visitation will eral Home in

hunting, golf

Davidson

daughter,

Amber

brother,

Gregory

motorcycle.

Surviving are

(Chris) Beall;

Sarah Beall:

Snider; sister, Susie Snider:

granddaughter,

and his Harley

grand Knight

be at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly, Friday, February 5 from 2 - 5 and 6 - 9 PM, rosary will be at 4 PM. Observe mask and social distancing guidelines. The funeral service will be held Saturday, February 6, at St. Rita's Catholic Church, at 11 AM with Father David Blazek Celebrant. Burial will be at Lakeside Cemetery. Observe mask and social distancing guidelines. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

Aline Bourque

Aline Bourque - age 91, died February 2, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Billy Pettigrew

Billy Pettigrew - age 90, died January 28, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



David Hardacre Jr.

David Hardacre Jr. - age 43, died January 31, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Desiree Villagomez

Desiree Villagomez - age 37, died January 28, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Doris Behrens

Doris Behrens - age 94, died January 29, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Ellen Silvers

Ellen Silvers - age 65, died January 29, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Michael Kevin Snider

1952 - 2021

Michael Kevin Snider- age 68, of Gaines, died Wednesday, February 3, 2021. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad Street,

Linden. Interment will be held at Fairview Cemetery, Linden. Visitation will be held 2 - 4 PM and 6 - 8 PM Monday, February 8, 2021 at the funeral home. Michael was born February 29, 1952 in Flint, the son of Delton and Myron (Robinson) Snider. Michael retired from General Motors as a job setter. He loved the outdoors, fishing,



and several nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Delton Snider; sisters, Connie Snider Borton, Pam Snider Walczak; and grandmother, Ladell Sorrel. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Sharp 🕠

Obituaries

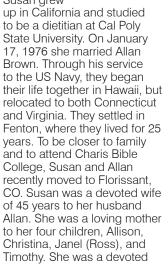
<u> Times</u>

35

Susan Carol Brown

1950 - 2021

Susan Carol Brown – age 70 went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 25, 2021. Susan was born in San Luis Obispo, CA on October 8, 1950 to Kent and Phyllis Kough. Susan grew





grandmother to her four grandchildren, Levi, Judah, Gabriel, and Beatrix. She loved watching the Detroit tigers and volunteering in her community. She enjoyed gardening, crocheting, and spending

time with family and friends. Last year she went to Honduras on a mission trip and enjoyed serving the people there. She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband; children; and grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Marilyn (Tom) Black of Belfair, WA. Susan believed that the life of the unborn is sacred. She supported many pro-life charities. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be made to Life Network of Colorado Springs. https://www. elifenetwork.com/donate/ In the comments, write – In memory of Susan C Brown.

John Sillivan III

John Sillivan III - age 68, died February 1, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Robert Brown

Robert Brown - age 74, died January 30, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Michael Norman

Michael Norman - age 60, died January 31, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Charles "Chuck" Wallace

Charles "Chuck" Wallace - age 87, died February 2, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Wilma Faust

Wilma Faust - age 73, died February 3, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Charles Wilson

Charles Wilson - age 86, died February 3, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Linda Miller

Linda Miller - age 73, died February 3, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.







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