

# WeekendTimes

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

\$1.00

# The State Bank, sheriff's office help thwart scam

■Elderly woman almost scammed out of entire life savings

#### By Hannah Ball

VOL. 28 NO. VIII

A 78-year-old Fenton Township woman nearly lost her entire life savings to a scam last week after an attorney told her that her grandson was in jail and she needed to bail him out.

Her grandson was not in jail, and the attorney was fake.

Thanks to the staff at The State Bank in Linden and the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, she was able to keep her money.

See **SCAM** on 12

## Snow covers tri-county area



# Applicant seeks special land use permit

■Would like to turn Red Fox Outfitters building into banquet facility for weddings, events

#### By Sharon Stone

The Fenton City Planning Commission is reviewing a proposal to convert the old granary and former Red Fox Outfitters building into a banquet facility.

At its October 2020 meeting, city planners recommended that the city not approve a special land

See **RED FOX** on 15

#### **Residents express opposition to asphalt factory**



Residents of Tyrone Township show their opposition to a rezoning request that could ultimately allow an asphalt factory to be developed north of Center Road and west of Old U.S. 23. Submitted photo

■ Capital Asphalt owner seeks to rezone property from farm residential to heavy industrial

#### By Sharon Stone

Opposition to a rezoning request is growing in Tyrone Township.

The Tyrone Township Planning Commission has been requested to rezone vacant land in order to create an asphalt manufacturing plant and warehouses. A preliminary review began during the planning See **ASPHALT** on 14

# More than 50,000 vaccinated in Genesee County

■ Sheriff urges people to sign up to make appointments

#### By Hannah Ball

Since December 2020, Genesee County healthcare professionals have vaccinated more than 50,000 people.

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson announced during his weekly press conference, Wednesday, Feb. 17, that

See VACCINATED on 33



Luc Birchmeier of Fenton is seeking a special land use permit from the city of Fenton to turn the empty Red Fox Outfitters building into a banquet facility. City planners do not recommend the permit at this time due to parking concerns. Times file photo



# that all parents

are against hybrid. Some of us have teens that are making the best of the

situation. They think of it as a compromise — in-person learning along with social distancing. The high school teachers have been pretty awesome."



# you to the driver of a red truck for plowing our driveway on

Rose Center Road near the fire department on Thursday, Feb. 18. We seniors are very thankful. God bless you."



#### wa wa NA

**Line How cool was** that! Just
watched as
NASA's Perseverance Rover just
landed on Mars.

Can't wait to see the photos from this mission."





# City employees work to handle snow

■Department of public works employees shovel sidewalks on city-owned property

#### By Hannah Ball

Department of public works employees have been busy this week dealing with the 8-9 inches of snow dropped on the area the night of Monday, Feb. 15. Fenton and the surrounding areas are expected to get more snow on Sunday.

Dan Brisson, director of the Fenton Department of Public Works (DPW), said these two past winters have started later in the season, and the snow has been milder and less frequent. He said the most challenging part is managing equipment, deicing chemicals and labor resources to "efficiently and effectively respond to the storm event."

"The level of service needed for our busy community requires roads to be restored to bare pavement as quickly as possible while striving to use salt efficiently," he said. "Salt only lasts about two hours and even less when applied during the snow event. It is the delicate balance of the level of service provided and being environmentally and fiscally responsible. Every storm is different where timing and use of resources necessarily varies."



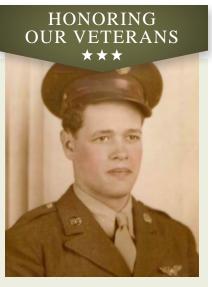
John Staisil and Sarah Angus, who do downtown maintenance with the Fenton Department of Public Works, shovel sidewalks in downtown Fenton on Tuesday, Feb. 16. Photo: Hannah Ball

Salt usage is down "significantly" for the past two winter seasons because of the milder conditions. Brisson said they have used 190 tons of road salt on city streets this year. Last winter, they used 825 tons of salt for the season, and the 2018/19 winter season, they used 975 tons of salt.

See **SHOVEL** on 13

**L**During a major snow event, all public works personnel are assigned to work the snow event. 77

**Dan Brisson** Fenton Department of Public Works director



ARTHUR MCLAUGHLIN HOLLY, MICHIGAN World War II

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#### A message from the superintendent

#### Important events and dates announced

It is hard to believe it is almost March and we are planning for our year end activities such as award ceremonies, commencement, senior night and grade level transition activities. In addition, we have already started planning for the 2021-22 school year. After a year full of ups and downs, we are all looking forward to the future months and hoping for the ability to celebrate the many traditions we have

missed so much. Here are some important dates and information to help you in your planning.

#### Class of 2021 commencement

June 6 is slated as graduation day for the class of 2021. We will continue to monitor any updates from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) on gathering limits and plan accordingly.

#### Kindergarten round up

This will take place on March 11 at 5:30 p.m. and it will be a virtual event. If this is your first child starting school or the youngest of your crew, I encourage you to participate. Starting kindergarten is such an exciting time for our kiddos and the West Shore staff makes this evening extra special for our Lake Fenton families.

#### Preschool registration for 2021-22 is open

The Lake Fenton Early Learning Center, which is in the administration wing of the middle school, is currently enrolling children ages 2 ½-4 years old for its tuition based preschool programs. With the welcome addition of the West Shore PSK



**Julie Williams** Lake Fenton Community Schools

team to our building, we now offer four tuition based Pre-K classrooms and two GSRP classrooms, GSRP or Great Start Readiness Program is a state funded preschool that is free to families who qualify. This year the Early Learning Center partnered with Camp Copneconic to provide full day GSRP students with hands-on, outdoor education four days a week. This partnership yielded tremendous opportunities for concept devel-

opment and exploration for our young learners. We will continue with this partnership going forward, and we will begin to open up these experiences to our other classrooms during the 2021-2022 school year.

If you have not had a chance to see the Early Learning Center, I encourage you to contact Director Chelsea Horton to schedule a time to visit.

#### Schools of Choice for 2021-22 (March 1 - August 13)

Lake Fenton Community Schools Offers Unlimited Schools of Choice Program 105 and 105c for Students in Grades K-12.

The Lake Fenton Community School District will accept applications for the 2021-22 school year under Sections 105 and 105c of the State Aid Act.

For more information about school of choice with Lake Fenton Community Schools, go to lakefentonschools.org or call Terry Zalewski at (810) 591-2532 to schedule a time to come to the Administrative Services office.

At this time of the year, when we are ready for winter to be over and the snow to melt away, we must look forward to our spring and summer activities and the warm sunshine that will fill our days.

Proud to Be BLUE.



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.

#### FROZEN WIND TURBINES in Texas. Isn't that the most ironic thing ever. Now the residents who actually have access to a gas-powered generators are the only ones with power. Just can't make this stuff up.

ISN'T IT TIME that our moronic U.S. Congress stopped trying to get ex-president Trump and started trying to run the country again? We have the worst pandemic experienced since the Black Plague of the 1300s.

#### **ABRAHAM LINCOLN WROTE** a letter to his son's teacher. He states that for every crooked politician there is a dedicated leader. Thank you, President Trump for being the best leader we have ever had and not part of the crooked politicians.

THE BEST THING that could happen to the public school system is competition from free enterprises.

SO, ANDREW CUOMO'S nursing home scandal is finally gaining traction with law enforcement. Putting positive cases in with the compromised elderly was horrific. Isn't that same policy that our lovely governor used? When will she be charged?

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

## What's a lesson you wish you knew as a teenager?



"That you are making some of the most important decisions in life while vou're the dumbest."

**Carol Brooks-Pawlak** 

Linden



"How to save money/plan for the future."

**Deborah Leigh** 

Fenton



"Most of what is happening now will not matter in five years."

**Janine Marie** Livonia

# street talk



"You do not need to decide on your entire life by the age of 18."

Mary T. Johnson Fenton

### **Consumers Energy crews help after storm**

#### ■ Travel to North Carolina, Virginia in support of storm restoration efforts

#### By Sharon Stone

Nearly 50 Consumers Energy workers in Michigan left for North Carolina Wednesday morning, Feb. 17, to help restore power after tens of thousands of customers were left without power from a series of severe storms across the Southern and Southeastern U.S. in the last several days.

The 15 Consumers Energy crews, equipment and support personnel are from more than 20 different service centers across Lower Michigan.

"We are pleased we can assist the residents of North Carolina while still having enough crews here in Michigan to serve our customers," said Guy Packard, Consumers Energy's vice president of electric operations. "We have benefitted from mutual assistance during large storms here. Now is our time to help others."

In addition, Consumers Energy has released 15 contractor crews from

across the state who work for the energy provider. They are headed to Richmond, Virginia. The Consumers Energy personnel will be assisting Duke Energy. They are scheduled to leave from Jackson later Wednesday for what will be a two-day trip ending in Newton, North Carolina. Crews may be asked to perform additional restoration work in neighboring states because of the widespread damage and additional severe weather expected.

More than five million homes and businesses across the U.S. have lost power at some point this past week from a series of storms.

The assistance is coordinated via Great Lakes Mutual Assistance, a group of electric providers in 10 states, including Consumers Energy, that work together to restore power after major storms.

Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy, providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the Michigan's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

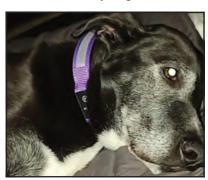
## Reward offered for missing dog

#### **Bv Hannah Ball**

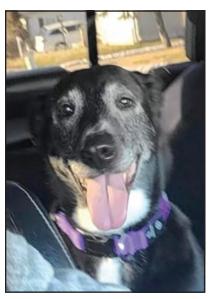
A Genesee County family is offering a \$3,000 reward to find their lost dog, Bella. Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson said Bella is a black lab mix wearing a purple collar. She's 8 ½ and was last seen in Montrose.

The family came from out of town with Bella, and the last time they saw her was Saturday, Jan. 23.

"In Genesee County, we love our pets," Swanson said. "My dog's name is Bell. I can't imagine what I'd do if I lost my dog. We feel for



you....let's try to help this family." Call Brian at (248) 730-2622 if you see Bella.



This dog named Bella has been missing since Saturday, Jan. 23. The Genesee County Sheriff's Office is asking the public to look for her.



#### TRI-COUNTY

#### **FUNDRAISERS**

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

#### **Lenten Fish Fry**

The St. John of Fenton Knights of Columbus 2021 Lenten Fish Fry is happening every Friday of Lent, Feb. 19 through March 26. Carry out only with curbside delivery at Fr. Harvey Activity Center located directly behind St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton.

#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

THE TEXAS GRID got crushed because its operators didn't see the need to prepare for cold weather.

WHAT ARE PEOPLE doing to stay sane? I'm so bored at times and feel like I'm going nuts. I do puzzles. I read. TV is boring. Is anyone as sick as I am of having to stream just to watch something new. Yet pay an arm and leg for cable?

# **Oakland County is hiring**

# ■Accepting applications for high school and college student summer jobs

Are you a high school or college student looking for a summer job and possible resume builder? The Oakland County Department of Human Resources is now accepting applications for a host of seasonal job opportunities for students that offer valuable experience in the workplace, an opportunity to put classroom training to use and pays a good wage for the summer.

"This is a wonderful opportunity and allows high school and college students to get real-world experience, learn new skills or refine existing ones that may lead to a satisfying career," County Executive Dave Coulter said. "These jobs have historically been very popular, so I encourage any student who is interested to apply now."

Available job titles range from a summer business clerk or health education assistant to student epidemiologist, seasonal laborer or animal census workers. Jobs generally last for 13 weeks and starting wages range from \$11.31 to \$15.92 an hour, depending on the position and if this is your first year with the county.

Students as young as 16 and have not yet finished high school require permission from a parent or guardian to be eligible for some jobs. Most positions require little or no experience. For complete details on the available positions, including wages, go to oakgov. com/jobs and search "Summer."

Oakland County Parks and Recreation also is accepting applications for summer employment. Parks will be filling positions at one of its 14 parks, five golf courses, two water parks, two campgrounds and Holly Oaks ORV park. These positions include seasonal laborers, lifeguards, seasonal program specialists, food service workers, attendants and program leaders.

More information is available at oaklandcountyparks.com.

College internship positions are designed for individuals to obtain real-world experience while gaining class credits. Paid internships are available during all semesters, for freshmen through graduate-level students. College intern positions are typically posted late summer, with applications accepted until an adequate amount has been submitted.

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## Sheriff announces three arrests for drugs, one warrant

They wrapped up the investigations

Lamont Jerrell Boyd, 25, of Flint,

was the leader of the group. He's

charged with delivery and manufactur-

ing of cocaine, and since he's a habitual

offender, it's a 40-year felony. He's also

charged with maintaining a drug house.

Sanilac County, was with Boyd selling

cocaine in different locations. She's

charged with delivery and manufactur-

ing of cocaine, a 20-year felony, and

from Detroit. Jerome Martez Johnson,

Two other people were recruited

maintaining a drug house.

Shanelle Dominique Nelson, 27, of

■Law enforcement asks for help in finding fourth suspect tied to sale of opioids

#### **By Hannah Ball**

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson announced the conclusion of a six-month investigation into illegal opioids and drug houses that resulted in three arrests and one warrant. One suspect has not yet been apprehended.

The GHOST (Genesee Human Oppression Strike Team) team first began investigating in the summer of 2020, after a 31-year-old Lapeer County woman was found in a parking lot of a bank after she overdosed on opioids. A deputy arrived on scene and used Narcan to save her life. She refused to go to the hospital, but she did receive treatment.

Law enforcement were able to track down the opioid distributors.

"We had multiple days of surveillance, we had multiple locations. This crew of four would go to different motels, hotels around the county," he said. "These four need to be held accountable."



Lamont Jerrell Boyd

in the last 60 days.



Shanelle Dominique Nelson



Jerome Martez Johnson



Jonathan James Hill Jr.

both charged with delivery and manufacturing of cocaine and maintaining and controlling a drug house.

The warrant for Hill's arrest is outstanding. He has not been apprehended yet, and Swanson urged people to call 911 if they know his location.

"These are the individuals that are just as dangerous as a predator in many ways because, between the four of them, they have sold to thousands and thousands and thousands of people," he said. "I wonder how many families are impacted, how many moms and dads and sons and daughters."

He said GHOST will continue to investigate these cases.

# POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

## ANN ARBOR MAN ARRESTED FOR RETAIL FRAUD, LYING TO POLICE

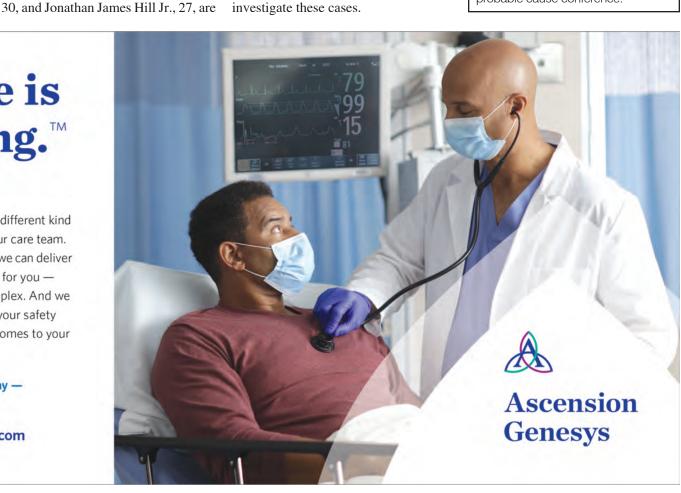
At 11 p.m. on Feb. 10, Fenton police responded to Walmart on Owen Road for a retail fraud in progress. Upon arrival, a loss prevention employee told police that an individual had used wire cutters to cut security devices from merchandise and he was concealing the items in his clothing and a red bag. The man was observed exiting the store without paying for the \$351 worth of items. He was met by Fenton police and eventually identified as a 53-year-old Ann Arbor resident with prior convictions for retail fraud. The man initially gave false identification. He was arrested for retail fraud first-degree due to his past convictions and obstructing police. Randall Curtis was arraigned Feb. 14 in Genesee County 67th District Court on one count of first-degree retail fraud and one count of lying to a peace officer. He is due back in court Feb. 25 for a probable cause conference.

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of Covid19.

## Coyote sightings on the rise

■Department of Natural Resources says breeding takes place January to March

#### By Sharon Stone

There have been several reports of coyote sightings in the tri-county area.

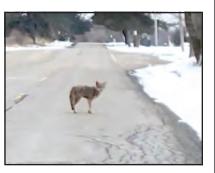
One Fenton area resident snapped photos of a coyote the morning of Monday, Feb. 15 near Fenton AGS Middle School. The photos were shared on the Nextdoor app to alert others in the area.

According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), coyotes are common throughout Michigan in rural to urban areas.

#### **Coyote facts**

- Active day and night, most active around sunrise and sunset
- Abundant in areas where adequate food, cover and water are available
- Home range size depends on the food and cover resources available and on the number of other coyotes in an area. It generally averages between 8-12 square miles, in urban areas they average 2-5 miles
- Breeding takes place January to March and people are more likely to see and hear coyotes during this time
- Mated pairs and 4-7 pups occupy the home range during the spring and summer seasons





- If there is a den nearby, people may also see the adults throughout the summer as they care for their pups
- Pups leave the den site in the fall and these young dispersing animals are sometimes more visible
- Coyotes eat a variety of foods: small mammals such as mice, voles, shrews, rabbits, hares and squirrels are preferred foods. However, insects, fruits, berries, birds, frogs, snakes, deer, plants and seeds are also eaten

#### BUSINESS

## **BRIEFS**

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

## MAINSTREET HOLLY'S 'LOVE HOLLY CONTEST'

In participating downtown Holly stores visitors will see an "ENTER TO WIN" table tent with a QR code you can scan to enter into a drawing to win a \$50 gift certificate to your favorite DDA district store. Go to the store, scan their QR code, fill in the entry form and get ready to win. MainStreet Holly will be picking 20 winners each week for the next 10 weeks. Visit their Facebook page "Downtown Holly" for more information. #loveholly #shopsmallthinkbig

#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

WHO IS THIS Nate guy that has no home here?

SURE APPRECIATE BEING recognized in the editor's column for our work out in the cold.

THANK YOU TO the nice man in the white Yukon wearing a blue sweatshirt who helped me when I was stuck in the snow at Holly Road and Tucker. Your kindness is truly appreciated.

A HOT-LINER ASKED why Michigan National Guard was in D.C. Because they were federalized. The National Guard takes two oaths: one to the state the other to the nation.





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# TYRONE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held before the Tyrone Township Board on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. regarding the proposed 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Township Budget, all funds. The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This public hearing will be held electronically via Zoom. The public may participate by computer or smart phone/device using the following link:

## $\underline{\text{https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85976299898?pwd} = Zi9TK1dqU3k5dG1PZ3Y0VEh}\\ 4NEpxUT09$

The public may also participate by landline phone or cell phone by calling 1-312-626-6799 and enter passcode.

Meeting ID: 859 7629 9898 Passcode: 060665

A copy of the budget and supporting documents will be available for public inspection at the Tyrone Township Hall, 8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, Michigan, during regular business hours of Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All oral and written comments are welcome. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Tyrone Township Clerk at (810) 629-8631 at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Marcella Husted Tyrone Township Clerk

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# BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

#### HOLLY TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BOARD HONORS DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

At its meeting Monday, Feb. 15, the Holly Township Library Board of Trustees passed a resolution to recognize, honor, and observe the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The resolution stated King's "activism and inspirational speeches had a critical role in ending the legal segregation of African-American citizens in the United States, as well as the formation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968." King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis Tennessee on April 4, 1968. The birth of King Jr. is celebrated each year as a legal holiday in the U.S., on the third Monday of every January, and observed celebrations and events related to diversity, inclusiveness and belonging occur in the community, at local businesses, at schools, and throughout the weeks preceding and following MLK Day at the Holly Library. The Holly Township Board of Trustees honors King Jr. and his legacy of activism in the interest of civil rights, equality, equity and diversity on MLK Day and throughout the vear. The Holly Township Library Board of Trustees demonstrates its support of this legacy by closing the library on every Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the third Monday of every January, henceforth.

#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

ALL SOURCES OF energy froze in Texas because they weren't maintained properly. The wind turbines in Michigan use heaters to keep them from freezing.

TO THE HOT-LINER who wrote 'shame on the Senators.' The Senate's decision has nothing to do with criminality, it has everything to do with politics. If they didn't vote to acquit they would not be reelected. As representatives of their constituents, they are not leaders but followers. Their vote reflected that.

# LOOKING BACK at this week in

# **HISTORY**

Source: History.com

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

#### **FEB. 21**

1965: In New York City, Malcolm X, an African American nationalist and religious leader, is assassinated by rival Black Muslims while addressing his Organization of Afro-American Unity at the Audubon Ballroom in Washington Heights. Born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1925, Malcolm was the son of James Earl Little, a Baptist preacher who advocated the black nationalist ideals of Marcus Garvey. Threats from the Ku Klux Klan forced the family to move to Lansing, Michigan, where his father continued to preach his controversial sermons despite continuing threats.

#### **FEB. 22**

1980: In one of the most dramatic upsets in Olympic history, the underdog U.S. hockey team, made up of college players, defeats the four-time defending gold-medal winning Soviet team at the XIII Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. The Soviet squad, previously regarded as the finest in the world, fell to the youthful American team 4-3 before a frenzied crowd of 10,000 spectators. Two days later, the Americans defeated Finland 4-2 to clinch the hockey gold.

#### FEB. 23

1945: During the bloody Battle for Iwo Jima, U.S. Marines from the 3rd Platoon, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Regiment of the 5th Division take the crest of Mount Suribachi, the island's highest peak and most strategic position, and raise the U.S. flag. Marine photographer Louis Lowery was with them and recorded the event. Americans fighting for control of Suribachi's slopes cheered the raising of the flag, and several hours later more Marines headed up to the crest with a larger flag. Joe Rosenthal, a photographer with the Associated Press, met them along the way and recorded the raising of the second flag along with a Marine still photographer and a motion-picture cameraman.

#### **FEB. 24**

**1988**: The U.S. Supreme Court votes 8-0 to overturn the \$200,000 settlement awarded to the Rev. Jerry Falwell for his emotional distress

at being parodied in Hustler, a pornographic magazine. In 1983, Hustler ran a piece parodying Falwell's first sexual experience as a drunken, incestuous, childhood encounter with his mother in an outhouse. Falwell, an important religious conservative and founder of the Moral Majority political advocacy group, sued Hustler and its publisher, Larry Flynt, for libel. Falwell won the case, but Flynt appealed, leading to the Supreme Court's hearing the case because of its constitutional implications.

#### FEB. 25

1964: The 22-year-old Cassius Clay shocks the odds-makers by dethroning world heavyweight boxing champ Sonny Liston in a seventh-round technical knockout. The dreaded Liston, who had twice demolished former champ Floyd Patterson in one round, was an 8-to-1 favorite. However, Clay predicted victory, boasting that he would "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee" and knock out Liston in the eighth round.

#### **FEB. 26**

**1993**: At 12:18 p.m., a terrorist bomb explodes in a parking garage of the World Trade Center in New York

City, leaving a crater 60 feet wide and causing the collapse of several steel-reinforced concrete floors near the blast. Although the terrorist bomb failed to critically damage the main structure of the skyscrapers, six people were killed and more than 1,000 were injured. The World Trade Center itself suffered more than \$500 million in damage. After the attack, authorities evacuated 50,000 people from the buildings, hundreds of whom were suffering from smoke inhalation. The evacuation lasted the whole afternoon.

#### FEB. 27

1827: A group of masked and costumed students dance through the streets of New Orleans, Louisiana, marking the beginning of the city's famous Mardi Gras celebrations. The celebration of Carnival — or the weeks between Twelfth Night on Jan. 6 and Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Christian period of Lent — spread from Rome across Europe and later to the Americas. Nowhere in the United States is Carnival celebrated as grandly as in New Orleans, famous for its over-the-top parades and parties for Mardi Gras (or Fat Tuesday), the last day of the Carnival season.



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#### **SCAM**

#### Continued from Front Page

During his week in review, live streamed on Facebook, Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson said on Feb. 11, the 78-year-old Fenton Township woman entered The State Bank in Linden and spoke to a teller about how she needed \$9,800 to pay a friend of her son's to redo her living room. The fake lawyer had told the woman to use the story of redoing a living room as an excuse for withdrawing the money.

Jeanine Sapelak, community banking officer at The State Bank in Linden, said the woman only had approximately \$7,000 in her account. The woman said she would take out a loan to cover the rest, and that if she paid in cash

at Skaff Furniture, they would give her a discount. The first teller she talked to was hesitant to do the transaction, and the woman came back a second time and spoke with Sarah Whitson, financial service representative at The State Bank in Linden.

"I had no good feeling about this," Whitson said. "She didn't know how much it was going to cost for this work she needed to have done."

She told her she would end up taking out her entire savings account.

Sapelak spoke to the woman.

"I just knew things weren't right," Sapelak said. She urged the woman to use a credit card and not cash. She presented her with a form they use when people take out large amounts which states the bank is not responsible for what happens to that money. Sapelak hoped that would make the woman reconsider, but it did not.

"I, one more time, held that cash back and I said, I just don't feel good about

giving you this cash," she said.

After the woman left with the cash, Sapelak called their security officer, Tara Lee, who involved the Genesee County Sheriff's Office. Sapelak said once law enforcement was contacted, they had some-

one on the scene in minutes.

**44** I, one more time,

held that cash back

and I said, I just don't

feel good about giving

you this cash. 77

**Jeanine Sapelak** 

The State Bank of Linden

community banking officer

Swanson said the woman was scammed by a fake attorney using the name John Goldstein from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Sgt. Jillian Macy of the GCSO's GRACE Team, spoke to the woman, who was initially resistant and a little "standoff-ish" to the idea that it was a scam.

The woman was instructed to put the cash in the binder of a book.

"She was convinced that this was going to help save her grandson, who was arrested and the attorney, Goldstein from Pennsylvania, needed this cash to get her grandson out of jail," Swanson said. "We've had multiple reports and many other agencies have as well. This is a scam they use."

The woman wrapped the book in plastic, put it in a box, and sent it through the The UPS Store in Fenton to be delivered the next day.

"They were able to get a hold of the manager, and the manager was able to intercept it before it went on the truck, and save this victim's entire life savings," he said.

They were able to connect her with her family, who said the grandson was not arrested.

"She just had a look of dread come over her. Her shoulders sunk and she was in despair because she realized she just shipped off \$8,000 to a scammer. She believed everything they said and didn't know what to do from there on," Macy said.

Swanson said they're following up with the Harrisburg Police Department, though he expects it to be a dead end because the money is usually transferred to some place overseas.

"If you are in a position to oversee people, don't let the busyness of the day allow you to miss these wide-open signs that somebody is about to be taken advantage of," he said.

Swanson commended The State Bank for helping to save this woman's POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

## JEEP CATCHES FIRE AFTER DOUGHNUTS IN THE SNOW

A 23-year-old Grand Blanc man was cited for reckless driving at 1:30 a.m., Feb. 7. Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department said police and the fire department were dispatched to a vehicle fire in the parking lot near TJ Maxx and Applebee's off Silver Parkway. Responding police saw the Jeep on fire and fluids underneath the vehicle. Apparently, the driver was doing several doughnuts in the snow when the jeep struck a curb or concrete divider, which led to the fire.

life savings.

Sapelak said the fake story the scammers wanted the woman to use sounded plausible. They even told her which specific book to buy in order to hide the cash.

She said if people find themselves in this situation, they should reach out to their family first to confirm if someone was arrested even if the scammers tell them not to.

"Don't do anything unless you've talked to a family member," she said.

# TYRONE TOWNSHIP 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW PUBLIC NOTICE

The 2021 March Board of Review will meet at Tyrone Township Hall, located at 8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, MI 48430 on the following dates and times:

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021 Organizational Meeting 9:00 am

 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021
 9:00 am -12:00 pm.
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

 THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021
 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm.
 6:00 pm - 9:00pm

Please call (810) 629-8631 for a recommended appointment. Letters of appeal are encouraged and must be received by 9:00 pm. on March 11, 2021. No faxes or emails will be accepted.

		AGRICULTURAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL	DEVELOPMENTAL	PERSONAL	
	Tentative Ratio	50.72	45.67	41.77	47.44	47.27	50.00	
	Tentative Factor	.9858	1.0948	1.1970	1.0539	1.0577	1.0000	

Final expected ratios are: Tentative Ratio 50%, Tentative Factor 1.00

Bruce Little, Tyrone Township Assessor

#### **SHOVEL**

#### Continued from Page 3

For this coming week in February, temperatures are expected to be in the 20s with a few inches of snow expected, according to Accuweather.

Brisson said the roads are holding up "well" so far during this winter. The city has about 18 inches of frost in the ground.

"It is when the frost begins to thaw and freeze/thaw cycles occur that potholes are especially problematic," he said. "March and April is our busiest season to address potholes where we prepare to run two or more patching crews. The city has two 4-ton asphalt hot box trailers that are utilized for pothole patching."

On Tuesday, Feb. 16, department of public works employees were out shoveling sidewalks in the downtown area. Brisson said they clear sidewalks on city-owned property and adjacent property.

There are 13 full time employees, 11 of which hold a commercial driver's license (CDL) that is required to operate dump truck/salt trucks. Brisson and two others, a deputy building official and one water treatment plant employee, hold a CDL driver license and will serve as back-up if needed.

"During a major snow event, all public works personnel are assigned to work the snow event," Brisson said.

Colder weather also can jeopardize water mains if municipalities aren't prepared.

"Changes in temperature, both fall and spring, where ground temperature changes (and ground freezes) is when the Water Department can experience more frequent water main breaks. In 2020, we had 11 water main breaks in the city," Brisson said. "Residents who have plumbing that is susceptible to freezing can run a pea-sized flow of water from faucets inside the home to reduce the chances of pipes freezing."

#### HOT LINE CONTINUED

RIP, RUSH LIMBAUGH. We've listened to you on the radio for more than 20 years. There is not one person who loves this country more than you did. You will be missed.

LOVE LISTENING TO school board members talk about what's good for

students and the educational process when they have absolutely no clue what it's like to be an educator.

THE LINDEN BOARD member that tried to push her agenda through without receiving public comment first should step down. Thank you to the board member who recognized it as improper and stopped it.

# VILLAGE OF HOLLY PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Village of Holly is proposing the following ordinance on:

DATE: March 9, 2021

PLACE: Zoom meeting at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81100666340

The proposed ordinance number 463 amends Chapter 111 of Title XI to provide for and regulate Social Districts in the Village.

The full text of the proposed Ordinance is available for review in the Office of the Village Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Holly, Michigan, 48442 during regular business hours. Comments concerning the ordinance should be directed to the Village Clerk/Treasurer at the above address or by telephone to (248) 634-9571.

Deborah J. Bigger Clerk/Treasurer Village of Holly

# NOTICE OF REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN MARCH 11, 2021

THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

SUP21-001 Hagerman Riding Arena and Stable, SL Farms, LLC., 601 S. Saginaw St., Flint, MI 48502:

Requesting a Special Use Permit to allow an Agricultural Tourism Facility (Event Barn) located at 15135 Pinewood Trail. Parcel #06-28-200-043.

## R21-002 Cider Creek PUD, Diverse Real Estate, LLC 12955 23 Mile Road, Shelby Twp, MI 48315:

Requesting a rezoning from R-3, Single Family Residential to Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow an open space development with 142 single family residential lots. Located south of the Byram Ridge PUD, with access to Linden and Lobdell Roads. Parcel #06-31-200-008.

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 Planning Commission will be held on Thursday March 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by ZOOM video meeting. In accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020, the use of electronic remote access (online video meeting) will be implemented in response to COVID-19 social distancing requirements. The public may participate in the meeting via the following web link:

#### http://bit.ly/FentonPC

Or by telephone by calling into the following number:

Phone Number: (312)626-6799 Meeting ID: 998 2931 8197 Passcode: 258667

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 Planning Commission members through Michael Deem, Zoning Administrator, by email at <a href="mailto:mdeem@fentontownship.org">mdeem@fentontownship.org</a>, 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: <u>info@fentontownship.org</u>

#### **ASPHALT**

Continued from Front Page commission's meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Several residents spoke against the rezoning request during public comment time of the Tyrone Township Board of Trustees meeting Tuesday, Feb. 16.

The planning commission held another Zoom meeting Wednesday, Feb. 17, however, this issue was not an agenda item. It was brought up during public comment time at the end of the meeting.

The property is currently zoned Farm Residential (FR) and is owned by Newman TTP, LLC. The prospective buyer of the property, Jon C. Sawyer of Lansing, is asking the township to rezone the vacant land to Heavy Industrial (M2).

Parcel 47-4-17-40-007 is 30 acres and

sits just north of Center Road and west of Old U.S. 23. This would be the southern most portion of the Capital Asphalt project being developed by Tri-City Developments.

A traffic study for the proposed asphalt plant indicates access to the property would be from Old U.S. 23. Hours of operation would be 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The number of employees would be 40, and between six and eight trucks would come and go per hour during business hours.

To the north of the above parcel is parcel 47-4-17-40-001. It is approximately 75 acres. The developer is requesting the southern most 54.5 acres of the 75 acres be rezoned to M2. They are requesting the northern most 20 acres be rezoned RM1 (multiple family residential) to act as a transitional zoning and buffer to the

development.

The sale of the property is contingent on the rezoning. Dan Callan, who is rep-

resenting the owner of the property, said the land has been for sale for three years and there has been no interest from buyers. He said the small parcels on the northern area could be sold to small businesses, such as landscapers. He said

there has been no demand for residential, retail or office space in this area.

Following the Feb. 9 meeting, several residents joined forces to create yard signs showing their opposition and a Facebook page called Citizens Resisting Asphalt Plant (C.R.A.P.) was established. More than 2,000 people have joined the page to share their concerns and to ask questions.

Tyrone Township resident Donna Fialka said she heard the news about the plan to request rezoning for the asphalt plant. She then posted the information on a couple of community Facebook pages and the response was overwhelming

"Someone suggested starting a group page, so Citizens Resisting Asphalt Plant was born on the spur of the moment," she said. "In 24 hours we had 2,000 members and our numbers continue to grow. We are trying to raise awareness and garner community support in opposition to the plan.

"We feel the risk and adverse effects on the community's health, property values, roads and quality of life in general, far outweighs any potential benefits.

#### What's next?

#RESISTTHEPLANT

The planning commission will be required to hold at least one public hearing for

each rezoning application. At this time, it has not yet been determined whether additional information will be required prior to holding a public hearing, but is anticipated that Township consultant and agency reviews may be necessary prior to holding the public

hearings. Following the required public hearings, the Planning Commission would prepare a report on the application and any additional reviews, which would include a recommendation to the Township Board and Livingston County Planning Commission

Following review of the report and a recommendation by the Livingston County Planning Commission, the information would be forwarded to the Township Board for final consideration. At that time, the Board may require additional public hearing(s) to be held prior to taking any action on the request.

The Township Board could then take one of the following actions; approval, disapproval, or referral. If the Township Board moves to refer the application back to the Planning Commission for additional review, the Planning Commission would follow the procedure set forth in Section 29.02.E.3 of the Tyrone Township Zoning Ordinance.

Residents may email any questions to the Planning and Zoning Department at zoning@tyronetownship.us. If anyone would like to ask questions by phone, call (810) 629-8631.

# ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR

Site Grass Mowing Rose Township Offices, Hall and Parks.

**TOWNSHIP OF ROSE** 

Sealed proposals will be received by the Township of Rose, 9080 Mason St. Holly, Michigan 48442 <u>until 3p.m. Thursday March 18th, 2021</u> at which time, the bids from holders of Record for Site Grass Mowing will be publicly opened and read aloud and the different items noted, for the site grass mowing for Rose Township properties.

The project/work includes Rose Township properties as listed and miscellaneous properties if requested.

Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street Rose Township Hall, 204 Franklin Street Civic Park, Corner Milford and Rose Center Road Dearborn Park, Corner Milford and Davisburg Road

One-time mowing, leaves, debris and clean-up of Rose Township Offices, fall 2021 date to be determined, (9080 Mason and 204 Franklin)

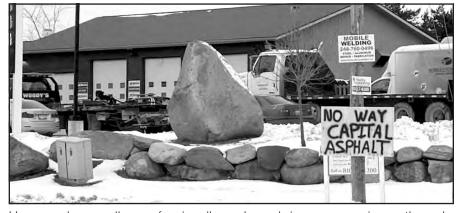
The plans and specifications are on file and may be examined and picked-up on or after 8:30 A.M. on Monday February 22, 2021 at the Township Office 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI 48442.

Bidders must supply the telephone and fax number, street address, and the name of the individual or firm whom Addenda, if any, can be directed.

Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective

The right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals, and to waive defects in the proposals is reserved by the Owner.

By Order of: David Plewes 9080 Mason Street Holly, Michigan



Homemade, as well as professionally made yard signs are popping up throughout the Tyrone Township area to express opposition to rezone farm/residential property to heavy industrial, which could clear the way for development of an asphalt factory. Submitted photo

#### **RED FOX**

#### Continued from Front Page

use permit, mostly due parking concerns. The planning commission tabled his application until he submits detailed information and commitments regarding alternate parking arrangements, said Planning Consultant Carmine Avantini of CIB Planning, Inc.

After sitting empty for years, Red Fox Outfitters opened in November 2015 after it was rehabilitated for \$1,950,000.

SkyPoint Ventures, the real estate/capital development arm of Phil Hagerman and Jocelyn Hagerman invested in rehabilitating the historical granary, which was built in 1856.

Red Fox Outfitters was the creation of Jesse Anderson and Nick Brown. The store closed in March 2020. Anderson and Brown previously said it was not profitable enough to keep it open.

The most impressive view of Red Fox Outfitters is when driving into Fenton from the east, as the giant glass window spanning two stories immediately comes into view. Also noticeable was the return of the building to its original color of red, taken from photographs of the building in its earliest years.

According to the planning commission, there is an 11-space parking lot to the east of the building and a 49-space city-owned parking lot with a mini-park area immediately east of that.

The applicant, Luc Birchmeier of Fenton, indicated he would like to turn the building into a wedding venue ballroom/ event center. The facility could be used for corporate parties, anniversaries, business meetings, bridal showers and more. Fenton doesnot have a facility similar to this space.

In his application, Birchmeier said his proposal would benefit the city by bringing in people who would be staying at area hotels, shopping and visiting restaurants. Parking is a concern, however, he said a shuttle service would help alleviate the problem.

Phil Hagerman is the current owner of the building. According to meeting minutes, he told the planning commission that he has had a lot of interest in rentals on the property and he has had offers to buy but thought it wasn't quite the right fit. He said he personally thinks the best use for this building is a facility that Birchmeier is attempting to do. He added that the ability to bring people to Fenton from 50 miles away, who may be spending the night in hotels, would make Fenton a destination.

Hagerman acknowledged that downtown parking in Fenton is a challenge.

There are parking spaces in the city, but a short walk could be necessary.

Commissioner Scott Grossmeyer was not opposed to walking a short distance but he was concerned with what impact a venue like this would have on nearby neighborhoods. He also has concerns of noise and traffic.

Hagerman told the planning commission he would be willing to have a parking survey of what municipal and open lots are available, along with the city parking on the streets.

The proposal was tabled for further study and reviews of the available parking in the downtown area.



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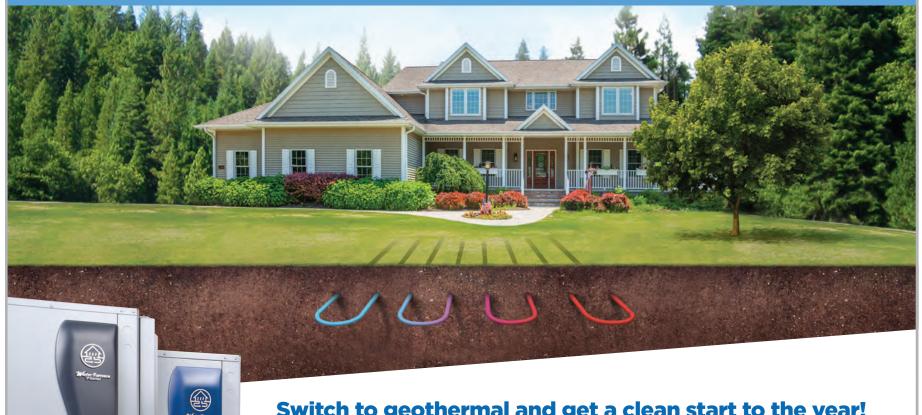
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Average timelines for popular renovations

Factors such as moving walls, installing new flooring, product inventory can lengthen project

#### By Sharon Stone

Home renovation projects are significant undertakings, especially during a pandemic. Working with skilled and experienced contractors can ensure projects go smoothly and are completed promptly. Timing is a big consideration for homeowners as they begin renovating their homes, and the home improvement experts at HomeAdvisor say that the following are some general timelines for popular renovation projects.

• Home addition: Short of a full-scale demolition and rebuild, home additions are the most time-consuming projects

homeowners can undertake. HomeAdvisor has found that its survey of customers who recently completed home addition projects reported that the average time from start to finish was between three and four months. Certain variables, including the scale of the project and the local permits process, can extend the time it takes to complete a home addition.

• **Kitchen remodel:** Scale is a big factor to consider when estimating the time it takes to complete various home improvement projects, and kitchen remodels are no See **TIMELINES** on SHI 15





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\*\*Closing costs typically include appraisal, title insurance, recording fee and range from \$350 to \$1,200. These costs are initially waived by the credit union. Repayment of waived costs will be required if the HELOC is closed and cancelled within 24 months of origination. Property insurance required. Monthly payments based on a 20-year amortization with a minimum monthly payment of \$50.00. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Introductory APR offered on new Dort Financial HELOCs. Members who currently have a Home Equity Line of Credit through Dort Financial are not eligible. Offer valid on owner occupied property only where collateral loan to value is 80% or less and excludes all loans already financed at the credit union. Proof of income required, subject to normal underwriting guidelines. Other restrictions may apply. Introductory APR offer good January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. Consult your tax advisor about potential tax benefits.

\*\*\*Variable rates based on Prime plus or minus a margin (margin identified at time of application, is defined as the number of percentage points the lender subtracts or adds to the index rate to determine the annual percentage rate to be charged)

# Variables to consider when choosing a media room

Location, shape, windows and lighting and wall color should all be factors when designing

#### **Compiled by Sharon Stone**

The term "home theater" once made homeowners who love movies and sports dream of the day when they could dedicate a large area in their home to watching the big game or their favorite films. Such rooms are now widely referred to as "media rooms." Though the terminology may have changed, media rooms are not all that different from home theaters.

Before choosing an area of the home as a designated media room, homeowners must consider a host of variables to ensure they get as much out of the room as possible.

• Location and shape: The location of the room is of the utmost importance. Media rooms tend to be more social settings than traditional home theaters, which were often designed to be isolated from the rest of the home so noise and natural light did not adversely affect the film-watching experience. Homeowners may not want their media rooms to be in high traffic areas of their homes, but they needn't be completely secluded, either.

The renovation experts at the DIY Network note that the shape of a room shouldbeconsideredbeforedesignating it as the media room. In general, square rooms are not ideal, as such rooms can produce harmonic distortions. A rectangular room likely won't produce such distortions, especially when homeowners place their screens and primary speakers on short walls. It's important that homeowners do not downplay the importance of sound, as media rooms, unlike traditional home theaters, may be used for listening to music just as much as they are for watching films or sports. Viewers may not recognize distortions when watching something, but people may notice these abnormalities when listening to music.

• Windows: Media rooms are multi-

purpose rooms, so homeowners don't need to remove rooms with windows from consideration. But the experts at the DIY Network note that windows are hard surfaces that can reflect sound and distort audio, and the light that gets in through windows can produce reflections on the viewing surface. Each

See MEDIA ROOM on SHI Page 5

Before choosing an area of the home as a designated media room, homeowners should consider a host of variables to ensure they get as much out of the room as possible.





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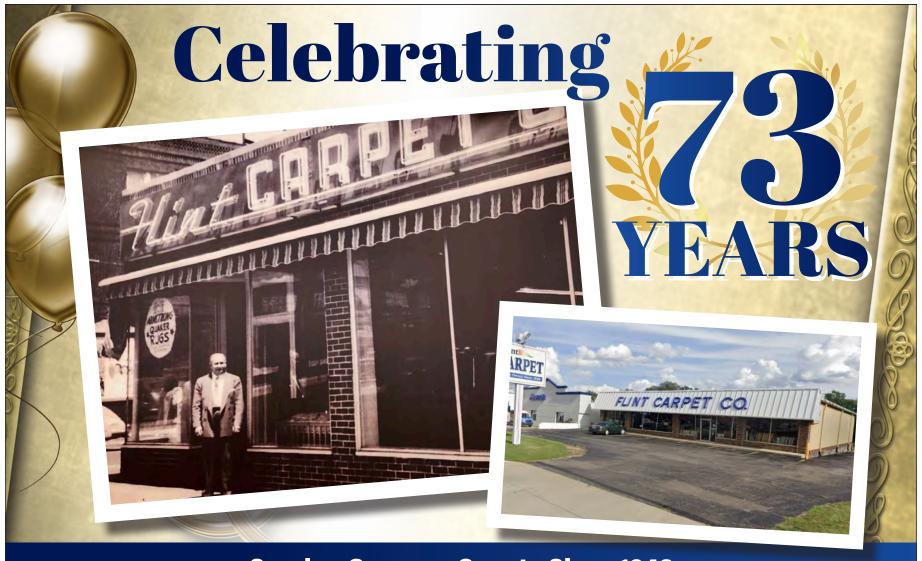
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— SHOWROOM —





#### **MEDIA ROOM**

Continued from SHI Page 3

of those factors can adversely affect your listening and viewing experience. A room with windows can still make for a good media room, but you may want to invest in some blackout curtains to mitigate some of the disadvantages of having windows in the room.

• Wall colors: The colors of the walls in the room is another variable homeowners will have to consider. Homeowners won't want to host guests for the big game in rooms with

darkened walls, as that can create a dreary atmosphere and potentially make people tired. But especially bright colors will reflect light and adversely affect the viewing experience. Neutral colors should not affect the colors on the screen, making them the ideal color choice for media room walls.

Media rooms are high on many homeowners' renovation lists. Considering a host of variables prior to designating an area for a media room can ensure the finished product is as enjoyable as possible.



# How to choose the right lighting inside your home

Lighting in a home serves both practical and aesthetic purposes. It's easy to maneuver around a well-lit home, reducing the risk of slips and falls, and the right lighting can help homeowners create their desired ambiance, which typically changes depending on which room you're in.

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

#### Kitchen

Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas. In kitchens with no island, under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.



When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

#### Formal dining room

Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with 8-foot ceilings, adding 3 inches for each additional foot above 8 feet. Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners

may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

#### Living room

Adaptability also is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting. Flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multi-purpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low ceilings. That's because recessed lighting is installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger.

See **LIGHTING** on SHI Page 15



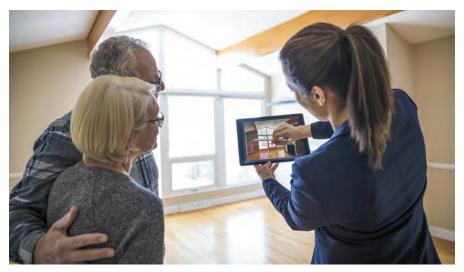


# Benefits of working with an interior designer

Interior designers can help homeowners avoid costly mistakes and get it right the first time

#### **Compiled by Sharon Stone**

Home is where the heart is, and it's also where homeowners express their style. Though interior design may come naturally to some homeowners, many more can benefit from a little help defining their style and translating that style into a beautiful home. In such instances, interior designers can be the



Many interior designers offer various services, including hourly consultations that can make them cost-effective, especially for homeowners who are still trying to define their style and decide just how they want their homes to look.

most valuable investments homeowners make in their homes.

Homeowners may hear "interior designer" and immediately hear the sound of cash registers ringing in their heads. However, many interior designers offer various services, including hourly

consultations that can make them costeffective, especially for homeowners who are still trying to define their style and decide just how they want their homes to look. That's just one of the many benefits of working with interior design professionals. • Interior designers can save homeowners money. Much like it's best for homeowners with no DIY experience to hire professional contractors when renovating their homes, paying an interior designer when you have little experience with design can help you avoid potentially costly mistakes. Interior designers are skilled at transforming homeowners' visions into finished products, and that's a valuable skill homeowners don't necessarily have.

Trial and error when designing a home's interior can be costly, even if you're not knocking down any walls or swinging any hammers. For example, after renovating on their own, homeowners may find they need to replace a new couch or dining table that they realize contradicts their design scheme. Interior designers can help homeowners avoid such costly mistakes and get it right the first time.

• Interior designers can help you coordinate your style. Each and every component of a home's interior says something about its owner. Whether See **DESIGNER** on SHI Page 13

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FACT

# Learn the right way to clean patio furniture

Mild cleaners and a bit of elbow grease can go a long way to brighten things

#### Compiled by Sharon Stone

Once the days begin to grow a little bit longer and the numbers on the thermometer creep a tad higher, outdoor entertaining season is right around the corner. Homeowners may be eager to once again return to the comforts of their backyards. However, their patio furniture may not be ready for lounging just yet.

Some simple cleaning strategies make it easy to brighten outdoor furniture made of metal, glass, wood, and plastic. Before homeowners know it, their backyards will be ready for outdoor entertaining season.

#### Proper storage

Storing outdoor furniture during the



Some simple cleaning strategies make it easy to brighten outdoor furniture made of metal, glass, wood, and plastic.

colder months of the year is a great way to protect items from the elements. This may involve careful shrink-wrapping and keeping items outdoors, or by moving furniture indoors to a shed or garage. Cleaning the furniture one last time before storing it also can be handy.

#### Remove stuck-on debris

Inspect furniture and be prepared to remove any stuck-on debris, such as bird droppings, sticky food residue or even cobwebs and insect nests. Be sure to use a cleaning tool that is safe for the material you are cleaning. Test an inconspicuous area of the furniture first to ensure your tools don't damage the furniture. For example, many scrub brushes can scratch glass or aluminum.

#### Make a thorough cleanser

Clean stains off of furniture with a See **EXPERTS** on SHI Page 13



# Tools that can keep your family safe at home

New and improved alerts and shut-off systems can save your property and your wallet

#### **Compiled by Sharon Stone**

Homes should be sanctuaries for their inhabitants. Keeping homes safe and sound requires both maintenance and some caution designed to make homes less vulnerable to potentially costly issues.

Promptly addressing maintenance issues around the house can reduce the risk of accident or injury.

In addition, various items can alert homeowners to problems they may not otherwise recognize before issues jeopardize residents' health or take a turn for the costly.

#### Auto shut-off features

Who hasn't left the house only to worry an hour or so later about whether the coffee pot was turned off or the straightening iron was unplugged? When shopping for personal care items or appliances, seek out models that have automatic shut-off features. This safety feature will power down the unit after a certain amount of time, which can reduce the risk of overheated products and house fires.

#### Flood and leak detector

The financial information and wellness resource Canstar says leakages, burst pipes and other water-related issues in a home are one of the more common home emergencies. Water damage can cost between hundreds and thousands of dollars depending on how invasive the water problem is. Catching a leak or flood in a home early on is essential.

Water leak detectors are designed to detect a potential flood or leak at an early stage so homeowners can take action. Sensors may sound an alarm or be connected to a WiFi system to send an alert to a mobile device.

#### Carbon monoxide detector

It is vital that homeowners install carbon monoxide detectors in their homes. Carbon monoxide is odorless and colorless, and can cause poisoning that slowly suffocates a person. It also is combustible.

Carbon monoxide devices cannot detect a gas leak, but gas detectors can. They are a wise addition for people who have a significant number of natural gas appliances, or those who have older, gas-powered appliances

#### Sump pump alarm

A sump pump can mean the difference between a flooded basement and a dry floor. Homeowners may not recognize a sump pump malfunction during a power outage, and clogs also may not be detectable until the basement floods. Sump pump alarms alert homeowners that something is amiss.

Homeowners can rely on devices and other tools to prevent their homes from being damaged.



# Your Local Home Improvement Business Directory









# Popular renovations trends

Check out these ideas that are emerging in 2021

#### Compiled by Sharon Stone

Home renovation trends are everchanging. Renovations that might have been essential 20 years ago may seem dated now. Recognizing the potentially popular trends of tomorrow is a great way for homeowners to give their homes a fresh new look and put themselves in position to capitalize on popular trends when they put their homes on the market.

That's especially so after 2020, a year when millions of people spent more time at home than ever before. All that time working from home and relaxing at home gave millions of homeowners ideas about what they like about their homes and what they hope to change.

The following are some renovation



Eco-friendly, large windows, minimalistic design and multi-functional rooms are ideas emerging in 2021.

Style & simplicity

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trends that various experts suspect could emerge in 2021.

- Eco-friendly living: Urdesign, an online magazine that showcases creative trends in design, architecture, art, technology, and fashion, predicts that eco-friendly living solutions figure to be hot commodities in 2021. Eco-friendly appliances, furniture and designs can help to conserve energy and reduce waste.
- Large windows: Large windows can provide stunning views of the outdoors and allow ample natural light into a home. It may not be a coincidence if large windows prove to be a hot trend in 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic that dominated much of 2020 forced many people to spend considerably more time at home. Darker homes without much natural light can adversely affect mood, especially when people are spending more time at home.

HGTV predicts that homeowners will seek ways to bring more natural light into their homes in 2021, and large windows naturally brighten homes while making rooms appear

bigger, helping people feel less cramped. That's an especially beneficial characteristic when spending more time indoors at home.

- Minimalism: The anticipated popularity of minimalism in 2021 may also be connected to the pandemic. As professionals were forced to work from home and many families spent more time together inside their homes than ever before, they may have recognized a need to cut back on clutter, including extra furniture. A minimalist approach is both simple and clean, which can make homes feel less claustrophobic.
- Multi-functional spaces: Homeownersaskedalotoftheirhomes in 2020, as rooms were transformed into multi-functional spaces seemingly overnight. According to the experts at HGTV, spending more time at home showed homeowners that it may not make sense to dedicate entire rooms of a home to a single purpose. Renovations that can help homeowners transform rooms into multi-functional spaces figure to be hot commodities in the years ahead.

# Addressing mold after a flood

Floods can quickly turn lives upside down. According to the World Health Organization, more than two billion people were affected by floods between 1998 and 2017, and those people no doubt recognize just how unsettling floods can be.

The damage caused by flooding can linger long after water levels have subsided. Mold left in the wake of a flood poses a significant threat, and WebMD notes that mold can be especially dangerous for people with respiratory issues like allergies or asthma. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, one of the organization's chief concerns was to let those affected by the storm learn how to safely clean up mold.

Mold cleanup must be done with a sense of urgency, as WebMD indicates that mold can grow very quickly in damp environments. That said, it's vital that homeowners only reenter flooded properties when it's safe to do so. Reentering too quickly and before government officials say it's safe to do so can put residents in serious jeopardy.

Once it's safe to reenter a home, the CDC recommends the following approach to address mold after a flood.

- Wear personal protective equipment. Gloves, masks and goggles should be worn to protect the eyes, nose, mouth, and skin. While personal protective equipment can be highly effective, anyone with mold allergies or preexisting respiratory conditions like asthma should leave mold cleanup to the professionals.
  - Discard certain items. Items that

are wet with flood water but cannot be cleaned and completely dried within 24 to 48 hours should be discarded. People with flood insurance policies may need to take photos of items prior to discarding them if they hope to be reimbursed.

- Open doors and windows. The Federal Emergency Management Agency notes that airing the home out by opening the doors and windows can inhibit mold growth when humidity levels are lower outside than inside.
- Circulate air around the house. If it's safe to turn the electricity back on, circulate air inside the home with fans. In addition, use a dehumidifier to remove moisture from inside the home.
- Do not mix cleaning products. The CDC notes the dangers associated with mixing cleaning products. For example, mixing bleach with ammonia can produce toxic vapors.
- Scrub surfaces. Use clean water and detergent to remove all visible mold from surfaces around the house. Dry the surfaces immediately after cleaning them
- Avoid refurbishing until all mold has been removed. Mold can grow even if it's been painted or caulked over. The CDC urges anyone tasked with addressing flood-related mold to make sure surfaces are completely cleaned and dried prior to refurbishing rooms.
- Dry the home as quickly as possible. Drying the home as quickly as possible, and ideally within 24 to 48 hours of the occurrence of flooding, can inhibit further mold growth. However, it's imperative that residents only reenter a home after getting the go-ahead from local authorities.



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# Addressing backyard pet waste

Washing down areas where pets urinate can help dilute urine and prevent damage to lawn

#### **Compiled by Sharon Stone**

Pets benefit households in so many ways.

According to the Animal Health Foundation, being around pets can decrease cortisol levels — a hormone activated by stress. Pets also may inspire their owners to engage in physical activity, such as walks around the neighborhood or play sessions in the backyard, and a physically active lifestyle can reduce a person's risk for various diseases.

To reap the rewards of a pet, owners must be willing to put in the effort to care for companion animals. This includes those tasks that can be unsavory, such as cleaning up pet waste. Not only is pet waste messy, if left out and about it can be an eyesore, a health risk and affect the quality of the soil in one's yard.

Regular removal of pet waste benefits the environment as well as pets and their owners. There are a variety of solutions that can help people rid their lawns

of pet waste.
• Put it in the trash.
If allowed, placing

If allowed, placing waste in a trash receptacle is an option. However, certain areas of the country do not allow feces disposal in landfills. Bacteria found in animal excrement also can leach into the environment if not handled properly.

• Flush it. Another solution is to flush waste down the toilet. But that is not always convenient and it requires owners to bring waste indoors. Do not

Complex and siety

Complex and strategies can help pet owners neatly and safely remove pet waste from their yards.

flush cat waste that is covered in litter
• Utilize a sewer line attachment. This disposal system is connected directly to a septic tank or sewer line. It will require washing out debris and waste that gets stuck in the plumbing.

- Use an enzymatic dog waste dissolver. Soaking waste and using an enzymatic product can dissolve it more safely than using lime or another chemical. It can be used out in the open, or applied to waste stored in a receptacle.
- Create a septic-style composter. Some people create a mini septic station in their yards in which the waste can break down and then dissolve into a predetermined corner of the property, away from where it can affect the landscape.
- Use a hose and water. Solid waste is not the only concern in the yard. Concentrated urine may contain high levels of nitrogen as well as salts and other compounds, according to The Spruce: Pets. These components alter the pH of the soil and cause patches of grass to die and turn yellow or brown. Females cause more damage because they squat and make a puddle of urine, while males tend to lift their legs and disperse the spray. Washing down areas where pets urinate can help dilute the urine and prevent damage.





#### **DESIGNER**

Continued from SHI Page 7

it's their choice of lighting fixtures, furniture or even appliances, homeowners make a statement any time they choose a design component for their homes.

Interior designers can help homeowners coordinate their styles so each room seamlessly transitions to the next one. An ultra-modern living room may stick out like a sore thumb in a home that's predominantly rustic, and interior designers can help homeowners avoid such mistakes.

• Interior designers recognize what's trending. Interior designers tend to be up-to-date on the latest trends. That can be incredibly valuable, especially for homeowners who are anticipating putting their homes

on the market in the near future. In such instances, designers can help homeowners invest in updates or renovations that will appeal to today's buyers, increasing the likelihood that their homes will sell more quickly, and potentially for more money.

• Interior designers are well-connected. Interior designers often collaborate with contractors. Those professional relationships can help homeowners avoid the headaches of finding the right professionals to work with when renovating their homes.

Many a homeowner has benefitted from working with interior designers. Such partnerships can help homeowners transform their residences into the home of their dreams.

#### **EXPERTS**

Continued from SHI Page 8

versatile cleanser. A mild cleaner can be made by mixing 1/2 cup baking soda with 1 gallon of warm water, according to the experts at Better Homes & Gardens. Regular dishwashing detergent also can be mixed with water, as it has a mild bleaching agent. This cleanser can be used on plastic resin furniture or metal furniture, which are popular patio furniture materials.

#### Patio fabrics

Check the cleaning instructions of outdoor fabrics, as there might be specific instructions on the tags. In some cases, fabric may be removed and washed in a washing machine on a gentle setting. A solution of dish soap and

warm water also is a gentle way to clean outdoor fabrics. Once items are clean, HGTV advises applying a water-repellent fabric protector to minimize staining and maintenance.

#### Strip or sand

Wood furniture may need specialized care. If stains cannot be removed with a mild cleanser, then hard woods like teak can be surface-sanded to restore items' original look.

Pressure washers can often do more harm than good to patio furniture, so it's best to look for an alternative way to clean them. Usually a bit of elbow grease and a cleanser is all that's needed. Give the cleaning product time to work. Wipe down and dry the furniture thoroughly to prevent the growth of mildew.



















# Garages — not just for cars

# Transform your garage into a functional, useable space

#### By Sally Rummel

It's time to let go of our messy garage habits from winter and bring a breath of fresh air into one of our most cluttered spaces.

Once you have the clutter removed and can see what you have to work with, you may decide to take your garage makeover one step further and create a convenient space for crafts, gardening or other hobbies.

However, if you need actual functional living space, you can also find that kind of space in your garage.

Insulation, a sub floor and heat will be needed to potentially transform the space into photography studios or and arts and crafts space.

Whatever your garage dreams might be, it all starts with a clean slate. Home expert Bob Villa advises homeowners to break the task into three steps:

1. Clear the clutter. Take everything out of the garage



Look up and see the possibilities for a loft space built above your garage. Times file photos

and group the items you're eliminating into four piles: toss, recycle, donate or sell. Get rid of anything you haven't used in the past year. Have a garage sale, donate to a church rummage sale, or arrange to move everything from appliances to tires and trash, donating and recycling whatever is possible. Find local recycling centers where you can safely dispose of paint and chemicals.

2. Make a plan. Now that the garage is empty, decide whether the space could benefit from a fresh coat of paint. Then begin to group items by task or interest — from garden tools and containers to sports equipment. Other logical groupings include holiday décor, kids' stuff and a workshop area with space for a sturdy bench, plus a pegboard or cabinets.



If your home doesn't have a casual family room or den, you can create one in your current garage.

Once you've determined what zones you need, work logically to fit them in for easiest access.

Think vertically, to use a ton of wasted space. In addition to hanging rakes and tools, consider hanging bikes and a wheelbarrow on hoists and overhead racks.

**3. Choose tailored solutions.** Use smart organizational products like wall systems, storage cabinets, adjustable shelving, workbenches, hooks, bins and tubs.

Once you have cleaned out your space, you can decide to dream big or to dream small, in redefining your garage. Creating new storage systems in your garage will certainly be a big step in the right direction, without costing a lot of money. A bigger dream might be to make that space into a family room, an extra bedroom, even a master bedroom suite.





#### **TIMELINES**

Continued from SHI Page 1

exception. Some HomeAdvisor users reported projects taking as long as four months, though the average time reported was roughly six weeks. Projects that require major overhauls like rearranging the plumbing and moving walls will likely take longer than more cosmetic projects that are limited to replacing cabinets and countertops.

- Bathroom remodel: More than 1,000 homeowners surveyed by HomeAdvisor reported that bathroom remodels took about 4.5 weeks from start to finish. Small-scale remodels that focus on painting the walls a fresh color and replacing existing tiles can be completed in less than two weeks. But like with kitchen remodels, bathroom remodels that involve replacing plumbing fixtures and removing walls figure to take much longer than that.
- **Siding installation:** HomeAdvisor users report that new siding projects take roughly two weeks from start to finish. That estimate is the same regardless of which materials homeowners are

replacing and installing.

• Replacement windows: Homeowners who want to replace all the windows in their home can expect such a project to take roughly three weeks. HomeAdvisor notes that such a timeline need not concern homeowners worried that they will be forced to brave the elements during the length of the project. Much of a contractors' time during a window replacement project will be spent on upfront measuring and then ensuring a tight fit once the windows have been installed.

When asked how the pandemic has affected the construction industry, Patrick Widing of Patrick Widing Custom Homes said the pandemic has affected lead times for getting product both internationally as well as domestically. It has slowed it down from the average (normal) 5-7 week lead time to now, anywhere from 8-12 weeks and in some cases even longer than that.

He advises everyone, regarding COVID, that it's a matter of understanding the project and what's coming up and being mindful of planning ahead. "We can no longer

assume that 'normal' time frames are in play these days," he said. "The further ahead you can look and start putting the pieces in motion, and getting product such as building materials, finish materials, appliances, fixtures etc., onsite for the trades and subcontractors, the better."

Good communication between builder/contractor and suppliers, as well as clients and their expectations is important.

Dan McNeill, president of McNeill Construction, said, "Some orders are taking months. Fireplace inserts, appliances, electrical suppliers that are mainly made in China have very low inventory. Prices for materials are up. He said lumber prices are over 100 percent price increase."

McNeill said for the most part, his clients are understanding of the pandemic and circumstances. "More than likely, they have some personal experience with short supply of something," he said. He added that he expected business to slow down due to increased prices, but he is not having any issues staying busy or keeping his customers happy.

#### **LIGHTING**

Continued from SHI Page 6

#### Bedroom

The home improvement experts at BobVila.com say that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstandlights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

Homeowners have many options and many needs when choosing lighting for their homes. A professional consultation with a lighting expert or interior decorator can help homeowners find lights that provide both practical and aesthetic appeal.





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#### **VACCINATED**

**Continued from Front Page** 

50,450 people in total have received inoculations in the county. Of that number, 38,728 have gotten a first dose and 11,722 have had both first and second doses.

"Genesee county really jumped forward at the start of the year to really get these vaccinations out," Swanson said.

He urged people to go to gchd.us to register for a vaccination appointment. Approximately 50,600 people are on the waiting list.

"We're doing them as fast as we get them," he said. "Just be patient. We always say that eligibility doesn't mean the same thing as availability."

Currently, those in Phase 1 and

2, which are first responders, healthcare workers, teachers and those over 65 years old, can get vaccinated.

Swanson also gave an update on the state of COVID-19 hospital patients in Genesee County hospitals, which includes Ascension Genesys Hospital, Hurley Medical Center, and McLaren Flint Hospital.

"We're doing well when it comes to hospital admissions," he said. Three months ago, there were more than 200 COVID patients in these hospitals.

"Many of them were critical, many of them were in ICU, and we lost a lot."

As of Thursday, Feb. 18, 693 people have died from COVID in Genesee County.

Currently, the number for total in-



Chris Swanson

hospital COVID patients at all three hospitals is 40.

"We're getting ahead of the game. Stay patient. Be diligent. Make sure you take care of yourself. We've got a good plan to roll out," he said

They anticipate it'll take four or five more months until everyone in the county

who wants to be vaccinated can do so.

View stories at myfenton.com



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#### 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE ROSE TOWNSHIP

**We always** 

say that eligibility

doesn't mean the

same thing as

availability. 77

**Chris Swanson** 

Genesee County sheriff

9080 Mason St. Holly, Michigan 48442

#### MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The 2021 Rose Township Board of Review
will be held at the
Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan
on the following dates and times:

March 2, 2021 2:00 pm Organizational Meeting Appointments will begin on:

Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Monday, March 8, 2021 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Wednesday, March 10, 2021 9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT IN ADVANCE FOR THE BOARD OF REVIEW, PLEASE CONTACT OAKLAND COUNTY EQUALIZATION DIVISION, PRIOR TO February 26, 2021

TOLL FREE, 1-888-350-0900, EXTENSION 80740 OR (248) 858-0740.

APPEARANCES BEFORE THE BOARD OF REVIEW ARE LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES.

THE BOARD OF REVIEW WILL ACCEPT WRITTEN APPEALS NO LATER
THAN 4:00 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

All agents protesting values on property other than their own **MUST** have written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend the meeting are asked to contact the Rose Township Clerk (248) 634-8701 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Debbie Miller, MMC, MiPMC Rose Township Clerk

# TYRONE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given the Tyrone Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 8, 2021, beginning at 7:00 pm via Zoom teleconference. Information to join this meeting will be posted to the township's website prior to the meeting. The purpose for the Public Hearing is to consider the following variance application:

APPEAL NO. 1: A request by Mitch & Suzanne Lipon for a 3-foot, 11-inch north side yard setback variance to build an unattached garage and a 4-foot north side yard setback variance to add a landing & steps to a proposed deck and a 2-foot south side yard setback to build a deck located at 6110 Bullard Road, Fenton, Michigan 48430, Parcel ID: 4704-34-401-042. The property is zoned LK-1, Lake-Front Residential. Reference Tyrone Township Zoning Ordinance No. 36 – Section 20.01 Schedule of Regulations (inclusive of building setbacks, height, and minimum lot width & lot area).

**APPEAL NO. 2:** A request by Clayton & Diane Putnam for 3-foot, 4-inch south side yard setback and a 27-foot front yard setback in order to build an unattached garage located at 10393 Lake Shore Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430, Parcel ID: 4704-09-402-006. The property is zoned LK-1, Lake Front Residential. Ref. Tyrone Township Zoning Ordinance No. 36 - Section 20.01 Schedule of Regulations (inclusive of building setbacks, height, and minimum lot width & lot area).

**APPEAL NO. 3:** A request by Brandon & Alexandria Gaynier for a 5-foot east side yard setback variance, a 5-foot west side yard setback variance, and a 14-foot front yard variance in order to build a new single-family residence located on Ledgewood Drive in Fenton, Michigan, Parcel ID: 4704-30-101-018. The property is zoned R-1, Single-Family Residential. Ref. Tyrone Township Zoning Ordinance No. 36 - Section 20.01 Schedule of Regulations (inclusive of building setbacks, height, and minimum lot width & lot area).

For additional information, legal descriptions, and location maps please contact the Planning & Zoning Department at (810) 629-8631 or via email at zoning@tyronetownship.us Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are located at 8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, MI. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Tyrone Township Clerk at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Gregory Carnes, Chairman Tyrone Township Zoning Board of Appeals



# FHS students showcase simulated business

# ■ Participants in Virtual Enterprises National Online Trade Show

#### **Compiled by Sharon Stone**

Virtual Enterprises (VE) students at Fenton High School were among the 5,102 participants for VE's National Online Trade Show on Feb. 11. This event connects students, firms and industry professionals in order to facilitate sales of virtual products and services through video conference sales sessions.

The Fenton students created the business, WayBound, Inc., which sells clothing bundles. During the event, the students generated more than \$25,000 in sales.

More than 222 simulated businesses created across 158 high schools participated in the event created by VE, a national educational nonprofit that annually provides more than 16,500 students with the opportunity to create and run virtual business ventures in 430 schools across the country.

See **SHOWCASE** on 37

## Swans stay despite the cold



These two mute swans swim on the top of the Fenton Millpond on Tuesday, Feb. 16, after the snowstorm dropped 8-9 inches of snow on the area. Mute swans, an invasive species to the United States, don't always migrate south for the winter. Photo: Hannah Ball

## 2021 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

Fenton Township, Genesee County

The Fenton Township Board of Review for March 2021 will be held by **electronic remote access**, unless by the dates of the March Board of Review meetings it becomes lawful under state agency rules and statute for an in-person meeting to be held. Electronic remote access, in accordance with Michigan law, will be implemented in response to COVID-19 social distancing requirements and limitations on the number of individuals in a meeting hall.

If in-person meetings become a lawful option, then the meetings will be held both in person at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430 and via Zoom, (electronic remote access). Petitions and support information must be received prior to appointments. We encourage protests to be submitted by letter by attaching support and detailed protest explanation.

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

www.zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 927 6256 2841 Password: 428255

The public may also participate by landline phone or cell phone by calling into this number:

(312) 626-6799

The township will post the information confirming whether the March BOR will meet in person on the property valuation notices, at the Fenton Township Office front entrance, and on the Township's website (<a href="www.fentontownship.org">www.fentontownship.org</a>).

The Fenton Township March Board of Review will meet on the following dates:

- Tuesday March 2, 2021, 3:00pm Organizational Meeting (No appeals)
- Monday March 8, 2021, 9:00am to 6:00pm Appeal Hearing (lunch break 12:00pm - 1:00pm)
- Tuesday March 9, 2021, 1:00pm to 9:00pm Appeal Hearing (dinner break 5:00pm to 6:00pm)

- Wednesday March 10, 2021, 1:00pm to 9:00pm Appeal Hearing (dinner break 5:00pm to 6:00pm)
- Thursday March 11, 2021, 12:00pm to 6:00pm Appeal Hearing
- Friday March 12, 2021, 10:00am to 2:00pm Work session only (No appeals)

Taxpayers are able to submit protests in writing, provided that protests are received no later than March 10, 2021. Scheduled appointments and written protests are recommended this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To schedule an appointment please contact the Fenton Township Assessing office at 810-629-3445. Appeal letters and supporting documentation may be submitted as follows:

US Mail: Fenton Township Board of Review, 12060 Mantawauka Drive,

Fenton, MI 48430 (please mail early enough so it is received by

March 10th)

Email: **BOR@fentontownship.org** 

Drop Box: Located at the front entrance of the Fenton Township Office

Fax: **810-629-9736** 

All written protests must be received no later than March 10, 2021.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2021 are as follows:

Commercial	48.37%.	1.0336
Residential	47.10%.	1.0615
Industrial	48.94%.	1.0216
Personal Prope	erty50.00%.	1.0000

#### Americans With Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon three (3) days notice.

Contact: Assessor Julia Wilson, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430; 810-629-3445

#### **Board of Review Members:**

Beverly McKenna, Chair John Brancheau, Member Scott "Randy" Laue, Member Vince Lorraine, Secretary of Board of Review

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

CHINA IS BUILDING 100 new coal-fired steam power plants a year and we are putting up pinwheels.

#### 

I'VE BEEN TRYING desperately for weeks to get my disabled 65-year-old wife vaccinated. The process is a mess. We live in Fenton Township.

I'D LIKE TO see a great sledding hill in the Linden/Fenton area other than the very small one at Clover

Beach. A warming shanty would be great too. Add a hot chocolate vendor, and it'd be just as I remember from growing up.

NO, YOU DO not stop in the middle of the roundabout.

# POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

## LANDLORD-TENANT DISPUTE IN HOLLY

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 7:12 p.m., a landlord who rents a room reported to Holly police that he has been in a non-stop state of dispute with his renters, and they had gotten into a heated argument. Officers arrived, deescalated the dispute and discussed the issues with both the tenants and the landlord. The officer advised the landlord of the legal process for eviction and to contact the District Court in Oakland County to begin the process.

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR TOWNSHIP OF ROSE

Site Grass Mowing and Clean-Up Rose Township
Beebe Cemetery
Brookins Cemetery
Rose Center Cemetery

Sealed proposals will be received by the Township of Rose, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan 48442 **until 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 18, 2021** at which time, the bids from holders of Record for Cemetery Site Grass Mowing and Clean-Up will be publicly opened and read aloud and the different items noted, for the site grass mowing and clean-up for Rose Township properties.

Beebe Cemetery S.W. corner of Fish Lake Road and West Rose Center Rd. Brookins Cemetery S. Fenton Road 1/4 mile West of Fish Lake Road Rose Center Cemetery Milford Road 1/2 mile South of Rose Center

Site Grass Mowing, Spring Clean Up, Fall Clean Up, removal of leaves, debris, grave blankets and wreaths, sticks, and branches of Rose Township cemeteries.

The plans and specifications are on file and may be examined and **picked-up on or after 8:30 a.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021** at the Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI 48442.

Bidders must supply the telephone and fax number, street address, and the name of the individual or firm whom Addenda, if any, can be directed.

Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective.

The right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals, and to waive defects in the proposals is reserved by the Owner.

Debbie Miller, MMC, MiPMC Rose Township Clerk 9080 Mason Street Holly, Michigan 48442

### DRONE ENCROACHES PRIVATE PROPERTY

On Saturday, Feb. 13, at 7:21 a.m., a S. Saginaw Street resident reported to Holly police of hearing noises outside and close to her home, and people in the parking lot near her residence with a remote-control device. Officers arrived and discovered the men were using a drone to film the area, and in the process were encroaching on private property. The officer advised the men to ensure they are operating within Federal Aviation Administration Drone guidelines and had them cease filming from this location.

## HOLLY POLICE INVESTIGATE ABUSIVE ONLINE GROUP CHAT

On Saturday, Feb. 13, at 1:08 p.m., Holly police responded to a report of excessive bullying and potentially harmful comments between juveniles in a group chat. The officer was able to view the comments and spoke with all parties, cautioning them of the legal ramifications of online threats and harassment. Parents were advised and each child was cautioned to avoid the other.

# **'Spread the Joy'**

St. John Education Foundation announces details of this year's annual fundraiser

#### By Sharon Stone

The St. John Educational Foundation is trying something new this year for its annual fundraiser, "Spread the Joy."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Foundation members wanted to not only raise money for St. John School but also to take the money



that they would spend on a party and put it toward our local heroes — first responders, our local restaurants and charities.

With every dollar donated, 20 percent will be donated to a well deserving organization of the donor's choice.

To sponsor Spread the Joy, call Barb Walstrom, St. John Education Foundation executive director at (248) 250-2036 or email her at blwalstrom@stjohnfenton.org.

Scan the QR code below and it will automatically open up a link to donate.

# PUBLIC NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS FEBRUARY 15, 2021

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday February 15, 2021 via Zoom and took the following actions.

- Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.
- 2. Approved the agenda as presented.
- 3. Received a presentation on the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition from Chairman David Lossing.
- 4. Approved a Memorandum of Agreement, thereby becoming a member of the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition.
- 5. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of \$444,812.32.
- 6. Adjourned at 8:09 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

#### **SHOWCASE**

#### Continued from Page 35

Through the program, students create a business together, role-play corporate positions, conduct transactions with other simulated businesses, attend trade shows and run the business as if it were real.

"We are very pleased with our Way-Bound, Inc. crew and the way they are handling the business during this pandemic," Kaitlyn Couch, CEO of WayBound, Inc., said.

Admission to the eight-hour trade show was free of charge and provided guests with virtual credit cards that were used to purchase the students' products and services. Through trade booths created on Zoom, Google Meet and other platforms, students spoke with buyers in real time about their businesses.

Fenton High School has been running the VE program for the past 10 years and has won numerous awards including best booth award, business plan competition, sales person of the year and best elevator pitch.



High School Virtual Enterprises (VE) students were among 5,102 participants in this year's National Online Trade Show. Their virtual business is called Way-Bound, Inc. Submitted photo

## VILLAGE OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### HOLLY MILL POND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that the Village Council of the Village of Holly will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible, 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/i/81100666340

Or go to zoom.us. At the top, right corner, select 'join a meeting'. Enter the meeting ID # 811 0066 6340. 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)

**THE PURPOSE OF THE HEARING** is to confirm the special assessment roll and provide an opportunity for property owners and interested parties to comment on and/or protest the Holly Mill Pond Special Assessment District. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal.

AN OWNER OR PARTY IN INTEREST, or his or her agent may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. Comments and/or protest by mail should be mailed to the Village of Holly Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Karl Richter Center, Holly, MI 48442-1694. The property owner or any person having an interest in the real property may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the state tax tribunal within thirty (30) days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll if the special assessment was protested at the hearing held for the purpose of confirming the special assessment roll. The special assessment roll and related materials are available for review at the Village Offices located at 300 East Street, Karl Richter Center, Holly, MI during regular business hours.

**QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**, by telephone should be directed to the Village Offices at (248) 634-9571. Handicapped or other persons needing assistance to attend or participate in the hearing are asked to contact the Village Office 48 hours prior to the hearing.

Deborah J. Bigger Clerk/Treasurer Village of Holly

## 2021 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

Argentine Township, Genesee County

The Argentine Township Board of Review for March 2021 will be held by **ZOOM** in accordance to MDHHS Emergency Order February 4, 2021.

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87697948705?pwd=aFRMRWIwNIdoVkVXTVc vSmE3SXpEZz09

> Meeting ID: 876 9794 8705 Passcode: 542085

The public may also participate by landline phone or cell phone by calling 312 626 6799 and enter passcode

The Argentine Township March Board of Review will meet on the following dates:

- Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 6:00 p.m. = Organizational Meeting
- Monday, March 8, 2021, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. = Appeal Hearing
- •Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. = Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2021 assessments. By board resolution, taxpayers are able to protest by letter, including email, sent to Assessor, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451, <a href="mailto:assessor@argentinetownship.com">assessor@argentinetownship.com</a> provided protest is received prior to March 9, 2021.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. CALL (810) 735-5050 TO SCHEDULE

The 2021 tentative equalization ratio is 50% and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classifications.

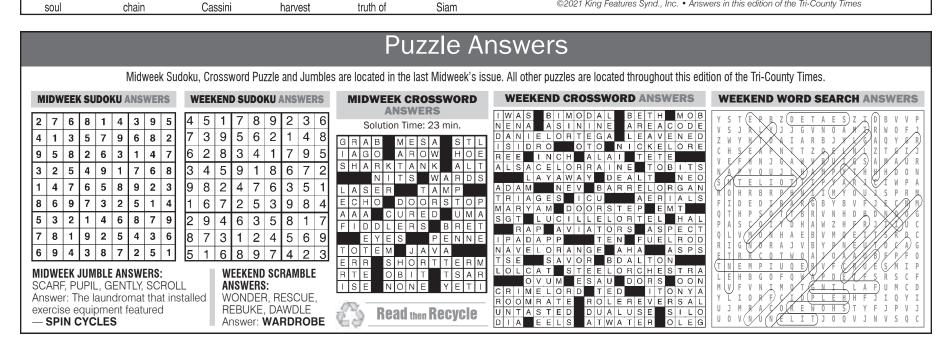
#### **Board of Review Members:**

Dagmar Miller, Chair DagmarMiller@charter.net Bruce Allan, btsallan@charter.net Amber Chambers, ac.remax@gmail.com Brain Saad, Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review

Brian Saad, Supervisor Argentine Township



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chain



The Griffins' Jacob Florida attempts a shot during a recent contest. **Photo:** David Troppens

## Griffins win second straight contest, defeats Tri-Valley

#### **By David Troppens**

After losing two competitive games in their first two contests, the Fenton/Linden varsity hockey team is starting a different streak.

The Griffins have won their last two games, defeating the Tri-Valley Titans 6-2 in a road contest.

The six goals were the most the Griffins have scored this season, and the two goals they have allowed represents the fewest the team has yielded. The Griffins (2-2) never trailed, but it did take the squad some time to a sizable lead. The team's first lead was established when Nick Temple scored a power-play goal in the opening period on assists by Keegan McNamara and Caleb Baker. The Griffins led 1-0 after one period.

The lead grew to 2-0 on a goal by Tristyn Cox on assists from Barron Smiecinski and McNamara. However, Tri-Valley scored the game's next two goals, tying it at 2-all.

But the tie didn't last long as the Griffins scored the game's final four goals. Caden Crandall, McNamara, Temple and Florida scored goals before the contest was over. Mitchel Luck, Kenneth Sorum, Evan Hutchings, Cox and Rykerson Wright had assists down the stretch on one of the final four goals.

In the goal, Brady Faille earned the victory.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM** 

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 | PAGE 39 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

# Sports Times

## Tigers edge out Holly with strong fourth-quarter

By David Troppens

**Fenton** — It was a game that featured eight lead changes and five tie scores.

However, the Fenton Tigers scored points on each of their final seven possessions, resulting in a 51-45 victory against the Holly Bronchos.

"We made a couple of shots," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "(Brendan) Alvord scored on a good pass from somebody. (Gavin) Shepherd hit one on a pass from somebody. I think Ja'Hion (Bond) had a layup in there. There was a period in there with fourand-a-half-minutes left we had what we call winning time. I think every coach calls it winning time, and we executed. I have to give Matt Sullivan a little credit because I was a little frustrated in the first half and I was getting at them too much and he told me to chill out at halftime a little bit. I hate to say good job Matt Sullivan but good job Matt Sullivan."

The Bronchos trailed 37-29 entering the final quarter, but began the stanza with an 11-2 run. Ryan Ortiz and Aleczander Lewis hit key three-pointers, setting up the run and another Lewis trey ended it. Holly led 40-39 with 5:07 left. The run



Fenton's Gavin Shepherd drives to the bucket against Holly's Logan Dzendzel. Photo: Christopher Summers

continued when Samuel Fleischer hit a trey, raising Holly's lead to 43-39 with just under five minutes remaining. However, that's when the Tigers made their final run. Fenton scored on each of its final seven possessions. The first came on two converted free throws by Seth Logan and continued with a Logan layup. The Tigers were tied 43-all with 3:30 left in regulation.

Fenton's run continued with Alvord's trey, giving the Tigers a 46-43 lead with 2:57 remaining. Holly was able to cut the gap to 46-45 with a baseline driving layup by Lewis, but Holly wouldn't score during the final 2:39 of the contest. Meanwhile, Alvord made a free throw on Fenton's next possession and Logan hit a driving layup with 50 seconds left, raising Fenton's lead to 49-45. Connor Luck and Alvord iced the victory by each making 1-of-2 free throws during the Tigers' final two possessions.

"We gave up a lot of early transition baskets where we didn't get back on defense very well," Holly varsity boys basketball coach Steve DeHart said. "We didn't defensive rebound worth anything all night and that made it rough. They were in the double-bonus early in the second half. We kind of played right into their advantage."

The game had its contradictions. Both teams struggled with their defensive rebounding at times and neither team shot very well with Holly making just 17-of-52 shots while Fenton hit on just 15-of-51 shots.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Holly's Autumn Lewis tries to find a pass to a teammate while being defended by Fenton's Korryn Smith.

**Photo: Christopher Summers** 

## Bronchos compete in another thriller, beat Fenton

By David Troppens

**Fenton**—The Holly varsity girls basketball team is making a habit of thrilling contests this season.

Just days after opening the season with a triple-overtime loss to the Linden Eagles, the Bronchos found themselves in another exciting battle with area rivals Fenton.

This time the Bronchos were able to end the contest on the victorious side, earning a 51-50 victory on the road against the Fenton Tigers.

And there was drama. The Bron-

See THRILLER on 41

#### PREP REPORT

#### **GIRLS SKI**

▶ Powers at regionals: The Powers Catholic girls ski team qualified for the Division 2 state meet by placing third at the region six meet held at Alpine Ski Valley. Two tri-county athletes helped make the qualifying possible

Taylor Hagerman and Gracie Spezia. Hagerman was strong in the slalom, placing eighth. Hagerman had the ninth-best time with each of her two runs, posting times of 26.05 seconds and 27.00 seconds on them. She had a combined time of 53.05. Spezia also competed in the slalom and placed 32nd (62.73).

Hagerman placed 17th in the giant slalom with a two-run combined time of 41.49 seconds. Hagerman's second run of 21.29 seconds placed 13th among the second runs. Spezia placed 32st with a combined time of 42.34 seconds.

The state meet is Feb 22 at Boyne Highlands.

## Fenton swimmers continue to dominate Metro foes, beat Holly

#### **By David Troppens**

It was a battle of area rivals, but when it comes to boys swimming, the nine-time defending Metro League champion Tigers are pretty much the dominant team.

That was evident again on Wednesday as the Tigers won all 11 events and swept the top three positions in five individual events en route to a 135-33 victory.

Max Haney, Gavin Crews and Kaz Sieja left the meet with four firsts for the Tigers. The trio teamed up in the 200 medlev relay with Braden Falvo to open the meet with a firstplace time of 1:50.50. Crews and Haney also teamed with Falvo and Evan Koch to end the meet with a first-place time of 3:39.16 in the 400 freestyle relay. Finally, Sieja teamed with Jacob Shanahan, Koch and Luke DeFina to win the 200 freestyle relay (1:43.67).

Individually, Crews won the 200 freestyle (1:58.83) and the 100 butterfly (1:00.81) while Haney won the 50 freestyle (23.97) and the 100 backstroke (57.38). Sieja won his individual events in the the 100 breaststroke (1:10.60) and in the 200 individual medley (2:15.10). Other Fenton individuals to win an event were Koch in the 100 freestyle (56.04) and Zach Michelson in the 500 freestyle (5:30.42).

Fenton grabbed all the individual seconds as well. Falvo had a second in the 100 butterfly (1:05.17) and the 200 individual medley (2:15.61) while Mike Crane took second in the 500 freestyle (5:57.53) and the 100 breaststroke (1:18.49). Shanahan also had two individual seconds in the 50 freestyle (25.84) and in the 500 freestyle (5:30.42). The other individual seconds were earned by Koch





Two of the area swimmers this winter are Fenton's Tristan Bakker (above) and Holly's Kade Kivari (left). Photo: Christopher

Summers

in the 200 freestyle (2:03.97) and Tristan Bakker in the 100 backstroke (1:07.70).

The Tigers nearly swept the top three positions in all of the individual events. Holly kept

that from happening by taking two thirds. Rockafellow Zachary took third in the 100 butterfly (1:10.04) and Kade Kivari took third in the 100 breaststroke (1:23.64).



## Blue Devils competitive vs. Mustangs, but fall short, 60-56

#### By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team was never out of the game against the Clio Mustangs.

However, down the stretch the Blue Devils were never able to get the deficit to the point where they could tie or take the lead.

The Blue Devils gave the Mustangs a tough contest on Clio's home court on Wednesday, but lost a 60-56 verdict.

"It was competitive the whole time, but we got off to a slow start," Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Tyler Szczepanski said. "We were down 8-0 when Francis (Senter) hit our first three approximately three minutes left in the quarter.

"We were timid in the first half, but we came out with a lot more aggressive in the second half. But each time we'd cut the lead to three to four points, Clio quickly stretched it back to seven or eight points again."

Lake Fenton may have gotten off to a slow start, but the Blue Devils remained in the game. Lake Fenton's second bucket of the game was late in the first quarter when Jake Helms hit a trey, cutting Clio's lead 10-6 entering the second quarter.

One player that hurt Lake Fenton all night was Logan McNiel. After holding him to just two first-quarter points, Mc-Niel scored 13 second-quarter points and never cooled off, finishing the game with 33 points. Still, the Blue Devils stayed within a reasonable distance of Clio. Helms had five second-quarter points and Carter Foerster and Senter had four each as the Blue Devils trailed 26-19 at halftime.

The Blue Devils' best quarter was the third with Senter leading the way. Senter scored 13 of his team-high 23 points during the third period as Lake Fenton scored 18 points during the stanza. Still, the Blue Devils trailed only 44-37 entering the final quarter.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM** 

## **Eagles remain perfect, beat New Lothrop**

#### By David Troppens

The Linden varsity girls basketball team off to a perfect start.

The Eagles improved to 2-0 with another competitive victory in their second contest, beating New Lothrop 52-47. Linden opened the season with a thrilling triple-overtime victory against Holly the previous Friday.

"It is a great start and one that the team has not had in many years," Linden varsity girls basketball coach Zack Darling said.

Life has been challenging within the program in recent times. Darling posted a 6-15 season during his first season as the head coach last year, and that result represented the best win total by the program since going 8-13 during the 2014-15 school year. Prior to Darling's first season, the Eagles had won just five games in the previous four years, including just one during the two years prior to him becoming the coach. So, a 2-0 start to the season is something very new to the program.

Junior Paige Leedle had a strong night, scoring a team-high 19 points, She also had three steals and three asssits. Sophomore Kelsey McLennan added 13 points, seven rebounds and two blocks. Olivia



Linden's Olivia Mawhinney dribbles with the ball during a recent contest. **Photo: Christopher Summers** 

Mawhinney and Mallory Ross chipped in six points each.

The Eagles (2-0 overall and 1-0 in the Metro League Stripes Division) return to action on Friday with a home game against Swartz Creek.

## LF girls dominate Clio early, cruise to impressive 53-16 road victory

#### By David Troppens

Wow.

It happened again.

Just days after taking a 45-7 first-half lead against Lapeer en route to a 74-16 victory, the Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team repeated the experience against Clio on Wednesday.

Lake Fenton outscored Clio 27-2 in the first quarter and cruised to a 53-16 road victory against the Lady Mustangs.

"We got out quick," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. "I thought that was important. We talked about the start only going one of two ways and we were able to begin how we wanted. And that was good to see."

Lake Fenton (2-1 overall and 1-1 in the Flint Metro League Stars Division) scored the game's first 13 points and always led by doubledigits from that point. The Blue Devils took a 34-6 lead into halftime and then outscored Clio 19-10 in the second half as well. A good portion of the second half was played with the continuous clock mercy rule.

Balanced scoring has been key to this point of the season for Lake Fenton. Kerrigan Howdeshell led the Blue Devils with 11 points while Savannah Fellenbaum had 10 points. Aubrey Fray, Cola Sisk and Christina Lamb had six points each. The Blue Devils had all eight players score in their win against Lapeer.

"We had good balance," VanBuren said. "Six of our eight scored six or more. There was a few times that the ball moved three, four, five times around to players. It didn't finish with an assist every time, but the effort to make the extra pass was there."

The Lake Fenton JV team also won 52-19.

Lake Fenton hosts Owosso Friday.

#### THRILLER **Continued from Page 39**

chos lost their most recognized leader, Emma Tooley, with just less than five minutes left in the third quarter due to a rolled ankle. Holly trailed at that time 29-24. When she returned to action, Holly (1-1) trailed 44-32 with just five minutes remaining in regulation. Tooley went to work, scoring nine fourth-quarter points. She eventually scored the game-winning free throw with 6.4 seconds left.

"It was the greatest feeling ever," Tooley said about the victory. "Watching girls dive for balls — just risking everything just to get the ball back in our hands. We were finishing layups late in the game. I'm shaking right now. I'm so proud of everyone. Watching the underclassmen and watching how they came out and played is an amazing feeling."

"That's just fun. I couldn't be more proud of these kids," Holly varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. "Being down 12 with (five minutes left) — it shows that these kids are not going to quit. They play together. We are passing the

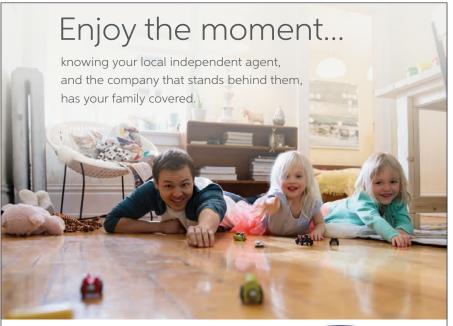
ball and it's huge to play that hard and be able to come out and win. Friday was a bummer. You play three overtimes and you don't get it. But we played just as hard tonight and this time we got the win."

On the other side, the Tigers (1-1) led most of the game and had the 12-point lead, but saw the lead evaporate. Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Don Kutchey said it will be a learning experience. Fenton was impressive in its opening victory against Swartz Creek.

"We always say you either win or you will learn so this is a chance for us to learn a little bit," Kutchey said. "We will learn a little bit about who we are and that you can't relax ever. You have to play all the way through for four quarters."

Holly had an early 3-0 lead to start, but the Tigers ended the first quarter on a 15-7 run taking a 15-10 lead into the second quarter. Six Tigers scored during the quarter with Kyla Lynch scoring four points. That was pretty normal for the contest. Fenton usually led but not by terribly much.

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Sunday, February 21, 2021

**OBITUARIES** 

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# LifeSty

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## Township joins river trail coalition

■ Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition helps maintain health of river, launch sites and more

#### By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees unanimously voted to join the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition (SRWTC) during a virtual meeting Monday, Feb. 15.

David Lossing, chair of the SRWCT, gave a presentation on the coalition and the different groups that maintain and add to the quality of the Shiawassee River.

Supervisor Vince Lorraine said the coalition is a "great project," and he wants more people to know about it.

Treasurer John Tucker complimented the river paddles and said these organizations are adding to the usage of the river.

"It's great to see the participation in that," he said. Argentine Township Supervisor Brian Saad welcomed the township to the coalition.

Lossing said during the COVID-19 pandemic, more people are participating in river-related activities.

The Shiawassee River is part of the Saginaw Bay watershed, which runs through 22 counties. The Shiawassee



David Lossing, chair of the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition, gives a presentation to the Fenton Township Board of Trustees. The township joins 21 other organizations supporting the river in four counties.

River is 88 miles and was designated a National Water Trail on Oct. 22, 2020. It's one of five national water trails in Michigan and 33 in the U.S.

The coalition's founding groups consist of Head-

water Trails Inc., Keepers of the Shiawassee and Friends of the Shiawassee River, which created a memorandum of understanding to state that the SRWTC will be the umbrella organization that coordinates the three non-profits and efforts relating to the river.

These organizations managed three different parts of the trail- the upper, middle and lower areas.

"Now coordinated into one trail system, the public will envision an approachable recreational resource with relative ease and safety," according to Lossing's presentation.

The website, shiawasseewatertrail.org, has information on the 14 sites to put in or take out recreational vessels, as well as information on restaurants near these sites and other amenities. It includes the distance of different routes and the level of paddling skill needed.

Lossing discussed past projects and achievements. They've secured grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and were designated as one of the first eight "State Water Trails" in Michigan.

The Shiawassee River is now part of Terrain 360, which is a company that digitally maps water trails. The village of Vernon recently installed the 29th launch site on the river with the first kayak locker. Organizers are working to install mile markers along the river. Holly Township provided funding to the North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy to use GIS mapping along the river to place mile markers.

They've also partnered with the Conservation Fund, MDNR, and Friends of the Shiawassee River to release 250 sturgeon back into the river, and they received a grant from the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences Assessment (GLISA) to understand the effects of climate change on the Shiawassee River.

See RIVER TRAIL on 43

**Mow coordinated into one** trail system, the public will envision an approachable recreational resource with relative ease and safety. 77

**Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition** 



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#### **RIVER TRAIL**

Continued from Page 42

Hyfi is working to install water sensors on bridge decks over the river to monitor the flow and depth. They've also partnered with Fenton Winery and Brewery to create a craft beer and wine named after the river. They raised nearly \$1,500.

The SRWTC has committees on recreation planning, launch sites, stream monitoring, advancement, community engagement, nominations, signage and invasive species.

#### **Goals for the SRWTC include:**

- Promote and improve river related recreation
- Public access sites and user experiences
- Inform and educate the public on topics related to river health, safety, and Leave No Trace Principles
- Support local and regional efforts to increase water based recreation and tourism
- Enhance partnerships among water trail landowners and managers
- Preserve and protect river resources for future generations



- Increase connections between communities, public lands, and land trails
- Secure long-term sustainability of the water trail
- Maintain access sites
- Manage woody debris to support fish populations and allow for recreational access with minimal impact

## Waterworks Park to Strom Park

Those who use the Shiawassee River when the weather is nice, and those who venture out in the snow during this time of year, will notice mile markers along the water trail.

#### **Partner organizations include:**

43

#### **Oakland County:**

Headwater Trails, Inc.
North Oakland Headwaters Land
Conservancy
Village of Holly
Holly Township

#### **Genesee County:**

Keepers of the Shiawassee
Ponemah-Squaw-Tupper Lake
Association
Sierra Club-Nepessing Chapter
City of Fenton
City of Linden
Argentine Township
Genesee County Parks and
Recreation Commission

#### **Shiawassee County:**

Friends of the Shiawassee River
Village of Byron's Downtown
Development Authority
Village of Vernon
City of Corunna
City of Owosso
Shiawassee County Parks and
Recreation

#### **Saginaw County:**

Village of Oakley Chesaning Township Village of Chesaning Saginaw County Parks and Recreation









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## NOTICE OF 2021 ANNUAL BOARD OF REVIEW FOR THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOLLY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Review of the Township of Holly will meet at the Holly Township Hall, 102 Civic Drive, Holly, Michigan as follows:

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 1:30 PM - Organizational Meeting to receive 2021 Assessment Roll from Assessor [MCL 211.29(1)

Appointments will be taken for:

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Monday, March 8, 2021 from 1:00 PM-4:30 PM and 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Thursday, March 11, 2021 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:30 PM-5:00 PM

**Friday, March 12, 2021** ONLY OF NECESSARY from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00 PM-4:00 PM or signing session only 1:00 PM.

The Board of Review will accept written appeals if received prior to the closing of the Board of Review. The 2021 tentative equalization ratio is 50% and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classification.

Appointments before the Board of Review may be made for the dates listed above by calling Oakland County Equalization, toll free, 1-888-350-0900 Extension 85583 or 248-858-5583. Appeals may also be made in writing and must be received prior to the closing of the Board of Review. All written appeals should be addressed to:

Oakland County Equalization, Holly Township Assessor 250 Elizabeth Lake Rd., Suite 1000 West Pontiac, MI 48341

Please use Parcel Identification Number when referring to your property so that records can be quickly located.

Protest at the Board of Review is necessary to protect your right to further appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for valuation and exemption appeals and/or State Tax Commission for classification appeals.

HOMEOWNER'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AFFIDAVIT INFORMATION IS RE-QUIRED BY P.A. 105 of 2003: If you have purchased your principal residence after December 31 last year, to claim the principal residence exemption for next year if you have not already done so, you are required to file an affidavit before May 1 this year.

Persons needing assistance in attending an appointment should call the Township Clerk's Office at (248) 634-9331 ext. 301 at least 7 business days prior to the appointment.

Karin S. Winchester, Clerk



- 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, Feb. 5.

## House Bill 4019: Allocate new federal coronavirus relief dollars to schools

To appropriate \$868.5 million in recently approved federal coronavirus relief money, which is about 25 percent of the entire amount available to the state, with the rest to be allocated later. The appropriation directs \$510 million federal dollars to expand food stamp distributions and related programs; \$165.5 million for household rent and utility subsidies; \$143.7 million for coronavirus testing and contact tracing; and smaller amounts for other purposes.

Passed 59 to 50 in the House
Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47)
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)
YES

## House Bill 4048: Allocate new federal coronavirus relief dollars to schools

To revise school spending in the 2021-22 fiscal year to accommodate a \$1.8 billion increase in federal coronavirus

relief. The bill would allocate \$1.490 billion to school districts, which they can spend on any of 15 specific activities listed in the federal relief bill. Among other items, this bill also authorizes \$86.7 million for non-public schools, \$21 million for extra grants to summer school teachers, and more. The bill also appropriates \$363 million state dollars to pay for extra "incentives" to get teachers back in public school classrooms. The bill is 'tie-barred" to House Bill 4049, which transfers the power to close schools during an epidemic from the state health department to local health departments; this means the school spending bill can't become law unless that bill also becomes law.

Passed 58 to 51 in the House Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47)

Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES

House Bill 4049: Transfer power

## House Bill 4049: Transfer power to close schools during epidemic from state health department to locals

To establish that the director of the Department of Health and Human Services does not have the authority to issue epidemic-related emergency orders that close schools for inperson instruction or prohibit school sporting events. The legislature gave this authority to the state health department director in the Public Health Code enacted in 1978; the bill would amend that law by instead giving this authority to local health departments.

Passed 57 to 52 in the House Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51)

YES YES

**YES** 

## **Shoveling for friends**



Lyle Warner, who's friends with the owners of Yesterday's Treasures, said he wanted to help them by shoveling the sidewalks near Mill Street surrounding the store on Tuesday, Feb. 16. **Photo: Hannah Ball** 





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TUB, VENTILATION

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

## JUMBLE THIS THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME!®

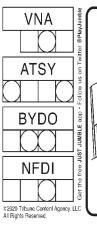
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME!®

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they all make real words you can find in the dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

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.







Jumbles: VAV STAY BODY FIND Prawer: The boy was going to choose what they did because it was — "SON-DAY"

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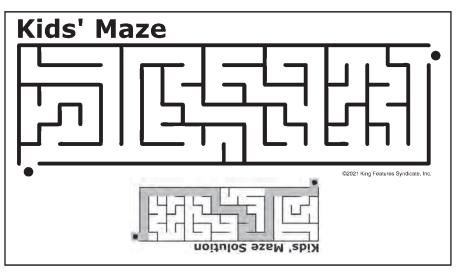
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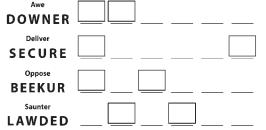


## Weekend Scrambler

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!



"First thir	g we gotta get you, boss,	
is a new	!"	



**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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Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

# Obituaries

### <u> Yimes</u>

#### **Cynthia Emmons**

Cynthia Emmons - age 64, died February 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Donna Hull**

Donna Hull - age 92, died February 14, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Ernest Grose**

Ernest Grose - age 88, died February 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **John Moore**

John Moore - age 30, died February 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Kenneth Howard**

Kenneth Howard - age 68, died February 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Marilyn Kenney**

Marilyn Kenney - age 68, died February 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Matthew D. Nold**

1958 - 2020

Matthew D.
Nold - age 62,
died Tuesday,
December 8,
2020 in Fenton.
He was born
in Fort Wayne,
IN on February
28, 1958 to
Curtis and
the late Mary
(Dilgard) Nold.
Matt graduated
from Southside
High School in

Fort Wayne and ITT Technical Institute with a major in robotics. This led to working in the automotive industry with companies like General Motors, CTS Corporation, and Delphi Electronics, mostly in the Flint area. Finally, Matt got into his first love, restoring antique cars. He was known throughout the country for his expertise in Jaquar and Triumph vehicles.



His 1963 Jaguar XKE was First In Show in competition rallies all over the US. It now rests in the museum in Auburn, IN. Matt also worked at the H.I.S. ministries and was active in

his local church. He is survived by his father, Curtis (Gloria); brother, Jonathan (Kimberly); and sister, Margaret Cahill. Interment will be at Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, IN with services at a later date. Tributes may be shared at www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Johnathan Skaggs**

Johnathan Skaggs - age 25, died February 14, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Edward Sullivan**

Edward Sullivan - age 79, died February 18, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Patsy Jones**

Patsy Jones - age 86, died February 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Raymond Schrader**

Raymond Schrader - age 68, died February 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



## Robert "Bob" Lamson

Robert "Bob" Lamson - age 74, died February 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Robert Anderson**

Robert Anderson - age 89, died February 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### S. Victor Nyberg

S. Victor Nyberg - age 92, died February 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Shelton Michael**

Shelton Michael - age 94, died February 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Timothy Parks**

Timothy Parks - age 46, died February 11, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Virginia Robinson**

Virginia Robinson - age 86, died February 17, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Brett Allen Covert**

1963 - 2021

Brett Allen
Covert - age
57, of Sulphur,
LA, formerly
of Fenton,
passed away
on Wednesday,
February
17, 2021,
after battling
Covid-19
pneumonia.
Brett was born
on October 3,
1963 in

Cleveland, OH to Mark and Joan Covert of Fenton. In addition to his loving parents Mark and Joan, he leaves behind his wife, Pam, of Sulphur, LA; son, Cory Covert, of Las Vegas NV; sister, Kim McClimans of Davison; niece, Brittney Bemb and family of White Lake; and nephew.Michael Lewis of Birmingham. Brett was a 1982 Graduate of Fenton High School, receiving eight varsity letters in Football, Basketball and Track. He was also a graduate of CMU receiving a



Bachelor's
Degree in
Business.
An avid
sports fan,
fisherman and
outdoorsman.
Brett enjoyed
spending his
spare time
building his
cabin with Pam
in Canada,
fishing, or
watching his

favorite sports teams on TV. The majority of Brett's working career was spent working in the gaming industry starting at Caesar's Palace and The Paris in Las Vegas and finally as Assistant Casino Manager at the L'Auberge Casino in Lake Charles, LA. He will always be remembered as a loving son; husband; father; brother and friend. Family was always first to Brett. He will always be greatly missed by all those who loved and knew him. A memorial service is being planned for a later date.

**VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. MYFENTON.COM** 

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<sup>2</sup>Must be a GM Rewards Cardmember as of 1/4/21 to receive Bonus Earnings. Bonus Earnings can be used on the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2021 or 2020 GM vehicle and can be used above applicable GM Rewards Card program limits. Bonus Earnings may not be used on the 2021 Chevrolet Corvette.

Bonus Earnings expire 3/1/21. Cannot be combined with certain other GM offers. Nontransferable. Only one Bonus Earnings offer per Account. ©2021 General Motors. All rights reserved.

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CHEVROLET

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Stk#1152590B ...



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