

The state of Fenton roads:

PART I

■ Majority of roads in southeast Fenton considered to be 'very poor'

By Hannah Ball

The majority of local streets in southeast Fenton evaluated in 2020 were considered to be "very poor."

These ratings come from a 2020 PASER study. PASER stands for Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating, and

it's a system that rates roads on a 1-10 scale with a rating of 10 being the best. It's used by municipalities and road commissions across the state.

This is first part in a series on the state of Fenton roads based on information from the

PASER study, including roads in southeast Fenton south of the Canadian National Railway and the Fenton Business and Technology Park.

Failed

- Long Street: rating 1

- Barnes Street: rating 1
- Bridson Street (from Hickory Street to dead end): rating 1

Very Poor

- Williams Street: rating 2
- Wakeman Street: rating 2

See **ROADS** on 21



Dr. Cynthia L. Cupal,
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Weekend Times

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Sheriff's office offers free Narcan

■ More than a dozen people die from overdoses in Genesee County in 2021

By Hannah Ball

Thirteen people in Genesee County died from an opioid overdose from Jan. 1 to Tuesday, March 16.

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson gave an update on the opioid crisis in Genesee County during his weekly press briefing Wednesday,

March 17. He's also offering free Narcan to those who want it.

He called these numbers "a little bit startling." While 13 people died from an overdose, there were 64 people who were successfully resuscitated. Of the 13 who died, the age group most represented was 55 and up. Those that overdosed and resuscitated were mainly 25 to 35 years old.

"When you add those two numbers together, you're talking almost 80 that would have died

See **NARCAN** on 8

Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson stands with one of the K9 dogs, Apollo, who works in the corrections department. Apollo is one of four K9s at GCSO. Other dogs are trained in explosives or narcotics.



Owosso man faces charges

■ Disrupts special needs classroom in Holly, films confrontations with police for social media

By Sharon Stone

Charges are pending against a 47-year-old Owosso man for disrupting

school operations. Police have not released the suspect's name since he has not been arraigned in court.

This comes after he appeared at the Holly Area Schools administration offices, Karl Richter Campus and

See **DISRUPTS** on 32

Stimulus bill to provide funding to local governments

■ Some communities expect to receive more than \$1 million; clerks say plans for funds not yet decided

By Hannah Ball

President Joe Biden signed into the law the American Rescue Plan on March 11.

The bill is the latest push from the federal government to address the financial hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$1.85-trillion relief act contains funds for states, counties and

See **FUNDING** on 15



“Extending the bar closing time to 4 a.m. makes no sense. I discussed it with Oakland County Sheriff Bouchard

and Oakland County Commissioner Hoffman and they both agreed. It is unfortunate that you place our objections aside by voting to helping the casinos in this virus crisis.”

“My husband and

I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the Fenton Fire Department and additional fire departments that put out the barn fire at our home. They were here quickly, professional, kind, hard-working and totally awesome. Thank you, Jack and Ruth.”



“If it wasn't

for Daylight Saving Time, people that work outdoors would be working in the dark until after 9 a.m. in the winter, quit whining.”





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Know the rules before you burn

■Common for grass and brush fires to pop up in springtime with dead, dry undergrowth

By Sharon Stone

The ground may look damp and muddy, but grass and brush are dry in the spring even if the ground is wet, according to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). That means fire can spread fast.

“Everybody wants to get out and clean up their yard, but it’s important to check conditions before burning and to understand how dry these fuels on the ground are,” said Paul Rogers, fire prevention specialist with the Michigan DNR.

Debris burning is the No. 1 cause of wildfires in Michigan, and some fires already have scorched Lower Michigan landscapes, including a 432-acre fire in the state’s Thumb region.

North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) Chief Jeremy Lintz said his fire department responded to a grass fire on Houser Road in Holly Township at 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 15. He said it was a large 10-acre vacant parcel with heavy grass, brush and wooded areas.

“The owner was there illegally burn-



Four neighboring fire departments assisted North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) with extinguishing this 10-acre grass fire Monday, March 15 in Holly Township. Photo: Fenton Fire Department

ing a pile of old construction material and due to the high winds and dry vegetation the fire jumped into the heavy brush and grass and burned the entire 10 acres before we could get it contained,” Lintz said. “Luckily, no one was injured and no property was damaged. The fire did come within about 50 feet from a neighboring house however we stopped it.”

See **BRUSH FIRES** on 14

“All of the vegetation from last year is dead and very dry and combined with high winds, it’s a very dangerous situation.”

Jeremy Lintz
North Oakland County Fire Authority chief

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A message from the superintendent

Over the last year, our world has halted and everyday life as we knew it pre pandemic changed overnight. While this is true in many facets, the educational system of our country and state has continued to engineer new ways to keep students and teachers learning. Learning didn't and won't stop for our students and teachers.

Over the last year, we have relied on the technology bond that our community so graciously helped us pass in 2014, by enabling our students to have devices to learn, and enabling our teachers to teach. While we have had to change the environment for students and sometimes for teachers, learning has been stable for us this school year.

Fenton Area Public Schools, because of our readily available technology, has been able to offer both face-to-face learning and a 100-percent virtual learning environment this year. We also have been able to continue with our professional learning and professional meetings for staff, teachers and administration. Our ability to reinvent the learning environment was in large part our ability to our technology



Adam Hartley
Fenton Area
Public Schools
superintendent

resources. Heidie Ciesielski, executive director of teaching and learning, said, "We are incredibly fortunate to be able to provide students with the ability to continue to learn at home during the pandemic.

We also have been able to continue with our Strategic Plan Goals in the area of teacher development with the use of our technology hardware and virtual meeting

platforms such as Zoom, etc... We have been able to provide professional learning such as K-5 math instruction with the use of virtual learning, most recently.

Our district has committed to not let learning stop for anyone in our school community."

While the education world has had to reinvent and reengineer the learning environment, it is evident that Fenton Area Public Schools has been able to do so with our technology resources and hard work on the part of our staff. Initial data is showing that students have maintained and are staying above the norm of like peers throughout the state and country.

We are looking forward to using the innovation we have implemented during the pandemic in the coming years to ensure learning will never stop.

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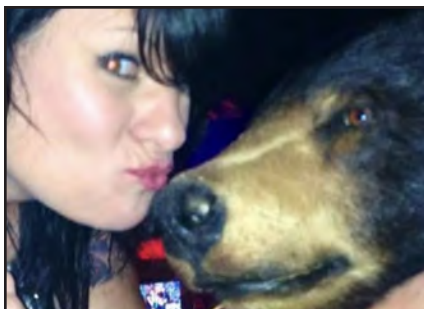
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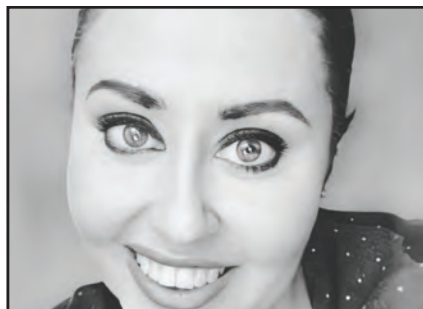
Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

What are you looking forward to when the pandemic is over?



"Spending time with my girlfriends in person. A couple are immune compromised so we've only been able to Zoom and text."

Monica Letts Morrison
Swartz Creek



"Being around my family members who are high risk and have cancer. The pandemic has robbed me of too many goodbyes to those I love the most."

Tiffany Cavazos
Fenton



"My kids being able to have normalcy again. I wear a mask for 9+ hours a day for work. It sucks, but I deal with it. My kids are 5 and 7. I want their lives to be normal again. I want them to be able to go to school without a mask. To hug their friends in the hallways. To play normal. I want my children's lives back because they're the ones missing out!"

Davette Nicole Boring
Fenton



"Traveling for work again. Meeting people and seeing places. Office chatter and hallway whispers so we can understand what's happening with our market and competitors! I sold big projects to a customer I have never met. Never shook hands with. These are the things that I miss the most. Looking forward to healthy America and prosperous new way of working. Globally."

Jeff Stadler, Clay

Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at myfenton.com
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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.

YOU FEEL LIKE we are about to enter another civil war because the mockingbird media has designed a narrative to make you feel that way.

■■■

I THOUGHT THE fence installed at The Scoop was to protect the children from falling from the wall or running into the street. Silly me. It is to contain the drinkers. Enough bars within city limits.

■■■

I THINK IT'S great that The Scoop wants to serve adult ice cream, hope they get their liquor license.

■■■

THE AREA DOESN'T need any more alcoholics, it needs more people to get into the churches, and actually hear the word of God.

■■■

AS A SUPPLY chain professional, the American public has no idea how hard the rest of 2021 and the start of 2022 will be. Due to COVID-19 continued shutdowns, ice storms in Texas and the new Biden administration's policies, we will pay much higher prices for everything.

■■■

| streettalk

Statewide tornado drill Wednesday

■ Sirens to sound at 1 p.m., March 24 in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week

By Sharon Stone

The State of Michigan is conducting its annual statewide tornado drill Wednesday, March 24 at 1 p.m.

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said this corresponds with Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 21-27.

The city of Fenton will be participating in this drill and will be setting its tornado sirens off that day.

"We will be participating in this drill to encourage residents to have a plan and be prepared for dangerous weather," Cairnduff said. "Every resident should have a plan in place to know what to do in case of severe weather."

Residents of the city of Fenton should also know that Fenton has five severe weather sirens located around town to help warn the public. The city of Fenton 911 Dispatch Center controls the sirens located in the city.

If there is a tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service or if

a possible tornado has been spotted by local emergency personnel the sirens will be sounded. The sirens sound for three minutes and there is no "all clear" tone. If the sirens are still sounding, the threat is still imminent.

Cairnduff encourages all residents to go over with their family what their plan is in case of severe weather. Everyone should have an emergency kit with flashlights, batteries, a radio, food and water. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has great information available at ready.gov/severe-weather.

There are currently more than 80 free-standing sirens in Genesee County. In addition, some out-county fire departments use their fire sirens for tornado warning or 70 mph or greater winds as well as fire.

There are at least 23 tornado sirens in Livingston County. The sirens will be set off at 1 p.m., March 24, and the Livingston County Emergency Alert System will be tested. County landline telephones and notification alert subscribers will receive the Tornado Drill alert via telephone call, according to

See **TORNADO DRILL** on 9



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Holly Community Dollars all given out

■ **Deemed a success with additional shopping generated in Holly**

By Sharon Stone

The Holly Community Dollars, which were available beginning Feb. 3, have all been given out.

The Holly Area Chamber of Commerce made the announcement March 10.

In little over a month, the Chamber gave out \$25,000 in matching certificates thanks to a generous anonymous donor. Including the certificates purchased to earn the match, this has generated \$75,000 of funds to be spent in our local businesses.

Tim Mitchell, in Northwest Earth Institute's book Choices for Sustainable Living, said, "A dollar spent at a locally owned store is usually spent six to 15 times before it leaves the community. From \$1, you create \$5 to \$14 in value within

that community."

Richard Kinnamon, executive director of the Chamber, said the success of Holly Community Dollars equates to an economic impact of \$450,000 to \$1 million for the Holly area, as dollars spent circulate and are re-spent in the community.

"We have had businesses, restaurants and customers tell of the benefits from the Community Dollars and Matching Money," he said. "It has certainly generated a lot of shopping in Holly."

Kinnamon added that there have been several purchases at local retailers that would not have happened without the incentive of the matching money. He said people have also gone out to eat, purchased groceries, and had their cars repaired.

Even though the matching money is given out, the Holly Community

Dollars are still available for purchase for their regular value. These make great gifts for birthdays and other special occasions, as well as employee bonuses or special awards, and keeps local money local.

"We may have given out all the matching money for the Community Dollars, but here is yet another way to get a bonus," Kinnamon said. "Advanced Care Chiropractic with Dr. Jason White and Associates, is offering \$300 in Holly Community Dollars to one lucky winner who purchases Community Dollars during the month of March."

Whatever the reason, Kinnamon said your purchase of Community Dollars in March enters you in the drawing. You can purchase Community Dollars at visitholly.com or during office hours at the Holly Area Chamber.

“It has certainly generated a lot of shopping in Holly.”

Richard Kinnamon
Holly Area Chamber of Commerce executive director

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
YOU FAIL ECONOMICS 101: Retail gas prices adjust to meet consumer demand. Consumer demand is heavily influenced by presidential policy and statements. Example: President declares a pandemic, toilet paper supply evaporates, and prices rise. Same phenomenon applies to gas and oil.

■■■
THANKS FOR THE laugh. In the same edition of the TCTimes where a Hot-liner claimed 'Nearly all, if not all, people' oppose daylight saving time, the Street Talk section had three of four people in favor of it. A perfect example of Hot-liners talking out their butt.

■■■

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Fenton's AD named State Athletic Director of the Year

■Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association announces award this week

By Sharon Stone

Michael Bakker of Fenton High School and AGS Middle School was named State Athletic Director of the Year. The Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) made the announcement virtually this week.

Fenton High School Principal Laura Lemke said because the conference was virtual, the school district recognized Bakker over the public address system Monday, March 15. The school celebrated with a cake to share and provided Bakker with a congratulatory gift.

Bakker came to

Fenton High School after seven years of coaching and teaching at Mason High School. At Fenton, he has been an athletic director/assistant principal and in 2007 served as athletic director of AGS Middle School. He has been an athletic director for the past 17 years.

Bakker earned his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University as well as a secondary teaching certificate. He then earned his master's in education and a graduate certificate in coaching education. He then earned a master's in sports education and a CMAA (Certified Master Athletic Administrator) from the NIAAA.

He remains an active member in the MIAAA and NIAAA. In 2010, Bakker was awarded the Region IX Athletic Director of the Year.

“I am grateful for the team of people that I have in my corner, because this award goes as much to all of them as it does me.”

Michael Bakker
Fenton Area Public Schools
athletic director



Fenton Area Public Schools presented Athletic Director Michael Bakker a congratulatory cake and small gift after it was announced that he was the State Athletic Director of the Year. Submitted photo

As an athletic administrator, Bakker has been at the forefront of bringing positive change to Fenton. His passion to bring a positive experience to the student-athletes is evident in everything he does.

Dallas Lintner, CMAA assistant principal/athletic director for Owosso Public Schools, said, “What sets him apart is the extra effort he puts in
See **DIRECTOR** on 8



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DIRECTOR

Continued from Page 7

through leading the leaders of high school sports.”

Bakker has added lacrosse and gymnastics at the high school level and baseball and softball at the middle school level. Fenton is the only school in Genesee County to offer every MHSAA tournament sport. He represents the Flint Metro League for the Flint Area Kiwanis Athlete of the year banquet and voting throughout the year.

Since 2004, Bakker has been instrumental in hosting 123 MHSAA tournament contests ranging from district, regional, quarterfinal and semifinals in various sports.

Bakker also was an athlete himself while in high school playing four sports. After high school he was Sparty at MSU from 1998-2000. He also played rugby for Michigan State, but maybe his greatest athletic achievement ever was completing the Disney Marathon in January 2005, when he ran sub 10-minute miles the entire way.

As a new athletic director at Fenton, he “inherited” the role of president of the GFAAA (Greater Flint Athletic Administrators Association) from the former Fenton AD.

“Quite often I forget how impressive Mike is because it is what we have grown to expect on a daily basis at Fenton. Many would be amazed by the tireless hours, the never ending to-do lists, the consistent communication, being pulled

in multiple directions, and having to do more with less while continuing to pursue his own growth mindset and still working to support his personal and family life,” Lintner said.

When asked how it felt to be named athletic director of the year, Bakker said, “I have to tell you, that when I learned that I was to receive this award, I was extremely humbled to be recognized by my peers in educational athletics. I am grateful for the team of people that I have in my corner, because this award goes as much to all of them as it does me.

“The reality is that my success is due in large part to the team of people that I have around me. I really have to thank the Board of Education, the strong administrative leaders at Fenton schools, the tremendous coaching staff and support staff that works tirelessly for kids, the parents and community of Fenton who are so supportive of all of our programs, and especially my family who has supported me for the past 17 years as Athletic Director even with all the missed events, dinners, and late nights.

“Ultimately this award means to me that others have noticed the great things that Fenton has to offer for students, student-athletes and families. From all the decisions, big and small that I have been a part of, it is reassuring and it is great to know that we acted in the best interest of our student-athletes and we provided our community with a program they can be proud of.”

NARCAN

Continued from Front Page

because of the opioid crisis. That’s why we push Narcan so much,” he said.

Narcan is the brand name for Naloxone, which is a medication that blocks the effects of opioids by countering how opioids affect the respiratory system. It’s most commonly administered as a nasal spray.

The GCSO is working to make Narcan more accessible, and they had 75 boxes of Narcan with two doses each for anyone to take.

“Narcan is not meant to supplement somebody who accepts an addictive life, but is there to save them should they overdose,” he said. “If you know someone struggling with

addiction, it’s just good to have. I carry it in my car. When someone goes into an unconscious state because of opiates, that’s what’s going to save their life.”

Swanson also recognized one of their K9 dogs, Apollo, who works in the corrections department.

“He’s not only there to protect the inmates and staff, but also our staff loves Apollo,” he said. There are three other K9s who have trained in explosives or narcotics.

“Our K9s and K9s across the county, the state and the country do such a good job for law

enforcement,” he said. “They do such a good job, we just want to recognize that they’re just as much a part of our organization as anybody else.”

**“If you know
someone
struggling with
addiction, it’s just
good to have.”**

Chris Swanson
Genesee County sheriff

TORNADO DRILL

Continued from Page 5

livgov.com/emergencymanagement. This is only a drill. If the weather on the date of the drill is inclement, the drill will be canceled. For more information on the drill; listen to WHMI or check out the Livingston County Emergency Management Facebook page.

Regular Siren Testing:

Livingston County 911 Central Dispatch will be testing the tornado sirens the first Saturday of each month at 12 p.m. from April to October. If there is

inclement weather in the area at testing time the test will be canceled.

Oakland County has 277 outdoor warning sirens located throughout Oakland County. All sirens are activated by the transmission of an RF signal with a tone alert. The signal is transmitted by the Oakland County Homeland Security Division.

Each siren is capable of covering about a one-mile radius from its location. The sirens are designed to alert citizens who are outside but citizens inside buildings may hear the siren if they are close to the siren location.

FENTON AREA TORNADOES

Friday, Aug. 24, will mark the 14th anniversary of the devastating F-2 tornado that ripped through the Fenton and Holly areas, knocking out power and causing devastating damage to countless vehicles, homes and businesses in its wake. It was about 5:34 p.m. on that Friday, Aug. 24, 2007, when storms roared through the area, seemingly aimed directly through the historic downtown Dibbleville area.

Overnight of May 28-29, 2013, tornadoes ripped through mid-Michigan. Locally, 50 homes in Fenton Township were damaged. There were no injuries reported.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION will increase taxes on the wealthy, which the middle class and poor will pay for when all business owners must increase their prices because of higher taxes.

■■■■

GENERAC AND TESLA don't make batteries large enough to store excess solar and wind energy large enough to store what a community could produce. Supply your proof and facts instead of just lip service.

■■■■




HOLLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KNOWING, GROWING, SHARING & SERVING

— Drive-In Services —

PALM SUNDAY
March 28, 2021 • 2 p.m.
Rev. Dawn Russell

EASTER SUNDAY
April 4, 2021 • 2 p.m.
Rev. Zoltan Sutto

207 East Maple Street • Holly
248.634.9494



Worship With Us In Person or Online
Holy Week & Easter Services
FENTON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Palm Sunday - March 28th
10:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday - April 1st
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Good Friday - April 2nd
12:00 p.m. Community Service
Fenton United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday - April 4th
10:00 a.m. Worship

Contact Us
(810) 629-7801 - www.ffpc.org - www.facebook.com/fentonffpc

*Masks and social distancing required during in-person worship.

Join us Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.



HE is RISEN!

Easter Sunday Service
April 4, 2021

9:00 a.m. Service - mask required
11:00 a.m. Service - mask optional
Pastor Lawrence Bowlin

TYRONE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10235 White Lake Road, Fenton, MI 48430
#810-629-1261 Tyronepca.org

St. Rita Parish of Holly

— Palm Sunday & Easter Schedule —

Palm Sunday Mass

Saturday, March 27
4 pm

Sunday, March 28
10am • 12 noon

.....

Easter Vigil Mass

Saturday, April 3
8 pm

.....

Easter Day Mass

Sunday, April 4
9am • 11am • 12:30pm



Please make reservations for all Easter Weekend Masses by calling the church office or emailing: stritcholly@sbcglobal.net

309 E. Maple St. • Holly • stritcholly.org • 248.634.4841



AGRICULTURE

Today

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**TRI COUNTY
EQUIPMENT**

New state plan has hemp growers uncertain about the future

By SAMUEL BLATCHFORD
Capital News Service

LANSING — Hemp growers in Michigan say they're frustrated by the new regulations and fees for reporting hemp samples.

The changes by the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development leave many hemp growers saying it's uncertain if they can afford to grow next season.

Industrial hemp in Michigan started with a 2018 federal law that removed hemp, known as Cannabis Sativa L, as a schedule 1 controlled substance and made it an agricultural commodity, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

In April 2019, the state department launched the Industrial Hemp Ag Pilot program for the 2019 growing season.

Growers could apply to participate in the pilot program, which required a \$100 registration fee, as well as a \$1,350 processor-handlers license.

According to the department, industrial hemp is cannabis that has less than or equal to .3% total delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

After the success of the pilot program, the department wanted to have a permanent plan in place. Last October, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture approved Michigan's industrial hemp state plan.

At the time, the state department said 631 growers and 517 processor-handlers were registered and/or licensed to grow, process and market industrial hemp.

The department has changed how growers will report their samples this year.

They will no longer submit their own samples for testing. Instead, inspectors will collect samples. Growers will pay a \$150 sample collection site visit fee and \$125 per sample lab testing fee, as well as the \$1,250 licensing fee.

Randy Lord, the owner of Empire Hemp Farm Inc. in Empire, said he's unsure whether he'll plant next season due to the fee increase and added sample collection fees. Lord's company planted 120,000 plants in the summer of 2020.

"That's about 1,500-1,600 plants an acre," he said.

David Crabill, the vice president of Ferrysburg-based iHemp Michigan, an organization representing hemp farmers, said that the sample collection fees are common and aren't a big deal for farms that grow multiple acres of cannabinoids.

Crabill said the fees increased to cover the expenses incurred to comply with federal rules. Likewise, Michigan Farm Bureau Field Crops Specialist Theresa Sisung said MDARD doesn't have much of a choice.

New state plan continued

According to Sisung, a sample is collected from each lot identified by a grower on their pre-harvest form.

"When the sampling agent comes out, they will review the information from the pre-harvest form to come to an agreed upon number of lots to sample," Sisung said. "That sample will be a composite of cuttings from multiple plants."

Crabill said the main problem with the new state plan is the testing window that doesn't let farmers control when the inspection takes place.

So, if the inspection is on the 20th day, said Crabill, the THC concentration might be over the legal limit, requiring destruction of the plants.

Lori Putt, the owner of HOH Hemptonized in Honor, said she's also uncertain about planting this year and talked about a decline in the industry.

"The licensing and the unknown fees for the testing are becoming very expensive in a market that is quickly declining for hemp, CBD (short for cannabidiol, an ingredient in cannabis derived from the hemp plant) flower and oil," Putt said.

"Industrial hemp is really exciting, but the biggest issue we have is assets and capital in Michigan," she said.

Both Putt and Lord say they worry that costs associated with the higher license and sample testing fees will push an already high cost of operation even higher.

And Crabill said, "The industry needs to get engaged with hemp. The whole reason for these regulations is to build out the hemp industry."

Editor's note: This article was first published in the Michigan Farm News by Farm News Media.

Michigan wheat producers to vote on program continuation

FLUSHING TWP. — Genesee County wheat producers have an opportunity to vote on whether to continue the Michigan Wheat Program in a referendum conducted by the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) beginning Monday, March 22 through Friday, April 2.

MDARD mailed ballots to wheat producers on March 15. Eligible Genesee County producers with questions, or those not

Michigan Wheat continued

receiving a ballot, should contact the department at P.O. Box 30017, Lansing, MI 48909, or call toll-free 800-292-3939. Eligible producers may also request a ballot by sending an e-mail to GuardiolaJ1@michigan.gov.

All ballots must be received in the MDARD Lansing office or postmarked no later than April 2, 2021.

The Michigan Wheat Program was designed to promote the profitable production, marketing, and utilization of wheat on behalf of Michigan producers. Eligible producers are those who have produced any market wheat in quantity beyond that person's own family use, and who have a value at first point-of-sale of more than \$800 in any one growing season within the last three years.

For the program to be continued, more than 50% of the votes cast, representing more than 50% of the total bushels voted, must approve the proposal.

Applications being accepted for annual 'Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year' award

GENESEE COUNTY — The Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development is now accepting applications from Genesee County producers for its annual "Michigan Agriculture Exporter of the Year" award. Each year, MDARD recognizes a leading food or agriculture exporter for its efforts to increase exports of Michigan food and agriculture products. Applicants may also be considered for the "Rising Star" award, which is reserved for new companies or companies new to exporting.

Companies of all sizes are encouraged to apply. Eligibility is limited to Michigan food and agriculture producers, manufacturers, or shippers that are aggressively pursuing international markets and increasing export sales. Products must be more than 50% grown, processed, or manufactured in Michigan.

The winner of the award is selected by international trade industry representatives based on export growth, innovation, and the pursuit of new export markets.

The award was first awarded in 2006. Previous winners include Kamps Hardwoods, Sklarczyk Seed Farm, Dr. John's Candies, Bayside Best Beans, Star of the West Milling, Continental Dairy, Connor Sports, Graceland Fruit, Cherry Central, Zeeland Farm Service, Walters Gardens, Honee Bear Canning, Cooperative Elevator Company, and Michigan Apple Committee.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 16.

For more information, and an application, visit bit.ly/3bygHxr or contact Donna LaCourt at 517-614-5518.



Type	Tank Capacity		Boom Width
Trailed	3000	800 gal	EAGLE 45 - 100 ft. (3000, 3500, 4000, 6000) DELTA FORCE 90 - 132 ft. (4500, 6200)
	3500	1000 gal	
	4000 + 4500	1200 gal	
	6000 + 6200	1600 gal	

The **2021 HARDI NAVIGATOR** includes cosmetic updates with grey shields and some components painted black. One notable update is the proven DynamicFluid4 regulation system. DF4 software calculates the consequences of changing field conditions and anticipates regulation changes instantly based off four sensor inputs, pump RPM, speed, flow, and pressure. With sensor redundancy built-in, regulation can continue even in the event of a failure. DF4 will allow the 2021 NAVIGATOR to achieve faster response times and increased application precision. Lastly, the NAVIGATOR with EAGLE SPC booms sizes 80' - 100' now offer 4 degrees of negative tilt.



TRI COUNTY

—EQUIPMENT—

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CITY OF FENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES WATER CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AMENDMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 711

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fenton, Michigan, held at the City of Fenton Office on March 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., Council Member Lockwood moved to adopt the following ordinance, which motion was seconded by Council Member McDermott.

An Ordinance to amend the Fenton Code of Ordinances, Chapter 33 – Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2, entitled “Water Cross-Connection Control,” to secure the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents and property owners of the City of Fenton, to advance the legitimate rational regulation of municipal water use.

THE CITY OF FENTON ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-31, DEFINITIONS: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-31, entitled “Definitions,” shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33-31. - Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this division, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

- *Backflow* means water of questionable quality, wastes or other contaminants entering a public water supply system due to reversal of flow.
- *Cross-connection* means a connection or arrangement of piping or appurtenances through which a backflow could occur.
- *Unprotected cross-connection* means a cross connection between a potable and non-potable system where inadequate methods are provided to prevent backflow.
- *Habitable Building or Structure* means any building or structure, or part thereof, suitable for occupancy.
- *Secondary Water Supply* means a water supply system maintained in addition to a public water supply.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-32, ADOPTION OF STATE RULES. Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-32, entitled “Adoption of State Rules,” shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33-32. - Adoption of State Rules.

The city hereby adopts by reference the Water Supply Cross Connection Rules of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, being R 325.11401 to R 325.11407 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-33, INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES. Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-33, entitled “Inspections of Properties,” shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33-33. - Inspections of properties.

It shall be the duty of the city to cause inspections to be made of all properties served by the public water supply system where cross connections with the public water supply is deemed possible. The frequency of inspections and reinspections based on potential health hazards involved shall be as established by the city water department and as approved by the State Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-34, ACCESS TO PREMISES, INFORMATION: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-34, entitled “Access to premises, information,” shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33-34. - Access to premises, information.

A duly authorized representative of the city shall have the right to enter at any reasonable time any property served, or reasonably suspected to be served through a cross-connection, by the connection to the public water supply system of the city for the purpose of inspecting the piping system or systems thereof, including, but not limited to, secondary water supply systems, for cross connections. On request, the owner, lessees or occupants of any property so served shall furnish to the inspection agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property. The refusal of such information or refusal of access, when requested, shall be deemed evidence of the presence of cross connections.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-35, CORRECTION OF VIOLATIONS: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-35, entitled “Correction of violations,” shall be amended to read as follows:

(a) The city water department is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue water service after reasonable notice to any property wherein any connection in violation of this division exists, and to take such other precautionary measures deemed necessary to eliminate any danger of contamination of the public water supply system. Water service to such property shall not be restored until the cross connection has been eliminated in compliance with the provisions of this division.

(b) Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this division or any written order issued thereunder shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction. Increased civil fines shall be imposed for repeated violations, which means a subsequent municipal civil infraction violation committed by a person within any twelve-month period and for which a person admits responsibility or is determined to be responsible. The increased civil fine for repeat violations shall be as follows:

- i. The fine for any offense which is a first repeat offense shall be \$100 plus costs and other sanctions.
- ii. The fine for any offense which is a second repeat offense, or any subsequent repeat offense shall be \$500, plus costs and other sanctions.

In addition to the municipal civil infraction sanctions provided in this section, the City reserves the right and shall have the authority to proceed in any court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining an injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate civil proceedings to prevent, enjoin, abate, or remove any violation of this ordinance.

(c) Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this division or any written order of the city, in pursuance thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each violation. Each day upon which a violation of the provisions of this division shall occur shall be deemed a separate and additional violation for the purpose of this division.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, SECTION 33-36, PROTECTION FROM CONTAMINATION: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, Section 33-36, entitled Protection from Contamination,” shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33-36. - Protection from Contamination.

(a) The potable water supply made available on the properties served by the public water supply shall be protected from possible contamination as specified by this division and by the state and city plumbing code. Any secondary water supply system which is not supplied by the City’s public potable system must be labeled in a conspicuous manner as: “WATER UNSAFE FOR DRINKING.”

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, TO ADD SECTION 33-38: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, is amended to add Section 33-38, entitled “Prohibited Connections”:

Sec. 33-38. - Prohibited Connections.

(a) The owner(s) of all structures required to install, construct, dig, maintain, use or operate a potable water supply, which is installed, constructed, dug, maintained, used or operated, after the effective date of this Ordinance, shall connect to the City potable water system and shall be prohibited from installing, constructing, digging, maintaining, using or operating a secondary water supply, subject to the following exceptions:

- i. The requirements of Section 33-38(a) shall not apply where the City potable water supply system is a distance greater than two hundred (200’) feet from the nearest property line.
- ii. The requirements of Section 33-38(a) shall not apply to owners of occupied structures with secondary water supply systems supplemental to the City of Fenton potable water system where the supplemental secondary water supply is used solely for plants, livestock, or other irrigation or agricultural purposes, provided none of the supplemental secondary water supply is connected to a habitable building or structure that is serviced by the City of Fenton’s potable water system or is connected in anyway with the City of Fenton potable water system.
- iii. The requirements of Section 33-38(a) shall not apply to any other secondary water supply system permitted by the City through issuance of a permit pursuant to Section 33-39.

(b) No secondary water supply permissible under Section 33-38(a) shall be installed, constructed, dug, maintained, used or operated without first obtaining a permit therefor pursuant to Section 33-39. Any secondary water supply system permitted under Section 33-39 shall not be permitted to the extent it is hazardous to the City’s public water supply, which may occur in instances including, but not limited to, contamination or environmental threats or dangers to City aquifers. The City water department is hereby authorized and directed to take or cause to be taken necessary action to eliminate any danger or contamination of the public water supply system.

Continued on following page

TRI-COUNTY

FUNDRAISERS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

PG-21 — Fenton High School Project Graduation seeks community support

Project Graduation is an annual tradition in the Fenton area. It is a drug and alcohol free way for teens to celebrate their graduation. This type of event began in Maine after 17 high school graduates were killed in alcohol-related

events. Fenton High School's senior-only all-night party is held the evening of graduation and has been a tradition since 1986. With the support from administration, parents and the community, this year's Project Graduation, PG-21, will continue to provide a safe, fun-filled atmosphere for our recently graduated seniors. This year our seniors like many others around the country have already missed out on so many milestones due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Organizers say Project Graduation may look a bit different this year but as a committee and a community, it is a great way to show pride in

these young adults and to offer these teens one last good-bye before they scatter in different directions. Food, entertainment and prizes are provided to all attendees throughout the evening. Organizers are grateful that the Fenton community and surrounding area businesses have traditionally endorsed efforts through monetary donations as well as providing food, gift certificates and prize donations for students and auctions. For more information or to sponsor Fenton High School's Project Graduation, email classof2021fhs@gmail.com.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

CLEARLY, THE HOT-LINER that extolled the Gov. Abbott's removing all COVID protections from Texas lived in that Texas bastion of liberalism Austin because they are brain damaged. I recall it was Texas that is not part of the United States' electrical grid and is courting Californians to move to Austin.

■■■■

STOP LYING. OBAMA'S average gas price on a national basis was \$2.97, Trump's \$2.47 (source: US Department of Energy). Too bad for you, we all have memory and easily recall paying over \$4 per gallon under Obama.

Continued from previous page

(c) Where, at the effective date of this Ordinance, use of a secondary water supply system exists that is made no longer permissible under the provisions of this Ordinance, such secondary water supply system may be continued unless and until the secondary water supply system need be repaired, modified, enlarged, increased, moved in whole or in part, or is abandoned, at which point the owner(s) of the secondary water supply system shall disconnect from the secondary water supply system and shall connect to City potable water system where there is located a potable water system of the City of Fenton.

(d) A temporary or permanent unprotected cross connection between a public a water supply system and any source, piping, or system that may contain nonpotable water or other substances is prohibited.

(e) Piping configurations creating the potential for water from a public distribution system to flow through a private water main or customer system piping and back into the public system are prohibited.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, TO ADD SECTION 33-39: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, is amended to add Section 33-39, entitled “Secondary Water Supply System Permits”:

Sec. 33-39. - Secondary Water Supply System Permits.

(a) No person shall install, construct, dig, maintain, use or operate a secondary water supply system within the City of Fenton without first obtaining a permit from the City of Fenton under this Chapter.

i. Any person desiring to obtain a secondary water supply system permit shall submit a written application to the City Water Department on a form provided by the City.

ii. The application shall be accompanied by a permit fee in accordance with a fee schedule adopted by resolution of the City Council.

iii. After the application has been fully reviewed, a City Water Department official, as designated by the City Council, may grant or deny the issuance of the permit. The designated official may require changes to be made in the application to conform to the requirements of this Chapter or impose reasonable conditions. In the event the application is denied, a written explanation for the denial shall be provided.

(b) A duly authorized representative of the city shall have the right to enter at any reasonable time any property served by a secondary water supply system for which a permit has been approved for the purpose of ensuring strict conformity and compliance with the regulations contained in the permit.

(c) As a condition to the granting of a permit required by this Chapter, the City may require the installation of a meter measuring the amount of water taken from the secondary water supply. All costs in connection with its installation shall be charged to the applicant.

(d) The operation of a secondary water supply system in violation of this Ordinance is hereby declared a public nuisance per se, and may be abated by order of any court of competent jurisdiction, requiring such actions as may be necessary to abate the nuisance.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 33 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II – WATER, DIVISION 2, TO ADD SECTION 33-40: Chapter 33, Utilities, Article II – Water, Division 2 – Water Cross-Connection Control, is amended to add Section 33-40, entitled “Cross Connection Control Plan and Testing”:

Sec. 33-40. – Cross Connection Control Plan and Testing.

(a) A Cross Connection Control Plan shall be adopted by the City and shall be submitted to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy for review and approval. When the plan is approved, the city water department shall implement the program for removal of all existing cross connections and prevention of all future cross connections.

(b) That all testable backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested initially upon installation relocation and/or repair to be sure that the assembly is working properly. Subsequent testing of assemblies shall be on an annual basis or as required by the City of Fenton Cross Connection Control Plan and in accordance with Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy requirements. Only individuals that hold an active ASSE 5110 tester's certification shall be qualified to perform such testing. That individual(s) shall certify the results of his/her testing.

SECTION 10. REPEAL: Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY: The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication of a notice in a newspaper circulated in the City, stating the date of the enactment and the effective date of the ordinance, a brief notice as to the subject matter of this ordinance, and such other facts as the City Clerk shall deem pertinent and that a copy of the ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

At a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 1st day of March, 2021, it was moved by Lockwood and supported by McDermott that this Ordinance No. 711 be adopted. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

YEAS: Bottecelli, Grossmeyer, Jacob, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn, Sage.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Sue Osborn, Mayor

Jennifer Kienast, City Clerk

I, Jennifer Kienast, City Clerk of the City of Fenton, hereby certify this to be a true and complete copy of Ordinance No. 711, duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 1st day of March, 2021.

Jennifer Kienast, City Clerk

BRUSH FIRES

Continued from Page 3

Assisting NOCFA were fire departments from Fenton City and Groveland, Highland and Springfield townships. In total 10 vehicles and 25 firefighters responded.

Lintz said the owner was ticketed for illegal burning and will have to pay the costs for the fire department response.

“This is the worst time of year for outdoor fires. All of the vegetation from last year is dead and very dry and combined with high winds, it’s a very dangerous situation,” Lintz said. “This was our third outdoor fire in the last five days. We put a burning ban on back on March 10.”

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff agreed with Lintz and said brush and field fires this time of year are common. “A lot of people get outdoors as soon as the weather breaks from winter and start cleaning up their yards,” he said. “This leads to people burning brush and other yard waste. While it seems like the ground is wet and would be a good time to burn, the reality is that most of the vegetation is in a dead/dormant stage and will burn easily.”



Dead and dry undergrowth, combined with strong winds has caused an increase in grass and brush fires throughout the tri-county area. Here, several fire departments extinguish a large grass fire in Holly Township. **Times file photo**

This leads to fires getting out of control very quickly. When you add stronger winds, it is a recipe for disaster.

Much like Monday, March 15, the winds were strong at around 14 mph, Cairnduff said. “The fire yesterday spread quickly and required brush trucks from at least five departments to get it under control,” he said.

Cairnduff urges all area residents to check with their local fire department before burning. Each city or township has its own rules. Not knowing the rules can be costly. Some municipalities will bill the resident if they burn illegally and

a fire gets out of control. This can be very expensive. Cairnduff also said an individual also could be billed if the fire department is sent for an open burning complaint and the person is not following the local rules or permit rules.

“Always check your local rules before burning,” Cairnduff said. “Residents should always check to see if a burn ban has been issued as well.”

The city of Fenton does not allow open burning of any yard waste and burn permits are not allowed. A resident can have a recreational fire (without a permit) if they follow the rules. Only clean dry wood,

nothing bigger than 2-feet by 3-feet and it must be contained and attended by an adult at all times. If the fire becomes a nuisance or the smoke causes issues with anyone else it must be extinguished.

“Know the rules before you burn,” Cairnduff said.

Help prevent grass/brush fires with these DNR recommendations:

- Place your charcoal grill on a hard surface such as a concrete driveway rather than on the lawn, where a spark or loose coal could ignite dry grass.
- Keep an eye out while using chainsaws and lawn mowers, because a spark from the blade could start a fire.
- Be careful when using all-terrain vehicles, lawn mowers or other outdoor machinery. Heat from a lawn mower or the exhaust pipe of an ATV can ignite dry grass. A trailer chain dragging on pavement also can create sparks that ignite grass.
- Never leave any fire unattended, even for a moment. Make sure all debris and campfires are fully extinguished before leaving the area.

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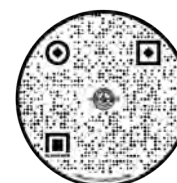


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FUNDING

Continued from Front Page

local governments, and it includes direct payments to people.

Michigan and local governments will receive approximately \$10.3 billion under the act. Local governments expect to receive anywhere from a few hundred thousand to more than one million dollars.

The estimations for local municipalities are from the Michigan Townships Association.

Genesee County: \$78.7 million

Fenton: \$1,130,000

Fenton Township: \$1,550,000

Linden City: \$390,000

Argentine Township: \$640,000

Holly Township: \$1,150,000

Tyrone Township: \$1,042,000

Rose Township: \$640,000

This money for local cities, villages and townships totals approximately \$686 million. Under this act, these communities are called non entitlement communities, and the revenue is split based on population. Municipalities will receive approximately \$105 per person.

The American Rescue Plan states that the U.S. Treasury must release the funds within 60 days of enactment of the law. The Treasury can withhold up to 50 percent of the funds and then distribute them within the next 12 months.

This money will first be sent to the state, and the state is required to distribute these funds within 30 days.

Thomas Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk for Fenton Township, said they expect to receive 50 percent of these funds this year and 50 percent in 2022. The township is working on identifying potential uses

for the money.

Marcella Husted, Tyrone Township clerk, said Tyrone Township is expected to receive \$1,042,876. They don't yet have plans for these funds.

Uses for ARP funds for non-entitlement communities:

The ARP specifies how these funds can be used. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) explained the plan and how it will affect counties and non-entitlement communities.

1A. Funds can be used to respond to public health emergencies related to COVID-19, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits along with aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality.

1B. Funds can be used to help workers performing essential tasks during the pandemic. This can include grants to eligible employees.

1C. Funds can be used by non entitlement communities to make up for lost revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1D. Funds can be used for necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

2. Funds cannot be used for pension funds.

3. Non entitlement communities can transfer funds to a private nonprofit organization, a public benefit corporation involved in the transportation of passengers or cargo, or a special-purpose unit of State or local government.

4. Non entitlement communities can send these funds to the state in which the entity is located.

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NOTICE ROSE TOWNSHIP 2021 ANNUAL SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP DAY

Rose Township will hold its annual Roadside Clean-Up for residents and property owners on the following date:

**Saturday May 15, 2021
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Residents and township organizations are encouraged to participate in the clean-up of the roadsides.

Dumpsters will be located in the Rose Township Park located on the northwest corner of Milford Road and West Rose Center Road. Refuse to be disposed of must be transported to the dumpsters. **THERE IS NO ROADSIDE PICK UP.** No commercial dumping will be allowed.

Clerk Debbie Miller will be on duty to verify residence and/or property ownership. Fire department personnel will be there to assist with loading materials into the dumpsters. Propane tanks will NOT be accepted. No barrels, gas or fuel oil tanks, stumps, brush or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or cat litter. Each household will be permitted four (4) car tires; additional tires will be accepted at a price of \$4.00 per tire and \$25.00 per tire for tractor or large truck tires.

Burn permits to allow the burning of leaves and brush are available by obtaining a burn permit through www.nocfa.org.

Bags for cleaning roadsides will be available at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan beginning March 22, 2021 until May 13, 2021 and also at the clean-up day location on clean-up day.

Residents may call 248-634-8701 with any questions.

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Rose Township Clerk

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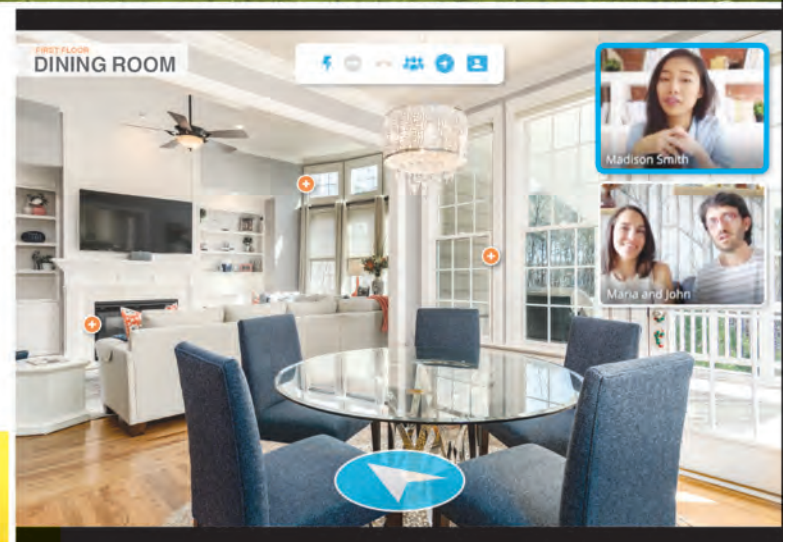
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Kelder Real Estate Group offers new take on showing and selling homes

By Wes Smith

The team at Davison-based C&L Ward has been helping homeowners remodel, refresh and improve their homes for nearly 50 years. With their new Kelder Real Estate Group, they are offering homeowners who are thinking about selling their home an innovative way to market and show their home — minus a lot of the headaches and hassle that usually accompany that process.



Pat Ward

Pat Ward, a second generation owner and president of C&L Ward, said he has had a passion for real estate for some time.

“Over the last 10 years, with us buying a couple subdivisions and getting into home building, it has been a natural progression,” Ward said of starting their new realty division. “We’ve been having conversations with our clients



Kelder Real Estate Group combines professional real estate services with the latest technology to help clients sell their homes. Above is a screen capture from the one of the company's 360-degree, virtual walk-throughs.

for a long time about how much they should do and how much should they invest in their homes. We’re consulting on improvements to market a client’s home. Why not apply our expertise on helping them sell their home?”

While planning their move into the

real estate services industry, Ward said he wanted to recruit experienced real estate professionals to lead that effort but also wanted to focus on clients’ needs.

“There is a lot of stress and emotion in selling your home. We’re trying to make it stress-free. We’ve got some

cool technology to do that,” Ward said. That technology includes a guided 360-degree, virtual walk-through of the client’s home that can be accessed by interested buyers from anywhere they have an internet connection at just about any time.

Fawn Jerome is Kelder’s Real Estate sales manager and a licensed Realtor. She recently gave this writer a demonstration of her team’s virtual walk-through platform. Jerome emailed a link, similar to that of a Zoom online meeting, and greeted me at the virtual front door when I clicked the link. The guided, virtual walk-through, with video shot in 4K resolution, lasted about 20 minutes. During the session, we traded control of the tour, which allowed me check out all the rooms in the home, open bathroom and closet doors to see details, as well enter the garage and basement.

The convenience of a virtual tour is apparent as a benefit for both the seller and prospective buyers. The seller does not have the stress of multiple in-person See **REAL ESTATE** on 18

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REAL ESTATE

Continued from Page 17

showings, which upset family routines and require the homeowner to be ready for a showing with little notice. The buyer can skip the travel and view multiple properties in the time it might otherwise take to visit a single site. For both parties, it makes finding the match of the right buyer and the right home a whole lot easier.

Jerome says the process of preparing the virtual tour is easy for the seller. "When we sit down to meet the first time, we try to knock everything down in one conversation. We'll discuss about getting the client's home ready to show and schedule the video shoot. The shoot itself takes about three to four hours for an average home. We can have it online and ready to start virtual showings within a week. Then we'll schedule in-person showings for interested buyers all on the same day to limit interruptions for our clients," she said.

Ward emphasized convenience to the seller, who are the clients that his company is representing. "This whole concept, we have to put ourselves in the shoes of the people selling their home and how do we make it convenient and fit into their schedule and have fewer people wandering through a home and eliminate unwanted traffic," he said.

Jerome is equally committed to clients. "You hired a Realtor that you like and trust and who better to trust with showing your home? By me personally giving a virtual tour of your home I can always show your home at its best without having to ask you to break up your family's day and leave your home."

With many people getting comfortable with using technology in new ways, both Ward and Jerome are excited about the launch of Kelder Real Estate Group to assist sellers in moving on to the next chapter in their homeowner journey. They are offering 17 percent off their regular listing fees for the next 30 days. For more information call (810) 503-1170 or visit Kelder.com online.

“By me personally giving a virtual tour of your home, I can always show your home at its best without having to ask you to break up your family's day and leave your home.”

Fawn Jerome
Kelder Real Estate Group
sales manager, Realtor

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Sunday, March 29, 2020 3

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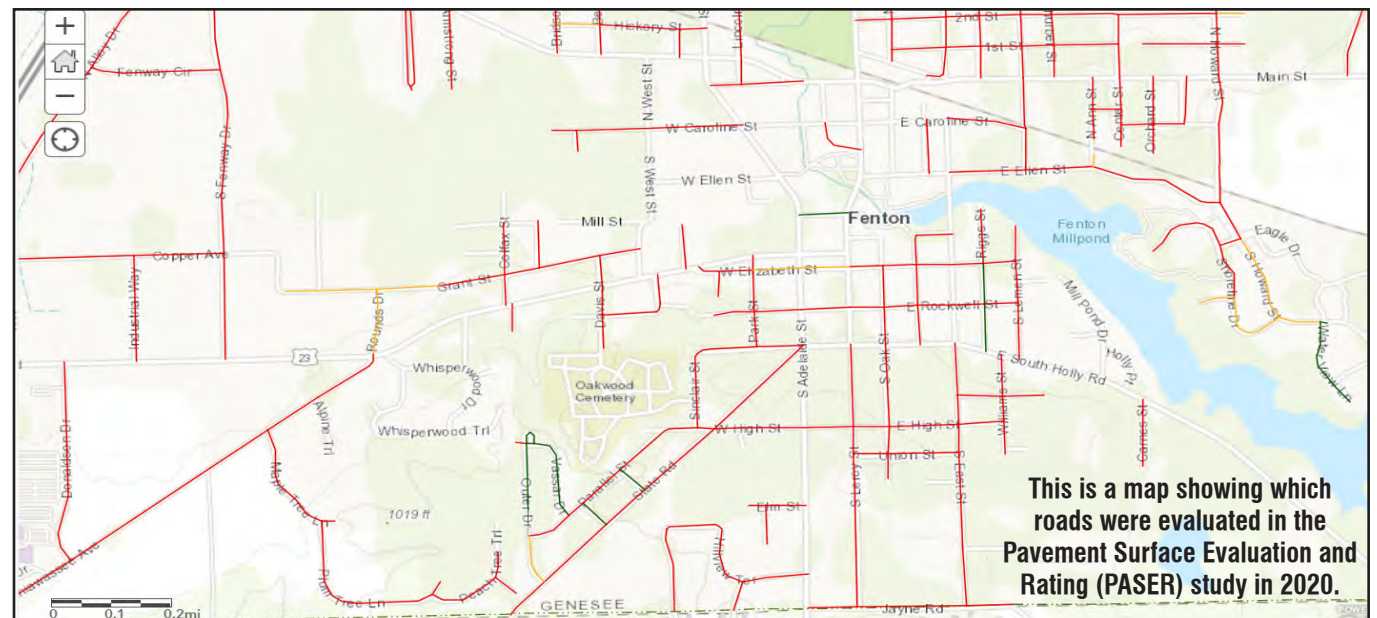
ROADS

Continued from Front Page

- Tipsico Lake Road: rating 2
- Union Street: rating 2
- West High Street (West of South East Street): rating 2
- South Oak Street: rating 2
- Farmhill Drive: rating 2
- Hillview Ter: rating 2
- Elm Street: rating 2
- State Street: rating 2
- Parallel Street (from Plateau Street to West High Street): rating 2
- Peach Tree Trail: rating 2
- Old Orchard: rating 2
- Plum Tree Lane: rating 2
- Maple Tree Drive: rating 2
- Sinclair Street: rating 2
- Park Street: rating 2
- South Pine Street (from South Holly Road to East Rockwell Street): rating 2
- South Pine Street (off East Ellen Street): rating 2
- South Lemen Street: rating 2
- West Elizabeth Street (from Park Street to West Shiawassee Avenue): rating 2
- Henry Street: rating 2
- George Street: rating 2
- West Rockwell: rating 2
- Davis Street: rating 2
- Colfax Street: rating 2
- Franklin Street: rating 2
- Rose Street: rating 2
- Howard Street (from Main Street to First Street): rating 2
- East Ellen Street (from South East Street to Ann Street): rating 2
- North Lemen Street (from East Ellen Street to West Caroline Street): rating 2
- East Caroline Street: rating 2
- Sheridan Drive: rating 2
- West Caroline Street (from • Sheridan Drive to dead end): rating 2
- Ponchartrain Drive: rating 2
- Armstrong Street: rating 2
- Lincoln Street (from West Roberts Street to Silver Lake Road): rating 2
- Beach Street (from railway to Wood Street): rating 2
- Bridson Street (from Silver Lake Road to Hickory Street): rating 2

Poor

- South LeRoy: rating 3
- Parallel Street (From Summit to Plateau Street): rating 3
- Parallel Street (from Outer Drive to Vassar Drive): rating 3
- West Shiawassee Avenue: rating 3
- Donaldson Drive: rating 3
- South Pine Street (from East Rock-



well Street to East Shiawassee Avenue: rating 3

- Grant Street (from Colfax Street to city minor): rating 3
- South River Street: rating 3
- West Caroline Street: rating 3
- Fenway Drive (from Owen Road to Copper Avenue): rating 3
- Alloy Drive: rating 3
- West Roberts Street: rating 3
- Lincoln Street (from Silver Lake Road to Jefferson Street): rating 3
- Beach Street (from Silver Lake Road to railway): rating 3

Fair

- Carnes Street: rating 4
- S East Street: rating 4
- West High Street (East of South East Street): rating 4
- Riggs Street (from East Elizabeth Street to dead end): rating 4
- West Elizabeth Street: rating 5 and 4 depending on section of street
- Grant Street (from South West Street to Colfax Street): rating 4
- Grant Street (from dead end to Rounds Drive): rating 5
- Rounds Drive: rating 5
- Howard Street (from East Ellen Street to Main Street): rating 4
- Shoreline Drive (from Eagle Drive to dead end): rating 4
- East Ellen Street (from Ann Street to Howard Street): rating 4
- Fenway Drive (from Copper Avenue to Silver Lake Road) rating 4
- Industrial Way: rating 4
- Copper Avenue: rating 4
- Hickory Street: rating 4 and 5

Good

- Outer Drive (from State Street to Parallel Street): rating 6
- Howard Street (from Water View Lane to Eagle Drive): rating 6
- Shoreline Drive (from Howard Street to Shoreview Court): rating 7
- Shoreview Court: rating 7

Very Good

- Plateau Street: rating 8
- Summit Street: rating 8
- Vassar Drive: rating 8
- Outer Drive (from Parallel Street to Vassar Street): rating 8
- Riggs Street (from South Holly Road to Elizabeth Street): rating 8
- Water View Lane: rating 8

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APRIL 8, 2021

THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

NEW BUSINESS:

R21-001 Lake Fenton Community Schools 11425 Torrey Road, Fenton MI 48430:

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

R21-002 Empyrean Group, LLC 1162 N. Bridge Street, Linden, MI 48451:

Requesting a rezoning for parcel #06-17-100-008, located in the southeast corner of Linden Road and Lahring Road, from PUD to AG, Agricultural.

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 April 8, 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 mdeem@fentontownship.org, or by mail at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. Comments received prior to 3:00 p.m. on April 8, 2021 are guaranteed to be received by the Planning Commission. A copy of the meeting material may be found on the Township website homepage at www.fentontownship.org.

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

Robert E. Krug Fenton Township Clerk

12060 Mantawauka Drive Fenton, MI 48430-8817

Phone: (810) 629-1537 x6

Email: info@fentontownship.org

Teachers sought to join IGNITE Program

■GSCO hoping for more educators to work with inmates

By Hannah Ball

The Genesee County IGNITE Program is looking for teachers.

IGNITE stands for Inmate Growth Naturally and Intentionally Through Education. It was started in September 2020 by the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, and it provides inmates with Chromebooks and access to hundreds of courses online to further their education with the hope they'll become more self-sufficient when they leave the jail.

Sheriff Chris Swanson announced during his weekly press briefing Wednesday, March 17 that they're looking for more educators to get involved. He's asking retired and active teachers to consider joining the Community Care Task Force and the IGNITE Program. Currently, IGNITE has four full-time Mt. Morris High School teachers leading courses for inmates on GED and diplomas.

However, there were more than 200 courses available to the inmates.

"We need educators that have a heart of a teacher/mentor to come in here and be a part of the Community Care Task Force and IGNITE section and mentor," he said. "I'm looking for people that want to figure out what the next chapter is."

Teachers at all levels, including elementary, middle, high school or post high school, will be considered.

"We need 12 committed people. Just 12. You can see what IGNITE is about, you can see what's happening," he said.

Call (810) 257-3422 if you're interested.

Swanson also gave an update on the growing interest in IGNITE. On March 3, he announced that inmates at Lake-land Correctional Facility in Branch County donated \$2,000 to the Genesee County IGNITE Program. Inmates in Genesee County wrote thank you cards.

That news got the attention of

someone "very important in sports," Swanson said. Detroit National Hockey League Alumni President Joe Kocur contacted the GCSO and said he wanted to help the IGNITE Program.

"Joey won a Stanley Cup for the Red Wings. He won a cup for the Rangers," Swanson said.

He toured the county jail. Swanson said floors in which they used to have riots are now quieter because people are studying.

A financial literacy class was taking place in one of the rooms, and Kocur told a story to the inmates about how

when he left the NHL, he didn't know what to do. Someone told him that he still has to have an education. Kocur then became a salesman.

Swanson said an inmate asked questions about how the program can gain more awareness. The GCSO is working with Congressman Dan Kildee and with multiple

state politicians. The program also has caught the attention of the National Sheriffs Association.

The inmate wrote on a piece of paper that he wanted to donate \$200 from his funds at the jail to the IGNITE program. "He sees the value. The inmates there in the class were just going buckwild," he said.

They took this story to the Grand Blanc Methodist Church, and those members donated \$200.

"We're not here to raise money. I'm just telling you, people want to do something, they want to give back because they see what's happening. They see we're changing the culture, again, not to make better inmates but to make better people so they don't come back," Swanson said.

**“I’m looking
for people that
want to figure
out what the
next chapter
is.”**

Chris Swanson
Genesee County sheriff

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Lake Fenton wrestlers capture D2 team district championship

By David Troppens

Ortonville — It was a battle of tri-county foes at the Division 2 Ortonville-Brandon Team Wrestling District on Wednesday.

The Lake Fenton Blue Devils and the Holly Bronchos faced off in the district title match with Lake Fenton capturing a 47-33 victory. The win means the Blue Devils will host a regional team tournament Wednesday with Owosso, Goodrich and Croswell-Lexington. The Blue Devils will face Owosso in one semifinal match at 5 p.m. while Goodrich and Croswell-Lexington will do battle in the other at the same time the two semifinals will compete in the team regional title match starting approximately 10 minutes after the semifinal bouts. The winner will earn a spot at the D2 team state tournament.

“It’s awesome,” Lake Fenton senior Gavin Lawrence said. “It’s great when everyone on the wrestling team works hard. It’s great when people that don’t normally win give their all and it’s nice to give everyone a chance to win something big.”

“I have never won a district title, so it was pretty cool to get it my senior year,” Lake Fenton senior Hunter Devasher

See **LAKE FENTON** on 30

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 | **PAGE 27** | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times



Blue Devils capture outright Stars Division title

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Senior Christina Lamb picked the right game to have one of her strongest contests of the season for the Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team on Tuesday.

On Senior Night, Lamb helped the Blue Devils clinch the outright Metro League Stars Division title by scoring a game-high 22 points while defeating Ortonville-Brandon 61-45.

Lamb and her fellow seniors Macy Phillips and Aubrey Fray can proudly claim they may be the best senior class in girls basketball at Lake Fenton since the turn of the century. They helped lead the Blue Devils to their first league crown since 1988 this season and were key players in last year’s district championship squad. Their tourney run was cut short prior to the regional championship game due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

“This means the world,” Lamb said about the championship. “We’ve been working really hard toward it and we just wanted to keep climbing from here. We want to get to districts, then regionals and just keep growing. It’s something we’ve been working toward this whole season,” Phillips said. “It’s something I’m glad not only to do for myself, but for the rest of the team.”

“It has great meaning because we’ve worked off of what happened last year and built off that. We wanted revenge for what we didn’t get last year (a chance to play in the regional championship game), so it’s good knowing we got it.”

Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren understood the Blue Devils actually clinched a co-title with



Lake Fenton's varsity girls basketball team celebrates its Flint Metro League Stars Division championship after beating Ortonville-Brandon on Tuesday. Photo: David Troppens

a win against Goodrich earlier this season, but didn’t want to be part of any league title photos after that win. He wanted to wait until the team won the outright championship, so he got his photo chance Tuesday night.

CONTINUED AT **TCTIMES.COM**

Area teams seasons end due to COVID

By David Troppens

They want it decided on the field.

Ask any athlete and that’s what they’ll say, when the season ends they want to be the ones to dictate when it happens through their own play.

But in the COVID-19 era, athletes are learning that’s not what always happens. And so far two tri-county teams are learning that the hard way. The Flint Metro League Stripes Division champion Linden varsity wrestling team was unable to continue its season into the

See **COVID** on 30

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MADE IN MICHIGAN FOR MICHIGAN

Area basketball teams begin district action this week

By David Troppens

High school's March Madness is starting a little later than most seasons, but it's finally here.

And there will be another difference than the late date of prep basketball's beginning of the state tourneys — the district tournaments for both the girls and boys will be starting the same week.

Girls districts will compete on Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week while the boys will compete on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Two districts will involve three tri-county area teams.

In girls action, Linden will be hosting a D1 bracket involving Fenton, Holly and the tourney hosts. Games start with Holly (4-10) facing Fenton (8-6) Monday at 7 p.m. On Wednesday, the Eagles (8-4) will host tourney favorites Hartland (14-0) for a 5:30 p.m. contest. The second semifinal game will be the winner of the Holly/Fenton game against Howell

See **BASKETBALL** on 29

Blue Devils capture second straight victory vs. Blackhawks

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Maybe the Lake Fenton and Brandon varsity boys basketball teams should play more games against each other.

The squads played two contests within a span of four days and the teams played two entertaining games.

The second one came during Lake Fenton's Senior Day. The squads played a second game that went close to the wire as the Blue Devils won a 70-64 verdict on Tuesday. The Blue Devils also won a 67-60 overtime victory against Brandon at Brandon High School on March 13.

"It was a close game from start to finish," Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Tyler Szczepanski said. "It was back-and-forth, a classic high school basketball game. I'm sure the fans enjoyed watching the game, but it was stressful for the coaches to figure out what to do better to win the game. At one point in the fourth quarter I sat back and said this is a great ball game."

It was a great game for the neutral observer. The Blue Devils led just 48-47 entering the third quarter and Brandon took the lead during the opening two free throws of the fourth quarter by Carl Nemi. The Blackhawks led 49-48. Brandon's final lead came at 53-52 on a layup by Noah Gillespie with 5:23 remaining in regulation. That's when the Blue Devils started to take over, going on an 8-0 run. The run started with two converted free throws by Jake Helms and continued with a 12-foot jumper by Carter Foerster. Max Muenzer was fouled on an offensive rebound and he made two free throws, increasing the run to six points. Finally, a putback hook by Foerster ended the run and gave the Blue Devils a 60-53 lead with just 3:35 left in regulation.

Brandon did cut the gap to 66-62 with just 49.2 seconds left, but the Blue Devils responded by hitting 4-of-6 free throws on Lake Fenton's next three possessions.

CONTINUED AT [TCTIMES.COM](https://www.tctimes.com)



Lake Fenton's Francis Senter prepares to hit a layup in a recent contest. Photo: Mark Bolen

Bronchos collect win vs. Kearsley Hornets

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity girls basketball team has had some ups and downs this season.

The squad posted an upset victory on the road against area rival Fenton in its second game of the season, but then followed that by losing eight of the Bronchos' next nine contests. During that run, the Bronchos had to play some of those games with six players due to COVID protocol within the Holly girls basketball program.

And now as the season is hitting its regular-season conclusion, Holly is starting to win games again. Holly won its second of three games, defeating Swartz Creek 54-17 on Tuesday.

"We are playing well, and we scored some points again last night," Holly varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. "We've been sharing the ball. The same people are scoring a lot, but the ball is getting passed a lot and being distributed unselfishly."

Another plus has been the defense. The contest was clearly the Bronchos' best defensive effort of the season.



Holly's Hunter Weeder drives to the bucket in a recent game. Photo: Mark Bolen

Prior to Tuesday's game, the fewest points the Bronchos allowed was 28 in a 52-28 victory against Flint Kearsley on March 12.

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BASKETBALL

Continued from Page 28

(10-3) at approximately 7 p.m. The district final will be Friday at 7 p.m. All of the games will be played at Linden High School.

In boys action, Howell will host a D1 tourney with Holly, Fenton and Linden. On Tuesday, Holly (1-12) will face Fenton (4-8) for a 7 p.m. contest at Howell High School. Linden (8-4) and Howell (9-5) will open semifinal action with a 5:30 p.m. game, followed by the winner of the Holly/Fenton game facing Hartland (10-3) in the 8 p.m. semifinal on Thursday. The title game will be Saturday at 7 p.m.

Lake Fenton is the only tri-county area team not competing in a tourney with another area school. The Lake Fenton girls (11-1) will be competing in the D2 Owosso district. The Blue Devils won't play until Wednesday. Ovid-Elsie (9-4) and Durand (7-6) starts action with a 5:30 p.m. game on Monday, followed by Chesaning (7-4) and tourney hosts Owosso (2-9) at approximately 7 p.m.

Lake Fenton will play the Chesaning/Owosso winner Wednesday at approximately 7 p.m. Meanwhile, Corunna (11-2) will face the Ovid-Elsie/Durand victor in the 5:30 p.m. semifinal. The two teams that win in the semifinals will play in Friday's title game at 7 p.m.

It's an interesting bracket because the top two seeds — Corunna and Lake Fenton — have played twice with both teams winning a game.

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team gets the benefit of hosting its own D2 district tourney. Owosso (0-12) faces Durand (6-8) in Tuesday's 5:30 p.m. contest while the Blue Devils (4-5) will face Ovid-Elsie (7-2) in the other opener at 7 p.m.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Tigers advance to district final, lose to Davison

By David Troppens

What was a pretty successful season came to an end during the team portion of the state tournament for the Fenton varsity wrestling squad.

Pitted in a district with perennial state power Davison, the Tigers advanced as far as realistically possible, getting to the team district title match at its own team district by beating Swartz Creek 39-32. However, Davison was too powerful as the Cardinals won the D1 district title against Fenton 63-15.

Against Swartz Creek, the final score was reasonably competitive, but the Tigers always had the lead after the third match. The Dragons won the first match by pinfall, but then Dylan Beverly (145), Ben Triola (152) and Philip Lamka (160) earned Fenton pinfalls, putting the Tigers up 18-6. The lead was cut to 18-12 after a Swartz Creek pinfall at 171, but Login Fuller (189) started a run of four straight Fenton victories with his pinfall victory. Carson Krzeszak won a tight 5-3 decision at 215 and Brandon Cairnduff earned a pinfall victory at 285. Garrett Clark followed with a victory by forfeit at 193, putting the Tigers up 39-12.

At that point, just as long as the Ti-



Dylan Beverly (top) won two matches in the Division 1 team district wrestling tourney hosted at Fenton High School on Wednesday. Photo: David Troppens

gers didn't lose all of the final five matches by pinfall, they were going to win the semifinal bout. Kendra Ryan lost a tight 8-7 verdict (112) against Hayden Pletscher and then a match later Ethan Radloff (125) by a major decision, clinching the win. Isaac Croney (130) lost by a tight 4-3 decision while Adam Barcome (135) lost his match by major decision.

Davison was always going to be a

challenging match, but the Tigers did have a few highlights. Trailing 6-0, Lamka (152) earned a pinfall victory against Davison's Ray Lee in 3:24, tying the battle at 6-6. However, Davison went on to win the next five matches. The Tigers put together two more wins when Garrett Clark (103) earned a forfeit win and Kendra Ryan posted an 8-7 decision win against Cale Kuzinski.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Lake Fenton boys stung by Kearsley Hornets, 55-48

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team competed with the Kearsley Hornets, but were unable to get a victory in its Metro League crossover contest Thursday night, resulting in a 55-48 loss.

The contest started out fine for the Blue Devils as they jumped out to a 12-9 lead

after one quarter. During the first period, Francis Senter was hot, collecting six of Lake Fenton's 12 points. Dylan Hammis, Jake Helms and Carter Smith each chipped in two points during the stanza.

Lake Fenton was outscored 16-11 in the second quarter with Hammis leading the way with four second-quarter points.

Jo Coleman, who only scored three points in the first quarter, started to sizzle in the second quarter, netting eight points. Kearsley led 25-23 entering the second half.

Carter Foerster, who was held scoreless in the first half, started to heat up in the third quarter.

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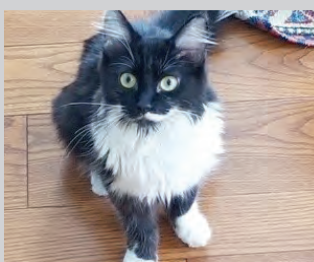


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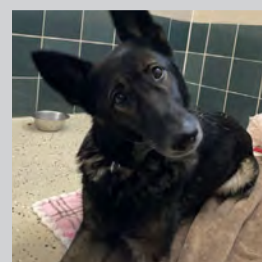
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LAKE FENTON

Continued from Page 27

said. "It's been different with COVID and all, but I wouldn't change it at all being with this team."

One major difference was the loss of Linden from the district meet. Expected to be the favorites, the Eagles couldn't compete because of COVID issues within the program. But, the Blue Devils wrestled well and were clearly the strongest team at the event Wednesday.

"The kids wrestled really well," Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "Our kids we sent out there to stay off their backs did exactly that. The kids that we sent out there to get their pins and crush people got their wins and got their bonus points. I couldn't be happier. We've been getting better and better as we go. We have 15 freshmen and they are still only 30 practices in. Usually we have 30 practices before our first meet."

The championship bout began with the Blue Devils winning the first four matches. Zack Hall (130), Noah Hall (140) and Jack Conley (145) each earned pinfall victories during those four matches while Drew Corcoran (135) earned a



Lake Fenton's Jorge Marvin (above left) grapples with Holly's Landon Avey. (Right photo) Lake Fenton's Noah Hall (left) and Holly's Mason Forsythe do battle. **Photos: David Troppens**

forfeit victory. Lake Fenton led 24-0.

Holly made a strong run, winning the next five matches and actually taking the lead. Holly's Kendall Drake (152), Jacob Gonzales (160) and Koltan Steele (215) earned pinfall wins during that six-match win streak while Scotty Hermann (189) won by forfeit. Jeff Preston (171) earned an 8-5 decision win. Holly



led 27-24 after Steele's win at 215 with just five matches left. The Blue Devils won four of five of those matches. Jorge Marvin (103) earned a pinfall win during that run while Clay Cook (112) won by technical fall to clinch the victory. Ty Johnson (125) and John Grigg (285) also won matches for Lake Fenton by forfeit. Holly's only win in that mix of bouts was 119 forfeit victory for Sean Murray.

CONTINUED AT [TCTIMES.COM](https://www.tctimes.com)

COVID

Continued from Page 27

state tournament series due to positive COVID tests this week, and the Fenton/Linden varsity hockey team's regional tournament run ended after just one game. Not because the team lost but because of COVID tests that forced the end of the tourney run.

The Linden wrestling team would've been the favorites at the D2 Brandon Team District wrestling meet as the Eagles had already beaten the other three teams in the competition. However, their season came to a crashing halt after Tuesday COVID testing.

"More than anything it's heartbreaking for the kids," Linden varsity wrestling coach Kyle Summerfield said. "We wrestle year round and we work toward our goals, and our goals include finishing high in the postseason. For a lot of these guys it's definitely a big letdown. We have seniors that are ranked in the top three in the state, and their only goal was to win a state title this year. It's definitely heartbreaking."

The Fenton/Linden co-op varsity hockey team did get a chance to start its tournament, and captured a 7-4 victory against Walled Lake Northern on Tuesday night. However, their season ended up being canceled before the squad could play in the regional semifinal against Lakeland due to COVID-protocols.

"It's challenging to have everything on the outside control your destiny," Fenton/Linden hockey coach Matt Krusniak said. "It's very random and it could happen to any team or anybody at any time. Unfortunately it happened to us."

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PREP REPORT

BOYS BASKETBALL

► **Fenton 44, Brandon 39:** Seth Logan scored a game-high 20 points to lead the Tigers to the victory. He scored 12 points behind the three-point arc. Ja'Hion Bond had 14 points

► **Flushing 51, Fenton 43:** The Tigers were paced by Seth Logan's 17 points, which included three three-pointers. Ja'Hion Bond and Justin Banura chipped in 10 points each. Spencer Wellman led Flushing with 17 points.

► **Swartz Creek 47, Holly 38:** The Bronchos (1-12) dropped their fourth straight game with the loss.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Fenton 56, Brandon 39:** The Tigers won their crossover contest with Adrie Staib leading Fenton with 17 points. Korryn Smith netted 16 points while Kaleigh Shaker had 15 points, all coming on three-point shots. Kyla Lynch netted eight points.

► **Flushing 52, Fenton 15:** The Metro League's Stripes Division champions completed a perfect league season with the win. The Tigers were led by Hannah Ludwig's six points while Allie Brown had four points. Mallory Lehmann chipped in three. Alex Long led the Raiders with 16 points.

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To have or not have an outdoor festival

■ Fenton Freedom Festival committee to decide April 5 on Fourth of July event

By Sharon Stone

April 5 is an important date for the Fenton Freedom Festival committee. That is the date they will meet to make a decision on whether there will be a Fenton Freedom Festival this July.

Pat Lockwood, Fenton mayor pro tem and chair of the Fenton Freedom Festival, said they are waiting on direction from the state as to how many people may be gathered outdoors for an event. She said the committee is like a well-oiled machine and if they get the green light to go ahead with the festival they will get all of the wheels in motion.

Lockwood said Tuesday that she's encouraged with the vaccine rollout which could impact the state's orders. "We'll have to stick to the guidelines of what the state says," she said.

The traditional Freedom Festival was canceled last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic and it was instead a virtual event, with residents sending in videos and photos of their



In this 2019 Times file photo, a girl on a back of a truck blows bubbles for the crowd at the Fenton Freedom Festival parade. The Fenton Freedom Festival Committee expects to make a decision April 5 on whether there will be a festival this July, based on what the state allows.

Times file photo

decorations. Businesses still decorated with the Fourth of July patriotic theme.

The Street Experience

Last summer, beginning Aug. 20, 2020, retailers and restaurants had the option of expanding their dining or retail space outdoors to attract extra business during the pandemic. On Thursdays and Fridays, the downtown area of LeRoy Street, Caroline Street, Shiawassee Avenue and Adelaide Street were closed to vehicle traffic to make the "Street Expe-

rience" happen. This went on for weeks until it was too cold.

Lockwood said the weekend prior to Memorial Day weekend, May 27 and 28, the city expects to begin this year's Street Experience by closing the same area as last year from 4 to 9 p.m. She said they are planning to do a different theme each week and to hold contests and activities throughout the closed downtown area.

"We'll keep people safe and have entertainment throughout downtown,"

Lockwood said. "We have a lot of space."

The Street Experience was discussed at the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meeting this week and then the committee will take the plan to Fenton City Council for approval.

Michael Hart, assistant city manager and DDA executive director, said the Street Talk presentation made by Lockwood was very well received at the DDA meeting. Members expressed being in awe with the variety and number of offerings for the events throughout the summer. The DDA approved the Street Experience unanimously, but Hart said, "There's still a lot of work to do."

Lockwood said they'll be meeting with all the businesses downtown and listen to their needs and concerns. She said Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation will provide street entertainers.

Depending on what the state allows by July 4, Lockwood said the city might be allowed to host the Freedom Festival or it could do a smaller scale event for a few evening hours Thursday and Friday prior to the July 4 for a patriotic Street Experience.

"If we can do more, we will," Lockwood said.

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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

FLINT MAN CITED FOR NOT HAVING LICENSE PLATE ON VAN

On Thursday, March 4, a deputy from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office observed a Chevrolet van on Thompson Road and Lake Drive in Fenton Township. A traffic stop was initiated due to the vehicle not having a license plate. Contact was made with the driver, a 39-year-old Flint man. A records check showed the driver was unlicensed. The driver was a citation with a future court date for driving while unlicensed.

DISRUPTS

Continued from Front Page

Holly Village offices. The man filmed a video with his interaction with Holly police officers and then posted his video on social media.

Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh authorized posting the man's video on the police department's Facebook page to be transparent with the incident. The chief wrote, "On Wednesday, March 10 the man making this video appeared at the Holly Schools Administration offices and Village offices. This building is also an active school housing our special needs curriculum. The man approached active school classrooms and staff causing a disruption of school operations. The staff and students were placed in lockdown, not knowing his intentions. The village of Holly has

ordinances protecting school operations and students from disruption. The officer was justified in making a physical custody arrest, but chose to de-escalate the encounter by allowing him to leave. Multiple criminal charges have been filed, with a court date pending. Holly officers acted in full authority and compliance within law to protect our students and staff."

The police chief said the man was in violation of school policies and the following ordinances: disturbing schools, persons creating disturbances to leave premises upon request, and resisting, obstructing and interfering with police.

Narsh said school policy is not law, but it does give district officials the ability to determine a disruption and contact law enforcement.

"That is what occurred on March 10," Narsh said. "The superintendent approached the man who was uncooperative and argumentative on his actions and intentions, resulting in a call to Holly Police Department."

"As officers were arriving to the school, they were aware of these facts and that by definition, this person was already in violation of the Holly Village Ordinances that he is being charged with."

"Our officer was aware that the man had already violated these laws, had the legal authority to make a physical custody arrest and initiated that, but then made a decision to not take him into custody as this would

clearly have the potential for physical resistance, all being live-streamed on his YouTube channel and potentially in plain view of special needs children and staff inside the building.

"The officer chose the path of de-escalation by leading him off the property, keeping him under surveillance to ensure he did not return and to issue charges later that day."

"The Holly Police Department supports and protects the first amendment and all constitutional rights. It is only at

the point where a person's activity is defined by law as a criminal act that we would intervene.

"Every officer responding to an incident at a school by an unknown person must consider any and all potential for school targeted violence. There is no one who doesn't

understand the history and harm that can be inflicted at a school. In addition, officers consider that a person with a video camera who is aggressive and not stating their intentions could potentially be someone who is about to film or live stream a shooting or attack. There are very real possibilities that law enforcement must consider when responding to and approaching an aggressive uncooperative subject at a school campus."

"The responding officers acted with care and caution, while ensuring the safety of students and staff. They also fairly and effectively enforced the law in a manner that was calm and professional at all times."

“The responding officers acted with care and caution, while ensuring the safety of students and staff.”

Jerry Narsh
Holly Police Department chief

We're Expecting... Kittens!



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- Show the kittens with gifts
- Submit creative names for future litters
- Learn more about becoming a foster family

Items Kittens Would PuRRRRRRfer Are On Our Wishlist:

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3H9PJE2765CTS/ref=bnnav_topnav_llsts_2

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the day of the event

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MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, March 12.

Senate Resolution 26: Authorize Senate lawsuit against governor for unlawful expenditures

To authorize the Senate Majority Leader to commence legal action on behalf of the Senate, challenging any action by the governor to spend money that has not been authorized in appropriation bills passed by the House and Senate. This relates to vetoes of provisions in House Bills 4047 and 4048 that would prohibit spending part of the state's federal stimulus and coronavirus relief money unless two provisions of two other bills also are signed into law (Senate Bill 1 and House Bill 4049). Those bills would transfer the authority of the state health department to close schools in an emergency to county health departments, and require legislative consent after 28 days to a governor's authority to maintain a state of emergency and issue executive orders. Under this resolution, Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey would be authorized to sue the governor if the administration spends money without the legislative authorization required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963.

Passed 20 to 14 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) **YES**
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) **YES**
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) **YES**
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) **NO**
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) **YES**

House Bill 4047: Override veto of coronavirus relief bill line items

To override Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's line-item veto of \$150 million in state aid for businesses afflicted by coronavirus epidemic lockdowns, and another \$150 million for deposit in the state's unemployment insurance account to "offset expected exposure to state fraud and improper payments" during the epidemic.

Failed 60 to 49 in the House (2/3 majority required)

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

Senate Bill 1: Limit state health department epidemic orders without legislative approval

To restrict emergency orders, the state health department (the Department of Health and Human Service) may impose in response to an epidemic to 28 days unless an extension is approved by the Legislature. A state Public Health Code adopted by the Legislature in 1978 gives the department the authority to issue such orders. The bill would also require officials to disclose in such orders how any restrictions on gatherings protects public health, and all the information used in deciding to issue the emergency order.

Passed 59 to 50 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

Senate Bill 114: Allocate coronavirus epidemic relief dollars for businesses and more

To appropriate \$150 million in state dollars for deposit into the state unemployment insurance benefit fund to offset exposure to fraud and improper payments during the coronavirus epidemic. The bill also appropriates \$405 million state tax dollars for tax and fee relief to businesses afflicted by coronavirus lockdowns. These appropriations had been in another bill but were line-item vetoed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Passed 66 to 44 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

House Bill 4127: Revise procedure for clearing dead, moved or inactive voters from voter rolls

To revise the procedure specified in state election law to remove certain registered voters listed in the qualified voter file who haven't voted since 2000 or who

have unknown dates of birth in the voter rolls, and do not respond to a mailing.

Passed 61 to 48 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

House Bill 4040: Facilitate school apprenticeship programs

To exclude registered apprenticeship programs created by unions and trade associations and offered in public schools from the law that imposes a licensure mandate on for-profit "proprietary trade schools" (barber colleges are an example).

Passed 107 to 3 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

Senate Bill 106: Add new "no trespassing" posting option

To establish that a property owner can "post" his property to indicate that trespassing is prohibited by painting purple vertical lines at least 8 inches long, between 3 feet and 5 feet above the ground, on trees or posts not more than 100 feet apart that are "readily visible" when approaching the property.

Passed 20 to 14 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) **YES**
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) **YES**
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) **YES**
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) **NO**
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) **YES**

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

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE The City of Linden Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 5, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., as part of its regular meeting agenda. The purpose of this hearing is to provide opportunity for public comment on an amendment to Section 154.061 (Accessory Buildings and Structures). A revision is proposed that would allow accessory structures in a front yard for properties with direct frontage on Byram Lake. This meeting will be conducted virtually (online and/or by phone), pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (MCL 15.263), the City's state of emergency order and the MDHHS Order dated March 5, 2021.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodations for this meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Deputy City Clerk at (810) 735-7980, or deputyclerk@lindenmi.us by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. To participate remotely, copy and paste the link below or call a number below for audio connection:

City of Linden Regular Planning Commission Meeting
Monday, April 5, 2021 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391186878?pwd=MTZ2MTN1SVY3SjZUZ1plbTNpL2J3UT09>

Meeting ID: 883 9118 6878
Passcode: 124586
One tap mobile
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+13017158592,,88391186878#,,, *124586# US (Washington DC)

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
Meeting ID: 883 9118 6878
Passcode: 124586

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88391186878?pwd=MTZ2MTN1SVY3SjZUZ1plbTNpL2J3UT09>

The text of the proposed amendment is available for public review. Please call (810) 735-7980 to schedule an appointment with City Offices. Persons wishing to comment may do so at the hearing. Written comments may also be submitted prior to 4:00 p.m. on April 5, 2021, and should be addressed to:

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



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"Daddy cooked dinner, and then the
_____ came."

Shooter
RIPENS _____

Shoal
FREE _____

Foil
MISTEY _____

Bare
UNTIDY _____

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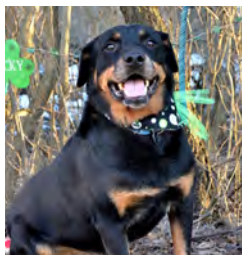
	6	4	8				5	
9				1				
		8		3	6			
8							5	7
			3		9			
	4	6						8
			6	7		1		
				4				6
	7		1		2	8	3	

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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Line Ads:
Noon Thursday

MIDWEEK PAPER HELP WANTED DEADLINES

Display Ads:
Monday 3 p.m.
Line Ads:
Noon Tuesday

Employment

Times

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KING
FEATURES

ACROSS

1 Item in a place setting

6 Duffels, e.g.

10 Grand tales

15 Hence

19 Boundary

20 "— Three Ships"

21 — Park (Edison's home)

22 Took off

23 Really big tree?

25 Fundamental tree?

27 Longs for

28 Franz who composed "The Merry Widow"

30 Early settler

31 "Erin Burnett OutFront" channel

32 Passes on, as a story

34 French brandy

35 Chinese ideology centered around a tree?

39 Actor Mahershala

41 "Family Guy" creator MacFarlane

42 Soon

43 Two of Henry VIII's wives

44 Coagulates

46 "Gunga Din" studio

47 Recorded digitally, in a way

49 LAX datum

51 Wharf locale

56 Tree-dwelling hooded snake?

60 Tree whose trunk curves?

62 Cut of pork

63 Dutch Renaissance scholar

65 Rake part

66 Nuances

69 Item in a place setting

70 Of delicate beauty

72 A shot

73 Love-struck

74 Farm vehicle

75 Tree sold at a low price?

78 Cantaloupe growing on a tree?

83 More flavorful

84 Indy circuit

86 Auction site

87 Union promise

88 Slant

90 Millionaire-making game

93 Menial type

94 Provoke

98 Corp. wheel

99 Charm

102 Nancy of the House

104 Like sown seeds

106 "Ally McBeal" co-star Lucy

107 In total

109 — Gay (WWII B-29)

110 Tea-scenting blossom

114 Tree that makes people think like a French novelist?

116 Window sections

118 Richard of "Wicked Woman"

119 "Für —" (piano piece)

120 Romances

121 Florida bird

122 Mail in

123 Steven of Aerosmith

124 Fit of pique

125 Plow inventor John

DOWN

1 Pleased

2 Citrus fruit

3 Hi-fi parts

4 Microchip material

5 Ships' rears

6 Slant

7 Viper variety

8 Old warship

9 Deary

10 Prepare for a pyramid

11 Oyster bead

12 People with clout

13 Applaud

14 Asked for

15 Nasal singing tones

16 Curtis of cosmetics

17 Overthrow

18 Potato stuff

24 Suvari of Hollywood

26 Ghostly cry

29 "Siddhartha" novelist

32 Soul music is a form of it

33 — soda (cleanser)

35 Singer Cohn

36 Jimmy Durante's "— Dinka Doo"

37 "Park" a ship

38 Central Georgia city

40 Gets bested

44 Vivid crimson

45 Egg pouch

47 Slender woodwind

48 CBS military law show

50 Fez dangler

52 Small and 70-Across

53 Chief Norse god

54 Talk wildly

55 Deuce taker

57 Hackneyed

58 Grid of fine lines in an eyepiece

59 Franklin of soul

61 — -de-sac

64 See 71-Down

66 Splinter group

67 Laugh sound

68 Golf coups

69 Thurman of Hollywood

70 Funny Carvey

71 With 64-Down, hostile

73 Suit fabric

74 Old computer language

76 Entertainer Zadora

77 Gift for a drawer, perhaps

79 Dealt (out)

80 In — of (replacing)

81 Gas leak giveaway

82 Zilch

85 Suburb of Dallas

89 Hack (off)

91 Prohibits

92 High crime

93 Bird feathers

94 Gaps

95 Mammal's fur

96 Comic Tracey

97 Roly-poly

99 Cavalry soldier

100 Actor Ruck

101 Talked like Cindy Brady

103 Alert at sea

105 Car contract

108 As is fitting

110 Joke

111 About

112 — -do-well (idler)

113 Punta del —

115 1,000 G's

117 Luau bowlful

PUZZLE CLUE:
JUMBLE OF TREES

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125

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Puzzle Answers

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

MIDWEEK SUDOKU ANSWERS

8 3 7 2 4 6 1 5 9

2 4 1 5 9 3 6 7 8

5 9 6 8 1 7 2 3 4

4 7 3 6 5 8 9 2 1

9 1 2 7 3 4 5 8 6

6 5 8 1 2 9 7 4 3

3 6 4 9 7 5 8 1 2

1 8 5 3 6 2 4 9 7

7 2 9 4 8 1 3 6 5

WEEKEND SUDOKU ANSWERS

2 6 4 8 9 7 3 5 1

9 3 5 2 1 4 6 8 7

7 1 8 5 3 6 2 4 9

8 9 2 4 6 1 5 7 3

1 5 7 3 8 9 4 6 2

3 4 6 7 2 5 9 1 8

4 2 3 6 7 8 1 9 5

5 8 1 9 4 3 7 2 6

6 7 9 1 5 2 8 3 4

MIDWEEK CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Solution Time: 21 min.

C O G C A L F T A B S

U R N O N O R E L A N

S E A A G U E R A R A

P O W E R S T E E R I N G

E S T B A Y

A N G L E L I U B Y E

T A R S P O E B R I M

M E R M A G L O O P S

F A N F L O

T O W E R O F L O N D O N

O A H U P L A Y A M A

G R A D L E N D Z A P

S S T S Y A K S E R E

WEEKEND CROSSWORD ANSWERS

G L A S S B A G S E P I C S T H U S

L I M I T I S A W M E N L O W E N T

A M P L E M A P L E B A S A L B A L S A

D E S I R E S L E H A R P I O N E E R

C N N R E T E L L S C O G N A C

M I M O S A M A O I S M A L I S E T H

A N O N A N N E S C L O T S

R K O Q N C D E T A S E A P O R T

C A R O B C O B R A A R C E D C E D A R

L O I N E R A S M U S T I N E

S H A D E S U T E N S I L D A I N T Y

E A C H S M I T T E N C A R T

C H E A P P E A C H L E M O N M E L O N

T A S T I E R L A P E B A Y I D O

A N G L E L O T T O P E O N

S P U R C E O L A U R E L A L L U R E

P E L O S I P L A N T E D L I U

A L L T O L D E N O L A J A S M I N E

C A M U S S U M A C A S P E N P A N E S

E G A N E L I S E W O O S E G R E T

S E N D T Y L E R S N I T D E E R E

WEEKEND WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

L R I N N E M W E X P E R I E N C E F E R

A B W R M R U W O R K P L A C E S

T I N B P G N I N N A L P S O Y N O I P X Y

G I R S V N N H A X O C K E T P S I P B E E L Y

D O H X R E O W M N D S F R U T E C E L F

N D R L O S D T A T E R Y G I P M

P U L V P C F S H A R O L W I B A T T I V

E E T M N G H A D E T C W D L T P W A B X T

Y O V N I D K G R O R E L L W U N F I N C A

O I T I T U V V O E D O P P A P D A A

P T K E L F O S V K H E R N E C T R V B

M Y W E E E M V D R P S J K N A S O C S

F Y H K H W Y D N N K S I X O R Y

F A C I L I T Y R W F A I X O N M C F

L G X O N N D N B O T S V V L L G M I U

F K X T C P W A N C S F P C E C L F F O

MIDWEEK JUMBLE ANSWERS:

BISON, METAL, FUMBLE, PROVEN

Answer: The math teacher had taught multiplication a —

NUMBER OF TIMES

WEEKEND SCRAMBLE ANSWERS:

SNIPER, REEF, STYMIE, NUDITY

Answer: FIREMEN

Read then Recycle

VILLAGE OF HOLLY

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE OF VARIANCE REQUEST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Chapter 157 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance, the Village of Holly Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on a request for a variance of Ordinance 157.009(A)(2)(4) on April 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) via Zoom meeting. The meeting can be accessed at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81504160199>

An application for variances was filed by Robert Montgomery. The property is located at 610 N. Saginaw Street, IH 01-34-101-007. The applicant is requesting a variance of Ordinances 157.009(A)(2)(4) which requires a side setback of 50 feet.

Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Karl Richter Center, Holly, Michigan 48442 prior to the hearing. All documents pertinent to the application are available for inspection in the Village Offices, located at 300 East Street, Holly, Michigan.

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

Deborah J. Bigger
Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Holly

NOTICE TO ROSE TOWNSHIP

RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeals will meet virtually on Tuesday April 6th, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeal
Tue, Apr 6, 2021 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/670858717>

You can also dial in using your phone. (For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

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- One-touch: tel:+14086503123,,670858717#
Access Code: 670-858-717

The purpose of the meeting is to consider and receive comments on the following application:

Brian Mc Keown of 8260 Chiefs Drive (06-30-302-007) is requesting two (2) variances.
a) Front yard variance from required 35 feet to 19 feet (variance of 16 feet)
b) Rear yard setback variance from required 35 feet to 5 feet (variance of 30 feet)

If, prior to the meeting, members of the public have certain questions or wish to provide input on any business that will be addressed at the meeting then such persons may contact the Zoning Board of Appeals through David Plewes, Zoning Administrator, by email to zoningadm@rosetownship.com , or by mail at: 9080 Mason Street, Holly MI 48442.

A copy of the aforementioned application is available for inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. at the Township Clerk's office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan until and including the day of the hearing or on the web page rosetownship.com.

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

David Plewes
Zoning Administrator

Debbie Miller, MMC
Rose Township Clerk

Word Search

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

WORKPLACE

ACTIVITY, APPLICATIONS, COLLABORATE, COORDINATE, COWORKERS, DESIGN,
DIGITAL, EMPLOYEE, EXPERIENCE, FACILITY, FLEXIBLE, MANAGEMENT,
MEETING, MOBILE, MULTIPURPOSE, OFFICE, PLANNING, PRODUCTIVITY,
REPORTS, SCHEDULE, STRATEGY, SYSTEM, WORKING, WORKPLACE

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

MARCH 15, 2021

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

1. Trustee Goupil offered the opening prayer.
2. Approved the agenda as presented.
3. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of \$520,127.02.
4. Approved the expenditure of up to \$40,000 in PEG funds for the purchase of computer, TV studio and related equipment to upgrade the meeting room and TV studio.
5. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-07, approving the Fourth Amendment to Genesee County Phase II Regulations Storm Water Management System Contract, and authorizing the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of Fenton Township.
6. Approved the 2021 Dust Control Contract with the Genesee County Road Commission.
7. Approved local road improvement projects for 2021.
8. Adjourned at 8:06 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. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

Obituaries

Times

Phyllis R. Solberg

1939 - 2021

Phyllis R. Solberg - age 82. Phyllis passed away peacefully in her home on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Preceded in death by her parents, James and Velma Oliver (Moore), sisters; Irene Killius and Jean Warbington, and loving husband of 60 years, Arthur Jon Solberg. She is survived by her four children; Lisa Mackey (Doug), Lora Solberg, Jon Solberg, Mari-Lynn Hay (Mark) and grandsons. Phyllis was born in Blue Diamond, Ky. Her family later migrated to Madison Heights for new opportunities. Phyllis graduated from Madison Heights High School in 1957, where she met and fell in love with Jon Solberg. In 1973, she and Jon moved to Holly, calling it their home for the rest of their lives. In retirement, they wintered in Old Town, FL. Some of her happiest memories were from those years spent on the Suwannee

River. She retired from Holly Schools. Her favorite part of her job was working with the children with special needs. She had a connection to the students, and loved them dearly. She spent many years in the district as the President of her AFSCME Union Local. She was a stalwart President with a passion for helping all of the local members. Phyllis loved being a grandma. Her grandsons were her pride and joy. Sometimes too, the simpler things in life brought her joy. A Frosty, a slice of birthday cake, or even a Koegel bologna sandwich were enough to make her day. In lieu of flowers, those who wish remember Phyllis in a special way may send memorial contribution to Grace Missionary Baptist Church/878 Milford Road/Holly, Michigan 48442. A private burial will take place at a later date. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com



David Lawrence "Turtle" LaBree

1946 - 2021

David Lawrence "Turtle" LaBree - age 74, of Linden, died Monday, March 15, 2021. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. David was born December 17, 1946 in Durand. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and worked as a concrete truck driver for many years, retiring in 2008. Turtle was a proud member of the Barons Motorcycle Club. He loved riding, especially through South Dakota and the Black Hills. He was known for his kindness and sense of humor. He is survived by his wife, Diane; daughter, Laura LaBree-Statler; grandchildren, Kyle (Alicia) Statler, Kurtis (Makala) Statler and Kaylee Statler; great-grandchildren, Brody, AnnaClaire, Nolan, Makena and baby on the way; sisters, Avis Burton, Dolores (Bob) Blau, Catherine (Steve) Sherman, Frances (Brad) Middleton and Emma (Jim) Kehler; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his beloved dog, Gomez. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



John (Jack) Ingles Beelby

1954 - 2021

John (Jack) Ingles Beelby - age 66, of Holly, died peacefully at home with his loving family near. We welcome you to wear your favorite Bowling or Golf shirt! Funeral services with social



Carrie Martin; great-grandchildren, Colton Martin, Talen Guerrieri, Giovanni Morales, and Aubrey Morales; sister, Susie (Buster) Winebrenner; brothers, Bill (Carmen) Beelby, Kirk

distancing restrictions will be held at 1 PM Saturday, March 20, 2021 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Visitation was from 2 - 9 PM Thursday, March 18 and Friday, March 19, also with social distancing restrictions at the Dryer Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be given to the family. Jack was born on May 31, 1954 to the late William and Nancy Beelby. Jack is survived by his son, Joshua Beelby; step-daughter, Tracie (Joey) Beelby; grandchildren, Tiffany and Joey Beelby; step-daughter, Sherrie (Henry) Guerrieri; grandchildren, Lindsey, Shannon, and Meaghan Guerrieri, Jack Martin, and

Beelby, and Joey (Tracie) Beelby; nieces; nephews; and a lot of very close special lifelong friends. Jack also had two very special friends Jamie Leece and Danny Ham. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sharon. Jack comes from a big loving family and has lived in Holly his whole life. Jack worked for Quality Way Products for many years. Jack had a passion for bowling and golf. On the side, Jack ran B & B Pro Shop for 30 plus years. The family of Jack would like to give a special thank you to McLaren Hospice of Davison. And a special thank you to nurse Maryann and Val. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

Alger Hemingway

Alger Hemingway - age 82, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Burton Gross

Burton Gross - age 87, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Barbara Steepe

Barbara Steepe - age 93, died March 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Dr. John Hall

Dr. John Hall - age 83, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Gerald "Jerry" Keely

Gerald "Jerry" Keely - age 77, died March 14, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Jaqueline Lahar

Jaqueline Lahar - age 88, died March 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Geraldine Stange

Geraldine Stange - age 81, died March 14, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



John Verdier

John Verdier - age 81, died March 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. MYFENTON.COM

Obituaries

Times

Marilou Walberga Mecham

1933 - 2021

Marilou Walberga Mecham - age 88, of Linden, died Saturday, March 13, 2021. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated 12 PM Monday, March 22, 2021 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic



since 1983 coming from Commerce. She was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church; and was a former member of St. Willilams Catholic Church in

Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton (A live stream of the Mass may be viewed on Marilou's obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com). Fr. Robert Copeland celebrant. Committal service immediately following at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St. Linden Sunday, March 21 from 1 - 4 and 6 - 8 PM where a vigil service will be held at 7 PM and Monday at church from 11 AM until the time of the Mass. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to Ascension Hospice or the American Cancer Society. Marilou was born February 25, 1933 in Farmington, the daughter of Robert August and Helen Elizabeth (Winters) Petersmark. She was a 1951 graduate of Farmington High School. She married Ernest Mecham September 25, 1951 in Farmington. Marilou had resided in the Linden area

Walled Lake where she was a member of the Rosary Altar Society. She also was a member of the commerce Child Club. She enjoyed crafts, flower arranging, knitting, sewing, traveling, and family camping trips. Surviving are her husband of 69 years, Ernest; four children, Ernest Mecham, Jr. (Roberta) of Howell, Brad Mecham (Elizabeth) of Ocala, FL, Suzanne Mecham of White Lake, and Douglas Mecham (Robin) of Linden; seven grandchildren, Angela, Regina, Ernest III, Shea, Tristan, Ashley, and Tara; seven great-grandchildren, Brooklyn, Jordyn, Issac, Tyler, Seraya, Lachlen, and Avaley; and several nieces; nephews; and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Joseph, Robert, and Roy Petersmark; and sister, Ruth Morgan. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Lavern Todd

Lavern Todd - age 59, died March 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Linda Decker

Linda Decker - age 81, died March 15, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Janet E. Redoutey

1929 - 2021

Janet E. Redoutey - age 92, of Linden, passed away peacefully in her sleep, Wednesday, March 10, 2021. A private family Mass will be held. Those desiring may make contributions to



St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Janet was born March 3, 1929 in Detroit, the daughter of Stephen and Edith (Read) Thompson. She was a 1947 graduate of Redford High School. She married Gerald S. Redoutey September 9, 1950 at St. Monica Catholic Church in Detroit and he preceded her in death April 11, 2015. She retired in 1994 from J.L. Hudson after 25 years of service. Janet was a member St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church where she was active with the St. John Council of Catholic Women and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary. She also was a member of the Audubon

Society, Hartland, Open Gate Garden Club, Fenton, and the Master Gardener Association. She enjoyed gardening, reading, cooking, and playing games. Surviving are four sons, Richard (Diane) Redoutey of Novi, Robert (Nancy) Redoutey of Georgetown, TX, David (Janet) Redoutey of Holly, and Jeffrey (Sheila) Redoutey of Modesto, CA; daughter-in-law, Becky Redoutey of Haslett; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren; and several nieces; nephews; and cousins. She was also preceded in death by her parents; son, Michael Redoutey; brother, Jack Thompson; and sister, Joyce Garcia. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Lois (Hanna) Porter

Lois (Hanna) Porter - age 94, died March 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Loren Erickson

Loren Erickson - age 84, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Otis Whaling

Otis Whaling - age 85, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



JUMBLE KIDS FOR 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.

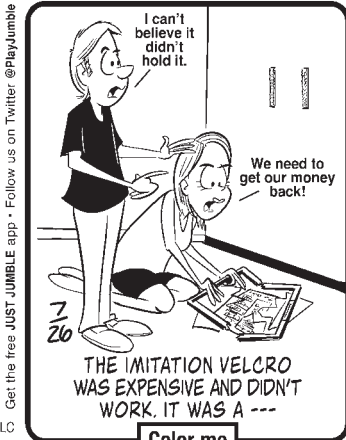
Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble for Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.



Print Answer Here

RFY
□ □ □
GPIR
□ □ □
CUPK
□ □ □
LOFD
□ □ □

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Color me

Jumbles: RFY
GRIP
PUCK
FOLD
Answer: The imitation Velcro was expensive and didn't work. It was a --- RIP-OFF

Obituaries

Times

**Anargyros
“Argie” Livaditis**

Anargyros “Argie” Livaditis - age 86, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



William Crawford

William Crawford - age 74, died March 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



**Robert “Bob”
Killbourne**

Robert “Bob” Killbourne - age 91, died March 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Winifred Skinner

Winifred Skinner - age 93, died March 10, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



view
OBITUARIES
online

www.tctimes.com

Douglas Piar

Douglas Piar - age 87, died March 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Lee Johnson

Lee Johnson - age 81, died March 17, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Robert Crumb

Robert Crumb - age 67, died March 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Roderick Greene

Roderick Greene - age 74, died March 14, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Ronald Sielski

Ronald Sielski - age 90, died March 13, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Shryl Fowler

Shryl Fowler - age 83, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Sue Entrekin

Sue Entrekin - age 84, died March 12, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Thomas Czerniak, Sr.

Thomas Czerniak, Sr. - age 84, died March 16, 2021. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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**WHAT CAN I DO TO
HELP LATER?**

In the days and months to come, the family will continue to need your support. Try to write or call on a regular basis. Continue to include them in your social plans, they will let you know when they are ready to participate. It is also nice to remember the family on special occasions during the first year following the death. Don't worry about bringing up the pain and emotion of the loss, they are well aware of that. By remembering such occasions as wedding anniversaries and birthdays, you are not remembering the death, but reaffirming that a life was lived.

Source: Thefuneralsource.org

HONORING OUR VETERANS

Sunday, March 29, 2020 3

HONORING OUR VETERANS ★★ ★

THOMAS (TOBY) MORRIS
FENTON TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN
U.S. Air Force
SSGT

GRANADA CONFLICT
834 EMS Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL
Service dates: 1983 to 1987
Air Force Training Ribbon
Air Force Good Conduct Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
Valor Device

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Sponsored by Sharp Funeral Homes, the Tri-County Times is honoring a local veteran in every edition of the newspaper. The only criteria is that the veteran be honorably discharged. Let us honor you or the veteran in your life, past or present.

Please provide:

- Full name
- Hometown
- War or war era
- Branch of military
- Rank
- Years of service
- Honors or medals earned

Please email information and military photo to: news@tctimes.com





SAVING STRATEGIES AS RETIREMENT NEARS

● TRY VARIOUS METHODS TO BUILD UP FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS BEFORE OFFICIALLY ENDING CAREER

By Sharon Stone

Professionals on the cusp of retirement are often excited about what lies ahead. Some prospective retirees may look forward to traveling once they no longer have to go to work each day, while others may plan to return to school.

Regardless of how adults envision spending their retirement, they're going to need money when they're no longer being paid by their employers.

As retirement nears, some professionals may be concerned that they haven't saved enough. There's no one-size-fits-all answer in regard to how much money people will need in retirement. People who are worried they haven't saved enough can try various strategies to build up their account balances before they officially



People who are worried they haven't saved enough can try various strategies to build up their account balances before they officially call it a career.

call it a career.

Local expert, James Kruzan, CFP, CRPC, and founder and senior wealth advisor at Kaydan Wealth Management said, "While building your retirement nest egg as large as possible is sound advice, don't overlook your other resources or important decisions.

"Determining the optimal time to take Social security as well as the tax implications of your investment assets can have a greater impact on your retirement than simply the size of your account.

"A competent advisor will review your resources and help create a plan maximizing the retirement you can enjoy."

Take advantage of catch-up contributions

Adults who are 50 or older are eligible to take advantage of catch-up contributions. These

See **SAVINGS** on 47

Ready to take your success even further?

Forbes
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WEALTH ADVISORS** 2021
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Jim Kruzan,
CFP®, CRPC®

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6 WAYS TO TELL IF YOU HAVE ENOUGH LIFE INSURANCE

●YOUR INDEPENDENT AGENT CAN HELP WITH AVAILABLE OPTIONS

By Sharon Stone

If we've learned anything from 2020, it's that life can be unpredictable. Having sufficient life insurance can provide financial stability and security to loved ones during times of uncertainty.

Forty-one million Americans say they need life insurance but don't have it, according to LIMRA's 2020 Insurance Barometer Study. Others are insured but don't have enough coverage. If this describes you, your spouse or children could find themselves in a financial lurch, expected to pay off debts, loans and final expenses when you die, especially if you're the main source of income.

"Having insurance isn't just about financial protection," said Louis Colaizzo, senior vice president of Erie Family Life. "It also helps maintain some sense of normalcy for family members. Kids can continue their extracurricular activities, partners can maintain their lifestyle and families can stay in the home they know and love."

Local insurance expert, David Walker, owner and president of Hartland Insurance said, "Far too often, consumers rely on the life insurance provided by their employer (even purchasing as much as is made available to them by their employer) but fail to purchase coverage that is privately owned and controlled. In most scenarios, the life insurance provided by your employer ceases when (or shortly after) your employment ceases. You're then faced with having to try and secure privately owned insurance and there is no guarantee of insurability, price, etc."

"You should always look at employer provided life insurance as being supplemental to your privately owned coverage, not the other way around."

So, how do you know if you have enough? Here are six questions from Erie Insurance experts to help you find out.



According to experts, one of the easiest ways to protect loved ones and their financial futures is to prepare for the unexpected.

1. Do you have enough to cover final expenses?

Make sure you can accommodate funeral or burial expenses, end-of-life costs or unpaid medical bills. Otherwise, your family may be responsible for paying these. According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the national median cost of a funeral with viewing and burial for 2019 was \$7,640 – a steep sum many can't pay out of pocket without notice.

2. Will your family receive enough to cover income loss or debt?

If you're your household's primary earner, you'll want to ensure you have enough money to maintain your family's lifestyle. For example, can your policy help pay off a mortgage or multiple car loans in full or cover expenses like groceries? If not, your spouse or dependents might find themselves struggling, putting them at risk for foreclosure or other financial hardships.

3. Do you have dependents?

A dependent is someone who relies on your income to make ends meet. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average cost of raising a child through age 17 is \$233,610, not including the cost of a college education. That's a big strain.

4. What kind of retirement do you want?

How do you guarantee you'll have enough for the future and won't need a second career late in life to cover living expenses? One way is to tap into the cash value of a permanent life insurance plan and use it as supplemental income during retirement.

5. Do you have unique lifestyle considerations?

Do you own a business or want to leave a legacy when you're gone? Having an insurance plan will protect these assets and give you peace of mind that your money goes exactly where you want it.

6. What if your circumstances change (again)?

Some life insurance companies offer a Guaranteed Insurability Option rider to help with the quickly changing times, making it possible for you to purchase additional insurance later, even if circumstances deem you "uninsurable." This means the death benefit can be increased as your needs change but you won't have to answer medical underwriting questions — a relief for many.

To revisit your life insurance policy, contact an independent agent who can discuss your personal options.

Source: StateNet.com



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STRATEGIES TO RECESSION-PROOF YOUR FINANCES

● TAKING CERTAIN STEPS IS IMPORTANT TO HELP PEOPLE OVERCOME STRESS OF LIVING DURING A DOWNTURN

Compiled by Sharon Stone

“Financial planning” is an umbrella term that can be applied to various aspects of money management. Many people associate financial planning with retirement. However, effective financial planning can help people confront today’s challenges just as much as it can help them prepare for their golden years.

The pandemic that spread across the globe throughout 2020 posed numerous challenges, including a recession sparked by widespread job loss and declines in economic activity. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics noted that the unemployment rate in the United States exceeded 10 percent in July 2020.

The sudden rise in unemployment and decline in global economic activity



The timing of recessions is unpredictable, but they are inevitable. Effective financial planning can help anyone overcome the challenges posed by economic downturns.

underscores the need to plan for recessions, even during those times when economies are thriving. Taking steps to recession-proof your finances is an important component of financial planning that can help people overcome the stress of living during a downturn.

Build up your savings

A recent poll from the Kaiser Family Foundation found that 45 percent of adults said their mental health had been negatively affected due to stress related to the virus. That poll was conducted in March 2020, shortly after lockdown measures were instituted and the term “social distancing” entered the North American lexicon.

As the pandemic wore on through the summer, fall and into the winter, stress remained a big concern for many people. Much of that stress stemmed from the economy, but one way to ease that stress is to have a substantial

See **STRATEGIES** on 47



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SAVING MONEY WHEN THERE'S NOT MUCH TO SAVE

Many Americans struggle financially, living paycheck to paycheck, hoping they have enough to cover all their bills at the end of the month. Life is easier if you have a cash cushion or an emergency fund, but how do you save when there is not much fat in your budget?

First, you need to find out where your money is going. Start by tracking all your spending for 30 days. Everything, even a pack of gum, should be noted using any tracking method you prefer — a notebook, your smartphone, an online spreadsheet, whatever works best for you. Then categorize each expense. Start with these essentials:

- **Rent/mortgage**
- **Utilities**
- **Food**
- **Transportation to get to your job**
- **Healthcare** — prescriptions and co-pays

These five are priorities that must be paid each month. Everything else, like clothing, cosmetics, gym membership, etc., are areas where you can cut back and save a little. Here are a few other saving suggestions:

- **Entertainment** — Look for low-cost ways to have fun.

If you have a streaming service, discontinue it for a few months. For example, a service that costs \$25 per month means you're spending \$300 per year — that's a month's worth of groceries.

Get a library card to check out movies and video games instead of renting them.

Listen to podcasts. There are over a million to choose from on all subjects.

Learn a new language or start a new hobby. Here again, the library can be your friend by providing free resources.

- **Food** — Try to spend no more than 11 percent of your take-home pay on food.

Shop for generic store brands instead of name-brand items. Many generic versions can be up to 60 percent cheaper.

Use coupons and download your grocery store's app for more deals.

Buy vegetables in their natural form. Washed and cut vegetables can be twice as expensive.

Buy only what you know you can eat in a week or two to avoid throwing away food.

Make at least 75 percent of your own meals instead of ordering from restaurants.

- **Energy bills** — Changing habits can save you big money.

Use a toaster oven, slow cooker, or other small appliance instead of the oven.

Wait until the dishwasher is full before using it and turn off the heated dry setting.

Unplug unused appliances and power strips to avoid phantom loads.

Turn off lights when you leave a room.

- **Credit Card Late Fees** — Missing payment due dates comes with a heavy price.

To avoid late fees and protect your credit score, set up automatic payments to pay at least the minimum payment by the due date.

If you can't pay your bill in full each month, then use the card only for emergencies.

If your credit card has a high interest rate, look for one with a lower interest rate. Check out the rates at Dort Financial Credit Union.

By cutting costs even just a little and putting those savings into an account, you will be able to pay bills with less worry and even save for fun trips or a special gift.

Founded in 1951, Dort Financial Credit Union serves more than 100,000 members and has 10 locations. Membership is open to anyone who lives, works, attends school and worships in the State of Michigan. The credit union offers comprehensive financial services, including auto loans, mortgages, high interest checking accounts and much more. Learn more at dortonline.org or by calling 800-521-3796.

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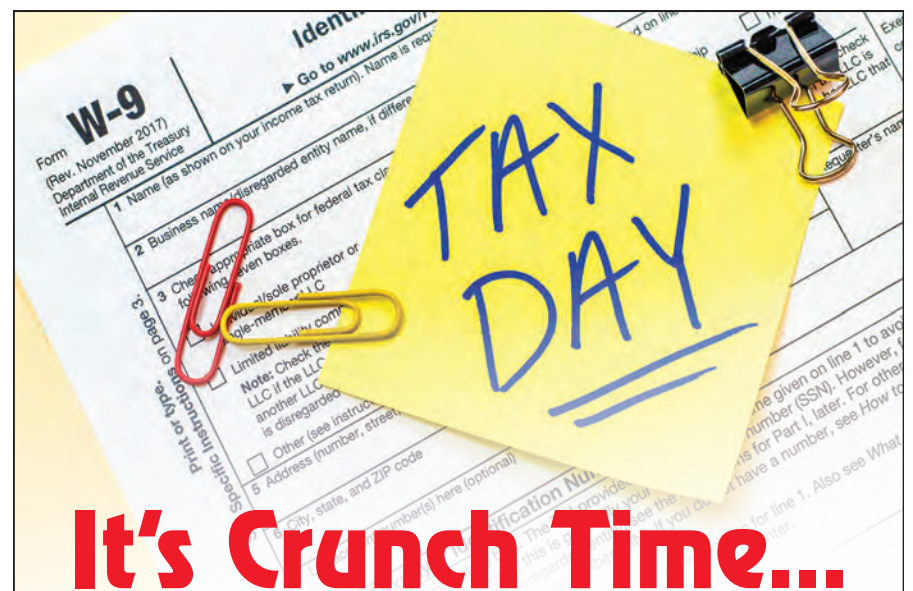
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NEED MORTGAGE RELIEF DUE TO COVID-19?

By Sharon Stone

As the pandemic continues to affect Americans across the country, many are facing financial hardship.

For homeowners with a Freddie Mac loan, COVID-19 mortgage assistance is available in the form of “forbearance,” which temporarily suspends or reduces your mortgage payment without penalty so you can get back on your feet.

Here is how forbearance works and what happens when it ends:

How do I request forbearance? To request forbearance, you must contact your loan servicer (the company listed on your mortgage statement) who will help you understand your options. Forbearance is available for up to a year, though servicers will typically start you on a shorter forbearance plan and reassess to see if your financial situation has changed.

What happens when forbearance ends? It's important to remember mortgage



forbearance is not the same as mortgage forgiveness and you will have to repay your missed payments. About 30 days before the forbearance plan is scheduled to end, you and your servicer will determine

next steps. This could include additional forbearance or a workout option to make up the missed payments. Just remember, you are never required to pay back missed payments in a lump sum if your loan is owned by Freddie Mac.

How does repayment work? Even though you must pay back payments that were missed during forbearance, you have several options for doing so. Additionally, you won't accrue additional fees, penalties or interest beyond the amounts already scheduled or calculated based on the terms of your mortgage. For example, let's say you enter into a forbearance agreement of three months. If your monthly mortgage payment is \$1,000, you will owe about \$3,000 in missed mortgage payments at the end of your forbearance term. Your servicer can help you determine the workout option that works best for you, including:

- Full repayment, where you pay back the missed payments all at once.
- Repayment plans, which allow you to catch up gradually while you are paying your regular monthly payment.
- Payment deferral, which allows you to resume making your normal monthly payment. Your servicer can work with you to leverage alternative ways for you to pay back the missed payments from your forbearance period at a later date and in a manner that is affordable.
- Modification of the loan, which changes the terms of your loan, usually to reduce your original monthly payment amount. Your servicer can help with a

modification that might suit your new circumstances.

To stay on track with paying down your loan balance and less interest over the life of the loan, it's important that you resume your payments as soon as you're financially able. Keep in mind that while you're not charged “extra” interest, you won't be paying down your principal, and the interest will continue to accrue on your unpaid mortgage balance.

Jim Papatheodore, Mortgage Loan Officer for Mortgage 1 – Fenton Branch, said, “My advice to anyone needing assistance would be to know your repayment options upfront and get that in writing from your lender.

“Remember, this is not payment forgiveness, so the payments need to be paid back somehow and you need to make sure you are able to meet those repayment terms or have your loan modified. If you are going to refinance or purchase a new home, the forbearance may affect the timing of you being able to close on your new mortgage loan.”

For information on forbearance and how to get help with your mortgage, visit My Home by Freddie Mac at myhome.freddie.com.

Remember, contacting your servicer is the first step in getting help with your mortgage payments if you are facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 or for other reasons. They can explore available options with you and determine what works best for your circumstances.

Source: StateNet.com

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SAVINGS

Continued from Page 41

are designed to help people over 50 contribute more to certain retirement accounts, such as a 401(k) or IRA, than statutory limits would otherwise allow. There are limits that govern the amount of money people can designate as catch-up contributions, but taking advantage of this perk can help people save more as retirement draws closer.

Consider relocating

A recent study from the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that housing costs accounted for 49 percent of seniors' spending. Professionals nearing retirement who live in areas traditionally associated with a high cost of living can begin to rethink their long-term housing strategy. Relocating to an area with a lower cost of living is one option, while those who prefer to remain in their current town or city can consider downsizing to

a smaller home to reduce their property taxes and monthly utility bills.

Continue investing

Conventional wisdom suggests moving away from investing in stocks the closer you get to retirement. Though that's a sound strategy, professionals who are trying to build their retirement savings in the final years before retiring could be missing out on significant growth by abandoning stocks entirely. Speak with a financial

advisor about stock-based investments and your risk tolerance. Maintaining a diversified portfolio with a little risk can be a great way to grow your savings as retirement draws near.

Professionals approaching retirement may be dealing with a mix of excitement and anxiety, particularly if they're concerned about their retirement savings. Various strategies can help quell such anxiety and make it easier for professionals over 50 to build their savings as retirement nears.

STRATEGIES

Continued from Page 44

amount of money in savings. Each person's financial needs are different, but many planners recommend clients have at least six months' worth of expenses in their savings as a cushion to help them get through job loss.

Pay down debt

Debt, particularly high-interest debt, can compromise your ability to save. A 2019 survey from Bankrate.com found that 13 percent of Americans admitted that debt was preventing them from saving more money. Pay down debt like credit cards and only make credit card purchases if you have the money to pay the bill in full when it's due.

Avoid overspending

Many financial planners recommend a 50-30-20 approach to money management. Such an approach advises people to devote 50 percent of their earnings to needs, 30 percent to their wants and 20 percent to savings. Spending more than 30 percent on wants can make it difficult to build up a savings account to levels that can protect you in the event of a recession.

Expect the unexpected

The American economy was doing historically well as recently as January 2020, only to have the bottom fall out during the pandemic. If you want to recession-proof your finances, do not take your foot off the gas in regard to insulating yourself from the next recession. No matter how strongly the economy is performing, continue to expect the unexpected and prioritize saving so you have a soft landing awaiting you should the economy again take a sudden turn for the worse.

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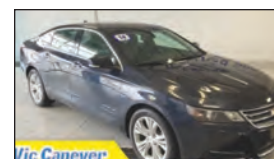
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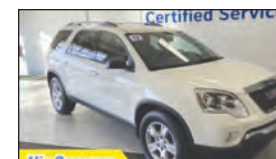
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