‘We really want him home’

Mother of 20-year-old Linden grad pleads for safe return of son, missing for a week

By Sharon Stone

The mother of a missing 20-year-old has a message for him, “We love him and miss him. We really just want and need him to come home. We will come to him if he needs us to. We need to know he is safe. We really want him home.” These are the words of Sarah Whitson, the mother of Noah Kerridge.

Whitson says directly to her son, “I love you and miss you! We are worried terribly about you and need to know you’re safe. I will come pick you up, please just call us. Josh, Tyler, Caitlyn, and Alexander miss you and love you and want you home too. We all need you home safe, Noah. Your father and grandparents are all worried and miss you too! We love you, Noah!”

“We will come to him if he needs us to. We need to know he is safe.”
Sarah Whitson
Mother of Noah Kerridge

Linden adopts road plan, future projects

Resurfacing projects discussed for Hickory and Bridge streets and Linden Road

By Hannah Ball

Linden City Council adopted a pavement assessment management plan Monday, April 26. It was the first in-person city council meeting since the pandemic began.

The plan lays out the rating of city roads and future road projects for Bridge Street, Main Street and neighborhood streets.

The plan was prepared by HRC. State law requires that municipalities submit pavement asset

See ROAD PLAN on 7

Fenton DDA buys ‘Spiked’ sculpture

‘The Game’ was defaced in 2020; DPW repairs ‘Grateful Fred’

By Hannah Ball

The motorcycle sculpture called “Spiked” in front of Andiamo on Silver Lake Road now belongs to the city of Fenton.

On Tuesday, April 20, the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) voted to buy the sculpture, which was created by artist Richard Morgan.

Michael Hart, assistant city manager and DDA executive director, wrote to the DDA that the city will soon have to return the sculptures they rented for fiscal year 2020-2021. The Midwest Sculpture Initiative runs the

See SPIKED on 6

Fenton Street Experience is back for second summer

Downtown road closures Thursdays and Fridays from 5 to 9 p.m., May 20 – Oct. 15

By Sharon Stone

Fenton City Council unanimously approved an updated emergency regulation Monday, April 26, to allow the Fenton Street Experience to happen this spring and summer in the downtown area. In mid-August 2020, the city implemented its street closure for the Fenton Street Experience to help businesses in the downtown area. It ran until the beginning of October 2020.

See STREET EXPERIENCE on 17

Village Ace Hardware is so awesome. Shout out to Pat for helping me choose a paint color over the phone during my quarantine. Thank you for offering curbside pickup so that my sister could pick it up without entering the store.”

“Thank you”

This is a huge thank you for the wonderful way in which all the staff at Lockwood Senior Living has cared for us. Many have had to wear several hats to see that our needs are met due to quarantine.”

“I hope that” they are not planning to close LeRoy Street three nights a week for the summer. To paraphrase a famous WWII quote: Never before have so many been inconvenienced by so few.”
IGNITE program at Genesee County Jail announces more success stories, more local involvement

By Sharon Stone

A new sign for the Vision Center was unveiled Wednesday, April 21 during a press conference led by Genesee County Sheriff Chris Swanson.

The press conference was held at 5601 N. Saginaw Street at Higher Quality of Life Ministries in Flint to highlight a new facility to assist individuals who have been released from the Genesee County Jail and have had success with the IGNITE program. IGNITE stands for Inmate Growth Naturally and Intentionally Through Education.

The philosophy behind IGNITE is eliminating generational incarceration through education by restoring value, hope, and purpose to our inmate population.

Accompanying Swanson was Steve Dawes, United Auto Workers (UAW) regional director. He thanked Swanson and retired sheriff Robert Pickell for bringing Swanson to the county. Dawes supports the IGNITE program and said that those incarcerated aren’t bad people, they’ve just made bad decisions. “I’m proud of this city,” he said. “You matter.”

More than 450 Genesee County Jail inmates have participated in the program and more high school diplomas will be given out this week.

Al Peter, principal at Mt. Morris Education & Community Center (MMECC) IGNITE Academy/GED spoke of the success he has seen with the IGNITE program. He said those participating have had more than 25,000 hours of instruction and 300 courses. He said 287 have made a one-year gain in their education level.

ELGA Credit Union’s award-winning Success Coach, Lori Hawk announced that ELGA is teaching financial literacy for the IGNITE program. She said she jumped at the chance to help the program even before discussing the plan with the credit union. She said of the five groups being taught so far, the inmates/students see hope and trust and are learning how to look at finances the right way.

Robert Matthews, associate vice president of workforce and economic development for Mott Community College, announced Mott’s involvement with IGNITE. Those taking classes through IGNITE will have access to job postings. He said a partnership with Consumers Energy will involve apprenticeships for those in IGNITE. He added that they are making scholarships available.

County ambassador Johnell Allen-Bey spoke of life after incarceration. He’s a returning citizen and thanked God for this program. “We are doing what we were told can’t be done,” he said.

Higher Quality of Life Ministries Pastor Ronnie Wiggins applauded the work being done by IGNITE. He said he hopes this local program becomes a model nationwide to make good people. Wednesday’s unveiling of the new Vision Center shows reform, hope and dignity.
PART I: The state of our local fire departments

Fire chiefs agree that they need more trained firefighters

By Sharon Stone

Ask any fire department chief if they need more firefighters and the answer will likely be “yes.”

The Times has reached out to several local fire chiefs to assess their own departments for a series on the state of our local fire departments.

Jeremy Lintz, the chief of North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA), answered several questions about his department. NOCFA covers Holly and Rose townships, for a total of 39 square miles.

Top officers at NOCFA:
Fire Chief Jeremy Lintz
Assistant Chief Matthew Weil
Deputy Chief Doug Smith
Captain Timothy Seal Jr.
Captain Christopher Kettle
Sergeant / EMS Coordinator Daniel Miller

Full time employees: 8
Part time employees: 36
Annual budget: 2.2 million
Medical calls per year: 710
Structure fires per year: 10

All NOCFA members are cross trained in fire, rescue and EMS.

Traffic crashes per year: 95
Average response time for tier 1 medicals: 7 minutes
Average response time for tier 2 medicals: 9 minutes
Average response time for a structure fire: 7 minutes
Average wage of a firefighter: $20 per hour.

Do you have enough employees? No.

Lintz said, “Almost all paid on call departments are struggling to maintain personnel. Trying to sustain continued education and training requirements, and also having to respond to emergency calls has proven to be too much of a time commitment for paid on call employees.”

See FIRE DEPARTMENTS on 5

Like many fire departments, the North Oakland County Fire Authority struggles to maintain enough paid on-call firefighters and enough equipment.

“...All of the men and woman that serve on NOCFA are cross trained in fire, rescue, and EMS.”

North Oakland County Fire Authority Chief Jeremy Lintz
Who would you want to narrate your life and why?

“Tim Allen, because I love all the Pure Michigan commercials.”
Angela MacCaughan
White Lake

“George Karlan, because humor and sarcasm has gotten me through life.”
Sue Brisbane
Flushing

“Gilda Radner, because I think she’d have appreciated all my zany craziness and sarcasm.”
Cherie Henryes Smith
Fenton

“Gilbert Gottfried.”
Shaun Bolen
Flint
City renews storm water management contract

By Sharon Stone

Genesee County Drain Commission will provide services annually for $3,680

On Monday, April 26, Fenton City Council approved a resolution to approve an amendment to the Genesee County Phase II Regulations Storm Water Management System Contract.

With approval, the services will be provided by the Genesee County Drain Commission (GCDC) for $920 per quarter, beginning April 1 and ending Oct. 1, 2026.

The city of Fenton has facilitated the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements for storm water management under Genesee County Act 342, where 16 municipalities in Genesee County contract with the GCDC for storm water management services.

This program began in May 2001 and was renewed in 2008 and 2015. It expired in October 2020.

The renewed contract began April 1. The city of Fenton will be billed on a quarterly basis of $920 ($3,680 annually). This renewal will expire Oct. 1, 2026.

The purpose of this contract is to provide for the joint effort of Genesee County municipalities to comply with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) requirements for the clean water act Phase II storm water regulations.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Continued from Page 3

“These men and woman usually already work a primary, full-time career and are raising families. Many of them eventually come to the realization that they cannot maintain this lifestyle and end up leaving.

“The younger recruits that get hired end up leaving after a year or two for career fire departments that pay much higher wages and provide benefits. The paid on call firefighter is quickly becoming a thing of the past and communities need to start planning and investing into transitioning their fire departments to career ones.”

Are you lacking any equipment? Yes.

Lintz said, “We lack funds to purchase replacement apparatus for our aging fleet. We are in need of replacing our ambulances, brush trucks, and our heavy rescue truck.”

Are you hiring? Yes.

“We are always accepting applications,” Lintz said.

What would be your assessment of the strength and services you provide to your community?

Lintz said, “All of the men and woman that serve on NOCFA are cross trained in fire, rescue, and EMS. Their level of skill and professionalism allow them to perform all of their tasks with confidence and manage any type of emergency service that we provide to our communities.”

JOIN US FOR

Mother’s Day

810-750-9463 | 302 N. LeRoy, Fenton

SPECIAL MOTHER’S DAY DINNER MENU
SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021
11:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Genesee Health System
hosts Community Mental Health Millage town hall

Genesee Health System will host an in-person town hall Wednesday, April 28, at 5:30 p.m. to provide information and answer questions about the Community Mental Health Millage on the May 4 ballot. The town hall will be held under tents in the parking lot of the Friends of Bertson Field House, 3300 Saginaw St., Flint. The GHS team will outline the plans for millage money and answer questions about the importance of community mental health services in Genesee County. Free COVID-19 testing and vaccines will be available during the town hall. Masks and social distancing will be required. Masks will be provided at the event. For details, visit geneseethefuture.org or call (810) 424-6090.

Fenton Hotel
tavern & grille

SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021
11:00 AM - 6:30 PM
Full menu online at FentonHotel.com

Celebrate ARBOR DAY!

Plant a tree and see mother earth smile

- FRIDAY -
APRIL 30TH 2021
10am-12pm

Stop in
at the tent in front of Fenton City Hall for a FREE WHITE PINE TREE SAPLING
(150 AVAILABLE)
Brought to you by the City of Fenton Beautification Commission
**MISSING**

Continued from Front Page

Kerridge is a 2019 graduate of Linden High School. She said he’s been living with his father in Waterford for about a year.

The 20-year-old is 6-feet, 4-inches tall and approximately 185 pounds. He has long brown hair and blue eyes. He ran cross country and was on the robotics team for a short time at Linden High School.

Kerridge was last seen Monday, April 19 at approximately 4:50 p.m. His mother said he’s not responding to his phone and no one has seen him.

If anyone has any information on Kerridge’s whereabouts, please contact the Waterford Police Department at (248) 674-0351. His case number is 21-11198.

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**SPIKED**

Continued from Front Page

program in which municipalities can rent artwork for a year and have the option to buy the pieces.

This spring, they expect to receive nine new sculptures for placement around downtown. The DDA decided to buy this sculpture before it would be moved to another municipality.

“I believe that ‘Spiked’ is a beloved piece of sculpture art work and appreciated by many people,” Hart wrote.

The published price for the sculpture was $6,500 and the negotiated price is $5,200.

The DDA has bought a few sculptures previously from this program. This includes “Rubik’s Cube” in front of The Laundry and “Grateful Fred” by city hall.

Hart said the DDA set money aside for sculpture purchases, and they made the decision to buy the sculpture before it was removed.

In the past year, the city has dealt with repairs and a theft in regards to sculptures.

In the fall of 2020, someone pried off the coins from “The Game” sculpture. The piece shows men playing a game of poker as a nod to the history of how Fenton got its name.

Hart said the city is continuing repairs on the piece because of this defacing. The coins have to be recast.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) also recently completed repairs to the “Grateful Fred” statue, which is located next to City Hall.

The microphone stand was made with thin piping, Hart said, and it was rusting at the bottom. The DPW was able to do structural repairs to make it stronger, and they buffered and cleaned the microphone.

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**HOT LINE CONTINUED**

**HAVE A HAPPY RETIREMENT**

Vera Hogan. I’ll miss your Just Sayin’ column.

**DID I READ** that right in the TC Times?

Once MDOT finishes the Owen Road bridge, they’re going to tear up the Silver Lake Road overpass and then the Lahrng and Thompson road bridges? It’s going to be a struggle driving through Fenton the entire summer.

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**Don’t Neglect Your Symptoms**

Prevent Progression

**Stages of Development of Varicose**

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**Integrated Vascular Vein Center of Michigan**

**Don’t Neglect Your Symptoms**

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**Integrated Vascular Vein Center of Michigan**
ROAD PLAN

Continued from Front Page
management plans on a regular basis to the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council. The city was notified in January they did not have a file on plan and could potentially lose road funding in the amount of $440,000.

“This is not set in stone. It’s one of those check marks that we’ve got to hit in order to be compliant,” said City Manager Ellen Glass. “It’s a good start.”

Linden is responsible for maintaining 17.79 miles of public roads, according to the plan, and the city also owns and manages 0.8 miles of unpaved roads. Linden collects PASER data every two years on all federal-aid-eligible roads. PASER stands for Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating. Due to COVID, many major roads were not rated in 2020. A rating of 10 means “excellent” and 1 is considered “failed.”

2020 state of city major roads

As of 2020, the city major road network has 5.4 percent of roads in the good condition category, 62.7 percent in fair and 31.9 percent poor.

Goal: The report states that the goal for city major roads is to have 10 percent rated “good,” 60 percent rated “fair” and 30 percent rated “poor.” The strategy involves preventing the “good” and “fair” road from becoming “poor,” and moving 8 percent of the paved roads out of the poor category.

2020 state of city minor roads

The paved city minor road network has 12.9 percent in the good condition category, 41.5 percent in fair and 45.6 percent in poor.

Goal: The goal is to have 20 percent rated “good,” 50 percent rated “fair” and 30 percent rated “poor.” The strategy involves keeping more roads from becoming “poor,” and moving 16 percent of minor roads out of the “poor” category.

“Treatments and strategies that counter pavement-damaging forces include reconstruction, structural improvement, capital preventive maintenance, innovative treatments, and maintenance,” according to the report.

With unpaved roads, the report indicates that their condition can “rapidly” change, which makes it difficult to obtain a consistent rating. The goal is to maintain or improve road conditions network-wide at 2020 levels.

The report outlines different treatment options and the estimated years of life with each. Crack filling is estimated to extend a road’s life by one year, seal coat may add five years of life, and different non-structural overlay plans could extend a road’s life by five to 18 years. Reconstruction can add 18-20 years to a road’s life.

Plans

The city is planning the construction and maintenance projects for 2021-2023. The total cost of these projects is approximately $412,600.

Projects planned for 2021 include crack sealing for neighborhood streets, such as Haystack Drive (rating 8), Ridgewood Court (rating 8), Rockway Drive (rating 8), Saddlebrook Drive (rating 8), Saddle Valley Drive (rating 8), Sunflower Drive (rating 8), and Ticknor Street (rating 6).

Another 2021 project is resurfacing Hickory Street, which has a rating of 4, and Bridge Street and Linden Road, which both have ratings of 5.

W. Rolston Road is scheduled for reconstruction in 2022. It has a rating of 3 and 2. Main Street is scheduled for reconstruction work with a rating of 2, except for the section from E. Broad Street to Ticknor Street. That section has a rating of 6 and is scheduled for crack sealing.

The city plans to spend $134,400 on city major networks, according to the report, and it plans to spend $278,200 on city minor road networks.

Councilor Aaron Wiens said, “As a new city council person who hasn’t spent a lot of time thinking about roads, I was absolutely shocked at the cost of road repair and road maintenance.”

The court added that if the caller had indicated that they had seen improper or dangerous driving, the stop may have been proper under the 2014 United States Supreme Court decision in Navarrete v California.

The Michigan Court of Appeals has previously held that less information is required from an anonymous citizen’s tip as to contemporaneous incidents of erratic or potentially dangerous driving, thus justifying a stop, because of the state’s strong interest in ensuring safe roadways.

Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court John Roberts once said that if officers can’t act on anonymous drunk driving tips, thus granting drunk drivers “one free swerve,” it will be difficult for an officer to explain the family of a motorist killed by that swerve why the driver wasn’t stopped, even for a quick check.

When all is said and done, if you see erratic and/or possible drunk driving contact the police and give them as much information as possible. They will take it from there. Your call may save someone’s life.
Join us for
Mother's Day Brunch

SUNDAY, MAY 9TH
10AM - 8PM

Make your reservation today!
810-354-8555
YOUR MOM WILL LOVE IT!

CIAO ITALIAN BISTRO
110 S. LEROY ST. | FENTON
810-354-8555
Great Lakes Grills

Supplying outdoor cooks with everything they need from unique grill brands, accessories, fuel, spices and more

By Sharon Stone

Fenton Twp. — If you’re looking for patio furniture or fireplaces, this is not your place. If you’re looking for the best and unique selection of grills, smokers, spices and accessories for outdoor cooking, look no further than Great Lakes Grills.

Owned by Bob Kuerbitz, Great Lakes Grills has opened its showroom at 14305 N. Fenton Rd., in Fenton Township. It’s next to Sears Hometown Store and across from Sagebrush Cantina. He has four employees to help you with all your grilling needs.

Kuerbitz’s shop focuses on two major themes — outdoor cooking equipment and carry brands and items that are not readily available at other nearby stores. “Supplying outdoor cooks with everything they need is our slogan,” Kuerbitz said.

While Kuerbitz carries brands that aren’t available elsewhere locally, he made an exception with the Weber brand. “Weber is such an iconic brand in the grilling industry, it’s hard to have a store without them,” he said. One eye-catching Weber grill is the 37-inch Ranch Kettle grill, which would be perfect when grilling for a large gathering.

Other brands available at Great Lakes Grills are Blaze, CookShack, Primo Grills, Kamado Joe, SunFire, Memphis Grills and Breeo. Great Lakes Grills carries gas and propane grills, charcoal grills, pellet grills, smokers, fire pits, pizza ovens and built-ins.

Browsing around the showroom, Kuerbitz’s customers can touch and learn about the numerous grills on display. As examples, below are a few items available.

Great Lakes Grills’ most portable ceramic charcoal grill, Kamado Joe Jr., offers 13.5 inches of cooking space. Weighing only 68 pounds, this Kamado ceramic grill is the perfect side-kick for anyone on the go, a quick weekday meal for two, or any new ceramic griller.

His SunFire 38-inch freestanding Grill offers quality you can afford. Constructed in stainless steel and designed with careful precision to ensure optimal airflow and even heating, this grill gives its higher-priced competitors a run for their money in both durability and grilling performance. The SunFire will impress the most discriminating of grillers.

Kuerbitz’s Cookshack smokers flavor food with small wood chunks smoldering over an electric heating element. Use this smoker year round outside in your garage, driveway or patio to smoke or cold smoke a variety of foods; or use the oven without wood. It is easy to move on its four lockable casters. It is easy to clean, and the grills and racks go into the dishwasher.

Kuerbitz offers Breeo smokeless fire pits with a sear plate, which you can grill an assortment of foods on the plate that surrounds the pit. It has the ability to sear steaks at 1,000 degrees.

Now that you have your meat and vegetables or other food items selected to grill, be sure to check out Great Lakes Grills’ BBQ sauces, seasonings, rubs and more. A popular line of seasonings is the Billy Bones brand.

Great Lakes Grills also has all of the accessories you will need.

Choosing the Fenton area was easy for Kuerbitz. “I think Fenton is a great market and opportunity for a store like this. Fenton has so many lakes in the area that there is a lot of outdoor living. And usually when people are active outdoors, they like to cook outdoors.”

Kuerbitz said he hopes people like the uniqueness of the brands he carries and the quality of the products and services he provides.

“As for services, we will be providing assembly and delivery of grills, as some of these grills can be pretty big and heavy,” he said.

Open now for several weeks, Kuerbitz said he’s hearing from customers that they prefer to shop at a small local store rather than the big box home improvement stores.

Check out Great Lakes Grills products at greatlakesgrills.net, stop by the showroom or call (810) 215-1059 if you have any questions.

Great Lakes Grills owner Bob Kuerbitz and the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for his new business on N. Fenton Road in Fenton Township at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12. Photos: Sharon Stone
Kentucky Derby is May 1

Get your Derby Hat and Mint Juleps ready to watch two-minute long thoroughbred horse race in Louisville, Kentucky

By Sharon Stone

Since 1875 when Aristides won the Kentucky Derby with a time of 2:37 minutes, the tradition continues in Louisville, Kentucky.

The Kentucky Derby is always the first Saturday of May. Tune in beginning at 12 p.m., Saturday, May 1, on channel NBCSN.

The Race

The Kentucky Derby, presented by Woodford Reserve, is a top rank, Grade I stakes race for 3-year-old Thoroughbred horses. The race distance is 1¼ miles long, and it is run on the dirt racetrack at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky. Twenty horses will compete.

The Kentucky Derby takes place on the first Saturday in May every year, and typically draws a crowd of 155,000 people. It is the longest continually held sporting event in America, and it is one of the most prestigious horse races in the world. Often called “The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports.”

Garland of Roses

The rose garland, now synonymous with the Kentucky Derby, is the source of the nickname “Run for the Roses” and has a history almost as long as the Derby itself. Each year, a garland of more than 400 red roses is sewn into a green satin backing with the seal of the Commonwealth on one end and the Twin Spires and number of the race’s current renewal on the other. Each garland is also adorned with a “crown” of roses, green fern and ribbon. The “crown,” a single rose pointing upward in the center of the garland, symbolizes the struggle and heart necessary to reach the Derby Winner’s Circle.

My Old Kentucky Home

In the world of sports, there is not a more moving moment than when the horses step onto the track for the Kentucky Derby post parade and the band strikes up “My Old Kentucky Home” and 160,000-plus people sing along.

Derby Hats

Part Southern tradition, part spectacle, the Kentucky Derby hat parade is much of what makes “The Greatest Two Minutes in Sports” one of the greatest people-watching events in the world.

Mint Julep

The Mint Julep has been the traditional beverage of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby for nearly a century. Each year, almost 120,000 Mint Juleps are served over the two-day period of Kentucky Oaks and Kentucky Derby weekend at Churchill Downs Racetrack. This requires more than 10,000 bottles of Old Forester Mint Julep Ready-to-Serve Cocktail, 1,000 pounds of freshly harvested mint and 60,000 pounds of ice.

The Old Forester Mint Julep Recipe

3 oz. Old Forester Mint Julep
0.75 oz. Simple Syrup
8-10 mint leaves
3 mint sprigs, far garnish
Pack mint julep cup with crushed ice. In a mixing glass, combine bourbon, syrup, and mint leaves. Lightly bruise mint leaves with a muddler, strain contents into julep cup. Garnish with 3 generous sprigs of mint. *Make sure to slap mint and insert straw into ice near mint.

2020 Kentucky Derby winner

Authentic
Jockey: John Velazquez
Trainer: Bob Baffert
 Owners: Spendthrift Farm LLC, MyRaceHorse Stable, Madaket Stables LLC and Starlight Racing.
Time: 2:00.61

Source: Kentuckyderby.com

White Cane Drive a success

Members of the Linden Lions Club would like to thank the community for supporting their successful White Cane Drive. These donations go to support the Leader Dogs for the Blind. Shown at right is Linden Lions Club member Dan Embury collecting donations April 24.
By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Playing tri-county rivals has been challenging for the Lake Fenton varsity softball team.

Three days after being swept by Fenton, the Blue Devils were swept by the Holly Bronchos at home Monday.

The first game was close. The Bronchos won the first contest 6-5 and won the second game 8-3.

The contest was tied 5-all entering the seventh. In it, Bella Lockitski hit a one-out single and moved to third on two wild pitches. Maggie Boehm followed with a suicide squeeze play, plating Lockitski with her bunt.

Lake Fenton had a great chance to either tie the contest or win it in the bottom of the seventh. Christina Lamb singled and moved to second on a ground out by Macy Phillips. Sydney Baker followed with an infield single just above Holly starting pitcher Boehm’s head, putting runners on first and third. However, the threat and game ended on a pop out.

The Bronchos took a 4-0 lead in the top of the first. The big hits were an Audrey Combs RBI-single and a three-run double by Hunter Weeder. The lead grew by another run in the top of the second inning. With one out, Autumn Lewis walked, stole second, went to third on a passed ball and scored on Lockitski’s double.

The Blue Devils spent most of the game cutting into the lead and they eventually tied it. In the bottom of the second, the Blue Devils scored their first run. Phillips started the threat with a walk and advanced on Baker’s single. She eventually scored on a wild pitch. The Holly lead was 5-1.

In the third, the Blue Devils scored two more runs. With two out, Kaylie Terburgh singled, and went to second on a passed ball. She scored on Lamb’s single.

See BRONCHOS on 15

Wolves capture weekend tourney title, defeat Swartz Creek Dragons

By David Troppens

The Linden/Fenton varsity boys co-op lacrosse team is having a pretty successful season.

In recent days, the team’s success has been elevated. The Wolves went 4-0 in two days, beating Swartz Creek in Metro competition and they followed that up by winning the Bay City Central Tournament on Saturday.

“We’ve been able to play a lot of games and been able to practice a lot in between games and the guys are starting to jell,” Linden/Fenton boys lacrosse coach Steve James said. “There is a lot better on-field communication and it’s resulting in more scoring, and our defense is doing better.

See WOLVES on 15

Fenton’s Mike Crane hands off the baton to teammate Aiden Brzezinski. Photo: David Troppens

Fenton boys track wins at Tri-County Invitational

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity track program had a strong showing at the Tri-County Invitational.

The boys won the male side while the Fenton girls took third on the female side.

The Fenton boys collected seven event firsts with Brandon Miller being involved in four. Individually, Miller won the 100 (10.98) and the 200 (22.52) while teaming with Noah Sage, Donovan Miller and Evan Koch to win the 400 relay (44.04)

See FENTON on 12

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Foxy is such a fun, young girl who needs another dog in the home.

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Fenton
Continued from Page 11
and the 800 relay (1:31.55). Other Fenton
boys that earned individual firsts were
Sage in the 400 (49.49), Orion Schwind-
erson in the pole vault (10-6) and Justin
Miller in the high jump (6-6). The 3,200
relay team of Samuel Cox, Nathan Kat-
ic, Mike Crane and Aidan Brzezinski
(8:52.16) also won. For the girls Victoria
Henson won the high jump (4-10) while
Libbie Maier won the pole vault (6-6).

The Fenton girls also had five indi-
vidual top-three performances. They
were earned by Taylor Huntoon, second
in the 400 (1:02.75); Sophia Crane, third
in the 100 (13.83); Emma Dube, third in
the 200 (29.03); Nina Frost in the 3,200
(12:15.84) and Isabella Henson, third in
the long jump (14-8 3/4).

Other Fenton boys to earn individual
top-three efforts included Sage, second
in the 200 (23.23); Cox, third in the
1,600 (4:47.32); Crane, third in the 3,200
(10:24.85); Schwinderson, third in the 110
hurdles (19.00), Josh Thompson, second
in the shot put (42-3 1/4); Lance Chod-
dacki, second in the pole vault (10-0); and
Chase Gibson, third in the pole vault (9-0).

By David Troppens
Lake Fenton — It was a battle of
two strong tri-county softball teams on
Friday when Linden faced off against
Lake Fenton. The Eagles came away
with an impressive doubleheader sweep
defeating the Blue Devils 5-4 and 14-3.

The first game was a pitchers’ duel
for a long time between Linden’s
Jordyn Hobson and Lake Fenton’s
Camryn McMillan. The opening run
wasn’t scored until Linden’s fourth
inning. Maddie Morse walked and
Emma Mossing singled. With two
out, Morse scored on a wild pitch.

The score remained 1-0 until Lin-
den’s sixth when Morse and Hannah
Bollinger hit back-to-back singles. On
Bollinger’s single, an error enabled
Morse to score, making it a 2-0 lead.

The lead grew to 5-0 in the top of
the seventh. Haley Ludwig, Cassie
Sylvester and Mikayla Timm hit con-
secutive singles loading the bases. Liv
Burke hit an RBI-single and Megan
Widner followed with a sacrifice fly.
Hobson singled, and an out later Bol-
linger hit a two-out RBI-
single.

Anyone thinking the
game was over entering
the bottom of the seventh
was dead wrong. The Blue
Devils put together a great
rally, giving themselves a
shot to possibly tie or win
the game. Sydney Baker
doubled and an out later,
Addison Fitzgerald hit
an RBI-single. Caleigh
McNeill singled and Mc-
Millan followed with an
RBI-single. After a Christ-
tina Lamb single, the lead
was down to 5-4 with the
game-tying run on base.
However, the game ended
on a ground out.

Until the seventh, Hob-
son was dominant on the
mound. She went the distance,
allowing eight hits and three walks while striking
out nine. McMillan also went the distance
for Lake Fenton and struck out nine.

By David Troppens
FLaX Heat dominates Swartz Creek, 17-8

It was a battle of unbeat-
s in Metro League play when the Fenton/Linden
coop varsity girls lacrosse team faced
off against Swartz Creek Friday night.

The FLaX Heat proved why they
are the defending league champions by
crushing the Dragons 17-8.

The contest was tied 1-1, but soon
after that the Heat had two four-goal
bursts, blowing the game open during
the opening half. The Heat led 9-3 with
1:15 left in the opening half. By half-
time the squad led 12-3.

The second half was more balanced
but that’s all the Heat needed it to be
considering they were up by nine goals
entering the second half.

The defense played well. Swartz
Creek had averaged 16 goals in its
previous three Metro contests, but was
held to half of that. Defenders like Kyla
Lynch, Holly Fijolek, Maggie Cates
and Sam Enright had strong games, as
did goalkeeper Lauren Gangwer. Gang-
wer saved 12 of the 20 shots she faced.

Offensively, Lara Kemp had a strong
game, scoring six goals and dishing off

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM
By David Troppens

**Lake Fenton** — It’s been a frustrating season for the Lake Fenton varsity baseball team.

Due to COVID-19 issues, the squad couldn’t start competing until Saturday.

However, the Blue Devils are trying to catch up with most of the state and played their second and third games of the season at home against one of the hottest teams in the state, the Holly Bronchos.

The Bronchos won their ninth and 10th straight contests defeating the Blue Devils 10-1 and 13-1.

The opening game remained close for about half of the contest. Holly jumped to a 2-0 lead in the top of the second. Logan Winstead and Nolan Jenkinson hit RBI-singles to produce the runs.

The Blue Devils scored a run in the bottom of the third. Kam Wright walked, Mason Cook reached base on an error and Zac Hampsall singled, loading the bases. The run scored on Kenny Wright’s RBI-fielder’s choice grounder.

Holly added a run in the top of the fourth when Chris Walton singled and scored on Jenkinson’s single. It was the fifth that started blowing the contest open when the squad scored four runs in the fifth. The run-producing hits of the stanza were a Walton RBI-single and a Jacob Pittenger two-run single.

The final Holly runs came with three in the top of the seventh. Jenkinson, Christian Sells and Mason Yoder had consecutive RBI-singles during the stanza.

Jenkinson started on the mound and got the victory for Holly. He tossed 4 1/3 innings of one-run ball, striking out four and allowing three hits. Clark tossed 2 2/3 innings of shutout relief, allowing two hits and striking out one.

Holly dominated the nightcap as Yoder and Clark combined to toss a one-hitter over five innings.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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**Fenton bats dominate in Tigers’ twinbill sweep vs. Brandon**

By David Troppens

For most of the varsity baseball season, the Fenton Tigers have struggled trying to score runs.

That wasn’t a problem on Monday.

The Tigers (4-2 in the Metro and 4-5-1 overall) collected 15 hits in both games of a doubleheader, crushing the Brandon Blackhawks 15-4 in five innings in the first game and an 18-2 victory in another five-inning contest in the second game.

Fenton jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning of the opening game. The run-producing hits were an RBI-single by Connor Luck and a two-run single by Brenden Phillips. The Tigers followed the first with a four-run second. Eddie Briand hit an RBI-single while Kyle Crow followed with an RBI-double. Brett Jackman also drove in a run with a sacrifice fly. Fenton led 7-0.

Brandon scored a run in the bottom of the third, but the Tigers followed with four more runs in the top of the third.

Luck hit a two-run single and Peyton Jackson drove in a run with a bases loaded walk. Jake Durant plated the final run with a sacrifice fly. Fenton led 11-1.

Brandon scored two more runs in the third and another in the fourth, cutting the gap to 11-4, but Fenton helped set up the five-inning, 10-run mercy rule with four more runs in the fifth. Crow and Gavin Diamond each doubled in a run while Spencer Luck hit an RBI-single. The final run scored on a walk to Luck with the bases loaded.

Crow and Connor Luck had three hits each while Lance Barkholz, Briand and Spencer Luck had two hits each. On the mound, Barkholz pitched the first four innings and got the victory. Spencer Luck pitched a shutout inning of relief.

The Tigers always led in the second game as well. A two-run single by Brendan Phillips gave Fenton a 2-0 lead in the top of the first.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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Horoscopes

**ARIES**
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you have a unique perspective, and sometimes you appear uninterested in the opinions of others. But this week it is best to be humble and accept other thoughts.

**TAURUS**
Apr 20/May 20
Taurus, you routinely put caring for others ahead of caring for yourself. This compassion is commendable, but you can’t offer help if you aren’t in top form.

**GEMINI**
May 21/Jun 20
Gemini, let others bring up issues with you rather than prying. Your willingness to lend an ear is well-known, and others will come to you on their own.

**CANCER**
Jun 21/Jul 22
It may be tempting to slack off when supervisors are not looking, Cancer. However, a lack of discipline now may have a trickle-down effect in the future. Stay focused.

**LEO**
Jul 23/Aug 22
You may not be sure if you should pursue an opportunity that is before you, Leo. Consider your skills and talents and be honest with what you are capable of accomplishing.

**VIRGO**
Aug 23/Sept 22
Even though it can be risky to express your true feelings, especially when you go against popular opinion, don’t shy away from being true to yourself.

**LIBRA**
Sept 23/Oct 22
Your head is pushing you in a practical direction, Libra. Yet your heart wants you to go a different way. Try to find a balance between both scenarios.

**SCORPIO**
Oct 23/Nov 21
Scorpio, others are ready and willing to offer advice if they sense you need it. While you can be open to suggestions, don’t follow others’ dreams if they aren’t your own.

**SAGITTARIUS**
Nov 22/Dec 21
You may be conflicted about telling someone you need a little personal space, Sagittarius. But it’s not good to suffer through situations that make you unhappy.

**CAPRICORN**
Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, even though you cannot please everyone, you can do what is necessary to make yourself happy. Make this your primary goal this week.

**AQUARIUS**
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, people may misunderstand your intentions when you start a new project. You don’t have to please everyone right now. The end result will be met with positive responses.

**PISCES**
Feb 19/Mar 20
Moving on from an emotional situation can be taxing, Pisces. But it may be necessary right now and could make you stronger in the long run.
**BRONCHOS**

Continued from Page 11

Lake Fenton regained the lead with two runs in the fourth. With one out, Lamb reached base on an error and scored on Libby Boehm’s RBI-double.

Lake Fenton’s Hannah Hooker is welcomed at home plate after hitting a home run. **Photo: David Troppens**

Holly scored runs in each of the final three innings.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

**WOLVES**

Continued from Page 11

The Wolves (7-5) won the tournament by beating Bay City Central 13-3, Sault Ste. Marie 10-3 and Holly/Brandon 9-2.

Mitchell Luck and Chase Everhard were the offensive leaders at the meet.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

**Online Stories**

**STORIES ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM**

**Fenton girls soccer wins third straight contest**

The Fenton varsity girls soccer team began the season with an 0-3-1 record.

However, life is changing for the Tigers. Since that start, Fenton has won three straight games. The two most recent wins were an 8-0 victory against Corunna on Thursday and a 3-1 victory against Clio on Monday.

Against Clio, Rylan Sheffield scored the game’s first goal.

**Holly softball squad posts DH sweep vs. Onaway**

The Holly varsity softball team’s bats showed up against Onaway.

The Bronchos collected 23 hits and 31 runs in just nine innings, earning a non-league doubleheader sweep, Saturday.

The Bronchos scored eight runs in the second inning of the first game and ended up winning 15-7 in six innings.

That would be Owosso starting pitcher Macy Irelan.

Irelan allowed just one run over two games as the Eagles were swept by Owosso 2-0 and 8-1.

Lake Fenton soccer shuts down Dragons, 4-0

The Lake Fenton varsity girls soccer team’s strong start to the season continued on Monday.

The Blue Devils won their fourth game out of five this season, defeating the Schwartz Creek Dragons 4-0.
Employment

FULL TIME EMPLOYEE NEEDED
at a metal shop in Fenton. General Labor. Full medical after 60 days and 401k after one year. Starting pay is $15 per hour. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Knowledge of hand tools and measuring instruments a plus. Must speak fluent English. High School diploma preferred. New applicants will be grinding parts and sandblasting but may be required to hold torch or run CNC spinning lathe. Job requires 8 hours a day on your feet. Accepting applications at Precision Metal Spinning 1120 Fenway Circle, Fenton, MI 48430. Or email resume to brian@precisionmetalspinning.com.

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LINDEN APRIL 30TH- MAY 1ST 9-4PM MAY 2ND 10-2PM
STREET EXPERIENCE
Continued from Front Page

According to a memo from Michael Hart, assistant city manager and executive director of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to City Manager Lynn Markland, Hart said the bulk of the feedback was positive and it was deemed a success.

Hart said one of the takeaways was the appreciation from the public and especially families, to have pedestrian use of the streets on Thursday and Friday evenings, besides helping the businesses.

This summer, the city plans to offer the use of sidewalks downtown for restaurants/bars during the week, and all businesses use of the sidewalks and streets Thursday and Friday evenings from 5 to 9 p.m.

With health, safety and welfare in mind, Hart said they have created a number of mini events to supplement the Fenton Street Experience during the four months of operation — from May 20 and 21 to Oct. 14 and 15, in addition to the Farmers Market on Thursdays.

Street closures

Impacted streets: Shiawassee Avenue from Adelaide Street to LeRoy Street and LeRoy Street from Shiawassee Avenue to Caroline Street, and any other city streets designated by the city’s police chief.

During the street closures, no parking will be allowed on the closed streets. A 12-foot safety lane will be maintained for emergency vehicles at all times.

All businesses using expanded outdoor seating and retail space are responsible for the nightly removal of all trash and debris from the outdoor location they occupied.

Businesses applying for expanded outdoor seating or retail space must possess a valid certificate of occupancy from the city’s building department.

To qualify for expanded seating or retail space, businesses must submit an application to the city of Fenton on a form available on the city’s website cityoffenton.org and abide by all requirements.

Businesses, families and individuals took to the streets for the Fenton Street Experience in 2020. The street closures provided expanded revenue opportunities for businesses downtown.

Times file photo
Obituaries

Albert John Parks
1952 – 2021

Albert John Parks - age 68, of Holly, died Sunday, April 25, 2021. Funeral services with social distancing restrictions will be held at 11 AM Friday, April 30 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly with Pastor Linda-Living Hawley officiating. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 2 - 9 PM Thursday, April 29, with social distancing measures. Surviving are his wife, Marsha; three children, Albert John (Anna Burns) Parks Jr., DeAnna (Jeff) Bloom, and Andy (Adrienne Messenger) Parks; four grandchildren, Travis, Ethan, Ace, and Anna; sisters and brother, Barbara (Buddy) McLeighton, Bo (Peggy Sue) Box, and Suzie McKay; and his dogs, Max and Mollie. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Virginia Stewart; and brother, Robert Parks. The family gives special thanks to all the friends that supported Albert through his long illness. Memorial donations may be made to the ALS Association of Michigan.

Robert Andrew Chapin
1979 - 2021

Robert Andrew Chapin - age 41, of Fenton, went to be with his Savior, unexpectedly, but peacefully on Saturday, April 24, 2021. Private services will be held (the service will be live-streamed at 2 PM Sunday, May 2, 2021 on Robert’s obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com). Public visitation will be held from 2 - 6 PM Saturday, May 1, and 12 - 2 PM Sunday, May 2, at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Private burial in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Those desiring may make contributions c/o Sharp Funeral Homes. Rob was born July 1, 1979 in Belding. He was creative and artistic, loved his dogs, and had a passion for the culinary arts. Rob had a playful nature and was the best uncle a kid could ask for. He loved people for who they were, and where they were, with no judgment and no expectation. Surviving are his parents, Andrea Ulicny-Chapin and William Chapin; sisters, Becky (Karl) Redmer, Katie (Dennis Fisher) Frink, Liz Chapin, Sarah Trollman, Rachel (Garrett Cloutier) Chapin, Debbie (Keith) Tester; niece and nephews, Garett, Brady and Isaac Redmer, Abraham and Samuel Frink, JoJo Trollman, Andrea V. Chapin, Charlie Cloutier, Jacob and Thomas Tester; numerous aunts; uncles; and cousins. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
Michael Scott Sekulich
1964 – 2021

His Legacy... Michael Scott Sekulich - age 57, of Fenton passed away Friday, April 23, 2021. He was born in Pontiac, on March 11th, 1964 to Steve and Mary Lou (Newton) Sekulich. Mike was an exceptional Hockey player at Hartland High School and after graduation in 1982 took his talents and goals to Ferris State University where he continued to excel in being a teammate and student. His professional career included titles such as Sales Manager for Shakespeare Rods and Reels and charter boat operator. Ultimately Mike discovered his passion for landscape design, management, and sales and eventually became a proud business owner. Mike did not just reshape people’s landscapes; he reshaped their life in some way. His knowledge and humor were infectious and when the project was done, you somehow ended up with a new friend. Mike enjoyed a vast number of hobbies. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved playing cards and telling a great story. He had a passion for the maize and blue and sports viewing/listening was a must. He was a gourmet cook who loved to be in the kitchen and grill. Most importantly, he will always be remembered as someone who wanted to give more than he received. His Family... Mike had a passionate love for his family, his fiancée, Kathleen Hatcher; her son, Jeff (Michelle) Hawkins; daughter, Kelly (Adam) Urrutia; and grandchildren, Catalina, Parker Summers; his beloved granddaughter, Emery Summers; his brothers, Mark (Natalia) Sekulich, Brad (Rose) Sekulich; and his sister, Amy (Kevin) Harrington. Mike embraced and loved his extended family in the Upper Peninsula, Brenda (David) Muhlenbeck, Bonnie Harrison, and Penny (Matt) Waccholz. He was a caring Uncle to two nieces, Anna (Joel) Korth and Abigail Harrington; and two nephews, Brad (Brooke) Sekulich and Bailey Harrington. He is preceded in death by Mary Lou (Newton) Sekulich; Dawn Summers Labutte Sekulich, William Sekulich, Mary Sekulich, Eva Hoy. His Farewell...Mike’s family and friends will gather from 2 - 8 PM, Friday April 30, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Private funeral services will be held. Mike’s service will be live streamed and may be viewed on his obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Interment following at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. Those desiring may make contributions to the American Cancer Society. Joseph was born November 24, 1928 in Detroit, the son of Joseph Charles and Rose Lillian (Smarsch) Cherup, Sr. He was a 1946 graduate of Redford High School and a 1955 graduate of Detroit College of Applied Sciences. Cocktail Lounge and many other types of businesses including Manufacturing with Revolution DC. He is survived by nieces and nephews, John A. Barnstead of Nova Scotia, Joseph R. Barnstead of Indianapolis, IN, Rose M. Barnstead of Sugar Land, TX, and Patricia A. Barnstead of Indianapolis, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Dolores Barnstead. Online Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Joseph Charles Cherup, Jr.
1928 – 2021

Joseph Charles Cherup, Jr. - age 92, of Fenton, passed away Saturday, April 24 2021. Visitation will be 1 - 5 PM Sunday, May 2 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Private Funeral Services will be held and may be viewed by live stream at 12 Noon Monday, May 3 at Joseph’s page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War and was a life member of the VFW currently with the Fenton Post 3243. Joseph owned and operated The Tradewinds Dryer and Rods and Reels and charter services for landscape design, management, and sales and eventually became a proud business owner. Mike did not just reshape people’s landscapes; he reshaped their life in some way. His knowledge and humor were infectious and when the project was done, you somehow ended up with a new friend. Mike enjoyed a vast number of hobbies. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved playing cards and telling a great story. He had a passion for the maize and blue and sports viewing/listening was a must. He was a gourmet cook who loved to be in the kitchen and grill. Most importantly, he will always be remembered as someone who wanted to give more than he received. His Family... Mike had a passionate love for his family, his fiancée, Kathleen Hatcher; her son, Jeff (Michelle) Hawkins; daughter, Kelly (Adam) Urrutia; and grandchildren, Catalina, Parker Summers; his beloved granddaughter, Emery Summers; his brothers, Mark (Natalia) Sekulich, Brad (Rose) Sekulich; and his sister, Amy (Kevin) Harrington. Mike embraced and loved his extended family in the Upper Peninsula, Brenda (David) Muhlenbeck, Bonnie Harrison, and Penny (Matt) Waccholz. He was a caring Uncle to two nieces, Anna (Joel) Korth and Abigail Harrington; and two nephews, Brad (Brooke) Sekulich and Bailey Harrington. He is preceded in death by Mary Lou (Newton) Sekulich; Dawn Summers Labutte Sekulich, William Sekulich, Mary Sekulich, Eva Hoy. His Farewell...Mike’s family and friends will gather from 2 - 8 PM, Friday April 30, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Private funeral services will be held. Mike’s service will be live streamed and may be viewed on his obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Interment following at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. Those desiring may make contributions to the American Cancer Society. Joseph was born November 24, 1928 in Detroit, the son of Joseph Charles and Rose Lillian (Smarsch) Cherup, Sr. He was a 1946 graduate of Redford High School and a 1955 graduate of Detroit College of Applied Sciences. Cocktail Lounge and many other types of businesses including Manufacturing with Revolution DC. He is survived by nieces and nephews, John A. Barnstead of Nova Scotia, Joseph R. Barnstead of Indianapolis, IN, Rose M. Barnstead of Sugar Land, TX, and Patricia A. Barnstead of Indianapolis, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Dolores Barnstead. Online Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Edith Mae Miner
1922 - 2021

Edith Mae Miner - age 98, of Holly died Sunday, April 25, 2021. She was born in Atlanta, MI on July 10, 1922 to Ralph and Winifred (Milner) Wyllys. She was a former employee of the Holly Spring Factory, a member of the Fenton United Presbyterian Church, and she loved traveling, doll collecting, gardening, antiques, and Holly Red Hat Society activities. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Carol (the late Floyd) Wyllys; step-children, Pam and Vernona; nieces, Marsha Juarez and Julie Greenfield; and numerous grandchildren; nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband’s, Ed Barbersek and Vernon Miner; sons, Don (Jan) Barbersek and Ralph Barbersek; and brother, Floyd Wyllys. Visitations will be from 4 - 7 PM Friday, April 30, 2021. Private Memorial services will be held at 4 PM Saturday, May 1, at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Memorial donations may be made to the Holly Fire Department. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

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