

INSIDE:
**SPECIAL
PAGES
DEDICATED TO
CAR CARE**



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\$1.00

Schools plan in-person graduation ceremonies

■ Fenton principal talks difficulties in planning events

By Hannah Ball

Last year, school districts were forced

to drastically change graduation plans due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

School districts are returning to in-person ceremonies this year, while adhering to state regulations.

As of May 6, masks are not required outdoors unless an event has 100 or more

people. Large outdoor gatherings can exceed the 1,000 person limit as long as they create and post a safety plan consistent with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services large outdoor event guidance, with no more than 20 people per 1,000 square foot.

FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fenton High School graduation will take place Sunday, May 30 at 2 p.m., on the football field.

Superintendent Adam Hartley said, "It is our goal to host graduation and all end See **GRADUATION** on 7

Gas price up 16 cents in past month

■ Tightening supply puts pressure on pump prices, resulting in a double digit spike in Michigan

Gas prices in Michigan are up 16 cents compared to last week, according to AAA. Michigan drivers are now paying an average of \$2.96 per gallon for regular unleaded, which is the highest price since October 2018.

This price is 16 cents more than this time last month and \$1.14 more than this time last year.

Motorists are paying an average of \$44 for a full 15-gallon tank of gasoline; an increase of

See **GAS** on 6



This horse sculpture made by artist James Oleson, called "Rise," is in front of the Fenton Post Office. It's one of the new art installments that was placed around downtown last week. Fenton participates in the program, run by The Midwest Sculpture Initiative, in which municipalities can rent artwork for a year and have the option to buy the pieces. Behind Your Design created a brochure and map for a walking tour of the nine new sculptures. See the map online at tctimes.com. Photo: Hannah Ball

Linden discusses food truck ordinance

■ Councilors say 500-foot rule might be too limiting

By Hannah Ball

The Linden City Council didn't make any motions on a potential mobile food vehicle vending ordinance on Monday, May 10, but the council made suggestions and changes. They're expected to discuss it more and vote on it at a later date.

On Monday, Dec. 14, 2020, the council enacted a moratorium on food trucks in the city. This lasted until April 29, and on Monday, April 26, the council extended the moratorium another 30 days

See **FOOD TRUCK** on 2



“Such a lovely horse sculpture in front of the Fenton Post Office. It's a great way to

remember a time when the horse and buggy was the form of transportation and liveries were scattered throughout the city.”



“Thank you to the kind women who bought my girls stuffed animals at Michaels.

You made their day and my baby has to have that bird every night. It is nice to see people still care.”



“I let someone in to merge on U.S. 23 and they stuck their hand out the window and waved. Is this something new?”



FOOD TRUCK

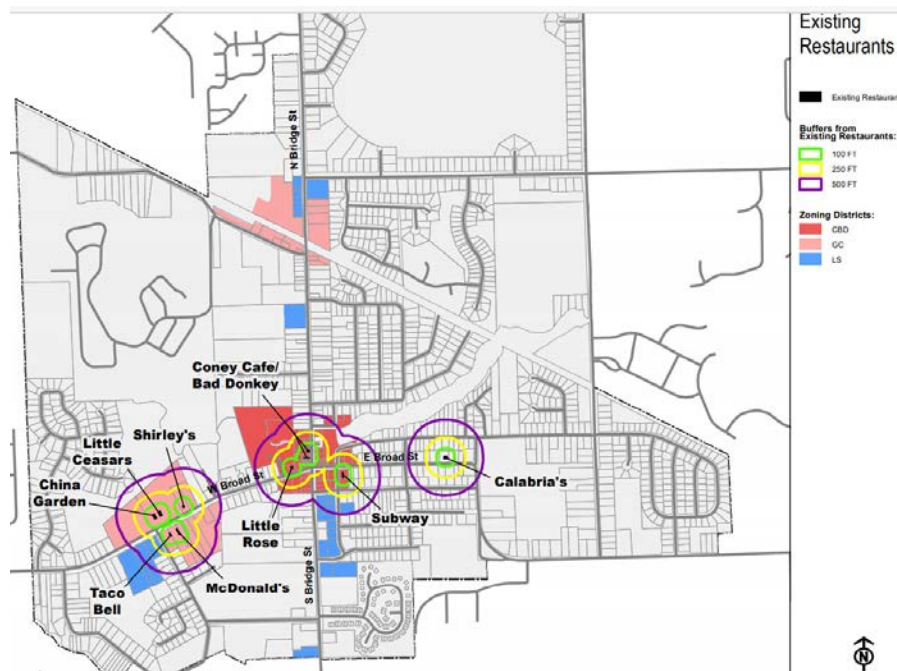
Continued from Front Page

to give them time to consider and adopt an ordinance. See the entire suggested ordinance online at lindenmi.us under the meeting packet for the Monday, May 10 meeting.

The ordinance would not apply to “mobile food vehicle vendors operating at community events approved by the City Council.” The council discussed making it clear in the language that property owners would be able to apply for a permit to allow food trucks downtown.

No fees would be placed on a business already on the city’s tax roll whose normal business includes the sale of food and/or beverages. The ordinance also allows for single event permits for events on private property for one day. No mobile food vehicle operation shall be conducted within a public street or other public property.

“An exception may be granted by the City Council only for a single special event permit sponsored by a religious, charitable or nonprofit organization or for a special event permit that does not involve direct retail sales to the public,”



the ordinance states.

“In addition to signage placed on mobile food vehicles, one (1) A-frame sign may be permitted during operating hours,” the ordinance states. No flashing, blinking or strobe lights would be allowed.

One topic the council had discussion

over on May 10 was suggested language that states the mobile food and/or beverage vendors cannot operate within 500 feet of an existing brick and mortar restaurant when they’re open.

City Manager Ellen Glass said they enacted the moratorium and ordinance due to feedback from local restaurants who were struggling during the pandemic. They created a map to see where food trucks would be allowed to operate with the 500-foot rule.

Brad Dick, councilor and planning commissioner, said the 500-foot rule would not apply to food trucks able to operate under a special event permit, which he said would override the rest of the ordinance.

“It really does limit it in the downtown area. Five hundred feet is a large distance in the city of Linden,” said Ray Culbert, councilor and planning commissioner.

Councilor Heather MacDermaid said 500 feet is too big and that 250 feet would be more appropriate. Dick said if the limit was 100 feet, there still wouldn’t be much space for them to operate downtown without a special event permit when other restaurants were open.

Councilor Aaron Wiens asked if there’s evidence on what impact food

trucks have on brick-and-mortar restaurants, and he said that food trucks are gaining popularity in certain areas. Glass said she wasn’t aware of any studies on the impact, but she said during large events, she’s heard from restaurants that it’s helpful to have food trucks to alleviate the demand from customers.

The council will discuss the ordinance at a later meeting.

Councilors agreed that there should be a cap on the number of permits a property owner can request, and that food truck owners should not be able to request them.

Shane and Brent Thomas are owners of the Pit Boss Smokehouse. They had planned to bring the food truck to Symphony in Linden on Wednesday, April 28, but weren’t able to after the city council rejected the permit to allow a food truck. The original moratorium on food trucks expired a few days after that date, but the council voted to extend it.

Shane Thomas said it was never their intention to set up the food truck in Linden for pop up events. All of their events were canceled during the pandemic, including weddings, open houses and agreements with a brewery in Oxford that had to close due to the state pandemic orders.

“We pretty much had nowhere to work. It was never our plan to be doing

pop ups. We were just trying to do any parades they asked us to do,” she said, which included the Frosty Parade, Riverfest and other Linden events that they would be invited to. They’re “booked solid” for this summer.

Thomas said they don’t believe that they were taking any business away from brick-and-mortar restaurants in Linden. They’ve never been asked to apply for a permit in other municipalities, and she doesn’t expect they will bring the food truck to Linden.

“It saddens me,” she said.

They started Pit Boss Smokehouse two years ago. Their son graduated from Linden High School last year, and their other child also attends Linden schools.

“It really does limit it in the downtown area. Five hundred feet is a large distance in the city of Linden.”

Ray Culbert
Linden councilor and planning commissioner

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Part V: Decline in applications a nationwide issue

■ Fenton Township fire chief says one of their biggest challenges is not having municipal water to fight fires

By Sharon Stone

It's a common problem, retaining enough trained firefighters for a paid on-call fire department.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz shares stats on the township's fire department, which covers approximately Fenton Township's 36 square miles and the portion of Tyrone Township west of U.S. 23.

Top officers:

Chief Ryan L. Volz, 30 years
Capt. Stephen Haiser, 13 years
Lt. Theresa Hajec, 24 years
Lt. Michael Schwiuntek, 37 years

Full time employees: One, the fire chief

Number of paid on call employees: 17

Annual Budget: \$630,000, which is generated each year with the fire assessment and the contracted service



Ryan Volz



Multiple fire departments battle a house fire on Grove Park Road in Fenton Township on Thursday, April 8. The two-story home on Lake Fenton, near the public boat launch, was built in 1917. Neighbors called 911 to report the fire. *Times file photo*

agreement with Tyrone Township. This money is used for equipment, training, payroll, fuel and our day-to-day operations.

Medical calls per year:

350 (2020)

Structure fires per year:

28 (2020)

Traffic crashes per year:

35 (2020)

Average response time for Tier

1 medicals: 7min (2020). Fenton
See **CHIEF** on 8

“One of our biggest challenges that we face is not having municipal water. All of our water comes from tankers and engines, from our neighboring communities.”

Ryan Volz

Fenton Township fire chief

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Sharin' the spotlight

By Editor Sharon Stone

The Tyrone Township Board of Trustees will look at the possibility of facilitating the move and preservation of the 150-year-old township hall, commonly referred to by longtime residents as Town House.

During a casual conversation with Herman Ferguson, who was elected in November 2020, he said he loves history and would like to see the building saved. He's hopeful that the building's historical significance will survive and remain useful.

Supervisor Mike Cunningham, who's served on the board since 2010, said the 600-square-foot building was not used in years and had become a junk room and a home to small critters. This building sits just feet away from the former township hall. The property was sold last year and the township offices relocated to another building. He sifted through the papers, boxes and cabinets, cleaned out the place and eventually had it painted and the floors sanded. The building has a furnace in the center of the room, three old voting booths and electricity. It does not have a bathroom.

Mike said when the township sold the property, the historical building

was part of that deal. He said there's a pending extension that would give the township until November 2022 to decide what to do with the building.

The Tyrone Township Board strives to have the lowest taxes possible and do not intend to use any taxpayer money to save the old hall.

There's so much involved with moving an old building and Mike and Herm anticipate a good discussion during the township's next meeting Tuesday, May 18, via Zoom.

Mike says the board needs to ask the residents what they want to do with the building and how it can be



Sharon Stone

used. He said based on previous feedback, there was not much interest in saving it, but you never know, there could be sentimental attachments to the building.

Mike said Herm has expressed interest with working with residents and the historical society to see if there is interest and ideas to come up with the approximately \$100,000 price tag.

Residents are encouraged to share their opinions and any fundraising ideas if they believe the township should proceed with facilitating this project.

If you'd like to have your voices heard, join the township's meeting.

Can the old township hall be saved?

Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at myfenton.com or text to 509-777-5295

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.

DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION have an event planned for this summer? Email Editor Sharon Stone at ssstone@tctimes so that the Times can share event details with its readers.

JEEP KEYS FOUND in Bush Park. Claim them at the Fenton City Police Station.

THE TALE OF two cities is a story as old as time. Fenton's haves (DDA) and have-nots (citizens). I agree with previous commenter's call to defund the DDA. Fenton is more than just downtown business. It's time for neighborhoods to get the same attention as downtown.

APRIL'S NEW JOBS report was a quarter of the million jobs anticipated and Biden says we're on the right track? Open up the nation and stop paying people to stay home and not work with our hard-earned tax dollars.

STOP THE FEDERAL assistance that provides incentive for lazy people to not work. If you're home, you should be working from home. Quit sponging off the rest of us working and get your butts to work. BS on not being able to get a job.

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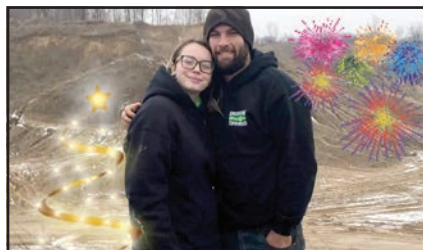
Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

What was your dream car as a kid? What's your dream car now?



"My dream car, when younger, was a 1970 GrandSport. Today my dream car is any small-mid size SUV that gets decent gas mileage."

Brad Jacob
Fenton



"As a child, it was a 1996 Lamborghini Diablo. Now it's 1987 Buick Grand National or 1993 GMC Typhoon. At one point I owned a Grand National and sold it for a more economical family car and regretted it since and a friend who has since past owned a typhoon."

Erik Packard, Fenton



"Convertible Corvette, then and now."

Paula Smith
Wixom



"1985 DeLorean. Then and now. 'Back to The Future' was my favorite growing up."

Shane Patrick Kelley
Fenton

streettalk

Mystery solved

■ Mom recognizes photo in Times of her twin daughters, returns to cemetery for new photo

By Sharon Stone

Learning the identity of the two little girls in this photo made Doug Tebo's day.

Tebo had reached out to the Times last week to see if the paper could help in his search of identifying and ultimately presenting a 15-year-old photo of two little girls that was taken at Oakwood Cemetery during the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the soldier's statue, which took place July 4, 2006.

The person who originally took the photo did not get the name of the girls' mother, and Tebo said because they were minors they decided to wait



THEN — Two unidentified little girls were photographed after they placed flowers at the flag pole at Oakwood Cemetery in 2006. **Submitted photo**

until the girls were grown to conduct their search.

Roxane M. Kaye wrote the Times to say that the girls in the photo are her twin daughters, Gracie (left) and Julia.

"We went to the memorial dedication and brought irises from our home for the girls to place by the dedication statue," Kaye said.

The girls are now juniors in high school. Gracie attends Lake Fenton



NOW — Twin sisters Gracie (left) and Julie Kaye returned to Oakwood Cemetery this past weekend to have another photo taken at the flagpole, the same flagpole where they placed flowers July 4, 2006. **Submitted photo**

High School and is active in sports, currently in the top 10 and in the National Honor Society. Julia attends Genesee County Early College and is in the National Honor Society and the Top 10.

To bring the mystery full circle, Kaye said she and her daughters went back to Oakwood Cemetery to take a new photo by the flagpole.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
I AM SORRY, Emily, but I see nothing positive coming from this pandemic except misery, and loss of freedom and liberty.

■■■
I HOPE THE Hot-liner complaining about big tech and freedom of speech either did not have high school civics or flunked it, because free speech in the Constitution applies only to government, not the private sector.

■■■
I WOULD LIKE to say thanks to those of you who practiced social distancing, wore masks and received the COVID vaccination. Because of your sacrifices, you helped reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

■■■
WE SAW SMILES this past weekend in local stores. Bravo, bravo!

■■■
THIS GOVERNMENT STIMULUS money is debt we American taxpayers will be on the hook for. Sure it's nice; any money you have saved in the bank is going to lose value big time. Prices of everything will go up hugely and never come down.

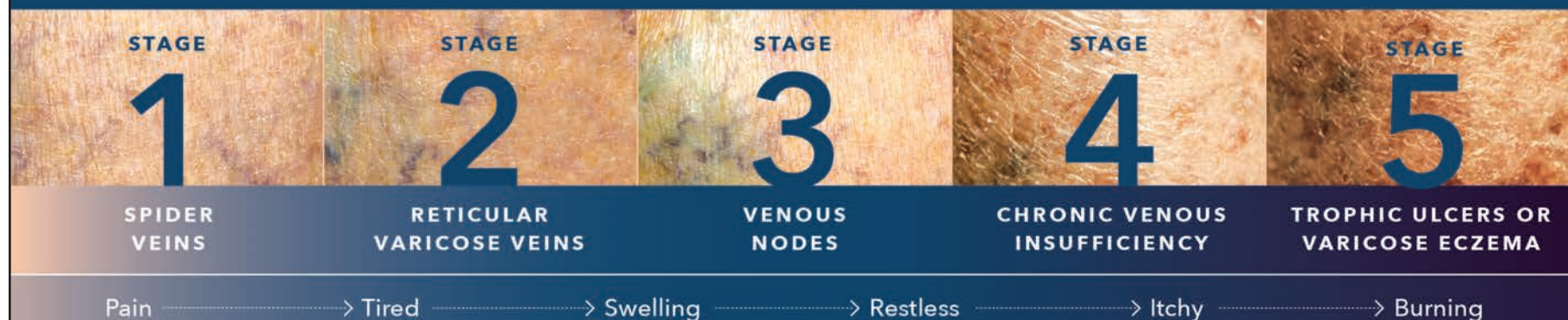
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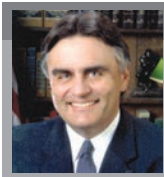
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**Mark McCabe**

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

The future of Zoom in the courtroom

Last week, I attended the 2021 Michigan Judicial Conference along with more than 600 other trial judges.

I can say without hesitation that I will always remember this conference for a number of reasons not the least being because none of us had to travel anywhere and instead we all attended the conference by Zoom.

This was a first for me and is but one of the many examples of how courts in the United States have adapted to the issues surrounding the pandemic to keep us all safe while functioning as fully as possible. Our Michigan Supreme Court has become a nationally recognized leader in this area for quickly implementing special procedural rules when the pandemic first hit, which included allowing the use of Zoom for conducting court sessions remotely.

So far, Michigan courts have logged over 3 million hours of Zoom hearings, which are live streamed on YouTube. These have been viewed nearly 38 million times.

Those are impressive numbers, but

the question has now become what happens to Zoom in the courtroom after the pandemic ends?

At this point, no one can fully answer that question. In Michigan, Chief Justice Bridget McCormack has been quoted as saying, "There is absolutely no doubt that we're not going back to what we used to do."

Currently, there is a consensus that matters such as scheduling, pretrials, settlement conferences, and uncontested cases could continue by Zoom.

However, when it comes to criminal cases involving the constitutional rights of defendants to confront their accusers most people agree Zoom is not appropriate.

It's the in-between cases which

present the most difficulty.

There are many issues to consider, among them being internet access; some people not fully appreciating that when on Zoom they are considered to be in court and having to be reminded that they can't smoke, be in bed, drive a car or not wear a shirt; and the sequestration of witnesses.

As to the latter, a domestic violence hearing was recently stopped in a St. Joseph County courtroom because the defendant was caught in the same apartment as the victim when she was testifying by Zoom.

Our Supreme Court is presently working on the final Zoom answer and when it is announced, I will make a full report.

GAS

Continued from Front Page

about \$5 from when prices were their highest last January.

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), total domestic refinery utilization increased to 86.5 percent amid a slight drop in demand from 8.88

million b/d to 8.86 million b/d. The demand decrease helped to limit price increases, but American drivers should expect continued price fluctuations at the pump in the lead up to Memorial Day Weekend.

At the close of the Thursday, May 6 formal trading session, WTI decreased by 92 cents to settle at \$64.71. Crude

prices increased last week, but continuing market concern that crude demand will stumble due to surging coronavirus infection rates around the globe have limited price gains.

Additionally, prices increased after EIA's weekly report revealed that total domestic crude oil inventory dropped by 8 million bbl to 485.1 million bbl.

"According to the EIA's weekly report, gas stocks in the Midwest decreased to the lowest levels since October of 2020," said Adrienne Woodland, spokesperson, AAA-The Auto Club Group. "The tightening supply put pressure on pump prices, resulting in a double digit spike in Michigan."

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy, said, "While average gas prices jumped last week as the nation continues to see COVID-19 recovery, all eyes are now on the Colonial Pipeline and the fact a cyberattack has completely shut all lines, leading to

what could become a major challenge for fuel delivery.

"The situation is growing more intense each day that passes without the pipeline restarting, and motorists are advised to show extreme restraint or exacerbate and prolong the challenges. If the pipeline returns to service in the next day or two, the challenges will be minimal, but if full restart doesn't happen by then, we're likely to see a slight rise in gas prices, but more importantly, challenges for motorists needing fuel in Georgia, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Virginia, Northern Florida and surrounding areas.

"I'm hopeful the situation will quickly improve as multiple levels of government are involved, this may become a nightmare should it continue just ahead of the start of the summer driving season. GasBuddy will continue to watch the situation and update as necessary."

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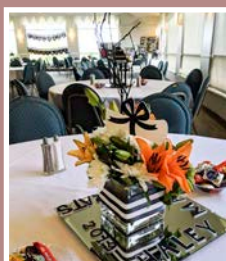
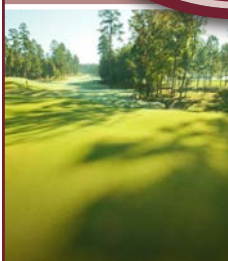
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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

DRIVER AND PASSENGER OF CRASH FLEE, PASSENGER CAUGHT

At 2 a.m. on Saturday, May 8, Fenton police were alerted to a single vehicle crash on northbound U.S. 23, near S. Long Lake Road and the bridge over the Shiawassee River. A GMC Sierra pickup truck had struck the end cap

of the guardrail, disabling the truck. Two occupants fled the scene. Police requested a K-9 unit and the passenger of the truck was apprehended in the area of S. Long Lake Road. From the investigation, police identified the driver, a 37-year-old Flint man, who was not apprehended. The truck was impounded and police are seeking an arrest warrant against the driver for leaving the scene of a crash and driving on a suspended license. The passenger was released. It is unknown if alcohol was a factor in the crash.

GRADUATION

Continued from Front Page

of year activities within the guidelines that are set forth by the state. Our Fenton High School (FHS) administration, staff, parents and students continue to work together to make this year's graduation one to remember and allow us to celebrate our outstanding seniors."

Laura Lemke, FHS principal, said planning graduation is like "planning and hosting a large wedding every year." Schools need to organize the venue, music, pictures, filming, guest lists, flowers, speakers, gowns and more.

Planning is different this year for numerous reasons.

"Because of the (ever changing) gathering restrictions in place as a result of COVID-19, this doesn't allow for long term planning which is needed for a big event like graduation," she said.

They cannot use the gym due to restrictions on in-door venues, so the venue is outside with a rain date back-up. Moving the event outdoors means considering costs for chairs and a stage, and they hired security to guard the graduation set up because it cannot be up all day. The district also has to pay overtime on a holiday to set up last minute items that cannot be left outside, and they have to set up all the technology required to host a graduation ceremony.

"You cannot just 'pull out the previous year's graduation playbook.' Everything has to be created from scratch for the new set of circumstances," she said.

They have limited tickets available.

"We have to know which families are blended, needing four tickets instead of two just to allow parents and step-parents to be in attendance. We have never limited tickets before, so this is a first for our community and a tough adjustment — but hopefully less tough than not having a full ceremony like in 2020," she said.

They're organizing to collect names and contact information in case they have to do contact tracing, and Lemke said they also will have staff check people in and enforce mask rules. Masks are currently required to be worn outside in large gatherings with more than 100 people.

Lemke said the class sponsors and students want to be all together as a class, which has not been possible this past year.

"They want that 'last hooray' so to

speak — having one last time together as a group before they go out into the world and forge their new futures. For that reason, multiple ceremonies have not been planned, as we are trying to honor that request," she said.

HOLLY AREA SCHOOLS

Holly Area Schools will host a socially distanced graduation ceremony at DTE Energy Music Theatre on Thursday, June 3, at 7 p.m.

"At Holly Area Schools, graduation season is a time to celebrate the many achievements of our Bronchos as they prepare for the next stages of their lives. Our goal all year has been to provide a traditional graduation ceremony, despite the COVID-19 pandemic. We will achieve that goal, and invite immediate family members and potentially extended family members to this very special event," said Superintendent Scott Roper.

LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The district has planned an in-person ceremony outdoors at Claude Cranston Field on Saturday June 5, at 7 pm. Linden High School Principal Darin Dreasky said they're looking at a 7 p.m. start due to the many sporting events that are scheduled on the same day.

"With the existing Emergency Orders and subsequent seating capacity limits, the biggest issue that we are facing is limiting the number of attendees. I am hopeful that some of the proposed legislation will allow for additional attendees at our outdoor in-person ceremony," he said.

Dreasky has been meeting with the senior class leadership group about the ceremony and that an in-person ceremony was always in the works.

"It will be nice to be able to provide our Class of 2021 with an in-person ceremony. We are certainly hoping for good weather on June 5," he said.

LAKE FENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Lake Fenton High School Principal Kate VanHouten said the ceremony will take place Sunday, June 6 at 5 p.m., on the football field. If there is a rain delay, it will be moved to Monday, June 7 at 5 p.m.

"Based on the current MDHHS orders, we will be able to have up to 1,000 spectators at the event. We are providing each graduate with six tickets for the ceremony," said Superintendent Julie Williams.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

EVERYONE SHOULD LEARN to handle differences like the TCT Hot line. All are welcome and no swearing — I love it.

I AGREE WITH the Hot-liner who said we need to stop wearing our masks in stores. It's just theatre at this point. They are useless and if you are actually still afraid, stay home and order your stuff online.

MARL DRIVE NEIGHBOR, please stop burning treated wood. If it is painted or used for on the ground or under, it's still treated wood.

NOTICE TO RETAILERS, if you scream at me to wear a mask, I will in the future walk out and make my purchase somewhere more customer friendly. Unbelievable. This madness must stop now.

THE WORST THING caused by the pandemic is the number of deaths. It also has killed our ability to travel freely. America is one of the best places to see. You meet the nicest people. My wife and I have been fortunate enough to travel a lot for 40 years.

I WOULD LIKE to ask the president of the village of Holly to assign one full-time person from the DPW to the Lakeside Cemetery to do routine maintenance and ensure that the graves are not vandalized, desecrated, or have things stolen from them, thank you.

IT WOULD BE educational for someone to explain to me the difference between lobbying and bribery. The only thing I come up with, one is a legal act, other a criminal act but remains the same act?

TO THE PERSON who doesn't want to punish large corporations and think they should pay their fair share. Here's a fact for you. The wealthiest people in this country pay over 40 percent of all income tax collected. No, I am not wealthy. I live on Social Security and work part time.

TIME FOR A reality check. These are facts. Donald Trump lost the election. Joe Biden is the president of the United States. Coronavirus is a real and deadly virus. The more vaccinations, the fewer number of daily COVID cases.



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Shown here are (from left) Village Manager Jerry Walker, Police Chief Jerry Narsh, Dancor team members Zack Davis and Gary Branch, and officers Brandon DeVita and Bob Goedertier.

Local business donates to Holly police

■ Funds will cover cost of protective vests for five officers

By Sharon Stone

Gary Branch, CEO of Dancor Services, Inc. with an office in Holly, approached Holly Village Councilmember Rick Powers on a way he and his business could assist Holly Police Department with a donation.

After meeting with Branch, Powers' desire was to help the police department in a positive and meaningful way. He knew several new officers and some veteran officers were in need of new issue or replacement protective vests.

Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh said a huge thank you goes to Branch and the crew at Dancor Services for a \$2,500 donation that will provide funds for five new vests for Holly police officers.

"We greatly appreciate your kindness and your donation helps fund a pressing need for officer safety," Narsh said of Branch.

Narsh said budget demands on small agencies are stressed from reductions in funding due to the impact of COVID on communities. "This type of help is invaluable to help us meet the needs of our officers' safety, thus better able to protect the public," Narsh said.

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- Honors or medals earned

CHIEF

Continued from Page 3

Township Fire Department does not run Tier 2 medicals, only lift assists
Average response to structure fires: 9 min (2020)

Average wage for paid on call firefighters: \$20 per hour when called

Do you have enough firefighters?

"We would like to see our staffing around 25 firefighters," Volz said.

Do you have enough equipment?

"We replace our equipment as it ages. In the last few years, we have made many upgrades with our equipment to properly support the growth in our community."

What are your challenges?

"One of our biggest challenges that we face is not having municipal water. All of our water comes from tankers and engines, from our neighboring communities. We also use our lakes, ponds, creeks and pools for water supply on our structure fires."

"Our residential structures in Fenton Township are being built bigger than 20 and 30 years ago and when our department pulls up on a residential structure fire, it's more of a commercial structure because of its square footage."

Are you hiring?

"The fire department is always hiring. We have seen a major decline in applications in the last few years. It's a nationwide issue that is affecting many paid on call departments. One of our biggest issues is the trainings and the time spent on calls. All of our members have full-time jobs and the majority of them can't leave their job that supports their families to come on calls."

"Our other issue in the past year and a half is COVID. I think it has taken its toll on everyone. Our members have been vaccinated to assist in our efforts to help our community when they are in need of medical attention or close contact from our responding crews."

"We are very efficient and train very hard at all of the services we provide. With an average of 650 alarms per year, our members are very busy for a paid on call department. All of our department members are Certified Firefighter 1 & 2, MFR (Medical First Responder) or better, Haz-Mat, Confined Space, Ice

Rescue, NIMS 100, 200, 700, 800 and a few are ERDI Public Safety Divers. Our Officers are Certified Fire Officer 1, 2 and 3 as well as NIMS 300 and 400. We are well trained and certified to perform any task given to us."

Volz added, "We are very fortunate to be surrounded by neighboring departments with some of the same abilities. Some calls require mutual aid from our neighbors (Fenton City, Linden City, Mundy Township Argentine Township and Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority).

"After being in the fire service for almost 30 years, I have seen so many changes. But the one we are facing now is firefighter recruitment and retention."

If you or someone you know has spare time, or wants to learn a new trade, contact your local township, city or village and check it out. Applicants need to be 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED and need to pass a drug screen, background check along with a valid driver's license.

Case Island

Unique to Fenton Township, Case Island in Lake Fenton is a challenge because of its distance from the mainland and the age of the structures out there.

Volz said they also need to look at the time of year and there are many different factors to take into account. Many of the owners have updated their cottages as well as installed smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.

"To get our equipment to the island is the next challenge," Volz said. "You can't float the fire truck out there."

The fire department would launch Marine One, which is one of its dive boats loaded with water pumps, fittings, air packs and fire hose.

Genesee County uses the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and a special Box Card involving mutual aid departments will be designed. It will include other needed tools as they cross the lake to help Fenton Township.

Volz said the islanders also have some commercial fire hose and a trash pump for exposure protection only.

"It's been about 20 years since we had a large scale training on the Island," he said. "I would like to meet with the Island Association and see when that can happen."



Tigers sweep Corunna, stay right in middle of Metro chase

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity baseball team is doing all it can to remain in the Flint Metro League race.

The Tigers earned two victories against Corunna on Monday, earning a 9-8 victory in the first game, and a 6-2 victory in

the second contest.

The Tigers also earned a doubleheader sweep against Swartz Creek on Saturday, earning a 6-0 victory and a 10-2 win against the Dragons. The Tigers have won 10 straight league games and now hold a 12-2 Metro record, two games behind the

Goodrich Martians in the loss column.

The Tigers trailed at one time 8-5 in the opening game, but scored three runs in the fifth to tie the contest and then earned the victory with a run in the seventh.

The bottom of the seventh started with

See TIGERS on 12

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021 | PAGE 9 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Eagles, Blue Devils split weekend Metro twinbill

By David Troppens

One of the hardest hit prep spring sports teams this year due to COVID-19 has been the Lake Fenton varsity baseball team.

When most Michigan prep baseball teams were starting their seasons, the Blue Devils had to sit in on quarantine, waiting for their chance to practice and play. Eventually, the Blue Devils were able to start playing, but the team has been in a case of catch-up with the rest of the state ever since.

The Blue Devils are starting to show signs that maybe they are catching up to the rest of the state. Lake Fenton (2-7) earned its second victory of the season when it split a doubleheader with neighborhood rival Linden on Saturday. The Eagles won the first game 6-3, while the Blue Devils won the

second 11-1.

"They are starting to believe they can play with anybody, and are starting to see the wheels click," Lake Fenton varsity baseball coach Jake Kirk said. "We are starting to see them gel."

"During our first doubleheader with Holly, we struggled and we told the guys this will be a process. We were two to three weeks behind everybody and we just had to keep grinding. We had to keep focusing and get in that rhythm and I think we are starting to get there."

The opener was an entertaining and competitive contest between the two area rivals. The game was tied 3-3 until the Eagles scored three runs in the sixth inning to take the lead for good.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Lake Fenton's Mason Cook (above) sneaks into third base before Monte Keener's tag. (Left) Linden's Austin Alflen is safe before Lake Fenton's Reid Shumaker can make a tag. Photos: Mark Bolen



Hannah Wasilewski scored two goals in a contest against Kearsley. Photo: David Troppens

Eagles still perfect, defeat Kearsley

The Linden varsity girls soccer team is having a magical season.

That magical season continued on Monday as the Eagles improved to 9-0 in the Flint Metro League, earning an 8-0 road victory against Metro foe Kearsley.

The win means the Eagles remain a game ahead of Lake Fenton and Flushing in the Flint Metro League race with just two games remaining in the Metro season.

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Fenton softball remains in Metro hunt after sweep

By David Troppens

Simply stated, Corunna never had a chance against the Fenton varsity softball team on Monday.

The Tigers needed just three innings in each game to outscore Corunna 37-6 in a doubleheader sweep. The Tigers used 17 hits and five walks to earn a 21-5 victory against the Cavaliers. The Tigers used 10 hits, five walks and five hit batters to earn a 16-1 victory in the nightcap.

In the opener, an 11-run second inning for Fenton blew the game open. The run-producing hits during the stanza were an RBI-single by Chloe Lefever, an RBI-single by Cadyn Reger, a two-run single by Jessica Dunkel and a three-run triple by Jordyn Bommersbach.

Seven more Fenton runs were scored in the bottom of the third, earning the Tigers a 15-run mercy victory. The run-producing hits in the third were a two-run double by Lauren Miller, an RBI-double by Lefever and a two-run triple by Sophie Collins.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Tigers capture Mt. Pleasant Oilers Invitational

By David Troppens

For the most part, the Fenton varsity softball team has scored a decent amount of runs this spring.

Limiting runs has been the primary issue.

It wasn't during Saturday's Mt. Pleasant Oilers Invitational. The Tigers held three opponents to just seven runs, resulting in Fenton winning the tournament championship.

Fenton defeated Bay City Central 4-2, Mt. Pleasant 5-3 and Traverse City St. Francis 11-2.

The Tigers had three strong pitching performances during the tournament. Against St. Francis, Kariana Pelky pitched a four-hitter while striking out seven batters. Only one of the two runs she allowed were earned. Against Mt. Pleasant, Lily Turkowski tossed a five-hitter, while striking out four batters. Finally, against Bay City Central, Jordyn Bommersbach scattered eight hits and struck out three en route to the victory.

"We had all-around well played games from pitchers who pitched all seven innings each game," Fenton var-



The Fenton varsity softball team celebrates after winning the Mt. Pleasant Invitational.

sity softball coach Ken Brant said. "We had tough defense and consistent hitting from top to bottom. We had great energy all day long from this amazing group."

Against Mt. Pleasant, the Tigers scored four runs in the first inning with a Turkowski single being the stanza's only

run-producing hit. A wild pitch and a batted ball error off of Meghan McDermott plated the other three runs. In the fifth, the Tigers scored their final run when Madi Best hit a sacrifice fly, plating Chloe Lefever, who doubled to start the inning.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

LF softball records twinbill sweep vs. Kearsley

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity softball team has improved its current winning streak to five with a doubleheader sweep against the Kearsley Hornets on Monday.

Lake Fenton cruised to a 16-1 victory in the opening game and won the second by a much tighter 4-3 score.

Lake Fenton trailed 2-0 until scoring four runs in the bottom of the sixth. Kaylie Terburgh doubled and Camryn McMillan singled to set up the stanza. Christina Lamb followed with an RBI-single. All the other runs scored via errors.

Lake Fenton had seven hits in the game. Camryn McMillan had two of them. She also was the winning pitcher, allowing eight hits over the seven innings. She struck out six.

Lake Fenton scored 10 runs in the bottom of the first inning in the opening contest and cruised to a 16-1 victory in just three innings.

The run-producing hits by Lake Fenton in the first were a two-run single by McMillan, a two-run triple by Sydney Baker, and RBI-singles by Alayna White, Macy Phillips and Terburgh.



Christina Lamb hit a home run in the Blue Devils' sweep against Kearsley.

Photo: David Troppens

Addison Fitzgerald had three hits to lead the Blue Devils' offense. Terburgh, McMillan, Lamb and Alayna White had two hits each. One of Lamb's hits was a two-run home run in the third inning.

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Linden/Fenton Wolves split recent non-league contests

By David Troppens

Linden — The Linden/Fenton varsity boys lacrosse team has enjoyed some success in Metro League contests this spring.

However, the team has also had some in non-league games as well.

The Wolves recently crushed Lapeer 12-0 in a game at Linden High School. The Wolves did lose to Davison, 18-10 in another non-league contest.

Against Lapeer, the Wolves completely dominated, enjoying a 13-2 faceoffs won advantage. That edge, obviously, helped dictate control of the contest as the Wolves took 29

shots. Of course, 12 of those shots went in. Mitchell Luck led the team's offense with six goals on nine shots. Meanwhile, Chase Everhard and Max Ciesielski also chipped in two goals each. Rykerson Wright and Luke



The Wolves' Justin Bourassa (right) runs downfield during the squad's victory against the Lapeer Lightning. Photo: David Troppens

Gorkiewicz provided a goal each. Everhard also dished off two assists while Wright, Christian Dutzy, Luck, and Ciesielski had an assist each.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Linden baseball sweeps Brandon Blackhawks

By David Troppens

The Linden varsity baseball team got its bats going against Brandon and earned a doubleheader sweep on Monday.

The Eagles won the first game 5-3 and won the second contest 9-2.

Linden never trailed, scoring a run in the top of the second after a Gavin Wildeman double and a Cooper Conn RBI-single. In the second inning, the Eagles added two more runs. Zach Hemphill singled, Ty Kenyon reached

base on an error and Danny Roti singled, loading the bases. Later, Wildeman hit an RBI-single. The Eagles led 3-0.

An RBI-single by Reese Ungvarsky in the fourth gave the Eagles a 4-0 lead, but Brandon cut that gap to 4-2 with two runs in the bottom of the fifth. However, a Conn RBI-single in the sixth raised the gap back to 5-2. The Eagles would hold on to earn the victory.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Linden softball collects two wins vs. Brandon

The Linden varsity softball team remained right in the middle of the Flint Metro League race, earning a doubleheader sweep against the Brandon Blackhawks.

Linden won the opening contest, 2-1. In the nightcap Linden won 12-0.

The Eagles broke the 1-1 tie in the opening game with a run in the sixth. Emma

Mossing singled. With two out, Cassie Sylvester reached on an error, allowing Mossing to score the winning run.

Linden scored its first run in the second inning. Sylvester reached base on an error, Liv Burke walked and Jordyn Hobson hit an RBI-single.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Linden's Jordyn Hobson

Fenton track posts strong results at Saline

By David Troppens

As the track and field seasons start approaching the postseason events, the Fenton varsity boys squad looks ready for those big meets.

The Tigers competed at the Saline Track Town Showdown and had several strong performances at the event.

Brandon Miller is one of those athletes who impressed.

Miller came home from the event, earning two individual event first-place finishes and helped both Fenton sprint relays to first-place efforts.

Miller, who has had a time as fast as 10.64 seconds in the 100 meter dash earlier this season, posted a time of

11.10 at Saline, earning a first. He also won the 200 with a time of 21.57 seconds, his best time of the season.

Miller teamed with Noah Sage, Donovan Miller and Christopher Piwowarczyk to win the 400 meter relay (43.71). He also teamed with Sage, Donovan Miller and Evan Koch to win the 800 relay (1:29.99).

Justin Miller also won two individual events. He won the high jump (6-5) and the long jump (20-8 3/4). Sage also earned a first in the 400, posting a season-best time of 47.97 seconds.

Donovan Miller had two individual top-five finishes.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF FENTON 2021-2022 BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. to receive citizen comments on the proposed 2020-2021 amended budget, the proposed 2021-2022 fiscal budget, and the property tax millage rate to be levied to support this budget. Pursuant to public comment, City Council may adopt Resolution No. 21-07 and No. 21-08 to approve the 2021 amended budget, the 2022 budget, and set the supporting millage at 9.8822 mills.

Link to Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86116207209?pwd=VUU4WjJadjd3UlcyYzFZTGRFUTBQUT09>

Meeting ID: 861 1620 7209

Passcode: 623834

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Anyone wishing to ask questions or provide comment may attend the hearing or submit written comments. Written comments will be received at the City Hall during business hours by appointment, up to and including the day of the public hearing, as well as may be sent to the City Clerk at jkienast@cityoffenton.org.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services who are planning to attend the hearing should contact the City Clerk's Office at (810) 629-2261 or jkienast@cityoffenton.org at least 2 days in advance of the date of the hearing. Additional information will be posted on the City website at <http://cityoffenton.org/>.

Jennifer Kienast
City Clerk
City of Fenton
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Online Stories



STORIES ONLINE AT
TCTIMES.COM

Lake Fenton track competes at Cavalier Classic

The Lake Fenton varsity track program competed at the Corunna Cavalier Classic and had their share of solid performers.

The Lake Fenton boys had two event firsts and the girls two as well at the meet.

Luciana Kamischke was the program's

top star, earning two firsts. She won the 100 hurdles (18.76) and the 300 hurdles (54.68). She also earned a second in the long jump (14-7).

Joseph Gilbert had one of the firsts. He won the 1,600 (4:29.09) and also earned a third in the 800 (2:07.58).

Holly softball earns split with Goodrich Martians

The Holly varsity softball team had its bats booming in the first game of a doubleheader against the Goodrich Martians.

However, the bats went a little quiet

in the second game.

The Bronchos collected 24 hits in the first contest, earning a 28-18 victory. In the second game, the Bronchos had just nine hits and lost a 7-5 verdict.

Holly baseball swept by Metro leaders Goodrich

The Holly varsity baseball team's chances of becoming the Flint Metro League champions took a hit Monday against the Goodrich Martians.

The Martians (13-0 in the Metro) remained undefeated and in first place after sweeping the Bronchos. Goodrich won both games by 7-3 scores.

Linden track competes at Williamston Invitational

The Linden varsity track programs had a strong showing at the Williamston Invitational, with both teams earning a second-place finish in the seven-team fields.

The Linden girls earned one relay first, one individual event first and 19 individual event top-five finishes. The Linden boys had three firsts overall.

LINDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION SEEKS APPLICANT

The Linden Community Schools Board of Education is seeking parties interested in serving their community due to an immediate vacancy. Steve Losey resigned his seat effective May 5, 2021. The person appointed would serve until the next school board election November, 2022.

Applicants can submit a letter of interest and resume to the Board President Scott Maker via email to the Board Recording Secretary mcallard@lindenschools.org or in person at the Linden Administration Office, 7205 W. Silver Lake Rd no later than May 21, 2021. The Board will hold interviews June 2, 2021.

Questions, call 810-591-0983.

Blue Devils defeat Clio, 2-0

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity girls soccer team remains right in the middle of the Flint Metro League race.

The Blue Devils remained just three points behind the first-place Linden Eagles with two more games left in the league season after defeating the Clio Mustangs 2-0 on Monday.

The Blue Devils (8-1) host Kearsley today and host Linden on Monday. If Lake Fenton wins both of those contests, the Blue Devils can do no worse than earn a share of the Metro League title.

Against Clio, goals didn't come easy. Savannah Reese and Aubrey Fray scored the Blue Devils' goals. Chloe Polzin assisted one of the goals. Defensively, Savannah Fellenbaum earned the clean sheet, making six saves.

The Blue Devils look like a team fighting for a title. They hold a six-game



Savannah Reese (front) scored a goal against Clio. Photo: David Troppens

winning streak and have shut out their last five opponents. The Blue Devils have outscored their foes 32-1 during the winning streak.

TIGERS

Continued from Page 9

a walk by Seth Logan and was followed by a double by Nolan Alvord. Brendan Alvord walked to load the bases and Connor Luck hit the walk-off game-winning RBI-single.

Fenton's three-run fifth included a two-run double by Gavin Diamond and a sacrifice fly by Brendan Alvord.

The rest of Fenton's runs were scored in a five-run third. The run-producing hits during the stanza included an RBI-double by Eddie Briand and a two-run single by Logan.

Logan paced the offense with three hits. On the mound, Diamond relieved with two out in the third and allowed just one run over 4 1/3 innings to earn the victory.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

PREP REPORT

BASEBALL

► Notre Dame Prep 7, Holly 0:

Holly had just two hits with Weston Syjud and Jacob Pittenger collecting a single each.

Jeffrey Preston pitched 2 1/3 innings of shutout relief, striking out six batters.

► Kearsley 6-5, Lake Fenton 1-3:

Lake Fenton's only run in the opening game was scored on a Mason Cook single in the first inning. The only other hit the Blue Devils had was a Collin Schramm single.

In the second game, Cameron Wright, Kenny Wright and Reid Shumaker had two hits each. Noah Schatzley had a double and Cook had a single.

BOYS GOLF

► **Linden 173, Holly 197:** Linden's Andrew Skellenger and Brendan Johnson tied for match medalis

honors with a 42 at Spring Meadows Country Club. Linden's Aiden Krueger followed with a 44 while Ethan Acker shot a 45. Linden is 6-2 in Metro play.

Nolan Frick led Holly (4-3) with a 46 while Dean Brown carded a 47. Sam Fleischer shot a 49 and Keigen John shot a 55.

► **Lake Fenton 178, Clio 193:** Lake Fenton's Avery Schaal tied Clio's Nathan Reynolds for match medalist honors with a 39 at Clio Country Club. Waylon Dorenzo shot a 45 while Ryan Pribble and Gabe Jackson shot a 46 and a 48, respectively for the Blue Devils (5-3).

GIRLS SOCCER

► **Goodrich 3, Fenton 0:** Makayla Hart scored all three goals for Goodrich.



Four easily forgotten road trip safety tips

■ Be prepared for when you hit the road for family vacation or quick getaway this summer

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Getaways come in many forms. A getaway can be restful and relaxing whether it involves a journey to a small island thousands of miles from home or a favorite campsite that's just a few hours away via the family SUV.

As the world gradually

emerges from a pandemic that put travel on the back burner for billions of people across the globe, people eager to get away from home may finally feel comfortable seeking getaways that don't involve air travel.

If the open road beckons you in the months ahead, the excitement ahead can make it easy to overlook certain safety measures. The following are four easily forgotten safety measures to keep in mind as you head off for parts unknown.

See **SAFETY TIPS** on 16



Be sure to have your vehicle serviced by your local trusted mechanic and research to see if your vehicle is subject to any safety recalls. Traditional road maps could come in handy when internet service affects your GPS. Lastly, make sure travel accessories, such as bicycle racks, are in good working condition.

ROAD TRIP AHEAD?

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Auto parts and features now obsolete

■ You likely won't find any of these rolling off the assembly line anymore

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Each model year vehicles evolve a little further. What once was popular or essential gets updated with something new and a little more innovative. While certain car parts may always be necessary, others may age out or evolve over the years.

One of the challenges automotive repair professionals often face is the constant need to stay abreast of the changes in automotive design. As features change, so does the knowledge required to keep vehicles on the road. The following are some of the components you likely won't find rolling off of the assembly line these days.

• Carburetor:

Vehicles previously used a carburetor, which was a bulky device that sat on top of the engine. Classic cars have carburetors, but modern ones do not. Most car manufacturers stopped using carburetors in the 1980s because fuel injector systems proved to be more efficient and improved fuel economy. Carburetors created an air-fuel mixture needed for engine combustion. Very often carburetors were the culprits in poor engine performance because they weren't creating the right air and fuel mixture. Also, jets on the carburetor could easily become clogged.

• **Generator:** Modern automobiles no longer use a generator, which is a device used to produce electricity through the rotation of fine wires in a magnetic field. Cars today use alternators. Instead of an armature rotating inside a stationary magnetic field as with a generator, an alternator has a magnetic field that rotates

around a stationary armature, according to the online resource Electrical Technology. Alternators are more efficient because they can produce more power, even charging a car battery, at low engine speeds and idling.

• **Audible turn signals:** Turn signals, also called blinkers, typically have a clicking sound to alert the driver that the signal is still engaged and needs to be switched off after a turn. However, many modern cars are phasing out audible turn signals.

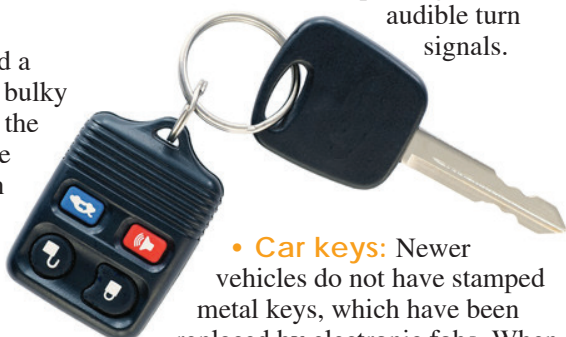
• **Car keys:** Newer vehicles do not have stamped metal keys, which have been replaced by electronic fobs. When the fob is near the vehicle, doors automatically unlock. The fob is used in combination with a push-button ignition, making a key start obsolete.

• **Full size spare tires:** Not too long ago, if a flat tire required a roadside change, drivers could rely on a full-sized spare in the trunk or under the vehicle. According

See **OBSOLETE** on 18



Gone are the days of knobs and buttons, like the ones from a 2008 Dodge Chrysler truck shown above. Old style radios can be found at online selling sites, such as this 1990 GMC pickup truck radio above.



When will self-driving cars hit the road?

■ Hype began in 2004 when U.S. military experimented with them in Mojave Desert

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Tech enthusiasts often know when the latest gizmos and gadgets are slated to hit the market and be made available to consumers. Anticipation tends to build around everything from the latest version of a popular smartphone to a new incarnation of a beloved gaming system.

But perhaps no advancement in technology is as highly anticipated as the self-driving car.

Industry experts note that the hype around self-driving cars, sometimes referred to as autonomous vehicles, has existed since 2004, when United States military experiments involving self-driving vehicles in the Mojave Desert garnered both attention and excitement.

That anticipation and excitement waned as 2004 was left further and further behind in the rearview mirror, but the race to become the first auto manufacturer to build and offer driverless vehicles is still very much on.

For example, in 2018 General Motors indicated its intent to make a fleet of self-driving taxis available in San Francisco by 2020. That did not come to fruition, though other auto manufacturers, notably Tesla, have

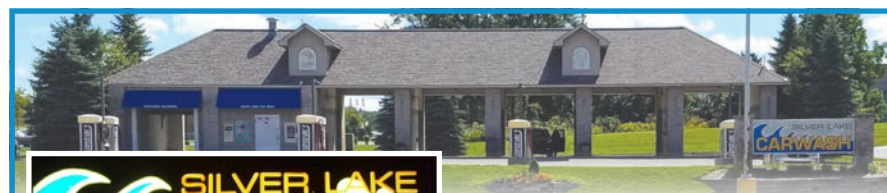


Reeling from the effects of the pandemic, automotive experts say it's highly unlikely that 2021 will be the year the world sees its first fleet of self-driving vehicles hit the road.

indicated they have their eyes on potentially offering autonomous taxis in 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic complicated, and likely delayed, the arrival of self-driving automobiles, though it remains to be seen just how much the pandemic affected the arrival of driverless vehicles.

A recent report from Bloomberg New Energy Finance noted that many auto manufacturers that have worked on self-driving technology had initially set their sights on deployment in 2021. However, lab closures and social distancing measures enacted in response to the pandemic may have made it highly unlikely that 2021 will be the year the world sees its first fleet of self-driving taxis hit the road.



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SAFETY TIPS

Continued from Page 13

1. Have your vehicle serviced before hitting the road. The pandemic significantly affected people's driving habits. Millions of people spent the pandemic working remotely, and many have continued to do so even after being vaccinated.

Total driving distances fluctuated throughout the pandemic. For example, the Federal Highway Administration reported that the total distances driven in July 2020 had declined by 11 percent compared to the same month a year earlier. That decline was more drastic according to figures examining total distances driven in April 2019 and April 2020, when driving had decreased by 40 percent compared to a year earlier.

Though driving may have increased as the pandemic wore on, it's still a good idea for drivers to have their vehicles serviced before a road trip. Request a full tune-up that includes an oil change, a battery check and a tire rotation. These services and other maintenance tasks like fluid refills can reduce the likelihood of breakdowns and reveal any issues that might make driving less safe.

2. Determine if your vehicle is the subject of a recall. Recalls are issued if a

safety issue has been uncovered since a car hit the market. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has a list of recalls available on its website at [NHTSA.gov/Recalls](https://www.nhtsa.gov/Recalls).

Recalls are fixed free of charge, and it's best to look well in advance of a trip to ensure you have time to take the vehicle in for its update.

3. Get used to driving with accessories on the vehicle. Summer road trips are typically taken with bicycle racks attached to rear windows or the top of the vehicle.

Drivers unaccustomed to having bicycles or storage units attached to their vehicles should make a few trial runs so they can get acclimated. Backing up with bike racks on the back of the car can be tricky for novices, so a little practice with the bikes on the back may be helpful. Drivers who intend to tow campers also may benefit from a little pre-trip practice.

4. Pack a map. Though maps have long since fallen out of favor due to the availability of GPS, people traveling to remote areas may find their smartphone signals fading in and out as they get closer to their destinations. A map can help road trippers overcome service interruptions and arrive at their destinations on time.

Road trips may be especially popular this summer. Some simple safety measures can ensure drivers and their passengers stay safe.

Why rotating tires is so important

■ Routine repositioning in specific pattern can prolong life of your vehicle's tires

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Vehicle owners need to keep maintenance on the mind to ensure their cars and trucks are operating at peak capacity. Various components should be checked and serviced at key intervals.

Oil changes and fluid top-offs are part of routine maintenance, but it can be easy to forget about other important parts of the vehicle, including tires.

Rotating tires is vital to their upkeep. Bridgestone Tires advises that tire rotation involves routinely repositioning a vehicle's tires in specific patterns from front to back and side to side. The front tires tend to wear on the outside edges because the tire leans over when a driver turns a corner. The rear tires just follow the front ones, so they usually wear more evenly. By leaving tires in place, the outside edges on the front tires will wear down much faster than the rest and those tires will need to be replaced sooner.

Rotation may be required by tire warranties. Rotation also keeps the tires working properly.

Experts generally advise tire rotation every 6,000 to 8,000 miles,



Rotating tires is vital to their upkeep. Bridgestone Tires advises that tire rotation involves routinely repositioning a vehicle's tires in specific patterns from front to back and side to side.

even if they do not show any signs of wear. It is challenging to determine if weather treads are uneven or how much wear has been sustained just by looking at them. Rotating tires can prolong the life of tires and decrease how frequently they need to be replaced.

Rotating tires keeps the tread depth uniform and helps maintain traction and consistent handling across all four tires. Bridgestone says the tire rotation pattern that is best for a particular vehicle depends on the type of tire being used.

See **TIRES** on 18



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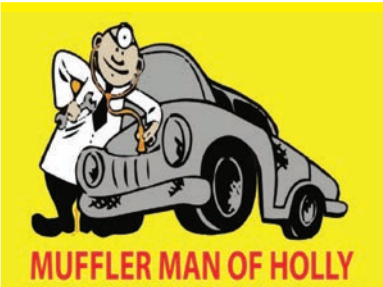


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TIRES

Continued from Page 16

Patterns are recommended by the standardizing body of the tire industry, called The Tire and Rim Association, Inc. Individuals can consult with their local professional mechanics about the proper way to rotate tires. Many tire manufacturers or automotive stores that have sold customers tires also will do tire rotations — some free of charge.

In addition to proper traction, minimizing uneven tire treads causes the vehicle to be more balanced, advises Wrench, a mobile auto repair and maintenance company. This enables the driver to have more control even when roads are slippery. Many auto service centers will then align and balance tires after they have been rotated. At this time, the mechanic will likely check brakes as well, since it is easy to see and reach them when the tires are off.

Tire rotation is an important component of vehicle maintenance. Check with a qualified automotive professional to see if it's time to have your vehicle's tires rotated.

OBSOLETE

Continued from Page 15

to AAA, spare tires have been replaced by tire inflator kits on millions of vehicles in the last 10 model years. Finding a full-sized spare is a rare occurrence.

• **Control knobs:** Radios, heating and cooling systems and other car features are increasingly being activated by buttons or digital displays. Gone are knobs and actual levers. This may be one feature that may have decreased safety and efficiency. Buttons rather than easily manipulated knobs require drivers to take their eyes off the road to find them and engage.

People in the market for new vehicles should familiarize themselves with features that already are extinct or are slowly becoming obsolete.

What to look for when test driving a preowned vehicle

■ Assess comfort, visibility and connectivity to see if that older vehicle should be your new vehicle

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Preowned vehicles have become hot commodities in recent years, reflecting a change in what drivers are looking for when it's time to get a new ride.

According to the market and consumer data experts at Statista, preowned vehicle sales increased every year between 2014 and 2019 and more than doubled the number of new cars sold each year during that period. For example, in 2019 United States car buyers purchased 40.8 million preowned vehicles and right around 17 million new vehicles.

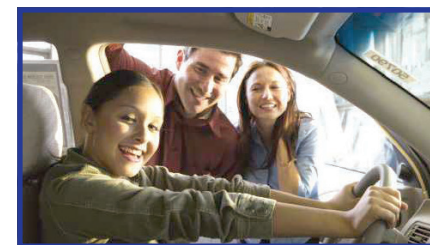
Add to that a shortage of specialized microchips for new vehicles due to the pandemic, used vehicles are in increasingly high demand.

There are many reasons why more car buyers are looking to the preowned vehicle market when replacing their existing vehicles. Certified preowned vehicles have increased consumer confidence in used cars and trucks and extended warranties have helped ease concerns buyers may have about such vehicles.

As reliable as preowned vehicles can be, prospective buyers must remain diligent when considering a used car and truck. Potential mechanical issues can be discussed with a mechanic of buyer's choosing, but it's up to drivers to gauge other factors that can affect how enjoyable it may or may not be to drive a given vehicle.

Test drives remain a great way to get a feel for preowned vehicles and prospective buyers can consider various factors to determine if a given car or truck is for them.

• **Comfort:** Comfort is a big consideration when purchasing new vehicles, and there's no reason to downplay the importance of comfort when shopping for preowned vehicles. Consider the available headroom and



legroom when test driving a vehicle, but also take note of comfort-based accessories that the vehicle may or may not have.

For example, if you've grown accustomed to heated seats on your existing vehicle, then a preowned vehicle without such seats, or one without functioning heated seats, will likely bother you in the years to come.

• **Visibility:** Sight lines vary from vehicle to vehicle, so make sure your test drive is long enough to give you an accurate idea of a vehicle's visibility. Blind spots may not differ much in new versus older models or even in vehicles made by the same manufacturer, but they can differ considerably between manufacturers (i.e., Chevy versus Ford). Get a feel for blind spots during the test drive to determine if you'll be comfortable driving a given vehicle.

• **Connectivity:** Modern vehicles are designed to connect with our devices, and drivers have quickly grown to prioritize connectivity. Compatibility with devices can make it easier to use GPS and stream music while driving, so don't hesitate to connect your phone when test driving a vehicle. If the car and phone are incompatible, that can affect how much you enjoy driving the car.

Preowned vehicles are incredibly popular. Buyers considering used cars or trucks can look for certain things during a test drive to determine if a given vehicle is the right fit for them.

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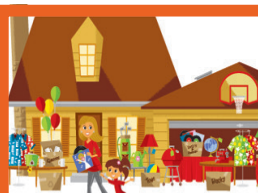
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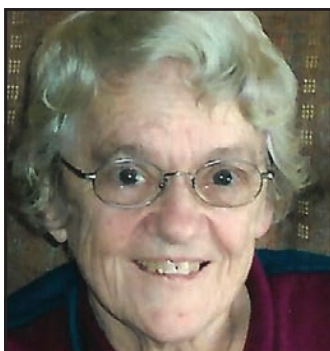
Obituaries

Times

Margaret Buchanan (McNie) Kushiner

1922 - 2021

Margaret Buchanan (McNie) Kushiner - age 98, of Linden, passed away Friday, May 7, 2021. Private funeral service will take place Thursday, May 13, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes,



children and would stay home to raise her children. Margaret was a member and very active with First Baptist Church in Fenton. She enjoyed being a mother and raising her seven

Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Pastor Ben Walls will officiate with burial following in Highland Cemetery approximately at 11:30 AM. Public live streaming will be available to view 10 AM Thursday on Margaret's obituary page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Public visitation will take place from 2 - 8 PM Wednesday, May 12 at the funeral home. Those desiring may make contributions to the First Baptist Church of Fenton. Margaret was born on July 23, 1922 in Dumbarton, Scotland the daughter of James and Margaret (Auchterlonie) McNie. She graduated from Pershing High School, class of 1939. Margaret and Paul Kushiner were united in marriage on January 31, 1942. She was a mother of seven

children. They were a close family traveling and going on vacations. In her free time she liked sewing, puzzles-jigsaw, crosswords and living on Pine Lake. She is survived by her three sons, Paul Glenn (Dawn) Kushiner, James (Patricia) Kushiner and Donald (Judy) Kushiner; 17 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Paul; three daughters, Nancy Pickl, Sandy Zeidan and Janice Langdon; son, Thomas Kushiner; parents, James and Margaret McNie; brother, Jack; and two sisters, Eleanor and Jeannette. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Bob Byerly

1941 - 2021

Bob Byerly - age 79, passed away Friday, May 7, 2021. Bob was an avid outdoorsman who loved RV trips and riding his motorcycle through the mountains with his sons and friends. He was a professional truck driver for over 30 years with numerous safety awards with no accidents. He was a proud member of the Teamsters union and was a union steward for many years. He also served his local community as a Tyrone Township Trustee. Bob was survived by his wife of 57 years, Loraine; his sons, Robert (Debbie) and Glenn (Katherine) Byerly; and five grandchildren, Chloe, Christian, Spencer, Sawyer, and Chase. A visitation will be held at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly on Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 2 - 4 PM. Memorial contributions can be made to Fenton Adopt a Pet. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

Dona May Zeis-Jadwin

1922 - 2021

Dona May Zeis-Jadwin - age 99, of Fenton, died Friday, May 7, 2021. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Friday, May 14, 2021 at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 7234 Fenton Road, Grand Blanc.



Pastor Nathan Allen officiating. Burial in Davison Cemetery, Davison. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 6063 Fenton Road, Grand Blanc, Thursday, May 13 from 1 - 4 and 6 - 8 PM and at church Friday from 10:30 AM until the time of the service. Those desiring may make contributions to the Wounded Warrior Project. Dona was born May 1, 1922 in Bay City, the daughter of Charles and Olive (Hiscott) McEachern. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts from Albion College; did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin and University of Michigan; and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority for 78 years, receiving her 75 year certificate in 2018. She married Richard Gorrell Zeis September 7, 1946 in Flint and he preceded her in death

October 25, 1980; she then married Donald Allen Jadwin September 1, 1989 in Charlevoix, and he preceded her in death February 20, 2006. She had resided in Fenton since 2006 coming from Mt. Dora, FL, Charlevoix, and Davison. Dona was a long time member of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc; she also was a member of Good News for Women, National Honorary Art Fraternity, and she has taught at the Flint Institute of Arts. She founded Left Bank Gallery in Flint with five other artists. Surviving are her daughter, Margaret "Peg" (Edward) DuBuc of Fenton; step-son, Steven (Pamela) Jadwin of Swartz Creek; step-daughter-in-law, Nona Jadwin of Charlevoix; and several step-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents; and step-son, Charles Jadwin. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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Midweek Crossword

ACROSS

1 Borscht veggie

5 Nourished

8 Great Lakes fish

12 Choir voice

13 "— been real"

14 Plane-related

15 Pear variety

17 Fury

18 Away from WSW

19 Mine yield

20 Say

21 Snoop

22 Upscale auto

23 Golf great Sam

26 Husband of Eurydice

30 Level

31 Genetic letters

32 Sicilian peak

33 New Mexico's capital

35 Director DeMille

36 "Nasty!"

37 Cowboy's sweetie

38 Brag

41 Gaiety

42 Mauna —

45 Pac-12 sch.

46 Cocktails garnished with olives

48 Avoid

49 Ostrich's kin

50 Sultry Horne

51 Male turkeys

52 — Moines

53 Retain

DOWN

1 Innocent one

2 Flair

3 French 101 verb

4 Preschooler

5 Red-hot

6 Diminutive suffix

7 "Spring ahead" hrs.

8 Sideways somersault

9 Miami team

10 Desire

11 Afrikaner

16 Byron or Tennyson

20 Strike caller

21 Devoted supporters

22 Bikini top

23 Rds.

24 Actress Long

25 Still, in verse

26 Small bill

27 List-ending abbr.

28 Half of bi-

29 Bando of baseball

31 "Bobby" subj.

34 Do something

35 Quitter's word

37 Mentors

38 Small statue

39 Twice cuatro

40 Grad

41 Notoriety

42 Leg joint

43 Aachen article

44 Now, on a memo

46 Club —

47 Sort

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Midweek Jumble

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by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

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But we had a reservation!

It's all right, big guy.

I don't have enough food or room for you.

KONG HAD TROUBLE FINDING A MEAL THAT WAS —

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Horoscopes

For the week of
May 10, 2021

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

It could be that you are very aware of things going on around you this week. Unfortunately, many of them will be out of your control. Still, keep an open mind.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 22

Don't be surprised if some relatively minor details cause a setback in the days ahead, Gemini. Some heightened focus might be in order. Try to zone in.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Relax and settle down for a few days, Taurus. Take some time to enjoy the people around you and try to travel to some new locales along the way. A little vacation can be helpful.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, if you need to confront someone this week, do so tactfully. Remember the adage about catching more flies with honey. You'll find that tactic is handy.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, this week could become a tad challenging as strong astrological energies are affecting people's emotions. Maintain your composure at all costs.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Your organizational skills are about to increase productivity ten-fold this week, Virgo. Don't be afraid to take big chances and even grab the helm on a large project.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, write down new goals, as it seems your emotions have changed over the past several days. This way you can channel your ambitions accordingly.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Your presence will be remarkable this week, Sagittarius. You radiate confidence and energy for all to see, and the people around you could be counting on you for leadership.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, if you are feeling a bit neglected and unloved this week, ask your partner for some support. He or she will take the cue and the spark will reignite.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, this week you dare to go against the grain and make your voice heard. Embrace your self-confidence and don't hesitate to take on a leadership role.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

It's not possible to transform the people you know with a magic wand or a twinkle of your nose. Let others be who they are and appreciate their individuality.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Some conflicts within the family have you serving as peacemaker, Pisces. Negotiate with others to resolve their differences.



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