

City approves water/sewer rate increase

■ Last rate adjustment was in 2009

By Sharon Stone

Fenton City Council unanimously approved a rate increase for water and sewer.

Mike Hart, the assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority

executive director, said the last rate increase the city had was in 2009. He said, "This is a very long time." He added that the increase was necessary due to rising costs of chemicals, maintenance and unfunded state mandates.

In a memo from Jon Satkowiak Jr, treasurer for the city of Fenton, to City

Manager Lynn Markland dated May 20, Satkowiak said the city administration had been discussing alternatives to increase the water and sewer rate.

The rate study showed approximate 20-percent increase to the average water and sewer portion of the utility bill. Satkowiak said his proposal would bring

that increase down to 14 percent during the first year.

Satkowiak said their study showed the average family in the city used between 12,000 and 15,000 gallons of water per quarter. With the rate adjustment, they could see a quarterly increase

See **RATE INCREASE** on 2



Midweek Times

VOL. 28 NO. XXI

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021

\$1.00

Rose Township rejects NOCFA Board's first budget proposal

■ Alternative budget proposal sent to Rose and Holly township boards for approval

By Sharon Stone

With a June 30 deadline quickly approaching to have a new agreement for Holly Township and Rose Township to have coverage provided by the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA),

See **NOCFA** on 19

Linden passes food truck ordinance

By Hannah Ball

Linden City Council passed a mobile food vehicle vending ordinance on Monday, May 24.

The vote comes 23 weeks after the council adopted a moratorium on food

See **FOOD TRUCK** on 12

LFHS holds parade for graduating seniors



Lake Fenton High School seniors sit in the parking lot Friday, May 21 and wave to their family and friends in decorated vehicles for a parade send off. Their last day was Thursday, May 20.

See story on page 11. Photo: Hannah Ball

Fenton to negotiate with new trash/recycling company

■ To present draft of contract to City Council on June 14

By Sharon Stone

On Monday, May 24, Fenton City Council unanimously approved moving forward with negotiations with a new company, GFL Environmental, to provide trash, recycling and yard waste pickup for the city.

Michael Hart, the city's assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) executive director, said the city anticipates better service and lower costs for its residents. Based on the bid from GFL Environmental, during the first year of the contract, the cost per customer would be less than \$12 per month, a decrease of what customers are currently paying.

See **TRASH/RECYCLING** on 9



“Hey, two things. When exiting northbound at Torrey Road, if you're going north, get over to the left so people going south can get through. The purpose of an on ramp is so you can get up to speed prior to entering traffic. It's really not all about you.”



“As you make plans for the holiday weekend, consider setting aside time on Memorial Day to honor the brave men and women who served and sacrificed for our freedom.”



“Love, love, love seeing all the smiles again.”



Gas in Flint area averages \$2.90 per gallon

■GasBuddy predicts prices to come down slightly as people plan Memorial Day travels

Flint gas prices have fallen 1.3 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$2.90/gallon Monday, May 24, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 212 stations in Flint. Gas prices in Flint are 7.8 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 92.3 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Flint was priced at \$2.66/gallon while the most expensive was \$3.25/gallon, a difference of

59.0 cents per gallon. The lowest price in the state was \$2.60/gallon while the highest was \$3.24/gallon, a difference of 64.0 cents per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 1.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.02/gallon. The national average was up 14.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.07/gallon higher than a year ago.

Historical gasoline prices in Flint and the national average going back 10 years:

• May 24, 2020: \$1.98/gallon (U.S. Average: \$1.95/ gallon)

• May 24, 2019: \$2.94/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.84/ gallon)
• May 24, 2018: \$3.17/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.97/ gallon)
• May 24, 2017: \$2.46/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.37/ gallon)
• May 24, 2016: \$2.50/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.29/ gallon)
• May 24, 2015: \$2.70/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.75/ gallon)
• May 24, 2014: \$3.86/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.66/ gallon)
• May 24, 2013: \$3.88/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.65/ gallon)
• May 24, 2012: \$3.85/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.68/ gallon)
• May 24, 2011: \$3.75/ gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.82/ gallon)

See **GAS** on 11

RATE INCREASE

Continued from Front Page

between \$18 and \$30. Each customer's increase is based on their own usage.

Satkowiak said the administration is proposing that Fenton City Council adjust the rates to reflect the following amounts, per quarter:

| WATER | Current rate | Proposed rate |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Capital | \$58 | \$40 |
| Meter | \$00 | \$17.60 |
| Commodity | \$5.20 | \$6.20 |

SEWER:

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|----------------|
| Capital | \$20** | \$7*** |
| Ready to serve | \$18.30 | \$18.30 county |
| Commodity | \$3.71 | \$5.65 |

** The sewer capital charge was based on the first residential equivalent unit (REU) with any additional REUs being charged at a rate of \$30 per REU.

*** Will include all sewer REU rates.

Water capital charge per meter size – current

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------|---------|
| ¾ inch..... | \$58 | 3-inch..... | \$778 |
| 1 inch..... | \$130 | 4-inch..... | \$1,210 |
| 1 ½ inch..... | \$250 | 6-inch..... | \$2,410 |
| 2 inch..... | \$394 | 8-inch..... | \$5,290 |

Water capital charge per meter size – proposed

| | | | |
|---------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| ¾ inch..... | \$40.40 | 3-inch..... | \$646.40 |
| 1 inch..... | \$101 | 4-inch..... | \$1,010 |
| 1 ½ inch..... | \$202 | 6-inch..... | \$2,020 |
| 2 inch..... | \$323 | 8-inch..... | \$4,444 |

Water meter charge per meter size – proposed

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| ¾ inch..... | \$17.60 | 3-inch..... | \$281.60 |
| 1 inch..... | \$44 | 4-inch..... | \$440 |
| 1 ½ inch..... | \$88 | 6-inch..... | \$880 |
| 2 inch..... | \$140.80 | 8-inch..... | \$1,936 |

City administration recommended that the Fenton City Council approve the resolution to adjust the quarterly water and sewer rates in accordance with the water and sewer rate study that was completed by PFM.

According to the resolution, there was a demonstratable need for an increase on the quarterly water capital charge, commodity water rate, meter charge for water, and commodity sewer rate, and a decrease of the quarterly sewer capital charge to ensure even and fair distribution of operation, maintenance and replacement costs of water and sewer systems within the city.

The commodity rate for water will be increased from \$5.20 to \$6.20.

The quarterly capital charge for water per the first REU will be decreased by \$17.60.

The commodity rate for sewer will be increased from \$3.71 to \$5.65.

The quarterly capital charge for sewer per the first REU will be reduced from \$20 to \$7.

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Linden father and son to take The Murph Challenge

■ To honor uncle and all veterans, and to support the Lt. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation

By Sharon Stone

On Monday, May 31, Memorial Day, thousands of people around the globe, including soldiers, marines, sailors, airmen and more will take on The Murph Challenge.

CrossFit in Fenton hosts The Murph Challenge and this year, several will be honoring Stephen John Edwards, a former staff sergeant of the United States Air Force, and the uncle of one of the CrossFit members doing the challenge. Edwards is 71 and a Fenton Township resident.

The Murph is a popular workout created by CrossFit in memory of Navy Lt. Michael Murphy who died in Afghanistan on June 28, 2005. After his death, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery. The Murph was a favorite workout of Lt. Murphy, although he called it Body Armor per CrossFit.

Known as a Hero WOD (workout of the day), The Murph was first posted Aug. 18, 2006, and is completed every



Nathan Stilson practices for The Murph Challenge at CrossFit of Fenton. He will be participating at the Memorial Day event with his father Donald Stilson of Linden. **Submitted photo**

year on Memorial Day by CrossFitters and Navy Seals alike.

Donald Stilson, 47, of Linden, is the nephew of Edwards and he will be participating in the Memorial Day event with his 18-year-old son, Nathan.

The challenge will require participants to perform a one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 squats, and another one-mile run all the while wearing a weighted military vest. Stinson said he and his son have been practicing the workout and will be wearing the military vests weighted with 20-pound body armor.

Stinson said typically 200 or so people will participate in the Fenton CrossFit event and this year approximately 10 will be taking the challenge to honor his uncle. He said his uncle, who is in poor health, will be in attendance at this year's event. "It will be an hour of suffering for him," Stilson said. "It's a crazy workout. My uncle is going to be so amazed, beside himself, when he sees all of us."

Some of the event, which begins at 9 a.m., will be outside in the parking lot of CrossFit and some will be inside that facility, which is open to the air.

When participants sign up at TheMurphChallenge.com, their fee goes to the Lt. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation.

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Sharin' the spotlight

By Editor Sharon Stone

I recently announced the winners of this year's Brad Stone Scholarship. Just like last year, I had to submit a video announcement because of COVID restrictions. Lake Fenton High School played my short two-minute video at Senior Awards night. The school live streamed the event and I watched as the winners came up on stage when their names were announced. It made my heart feel glad to see their happy faces.

We have a selection committee at the school choose the winner. My husband and I host an annual golf outing each year, and the Community Foundation of Greater Flint told us that we had enough funds this year to award a \$12,000 scholarship. The selection committee determined they had a tie and told us Aubrey Fray and Sydney Johnson came out on top of all the other very deserving seniors who had applied for the scholarship.

I recognized Aubrey's name from all of the sports stories we have published in the Tri-County Times. In addition to having a 3.9 GPA, she

played three varsity sports, cross country, soccer and basketball. She also was a member of Key Club, National Honor Society, Student Council and Year-book Editor. I peeked at Aubrey's essay, which touched our hearts. Although Brad has been gone longer than she has been alive, she had read about him and understood his energy, love of family, love of sports, adventure and being part of a team. We wish Aubrey all the best as she begins her journey at Michigan State in the fall as she works toward becoming a nurse anesthetist.

Sydney also has a big heart and big goals. She will attend Grand Valley State University in the fall with a goal of becoming a Physician Assistant. She had a 3.94 GPA all while playing varsity volleyball, softball and competitive cheer. She also worked part time, and was a member of the National Honor Society and Kiwanis Club. She's been a member of the Wyldlife Youth Leadership, mentoring hundreds of younger kids.



Sharon Stone

As we are passing the one-year anniversary of the death of Lexi Simon who died in a boating accident May 24, 2020, Sydney wrote about the impact of her dear friend, Lexi, and a young boy she never met had on her life in her essay.

Yes, I peeked at her essay too. She compared how Lexi was so outgoing and

lit up any room she entered. Sydney had heard how outgoing Brad was and felt the connection.

The Stone family wishes Sydney all the best as she starts her next journey at Grand Valley.

We'd also like to thank Duanita Bailey, the Lake Fenton High School counselor, who works so hard to make sure every senior applies for every scholarship they are eligible for. Over the years, Duanita has done a great job for our Lake Fenton students.

Although we were not in attendance for the Senior Awards because of the restrictions on gatherings, our hearts were there and we are proud to see so many talented and good kids at Lake Fenton.

Hotlines

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

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

EGLE VIOLATION ON Bennett Lake, betcha the neighbors' homes are sitting within the same 'wetland.'

■■■

THANK YOU FOR the article on behalf of Lobdell Bennett Lake Association regarding serious concern of a local riparian damaging our lakes and wetlands through violations including illegal dumping of diesel fuel and pumping sediment directly into Bennett Lake. EGLE has been active as well in the remediation of this situation.

■■■

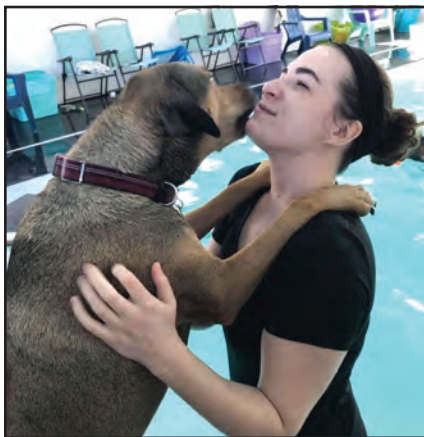
TWENTY-FIVE DAYS with no waste pick up. That would not fly in Fenton's precious DDA; why is it acceptable in the neighborhoods?

■■■

PUTTING TRASH OUT this week was super easy; I left the yard waste on the curb that I put out last week. Eleven days and counting with no yard waste pick up. I bet if the problem occurred in your precious DDA, it would be fixed immediately.

What are your plans for Memorial Day weekend?

| street talk



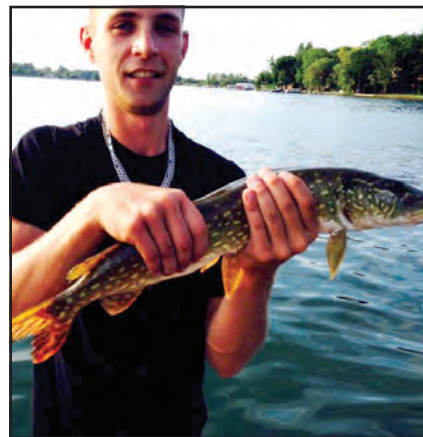
"Not so much for the 'weekend' but for the Memorial Day holiday I will be placing flags on the gravesites at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan."

Tracy Morris
Flint



"Graduation in Fenton then dinner with family."

Delila Brown
Fremont



"Silver Lake cookout with the family."

Kyle Livingston
Fenton



"Getting my yard work done."

Mona Hamilton Flannery
Linden

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

National Poppy Day is Friday

■ American Legion Family 119 Linden hosts National Poppy Day fundraiser May 28, 29

By Sharon Stone

With the support of Congress, Friday, May 28, 2021, is designated as National Poppy Day.

In 1920, after World War I, the poppy became the memorial flower of the American Legion family. It's a symbol of hope and remembrance for the sacrifices made in service to our country. Wearing the poppy pays tribute to the fallen and the future of living veterans, active duty military and their families.

Pin on your Poppy to honor the fallen and show support for the living.

To honor all who gave everything for us, the American Legion Family commits to assisting those veterans, active duty military and their families who need our help.

American Legion Family 119 volunteers will be at Alpine Marketplace and ACE Hardware in downtown Linden on Friday, May 28 and Saturday, May 29, distributing poppies to the community

from 10:00 to 4 p.m.

One-hundred percent of all donations raised are used exclusively to assist and support our veterans, active duty military and their families with financial and medical needs.

Through your generous donations, American Legion Family 119, Linden, provided financial assistance during 2020.

Assistance went to:

- a local veteran and spouse facing medical hardships
- a local veteran whose home burned down
- a local veteran facing shutoff of their families utilities
- support the Battle Creek VA Medical Center veterans recreation fund and veterans Christmas program
- support Fisher House — a comfort home near VA Hospitals for veterans and their families
- purchase Valentine window clings
- decorate veterans windows at Symphony and Argentine Care Centers

If you miss the volunteers, donation boxes are located at The State Bank, Linden Hotel/Crow's Nest, Shirley's Café and Grill, UB Station Café, and Leo's Coney Island throughout the month of May.



American Legion Family 119 Linden volunteers (from left) are Larry Arrol, Betty Smith, Alida Smith and Ben Hughes. Members will be at Alpine Marketplace and ACE Hardware in Linden on Friday and Saturday distributing poppies. **Submitted photo**

Donations can be sent to:

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4459 Harp Dr.
Linden, MI 48451

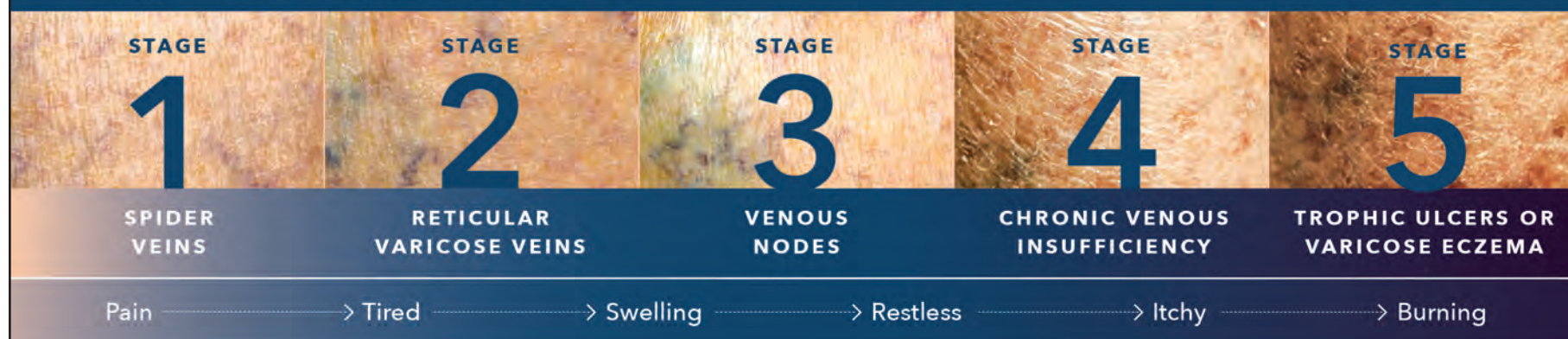
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**Mark McCabe**

67th District Court

Ask the
judge

Constitutionally selecting a jury – Part I

The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecutions the defendant has certain rights. Among these is the right to a trial by an “impartial jury” of the state and district where the crime was committed.

Although the phrase impartial jury is not defined in the Constitution, over time courts have found that it requires two separate conditions to be met.

First, that the jury be selected from a representative cross section of the

population where the alleged crime occurred.

Second, that there are assurances that the jury chosen is unbiased and willing to decide the case on the basis of the evidence presented.

Procedural rules have been developed to meet these conditions and the following is a brief general summary.

A criminal trial starts with the selection of a jury when the prospective jurors who have been called to jury duty (the jury panel) are questioned by the prosecutor, the defense attorney and the judge in what is known as “voir dire.” This is a Latin phrase, which means speak the truth. This allows the attorneys to obtain important information about the prospective jurors’ attitudes, beliefs and experiences to determine if they can fairly decide the case.

After the voir dire, the attorneys

then decide who they want to be on the jury and who they don’t.

For those who are to be excused, each side can exercise two types of challenges on an alternating basis.

The first type is a challenge for cause, which means that there is a legally valid reason why the person cannot serve.

The second is a peremptory challenge, which allows a juror to be excused without the attorney giving any reason.

Each side has an unlimited number of challenges for cause and the judge decides whether to allow each challenge.

As to peremptory challenges, each side has a specific number depending on if it’s a felony or misdemeanor case.

When all of the peremptory challenges have been exercised or any unused challenges waived, and there are no other challenges for cause, the jury is seated by being sworn in by the clerk and the trial continues.

Next week — Part II — Peremptory challenges might not be all that they seem to be — the Batson case.

TRASH/RECYCLING

Continued from Front Page

Jon Satkowiak, city treasurer, said customers in the city are paying \$18.12 per month for trash, recycling and yard waste pickup.

Once negotiations are complete, a draft of the contract will be presented to Fenton City Council on June 14 for review.

The city of Fenton undertook a thorough and comprehensive Solid Waste & Recycle bid process initiated in 2020 with the culmination of bid submissions Dec. 21, 2020. The city received five qualified bidders from the process and the bids were extensive in nature with multiple options for the city to consider.

Bids were submitted by Republic Services, Priority Waste, Emterra, Waste Management and GFL Environmental.

In order to have a comprehensive process to the city’s residents’ benefit, Hart explained that they believed it was in the best interest to provide for a nine-month interim agreement with Republic Services, while the bids are analyzed and compared. This time frame would provide time for a possible transition.

After the vetting process was

completed by the Solid Waste Committee including city administration, two companies stood out as being the most competitive including service capabilities.

The two companies were GFL Environmental and Priority Waste. Each had the most competitive cost, would utilize best practices including state-of-art technology in their trucks for tracking job completion. Each company also indicated they would deploy a personnel team to service the city including onsite supervision that would interact and communicate with city officials directly and in real time.

Due to the depth of GFL Environmental’s proposal and strength of their company, Hart recommended that City Council move forward with them to draft a comprehensive service agreement to provide solid waste, recycle and yard waste services for the city of Fenton.

GFL’s bundled package for solid waste, recycling and yard waste removal would cost each customer \$11.75 per month during the first year of the five-year contract. Year two would cost \$12.10, year three would cost \$12.46, year four would cost \$12.84 and year five would cost \$13.23, per customer, per month.

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This year, Lake Fenton High School has 153 graduating seniors. This past school year was marked with shutdowns and occasionally online school, and Principal Kate VanHouten said they were happy to put on the parade to give students a final send off. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

'I'm glad they had this experience'

■ LFHS holds parade for graduating seniors

By Hannah Ball

The weather was warm and sunny during Lake Fenton High School's parade for graduating seniors Friday, May 21.

The 153 seniors sat or stood in the parking lot of the high school and waved to vehicles as they passed by. Friends and family members decorated their cars with posters and window paint, and some participants threw candy.

Thursday was the last day of school for graduating seniors at LFHS after a school year with intermittent shutdowns and online learning for some students due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seniors were able to gather together

Friday when they took a bus to all the other schools and then had a cookout.

"This was a community event just to give them a final send off, allow them to have some fun because obviously this year has had its struggles," said Kate VanHouten, principal of LFHS. "This was by far the best event ever. To see all the kids, to see them smiling. It's a beautiful day, and to have all the family and community and teachers and staff members come out and cheer them on is a very good thing."

VanHouten said parents were happy to have this event, too.

"This is a great group of kids and I'm glad they were able to have this memory. This is the first time we've done this and I can't promise we'll do it again," she said. "I'm glad they had this experience."

GAS

Continued from Page 2

"In the lead up to Memorial Day, we haven't seen gas prices come down much, though with oil's recent move lower, we should start to see more drops at the pump materialize in the days ahead," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "With the Colonial Pipeline situation continuing to improve in Southeastern states, fueling up for the holiday weekend shouldn't be too challenging, save for a few pockets in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina, where outages remain a bit higher than neighboring states. For those hitting the road, we should

see prices inch lower in the coming week through at least Memorial Day, so motorists need not rush to fill their tanks as the drop in oil prices should manifest into lower gas prices as we begin the summer driving season."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades.

GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country.

GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

MR. ELECTRIC CAR proponent. So if the projected mileage is only 300 miles for a truck and some cars, how are you going to recharge on a 500-mile rural trip? Ludicrous.

SOCIAL MEDIA HAS legal protection because it is considered a public platform meaning it has no liability for opinions expressed, therefore they don't have the right to obstruct freedom of speech. Social media must be regulated as a public utility and abide by the rules of equal freedom for all.

Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

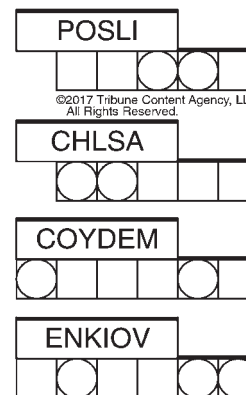
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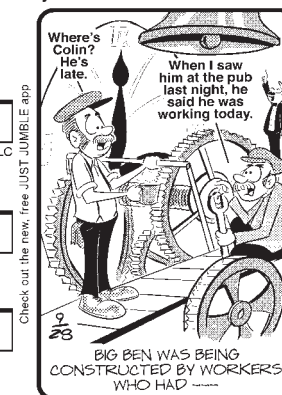
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Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times



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



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FOOD TRUCK

Continued from Front Page

trucks in the city. In the last few months, the council has had multiple discussions on how food trucks should operate in the city.

City Manager Ellen Glass said they incorporated most or all of the feedback from the last meeting.

This ordinance does not pertain to food vendors operating at public or community events approved by the City Council prior to the event, and it doesn't apply to outdoor food sales operated by an existing brick and mortar restaurant on the same site as that restaurant.

The ordinance requires food vendor operators to apply for a permit and pay a fee for regular vending. Existing brick and mortar restaurants will not have to pay a fee to operate a mobile food

vehicle in the city.

A private business can apply for a special event permit to invite a food truck. With this type of permit, multiple rules in this ordinance do not apply. The city can approve special event permits for one day only.

The ordinance states, "No special event may be conducted within a public street or other property owned by the city of Linden without approval from the City Council ... No special event permit may be issued to the same individual, business or institution and/or for the same property more frequently than once every sixty (60) days."

The city may require a submitted plan for where and how a food vendor would operate in relation to existing driveways, lanes, parking areas and walkways.

Except for special events, food ven-

dors cannot operate in a public street or area or on private property without permission from the owner. Vendors operating on private property can only operate on property zoned LS, GC, or CBD District.

Previously, the council discussed not allowing food vendors to operate within 500 feet of existing brick and mortar restaurants while that restaurant was open. This has been revised. The current ordinance states except for special events, vendors operating on private land shall not operate within 250 feet of an existing brick-and-mortar restaurant during the hours when such restaurant is open to the public for business.

The ordinance includes these regulations for all mobile food vendors:

- Mobile food vendors cannot cause unreasonable or excessive noise, such as loud music, other high-decibel sounds, horns, or amplified announcements.
- No mobile food vehicle vendor shall operate between the hours of 9 p.m. and 8 a.m., April through September, and between the hours of 7 p.m. and 8 a.m., October through March.
- In addition to signage placed on mobile food vehicles, one A-frame sign may be permitted during operating hours.
- No flashing or blinking lights or strobe lights are allowed on mobile food vehicles or related signage when the vehicle is parked and engaged in serving customers.

Read the full ordinance at lindenmi.us.

Linden attorney Michael Gildner wrote a letter to the council about concerns raised from a letter they received from the Institute for Justice that raised issues with the mobile food vending ordinance.

The Institute had concerns with the 500-foot rule, and Gildner suggested they do 250 feet instead to "level the playing field," he wrote. The Institute claimed that mobile vendors should be able to operate on any private property, but Gildner said vendors are for commercial use and the city has limits in particular zoning districts.

The last issue raised by the Institute was that the city's proposed ordinance gave a "privilege" to religions and charities. Gildner said this later version does not do this.

Councilor Aaron Wiens asked for clarification on the differences between a special event permit and regular vending. He asked if Ace Hardware wanted to have a taco truck on Friday, would that be a special event or regular vending?

Gildner said the business would be allowed to request the special event permit. If the taco truck wishes to use the parking lot for business, they would have to get permission from Ace, make sure they're not within 250 feet of an existing restaurant during operation hours and they would need a yearly permit from the city.

KING FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Met melody
5 "CSI" settings
9 Apply cream
12 Fender bend-
er
13 Gumbo need
14 Mode lead-in
15 Instrument
panel
17 Homer's
neighbor
18 Thread hold-
ers
19 "Tiny Alice"
playwright
21 "Heavens!"
22 Spud
24 Green gem
27 Church seat
28 Ken or Barbie
31 Glamorous
Gardner
32 Shoe width
33 Teeny
34 Baseball
glove
36 British "Inc."
37 — B'rith
38 Soil
40 Opposite of
nyet
41 "Yippee!"
43 Vile
47 Ghostly greet-
ing
48 Music group
at a New
Year's Eve
party

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| 31 | | | | | 32 | | | | | 33 | | |
| 34 | | | 35 | | 36 | | | | | 37 | | |
| | | 38 | | 39 | | | | 40 | | | | |
| 41 | 42 | | | | | | 43 | | | 44 | 45 | 46 |
| 47 | | | | | 48 | 49 | 50 | | | | | |
| 51 | | | | | 52 | | | | | 53 | | |
| 54 | | | | | 55 | | | | | 56 | | |

- 51 Wall St. debut
52 Jacob's twin
53 Author Ferber
54 "A mouse!"
55 Peel
56 Optimistic
- DOWN**
- 1 Tosses in
2 Harvest
3 Not — many
words
4 Not on the
road
5 Novelist Anita
6 Alias letters
7 "It's c-c-
cold!"
- 8 Nasser's suc-
cessor
9 "The Da Vinci
Code" author
10 Out of the
storm
11 Ordered
16 Journalist
Nellie
20 Started
22 Pearly whites
23 Dumbstruck
24 Bread spread
25 Bird (Pref.)
26 Appointment
tracker
27 Hide
29 Meadow
- 30 Tiki bar neck-
lace
35 Eastern path
37 Sweeney
Todd, for one
39 Actress
Winona
40 Female hare
41 Theater award
42 Aspiration
43 Gulf War mis-
sile
44 Pedestal part
45 Hostels
46 Crucial time
49 " — was say-
ing ..."
50 Indian bread

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
IF YOU GOT the COVID vaccination, why are you so afraid to be around people who aren't vaccinated? Apparently you don't believe the vaccinations work, so why then did you get vaccinated?

■■■■
STREET EXPERIENCE IS a disaster. Took me 45 minutes to get from Gerych's past Sagano. Traffic was horrid. Things are opening so let's go back to eating in the restaurants.

■■■■
SO, OUR LOVELY governor gets caught hanging with a dozen people at a bar in E. Lansing, violating a rule she made. When our family of seven tried to eat together at a local restaurant, we were told the seventh person would have to eat at an adjacent table. Unbelievable.

■■■■
WHITMER SHOWS UP in a photo with 13 people drinking at a bar last weekend.

This gathering violates her mandate. So what does she do, she lifts the mandate and attempts an apology to show she is human and makes mistakes. You just can't make this stuff up.

■■■■
THE RESTAURANTS in Holly are excellent and much easier to get to on Thursday and Friday nights if you are stuck in the Fenton gridlock.

■■■■
THANK YOU, NICE to see more numbers. Not enough to extrapolate but more is better. I was surprised at the 144,000,000 Americans not paying federal taxes. I thought it was more. Obviously, had they paid federal tax it would have impacted the 40 percent figure. Now, name the 55 corporations.

■■■■
GOTCHA, HOOK, LINE and sinker. You're all in with 'green' propaganda. The electric vehicle you love and brag about is more accurately called a coal car. Do just of little independent research. There are zero environmental benefits from coal cars.



Holly's Claire Bednarczyk

Holly tennis figures a way to qualify for state despite injuries

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity girls tennis team has gone through its fair share of challenges this season.

The squad has lost key members due to injuries and it has changed their starting lineup dramatically.

However, it didn't change what the

Bronchos do — that's perform well consistently year in and year out.

Despite the issues, the Bronchos figured a way to qualify for the D2 state meet by finishing in a tie for second at the South Lyon Regional.

Dexter easily won it with 30 points, but there was a great battle for second place.

Holly (13) and South Lyon East (13) tied for second and earned state spots, just edging out Swartz Creek and Walled Lake Western who each finished with 12 points.

"It's a miracle we qualified," Holly varsity girls tennis coach Will Sophia

See HOLLY on 16

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021 | **PAGE 13** | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Tigers dominate field, earn D1 track regional crown

Miller, Sage lead Fenton boys impressive performance

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity boys track team are regional champions.

The Tigers are more than that. They have proven what a lot of prep track enthusiasts thought from the start of the season — the Tigers are one of the elite teams in the state.

Fenton recorded regional championships in six events and the Tigers established themselves as legitimate potential state champions in those events as they captured the regional title at the

Division 1 Lake Orion regional on Friday.

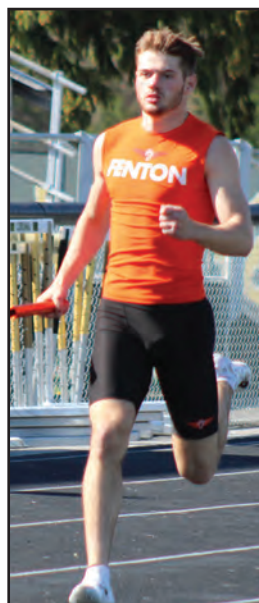
The Fenton girls had a state qualifier and placed seventh at the meet while the Holly girls had one state qualifier and placed 14th overall. The Holly boys placed 15th and won't have any competitors at the state meet.

The Fenton boys were the story at the meet with Brandon Miller being the biggest star. Miller broke a school record while winning regional championships in the 100 (10.60) and

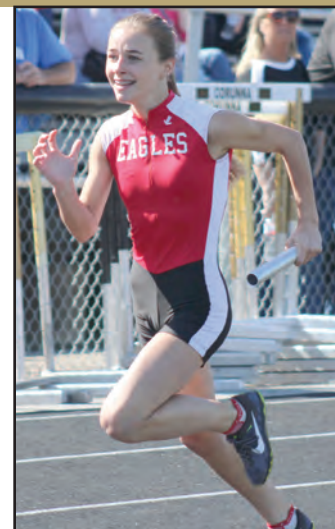
the 200 (21.25). He also helped both sprint relays earn regional championships. The 400 relay team of Donovan Miller, Noah Sage, Christopher Piwowarczyk and Brandon Miller posted a school record time of 42.54 seconds en route to a regional championship. Miller also teamed with Donovan Miller, Sage and Evan Koch to win the 800 relay (1:28.80).

Sage also earned an individual event regional title to go with his two relay championships. He broke a school record in the 400 with a first-place time of 47.69 seconds.

See TIGERS on 16



Two of Fenton's top performers at the D1 regional meet were Brandon Miller (left) and Noah Sage (right). Both will compete in four events at the D1 state meet. **Photos: David Troppens**



Linden's Lauren Goodman qualified for the D2 girls state track meet in the 200.

Photo: David Troppens

Lady Eagles place second at regional meet

By David Troppens

The Linden varsity track program will have plenty of competitors at the Division 2 state meet.

That's because the program earned its share of D2 state

See EAGLES on 15

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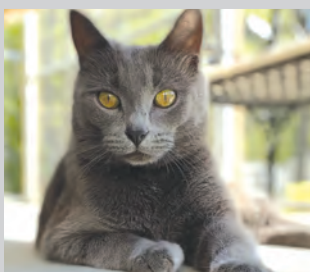


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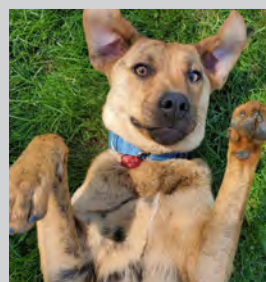
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Fenton softball splits contests vs. Goodrich Martians

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity softball team had a couple of low-scoring battles with Goodrich on Monday, resulting in a split with Goodrich. The Tigers lost to Goodrich 6-3 in one game but defeated the Martians 4-1 in the other contest.

In the 4-1 victory, the Tigers scored three runs in the first inning. With one out, Sophie Collins walked, Lauren Miller doubled and Lily Turkowski walked, loading the bases. Madie Best followed with an RBI-walk and a wild pitch scored another run. Jordyn Bommersbach followed with a walk and Jessica Dunkel drove in another run when she was hit by a pitch. The Tigers led 3-0.

Fenton scored its fourth run in the fifth when Collins walked and eventually scored on Turkowski's RBI-single.

In the 6-3 loss, the Tigers trailed 6-0 until scoring three runs in the bottom of the sixth.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Fenton's Kyle Crow had two hits in the Tigers' 8-6 first-game victory against Gabriel Richard on Friday. Photo: David Troppens

Tigers earn sweep in non-league DH vs. Gabriel Richard

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity baseball team is picking the right time to get hot.

The Tigers improved their current winning streak to seven games with a doubleheader sweep of Gabriel Richard on Friday.

The Tigers won the first game 8-6 and won the second 6-4.

In the opener, the Tigers trailed 6-5 entering the seventh, but scored three runs in the top of the seventh. Kyle Crow, Logan Angel, Spencer Luck and Seth Logan began the inning with four straight singles. Luck's single drove in a run and the bases were loaded with no out. The Tigers got a sacrifice fly from Jake Durant to take a 7-6 lead, and an error gave Fenton their eighth run.

Luck led the offense with two hits and three RBI. He provided a two-run home run in the Tigers' four-run fifth. Eddie Bri-

and, Kyle Crow and Angel had two hits each.

Fenton used five different pitchers with Luck and Peyton Jackson each tossing an inning of shutout relief. Luck pitched the sixth and got the win. Jackson tossed the seventh and needed just six pitches to earn the save.

The second contest was tied at 4-4 until the Tigers scored two runs in the top of the fourth and then held on to earn the 6-4 five-inning victory.

The fourth started with Colin Lawrence reaching base on an error. Two outs later, Durant singled and Brendan Alvord tripled in Durant. The Tigers scored the other run off a defensive error.

Alvord had three hits and drove in two runs to pace the offense. On the mound, Jackson tossed 2 1/3 innings of one-hit shutout relief to earn win. He struck out two batters.

LF baseball begins busy Metro week with split vs. Clio Mustangs

By David Troppens

While many Flint Metro League teams have a game or two they may have to complete to conclude the league season, the Lake Fenton varsity baseball team entered this week with a lot of games remaining on their schedule.

The Blue Devils played two of those games that remain on Monday, earning a split against the Clio Mustangs.

The Blue Devils won the first game 6-3 but then lost the second 7-4.

In the opener, the Blue Devils jumped to a 4-0 lead with a run in the top of the third and three more in the top of the fourth.

Lake Fenton set up scoring its first run when Sam Shumaker started the third with a single. An out later, Cam-

See LF on 16

PREP REPORT

BASEBALL

► **Brighton 5-15, Linden 1-1:** In the opening game, Reese Ungvarsky and Brenden Sinn had two hits each. Sinn drove in the Eagles' run. Zack Hemphill pitched 2 2/3 innings of shutout relief.

In the second game, Ungvarsky, Spencer Goodman and Danny Roti had a hit each.

► **Goodrich 2-5, Fenton 1-3:** Goodrich swept a doubleheader, helping the Martians lock up the

league crown. The Martians broke a 1-1 tie in the ninth inning, scoring the winning run with a sacrifice fly. The Tigers had just four hits in the first contest, scoring their run in the third inning on a Lance Barkholz sacrifice fly. Connor Luck hit a double. Brendan Alvord pitched eight innings of four-hit ball, striking out 10.

The Tigers had 10 hits in the second game with Barkholz, Alvord and Logan Angel had two hits each.

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Bronchos pitch well, sweep Flushing Raiders : Bronchos earn

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity baseball team won't win the Flint Metro League title this season, but the Bronchos are going to finish pretty high in the standings.

The Bronchos (22-9-2 overall) improved to 14-4-2 in Flint Metro League action, sweeping the Flushing Raiders 8-5 and 3-2 on Monday.

In the opener, the Bronchos trailed 5-3 entering the fifth, but the Bronchos scored three runs in the top of the fifth and two more in the top of the sixth to earn the victory.

The fifth inning started with walks to Nolan Jenkinson and Jacob Hild. Mason Yoder drove in the first run with an RBI-single and Weston Wyjud followed with an RBI-pitch of his own. Another run scored on a wild pitch. The Bronchos led 6-5.

Offensively, Yoder led the Bronchos with two hits, driving in two runs and scoring two

runs. Pittenger also had two hits and drove in two runs. He scored one run.

On the mound, Mason Clark relieved and tossed seven innings of three-run ball for the win. He allowed two walks and eight hits while striking out five.

In the second game, the Bronchos only scored in the sixth, scoring all three of their runs during that stanza.

The sixth inning rally started with Clark getting hit by a pitch and Chris Walton singling. Jenkins followed with an RBI-single, tying the game at 1-all. After back-to-back strikeouts, Yoder singled in the Bronchos' final two runs.

On the mound, Jenkinson pitched a strong contest. He used just 97 pitches (58 were strikes) to earn the complete-game victory. He tossed a six-hitter while allowing two walks. He struck out four batters.



Holly's Nolan Jenkinson pitched a strong game in the Bronchos' 3-2 victory against the Flushing Raiders.

Photo: David Troppens

EAGLES

Continued from Page 13

qualifiers at the regional meet held at Corunna High School, Friday. The Lake Fenton boys also had a state-qualifier.

None of the area teams had more success than Linden's girls' squad. The women had qualifiers in three events with Lauren Goodman leading the way. Goodman placed second in the 200 (28.50) and helped two relays to regional championships. She teamed with Lani Manners, Kennedy Hoose and Victoria Osmond to win the 400 relay (51.00) and also teamed with Manners, Kynleigh Copeland and Osmond to win the 800 relay (1:52.31).

Kyle Eberhard also had a nice day for the Linden boys. He won a regional championship in the 1,600 (4:26.36). He was followed closely by his teammate River Meckstroth who placed second (4:27.29) earning Meckstroth a state trip as well. Finally, Lake Fenton's state-qualifier also came in 1,600 Joseph Gil-



River Meckstroth (right) and Kyle Eberhard (left) have qualified for the D2 boys state meet in the 1,600 run. **Photo: David Troppens**

bert placed sixth (4:29.73) and qualified for the state meet based on his time.

The Linden girls had 12 other competitors earn top-eight finishes in individual events. Madison Gerszewski and Katelynrose Birchmeier each earned two of them in the hurdle events. Birchmeier was third in the 100 hurdles (51.99) and fifth in the 100 hurdles (17.62) while Gerszewski was fourth in the 100 hurdles (17.48) and fifth in the 300 hurdles (52.89).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

- Bronchos earn
- 20th win, sweep
- Everest Collegiate

By David Troppens

- The Holly varsity baseball team has
- collected a 20-win season.

• The Broncos improved to 20-9-2
• overall for the season with a double-
• header sweep against Everest Collegiate
• (Clarkston) on Saturday.

- The Bronchos won the first game by a 25-11 score in seven innings and by an 8-6 margin in the second contest.

The Broncos led just 14-11 entering the seventh inning in the first contest, but then scored 11 runs in the top of the seventh. The run-producing hits during the stanza were an RBI-triple by Drew Hignite, a two-run double by Jacob Pitenger, an RBI-double by Mason Clark and a two-run double by Chris Walton. Everest Collegiate pitchers allowed seven walks and hit a batter during the stanza as well. In fact, the Broncos walked 17 times during the contest. They also collected 19 hits.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



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TIGERS

Continued from Page 13

He also had a personal record time of 22.02 seconds in the 100, placing second in the event and earning a state meet invite. The final Fenton regional championship was posted by Justin Miller who won the high jump (6-8).

The Tigers had one more D1 state qualifier. Orion Schwiderson finished second in the pole vault (12-9).

Fenton's female qualifier was Taylor Huntoon. She placed second in the 800 with a personal-best time of 2:23.24.

Holly's qualifier was Aniya Semer. She placed second in the high jump (5-2).

Other Fenton boys' individuals that scored regional points with an individual-event top-eight finish were Josh Thomp-

son, third in the shot put (43-9); Donovan Miller, eighth in the 100 (10.60); Justin Miller, third in the long jump (21-1 1/2); and Jack Larson, fifth in the high jump (5-11).

The Fenton girls also had five other individuals score top-eight efforts in individual events. They were Emma Dubie, third in the 200 (27.54); Sidney Sahr, third in the shot put (31-6 1/2); Victoria Henson, fourth in the high jump (5-0); Isabella Henson, sixth in the long jump (15-6); and Emma Hall, eighth in the long jump (15-3 1/4).

The Holly boys had two individuals record individual top-eight efforts. Jae Simmons was fifth in the 200 (23.19) while Josh Hart finished eighth in the discus (112-5).

The D1 state track meet will be on June 5 at East Kentwood High School.



Fenton's Donovan Miller will be competing at the D1 boys state meet in the 400 relay and the 800 relay. Photo: David Troppens

LF

Continued from Page 14

eron Wright singled, moving Shumaker to third. He then scored on Noah Schatzley's ground out. The Blue Devils led 1-0. In the fourth, Wright walked and Reid Shumaker reached on an error. Colin Schramm sacrificed the runners over and reached base on an error, loading the bases. Errors allowed two runs to score and then Sam Shumaker followed with an RBI-single. The Blue Devils led 4-0.

Clio cut the gap with a run in the fifth and two more in the sixth, cutting the gap to 4-3. Two insurance runs were scored in the top of the seventh when Hemsall walked and Mason Cook singled. Kenny Wright hit a two-run single.

Reid Shumaker was the starting pitcher, tossing five innings of one-run ball for the victory. He walked just two and struck out one. Schatzley relieved and earned the save with two innings of relief work.

In the second game, the Blue Devils scored three runs in the top of the fifth to take a 4-1 lead.

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HOLLY

Continued from Page 13

said. "Our (normal) No. 1 singles player, Calli Sokolowski, would've been the No. 2 seed overall in the state and she tore her ACL at the end of April. Then Emma Tooley, one of our No. 1 doubles players, did the same thing. So we had to move everyone up (in the lineup).

"It was our three seniors that carried us. All three took their flight to the championship match."

No. 1 doubles player and senior Paige Weeder teamed with Kendall Stilwell for the Broncos' sole flight championship. They defeated Dexter's Anya Johansen and Charlotte Bruderly 6-3, 6-4 in the title match. They also won three other matches. The pair entered the tourney unseeded.

Senior Lauren Lesch advanced to the championship match in the No. 3 singles flight before losing a 2-6, 6-3, 6-1 match in the finals against Dexter's Avery Godrich. Senior Claire Bednarczyk also



Reagan Murton played at No. 1 singles for the Holly Broncos at the regional meet. Photo: David Troppens

helped guide her No. 3 doubles squad to the title match with Makenna McGee. They won two matches before losing in the finals against Dexter's flight 6-4, 6-2.

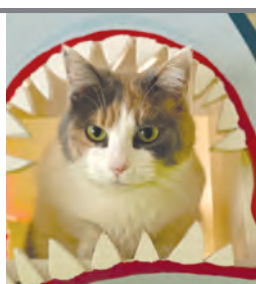
The Broncos also won other matches. Grace McAninch (No. 2 singles) and Sarah Fairless (No. 4 singles) won a match each.

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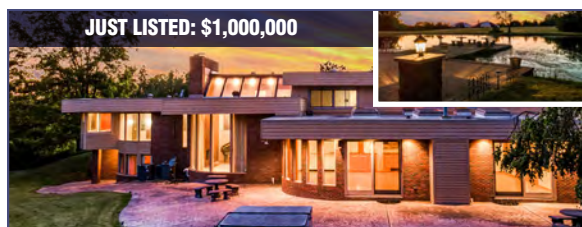
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HOLLY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

| | |
|------------|--|
| Roll Call: | G. Kullis, K. Winchester, M. Freeman, D. Burton and S. Ruth. |
| Approved: | 2021-2022 Holly Township Parks Proposed Budget-Proposed Resolution 2021-08. |
| Postponed: | New Contract Proposals from Holly Township's IT Company. |
| Approved: | 2021-2022 North Oakland County Fire Authority Proposed Budget - Proposed Resolution 2021-09. |
| Approved: | 2121/22 Boards and Commissions Meeting Schedule - Proposed Resolution 2021-10. |
| Approved: | Village of Holly Master Plan - Letter from Board of Trustees to the Village of Holly. |

Karin S. Winchester, MMC
Holly Township Clerk

George A. Kullis
Holly Township Supervisor

NOCFA
Continued from Front Page
additional special meetings are in the works.
Rose Township approved a motion not to increase its annual contribution. Because the two townships split the contribution equally, the NOCFA Board held its meeting May 18 to discuss the situation. Holly Township held off on a vote when the township board met May 19, but was prepared to vote in favor.

ROSE TOWNSHIP MEETING – MAY 12

During its Wednesday, May 12, meeting the Rose Township Board of Trustees approved the budget for North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA), which did not include a proposed increase of \$102,000 contribution from Rose Township.
Currently, Rose Township contributes \$818,000 to NOCFA. Holly Township also contributes \$818,000.
NOCFA had proposed an operating budget, which would have made each township’s equal contribution \$920,000 annually, an increase of \$102,000 annually per township.
Clerk Debbie Miller motioned the board to approve the \$102,000 increase. There was no support from the other board members.

Trustee Glen Nobel provided another motion. He motioned that the board approve the NOCFA budget, without the increase, keeping the annual contribution from Rose Township at \$818,000.
Noble’s motion passed by a vote of 4-1, with Miller casting the dissenting vote.
During public comment, Chester Koop, who was supervisor of Rose Township from 1998 to 2008, spoke and said he was “astonished” by the board’s vote on the NOCFA proposed budget.
Koop also said he appreciated Clerk Miller’s motion. He had been on NOCFA’s board for 10 years when he was supervisor and said that NOCFA is one of the most responsible departments in Oakland County.
“You need to show some support,” Koop said. “I do not want to be in your seat when the fire authority breaks up. I am really worried.”
Capt. Tim Seal of NOCFA also addressed the board. “I’m slightly disheartened by the vote,” he said. He

said he wished there had been more discussion at the fire authority meetings about the proposed budget. He said the proposed increase was approved unanimously by the NOCFA board to bring the proposal back to each municipality.
The NOCFA board is comprised of two Rose Township Board of Trustee members, two Holly Township Board of Trustee members and one citizen at large. Representing Rose Township are Supervisor Dianne Scheib-Snider and Treasurer Paul Gambka. Representing Holly Township is Clerk Karin Winchester and Supervisor George Kullis. The citizen at large is Peter Stouffer of Rose Township.
Seal said on average an independent fire authority has an annual budget of \$1.4 million. This compares to a proposed \$920,000 budget. “This is a huge discount,” he said.
Another resident spoke during public comment and said she thanked Koop and Seal for their service. She also said, “We need fire protection.”
Resident Steve Ghostley told the board he was disappointed by the board’s vote. He said the level of service he’s had at his home has been “outstanding.”
He added, “They should be taken care of by the one they represent. I applaud Clerk Miller for her vote and budget.”

NOCFA BOARD MEETING – MAY 18
During the May 18 NOCFA Board meeting, Winchester said she was disturbed and that Rose Township had ample opportunity to tell the NOCFA Board what they didn’t like about the contract. “Nothing was conveyed to NOCFA with problems of the budget,” she said. “\$900,000 is the biggest and most important thing for a township and there was no discussion (at the Rose Township meeting May 12).”
During the May 18 NOCFA meeting, Gambka said Rose Township covers its shortfall from its millage using \$70,000 from the general fund. He said they’ll have to use \$375,000 from the general fund to make the increased contribution, had it passed. Rose Township’s current millage expires next year. Rose Township has two millages, 1.3096 and 0.7229 for a total of 2.0325. They expire Dec. 31, 2021.
Scheib-Snider said despite the Rose

Township representatives voting in favor of taking the original proposal back to the township for approval, discussion was not necessary at the Rose Township meeting and each official voted based on their own reasons.
Holly Township Supervisor George Kullis said, “We have fought three years to save the fire department and the flow of people leaving. We’ve raised salaries. We have to be responsible. We have a responsibility to this board.”
Had Rose Township Board approved the proposed budget, Kullis said Holly Township was prepared to approve it.
On May 18, the NOCFA Board voted 3-2 to have Chief Lintz put together a new proposed budget maintaining the current \$818,000 contribution from each municipality. Representing Holly Township on the board, Kullis and Winchester voted no. Lintz said he would attempt to put together a revised budget proposal prior the next meeting.
Following the Rose Township meeting and the NOCFA Board meeting, NOCFA Chief Jeremy Lintz, said, “I like many others am confused as to why the two Rose Township Board members that are on the NOCFA Board chose not to discuss the proposed budget during the March and April NOCFA meetings and then approved it to go to their Township Board where again there was not a

single word of discussion about it.
“Although the result of Rose Township not approving the budget has caused some tension within the Board and the department, I am confident that we can all come to a resolution before June 30th. It is important to keep the residents needs in our best interest.”


NOCFA BOARD MEETING – MAY 25
The NOCFA Board held a special meeting to discuss the budget May 25 at 11:30 a.m. Once the NOCFA Board agrees on a proposed budget to take back to the two municipalities, Rose and Holly township boards will conduct another vote.
After more than two hours of discussion on May 25, the NOCFA Board voted to send back to the townships a new budget proposal to vote on, which would result in an annual contribution of \$849,926 from each township. Holly Township Clerk Karin Winchester voted no and said she had concerns over the negative impact of the cuts. “It’s a mistake,” she said.
Read NOCFA Chief Jeremy Lintz’s FY-2022 Budget Proposals, including three new options that were presented at the May 25 NOCFA Board meeting, with this story online at tctimes.com.
To view the entire board meetings online, go to YouTube and search for North Oakland County Fire Authority and Rose Township. All meetings are videotaped and posted for public viewing.

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