**Townships approve even contributions**

After Rose Township rejects $920,000 proposal, it and Holly Township okay $849,926 for NOCFA operating budget

By Sharon Stone

During a special meeting Thursday, June 3, to vote on its budget for the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA), the Rose Township Board of Trustees approved a motion by Trustee Glen Noble and seconded by Trustee Patricia Walls to approve an operating budget of $849,926 as its annual contribution for fire and EMS services.

See **BUDGET** on 7

**It was a fair balancing act and the full-time employees were understanding of it. They knew that I could do what I could to take care of them.**

**Jeremy Lintz**
North Oakland County Fire Authority chief

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**The State Bank Trail**

Local bank announces sponsorship of portion of the LAFF Pathway

Fenton — The State Bank donated $500,000 to help develop a non-motorized pathway along Silver Lake Road.

On Tuesday, June 8, The State Bank presented a check to the LAFF (Linden, Argentine Township, Fenton, Fenton Township) Pathway organization stand for a photo in downtown Fenton on Tuesday, June 8. Ron Justice, president and CEO of Fentura Financial and The State Bank, presented a check for $500,000 to help build phase two of the LAFF Pathway. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

**“We were all in from the very beginning.”**

**Ron Justice**
Fentura Financial and The State Bank president and CEO

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**$1 million scratch-off ticket sold in Fenton**

Genesee County man so excited he forgets to remove gas nozzle

By Sharon Stone

A 59-year-old Genesee County man, who wishes to remain anonymous, won the Michigan Lottery’s Winning Millions recently in Fenton.

He stopped at the Speedway gas station on Owen Road in Fenton.

See **$1 MILLION** on 6

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**MDOT updates road, lane closures**

Bridge and freeway work underway

By Sharon Stone

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) announced it will have single lanes closed on U.S. 23 from Thompson Road in Fenton Township north to Swartz Creek (south of Hill road) during the week.

See **MDOT** on 10

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**Thank you** to the great staff at Mission Point Nursing Home in Holly. My rehabilitation went well with the care the dedicated staff provided in a professional manner.

**Fenton girls soccer** played their hearts out this year. It was a season of many challenges, but you still laughed, smiled, danced, and had fun as we always do. I am so proud of all our girls. Go Tigers!

**Congratulations to T Mac and the Fenton Tigers. Track team, Division 1 STATE CHAMPIONS Wow! STATE CHAMPIONS!”**
Trip to Walt Disney World announced

Lake Fenton High School marching band and choir learn they will perform next spring

By Sharon Stone

Ryan Gonder, Lake Fenton High School director of bands and choirs, learned Wednesday, June 2 that that Lake Fenton marching band and choir will traveling to Orlando, Florida next March to perform at Walt Disney World.

This will be the band’s fifth (2005, 2009, 2013, and 2017) trip and choir’s first performance at Walt Disney World.

The theme park will celebrate its 50th Anniversary, dubbed The World’s Most Magical Celebration!

Students are signing up now to attend. The trip runs from Friday, March 25, 2022 to Thursday, March 31, 2022.

When asked what the excitement level was about being selected to perform, Gonder said, “I am thrilled that our students get to perform as a part of Walt Disney World’s 50th Anniversary. What an honor for them, especially after such a difficult year.”

The group will depart via Bianco Motorcoaches tentatively Friday, March 25, 2022. They’ll arrive at Disney’s All Star Music Resort on Saturday. The group is expected to return to the school Thursday, March 31, 2022.

While staying in Orlando, the groups will have opportunities to visit Disney theme parks and area attractions.

Gonder said fundraising efforts are underway.

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Argentine man giving away Narcan

Rise Up Initiative helps those struggling with addiction

By Hannah Ball

An Argentine Township resident is hoping to form more connections with organizations and churches to save people who overdose on opioids and fight the opioid epidemic.

Mike Bolton, creator and executive director of Rise Up Initiative, has 48 cases of Narcan to distribute. He’s distributed 348 hours so far. Narcan is the brand name for naloxone, which is a nasal spray that can reverse the respiratory effects of an opioid overdose.

Bolton works in harm reduction and education, as well as violence prevention and youth mentoring. He’s looking to partner with business leaders, churches and other organizations to train a few employees in how to use the Narcan and potentially set up more long-term connections in the community.

“Obviously, the overdoses are bad in our area,” he said. “There’s just not enough people out here working on this. A lot of people get high in business parking lots or church parking lots. I want to focus on communities that are hot spots.”

Bolton said most people relapse within 30 days. There are cases where 2- or 3-year-olds find their parents illegal drugs, or teenagers take their drugs.

“It’s horrific,” he said. “This is what’s killing the kids.”

The epidemic has worsened due to the pandemic.

Overdose-related cardiac arrests increased in the U.S. 42 percent in 2020, according to a study in JAMA Psychiatry.

More than 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the U.S. from May 2019 to May 2020, which is the highest number of overdoses ever recorded in a 12-month period, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Overdoses were increasing before the pandemic, but the CDC states that these numbers suggest an “acceleration” of overdose deaths during the pandemic.

“The disruption to daily life due to the COVID-19 pandemic has hit those with substance use disorder hard,” said CDC Director Robert Redfield, M.D. “As we continue the fight to end this pandemic, it’s important to not lose sight of different groups being affected in other ways. We need to take care of people suffering from unintended consequences.”

Synthetic opioids, primarily illegally manufactured fentanyl, appear to be the primary drug involved, increasing 38.4 percent from the 12-month period leading up to June 2019 compared with the 12-month period leading up to May 2020.

Opioids accounted for approximately 75 percent of all overdose deaths in the early months of the pandemic.

One CDC recommendation is to expand the distribution of Narcan and increase overdose prevention education.

See NARCAN on 6
The beautiful Shiawassee River

By Editor Sharon Stone

ow that the weather is sum-
mer-like, my husband, Jeff
and I need to clean out our
kayaks to make sure all of
the spider webs, leaves and dust are
gone before we take our first adven-
ture of 2021. If I remember correctly,
we only took them out once last
summer. Sometimes we just cruise
around Squaw and Ponemah lakes
and sometimes we get together with
friends and meander down the Shi-
wassee River on a lazy Saturday
afternoon.

When we kayak the river, we
usually start in downtown Fenton
by the tennis courts and head to
Lake Ponemah. Other times we will
start from Squaw Lake and head
toward the Linden dam. If we head
to Linden, we take a short break
in Linden, turn around and paddle
together. There’s no noticeable current
in either direction.

We thoroughly enjoy these spur-of-
the-moment trips and know the ex-
ercise and sunshine are good for us.
One of these days we’ll kayak in the
evening for one of the moonlight events
as I’m sure that would be fun too.

We have found if you venture out
too early in the spring, low water lev-
els and fallen branches can make for a
challenging trek.

I cannot thank the Keepers of the
Shiawassee and the Headwaters
Trails volunteers who
work tirelessly to keep
this beautiful river at its
natural state and open
enough just to allow
kayakers and canoeists
through. After hearing
from Chuck Julian, secre-
tary of Headwaters Trails,
Inc., these volunteers are
on a mission.

We are always diligent
to leave the area along
the river better than we found it and
it’s quite disheartening to see trash
left behind from others. I’m just not
sure why anyone would leave trash
behind. We take a small plastic trash
bag with us and dispose of our own
stuff when we get home.

Wearing our polarized sunglasses,
we often spot several kinds of fish
just inches from our kayak. We’re
not really into fishing, but we sure
enjoy watching the fish swim by.

After living in the Fenton area for
31 years, I felt like I knew the area
like the back of my hand. I was so
wrong. When we launch from down-
town Fenton and head to Squaw
Lake by river, you can totally lose
track of where you are. We look for landmarks to
tell us where we are. We
see sites from a vantage
point that are not possible
from the roads. Som-
times you forget you are
in Fenton. It’s much like
a mini-vacation.

So, hopefully, we’ll
get our kayaks, dry bags
for our cellphones, a few
refreshments and snacks
ready and head to the waterway
soon. If you haven’t tried kayaking
or canoeing the Shiawassee River you
might want to put that on your bucket
list. We are blessed to have such a beau-
tiful river at our back door.

Be sure to pick up after yourself
and thank those volunteers who have
worked so hard to make it a national
waterway.

Do your summer plans include attending concerts,
sporting events, festivals, parades or other gatherings?

“As much as possible. I will never
take that for granted again.” — Marty Borksi

“Just enjoy staying home and go-
ing on the pontoon — same thing I
have done for 21 years.” — David Marsh

“No. Bonfires at the house, partying
with friends and family.” — Connie Lewandowski Beebee

“Definitely” — Sandy Hodson
Holly gears up for summer learning opportunities

Part of school district’s commitment to year-round learning for all Bronchos

As we gear up for summer, Holly Area Schools is proud to announce summer learning programs to help keep the minds of all Bronchos sharp year-round. The programs are part of the district’s continued commitment to helping all Bronchos achieve and succeed.

“As a school year like none other begins to wind down, we are proud to offer summer learning programs for all Bronchos as part of our continued dedication to preparing all students for bright futures,” said Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools superintendent. “We are excited that so many families have chosen to participate in these programs to help their students succeed this summer and beyond.”

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

SUMMER KIDS
Children age 6 weeks to 12 years old can participate in arts, crafts, sports, games, nature exploration and more. The program includes special field trips on Fridays. Learn more and register at bit.ly/BronchoSummerKids.

CAMP INVENTION
Camp Invention motivates elementary school students to think, move, explore and create, while utilizing Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and reading skills. The program helps build confidence while promoting problem solving and encouraging collaboration with other students. Students use problem-solving skills to design solar-powered crickets, test rubber duck launch devices and more.

INVENTION PROJECT
Invention Project provides the opportunity for middle school students to participate in high-energy, hands-on activities and learn to bring inventions to market using teamwork, communication and collaboration. Projects include developing a personal transportation device, building and programming robots, creating an innovative video game and more.

This summer, current Young Fives to fifth-grade students can enter the ST Math Challenge with Jiji the penguin, and get rewarded with amazing prizes. Everyone wins with this engaging game-based approach to learning important math skills.

Kids Read Now has proven to reverse the summer reading slide. All current Young Five to third-grade students will receive nine books over the summer to continue their journey to a lifelong love of reading. All books are free and are for students to keep at home in their personal libraries. Students in fourth and fifth grades will have the opportunity to check out summer reading books over the summer.

CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM
The district’s credit recovery program allows students in grades 9-12 who struggled with virtual learning during the pandemic to recover class credits and stay on track to graduate. Our program uses a project-based learning approach to engage students.

“It has never been more important to prepare our students for the jobs of the future, and our summer learning programs help us advance this goal while avoiding the summer learning slump,” Roper said.

To learn more about the district’s Summer Learning Programs, visit hask12.org.
**The filibuster refresher**

Four years ago, I wrote a column on the filibuster. In view of recent developments calling for it to be abolished, I submit the following supplement as a “filibuster refresher.”

In the 1939 movie, “Mr. Smith goes to Washington,” James Stewart played the role of a young United States senator who talked for almost 24 straight hours on the Senate floor in order to delay a vote on a corrupt public works bill. His efforts introduced the movie going public to the “filibuster.”

This term comes to us from the Dutch word “vrijbuiter” which means “pirate.” One interpretation is because a filibuster holds a legislative body hostage by its verbiage.

It has been defined as when a senator speaks or threatens to speak for hours on end to delay efforts to vote on a bill.

The filibuster dates back to Ancient Rome when its Senate did not limit how long senators could speak or debate.

Fast forward to the founding of the United States.

Although the filibuster is not part of the United States Constitution, the original rulebooks of both the House and the Senate provided for a simple majority vote to end one.

The House still has this rule, but in 1806, the Senate eliminated it and allowed filibusters to continue until the speaker was finished.

This practice continued for more than 100 years until March 8, 1917, when the Senate adopted Rule 22, which allowed a two-thirds majority vote of lawmakers to cut off debate. This is called “closure” and was in response to a filibuster, which killed a World War I defense bill.

In 1975, the Senate reduced the number of votes needed for cloture to 60.

There is an exception to this rule called the “nuclear option,” which provides that all executive-branch cabinet appointments and judicial nominations can proceed in certain circumstances with a simple majority of 51 votes.

Finally, there is a “stealth” filibuster when at least 41 senators signal their intent to filibuster. This is enough to keep a bill off the floor without a senator saying a single word.

At this point in time, it appears that filibusters will be with us for the foreseeable future. If there is a change, it will be considered historic to say the least.

**Baskets for Dad**

A Symphony Linden is pleased to offer a gift basket of your choice with socially-distanced delivery to your fantastic father* or a similar figure in your life.

A Symphony representative will safely deliver the Father’s Day gift basket during the business week between June 16 through June 21 for father’s over the age of 75 residing in the zip code of 48451 along with your fantastic message.

**To Order:** Call Stephanie Viener 810.623.2075 or email sviener@symphonynetwork.com by June 14.

**Please Provide:** The recipient’s first and last name, address, phone number, your choice of BBQ basket, car wash basket, or fresh homemade cookies, and your fantastic message.

Happy Father’s Day!

*individuals receiving the delivery must be 75 years or older.
**BUDGET**

*Continued from Front Page*

This motion came after Clerk Debbie Miller made a motion to approve NOCFA’s original proposed operating budget of $920,000, meaning Rose Township and Holly Township would each contribute an even split of $920,000 annually.

Currently, each township contributes $818,000 annually.

Rose Township has two NOCFA millages, 1.3096 and 0.7229 for a total of 2.0325 mills. They expire Dec. 31, 2021.

Holly Township has a NOCFA millage of 3.85 mills. The township board approved the $920,000 operating budget for NOCFA at its May 19 meeting.

There was no support to Miller’s motion, which meant it failed.

Miller said the Rose Township board never discussed the NOCFA budget before voting against it at their May 12 meeting.

The NOCFA board had previously approved taking the $920,000 annual contribution proposal back to their respective township boards for a vote.

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.

On June 3, Miller said NOCFA Chief Jeremy Lintz submitted the operating budget that he needed. She said Lintz gave reasons for the increase and a detailed report. “Everything costs more,” Miller said. She added that if they ever had a fire or medical emergency, who would they call. “I’m very concerned,” she said.

Walls said she is not a “newbie” on the fire authority board and that she has been taking minutes for years and attends all of the meetings. She said she would have preferred to see three options for the townships to vote on, rather than one proposed budget. “I’d be the first to give them more money, but right now under our circumstances, we should hold back a bit.”

In response, Miller said prices are rising and the township needs to keep its firefighters. “It’s very scary,” she said. “It’s not like we can’t afford it. We can afford it.”

Noble said the fire department has morphed into an EMS organization.

Scheib-Snider said she did not expect the NOCFA budget to double in five years. She said they’re supposed to pay 50/50 for equal services but station 3 needs more coverage.

Station 1 is at 5051 Grange Hall Rd. It is headquarters for NOCFA. It was built in 2009 and is staffed 24/7.

Station 3 is at 280 W. Rose Center Rd. It was built in 1983 and is staffed 24/7.

“The doubling floored me, when we’re not covered,” Scheib-Snider said. She added that personnel should bring their equipment and set up to provide more coverage for station 3.

Gambka said there is room for discussion in the upcoming months regarding the budget. “We need a budget and this is the best we have at this time,” he said.

A roll call vote was taken on Noble’s motion to approve an annual contribution of $849,926. Voting in favor were Walls, Gambka, Noble and Scheib-Snider. Voting against the motion was Miller.

**Special Holly Township meeting at 3 p.m. on Monday, June 7, 2021**

By a vote of 5-0, the Holly Township Board of Trustees voted to approve a motion to approve an annual contribution of $849,926 to the NOCFA operating budget. The meeting lasted 12 minutes.

**NOCFA fire chief responds**

Lintz said NOCFA will be able to get by with the budget that was approved by both boards. He said the two biggest items that did not get funded were the additional full-time position that was requested and the anticipated annual wage increase for the seven full-time employees.

“The full-time position was requested due to the short of paid on-call personnel that continue to plague us,” Lintz said. “As a result of the wage increases not being funded, the full-time employees petitioned and were accepted into the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) union.”

When asked what joining the IAFF union would do for the full-time NOCFA firefighters, Lintz said, “Well I don’t have a lot of experience with bargaining agreements. However, as I understand it, the Fire Board will have to be involved in negotiations and depending on prevailing wages, benefits and other employment factors personnel costs may increase significantly.”

Lintz went on to say, “I support the employees’ decision to organize. Over the past five years as we brought on more full-time employees, I have attempted to offer them good wages and benefits that were somewhat comparable to other municipal bargaining agreements, while keeping in mind that we are a smaller, rural community with a tight budget.

“I kept pace with those points in mind by slowly increasing wages and adding new employment incentives each year. It was a fair balancing act and the full-time employees were understanding of it. They knew that I would do what I could to take care of them.

“Now that I have somewhat lost control over administrating wage increases for them, it only makes sense that they try and protect themselves by organizing.”

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**Dort Financial Credit Union announces scholarship winners**

- Ten win $1,000 scholarships

Dort Financial Credit Union has selected the recipients of the 2020-2021 $1,000 Student Scholarship Award. “We were thrilled to receive 49 submissions for this scholarship,” said Beverly Kittle, Board director and chairperson of the Community Involvement Committee.

These 10 students were selected based on a variety of criteria. All applicants were asked to submit transcripts, letters of recommendation, and a brief essay describing what “Being Financially Responsible” means to them.

In response, Miller said prices are rising and the township needs to keep its firefighters. “It’s very scary,” she said. “It’s not like we can’t afford it. We can afford it.”

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“When the essays that were selected were very thoughtful and exceptionally well written” said Wayne Natzke, chairperson of the Board. “These students were grateful and excited to receive this scholarship.”

Dort congratulates all the students on their scholastic achievements and wishes them much success in achieving their future goals and dreams.

This year’s recipients are Kamryn Almsky, Anne Marie Atanga, Morrigan Fifield, Stuart Johnston, Katie Lazarz, Hayden Shinbarger, Michael Sly Jr., Shelby vonLinsowe, Elizabeth Williams and Elise Willingham.

When asked what joining the IAFF union would do for the full-time NOCFA firefighters, Lintz said, “Well I don’t have a lot of experience with bargaining agreements. However, as I understand it, the Fire Board will have to be involved in negotiations and depending on prevailing wages, benefits and other employment factors personnel costs may increase significantly.”

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“Now that I have somewhat lost control over administrating wage increases for them, it only makes sense that they try and protect themselves by organizing.”
JUNE 6
1944: Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower gives the go-ahead for the largest amphibious military operation in history: Operation Overlord, the Allied invasion of northern France, commonly known as D-Day. By daybreak, 18,000 British and American parachutists were already on the ground. An additional 13,000 aircraft were mobilized to provide air cover and support for the invasion. At 6:30 a.m., American troops came ashore at Utah and Omaha beaches.

JUNE 7
1913: On this day, Hudson Stuck, an Alaskan missionary, leads the first successful ascent of Denali (formerly known as Mt. McKinley) the highest point on the American continent at 20,320 feet. Stuck, an accomplished amateur mountaineer, was born in London in 1863. After moving to the United States, in 1905 he became archdeacon of the Episcopal Church in Yukon, Alaska, where he was an admirer of Native Indian culture and traveled Alaska’s difficult terrain to preach to villagers and establish schools.

JUNE 8
1968: Three days after falling prey to an assassin in California, Senator Robert F. Kennedy is laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, just 30 yards from the grave of his assassinated older brother, President John F. Kennedy. After JFK’s assassination in 1963, Robert joined President Lyndon B. Johnson’s administration but resigned in 1964 to run successfully in New York for a Senate seat. He became a leader of liberal Democrats in Congress and voiced criticism of the war in Vietnam.

JUNE 9
1973: With a spectacular victory at the Belmont Stakes, Secretariat becomes the first horse since Citation in 1948 to win America’s coveted Triple Crown: the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes. In one of the finest performances in racing history, Secretariat, ridden by Ron Turcotte, completed the 1.5-mile race in 2 minutes and 24 seconds, a dirt-track record for that distance.

JUNE 10
1752: Benjamin Franklin flies a kite during a thunderstorm and collects ambient electrical charge in a Leyden jar, enabling him to demonstrate the connection between lightning and electricity. Franklin became interested in electricity in the mid-1740s, a time when much was still unknown on the topic, and spent almost a decade conducting electrical experiments. He coined a number of terms used today, including battery, conductor and electrician. He also invented the lightning rod, used to protect buildings and ships.

JUNE 11
1979: John Wayne, an iconic American film actor famous for starring in countless westerns, dies at age 72 after battling cancer for more than a decade. The actor was born Marion Morrison on May 26, 1907, in Winterset, Iowa, and moved as a child to Glendale, California. After finding work as a movie studio laborer, Wayne befriended director John Ford, then a rising talent. His first acting jobs were bit parts in which he was credited as Duke Morrison, a childhood nickname derived from the name of his beloved pet dog.

JUNE 12
1987: In one of his most famous Cold War speeches, President Ronald Reagan challenges Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev to “tear down” the Berlin Wall, a symbol of the repressive Communist era in a divided Germany. In 1952, the border between the two countries was closed. In August 1961, the Berlin Wall was erected by the East German government to prevent its citizens from escaping to the West. Between 1949 and the wall’s inception, it’s estimated that more than 2.5 million East Germans fled to the West in search of a less repressive life.
TRAIL
Continued from Front Page
involved,” he said. “The State Bank Trail will be a permanent reminder of our commitment to put the good back in banking by being actively engaged in developing, strengthening, and energizing the communities that we live in. Our goal is to build a great place to live, work, raise families, and where small businesses thrive.”

LAFF Pathway Inc., and Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation have worked together to develop the second phase of the pathway, which will go from the Linden city limits at Triangle Park, along Silver Lake Road and Silver Lake, and it will connect to the Fenton sidewalks in the city.

After many years of negotiations and coordination with eight governmental agencies, a non-motorized pathway will connect communities. Detailed plans run from Argentine Township, through Fenton Township and Linden to Fenton, connecting to city sidewalks and multiple parks, lakes, river-access, and local businesses in all four communities.

Phase 1, connecting Argentine Township to Linden, is complete and phase 2, from Fenton to Linden along Silver Lake Road, is a pivotal link in the trail system that has a Tier 1 priority-designation from the county.

As one of the premier businesses in our communities, it makes sense that The State Bank wants to lead in this area, Justice said.

“Opening up the efforts to put The State Bank Trail on the ground with this level of support and commitment is incredible.” said Ed Koledo, LAFF Pathway Inc. chairman and SLPR executive director. “When we put together the plan to provide matching funds for the $1.8 million in federal and state grants received by the city of Fenton and SLPR for this project, we looked at The State Bank first because of their history in our community and the level of support they’ve shown throughout the years; they were all in.”

Justice said from the first moment the LAFF Pathway group approached him, he was “very excited” about the opportunity. He took the matter to his senior staff and board.

“We were all in from the very beginning,” he said.

Justice talked about the value of pathways in the community and how it’s an honor to help develop them.

“I want to thank the pathways group and the municipalities and in this particular instance, Argentine, Fenton, Fenton Township and Linden for identifying us as a potential donor, approaching us and believing in us and allowing us to participate. It’s a true honor,” he said.

“The community collaboration is a major factor for the many grants that have been designated for this project,” said Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn, “All of the municipalities involved in The State Bank Trail are to be congratulated for working together in the best interest of our regional community. I want to thank Mayor Pro-Tem Pat Lockwood, Ed Koledo and the LAFF Pathway Inc. Board for their leadership to make this project a priority. I especially want to thank The State Bank for making this project a reality.”

Pat Lockwood, Fenton mayor pro-tem who’s also involved with LAFF, spoke about the “opportunities for recreational activities abound around pathways, family adventures, health improvements, the beauty of discovering all that nature offers in Michigan, the coming together of all generations on trails to adventure” and more.

She said the pathway is an example of regional recreational activities that unite municipalities with the goal of serving constituents and working with business partners to support their patrons to create a positive impact that will affect future generations.

“On behalf of the communities of Argentine Township, Fenton, Fenton Township and Linden, we are honored and deeply appreciate The State Bank for not only their financial commitment to this endeavor, but to their trust placed in connecting communities, creating positive change as citizens work toward common goals,” she said.
HOT LINE CONTINUED

FACT: THE AVERAGE electric vehicle is 50 percent plastic (by volume). Plastic is a petroleum (fossil fuel) product. So in reality, your precious electric vehicle is actually an oil car.

WHO ELSE THINKS that Mark Zuckerberg looks like the most unhealthiest person? That guy needs to pull himself away from his laptop, get outside and then and soak up some vitamin D. Maybe use some eyedrops too to get rid of the redness.

BIDEN DID NOT “shut down” the Keystone Pipeline; it doesn’t exist. He shut its construction. This means the loss of temporary jobs during construction, but you can also argue that the same number of jobs might be created in construction of green energy projects.

BEING FULLY VACCINATED does not make you immune to COVID-19; it makes you less likely to catch it and protects you against serious illness and death. Though it is less likely to happen, you still could catch it and then spread it to others, including those who are not vaccinated.

ALL VETERANS ARE qualified to get a white stone at Great Lakes. Some may be there before others. Forced protection has always been an issue in the military; it should be in civilian society.

MDOT Continued from Front Page

Keith G. Brown, P.E., construction engineer, said they should have the northbound lanes open Friday and Saturday and the southbound lanes open on Sundays, unless they run into some unforeseen circumstances as they complete the work.

To open it up like this they will need to shift traffic at some of the bridges. Those traffic shifts will remain in place over the weekends, but two lanes will be open.

At Owen Road in the city of Fenton, MDOT workers are moving to the middle lanes. This will include the left through lanes in both directions and the left turn lane. This started Monday, June 7 and should be completed by the end of the month.

At Baldwin Road, MDOT closed the bridge down Monday, June 7 and it will be closed until the end of the month.

At Grand Blanc Road, there could be intermittent lane closures in each direction, but the second lanes will remain open.

Senate Bill 457: Ban emergency orders that mandate minors get vaccination

To prohibit including a mandate in an epidemic-related state or local health department order that requires minors to get a coronavirus vaccination.

Senate Bill 400: Make certain drunk driving convictions eligible for expunction

To permit a first drunk driving conviction to be “expunged” or removed from an individual’s record after five years.

House Bill 4293: Ban union bargaining over substitute teacher jobs

To add the employment of an individual as a substitute teacher to the list of prohibited subjects of collective bargaining between school districts and teacher unions.

House Bill 4294: Let current school employees work as subs without degree or credentials

To allow a school district to hire a current employee as a substitute teacher even if the individual does not have a college degree or otherwise meet the legal requirements to be a substitute teacher. The person would get a raise if their current pay was less than a substitutes’ pay but would not get a cut if it was more. This would expire with the 2021-22 school year.

House Bill 4132: Make absentee ballot interference a felony

To make it a felony to knowingly submit an absent voter ballot application containing false information or a forged signature, or fill out and submit an absent voter ballot application in another person’s name, or submit an absent voter ballot application with the intent to obtain multiple absent voter ballots.
Linden 400 relay team finishes mission as D1 team state champs

By David Troppens
Two years ago the Fenton varsity boys track team placed 10th in the state.
That was the seed the Fenton Tigers needed.
“My sophomore year we had a good group of guys (and placed 10th in the state),” Fenton senior Noah Sage said. “We had so many guys returning in 2020 that we knew we had a chance (at a team state championship) in 2020.”
That didn’t happen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But it still planted a seed in the team’s mind what may be possible, and when the 2021 track season began those seeds started to create some strong roots.
Jump forward to Saturday’s Division 1 state meet and it’s apparent those seeds have blossomed. The Fenton varsity boys track and field team recorded state runner-up finishes in four events and earned All-State honors in five, leading the Tigers to their first-ever Division 1 boys track and field team state championship in school history. The Tigers’ 34 points tied Rockford for the championship.
Brandon Miller took two seconds with one coming in the 100 meter dash (10.84) and the other in the 200 (21.36). Meanwhile, Noah Sage was the runner up in the 400 (47.41) and finished seventh in the 200 (22.58). The duo also teamed up with Donovan Miller and Evan Koch to finish second in the 800 relay (1:28.23).
“It’s like indescribable. It’s amazing,” senior Brandon Miller said. “I knew the team we had this year was really special and I’m so thankful we could pull it off. Early this year I knew we had a few kids that wanted to do it, wanted to be better and with the proper drive in practice knew we could have a good season.”
“It’s crazy for our school has never done this,” Sage said. “It felt great. I will remember this the rest of my life. We could be the only team that ever does. ... I will remember that moment forever.”
“It’s exhilarating,” Fenton varsity boys track coach Anthony McMillan said. “It’s a dream come true. We had a goal of trying to accomplish this. ... It was really an honor to be able to compete in a meet of that magnitude and come out on top. We are the little dog in the fight with a lot of big dogs and we got to the top of the mountain. It’s humbling and I’m elated what these guys were able to accomplish. But if we didn’t push for the goal we couldn’t have achieved it. They wanted to leave a legacy at the school. They worked their tails off to accomplish that legacy forever.”
CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM
By David Troppens

The Clio Division 2 softball district turned out to be a good ol’ tri-county rivalry battle.

The Linden varsity softball team captured a D2 district title by defeating the Lake Fenton Blue Devils 7-5 in the championship game of the Clio district.

Both teams won semifinal contests. Linden easily defeated Clio 21-6, while Lake Fenton defeated Powers Catholic 12-1.

The seventh-ranked Eagles advance to the Clio regional, hosted Saturday. Linden plays at noon against Imlay City in one semifinal contest. The winner of that game will play either Essexville Garber and Frankenmuth at approximately 2 p.m.

The Eagles (32-6) used a three-run third to take the lead for good in the district championship contest against the Blue Devils.

The inning started with a single by Hannah Bollinger and continued with an Emma Mossing double. Haley Ludwig walked and that loaded the bases. Cassie Sylvester followed with an RBI off a booted by the Lake Fenton defense, and Mikayla Timm followed with a two-run single. Linden led 5-2.

The lead grew to 6-2 in the fifth when Timm hit a solo home run. Lake Fenton matched that run in the bottom of the fifth. Macy Phillips doubled and two outs later scored on Camryn McMillan’s RBI-single. The Blue Devils trailed just 6-3.

Linden added its final run in the sixth. Bollinger hit a single that eventually scored Maddie Morse from second base. Linden led 7-2.

The Blue Devils tried to mount a comeback in the seventh. Phillips walked and Addison Fitzgerald hit a two-run home run, but the next three batters went out in order, ending the contest.

Linden scored its first two runs in the top of the first when Morse and Bollinger singled, setting up Mossing’s RBI-double. Bollinger also scored on the throw. Lake Fenton matched those two runs with two of its own runs in the bottom of the first. Kaylie Terburgh walked and Camryn McMillan singled, setting up the threat. Both scored on a Linden infield error off of Caleigh MacNeill’s bat.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Holly softball loses heartbreaker vs. Oxford

By David Troppens — It looked like the Holly varsity softball team was on its way to defeating a 25-win Oxford squad in the semifinals of the Grand Blanc district Saturday.

The Bronchos scored two runs in the top of the fourth to take a 2-1 lead and were able to hold on to that lead for pretty much the rest of the game.

Well, the Bronchos did until the bottom of the seventh. That’s when Oxford answered back, scored two runs and earned a 3-2 victory.

With Maggs Boehm pitching a strong game and the defense playing pretty solid behind her, the Bronchos looked poised to record a big victory against the Wildcats entering the seventh. However, a pop fly that landed within the infield by Oxford batter Kiersten Irhke started a threat. After a sacrifice by Emma Morris, the tying run was on second base. Alexis Cardona responded with an RBI-double, and a passed ball advanced her to third base. The Bronchos intentionally walked the bases loaded and Caroline Mash responded with a bunt single, earning Oxford the 3-2 victory.

Oxford scored the game’s first run in the bottom of the third inning.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM
Fenton softball dominates field, collects D1 district crown

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity softball team entered its Division 1 district tournament at Swartz Creek understanding they were the favorites.

To say the Tigers took care of business may be an understatement.

The Tigers crushed their district foes, defeating Flushing 7-1 in the semifinal and then defeating Swartz Creek 15-0 in the title game, earning the squad the district title.

“We had energy throughout the week and the looseness and fun,” Fenton varsity softball coach Ken Brant said. “This entire group had each other’s backs.

“You never know what tournaments can bring, as many of the top teams did not advance. This group is definitely led by our captains Cadyn Reger and Jess Dunkel, and its important with a young team.”

The Tigers went 4-0 between the squads during regular season action, but that can mean little during tournament play where it is one off game and a squad is done. The Tigers made sure that they didn’t allow any upsets, scoring four runs in the bottom of the first inning of the semifinal contest against Flushing. The inning started with a walk to Lily Turkowski and an error off of Sophie Collins’s bat, plating Turkowski. Madi Best hit an RBI-single and Jessica Dunkel followed with a single. An out later, Lauren Miller and Megan McDermott hit back-to-back RBI-singles, giving the Tigers a 4-0 lead.

Flushing scored a run in the fourth, cutting the gap to 4-1, but the Tigers scored two more in the bottom of the fourth. The rally started with two out. Turkowski singled, Collins walked and Best walked, loading the bases. Dunkel followed with a two-run single, The final Fenton run was plated in the seventh. Miller plated Dunkel, who singled, with her RBI-single.

Jordyn Bommersbach went the distance on the mound, allowing just the one run over seven innings.

The Tigers needed just three innings to earn the 15-run mercy rule against the Swartz Creek Dragons in the district championship contest.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Lake Fenton softball dominates field, collects D1 district crown

By David Troppens

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CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Lake Fenton soccer falls to Clio in shoot out

By David Troppens

Linden — The Lake Fenton varsity girls soccer team has accomplished quite a bit this spring season.

But the Blue Devils were hoping to accomplish one more goal and that was a Division 2 district title.

Lake Fenton came a little short of accomplishing that goal, losing a heartbreaking 2-1 verdict against the Clio Lady Mustangs in a contest decided by penalty kicks. Clio won the PK shootout 6-5.

But what a season the Blue Devils had. With a roster existing of just three seniors and 15 players on their roster, Lake Fenton finished in third place in the Flint Metro League, their first time competing in the league. They finished with a 10-4 record overall and advanced to the district final before losing to the upset-minded Mustangs who made a habit of beating more potent squads. Two days before earning the title, Clio

See LAKE FENTON on 15
Horoscopes

**ARIES**
Mar 21/Apr 20
This week’s agenda is a clean slate, Aries, and that gives you plenty of time to rest and recharge. Spend a few moments each day to think only about yourself.

**TAURUS**
Apr 21/May 21
The nature of a relationship with a close partner may get a bit confusing this week, Taurus. Do not react quickly to a situation without processing your thoughts first.

**GEMINI**
May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, focusing on spiritual things this week can help you get your priorities in order. It also may help you to slow down and smell the roses for a change.

**CANCER**
Jun 22/Jul 22
Your success and receptive attitude may make people skeptical of your purpose, Cancer. Some may even feel jealous. Continue to forge ahead with your plans.

**LEO**
Jul 23/Aug 22
Sometimes it is difficult to make up your mind, Leo. However, this week you will be at peace with all of your decisions and will not second-guess them at all.

**VIRGO**
Aug 23/Sept 22
Virgo, if you are feeling a little uncertain about things at the moment, you may just need a new perspective. Run some ideas by someone you can trust.

**LIBRA**
Sept 23/Oct 22
Libra, you will be confronted with a big decision this week. You should take the time to think about it and maybe mull over a few opinions from trusted friends.

**SCORPIO**
Oct 23/Nov 22
Scorpio, you may need to feel free of some burdens before you can focus on the best version of yourself. There are some obstacles arriving that stand in the way, but they can be resolved.

**SAGITTARIUS**
Nov 23/Dec 22
Sagittarius, share your vision of life with others who have similar goals. The camaraderie that results will help you to make a list of your collective priorities.

**CAPRICORN**
Dec 23/Jan 19
Life has taken a few twists and turns over the past few days. Capricorn. Luckily you have been able to go with the flow and change your plans on the fly.

**AQUARIUS**
Jan 20/Feb 18
Aquarius, another peaceful and stress-free week is on the horizon. Even though things may not be taxing, take a day off if you can spare it and spend it having fun.

**PISCES**
Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, before you can reach the summit, you have to cover a lot of ground and may stumble backwards a few times. Dig in your heels.

For the week of June 7, 2021
Fenton district hopes fall short, lose to Grand Blanc in final

By David Troppens

Grand Blanc — The Fenton varsity baseball team’s senior class enjoyed its share of success with the program.

Two years ago the squad won the program’s first-ever Division 1 regional championship.

This season, the squad had to weave through the adversity of COVID-19 and figure a way around that adversity. It worked pretty well with the Tigers finishing the season with a 24-10-1 overall record.

But what the team hoped for was a long tourney run once again this season, and that tourney run finished a little shorter than hoped when the Tigers lost to Grand Blanc 5-2 in the district title game at the Grand Blanc District on Saturday.

At the end of the game, the seniors — Jake Durant, Brendan Alvord, Gannon Welch, Logan Angel and Eddie Briand — had to reflect on their careers after the contest.

“It’s been everything,” Angel said. “It’s not about my career. It’s about the team, the team, the team. That’s my hardest goodbye, not seeing the guys every day.

“It all comes back to the team. Every bench guy to every starter, everyone contributed in their own way."

“This group has changed what we’ve done and who we are, and you can’t say enough about what they’ve meant to us as coaches and the school,” Fenton varsity baseball coach Shawn Lawrence said. “They take care of business on the baseball side, the personal side and the school side. They’ve been very significant for us with what they’ve done. So there are no words you can put into what they’ve meant to us.”

The Tigers opened the day with a 7-3 semifinal victory against Swartz Creek, earning them their spot in the championship contest. However, the game didn’t start out the way the Tigers had hoped. Grand Blanc started with a walk and a hit batter, and scored the first run of the game on a sacrifice fly. The Tigers trailed 1-0. That deficit grew to 4-0 after Grand Blanc’s three-run third. In that inning, two errors helped spark the threat. An RBI-single plated one of the runs and a RBI-ground out that included another error helped plate the final two runs.

LAKE FENTON

Continued from Page 13

also shocked the top-seeded Linden Eagles by winning that game in a shootout after leaving Linden’s potent offensive squad scoreless for 100 minutes.

Clio used the same equation to defeat Lake Fenton. Lake Fenton enjoyed a 26-4 shot edge in the contest and dominated possession. However, the Lady Mustangs’ defense only broke once. That came when Lake Fenton’s Makenna Dreyer took a cross from Savannah Reese and scored from 25 yards out, getting the shot just inside the near-side post with 27:29 left in regulation. It looked like that may be enough to earn the victory. However, Clio finally got its break and scored its first goal of the game about 11 minutes later. Clio’s Arizona Cray got the ball on a breakaway and scored, tying the game at 1-all.

LINDEN

Continued from Page 11

Goodman also placed eighth in the 800 (27.69) and in the boys’ event, Linden’s River Meckstroth placed sixth in the 1,600 (4:25.10) among other area placers at the D2 meet. However, the relay was the top story. The 400 relay team had the top seeded time coming out of regionals.

“We really didn’t know what to expect at this meet, so being able to follow through on where we were seeded felt good,” Goodman said. “Seeing Victoria Osmond on that last stretch and seeing her pull off from the other girl was the best feeling in the world. Right after the race, I ran to Lani Manners to give her a hug because this is her senior year and this is what she had been striving for her whole high school career.”

“It’s still sinking in, but I’m finally realizing how cool it was,” Cox said.

Goodman, who has been known to run with a smile on her face during her events, had something to smile about in the 200. She was seeded 20th, but placed eighth in the prelims (27.03) to earn a spot in the final.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

A Grand Blanc player is tagged out at home by Fenton catcher Logan Angel. Photo: David Troppens

Continued from Page 13

Linden’s Lani Manners hands off to Kynleigh Copeland during the 800 meter relay. The Eagles took eighth in the event at the state meet.

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Marilyn Jane Ward
1935 - 2020
Marilyn Jane Ward - age 85, of Fenton, died Thursday, December 17, 2020 surrounded by her loving family. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 12 at Tyrone Memorial Gardens at White Lake Rd. in Fenton. All family and friends are welcome to attend as she is laid to rest next to her husband Dave and son David. Marilyn was born September 20, 1935 in Peoria, Illinois the daughter of Frank and Lucy Lohmier. Marilyn married David Ward on September 10, 1961 in Reno, NV. Surviving are: three sons, Dennis Ward, Erick and wife Jennifer Ward, and Steven Robie; seven grandchildren, Rachel, Tiffany, Angela, Jeremy, Tyler, Patricia and Erick Jr.; four great-grandchildren, Makenzie, Skylar, Alivia and Oakley. She was preceded in death by her husband Dave and son David. Marilyn was born and raised in Bay City. She went on to earn her BA at Central Michigan University and furthered her education at Michigan State University earning her Masters Degree in Education. After moving to the Flint area in the late sixties, she taught English and Journalism at Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools for 26 years. After retirement, Perry and Jim spent the next three decades traveling the world. Perry had many accomplishments to her name, including Michigan State University Master Gardner, Member of the 20th Century Club, and Member of the Founder’s Board of the Flint Institute of Arts. Her interests included reading, gardening, traveling, and enjoying the wildlife on the marsh in her own backyard. Perry Ann welcomed big and loved even bigger. She would protect you like a ferocious tiger. She was the friend you wanted, the life partner you dreamed of, and the mother you can’t believe that you had. Perry Ann was the definition of grace, class, loyalty, joy, wit, generosity, devotion, and kindness. She was the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Arrangements provided by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Walter Paul Schmidt
1934 – 2021
On the morning of Saturday, May 29, 2021 Walter Paul Schmidt of Linden died at the age of 86. Walt was born in Detroit to Walter and Helen Schmidt in 1934. He graduated from Northern Central High School and attended Flint Junior College. He was a real estate broker and then the president and owner of an appraisal business in Flint. Three sisters, Virginia Daggett, Betty Dunlap, and Donna Elliott; as well as a baby son; ex-wife, Patricia Eriksson; and wife, Beverly Schmidt predeceased Walt. He is survived by his wife, Jackie; his three children, Carey Schmidt (Sherry) of Fenton, LeAnn Yannelli (John) of NY, Craig Schmidt (Carolyn) of Linden; grandchildren, Matthew (Laura), Corey (Chelsea), Aaron, and Casey Yankee (Kyle); three great-grandchildren; three nieces; and two nephews; stepchildren, Bob Boka (Gail) of Burton, Darin Boka (Tammy) of Lapeer, Shayne Daup (Curt) of Genese; several step-grandchildren; and step-great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Linden United Methodist Church, where he sang in the Choir for many years; a founding member of the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity; a long time member of the Kiwanis Club of Flint; and a Mason. He enjoyed playing golf, bowling, boating and had a special affinity for woodworking, furniture making and antique cars. In addition to making many pieces of furniture for his friends and family, he fully restored a 1928 Franklin, which he later donated to the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Genesee County Habitat for Humanity in Walter Schmidt’s name. https://www.geneseehabitat.org/donate.html. Visitations will take place on Wednesday, June 9 from 11 AM until 1 PM followed by a memorial at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Perry Ann Owen (nee Walther)
1947 - 2020
Perry Ann Owen (nee Walther) - age 74, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at her home in Fenton. Perry Ann Owen was the beloved wife of Dr. James Owen for 32 years. Loving mother of Ashley Keeney (Amy), Michael Owen (Ann), Kurt Owen (Can), and Kristina Andrews (Scott). Dear grandmother of Jacob Andrews (Kendall), Renee Owen, David Owen, Bradley Andrews, Nicholas Andrews, Jack Owen, and Benjamin Owen. Proud great-grandmother to Grayson Andrews. Loving sister to Rita Price (David) and sister-in-law to Joyce Lanning (Walter). She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Perry Ann was preceded in death by her parents Edwin and Mildred Walther. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM, Monday June 14, 2021 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N Adelaide Street, Fenton. Fr. Robert Copeland celebrant. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan or Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties. Perry Ann was born and raised in Bay City. She went on to earn her BA at Central Michigan University and furthered her education at Michigan State University
Obituaries

Donald Ralph McLane
1937 - 2021

Donald Ralph McLane - age 84, of Fenton, died Friday, June 4, 2021. Funeral mass will be celebrated 12 Noon Friday, June 11 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Fenton, Interment in Tyrone Memory Gardens, Fenton. Don served in the U.S. Army 1986 with 30 years of service. He served in the 12th Special Forces Group Reserves for 35 years as part of the American Cancer Society. Don married Alice for 25 years. He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Surviving are wife of 42 years, Alice; daughter, Debbie Wardell of Fenton; son, Glenn Wardell of Fenton; son, Robert Wardell; brother, Frederick “Tom” (Sharon) McLane of Beaverton; sister, Judy Moyet of Pontiac; sister-in-law, Elaine (John) Messing; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Susan Wardell; sister, Margaret “Peggy” (Arnold) Trevino; brother, Roland McLane; sister, Dorothy Wardell; and brother -in-law, Carmelo “Tati” Moyet. Online condolences may be posted on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Stephen Douglas “Beav” Neuville
1963 - 2021

Stephen Douglas “Beav” Neuville - age 57, of Linden, died Saturday, June 5, 2021. A private family service will be held. Public visitation will be held 3 - 6 PM Thursday, June 10, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St. Linden. Those desiring may make contributions to Adopt-A-Pet or Presbyterian Food Bank. Steve was born September 11, 1963 in Anniston, Al the son of Donald Lawrence and Patricia Ann (Gundry) Neuville. He was a 1981 graduate of Linden High School. His favorite sports were wrestling and golf. He loved the outdoors especially hunting, fishing, and camping. Steve worked at Endrekin Co., American Steel Roofs, and Shiawassee Shores Retirement Park. He endured numerous challenges and was considered tough and strong by those who knew him best. He had a very big and generous heart and people often commented “he’d give you the shirt off his back”. He grew up in the Linden Presbyterian Church and during the last few years he constantly requested prayers with family members.

Mary E. VanVliet
1949 - 2021


NOTICE: STREET CLOSINGS IN DOWNTOWN FENTON

Beginning Thursday, May 20 and Friday, May 21, and continuing every Thursday and Friday through mid-October, S. LeRoy Street from Caroline Street to Shiawassee Avenue, and Shiawassee Avenue from S. LeRoy to Adelaide Street will be closed to vehicle traffic from 4 to 9 p.m. Detour signages surrounding these closings will be posted.

The community is invited to Fenton’s Street Experience in downtown Fenton to support our local businesses and stroll the downtown streets, enjoying the numerous planned entertainment happenings, children’s games, farmers market, and fun events.

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