

Council approves location of new mural

■ Multiple residents say city should use different location

By Hannah Ball

Linden — On Monday, Oct. 25, in the packed council chambers and after 40 minutes of discussion, Linden City Council voted 4-2 to approve the location for a new mural to be the

west-facing wall of Linden City Hall. Since the summer, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has been discussing bringing a new mural to the city. They approved not spending more than \$15,000 on the project. The proposed mural costs approximately \$13,500. Half a dozen citizens gave com-

ments at the Monday, Oct. 25 meeting. Linden resident Suzanne Lossing, who's on the Greater Flint Arts Council, suggested the mural be put on the Mill Building. "I think we already have something good in the downtown area. That mural was created by students in See **MURAL** on 9



Linden resident Suzanne Lossing speaks at the Monday, Oct. 25 Linden City Council meeting in favor of keeping the original mural. Photo: Hannah Ball

**HUNDREDS
ENJOY BOTTLES,
BREWS & NEWS**
See Page 3

Midweek Times

VOL. 28 NO. XLVII WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021 \$1.00

City approves \$28,500 to repair police station

■ Rain causes water leak problems in dispatch, administrative offices areas

By Sharon Stone

Fenton City Council approved urgent masonry repair to the west elevation wall of the Fenton Police Department building during its meeting Monday, Oct. 25.

Some replacement roofing work was done this past spring on the police station.

Certain rain events, however, continue to cause water leak problems in the dispatch and administrative office areas. Wall penetrations for air conditioner See **REPAIRS** on 8



Holly resident Bailey Brecht holds her daughter, Sydney, 1, at the Linden Night of Hope on Saturday, Oct. 23. Hundreds of people attended the event, which was put on by The Rock Church. Pastor Wes Morris said they'd be willing to hold these events in other communities. See story on page 7. Photo: Hannah Ball

Jingle Fest parade and 5K approved

■ Fenton City Council okays annual holiday festivities in downtown Fenton

By Sharon Stone

Yes, the Christmas season is quickly approaching, so much so that the Fenton City Council unanimously approved plans for this year's Jingle Fest and the 5K run.

On Monday, Oct. 25, Fenton City Council approved plans for the annual Jingle Fest Parade and 5K Run for Saturday, Dec. 4.

The Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce requested See **PARADE** on 9



“Silver Lake Road’s only problem is there’s too many lights and none of them are timed. Why are there lights at three-way intersections in the first place? Remove those lights, time the ones that remain and traffic should move quite smoothly.”



“A multi-story Mott Community College satellite building on that vacant downtown Fenton land would bring great collegiate energy into downtown.”

“Thank you TCT for hosting Bottles, Brews & News in Rackham Park! Great event for a great community organization (FARR). We had a great time with our family and friends, enjoyed the live music and good food. Well done!”





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Hundreds enjoy Bottles, Brews & News

■ Saturday fundraising event to benefit Fenton Area Resources & Referral Network, Inc. (FARR)

There was live music, dancing and, of course, plenty of craft beer and wine samples enjoyed at Saturday's Bottles, Brews & News, View Newspaper Group's craft beer and wine fest.

The third annual event took place in Rackham Park in downtown Fenton attracting more than 400 guests.

"It was an awesome day," said Emily Caswell brand manager at View Newspaper Group, parent company of Tri-County Times. "The weather was beautiful, the bands kept people dancing and guests had a great time sampling from the more than 100 different beer, wine, hard cider and seltzer options."

The event benefited FARR (Fenton Area Resources & Referral Network, Inc.). Formed in 1990 by community leaders, churches and civic organizations, FARR works with residents of the Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden communities. FARR provides assistance to individuals and families in crisis by assessing their basic needs (food, shelter, health) and coordinating with local partnering



Barbara and David Walker (center) of Hartland Insurance Agency, Inc. were one of the many sponsors of the Bottles, Brews & News fundraising event, which was hosted by View Newspaper Group. **Submitted photo**

organizations to help address those needs. Bottles, Brews & News has raised \$9,000 for the nonprofit since it start two years ago.

"We don't have a final dollar amount raised at this year's event yet as we're still finalizing our numbers, but we'll be sure to share that with the community as soon as we do," Caswell said. "A big thank you to our amazing sponsors, team and

volunteers for all of their help."

This year's sponsors included Hartland Insurance Agency, Inc., Genisys Credit Union, Michigan Web Press, Sharp Funeral Homes, ELGA Credit Union, Tri-County Equipment, Fabiano Brothers, Vic Canever, Sawyer Jewelers, Provision Living, Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation, Fischer, See **FARR** on 8

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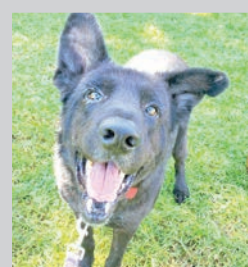
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is a super sweet and extra special 2-month-old girl who was born with a nasal deformity that may (or may not) need medical care in the future. She would like a caring and compassionate new home.

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Sharin' the spotlight

Bottles, Brews and News — fun event, worthy cause

By Editor Sharon Stone

Dozens of volunteers, including my co-workers and my husband, Jeff, gave up their personal time last Saturday to pour some beer and wine and raise much-needed money for Fenton Area Resources & Referral network, Inc. (FARR).

I'm referring to the third annual Bottles, Brews and News event in Rackham Park, next to the Fenton Community & Cultural Center in downtown Fenton. The View Newspaper Group, which is the parent company of the Times, put on the fundraiser.

At booths next to ours, we spotted Fenton's Police Chief Jason Slater and Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff, and their wives. We also got to hang out with former Linden schools superintendent Ed Koledo, who is now executive director of Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation and Fenton Community & Cultural Center and his wife Bridget, who is a Linden teacher.

While I was there pouring beer for just a few hours, I know there was a lot of work done ahead of time and behind the scenes. As someone who has personally hosted an annual event for 21 years, I know the work involved.

Also, thank you to the hundreds of

people who came out to enjoy the refreshments, live music and good company.

From setting up the website to sell BBN tickets in advance, promoting the fundraising event with stories in the Times and through social media, to ordering T-shirts for all of us volunteers, arranging and erecting the huge tent, fencing, security guards, bringing in and setting up all the beer and wine, the live music, custom glasses, and so much more, it was a successful effort of many people. And to top it off, it was a lot of fun.

I value my personal time just like any-



Sharon Stone

one else, but knowing that the proceeds of the event would benefit FARR, it was an easy decision to help out.

Do you or someone you know need help? At any given time, any individual or family could have an unexpected event in their lives that could force them to reach out for help. It's nice knowing that there is a group of people

at FARR that graciously pull out all the stops to provide resources tailored to your family's needs. If you have a computer or internet on your phone, go to farmnetwork.org to learn more about how See **WORTHY CAUSE** on 7



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Hotlines

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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.

I WANT OUR roads fixed — and maybe I'll support the bond — but our population, property assessments, and tax collections for 2020, 2021, 2022 are all time highs. What exactly are they doing with that money?

IT IS TOTALLY disingenuous for Fenton leaders to keep pushing the same ole streets millage again, again and again.

OVER THE LIFE of Fenton's road bond proposal, homes between \$150,000 and \$300,000 will pay between \$6,000 and \$11,000 in additional taxes.

GET YOUR 'NO' votes ready. Lacking any thought or effort to fix the roads, Fenton leaders are simply offering another millage proposal to put before voters. Guess they didn't get the message last go around.

FENTON OFFICIALS SHOULD consider incentives to stoke a wave of teardowns and new high-quality single-family homes in and around downtown.

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

What was your favorite field trip when you were in school? | streettalk



"Seeing 'A Christmas Carol' at Meadowbrook. I went in middle school. Now my son is in middle school and gets to go next month. I have been talking it up! Sadly they aren't taking chaperones."

Josh Strickland, Durand



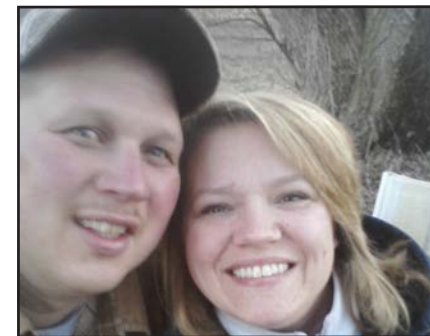
"The life size dinosaur exhibit at the Courtland Center in kindergarten. Probably around 1991."

Lindsey Maples
Fenton



"Band trip to Disneyland and Niagara Falls. Two different trips but we marched in parades at both. We all had to sell a lot of oranges."

Sherri Anne Paul
Linden



"Aerosmith/dokken concert at the Joe Louis arena. Eighth grade field trip with Mr. Jennings! Whole school bus full of us went."

Ryan Croney
Fenton

Linden man's case bound over for trial

■Charged with child sexual abusive activity and related offenses

By Sharon Stone

A 27-year-old Linden man is one of five suspects arrested by the Shiawassee Human Oppression Team (SHOT), which conducted a sex sting operation Sunday, Aug. 8.

Corey Mulanix of Linden was arraigned Aug. 12 in Shiawassee County's 66th District Court. He pleaded not guilty during his arraignment. He was released on \$20,000 bond.

On Sept. 2, he waived his preliminary exam and his case was bound over to Shiawassee County Circuit Court. Being represented by attorney Frank Manley, Mulanix's next court hearing is Nov. 3 at 2 p.m.

Also charged are Nathan Schneider, 22, of Owosso; Benjamin Fielder, 30,

of Lansing; Thomas Chester, 56, of Haslett and Zachary Adcock, 20, of Lansing.

Shiawassee County Sheriff Brian BeGole said four of the suspects believed they were having sexual conversations with 15-year-old girls and one suspect thought they he was chatting with a 15-year-old boy. The five suspects were arrested after they allegedly traveled to a location of undercover operation for the purpose of sexual acts.

Mulanix and the others are facing charges of child sexual abusive activity, accosting a minor child for immoral purposes, and using the internet to commit

a crime.

SHOT involves members of the FBI, the Shiawassee County Prosecutor's Office, Shiawassee County Central Dispatch and Shiawassee Emergency Management.



Corey Mulanix

HOT LINE CONTINUED

FROM THE FOLKS who turned smooth Shiawassee Avenue into a washboard, 'Give us money to fix your streets.'

■■■
ANYBODY THAT VOTES for the new road tax deserves to pay higher property tax. You might be buying another \$85,000 butterfly.

■■■
ISN'T IT IRONIC that a street named Parallel where people parallel park is being deemed by citizens as 'low class?' Would you rather them perpendicular park?

■■■
DO YOU KNOW what I saw yesterday? A person in Fenton almost used their turn signal. It was close.

■■■
LOCAL LONG-TIME residents need to run for local offices and reel in all this nonsense. There's a reason it's called a small town. Escort the DDA out of town.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption expiration year extended to 2026

At the recommendation of Michael Hart, Fenton assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority executive director, Fenton City Council approved an amendment to resolution #20-36 (#21-17) at its meeting Oct. 25. This amendment will change the expiration year to 2026 instead of 2025 for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Application dated July 13, 2020 for Niles Industrial Coatings, LLC at 201 S. Alloy, Fenton. Per the Industrial Facilities Tax (IFT) application submission to the city dated July 13, 2020, Niles Industrial Coatings would be making a minimum real property investment of \$1,385,000, personal property investment of \$170,000 (total of \$1,555,000) and create 20 new jobs at its city of Fenton corporate headquarters.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
IF YOU LIKE Picasso, the Linden mural is your thing, but a Picasso doesn't fit in downtown historic Linden.

■■■■
THE MAYOR, CITY council and DDA of Linden should be ashamed of themselves. Yet again, they ignore the wishes of their constituents. How did Linden get stuck with such horrible leadership?
 ■■■■

**Mark McCabe**

67th District Court

Ask the judge**Qualified immunity**

George Floyd died May 25, 2020 as a result of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin kneeling on his neck for over nine minutes.

Chauvin was subsequently charged and convicted of murder.

At the trial, a number of police officers, including his chief, testified that what he did was absolutely wrong.

Outside of the courtroom, there were very strong feelings including protests and other actions.

One of the other actions was a bill introduced in Congress called "The George Floyd Justice In Policing Act of 2020" with a stated goal of holding law enforcement accountable in court for misconduct by eliminating the defense of "qualified immunity"

in civil lawsuits. It passed in the House in 2020 but not in the Senate. It was reintroduced in 2021, again passed in the House, and is again awaiting action in the Senate.

What is qualified immunity for police officers? The following is a very brief history and explanation.

This defense was created by the United States Supreme Court in 1967.

It provides officers with immunity from not only civil lawsuit damages but from having to defend liability altogether as to allegations of having deprived a person of their constitutional or federal rights while acting under color of state law.

A defendant is entitled to qualified immunity if it is shown that they did not violate a "clearly established" statutory or constitutional right which a reasonable person would have known.

Because the focus is on whether the officer had fair notice that their conduct was unlawful, reasonableness is judged against the backdrop of the law at the time of the conduct and whether case law had previously determined such conduct to be wrong.

It is meant to provide protection to all but the plainly incompetent or those who knowingly violate the law and gives officers "breathing room" to make reasonable mistakes of fact and law.

Additionally, since Mr. Floyd died, 35 states have had bills introduced to eliminate qualified immunity for state law claims, but only Colorado has completely eliminated it.

For now under federal law, the defense remains as on Oct. 18 the Supreme Court summarily and unanimously reversed two appeals court rulings that had held that officers were not entitled to qualified immunity.

Correction

It was misreported in the Sunday, Oct. 24 edition of the Times that the North Oakland County Fire Authority Board hired the Lucas law firm on an interim basis. The Board actually hired the Bodman law firm on an interim basis.

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Bounce houses, face painting, and pumpkin decorating were a few of the activities at Linden's Night of Hope on Saturday, Oct. 23. Marianna Ziegler-Hickey, vice president of Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs, said, "We're really enjoying ourselves. This is a marvelous opportunity to share the love and to share Mid-Michigan Therapy with the community." They brought two therapy dogs to the event. **Photos: Hannah Ball**

Night of Hope fills Main Street

■ Linden event's purpose is to spread the word of the Gospel

By Hannah Ball

Linden — On Saturday, Oct. 23, Main Street in downtown Linden was filled with people walking around and enjoying the Night of Hope, put on by The Rock Church.

Vendors lined the streets with face painting, balloon art, inflatables, bounce houses and food trucks. A band performed and filled the air with classic rock music. The event's purpose was to spread a message of hope

through the Gospel and bring people together, said The Rock Church Pastor Wes Morris.

"We thought it went great. The city was really accommodating to us. The weather cooperated greatly. We had people of all different walks of life come and stay. We considered it a huge success," Morris said.

A few other local churches, such as the Linden United Methodist Church, also participated. The

band was a collaboration of people from different local congregations. Pastor Robert Easlisk from the Linden United Methodist Church prayed over the event and Linden boxer Joey Spencer spoke and shared testimony about his life.

"I thought he did great. This was the best I ever heard Joey communicate the hope of the Gospel and the effect of it on his life," Morris said.

Dozens of volunteers made the event

possible. Morris said they're grateful to "every single one of them."

The city of Linden invited The Rock Church to have the event this year after the success of the 2019 event. Morris mentioned that they would be interested in hosting and planning these events for other municipalities.

"We are always ready and prepared to offer a night of hope in any community. We don't charge any money. We're not looking to promote ourselves. If we think it would benefit the people of that town, we would be happy to come," he said.

“We are always ready and prepared to offer a night of hope in any community.”

Wes Morris
The Rock Church pastor

WORTHY CAUSE

Continued from Page 4

FARR can help you or a loved one. If you'd prefer to call and talk to a FARR representative in person, call (810) 750-6244.

FARR is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that serves as the community-wide screening agency for local residents in need of assistance for housing and utility assistance, medical and counseling referral, emergency needs and other needed referrals. They will work with each applicant on an

individual basis and assess the needs.

We've attended other beer fests in the state and the popularity of craft beer is here to stay. For those who don't care for IPAs, ales and stouts, the festival also offered seltzers, wines and non-alcoholic beverages.

Talking with Dawn Placek, the executive director of FARR, afterward, she said, "It was a great time for everyone. Everyone who volunteered told us to count them in for next year."

All in all, it was a pretty good day to be part of the Fenton community.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WAKE UP FENTON Township. Littering. It's not about the ads tossed on your driveway. They want to control what you place on your taxpaying property. Go to the meeting Nov. 1 and shut them down or redefine the new ordinance to

only be about the 'ads drop' on your driveway.

■■■■

HOW ABOUT, IN addition to making plants to produce electronic chips stateside, we make products that are much simpler that don't require all sorts of high-tech gadgetry?

■■■■

HOLLY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OCTOBER 20, 2021

REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

Roll Call:	G. Kullis, K. Winchester, M. Freeman and S. Ruth.
Excused:	D. Burton
Approved:	Agenda Approval.
Approved:	Consent Agenda as Amended.
Approved:	Interlocal Agreement with Grand Blanc for Water to Shannon Precisions Fasteners Property.
Approved:	Application for Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate.
Approved:	Appropriation of American Rescue Plan Act Funds – Proposed Resolution 2021-18.
Approved:	Set Spring and Fall Cleanup – May 7, 2022, and October 1, 2022.
Approved:	Proposals for Painting Township Hall Exterior.
Approved:	Barn Front Door Proposals.
Approved:	Approval of NOCFA Minutes – September 21 and September 27, 2021.

Karin S. Winchester, MMC
Holly Township Clerk

George A. Kullis
Holly Township Supervisor

FARR

Continued from Page 3

Franklin & Ford, JRNN, NPF, Kaufman Printing, McDaniel Office Supply, Flint & Genesee Group, Americas Most Wanted 4 X 4, Allied Printing, Fenton Winery & Brewery and many Bottles, Brews & News Friends.

“Keep an eye out for 2022 event details,” Caswell said. “We hope to see you all again next year!”



More than 400 people attended the third annual Bottles, Brews & News fundraising event Saturday, Oct. 23. The event, which was held under a large tent in Rackham Park next to the Fenton Community & Cultural Center, featured beer, wine, seltzers and ciders, along with games and live music. **Submitted photos**



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October 31, 2021 // Noon-2 pm

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Opening service at 10:30 am

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OF THE LAKES
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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REPAIRS

Continued from Front Page

condenser lines were resealed as a potential source and surface sealer was applied to the brick above the roof flashing.

Dan Brisson, public works director, wrote in an Oct. 21 memo to City Manager Lynn Markland that neither solution has proven to completely solve the leak problem.

As a masonry company specializing in restoration and problem solving for older brick walls, the Garland Company coordinated an on-site meeting with POE Restoration and Waterproofing of Oak Park, which performed coring at three locations of the brick wall above

the rubber membrane roof attachment to inspect conditions on the backside of the brick wall. The lack of a through-wall flashing detail and no weep holes for drainage have been determined to be a source of water infiltration.

The recommended solution is removal of brick courses over the rubber membrane to install a flashing detail with proper relief weep holes for drainage. Other work will include replacing up to 20 bricks on the western wall that are significantly cracked.

Because of the urgency, POE has committed to starting the work right away and completing the job in approximately three weeks.

City council approved the work at a cost of \$28,500.

MURAL

Continued from Front Page

the community. That mural was the students' voice based on how they see Linden, how they wanted to represent Linden and how they wanted other people to see Linden," she said. Former Mayor David Lossing sent a letter to council in support of keeping the mural.

City Manager Ellen Glass said there wasn't any ill intent when the DDA settled on using City Hall for the new mural. The project would include painting over the old mural, which was done in 2014 by former Linden Community Schools art teacher Gemma Amendola as a community project with Linden students.

The DDA is limited in which buildings they would be allowed to use due to guidelines for historic districts set by the State Historic Preservation Office, which include not allowing them on newly constructed buildings in a historic district commission or on old historic brick. With these restrictions, only three buildings are viable for a new mural. These buildings are the Ice Cream Garage, Thimbleberry Antiques and city hall. Thimbleberry is a privately owned building and the DDA said the conditions are not ideal. Glass said they decided painting the Ice Cream Garage would be too difficult with all the curves and corners.

Resident Sharon Wright said she called the State Historic Preservation Office and said the guidelines are guidelines, not rules. She asked if the mural has to be downtown and if they could put up a sign instead. She said it's feasible to paint the north-facing wall of the Masonic Temple or the old post office on S. Bridge Street. Wright also questioned why they would plan a mural for City Hall if the city potentially has plans to sell the building.



The original Linden mural was painted in 2014 by former Linden Community Schools art teacher Gemma Amendola and students. **Times file photo**

In spring of 2019, a driver hit the east-facing side of City Hall. Glass said they recently settled the claim for repairs through insurance and they're on schedule for a contractor to come in and fix the damage.

Another resident said he respects the DDA trying to do something to brighten up downtown, but he believes it's disrespectful to the children to paint over the original mural.

Resident Denise Miller said the other side of city hall could be painted.

"I, too, think we've outgrown our City Hall. It's kind of embarrassing to come into the city of Linden and into City Hall and see how crunched these people are," she said. "I don't believe we should paint over the mural."

She suggested putting a mural on a water tower. Glass said it's a great idea, however, the cost "goes far beyond what the DDA could ever potentially

put into it."

Resident Chris Kennedy said she wasn't a fan of the current mural when it was put up, but "you should remember that it was a true community project and we don't have very many of those."

She applauds the DDA's efforts to celebrate the city's 150th birthday, but she doesn't like the location. She said if they okay it, the council would be negating the efforts of a lot of people and discouraging citizen involvement.

Resident Monica Kenney said they should consider an alternative location. She asked if there are plans to repaint the Mill Building.

"When you have a building such as this, that is historic, it is the center of our community, and you see it going into disrepair. It would be great if the

funds could be used for that ... it's a great opportunity to use this historic (Mill) Building for the mural and accomplish fixing it up," she said.

Mayor Danielle Cusson said painting the Mill Building would cost more than \$200,000 due to lead and there are other challenges.

The vote was 4-2. Councilor Aaron Wiens and Councilor Brad Dick were the dissenting votes. Dick said he would prefer they explore places outside of downtown, such as Ace Hardware.

"We're being asked to empower the DDA to make that choice yet as council, we represent the citizens. I don't ever think we're going to come to an agreement with the citizens. I'm not saying I like it. I'm not saying I don't like it. I don't believe it belongs on public property," he said.

Wiens has concerns that it is a public building with an unknown life expectancy. He suggested setting a stipulation that if they keep the building, they set a time period for the current mural before painting over it. He doesn't like the optics of only investing in one side of the building.

Councilor Pam Howd said the current mural needs maintenance. "It's faded. It's not the original color. It's peeling," she said, adding that the whole building needs to be painted.

Councilor Heather MacDermid said personally, she doesn't care, but because she is the DDA representative, she's going to vote for what the DDA wants.

If the proposed mural is approved by the DDA, the artists would do the work in the spring or summer of 2022. Cusson thanked the audience for coming and encouraged citizens to attend meetings and get involved.

PARADE

Continued from Front Page

authorization to conduct the annual parade and 5K run. Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater recommended that city council approve the requests.

The race will begin at 3 p.m. It will start on Walnut at Ellen, go north on Walnut, east on Caroline, south on Lemen, west on E. Ellen, south on East

Street, west on High Street, north on S. Oak, east on E. Elizabeth, north on East, west on Caroline, south on Walnut Street to the finish.

The parade will begin at 6 p.m., with the same route as years past. It will start on W. Ellen, turn south onto Adelaide, continue to Shiawassee, east to S. LeRoy, north to Caroline and west to West Street, where the parade will end.

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Fenton's Lilah Falvo

Fenton's domination of Metro continues, defeats Brandon/Goodrich

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity girls swimming and diving team has always won at least a share of the Flint Metro League title ever since it became a Metro League sport in 2004.

In fact, the Tigers have won every single championship outright with the exception of the 2012 crown when Fenton

shared it with Brandon.

The Tigers may have the most talented team in school history this year, so the last thing they plan on doing is anything but earning another outright title this season.

The Tigers improved to 5-0 in the Metro League, crushing the Brandon-Goodrich co-op squad 133-48 on Thursday.

Fenton earned first place in nine of the

12 events, cruising to the win. Gracie Olsen and Tess Heavner were the usual suspects when it came to first-place finishes. They both earned two individual firsts. Olsen won the 50 freestyle (25.54) and the 100 butterfly (59.80), while Heavner won the 100 freestyle (56.42) and the 100 backstroke (59.80). Olsen also was

See FENTON'S on 12

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021 | PAGE 10 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Blue Devils keep on winning, prepare for playoffs

■ BC John Glenn proves no match for highly rated Lake Fenton, 49-6

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton's magical varsity football regular season concluded on a positive note Friday.

The Blue Devils (8-1) moved all the way up to the No. 5 position on the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Division 4 list of playoff rankings by decimating Bay City John Glenn 49-6 on the road. The victory means the Blue Devils will be hosting Ortonville-Brandon in the opening round of the Division 4 playoffs Friday at 7 p.m.

The win was Lake Fenton's sixth straight since losing to Friday's opponent, Ortonville-Brandon, by a 48-40 margin on Sept. 10. Since then, Lake Fenton has outscored squads 237-44, won a share of the Flint Metro League Stars Division and won the Flint Metro League crossover championship game by defeating neighborhood rival and two-time defending league champion Fenton, 42-6.

John Glenn didn't stand much of a chance. The Blue Devils didn't allow a score until

late in the contest when it mattered little. Meanwhile, Lake Fenton scored four first-half TDs and three more in the second half. They were balanced as well, scoring three through the air and four on the ground.

The first score was a one-yard run by Lucas Storm on the Blue Devils' first possession. Ashton Hunter made the first of his seven extra-point kicks, putting the Blue Devils up 7-0. The first of two TD passes came on Lake Fenton's next possession. Sparked by a 44-yard screen pass completion to Jack Conley, the Blue Devils scored the TD on a one-yard pass from Reid Shumaker to Deven Colter. The Blue Devils led 14-0. The lead grew to 21-0 on Lake Fenton's next possession on a 26-yard TD pass from Shumaker to Luke Simmons. It was set up by an 18-yard screen pass to Storm.

Lake Fenton scored its final TD of the first half on a one-yard plunge by Storm. The score was set up when the Blue Devils completed a fourth-down play to Conley for 26 yards. Lake Fen-



(Above) Lake Fenton's Andrew Nuttle and other linemen listen to a message from assistant coach Steve Muenzer. (Right) Lake Fenton's Jack Conley has had a big season for the Blue Devils. **Photos: Mark Bolen**

ton led 28-0 at the half.

In the third quarter, Shumaker earned the Blue Devils' third TD pass when he tossed a 15-yard pass to Brandon Bossert for the score. He also completed a 40-yard pass to Dalton Decker to keep the drive alive. Lake Fenton led 35-0.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



■ LF has chance to avenge loss to Blackhawks in first round of playoffs

By David Troppens

When the Division 4 state football playoffs begin Friday, the Flint Metro League champion Lake Fenton Blue Devils will see a pretty familiar opponent.

And it's an opponent that they have some unfinished business with — the Brandon Blackhawks.

After a pretty magical regular season which included a co-Flint Metro League Stars Division championship, a birth into the Metro League's crossover title game which became a 42-6 victory against area rival Fenton, there haven't been too many blemishes on the Blue Devils' season so far. The Blackhawks are one of them. They are the one squad to defeat the 8-1 Blue Devils this season. Lake Fenton will get a chance to avenge that loss Friday at 7 p.m. in a Division 4 district opener at Lake Fenton High School.

See LF on 12

Tigers' season ends after final play field goal vs. Walled Lake Northern

By David Troppens

Fenton — Friday night started with a lot of optimism for the Fenton varsity football team.

First off, the team was together. After COVID-19 had meant the loss of many of the team's players and meant the loss of head coach Jeff Setzke due to his own bout with the illness, all of those players were back on the squad to face off against Walled Lake Northern. It also was homecoming, which added to the festivities. And, finally, after playing short-handed in each of the previous two weeks, the Tigers were still in the playoff race needing a victory to lock up a Division 2 playoff spot. Finally, the focus was on regular

football stuff one would expect during the final week of the prep football season instead of mainly on a pandemic.

However, all was not good news. The Tigers saw their Division 2 playoff chances end when Walled Lake Northern's Jack Klym kicked a 31-yard field goal that barely snuck over the crossbar with just one second left, earning the Knights a 31-28 victory. The loss dropped Fenton to 4-5 overall this season and dropped the Tigers out of the playoffs after a 13-year run in the postseason. Missing out of the playoffs the players and coaching staff felt the only way to lock up a playoff spot was by earning a victory.

"We can't have the turnovers that we had in the second half and expect to win," Setzke said. "That's the reality of it. So much of it though was we haven't had kids in practice over the last three weeks. We had a few back on Tuesday, a few back on Wednesday and the rest of Thursday, so it wasn't much practice time for them to get ready. They have played this year, but any time you have 10 days off and you aren't doing anything, that's tough. It catches up to you eventually."

It was a back-and-forth game. It didn't start well for the Tigers as Northern scored on its first possession on an eight-yard TD run by Aidan Koechley.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Fenton's Sam Claborn was one of many players that returned for the Walled Lake Northern contest on Friday. Photo: Mark Bolen

Linden's playoff hopes end during loss to North Branch

By David Troppens

The Linden varsity football team's final game of the 2021 season was very much like a lot of their contests this season.

The Eagles had a chance to win the ball game at the very end but too many mistakes during the contest resulted in creating too many heart-breaking losses.

The Eagles fell behind by a 27-0 margin and actually battled back before losing a 27-24 verdict against North Branch at Linden High School Friday night. The Eagles (3-6) lost four games by a combined 11 points. The Eagles lost only two games by large point differentials.

"We lost by three to Goodrich, three to Swartz Creek, two to Fenton and by three tonight. Those four games really shows us what our season was like," Hopkins said.

On Friday night the Eagles looked doomed to a depressing lopsided loss against the



Linden's Bryce Eliuk follows his block downfield during the Eagles' loss to North Branch. Photo: Mark Bolen

Broncos. North Branch scored on TD runs of 38 yards by Lucas Schapman and of eight yards by Will Damaska giving the visitors a 14-0 lead. That lead grew to 27-0 by half-time on three-yard TD runs by Schapman and Aiden Swoish. The Eagles seemed defeated.

Apparently they weren't.

Instead, the Eagles made a spirited comeback. Linden started the second half with the ball and moved it to the North Branch 12. Facing a fourth-and-9 play, the Eagles had an incomplete pass to end that drive. During Linden's second possession of

See LINDEN'S on 12

Bronchos lose defensive battle vs. Blackhawks, 14-10

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity football team had its share of tight low-scoring contests this season.

The Bronchos opened the season with a 16-7 loss to Fraser on opening week and recently captured a 17-6 victory in a crossover contest against Clio. On Friday the squad had another tight battle, but lost to Ortonville-Brandon 14-10 at Holly High School.

The Bronchos (2-7) had the lead in the second half but were unable to keep it. Tied at 7-all, Holly was able to stop Brandon's defense on a fake punt, giving Holly the ball at the Brandon 45. A 14-yard completion from Boston Curtis to Jacob Cherson, and an 18-yard completion to Duane Lane helped Holly move the ball to the Brandon 11. Holly was unable to convert a third-and-7 play forcing the Bronchos to attempt a 29-yard field goal. Zayne Dennie converted



Holly's Duane Lane runs downfield in a recent contest. Photo: Christopher Summers

the kick and the Bronchos led 10-7 with 11:04 in the fourth quarter.

The Bronchos held the lead for awhile. Brandon did drive to the Holly goal line, but the Bronchos forced a turnover, collecting a fumble in their own end zone. However, Holly had to punt three plays later, giving Brandon the ball back with 8:00 left at the Bronchos' 42.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Lake Fenton volleyball earns sweep vs. Owosso Trojans

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity volleyball team didn't play its cleanest match of the Flint Metro League Stars Division season, but the Blue Devils did what they needed to do against Owosso.

If the Blue Devils (6-2) have any chance of earning at least a share of the division crown (they trail Clio by one game) the Blue Devils had to defeat the last-place squad on their home court, and the Blue Devils did that with a sweep. Lake Fenton defeated Owosso, 25-22, 25-12, 25-23.

While it was a three-game sweep, the victory didn't come easy for the Blue Devils. They struggled with their passing and service receive for large portions of the match, allowing the Trojans to take some sizable leads in two of the three sets.

In the first game, Owosso scored the first three points with a service reception error and an Owosso ace sparking the run. Lake Fenton tied

it at 3, 4 and 5, but a Lake Fenton hitting error gave the Trojans a 6-5 lead and the service back again. Two Lake Fenton service reception errors raised Owosso's lead to 8-5.

Later on in the set, Owosso led by as many as seven twice. The second time came at 16-9, but that's when the Blue Devils made their comeback. Owosso was whistled for a violation on the next volley and that point sparked a strong Lake Fenton run of seven straight points. During that run, Kelsey Corkran recorded a kill and Cola Sisk and Jahleiza Mitchell recorded block kills. The Blue Devils were tied at 16-all.

Owosso responded with a five-point service run of their own, raising their lead back to 21-16, but the Blue Devils got the service back after an Owosso hitting error. Once they had it back, Corkran served out seven straight points. She had two aces during the run while

Mitchell had a block kill. Luci Kamischke recorded a kill, making it 24-21. Game point was provided by a Sisk kill.

The second game was the Blue Devils' strongest. Owosso led 5-4 early, but an Owosso hitting error was followed by an Addison Fitzgerald ace, giving the Blue Devils a 6-5 lead. While the game would be tied again two more times, Lake Fenton never trailed in the game again.

Tied at 7-all, Corkran earned a kill and that was followed by a kill by Paige Harvey. Lake Fenton enjoyed a 9-7 lead at that point and scored four more consecutive points, taking a 13-7 lead. At that point, the Blue Devils never lost control. The lead grew to double-digits for the first time after an ace by Caleigh MacNeill and the Blue Devils got the final two points on kills by Corkran (24th point) and Sophia Zalac (25th point).



Lake Fenton's Camryn McMillan prepares to set a ball while teammate Olivia Goss watches. Photo: David Troppens

LINDEN'S

Continued from Page 11

the half, the Eagles started at their own 15, but Brandon Green had a 15-yard run and a 23-yard run. He also completed a pass of 36 yards to Bryce Eliuk, helping set up the team's first score. It came on Wyatt Gocha's five-yard run. Green ran in the two-point conversion, but the Eagles still trailed 27-8 with only 11:27 left in regulation.

North Branch was unable to advance the ball on its next possession and the Eagles got the ball back at their own 29. Just five plays later, the Eagles scored again. Gocha's 36-yard run helped set up Green's 16-yard TD pass to Austin

Alflen. Garrett Wagner ran in the two-point conversion and the Eagles suddenly trailed just 27-16 with 8:36 left.

North Branch didn't score on its next possession, but did take a large chunk of the time off the clock while pinning Linden to its own 4 with 3:25 left. Apparently it wasn't a problem. Green ran for 31 yards, helping spark a 45-yard pass completion from Ethan Gomez to Eliuk. Green ran in the two-point conversion and the Eagles trailed just 27-24 with 2:01 left in the fourth.

The Eagles tried an onside kick (their third of the half) and failed to recover it. Needing a first down, North Branch converted one.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Linden's Wyatt Gocha runs downfield during the Eagles' 27-24 loss to North Branch. Photo: Mark Bolen

FENTON'S

Continued from Page 10

a member of the winning 200 medley relay squad with Abigail Dolliver, Hallee Alexander and Sana Saab (1:58.22).

Two others also won individual firsts. Lilah Falvo won the 200 individual medley (2:29.68) and Julia Jensen won the 500 freestyle (6:31.72).

The Tigers also won all three relays.

Dolliver, Libby Maier, Sophie Stefanac and Molly Blanchard won the 200 freestyle relay (1:53.42) while Jensen, Blanchard, Falvo and Dolliver won the 400 freestyle relay (4:17.95).

The Tigers swept the top three spots in three individual events. In the 100 butterfly, Olsen was followed by Rose Haney in second (1:04.11) and Alexis Lemansky in third (1:10.14). It also happened in the two events Heavner

earned her firsts. In the 100 freestyle Dolliver took second (1:00.4) and Falvo took third (1:00.98); and in the 100 backstroke Dolliver took second (1:06.83) and Haney took third (1:08.62). Fenton's other individual seconds were Elieigh Stafford in the individual medley (2:33.34), Ella Koch in diving (181.00) and Stefanac in the 100 breaststroke (1:17.25).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

LF

Continued from Page 10


"It's rare. We constantly preach that you don't get a redo (after a loss to a team)," Lake Fenton varsity football coach Marty Borski said. "In this case, we do a little bit. But always be careful for what you wish for because you might just get it. This should be a fun football game.

"Last time they beat us, no question about it. But at the time we realized we could play with a team like that at that point. We did nothing but get better after we figured that out. It's unfortunate it took a loss to learn it, but I wouldn't change anything from this season, and we learned a lot (from the first game)."

The Blue Devils lost that first contest 48-40, but since then the Blackhawks (6-3) have struggled due to injury issues. The biggest involved their quarterback, Micah Miller. However, he's back and it's expected some of the other injured players are projected to return for Friday's game.


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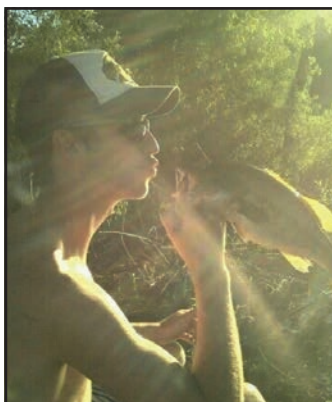
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Obituaries

Times

David Allister Plummer 1989 - 2021

David Allister Plummer - age 32, of Linden, died Thursday, October 21, 2021. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Saturday, October 30 at Sharp Funeral



lost his Faith in God, or his positive attitude. He continued in his strong love for his Family, and his passion for the great outdoors; always maintaining the hope that he might one day again

Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad Street, Linden. (The funeral service may be viewed by livestream at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com) Burial will follow in Sharp Cemetery, Deerfield Township. Visitation will be held from 10 AM until the time of the funeral at 11 on Saturday, October 30 at the funeral home. David was born June 3, 1989 the son of Harold and Rosanne (Godfrey) Plummer. He attended Hidden Springs Elementary School and graduated from Hartland High School in 2007. David loved the outdoors, and hunting and fishing. Though David faced many difficult health challenges during the past few years, he never

return to the active life he so fervently enjoyed. Surviving are his mother, Rosanne Plummer Burns (Steven Burns); father, Harold Plummer; brothers, Daniel Plummer, Jonathan Plummer, Timothy Plummer; sister, Annie Plummer Reid (Mark Reid); three nieces, Jaidah, Layla, and Willow; several aunts; uncles; and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Harold and Alice Plummer, Allister and Mary Godfrey. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Denise Renay (Marotz) Haller 1967 - 2021

Denise Renay (Marotz) Haller - age 53, of Linden, passed away Saturday, October 23, 2021. Services will be held 11 AM Thursday, October 28, 2021 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Chaplain Hank Messing officiating. Visitation will be 10 AM until the time of service. Those desiring may make contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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23 Vivaldi's output

26 Reveal

30 Dating from

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32 Salty septet

33 "Citizen Kane" sled

35 Train tracks

36 Observe

37 "Ray Donovan" actor Voight

38 Dish

41 Pirate's drink

42 Expert

45 San —, Italy

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29 Curvy letter

31 Coloration

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Midweek Sudoku

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

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

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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

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THE RAM REFUSED TO SMASH HORNS WITH THE OTHER RAM

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

Horoscopes

For the week of
October 25, 2021

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

There's no need to separate business and pleasure this week, Aries. You can find a way to combine them if you get creative. Get the work team on board.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, others look to your for support in the days ahead. Lend an ear and a helping hand if asked. Simply being there as a sounding board may be enough.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, your willpower may not be strong this week, so be on guard if temptation arises. It's alright to indulge once in awhile, but do your best to stay the course.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you're usually cool as a cucumber, but something has you riled up this week that may be putting doubts in your head. Focus and breathe.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, a conversation with a loved one provides some clarity for both of you. Allow this heart-to-heart to serve as a foundation for future discussions.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

You can pursue different ventures all the while keeping your day job, Aquarius. It's not a "one-or-the-other" thing. If something feels like a calling, do your research.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if collaborating with someone else has you second-guessing yourself, venture out alone for a little bit and see what progress you made. You can always team up later.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, expect the unexpected in the days ahead. The unknown can be mysterious, and that can spice things up for a little while. Embrace the challenge.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, a little personal pampering can go a long way from time to time. You can't always look the other way regarding your personal needs. Help yourself to help others.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you may feel like you are ready to throw caution to the wind, but deep down you know that's not your style. Continue to do your research and find the best way forward.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Build restful moments into your schedule while working from home, Capricorn. This way you have a fine line between home and work life. Start today with a long lunch.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Take stock of your relationships, Pisces. Make sure that you are getting as much as you're giving. Work out any imbalances if necessary.

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