

Fenton City expects to spend over \$30 million on infrastructure

■ Decade long plan drafted, needs approval by city council

By Sharon Stone

Fenton City Council discussed infrastructure at its work session on Monday, Feb. 7. The city manager, engineers and designers were on hand to answer questions.

Over the next decade, the city will be

working on its most significant investment in infrastructure that has been made in many years. The city will invest \$30 million in infrastructure, according to a memo from City Manager Lynn Markland to Mayor Sue Osborn and the entire City Council.

This infrastructure includes water, sewer, local streets, sidewalks, and with federal assistance, some federal aid eligible streets.

Markland said this would be a generational investment that will serve the city for decades. In addition to the city's investment, Consumers Energy will replace some very old gas mains in some area of the city, including on State Road. This will be done in coordination with the city's street project.

Currently, the city has a draft of a list of
See **INFRASTRUCTURE** on 11



Thousands attend
Lobdell Lake Chili
Cook Off
See page 3

Midweek Times

VOL. 29 NO. VI

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022

\$1.00

Cider Creek applicants return with 95-unit request

■ Development would be built behind Mueller's Orchard with access to Lobdell and Linden roads

By Hannah Ball

Lombardo Homes returns to the Fenton Township Planning Commission on Thursday, Feb. 10 to request preliminary site plan approval for a 95-unit single family home development called Cider Creek.

If approved, it would be built behind Mueller's Orchard with access to Linden and Lobdell roads. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. The planning commission packet can be viewed at fentontownship.org.

This new plan proposes 95 lots ranging in size from 12,000 square feet to ap-

See **DEVELOPMENT** on 8

Fenton Polar Plunge raises nearly \$95,000



A man celebrates as he walks across the ice after participating in the Fenton Polar Plunge on Saturday, Feb. 5 at the Fenton Moose Lodge. Approximately 180 people took the plunge this year. The event is a fundraiser for Special Olympics Michigan. Teams dressed in costumes were cheered on by dozens of onlookers. See full story on page 10. Photo: Hannah Ball

Funds allocated for more testing

■ Falk Road dump remains a concern of neighboring residents, committee

By Sharon Stone

Members of the Save Falk Road Committee learned Jan. 28 that \$100,000 has been allocated for 2022 by the State of Michigan for further off-site sampling near the Falk Road dump.

The original amount requested by Kim Ethridge, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) project

See **FALK ROAD** on 8



“Thank you to our neighbor in Waters Edge who cleared our driveway after seeing my sad attempt to shovel last week during the blizzard. Our snowblower is not working, and so it was extra nice to come home from work and have a clean driveway and sidewalks!”



“Spent last weekend out of town and was almost homesick. Some may complain about two years ‘stuck at home’ but when your home is as beautiful as Fenton, you hardly feel stuck. So thankful for our beautiful downtown, private yard and great local shops and restaurants.”





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Thousands attend Lobdell Lake Chili Cook Off

■ Annual event raises funds for fireworks on the lake

By Hannah Ball

Argentine Twp. —The 2020 Lobdell Lake Chili Cook Off came back strong this year.

Thousands of people came to taste chili from a dozen vendors. The food was gone fast, but the merriment didn't stop.

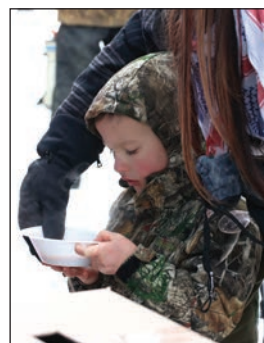
Local band The Maggots played from 4-8 p.m. The music contributed to the fun atmosphere as people enjoyed drinks and the nice weather on the northwest side of Lobdell Lake. It was a dog-friendly event.

"This is going to go down as one of the best ones to date," said event organizer Chip Nowiki. "We didn't have any issues. Everyone had a great time. I've never had so many people come up and say it was one of the best. I don't know if it was because everyone finally got to go out and do something, but we didn't have any issues."

He estimates between 1,500 and 2,000 people attended.

They had 10 contestants enter the chili cook off competition, and there two or three other vendors who cooked for people and didn't enter. Nowiki said the race between first and second for the people's choice was very tight.

The event raised approximately \$6,000



The 2020 Lobdell Lake Chili Cook Off featured hot food, live music and joyous company on Saturday, Feb. 5. The annual winter event raises funds for fireworks on the lake in the summer. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

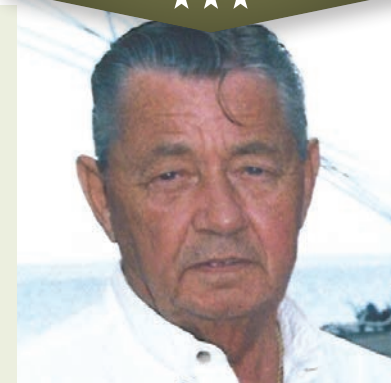
for fireworks on the lake. They continue to sell Lobdell Lake Chili Cook Off hoodies and mugs.

Nowiki said he thanks all of his sponsors, and he especially thanked Richardson Meats and Carl Sharkey, owner of Zuddles print shop, who made the trophies and other items for the event.

Winners "It's Flocking Good Chili," who had a flamingo theme, consisted of Bob and Jennifer Dietrich, Lindsay and Matt Tecklenburg, Leigh and Brandon Schwartz, Donna Madigan, Jim and Pam Murdock and Alyssa Marriner.

Jennifer Dietrich said the fact that it's a See **CHILI** on 16

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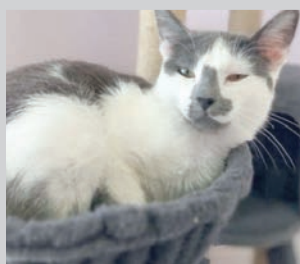


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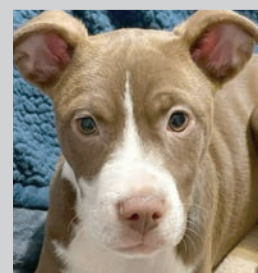
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Building Brands

The other day I wore black leggings, a black tunic sweater and a pair of black Nike high tops to work. The youngest person in our office told me she loved my outfit. I felt both cool and kind of like an old person trying to be cool, but in the end, what I really felt was comfortable.

After months of working from home, often in a professional top and sleepwear bottoms, getting into the swing of getting dressed for the office every day has been more challenging than a lot of us — myself included — may have expected.

I wore a blazer last week and was so uncomfortable I almost cried at my desk. (Okay, perhaps there was a little bit of seasonal depression to blame as well). But the truth is, many of us are experiencing an awkward adjustment period as work-from-home days lessen.

As someone who loves fashion, I find myself asking, what exactly is the dress code for this weird world we live in? I get that after two years in joggers we're all looking for ways to make joggers work-appropriate. I

What are you wearing and what does it say about your personal brand?

even wore joggers to my New Year's Eve celebration (sure they had sequins, but they were really comfortable). The problem is I've also noticed some professionals going too casual as they make their return to in-person. That said, there is a way to make comfortable and professional work together.

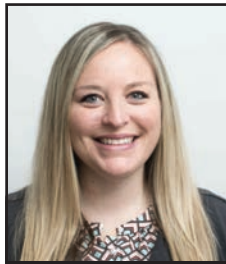
Here's a guide that I'm using. If in 2019 you would have worn heels, a blouse, a tie and/or a jacket because the work situation called for it, in 2022 you should wear some version of that. Maybe the jack-

et has a looser fit and the heels are a bit lower, but there needs to be a hint of something that says, "I work here."

A New York Times advice columnist shared this information when asked by a doctor in May 2021 what to wear under her white coat.

"Back in 2018, a group of researchers from the University of Michigan, Georgetown University and Baylor published a study in the British Medical Journal Open titled 'Understanding Patient Preference for Medical Attire.' Subjects were shown a variety of pictures and asked to rate them according to how 'knowledgeable,

See **BRANDS** on 17



Emily Caswell

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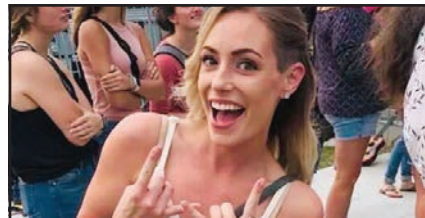
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How would you feel about recreational marijuana retail facilities opening in your municipality?



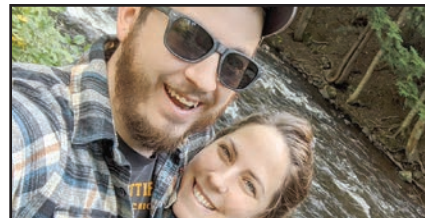
"Support your local growers. I'm not trying to pay top \$\$\$ with 16% tax when the grower up the road has much better for half the price and no tax. I'd rather give my money to the guys who are supporting and raising a family, not to some already rich company slanging mids."

Dan Killian
Linden



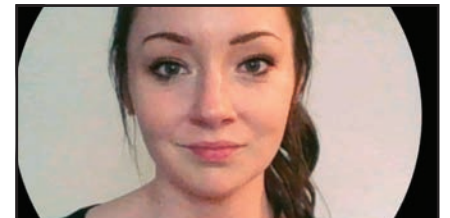
"I think it would be great! I know a few people that would greatly benefit from its medicinal properties! Most are too scared of the taboo of marijuana or do not know 'where to start.' With a facility, marijuana and its counterparts are easily accessible, regulated and have employees that are experts whom can guide people for what is best for them and their needs."

Brit Snavelly, Argentine Township



"I lived in Marquette for two years. They were a great boost in tax revenue to the county. They received approximately \$230k in extra taxes income between the townships and cities that had dispensaries."

Mike Tabone
Hartland



"I personally do not support it. I have a lot of personal experience with it (for anyone trying to convince me otherwise)."

Delaney Sharp
Fenton

Hotlines

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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.

A DEAR FAMILY member desperately needed an MRI over the weekend while at a big hospital in Flint. They told her she couldn't have one because there was only one employee that could perform that procedure and they weren't there over the weekend. Where did all those MRI technicians go?

CHERRY PICKING STUDIES that fit a predetermined narrative is not science.

ACCORDING TO A recent poll, 72% of Americans think our country is on the wrong track. If you are one of these people, go out and vote in the primaries, it doesn't matter whether you're Democrat or Republican, vote out every incumbent and send a message of no more status quo.

I TRIED TO see my doctor and they said I needed a COVID test even though I told them I had recovered from COVID already. They wouldn't even let me do telehealth. I'm currently looking for a new doctor. Who needs a doctor that won't see you when you're sick?

street talk



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NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Rep. Mueller to host local office hours in Fenton

State Rep. Mike Mueller of Fenton Township invites residents to join him at his local office hours this month in Fenton. Local office hours are an opportunity for residents to meet face-to-face with Mueller to share their thoughts, questions and concerns. No appointments are necessary to attend. This month, Mueller will be available Monday, Feb. 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fenton Township Office and Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Dr. Anyone unable to attend who would like to share thoughts or concerns with Rep. Mueller may contact his office at (517) 373-0830 or email MikeMueller@house.mi.gov.



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the
judge

RED FLAG LAWS

The Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm and to use that firearm for traditionally lawful purposes such as self-defense within the home.

However, the law also allows reasonable limitations on that right. An example is found in what are commonly called "red flag laws."

These are laws which authorize civil courts to issue "Extreme Risk Protection Orders" as to a named individual when it has been shown that they pose a significant risk of personal injury to themselves or others by their possession of a firearm (a so called "red flag.")

Currently 19 states (not including Michigan) and the District of

Columbia have such laws with the catalyst being mass school shootings in Connecticut and Florida.

Although each state's laws differ, generally speaking, when certain defined individuals such as family members, household members and law enforcement believe there is "extreme risk" for an individual to possess a firearm, a petition or complaint can be filed with the court detailing the risk.

An "ex-parte" hearing is then held with no notice to or participation by the individual. The term ex-parte comes to us from Latin meaning "for one party."

If the court finds that there is danger or risk, an ex-parte order is entered requiring the individual to immediately surrender all firearms to law enforcement and to be prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm.

After being served with the order, the individual may thereafter request a full hearing before the court

seeking to have the order set aside.

If they are unsuccessful, the order is effective for a set period of time depending on the individual state's law.

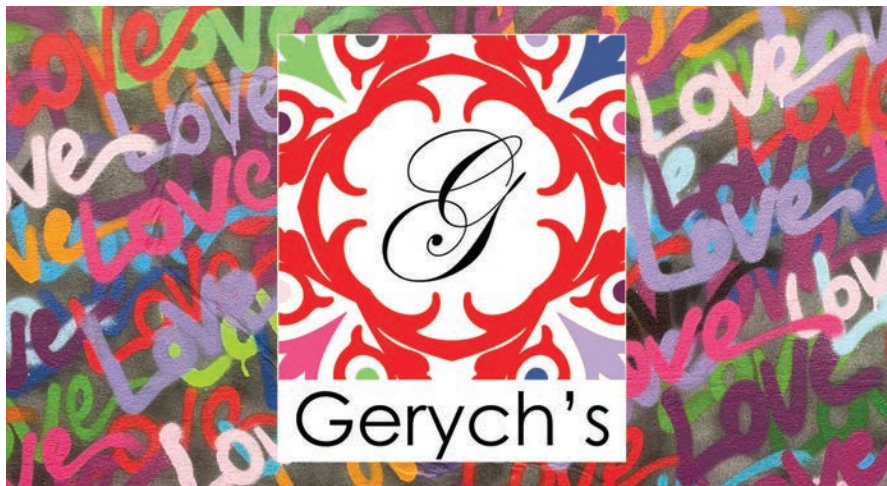
Those in favor of these laws point to a number of studies including one finding suicide rates having dropped in states with red flag laws and another concluding that they play a role in preventing mass shootings.

Opponents believe they are a violation of due process, the Second Amendment, and rights under the Fourth Amendment prohibiting unreasonable searches and seizures.

So far, all constitutional court challenges have been rejected.

Last week, three Michigan senators announced that because of recent developments, they would be reintroducing three bills, (originally introduced in 2019 and not passed) which, if enacted, would become Michigan's red flag law.

We'll see what happens.



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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

ROSE TOWNSHIP WOMAN ARRESTED

On Thursday, Jan. 27, at 8:28 p.m., Holly police officers were advised of a Holly police felony warrant for a 31-year-old Rose Township woman for failing to appear in court for a drunk driving third offense. Holly officers contacted Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers and met them at her address where she was taken into custody by Holly officers without incident. She was lodged at the Oakland County Jail pending arraignment.

EQUINOX REPORTED STOLEN IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Friday, Jan. 27, at 2:38 p.m., deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a UDAA (unlawfully driving away of an automobile) in Fenton Township. Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the caller who said her silver Chevrolet Equinox was stolen from her driveway. Det. Sgt. Scott Pritchard said the resident last noticed her vehicle in her driveway at approximately 5:30 p.m. She noticed the vehicle was missing at approximately 11:30 p.m. The case is still being investigated by the sheriff's office. If anyone has any information on this case or any other crimes, contact (810) 257-3422.

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Treasury: Don't delay, complete FAFSA today

■ FAFSA deadline for State of Michigan financial aid programs is approaching

Students who want to be given priority consideration for state of Michigan financial aid programs should submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid — commonly known as the FAFSA — on or before March 1, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

The FAFSA is a critical step in the financial aid process, serving as a gateway application to be considered for grants, scholarships and other

forms of financial assistance. FAFSA submissions received at the federal processor on or before March 1 are given priority consideration for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship and Michigan Tuition Grant.

Students who wait to complete their FAFSA after the March 1 deadline may not receive all the financial aid they could have been entitled to receive.

"When you're applying for financial

aid, completing the FAFSA is a critical part of the process, regardless of income level," said Robin Lott, executive director of treasury's office of postsecondary financial planning. "This application is free and can help ensure you get as much financial aid as possible."

Prior to completing the FAFSA online, the student and at least one parent or guardian must obtain a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at fafsa.gov. This ID serves as a legal

signature and confirms an applicant's identity when accessing financial aid information through certain U.S. Department of Education websites.

To get started with the FAFSA, go to fafsa.gov. To learn more about State of Michigan scholarships and grant programs, visit MI Student Aid's website at michigan.gov/mistudentaid.

Administered by Treasury, MI Student Aid is Michigan's go-to resource for finding the financial resources needed to pay for college. For more information, contact MI Student Aid at mistudentaid@michigan.gov, 1-888-447-2687 or @mistudentaid on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

“This application is free and can help ensure you get as much financial aid as possible.”

Robin Lott

Michigan Department of Treasury Office of Postsecondary Financial Planning executive director

Chrome & Ice VIP Experience to feature concert, benefit scholarship fund

Fans looking for premium access to Chrome & Ice can get their money's worth by purchasing VIP Experience tickets ahead of the car show in February.

Back by popular demand, the Chrome & Ice Indoor Car Show's VIP Experience will be held on opening night, Feb. 11., featuring a special admission package and a live major concert headlined by country music recording artist and Michigan native Josh Gracin.

Gracin, an American Idol Contestant from Season 4 and former Marine, will perform hits like "Nothin' To Lose," "Stay with Me (Brass Bed)" and "We Weren't Crazy," plus his new hit "Love Like." Local rock group "The John Vance Band" will open the concert at 7:45 p.m. with classic rock 'n' roll hits.

Tickets for the VIP Experience are \$40 each and will include admission to the car show and the concert. A VIP Experience ticket also includes a complimentary adult beverage at any of the several bars in the arena, as well as gourmet hors d'oeuvres and dessert on the walkway above the Green Arena from 6 to 8 p.m., compliments of Dort Financial Credit Union.

Amber Taylor, Executive Director for Back to the Bricks, said that this year's VIP Experience will be better than ever, presenting a top country

music act and access to all Chrome & Ice's entertainment offerings on Feb. 11.

"We're really excited to partner with Dort Financial Credit Union to bring this new element to the Chrome & Ice VIP Experience," she said. "There aren't too many winter concerts in our area, so this gives people the chance to get out, enjoy themselves and rock out to some great music."

Fans can also purchase concert only tickets for \$15 or concert/car show combo tickets for \$25. General admission for the Chrome & Ice car show is \$10 for adults, \$7 for ages 12-18 and free for kids under 12.

Proceeds from Chrome & Ice and the VIP Experience will support the Back to the Bricks Youth Scholarship Fund, which awards a total of \$10,000 in post-secondary scholarships each year. Altogether, the program assists high school seniors in Flint and Genesee County who are pursuing post-secondary study/training at a college or technical school in auto-body repair/painting, automotive design, auto mechanics, electrical/manufacturing/mechanical engineering, robotics, sales and marketing, software development for automotive applications, welding or a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) related program.

Full scholarship guidelines can be viewed at <https://backtothebricks.org/scholarships-2/>.

The 7th Annual Chrome & Ice Indoor Car Show presented by Back to

the Bricks will be held Feb. 11, 12 and 13 at the Dort Financial Center in Flint. To purchase VIP Experience tickets or general admission and/or concert tickets, visit backtothebricks.org.

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FALK ROAD
Continued from Front Page

manager for the Falk Rd. Dump, was \$600,000.

Holly Hills MHC is near the 40-acre Falk Road dump in Holly Township, which accepted household and lawn waste for more than 50 years before closing in 1980. Area residents are concerned of possible PFAS contamination in the ground affecting wells.

Holly Hills has 242 homes and the current expansion would add 192 new homes and a third expansion could total more than 650 homes on the site.

Mary Blanchard of Holly Township and a member of the Save Falk Road Committee, said that U.S. Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-08) shared with the committee that the Federal government has allocated \$10 billion to the State of Michigan for bridges, roads and contaminated sites involving water. This funding has not been released by the State of Michigan yet.

Blanchard said that when the

money is released, State Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Fenton Township) could apply for funding for cleanup of the Falk Road Dump.

“We are grateful that Rep. (Michael) Mueller, and Aide Mike Moon, have taken an interest,” Blanchard said.

Past documents have shown that effluent discharge could affect Lacy Lake, which is south of the Holly Hills development and joins the Shiawassee River.

Blanchard said the most recent testing/retesting of some contaminated monitoring wells on the dump by the village of Holly consultants, the fee authorized was \$22,000. That testing was approved by EGLE while there remain approximately nine wells that are untested.

Blanchard said contamination of the Falk Road dump is only one aspect of this complicated situation. The expansion of the Holly Hills Manufactured Home Community could create serious problems, environmentally. The developers were found in violation of multiple

rules and laws during an inspection by EGLE Water Resource Division and Oakland County Soil Erosion and Sediment Control on Oct. 15, 2021.

She said in a recent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, she learned that soil erosion and sediment control requires silt fencing at the curb, regrading of the channel to slope away from Falk Road to drain water back to MHC site and install a filter in an existing pond.

“Our concern with the effluent going into the wetland and river is the possible contamination that may

be coming from the violations at the Holly Hills waste water treatment plant,” Blanchard said. “There has been no testing discussed or known to have been done of the wetland and Shiawassee River since the effluent has been pumped in since 2001.”

Blanchard added that an agency staffer warned in 2000 of channelization and cattail displacement being harmful to the wetland, and also that down river impoundments in Holly, Fenton, and Lakes Ponemah and Silver could be affected.

DEVELOPMENT
Continued from Front Page

proximately 15,500 square feet. The minimum unit width is 75 square feet. The land, which is approximately 67 acres, is zoned residential-3 (R-3).

In October 2021, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees voted down a previous request by these applicants to build a 122-unit development and smaller lot sizes. However, trustees cited township ordinances, which don’t allow for minimum lot widths below 75 square feet in R-3 zoning or minimum lot sizes smaller than 12,000 square feet.

Previously, the applicants requested to rezone the property from R-3 to planned unit development. They are not requesting to rezone the land this time.

Lyle Winn, development compliance manager for Lombardo Homes, said after the other request was turned down, they met with the township and went through the zoning ordinances in more detail. Winn said they walked away with a better understanding. They redesigned the plans and decided to stay with the current zoning.

He anticipates the cost of these homes to be in the \$350,000 range, depending on the cost of building materials. If the preliminary site plan is

approved Thursday by the Planning Commission, it goes to the Fenton Township Board of Trustees. If the board approves it, they will do engineering work and ask the Planning Commission to approve a final plan.

Winn said if they get approval this year, it’s possible for them to begin construction in the winter of 2023 with utilities and paving the road.

This new plan allocates approximately 29 acres of open space.

The domestic water supply would be supplied by individual wells on each unit. Developers will bring sanitary sewer by connecting to an existing system along Lobdell Road. They will build two retention basins for stormwater management in accordance with Genesee County Drain Commissioner and Fenton Township’s standards.

The power lines will be located underground in the front yard areas, according to the plan.

The site plan application also includes a 5-foot wide concrete sidewalk throughout the development and soil erosion and sedimentation control measures.

If approved, the Lobdell Road exit/entrance would be built across from Lakeview Farms. The Linden Road exit/entrance would be built near Deer Trail, which is north of Owen Road.



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Firefighter/EMT seriously injured in auto crash

■ Colleague creates gofundme to assist family during difficult time

By Sharon Stone

A gofundme.com account has been created to help Groveland Township firefighter Jason Hoogerhyde.

Hoogerhyde was in a serious auto crash while driving a delivery truck for his other job Monday, Feb. 7.

Groveland Township firefighter/EMT and Gofundme organizer Sgt. Jeffrey Burdess said Hoogerhyde has been an important part of the fire department family as a firefighter/EMT for Groveland Township for several years.

Burdess said Hoogerhyde's multiple injuries are severe and he is currently undergoing multiple surgeries and has been admitted to the Neuro ICU at McLaren Macomb. He said most firefighters have other full-time jobs and Hoogerhyde's vehicle was struck head-on in the crash in Pontiac at approximately 11 a.m.

"We are raising money for him and his wife as this is a very difficult time



Groveland Township firefighter Jason Hoogerhyde is hospitalized following an automobile crash. A gofundme has been created to assist his family.

for them," Burdess said. "Anything you are able to contribute will be greatly appreciated and please keep the Hoogerhyde family in your thoughts are prayers."

Burdess said Hoogerhyde has been taking part in the annual Fight For Air Climb for years where participants climb stairs to raise money for charity.

The name of the gofundme is "Groveland Township Firefighter Jason Hoogerhyde."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

VOTERS OF VERMONT. Hope you're proud electing Bernie Sanders to Senate repeatedly spreading his dream of socialism, allowing it to take hold in U.S., supported by cult member groupies 'The Squad,' AOC, Omar, Tlaib, Pressley, Bush and rest causing great division, putting U.S. on path of destruction.

■■■

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■■■

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■■■

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Fenton Polar Plunge raises nearly \$95,000



Dozens of teams wore costumes to jump into Lake Fenton on Saturday, Feb. 5 at the Fenton Polar Plunge. Some wore tutus, others wore American flag apparel and one team wore Care Bear costumes. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

Community shows support for Special Olympics

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Twp. — The Fenton 2022 Polar Plunge broke records before one person had jumped into the icy water of Lake Fenton this year on Saturday, Feb. 5.

This year's event at the Fenton Moose Lodge raised nearly \$95,000. Brave souls in colorful costumes defied the cold weather and jumped in the water, all to help the athletes compete in the Special Olympics.

Area 13 Special Olympics Michigan

hoped to raise at least \$65,000. They surpassed that goal Feb. 4. This year, after two years of uncertainty and a canceled event in 2021 due to the pandemic, the community reaffirmed its support for the Special Olympics.

Participants raised more than \$80,000 before the event began. Local businesses formed teams, as did area schools and organizations.

Pat Peters, Area 13 director for Special Olympics Michigan, said they had 180 people who took the plunge. Area 13 covers Genesee and Lapeer counties.

"You guys did awesome. Thank you," she told the crowd in the Moose Lodge after the jumping was concluded.

She vowed to shave her head if they raised more than \$80,000.

The money goes to help athletes compete in the Special Olympics. The organization supplies the equipment, uniforms, transportation and more so the athletes can compete.

The Fenton Township Fire Department and Genesee County Dive Team worked together to cut a large rectangle in the ice a few yards into the water. The Genesee County Sheriff's Office and Swartz Ambulance Services were on scene to provide medical assistance if required.

Steve Dawes, UAW region 1D director, said, "I really want to thank all of you because the camaraderie, the fellowship and your fun and all that is great. But at the end of the day, it's about these kids and these young adults that have a lifetime of challenges ahead of them. Because of everything we're doing here today and what you're doing here today, their life is better. So thank you. I love every one of you."

In 2020, UAW Local 598 raised the most funds with more than \$26,000.

The youngest plunger this year was 10 years old. Peters gave a shout out to the group with the best costumes, the Not-

So-Skinny Dippers, who raised more than \$8,000. She thanked the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, which had a team called the Shivering Sheriff's Department, who raised \$7,400.

"We had a lot of good teams, so thank you all," she said. Peters said they're fortunate to have "great" schools in the area who fundraised and participated.

The Grand Blanc Unified Team, which has approximately 32 people, is the highest fundraising K-12 group in the state for the Polar Plunge. They raised more than \$12,000 this year.

Nikki Penzien, special education teacher at Brendel Elementary in Grand Blanc who took the plunge for the second time, said, "For me, it's pretty close to my heart to support my students."

Arnesto Lemos, whose wife teaches special education, said they have friends whose children have participated in the Special Olympics. "They had a great time. It's a good cause," he said.

This is the second year he's participated. He said the worst part is the trip from getting out of the water and running to the warming center to change into dry clothes.

Fifth grade teacher Chris Gutwald, who's wife used to work with autistic students, said he enjoys the atmosphere of the event.

"Everybody's cheering you and everybody is screaming for you, and you just have fun, you don't even realize (the cold)," he said. "It's definitely a cause close to our hearts."

The Fenton Polar Plunge raised nearly \$84,000 in 2020.

In 2021, LaFontaine Automotive Group held a modified Polar Plunge because the normal event was canceled. They set up a dunk tank and had pickup trucks, with tarps in the back, full of ice water. The event raised approximately \$12,000.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Continued from Front Page

roads and a map of the first three-year local street program and a map of the water main improvements. The draft is considered a work in progress at this time and could change.

The Draft Local Street Plan (DLSP) starts in the numbered streets. The second year is more robust and will include work on water main replacements and upgrades.

Markland told council members that he was informed by a reliable source that the permitting process for water main from Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is backlogged and that, along with gas main improvements, is why the city has more construction scheduled in the second year. He said the last water main permit that was applied for by the city was in August and the permit was approved early this year. Markland added that to his understanding, EGLE currently has a large number of vacant employee positions and this is having an impact on the review process. Along with the Consumers Energy gas main replacement, the EGLE review backlog is why some of the projects have been moved to the second year.

After the city's American Rescue

Plan Act (ARPA) fund discussion in January, Markland submitted a grant request to Genesee County for \$2,041,938 in ARPA funds for water main replacement. He said he has not heard back on that request. In that request, he has proposed using \$1 million of the city's ARPA funds and \$2.6 million in bonds.

The total amount of funds available for water main improvements would be \$5,641,938. With the city's current water rates, the city could bond for up to \$6 million for water debt.

The water distribution system projects do not include a second water main feed into the Appletree subdivision. The city will be looking at a way to complete a loop for that area. Also, in the future, the city will be replacing the water pump station in the Denton Hill Road area. All of the water main improvement projects, with the exception of the Appletree loop, are included in the city asset management plan for the water system.

Michael Hart, Fenton assistant city manager and DDA executive director, said reconstruction of the roads will be done in three phases with three sets of bondings.

OHM, the city's engineering firm, will be working on bid specification process and should have details in mid to late spring. Once those documents



The city of Fenton is working on a significant infrastructure project to fix local roads and proposed water main improvements.

are complete, there will be more documents for city leaders to approve over the next several months.

As projects near, communication will be important between the city, contractors and the neighborhood residents. There will be much to consider with the timeline, sidewalks,

drainage and more.

Resolutions on the local street program and water main improvement project financing will go before city council Monday, Feb. 14. The city has identified approximately \$5.6 million in water main improvements that will be included with the street projects.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHY ARE U.S. life insurance companies revealing an overwhelming unexplained increase (40%) in 'all-cause deaths' amongst 18 to 49-year-olds? Can someone look into this? ■■■

UNMASK OUR CHILDREN now. Why are kids still required to wear a mask that the CDC now admits does not provide protection? Who decides this, the school board of the superintendent? So many places ceasing all mandates. It's time this area does too. ■■■

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Fenton celebrates senior night with win vs. Holly

By David Troppens

Fenton — In some ways it was a positive contest for both teams involved when the Holly varsity girls basketball team faced off against the Fenton Tigers.

The Tigers improved their current winning streak to five games, defeating the Holly Bronchos 39-23 at Fenton

High School Friday night. That was the ultimate prize.

However, Holly had some reason to feel reasonably good about the effort as well. The 39 points they allowed represented the fewest points a team has scored against the Bronchos all season long.

And there was another positive —

Holly had one of its best offensive first quarters of the season. Of course, the Tigers' Adrie Staib had a pretty good first quarter as well. Staib hit four buckets and converted two free throws in the opening eight minutes, leading the Tigers to 12-point first-quarter. However,

See **CELEBRATES** on 15



Fenton's Adrie Staib attempts a shot in a past game against Holly. Morgan Fluckey is Holly's primary defender.

Photo: Christopher Summers

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Sports Times



Linden's Jace Becher grabs a rebound in a past game. He had seven points in a loss to Flushing. Photo: Christopher Summers

Eagles fall out of first, lose to Flushing, 52-30

By Dale Smith

Linden — The Linden varsity boys basketball team suffered through a tough first quarter Friday night against the visiting Flushing Raiders.

Flushing outscored the home team 15-4 in the first eight minutes and that was enough to hold the Eagles at bay at they dropped this one, 52-30.

Both teams were tentative in the offensive end early, with Flushing only up 4-2 halfway through the first quarter. The Raiders made it 11-4 after a steal and bucket. They put up the first points of the second quarter, leading 17-4 before

See **EAGLES** on 15

Tigers' offense heats up against Bronchos, 69-49

By David Troppens

Fenton — It's always fun to have a hot hand against a rival.

The Fenton varsity boys basketball team had just that against the Holly Bronchos at Fenton High School on Friday.

Led by Seth Logan's three first-quarter three-pointers, the Tigers scored 21 points in the first eight minutes, earning a 21-6 lead.

From there, the Bronchos were forced to try to dig out of a hole they couldn't ever get out of, resulting in the Tigers' 69-49 Flint Metro League Stripes Division victory.

"I think we distribute the ball well," Fenton point guard Connor Luck said about why the Tigers have been so effective offensively. "We have really good shooters. We have five guys that can hit threes, and we have two big men underneath

that can finish around the hoop. We play really fast and that's how we like to play."

The Tigers scored the game's first 14 points. It started with a converted free throw by Ja'Hion Bond and was followed by Seth Logan's first of seven three-pointers. Logan followed with another trey from the baseline and Lance Barkholz followed with a 10-foot jumper. Holly called a time out at that time, trailing 9-0 just three minutes into the game. The Tigers didn't slow down. Logan hit a third trey and Bond hit a putback shot, forcing another Holly time out. This time, the Bronchos trailed 14-0.

The Fenton (11-4) run finally ended when Holly's Michael Stevens II got a steal and made layup. When the first quarter was over, the Tigers led 21-6.

See **TIGERS'** on 15



Fenton's Ja'Hion Bond (left) and Seth Logan (right) make life tough for Holly's Antonio Simmons as he drives to the hoop.

Photo: Christopher Summers

Linden wrestling captures third straight Stripes Division title

By David Troppens

For the third straight season, the Linden varsity wrestling team are Flint Metro League Stripes Division champions.

The Eagles earned that honor by posting the most total points among Stripes Division teams during the dual season and the second-highest among division foes placing at Saturday's Metro League Tournament.

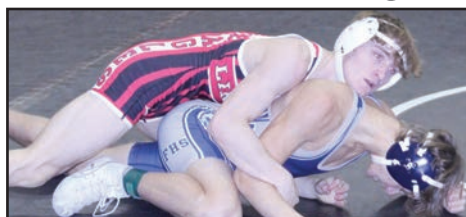
The Eagles finished eighth at the tourna-

ment, but that was high enough to finish fifth overall in the Metro and first in the among Stripes Division foes.

The Eagles had two wrestlers compete for league titles and two others place in the consolation finals.

The Eagles' sole league champion was Bryce Shingleton (125). He earned a pinfall win in his first match and a 10-4 decision

See **LINDEN** on 13



Linden's Bryce Shingleton (top) won the 125-pound weight class Metro League championship title. Photo: David Troppens

LF wrestlers finish second in FML standings : LF gymnastics places second at Haslett invite

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team had an outstanding Flint Metro League season.

The only problem the Blue Devils had was being in the same division as Goodrich.

Lake Fenton placed second at the Metro League Tournament and finished in second in the Flint Metro League Stars Division, right behind Stars champion and overall Flint Metro League champions Goodrich.

The Blue Devils had seven wrestlers in the finals and had four individual champions at the meet, scoring 163 team points. Goodrich scored 207 points while third-place Corunna (another Stars Division team) scored 100.5 points. In short, the Stars Division teams dominated the meet.

"I was very pleased with the effort at the league finals," Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "Putting seven guys in the finals and one in the consolation finals was a big accomplishment. Then to win five out of the eight was even better."

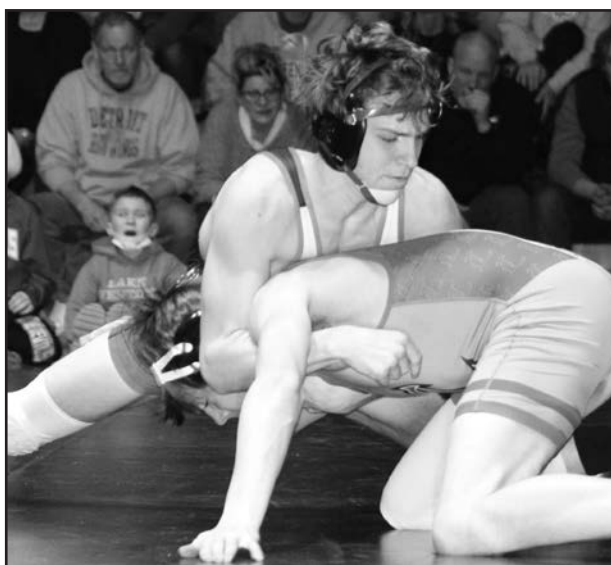
The champions were Clay Cook (112),

Ty Johnson (130), Zack Hall (135) and Noah Hall (145).

Cook had a challenging run to the title. He won his first match by technical fall and then defeated Goodrich's Ethan Garza by a tight 2-1 decision in the semifinals. In the finals he won a sudden victory battle with Corunna's D'Angelo Campos.

Two others who won had tight championship battles. Noah Hall earned a pinfall win in his first match and a 7-4 decision win in the semifinals against Flushing's Jacob Boudreau. In the title match, he defeated Goodrich's Brady Benson, 3-2.

The other tight championship victor for Lake Fenton was Zack Hall. Hall won his first two matches by pinfall, but then faced Goodrich's Nolan Weber in the final, defeating him by a 3-1 decision.



Lake Fenton's Ty Johnson was one of four Flint Metro League champions for the Blue Devils. Photo: David Troppens

The Blue Devils had three second-place finishers — Jorge Marvin (102), Drew Corcoran (140) and Jack Conley (152).

Marvin earned two pinfall wins in his first two matches but then lost a tight title

See **LF** on 14

By David Troppens

The LFLF varsity gymnastics team competed at the Haslett Invitational on Saturday and took second at the event.

The squad had a team score of 133.8 points.

Avery Miller took sixth in the all-around with a score of 33.70.

She was third on the beam (9.075) and eighth on the vault (8.475). Alexa Ayotte was close behind, taking fifth in the all around with a score of 33.825. She was third on the bars (8.30) and fifth on the vault (8.55).

Others had strong showings. Natasha Dudin was in sixth on the vault (8.525) while Sophia Markley was fifth on the floor (9.025). Finally, Jillian Shannahan was seventh on the floor (8.85).



Avery Miller

Fenton wrestling places second in Metro League's Stripe Division

The Fenton varsity wrestling team finished in sixth at the Flint Metro League Tournament, and placed the highest among the Stripes Division squads.

However, that wasn't enough for the Tigers to edge Linden for the Stripes Division title. Instead, the Tigers finished second in the Stripes Division.

Fenton finished with five placers, including one champ and one runner-up.

The champion was Philip Lamka (152). He won his first two matches by technical fall and decision, and then faced Lake Fenton's Jack Conley in the title match. He won it by pinfall in 3:38.

Ben Triola (189) made it to the title match, but settled for second. He won his first match by decision and the sec-



Fenton's Philip Lamka won a Metro League individual championship.

Photo: David Troppens

ond by pinfall. In the title match, he lost to Goodrich's Cameron Macklem by pinfall in 1:51.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

LINDEN

Continued from Page 12

victory versus Kearsley's Jeremiah Brown in the semis. In the title match he defeated Goodrich's Ryan Angelo by a

9-1 major decision. The other wrestler to make it into a final was Jase Grundy (189). He earned pinfall wins in his first two matches but then lost to Clio's Jacob

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Holly bowlers place fifth at Walled Lake Northern Tournament

The Holly varsity boys bowling team was the only Division 2 squad at the Walled Lake Northern Tournament.

Yet, the Bronchos finished fifth at the tourney.

The Bronchos qualified for the final eight tournament, by placing sixth. The squad averaged 193.4 pins during the games and had a pinfall total of 692 in four Baker games. That gave the Bronchos a team score of 3,594 pins.

The Bronchos' individual series scores were Ryan Sparklin who led the Bronchos with a 226-226-203-655 three-game series. Sparklin had the ninth-highest series. His score was 103 pins better than his average. Drew Mascorro with a 185-214-225-624 three-game series. He finished 150 pins better than his average. Sean Dankert did 54 pins better than his average with a 200-227-182-609 series.

"It was a neat day for Holly bowling," Holly varsity boys bowling coach Dan Yoder said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Linden girls struggle early, fall to Raiders

By David Troppens

Linden — A slow start may have derailed the Linden varsity girls basketball team's chances of winning a Flint Metro League Stripes Division title on Friday night.

Facing first-place Flushing, the Eagles saw the Raiders score 22 first-quarter points eventually earned Flushing a 47-37 victory. The Eagles' loss puts them two games behind the Raiders in the standings, not mathematically out of the division title race, but probably realistically out of it.

The early blitz by Flushing pretty much decided the game. The Eagles (11-4 overall 5-2 in the Stripes Division) started out just fine, scoring the first three points on an Olivia Mawhinney three-pointer just 59 seconds into the contest. However, Flushing scored the game's next 19 points. The run started with a Lauren Brokaw layup and continued with layups by Maddie Burdis, Sarah Rambus and Olivia Groulx. Flushing (13-2, 7-0) led

8-3. The lead grew to 14-3 after a trey by Rambus and a conventional three-point play on a layup and converted free throw by Rambus. The Eagles called a time out but trailed 14-3. The run ended with an Imani League try, giving the Raiders a 19-3 lead with 2:51 left in the opening quarter.

At that point, it appeared the Eagles started to settle down, and ended the quarter with two more hoops. One came on a Paige Leedle driving layup and the other by Mawhinney. The Eagles still trailed after one quarter 22-7.

The Eagles would spend the rest of the game trying to dig out of the hole and would never do it. They tried hard to make it a contest again in the second quarter, and were effective accomplishing that task Flushing was limited to just four second-quarter points while Linden's offense started to click. Mawhinney hit two buckets and Leedle hit another trey.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Linden's Kayla Widner (left) and Allison Maienbrook (right) work on defending Flushing's Imani League in the Raiders' victory against the Eagles. Photo: David Troppens

Holly's Gonzales captures another Flint Metro League individual championship

The Holly varsity wrestling team placed seventh at the Flint Metro League Tournament and finished seventh in the final standings overall as well. They placed third in the Flint Metro League Stripes Division.

The Bronchos had one league champion, Jacob Gonzales. Gonzales (160) crushed his competition, defeating Owosso's Bryce Johnston and Fenton's Kyle Dunfield by pinfall. In the title match, he faced Goodrich's Easton Phipps by an 11-3 major decision.

The Bronchos also had two fourth-place finishers. They were



Holly's Jacob Gonzales won a Metro League title at the league meet on Saturday. Photo: David Troppens

Jayden Higgins (189) and Christian Preston (119).

LF

Continued from Page 13

match against Goodrich's Jaden Davis in a 3-1 decision. Corcoran cruised in his first two matches as well, earning pinfall wins. In the title match he lost to Goodrich's Carsen Richards by a 7-1 decision. Finally, Conley earned a major decision win and a decision win

in his first two matches. In the finals, he faced Fenton's Philip Lamka, who pinned Conley in 3:38.

The Blue Devils had one more placer. Jacob Haugh (189) won two of his first three meets, getting him in the third-place match. While there, he defeated Holly's Jayden Higgins by pin

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LF's defense heats up vs. Clio, 70-23

By David Troppens

On Tuesday night, Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Tyler Szczepanski challenged his team after losing a home contest to Kearsley 59-48.

The Blue Devils took his challenge to heart.

Lake Fenton looked more like the team that rattled five straight wins earlier this season at home against the Clio Mustangs on Friday night, earning an impressive 70-23 Flint Metro League Stars Division victory.

The last time the Blue Devils (7-5) played the Mustangs, Lake Fenton won a 63-44 verdict, so Friday night's score showed tremendous improvement from the first contest between the two foes.

"That's something we talked about on Tuesday. We had to reset on offense but we needed to play some really good defense, and we were able to do that consistently for 32 minutes," Szczepanski said. "It was an all around team effort



Lake Fenton players dive for a loose ball in a recent game. The Blue Devils defeated Clio 70-23 on Friday. Photo: David Troppens

on defense, and on offense we made the extra pass. We played together and the guys were committed to doing that."

Max Muenzer and Francis Senter, the squad's senior leaders, paced the Blue Devils offense early on. Lake Fenton scored 26 first-quarter points with Muenzer netting 15 points

and Senter netting nine points. Meanwhile, Clio was able to muster just one three-pointer against Lake Fenton's defense, resulting in a 26-3 lead after one quarter.

The Blue Devils (5-2 in the Flint Metro League Stars Division) won every quarter.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Blue Devils destroy Clio Lady Mustangs, 64-19

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team must like the number 64 when it comes to the Clio Mustangs.

Earlier this season the Blue Devils defeated Clio 64-37. On Friday, the Blue Devils scored 64 points again. This time they held the Lady Mustangs to less points in a 64-19 Lake Fenton win at home.

The Blue Devils (12-1 overall and 6-0 in Stars Division play) scored 23 points in each of the first two quarters. In the opening quarter, six Blue Devils scored with Emerson Baker leading the way with nine points. Amaya Smith netted five points. Lake Fenton led 23-5.

In the second quarter six players scored again. This time Ella Prevost netted nine points (all on three treys) and Savannah Fellenbaum netted seven points. The Blue Devils had the game locked up at



Ella Prevost scored 15 points in a 64-19 victory vs. Clio.

Photo: David Troppens

halftime leading 46-12.

The contest wasn't much closer in the second half as Lake Fenton held Clio to seven second-half points.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

EAGLES

Continued from Page 12

a quick five points from Linden senior River Meckstroth made it 17-9. A 10-2 Eagles' run made it 19-14 before the Raiders dropped in consecutive three-pointers late to make it 25-14. Flushing led 29-14 at the half.

Linden came out strong to start the third quarter and cut the margin to only 11 points at 29-18 courtesy of a basket from Joe Miller after a Meckstroth steal. The Eagles outscored Flushing 8-7 in the third quarter to be down 36-22. After an early run by the Raiders in the fourth quarter, both coaches emptied their benches to end the game.

Linden freshman Jace Becher had a nice game with seven points, five rebounds and

a steal. Already listed at 6-foot-7, Becher's future as a Linden Eagle looks very bright.

"We really struggled in the first half a little bit," said Becher. "Our energy just wasn't there. We had a spark in the third, but, after that (not so good)."

The first meeting between these two Flint Metro League rivals ended with a one-point Linden win at Flushing, 24-23. The first four minutes of this game appeared to be a repeat of that contest before the Raiders' offense warmed up. The Raiders focused their defense on Linden standout, Reichen Lund, who was held to only two points and hardly able to get a shot off while being blanketed by Flushing's Tylan Osborn.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

CELEBRATES

Continued from Page 12

the Bronchos scored nine in the opening period. Anneliese Thisse had a big quarter, netting six points. Fenton led 12-9 after one quarter.

The Tigers' defense slowed down the Bronchos in the second quarter. Thisse had two points but that was all the scoring Holly did. Meanwhile, Abby Logan hit a trey and Kaleigh Shaker and Lauren Gan-

TIGERS'

Continued from Page 12

"We got off to a lightning start," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "Seth hit a couple of shots and no coach can tell you he expects what happened after that. We had three days off and

gwer had two-point buckets for Fenton, allowing the Tigers to extend their lead to 19-11 entering halftime.

The Tigers stretched the lead in the third quarter, scoring 15 points with the aid of six different scorers. Logan had five points and Gangwer had four. Holly netted seven with Morgan Fluckey netting four of them. The Tigers had a decisive 34-18 lead entering the fourth quarter. Holly was unable to

had a light shoot-around today, hung out and did a walk-through. Then all of a sudden, three minutes into the game it's 10-0 or something crazy like that."

For the middle two quarters, the Bronchos (6-7) were never completely buried but Holly

threaten the Tigers' sizable lead in the fourth.

Staib led all scorers with 12 points. She also had six rebounds and three steals. Logan added eight points for Fenton while Gangwer had six points and three rebounds. Shaker netted five points and three steals. Maddie Slezinski had eight rebounds. Thisse led Holly with eight points while Alana Simmons netted seven points.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

never really got back into the contest either. They existed in a sort of limbo land, at least until the fourth quarter. Fenton hit just 3-of-13 shots in the second quarter while Holly hit on 4-of-15 with three being treys. Holly trailed 33-20 at halftime.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, 28.

House Bill 5541: Authorize multi-state “uniform bar examination”

To establish that a “uniform bar examination” created and administered by a national group would fill the current Michigan mandate that lawyers be members of the state bar association, but only if Michigan officials choose to administer this uniform test in this state. The bill would also increase bar examination fees and related charges.

Passed 101 to 0 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

House Bill 4188: Revise school

pension calculations

To establish procedures and standards for selecting a vendor for the defined-contribution annuity option authorized for school retirees by the 2017 pension reform law that largely replaced a persistently underfunded “defined benefit” pension system with 401k account employer contributions, or an annuity to be created later, which this bill would do.

Passed 96 to 5 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

House Bill 4277: Ban hand-held phone or electronics use while driving

To prohibit the use of a “mobile electronic device” including a cell phone while driving, except for hands-free or voice-activated devices, with violations subject to fines or up to 16 hours of community service for texting-while-driving, and 24 hours for a second offense. This and House Bill 4788 would also increase fines and license penalty points and authorize license suspensions for three or more violations within three years, ban driving with headphones or ear-buds, ban recording, watching or sending a video while driving, ban interacting on social media while driving and more.

Passed 75 to 26 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

Senate Bill 145: Give tax breaks to some home buyers

To grant \$5,000 state income tax exemptions, and \$10,000 on joint returns, if the money is deposited in a specialty savings account the bill would authorize for individuals who have not bought or owned a Michigan home in the past three years (dubbed “first time home buyers”). The exemptions could be claimed for up to five years, meaning \$50,000 could be exempted from state income tax liability over time by certain households. Fiscal agency analysts estimate the bill will transfer up to \$19.8 million in benefits to these households, with an equivalent amount of revenue foregone by the state. A version of this proposal was vetoed by Republican Gov. Rick Snyder in 2018.

Passed 86 to 16 in the House

Rep. Bob Bezotte (R-Dist. 47) **YES**
Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) **YES**

Senate Bill 642: End competitive bidding on state engineering contracts

To no longer seek competitive bids for state architectural, engineering or land surveying service contracts, and instead let officials assess and rank vendors

according to specified (and potentially subjective) criteria, and then try to negotiate a “fair and reasonable” contract with the “highest ranking” firm. The bill does not establish how “fair and reasonable” would be defined in the absence of competitive bidding. If officials don’t get the price they want they would repeat the process with the next firm on their list.

Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) **YES**
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) **YES**
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) **YES**
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) **YES**
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) **YES**

Senate Bill 706: Authorize “automated vehicle roadways” and user fees

To authorize “automated vehicle roadways” or lanes, use of which would be exclusively reserved for vehicles operating while communicating with an “automated vehicle roadway system.” The bill would permit the state to contract out construction and operation of such roads and permit charging tolls on them.

Passed 33 to 4 in the Senate

Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Dist. 14) **YES**
Sen. Jim Runestad (R-Dist. 15) **YES**
Sen. Lana Theis (R-Dist. 22) **NO**
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) **YES**
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) **YES**

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CHILI

Continued from Page 3

team effort is what makes it fun.

“Just being with everyone is the best part,” she said. They’ve participated for five years and won something the last three years. They don’t follow a recipe.

“You know that saying, ‘too many cooks in the kitchen?’ Well, it works for us,” she said.

They cooked nearly 12 gallons of chili and were out of food in 40 minutes. “We couldn’t keep up,” she said, adding that it felt “fantastic” to win. “We end up with a win when all we’re doing is looking for fun. Especially in Michigan, you need something to break up the winter and this event is perfect to do so.”

Linden resident Stan Delabbio ran out of his homemade bear chili in about 10 minutes. He gave out 100 bowls.

“It’s fun. Everybody enjoys it,” he said. “It went quick.”

He moved to the area in 1985 and has participated in the event approximately 25 times. As a hunter, he often kills wild

animals and cooks the meat into the chili. Delabbio has made chili with bear, elk, antelope, mountain lion, or wherever he’s recently killed. Antelope is a crowd pleaser, and one of his favorites is elk.

He appreciates the fun atmosphere and that it’s a fundraiser to buy fireworks for Lobdell Lake.

“Especially like right now with the weirdness of COVID, it’s nice to see people all getting out and enjoying themselves. But what I like overall is it’s just fun,” he said.

Winning is “bragging rights,” Delabbio said. He’s won twice and finished in the top three a few times.

“It’s fun to have camaraderie and then bragging rights for a year,” he said.

Judges Choice:

1st place - It’s Flocking Good Chili
2nd place - Waffle Fry Crack Chicken Chili
3rd place - Rump Rocker

Peoples Choice

Waffle Fry Crack Chicken Chili
Best Chili Cook Off Setup
Bourbon Street Chili

“Especially in Michigan, you need something to break up the winter and this event is perfect to do so.”

Jennifer Dietrich

It’s Flocking Good Chili group member

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

HOLLY POLICE ARRANGE HELP FOR RESIDENT

On Friday, Jan. 28, at 5:37 p.m., a Holly police officer was dispatched to a residence from an occupant who reported that a family member who was suffering with depression might have overdosed on prescription medication. The officer was able to assist the victim in agreeing to seek help. Holly Fire Department was on-scene and transported the victim to a medical facility.

BREAK-IN ON EASTVIEW DRIVE IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Sunday, Feb. 6, at 6:47 p.m., deputies from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a breaking and entering report in the 14000 block of Eastview Drive in Fenton Township. Upon arrival, deputies spoke with the caller who said he was gone from his home from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 4. During that time, somebody broke into his home. The resident said someone stole his bank card, Michigan ID, and \$18 in cash. He said he did not lock his door that day. Det. Sgt. Scott Pritchard said there were no signs of forced entry. The case is still being investigated by the sheriff's office. If anyone has any information on this case or any other crimes, contact (810) 257-3422.

HOLLY MAN CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING POLICE OFFICER

Michael Cromer, 32, of Holly, was arraigned in Oakland County 52-2 District Court on Feb. 1 on one count of assaulting/resisting a police officer. The charge stems from a domestic assault in progress that Holly police responded to Sunday, Jan. 30. Police determined Cromer was highly intoxicated and was assaulting a female. Officers placed him under arrest and transported him to Holly Police Department for processing. While at the police station, Cromer allegedly kicked the officer and attempted to escape custody. A probable cause conference is scheduled for Feb. 15 at 11 a.m. Cromer also is scheduled to have a pretrial at the same time for when he was arrested June 23, 2021 in Holly for operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content over .17%.

BRANDS

Continued from Page 4

trustworthy, caring and approachable each physician appeared.' Guess what? The highest rated combination was not the scrubs ... it was a white coat and formal dress."

The columnist then goes on to describe what exactly formal dress is in today's world and basically it comes down to fabric.

"It's worth preserving some of the qualities we learned to appreciate in clothing during the pandemic, especially comfort, but in elevated materials. Instead of leggings and sweats, think jersey, silk, georgette, crepe and crisp cotton."

While this advice was offered to someone in the medical profession, I think it's good advice for anyone, no matter the industry.

In November, Vogue editors shared what they were wearing as they returned to the office. Yes, they work for a fashion magazine, but it's clear from the photos they are going for an elevated, but comfortable style. From the article, "Executive Fashion Director Rickie De Sole is adding a comfortable jean to her work wardrobe for the first time and Senior Beauty Editor Lauren Valenti is relying on the polished touch of soft suiting."

One silver lining to the pandemic is that it's given some of us a chance to rebrand ourselves a bit, including what we want our work style to be.

Today's world doesn't allow for hard and fast fashion rules like no tennis shoes or denim in the office. In fact, some companies have officially changed their once strict dress codes in recent months. A good friend's company did away with a rule that required women to wear pantyhose with dresses and skirts. I once thought wearing anything with a hood to work was unprofessional, but I recently bought a leather moto jacket that has a hood and thanks to the lux leather and fit I find it work appropriate.

I gave an important presentation the other day and while I didn't wear what I would have worn in 2019, I liked what I wore even better. I'm defining my new style as late 1970s/early 1980s English professor. An English professor who still wants her students to think she's cool, even if it's "cool for an old person."

How has your work wardrobe changed in the last two years? Email me at ecaswell@mihomepaper.com to share.

Emily Caswell is the brand manager for VIEW Group, the branding division of View Newspaper Group.

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FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Keep it down!"
4 Tax pro
7 Whizzes (by)
12 Horse chow
13 Owned
14 Emanations
15 Shred
16 Pennsylvania city
18 Guitar's kin
19 Symbol of freshness
20 Lancaster or Reynolds
22 "Blue Bloods" aier
23 Fly high
27 Flamenco cheer
29 Oliver Twist, for one
31 French composer Gabriel
34 Hilo hello
35 Snowman's nose
37 Links org.
38 Prop for Dr. House
39 Devilish laugh
41 Body powder
45 "I'm with you!"
47 Meadow
48 Pennsylvania city
52 Conditions
53 Boredom

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58

54 Kimono sash
55 Packed away
56 "The Dapper Don"
57 Fixed
58 Snake's sound

DOWN

1 Bush
2 Japanese verse
3 High-strung
4 Sudan neighbor
5 Royal home
6 Extemporize
7 Madcap

8 "Shoo!"
9 Acapulco gold
10 Gullet
11 Capitol Hill VIP
17 Old U.S. gas brand
21 Baseball manager Joe
23 Pie-in-the-face sound
24 Discoverer's call
25 Satisfied sigh
26 Genetic letters
28 Summer sign
30 Cleaning cloth
31 TV watchdog

org.
32 Small battery
33 Coffee vessel
36 Biblical pronoun
37 "Friends" role
40 Community spirit
42 Fake name
43 Some jabs
44 Attorney's load
45 Roman 1052
46 Skip
48 Plead
49 Rock's Brian
50 Potent stick
51 Shack

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Midweek Sudoku

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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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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CATHH
WRANOR
DEMLOU

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What do you say we listen to some of your music while we throw this saucer? He's so cute!
You are all right, dude!
You like dogs, too?

THE HUMANS FOUND THE ALIENS TO BE VERY SENSIBLE AND

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

Horoscopes

For the week of
February 7, 2022

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you may be feeling romantic lately, but there will be little time to act upon it. Bide your time for a week or two until you can spend time with a special someone.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, craft an eclectic guest list for an upcoming party you're hosting. The more points of view you can hear, the more engaging the event will be.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, a loved one needs you and you're the right person for the job. Find a way you can lend a hand. Your efforts won't go unnoticed and pitching in will prove its own reward.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, you may need to tighten the purse strings in the days ahead. Limit purchases only to the necessities for the next few weeks until you feel more secure.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, bringing people together is your specialty. Put your talents to use and encourage friends and family to get together for some fun. The party will be welcomed by all.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Someone in your life could be at a crossroads, Virgo. Lend an open ear if he or she needs to talk. Your support will be well-received and reciprocated when the time comes.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, your talents will be in high demand in the days and weeks ahead. Take things one task at a time and embrace the responsibility and trust.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you usually are outgoing, but this week you may feel shy and reserved. Stick closer to home if you're not feeling the social scene right now.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, now is the time to spread a little good cheer. Let others know how much you care and encourage them to do the same. This will have a positive effect on everyone's mood.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
Activities that have you working in a group go as planned, Capricorn. Your willingness to work with others and set a good example is highly valued.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, a brief separation from someone special in your life has you feeling melancholy. Surround yourself with friends to brighten your mood as much as possible.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Treat yourself to a meal at a favorite restaurant or go on a little retail therapy spree. You deserve a little pampering.

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