

Council will ask voters to amend charter

■ If passed, indefinite 5-mill millage could only be used for police and fire services

By Hannah Ball

Linden — Linden residents will vote

in August on an indefinite 5-mill millage for police and fire services and on a charter amendment.

On Monday, Feb. 28, the Linden City Council unanimously approved a resolution that would place the question of whether to amend the charter on the

August ballot along with the mill question. If it passes, the levy will begin Dec. 1, 2022.

This is an effort by the council to procure a steady flow of money for police and fire services, which would allow them to spend more of the general

fund on capital improvement projects.

Five mills is approximately \$1 per \$1,000 of taxable value of a property. If levied, it would raise an estimated \$621,085 in the first year. If passed, this money could solely be used for provid-

See **MILLAGE** on 11



EXPO 2022
Special section included with this edition

Midweek Times

VOL. 29 NO. IX

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022

\$1.00

Owner of proposed landscaping yard speaks out

■ Applicants needs multiple state approvals for plans to pass

By Hannah Ball

The owner of the proposed landscaping supply yard and concrete recycling facility is saying there is “significant misunderstanding” regarding his proposed plans.

Brian Dennis of Holly, owner of Picasso Landscaping, did not attend the Thursday, Feb. 24 Fenton Planning Commission meeting in which his agenda item was tabled. The commission was expected to vote on site plan approval and special land use permit that would allow landscaping materials, concrete storage bins, a sales office and the recycling facility at the vacant property at 400 Meadowridge Dr., which is in the industrial district, is 11.6 acres.

See **LANDSCAPING** on 7



Paczki Day

Lisa Holderbaum, owner of The Holly Donut Shop on N. Saginaw Street in Holly, keeps up with the demand for paczki on Tuesday, March 1, otherwise known as “Fat Tuesday.” She and her staff prepared nearly 4,000 of the delicious custard or fruit-filled pastries on Monday. Cars were lined up around the building when the shop opened at 5:30 a.m. The shop makes paczki one day a year and sell them until they run out. Photo: Sharon Stone

City accepts low bid to repair dam

■ DDA to fund \$299,135 project, to be completed by this fall

By Sharon Stone

The city of Fenton awarded a contract to Pullman SST, Inc. from Trenton, for

See **DAM** on 9

Local Streets Program costs approved

■ Fenton City’s engineers to begin multi-phase project

By Sharon Stone

On Monday, Feb. 28, Fenton City Council unanimously approved the costs

See **STREETS** on 8

“The Cheese Lady. We had a few flavors of cheese from their Grand Rapids store. I wanted to buy more and went to the Fenton location; the ladies took their time and fixed me up. Quality, selection and service rivals all grocery chains. ‘Shop Local’ is more than a tagline.”

“The Loose Center welcomes those who enjoy writing their family history and other subjects each second and each forth Friday at 9:30 a.m. Thank you.”

“The ‘Pit Crew’ at the PDQ were amazing and so professional. I appreciate this.”





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5th best Lenten Fish Fry in Genesee County

■ Knights of Columbus in Fenton begins Lenten Fish Fry this Friday

By Sharon Stone

The Knights of Columbus 7418 in Fenton begins its Lenten Fish Fry this Friday, March 4. It will run throughout Lent and end Friday, April 8. There will be no Fish Fry on Good Friday, April 15.

This community event is more than 40 years old.

The Knights of Columbus had to stop after two weeks in 2020 because of the pandemic, however, they came back with a very successful drive-thru only in 2021. They are starting 2022 with a drive-thru only.

Last year, the Knights of Columbus participated in a survey of Michigan Lenten Fish Fry's based on customer surveys and finished fifth in Genesee County.

Ray Barth, Knights of Columbus member and council treasurer, said, "That's something we plan to improve on this year."

An order includes three pieces of fried or baked fish,



Several organizations begin their Lenten Fish Fry Fridays this Friday, March 4, including the Knights of Columbus in Fenton. Dinners typically include fried or baked fish, fries, coleslaw and a dinner roll.

fries or baked potato, coleslaw and a dinner roll. They also have a kids meal, which includes mac and cheese, fries and applesauce. People can order online at stjohnfenton.org by midnight of Thursday or

phone in the orders Friday from 1 to 6:30 p.m. by calling (810) 629-3560. Drive-up orders are accepted, however, advance orders are preferred.

Curbside pickup is available at Fr. Harvey Activity Center, directly behind St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton.



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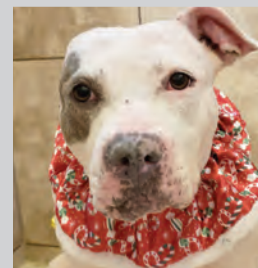
is 8-months-old and loves to play and cuddle. Cat would do best in a home with another feline friend.

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Sharin' the spotlight

Expo, St. Patrick's Day event return

By Editor Sharon Stone

After taking last year off due to the pandemic, the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce is putting on the Fenton Community Expo this weekend at Fenton High School. The chamber and local business representatives are thrilled to be back at an exciting, in-person event that welcomes thousands of visitors over two days.

While you're strolling through the gym and hallways and checking out all the local vendors and what they have to offer, be sure to stop by the Tri-County Times' booth. Our booth is right next to a gym entrance. We love talking to our valued readers as well as guests from out of town. Do you have a story idea? Stop by and tell us or write down your story idea and contact information and a reporter will get back with you later.

To read more about the Fenton Community Expo, check out our Expo pages in this edition. Like other business owners advised in those articles, stop by and chat with the business representatives

who are volunteering their time to ensure everyone knows who they are and what their business has to offer. You never know when you're going to need a new orthodontist, insurance provider, assisted living facility, furnace, physical therapist, real estate agent or funeral home. File away all the business cards you gather this weekend for the future.

It looks like there's another charity pub crawl coming up in Fenton. The third annual Saint Patrick's Pub Crawl is Saturday, March 12. Tickets are \$30 each and proceeds will benefit The Warda Foundation. After taking last year off, because of the pandemic, organizers are excited to be celebrating the Irish holiday. They have party bus transportation stopping at The Barn, the Corner Bar & Grill, The Fenton Pub, The FirePlace and the Ponemah Lakeside Lodge. Check-in begins at 2 p.m. The restaurants provide full food menus and specials for the event as well as non-alcohol



Sharon Stone

beverages.

For those not familiar with The Warda Foundation, it is a local charitable foundation based in Fenton dedicated to helping underprivileged children and fighting against drunk driving. The Warda Foundation's Project Santa last December was successful. The Barn, owned by Jason Warda, turned into Santa's workshop just before Christmas by filling up with toys. Through everyone's charitable donations, they were able to provide Christmas to 62 families and the kids at Whaley Children's Center, totaling over 220 children.

The Warda Foundation also hosts its annual Thanksgiving CommUNITY Lunch at The Barn. Anyone who might need the Thanksgiving meal is welcome to attend.

As always, there's something fun to do in the Fenton area. Don't forget to stop by the Times' booth and say hi to your local newspaper staff.

Hotlines

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

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

LOVE THE 'PRICES at the Pump,' you ran in last Sunday's paper. With what's going on in the world, I fear what the prices will be in the coming weeks. Holy cow, look what the price is in San Diego.

■■■

GOOD COLUMN HANNAH Bell. The movie shows just who gets jail for what the rest of us have to pay for. Big business always goes for the bottom line — money and power.

■■■

THE NEW YORK Times recently came out with a story saying the CDC was not releasing all the data about vaccines because it would lead to vaccine hesitancy. What kind of data do you suppose would lead to hesitancy?

■■■

GOD BLESS THE brave people of Ukraine. They are willing to die for their freedom, their families and country. We should always remember their sacrifice.

■■■

IF YOU WANT to understand today's politics think blackmail.

■■■

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

What are you looking forward to at the Expo? | streettalk



"Since Athletico is new to the community, I'm looking forward to just being a part of the community and showing how we're here and how our services we provide can improve someone's quality of life."

Bret Peters,

PT and clinic manager of
Athletico Physical Therapy



"I'm looking forward to meeting lots of potential new customers and people who are interested in grills, smokers and outdoor cooking, and talking with them about what they like to do and what we've got to offer."

Bob Kuerbitz

Owner of Great Lakes Grills



"I enjoy all the small businesses that exhibit at the Expo. They are the heart and soul of our community. If we stop supporting these businesses our community will suffer. Everyone at the Expo is happy to be there."

Kevin Beste

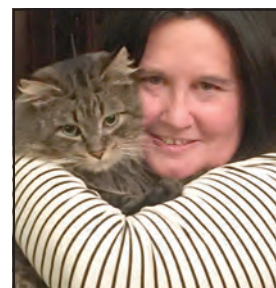
Linden



"Discovering a new business or activity we haven't tried yet."

Julie Gilbert

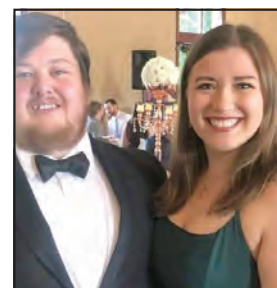
Fenton



"Getting the free items that's promoting the business. Also walking around and being around others!"

Ann Rogulsky

Fenton



"We're really excited to introduce ourselves to the community and show people what services we offer and all the great things that we've done for the community. We like to get involved. We'd like to see their smiling faces in our chairs in the future."

Destiny Bristol,

Fenton Smiles

Linden secures multiple grants

■ Funds will help make city amenities more handicap accessible, build safe path for students

By Hannah Ball

Linden — Linden has been approved for multiple grants that will allow them to install a handicap accessible kayak launch, a handicap accessible bathroom at the Linden Library, and a safe path for students.

The city will receive \$30,000 to install a handicap accessible kayak and canoe launch on the Shiawassee River at the access point off Tickner Street.

City Manager Ellen Glass made the announcement during the Monday, Feb. 28 city council meeting. The grant will come from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

"I know that you guys have worked on that for many years and so that's an exciting thing," she said. "This location is a perfect location because of the fact that you can paddle up and back. A lot of times when they install these, they put them in but there's no place down river to maybe exit."

She doesn't know when the launch will be installed.

"We're hoping spring. It'd be great if we could have it in before all of our summer events," Glass said.

She said this was possible with the help of State Rep. Mike Mueller.

"I think it's great," said Mayor Danielle Cusson. "Just giving someone that added availability and offering the use of our Mill Pond and opening it up to people. Just like it's important for us to have the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible bathrooms in our library."

Linden was also able to secure \$15,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to make the Linden Mill Library handicap accessible in accordance with the ADA. These funds come through the Genesee

County Metropolitan Planning Commission.

Improvements include expanding the bathroom to have enough space for someone to maneuver a wheelchair.

Glass is not sure when the improvements will be made. They have not yet

signed the final documents.

The city also secured \$306,025 for a Safe Routes to School grant for 2024, which would go to the development of a non motorized pathway at Stan Eaton Drive and Hyatt Elementary.

"More to come on that. We haven't gotten to the design phase of that just yet, but it looks like the funding has been approved so that's a plus. We're trying to be aggressive with all that stuff and trying to bring money back into the city any way that we possibly can," she said.

“We’re trying to be aggressive with all that stuff and trying to bring money back into the city any way that we possibly can.”

Ellen Glass
Linden city manager

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Good Samaritan laws

The story of the Good Samaritan comes to us from the bible. It involves a traveler from the region of Samaria who, out of the goodness of his heart, stopped on a road to help a stranger who had been beaten and robbed.

Fast forward to today and, based on the story, we have what are commonly called, “Good Samaritan” laws.

These laws generally provide that if a person acts in good faith to assist someone in need of emergency care, they will not have civil liability if their actions cause further harm.

Every state and the District of Columbia has a version of this law.

Michigan’s law protects a wide range of individuals from liability when they help another in specified emergency situations as long as they aren’t “grossly negligent” or engage in “willful or wanton misconduct.”

Michigan’s original law took effect in 1963.

There is another type of Good Samaritan law, which protects individuals from criminal liability when they call 911 or are presented for medical care regarding a suspected drug overdose.

These laws have come into effect more recently with New Mexico being the first state to enact its statute in 2007.

As of 2021, 47 states and the District of Columbia have such laws, including Michigan. Ours was enacted in 2016.

Michigan’s statute protects both the individual who overdosed and the individual who seeks help for them.

As to the overdosed individual, for immunity it must be shown that they were incapacitated because of a drug overdose when presented for care and they possess or possessed drugs in an amount sufficient only for personal use.

For the individual who seeks help for the one who overdosed, any evidence of their possession of drugs obtained as a result of their help is not to be considered a violation of the drug possession law.

The rationale for all Good Samaritan laws is to encourage people to help other people and to protect and save lives.



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LANDSCAPING

Continued from Front Page

It's north of Grant Street and east of Fenway Drive.

However, the commission tabled the item due to receiving a large amount of information from residents and other parties a few hours before the meeting began.

About a dozen residents spoke against the proposed landscaping business at the Feb. 24 meeting. They mainly have concerns about the concrete recycling operations. However, Dennis said this use is a small portion of his proposed business.

He said there's been a "significant misunderstanding."

"I have proposed a landscape supply yard with a concrete mixer. Some of the people in opposition to my plan have been spreading that this is a 'cement plant' and circulating research relating to cement plants, which are large-scale industrial factories that do have pollution issues. That is 100% not what I have proposed," he said.

The topic will be back on a planning commission agenda once they go through the information and a noise study is completed.

Chairwoman Charity Thompson did not guarantee that it would be on the March agenda because they do not yet know how long everything will take.

Dennis needs multiple approvals before he can build his landscaping business. Fenton has to approve the site plan and special land use permit. From the state of Michigan, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) has to grant air quality permits and he has to follow state regulations for dust control.

Justin Sprague, vice president of CIB Planning, who is Fenton's planning consultant, said they are requiring the application to submit decibel information on all the equipment he proposes to use at the site.

"Essentially, we'll all need to see a study that verifies the decibel range, and then the city will have to verify that with a third party acoustic engineer for that piece of equipment," he said at the Feb. 24 meeting. "Right now, our current decibel limit for that type of use is about 65 decibels. We have to make sure it stays under that decibel limit. Until we have that third party review, we cannot

verify that there would not be excessive noise on the site."

Dennis said there's also significant misunderstanding regarding the scope of recycling activities.

"Certain people opposing my plan appear to think this is a large-scale recycling operation as opposed to a supply yard that periodically processes materials to resell to the public. I proposed a public-facing, family friendly supply yard that will positively add to the community."

He said his operation incorporates all of the controls required by the State of

Michigan and the manufacturers of the machines to avoid dust.

"Due to the technicalities of the local zoning ordinance, the city has asked that I apply for a recycling use permit in order to operate the machine. This is a single small scale mobile machine that can fit on the back of a trailer. It is only used periodically.

"Please note that a significantly larger concrete crushing operation has been operating directly next to the proposed site for years without any complaints on file with the city," Dennis said.

“Certain people opposing my plan appear to think this is a large-scale recycling operation as opposed to a supply yard that periodically processes materials to resell to the public.”

Brian Dennis
Picasso Landscaping owner

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Moisi has special interest in spinal tumors, trauma, deformity, revision surgery and osteomyelitis/discitis

addressing conditions with many different techniques and methods, including the lateral approach to the spine.

He has written more than 45 peer-reviewed publications and multiple book chapters. Moisi is a research associate

for the Seattle Science Foundation and is involved in translational and clinical research involving anatomical, biomechanical and oncologic problems of the spine.

For consultations, contact call 810-262-7030 or visit hurleymc.com.

STREETS

Continued from Front Page

associated with the OHM scope of engineering services proposal for the 2022 Local Streets Program. The engineering services will be performed on an hourly basis for the not-to-exceed amount of \$145,000, with Geotechnical Services estimated at \$25,000.

The Local Streets Program would begin year one of the project with reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of the following streets:

- First Street
- Second Street
- Third Street
- Fourth Street
- Sixth Street
- Ninth Street
- Walnut Street (north of Main Street)
- Oak Street (north of Main Street)
- Lemen Street (north of Main Street)
- Thurber Street
- Center Street (north of Main Street)
- Howard Street (north of Main Street)

The work scope also will include sidewalk updates to be in compliance with current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, curb repairs where applicable, addressing existing drainage issues related to the roadway,

sign upgrades and pavement markings where applicable.

The roads selected for the 2022 program are based on the city budgeted funds and recommendations from the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff as well as the OHM team. All of the existing roads are asphalt roads and will be reconstructed and rehabilitated based upon the best fix for each individual road. Limited sections of storm sewer will be repaired or installed to ensure no adverse drainage conditions are created as a result of the project.

Topographic survey work is proposed for all intersections and where pedestrian facilities will need to be updated to be in compliance with ADA standards.

OHM will begin task one — project initiation and obtain information. Task two is preliminary plan development. Task three is final plan development.

It is anticipated that the field work for the design would take place as soon as possible, with design, permitting and bidding following.

OHM said to its understanding, the city would like construction of the project to begin this summer. If the project is approved, construction could commence in May or June.

NOTICE

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS MARCH 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING DATES

The Argentine Township Board of Review for 2022 will be held at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451 on the following dates:

Tuesday March 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. - Organizational Meeting

APPEAL HEARINGS:

Monday, March 14, 2022 ----- 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 ----- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY CALL (810) 735-5050 TO SCHEDULE

By Board Resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 15, 2022.

The 2022 tentative equalization ratio is 50% and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classifications.

Protest at the Board of Review is necessary to protect your right to further your appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for valuation and exemption appeals and/or State Tax Commission for classification appeals.

To claim the homestead exemption, if you have not already done so, you must file an affidavit before June 1, 2022 to affect the summer taxes and before November 1, 2022 to affect the winter taxes.

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Argentine Township

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MCC Trustee Leadership Scholarship

■ Application opened March 8
— deadline is May 21

Mott Community College (MCC) is accepting applications for the 2021 Trustee Leadership Scholarship. This prestigious competitive scholarship is awarded to one graduating senior from each high school within the College district. Each "Trustee Scholar" receives up to two years (62 credits total) of free tuition and fees to attend MCC.

Due to the pandemic, this year's application process will be completely online. All interested students should start the application process by going to mcc.edu/honors.

Questions regarding the scholarship should be addressed to Kim Giacchina at kim.giacchina@mcc.edu. The application process opens March 8. The application deadline is May 21.

"The Trustee Leadership Scholarship has become a sought-after scholarship county-wide," said Dr. Brian Ivory, director of the MCC Honors College. "These students represent the best of the graduating seniors in our area."

Students must meet several criteria

in order to be eligible for the Trustee Scholarship award. Scholarships are given to students based on academic achievement as well as demonstrated leadership abilities and community engagement activities. Additionally, student recipients must have graduated high school by June 28, 2021 in order to be eligible.

To be eligible, students must:

- Graduate from high school by June 28 of 2021
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better
- Enroll at MCC in the academic year immediate following high school graduation (Fall 2021)

Scholarship requirements include:

- Attending the Trustee Scholars orientation event
- Enrolling full-time in both the fall and winter semesters
- Enrolling in one Honors course in the first semester
- Completing any required developmental courses during the summer and/or fall semester of the first year receiving the scholarship

Trustee Scholars are directly admitted into MCC's Honors College and are eligible to renew the scholarship for the second year upon achieving a 2.75 grade point average or higher.

Mott Community College is committed to excellence in education and offering services that cultivate student success and improve the overall quality of life in a multicultural community.

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DAM

Continued from Front Page

construction services for the Mill Pond Dam Maintenance and Repair Project at a cost of \$299,135. Fenton City Council unanimously approved the contract at its meeting Monday, Feb. 28.

Funding will be provided by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) operating budget.

In March 2021, engineering services for the design and bidding was approved to begin the project, which consists of concrete repairs to the dam walls, raceway walls, structural joint sealing and the installation of a seepage drain system behind the wall located between the dam and the raceway.

Work is to be completed by this fall. While the schedule for the project's start date is not determined, the work itself is estimated to take 30 days to

complete.

Two bids were received by the city clerk and publicly opened Feb. 4.

Pullman SST, Inc. submitted a bid of \$299,135 and CA Hull Company, Inc from Walled Lake submitted a much higher bid. Michael Hart, Fenton assistant city manager and DDA executive director, said both companies were qualified and fully vetted.

OHM Advisors, the city's engineering firm, reviewed both bids, contractor qualifications, references and the bid from Pullman SST meets the requirements to perform the work specified.

Dan Brisson, the Department of Public Works director, wrote a Feb. 16 memo to City Manager Lynn Markland indicating that city staff and OHM recommend the project be awarded to Pullman SST, Inc., the low bidder.

The DDA approved funding for this project at its Feb. 15 meeting.

2022

BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

ROSE TOWNSHIP

9080 Mason St

Holly, Michigan 48442

MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The 2022 Rose Township Board of Review

will be held at the

Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan
on the following dates and times:

March 8, 2022 2:00 pm Organizational Meeting
Appointments will begin on:

Thursday, March 10, 2022 9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Monday, March 14, 2022 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT IN ADVANCE FOR THE BOARD OF REVIEW, PLEASE CONTACT OAKLAND COUNTY EQUALIZATION DIVISION, PRIOR TO MARCH 8th, 2022 TOLL FREE, 1-888-350-0900, EXTENSION 80740 OR (248) 858-0740.

APPEARANCES BEFORE THE BOARD OF REVIEW ARE
LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES.

PROPERTY OWNERS MAY APPEAL BY MAIL IF RECEIVED BY 4:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022

All agents protesting values on property other than their own
MUST have written authorization from each property owner they are
representing.

Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend the meeting are asked
to contact the Rose Township Clerk (248) 634-8701 at least 72 hours prior
to the meeting.

Debbie Miller, MMC, MiPMC II
Rose Township Clerk

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- Rank
- Years of service
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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, Feb. 18.

House Bill 4195: Delay divorce filing publication until defendant served

To establish that when a person files for a divorce the court may not make the filing available to the public until the defendant has been served with or received notice of the complaint, or until 92 days have passed, whichever comes first.

Passed 104 to 0 in the House

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

House Bill 4084: Revise fines for illegal garbage dumping

To make it a misdemeanor punishable by fines up to \$2,500 for unauthorized dumping of between 3 cubic feet and 5 cubic yards of refuse or trash, with the fine going up by another \$2,500 for each subsequent offense. Employers would be potentially liable, and offenders could also be ordered to clean up the mess. Under current law, this is a civil not criminal offense.

Passed 94 to 7

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

House Bill 5058: Exempt industrial hemp from food adulterant list

To amend a section of the state food law that deals with adulterated food,

so as to declare that its prohibitions do not apply to food that contains or has added to it any quantity of "industrial hemp."

Passed 98 to 3 in the House

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

House Bill 5304: Authorize "robo-bartenders"

To authorize and create a comprehensive regulatory regime for the use of "robo-bartender" dispensing machines for beer, wine and mixed drinks that are located at a customer's table or with use of a secure "key card" in other parts of establishments with a liquor license, including restaurants, certain hotel rooms and more. The machines could not dispense more than 96 ounces in a single order, or dispense spirituous liquor "straight." Customers would still have to place the order with a human staff member, and staff members would still be required to monitor the service.

Passed 74 to 27 in the House

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

Senate Bill 768: Cut state income tax rate

To cut the state income tax rate from 4.25% to 3.9% starting Jan. 1, 2022; authorize a \$600 nonrefundable tax credit for dependents age 18 and below; and reduce the corporate income tax from 6.0% to 3.9%. The bill would also increase the annual income tax deduction allowed for individuals age 67 and above from \$20,000 to \$30,000, and for couples from \$40,000 to \$60,000.

Passed 22 to 16 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) **NO**
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) **YES**

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SUNDAY, MARCH 6

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PRO'S PICK



Get ready for the Expo

Two days of giveaways, fun and meeting local organizations

By Hannah Ball

The Expo is back.

Get ready for two days of giveaways, community and fun from March 5-6 with the return of the Fenton Community Expo, put on by the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce.

This is the largest event in the area in which the public can meet dozens of businesses, nonprofits, government officials and more in one place during one weekend. Visitors can expect nearly 100 vendors.

"We are back and so excited to be bringing business and community together again," said Shelly Day, executive director of the Chamber. "Something the Chamber and the Expo Committee are especially proud of is the longevity of the Community Expo — this is our 37th year! It is the longest running show in Genesee County."

Organizers are expecting more than 5,000 visitors. The public is invited to come to Fenton High School on Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m.



to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, March 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come meet the owner of your favorite restaurant and local retail shop, speak with nonprofit leaders to learn how to help your community with volunteer opportunities, and enjoy the jovial atmosphere. It's a kid-friendly event featuring a Kids Zone and a petting zoo.

This year's Expo is especially significant for multiple reasons.

The Chamber decided not to host one in 2021 due to the pandemic.

"The decision to not have a 2021 Expo was not an easy one but ultimately, the Chamber and Expo Committee decided that we couldn't produce the show that our community and businesses are used to. For 2022, we are re-

turning with close to 100 exhibitors, our Kids Zone, food and entertainment, and a petting zoo," Day said.

This annual event highlights the importance of shopping local. Every dollar spent in your community is a dollar that helps your neighbors, and the Expo shows how the relationship between customers and businesses can thrive. After nearly two years of a pandemic and months of isolation, this is an opportunity to reconnect with the community.

"We have gotten a lot of positive feedback from the business community. We are seeing a good combination of both new and returning exhibitors," Day said.

Also, be on the lookout for booth decorations. The chamber gives out an award for best booth.

"We are excited to see how our exhibitors make the show different this year — we encourage businesses and organizations to be creative with how they present their booth to the community, each year one booth wins our Best Booth award and is prized with a free lunch for their office," Day said.

“Something the Chamber and the Expo Committee are especially proud of is the longevity of the Community Expo — this is our 37th year!”

SHELLY DAY

*Fenton & Linden Regional
Chamber of Commerce
executivedirector*

Expo 2022: What you need to know before you go

10 ways to maximize your Expo experience

By Sharon Stone

Whether you're going by yourself, with friends or the entire family, this year's Expo is sure to bring our area businesses and residents together in a friendly, festive environment. The 2020 Expo celebrated the Chamber's 100th birthday, however, last year's Expo was canceled due to the pandemic.

Located at Fenton High School, the Community Expo boasts more than 100 exhibitors, prizes and giveaways to be won, local food and entertainment aplenty, a petting zoo for animal lovers, and a Kids Zone where the fun never stops. With completely free admission to the public, this staple Chamber community event is still going strong after 37 years.

1. There are no admission charges or parking fees. Make sure to thank Roger Sharp and his family, and the Coldwell Banker Professionals team at the entrance, as it is the generosity of Sharp Funeral Homes and

See **EXPO EXPERIENCE** on 9

Expo booth decorating contest is back

Winner chosen for creativity, how well decorations represent business

By Hannah Ball

Calling all vendors going to the Fenton Community Expo — fire up your glue guns and ready

your decorations.

The Expo Booth Decorating Contest is back.

From March 5-6 at Fenton High School, wow the audience with your creativity and win a free lunch for your staff. You also win bragging rights for a year.

Meghan Grimshaw, membership director and event coordinator with the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, said they

choose the winner based on their creativity and how well it represents their business. Winners will receive a free lunch from a member of the chamber.

Previous winners include Advanced Care Chiropractic, who won in 2018 with their superhero themed booth. In 2019, Financial Plus Credit Union took home the top prize with their Connect Four game.

What's new at the 2022 Expo?

Theatre performances, party event displays, silent auction are new features at longest-running community event

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Community Expo is returning for its 37th year this weekend, and the organizers are keeping it fresh with new and exciting things for the public and vendors.

Hosted by the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, the event will take place Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fenton High School.

It's the largest event in the area that connects local businesses and organizations with the public. Every year, except when it was canceled in 2021 due to the pandemic, the chamber brings in new activities, businesses and surprises for attendees.

The public does not want to miss the

new Ford's Party Rental mock display with a tent that will be set up in the main gym. Jaime Curtis does marketing for Ford's Party Rental and Valley Tent Rental, which are under the same company. Valley Tent Rental has been a vendor of the Expo for years, and this is the first time they're setting up a display for Ford's Party Rental.

"I like everything about it. I talk highly about the Expo," Curtis said. "I think it's great that it's free to come in. I even have a chance to go walk around to the different vendors and it's a great turnout they have there. I'm looking forward to it."

They've also sponsored the Kids Zone, which is set up in the auxiliary

gym, along with Faith City Church.

"I think it's pretty cool that the church gives away things every hour," she said.

Another new exciting activity is the Silent Auction, said Meghan Grimshaw, membership director and event coordinator at the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce. It will feature exhibitor businesses and their products and services. This will be displayed

at the chamber's booth at the entrance to the gym.

This is the first year that the Wishing Well Theatre will put on a performance on Sunday, March 6 at 12:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The public can watch actors perform monologues and songs.

"There will be some talented people from around Michigan performing some musical theatre classics," said Ricky Philipi, owner of Wishing Well Theatre, which is Fenton's first professional theatre company. They are also the first theater in Fenton to employ union state actors from the Actors' Equity Association.

They produced "Much Ado About Nothing" for the inaugural Fenton Shakespeare Festival this past Septem-

See **NEW** on 11

“We wanted to take this opportunity to meet members of the community, which is what the Expo is really about.”

RICKY PHILOPI
Wishing Well Theatre
owner

Businesses new to the Expo

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Making the most of the Expo as a guest

Businesses and organizations work hard for the Expo – take advantage of it

By Hannah Ball

This two-day event involves a lot of walking, a lot of talking and a lot of giveaways. Make sure you come prepared.

The Fenton Community Expo takes place Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fenton High School.

“The Community Expo is the largest and longest running show in Genesee county for all ages that includes free admission to everyone,” said Shelly Day, executive director of the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, which plans the event. “Make sure to check out the cafeteria and entertainment area to see a variety of performances all weekend long — check out our entertainment schedule to make sure you don’t miss anything! The exhibitor booths, petting zoo, and Kids Zone are open continuously during show hours.”

Dr. Nicole Wax, owner of Dr. Wax orthodontics, said, “Take advantage of having so many local businesses in one area that all have a lot to offer. Also take advantage of the kids area! Let those children run off some of that energy.”

The Kids Zone will be in the auxiliary gym with inflatables, activities, multiple giveaways every hour and more.

Bobbie McAndrew, general manager of Vic Bond Sales, advises people to take the time and meet all the businesses. They have been attending the Expo for around 25 to 30 years.

“It’s really neat to see the amount of businesses that are in Fenton and participate in the Expo. Spend some time and go to all of them,” he said. “Go pet the farm animals.”

Joel Gibbons, partner at Lewis & Knopf, said his advice for the public is to spend some time at the Expo to get to know the businesses in the community.

“If you’re only there for half an hour, you may not get to see all the fun stuff actually going on,” he said, mentioning the dance performance, the karate performance and other entertainment events.

Lauren Goslee, marketing and events manager at ServPro of Fenton, encourages people to chat with the businesses and vendors rather than only entering a giveaway and walking away.

“There are a lot of businesses that have so much more to offer than you may think. Often, people don’t truly understand the full scope of what a company

can offer them. It’s a good way to get to know these business owners in the area,” she said.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

• **Bring a bag.** Some businesses will have bags, but bringing your own will ensure you can carry all the giveaways, business cards, pens and more from the event.

• **Plan out your days.** If you spend five minutes talking with vendors at each booth, you’ll need to take your time and not rush through both days.

• **Keep track of your map.** This is your key to knowing when certain events are taking place, where certain vendors are, where you can get food and where the bathrooms are located.

• **Wear comfortable shoes.**

• **Take the time** to enjoy the performances from the Fenton Ambassadors, the karate

“If you’re only there for half an hour, you may not get to see all the fun stuff actually going on.”

JOEL GIBBONS
Lewis & Knopf
partner

“Go pet the farm animals.”

BOBBIE MCANDREW
Vic Bond Sales
general
manager



demonstration, the fashion show and the Wishing Well Theatre performances.

• **Bring hand sanitizer.** You want to carry home swag from businesses, not germs.

• **Enjoy the activities at each booth.** These businesses and organizations take the time every year to create a fun and interactive experience for the public. Take

advantage of that.

• **Challenge yourself to talk to five businesses** you’ve never heard of.

• **Challenge yourself to say “thank you”** to five businesses you have used in the past.

• **Introduce yourself** to the nonprofits and learn what problems are facing our community.

• **Pet the farm animals.**

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EXPO
2022

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

10 AM - 5 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

11 AM - 4 PM

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12:30PM – 1:00PM FENTON AREA
2:00PM – 2:30PM ZUMBA

SUNDAY, MARCH 6
11:30AM – 12PM GREAT LAKE
12:30PM – 1:00PM WISHING
1:30PM – 2:00PM FENTON AREA

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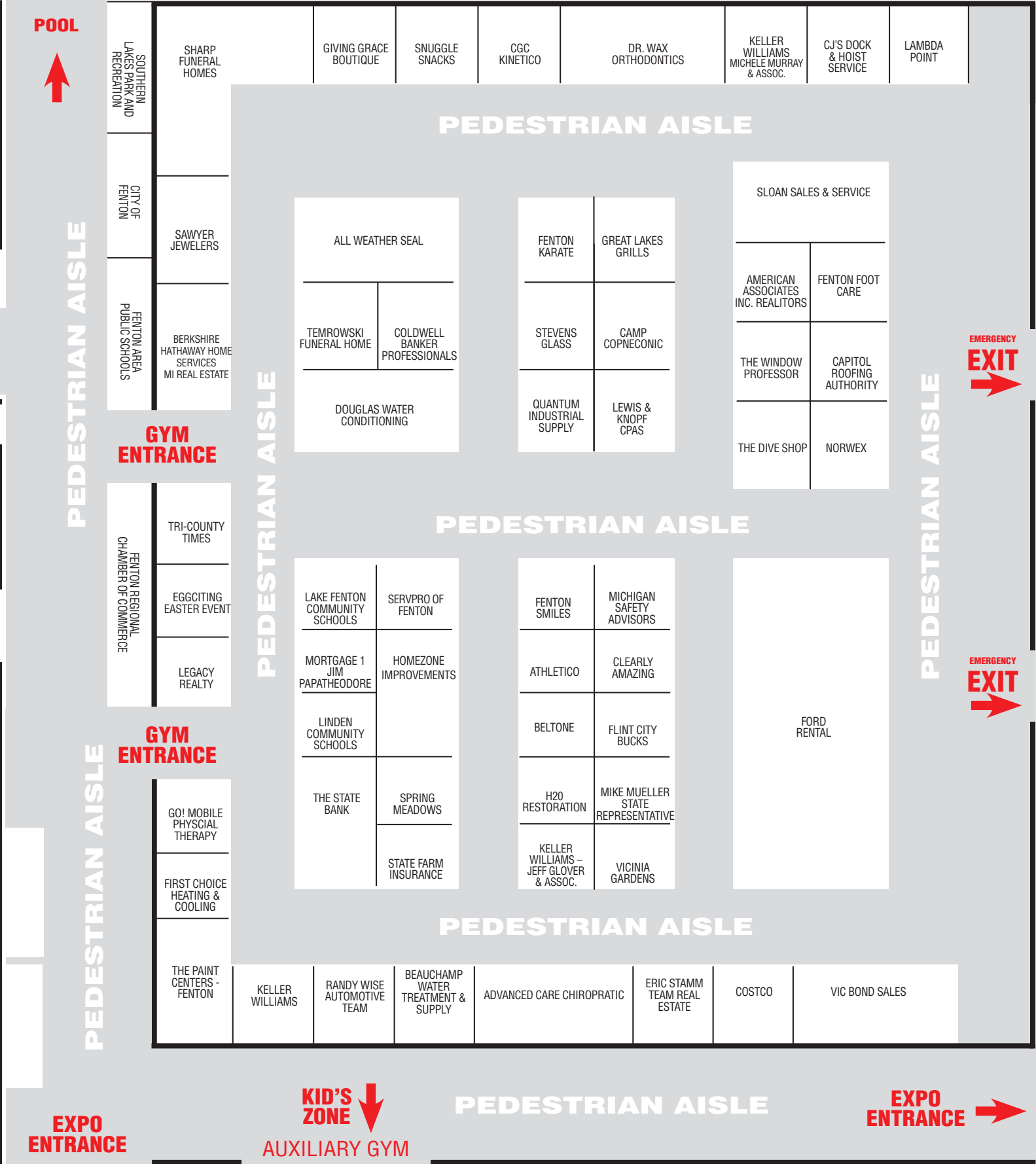
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ON KARATE



Schedule of events

Karate performances, theatre performances and more

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Community Expo has multiple family friendly events and activities planned for attendees and vendors.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Choir performance by the Fenton Ambassadors

12:30 – 1 p.m. Fenton Karate demonstration

2 – 2:30 p.m. Zumba by Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation

3 – 3:30 p.m. Fenton High School Dance Team Adrenaline

All day long activities:

- **Kids Zone** activities in the auxiliary gym with multiple giveaways every hour

Prizes and giveaways at vendors' booths

- **The petting zoo**

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Great Lakes Dance Factory performance

12:30 – 1 p.m. Wishing Well Theatre performing songs and monologues

1:30 – 2 p.m. Fenton Karate demonstration

?? p.m. Booth decorating contest announcement

All day long activities:

- **Kids Zone** activities in the auxiliary gym with multiple giveaways every hour

Prizes and giveaways at vendors' booths

- **The petting zoo**



Family friendly Expo has plenty for kids

Kids Zone, face painting, giveaways and more

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Community Expo is not only for adults. The event also promises entertainment for children of all ages.

Come enjoy one of the largest community events March 5-6 at the high school without worrying your kids will get bored. The Expo is put on by the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce. Visitors can expect nearly 100 vendors from many businesses and organizations, as well as prizes and giveaways.

The Kids Zone, which will be set up in the auxiliary gym, will offer music, inflatables, games and prizes.

Faith City Church arranges the Kids Zone and receives help from the National Honor Society. Pastor Andrew Barancik said their goal is to create a fun environment for kids and to let the parents relax.

“(The Expo) is a great opportunity, especially if you’re looking for a particular business, whether that be heating and cooling, home restoration, a dentist. As a business, there’s so many opportunities to have that one and one with people,” he said. “For us, we just like being there and providing that opportunity for kids to play and have a good time, and let parents relax for a few.”

Kids and parents are encouraged to fill out forms and enter to win prizes. They will pick four winners every hour and give them age appropriate gifts. The two grand prizes, which are a new girls bike and a new boys bike bought by the church, will be chosen Sunday.

“Everything in the Kids Zone is free,” Barancik said. “This is our first year back since 2020, so it’s going to be interesting.”

Barancik said he likes how many different civic organizations, nonprofits and clubs come to the Expo. Faith City Church will also have a booth. “We just want people to know that we’re here in the community and we care,” he said.

The petting zoo returns this year, giving parents and kids the opportunity to pet farm animals.

The event also will feature entertainment in the cafeteria with a performance by the Fenton Ambassadors, a demonstration from Fenton Karate and a Zumba class presented by Southern Lakes Park & Recreation and more.

Attendees can buy a variety of good eats from local vendors in the cafeteria, said Meghan Grimshaw, membership director and event coordinator at the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce. They will find food and refreshments from Pita Way, Biggby Coffee, Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ, La Marsa, and Hungry Howies.

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“For us, we just like being there and providing that opportunity for kids to play and have a good time, and let parents relax for a few.”

ANDREW BARANCIK
Faith City Church
pastor

EXPO EXPERIENCE

Continued from Page 3

Coldwell Banker Professionals as event sponsors that make it a “no charge” event to the public.

2. Give yourself plenty of time to take advantage of all that Expo offers. Grab the inside center pages of this Expo section and map out your strategy beforehand. Which booths do you want to visit for sure, and where are they located?

3. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Remember, you’ll be putting some serious miles on your feet if you spend a day or two at Expo.

4. Layer your clothes so you can walk comfortably from the parking lot to the indoor show. Michigan’s weather can be quite fickle this time of year.

5. Be prepared to fill out a bunch of entry forms. Some people even bring their return address labels.

6. Bring a shopping bag or carry a backpack for all your Expo freebies.

7. Check the Expo schedule of entertainment events carefully so you don’t miss anything that you’re particularly interested in. There is a lot of musical entertainment from the Fenton. You don’t want to miss a beat.

8. Civic booths include Fenton Adopt-A-Pet, Fenton Lions Club, Fenton Little League, Girl Scout Troop 77362, Judson Center, LAFF Pathway, Land-O-Lakes Bowmen, Living Water Church, Loose Senior Center, Networking Now!, Silver Lake Ski Club and Zonta of Fenton.

9. There will be plenty of food offerings from local restaurants, including Pita Way, Biggby Coffee, Beale St. Smokehouse BBQ, La Marsa, and Hungry Howies.

10. Have a small notepad if you’d like to jot down names or phone numbers.



A note from the organizers

Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce brings back favored community event

When you have a strong chamber and a growing community, it makes sense that we are celebrating 37 years of the Fenton Community Expo. After the pandemic forced the Expo to take a year off, the chamber is excited to bring the event back.

“It has been our passion to bring the Expo back to the community that has been such a strong supporter of our chamber members,” said Linda Hathaway, Expo committee chair. The show will have the same excitement as those in the past with a new ‘back together again’ camaraderie. We are looking forward to being together and seeing our members celebrate their relationships with current and future clients.”

“Diversity along with consistency is the key to the success of our show,” said Shelly Day, chamber executive director. A variety of business exhibitors, civic and nonprofit participants, food vendors, a petting zoo, local entertainment, a fantastic Kids Zone and dynamic committee continue to deliver what our community has loved to attend year after year.

“Expo is such a great way for our members to get in front of the community they serve to promote their products and services. As a chamber, it is our mission to create connections between business and community,” said Meghan Grimshaw, membership director and event coordinator.

“Our generous sponsors have made it possible to provide free admission to the event along with a weekend full of enjoyable family entertainment. We hope to see you there as we celebrate being back together again.”

A note from a sponsor

Coldwell Banker Professionals excited to meet the public

By Hannah Ball

Coldwell Banker Professionals is one of the main event sponsors for the Fenton Community Expo this year. This will be their sixth or seventh year that they’ve been a large part of the event.

Manager Michael Wagner said they’re excited to be cosponsors.

“The Expo is a great way for people to meet business here within the community. We enjoy being

here and giving back to the community,” he said.

This year, they’ll be spreading the word about their new location. Coldwell Banker Professionals of Fenton used to be located N. LeRoy Street, just south of the Cornerstone building. They moved from that office space in 2017 to an office across from the Fenton Hotel, which was 235 N. LeRoy St.

Now, Coldwell Banker Professionals is located at the new 111 S. LeRoy St. building in unit 4.

“We’re excited to let the community know where we’re at,” he said. This new spot allows them better access to be part of the parade route.



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Thriving at the Expo as a vendor

It's time to showcase what your business can do for the community

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Community Expo is the largest event in the area that connects the public to local businesses, civic groups, nonprofits and more.

It's important that vendors make a positive impression. The event takes place March 5-6 at Fenton High School.

Here's some advice from veteran vendors.

Vic Bond Sales has been attending the Expo for approximately 25 to 30 years. General Manager Bobbie McAndrew said his advice for businesses attending for the first time is talk with people, even if it seems like they're only interested in the giveaways.

"Take the time to meet the people, listen and just have a conversation. You might have given them your cards and six months down the road, they call you up," he said. "That's why we're there in the first place is for people to come take a look at your company."

Joel Gibbons, partner at Lewis & Knopf, encourages presenters to be ready to answer a lot of questions from the public.

The public likes giveaways and free swag, and the more they can promote their business, the better. He also suggests spacing your team out. Have two people at the booth so one person can stay and answer questions and the other can walk around.

"We're definitely excited to be back, to get to see people again and have a live event. We're hoping there's a big turnout," he said. "We like to see a lot of the other businesses in town as well." He brings his son, who loves playing at the Kids Zone in the auxiliary gym.

Michelle Murray, owner of Michelle Murray & Associates at Keller Williams First in Fenton, has been attending the Expo for 21 years. She said attendance has gone up.

"It's growing like crazy. I'm glad to be back having a booth and I look forward to seeing more people and helping more people in the community find homes when they're buying or selling," she said. "Our slogan is 'we'll get you moving.'"

They will have raffles for kids and adults at booth 16. Murray appreciates how the event is a family

**Take the
time to meet the
people, listen
and just have a
conversation.**

BOBBIE MCANDREW
Vic Bond Sales
general manager

Veteran vendors excited for 2022 Expo

Vendors excited to see community friends and partners

By Hannah Ball

The 2021 Fenton Community Expo was canceled due to the pandemic. That means this year, which marks the 37th Expo, is sure to be one for the history books.

While the event promises new vendors and excitement, veteran vendors are just excited to be back and have this opportunity to mingle with the public again on Saturday, March 5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fenton High School. It's hosted by the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Vic Bond Sales has been attending the Expo for approximately 25 to 30 years. Bobby McAndrew, general manager of Vic Bond Sales, said his mother used to handle the Expo for their company, and now he does it.



What's changed most is the vendors. "Year in and year out, I think the Fenton community as a whole looks forward to it," he said. "There's been a lot of businesses that have come and gone in the last 20 to 25 years. It's nice

to be one of the ones still standing."

He's eagerly anticipating seeing the new businesses and their displays.

"There's always new things you see. There's a lot of young companies. They always bring a really cool aspect to the show, whether it's different mascots or giveaways. It's always great to see the younger companies and the takes they have on getting people's attention. That's probably one of the most fun things about the show. It's as much about meeting new people as it is about throwing your business out there. We're excited to be a part of it."

Lauren Goslee, marketing and events manager at ServPro of Fenton, said they're looking forward to being at the event this year since it was canceled in 2021 due to the pandemic. The March 2020 Expo was the last major event in Fenton before the pandemic and lockdowns began.

"It's been such a long standing tradition in the Fenton community. I'm very pleased to see it back again," Goslee

said. This will be her fourth year with ServPro at the Expo. It's an opportunity for area businesses to remind the community of their presence.

"We want them to come enjoy the event and see a business they may not be exposed to otherwise. It's really nice to see families, talk to people, and hearing the testimonies from the other people in the community is always a nice little perk," she said.

Jennifer Sharp Scully, managing partner and funeral director at Sharp Funeral Homes, said, "It is going to be fantastic to have an Expo again after all the things that have been missed in the past two years. I am looking forward to seeing the people of our community able to get out and enjoy events again."

Sharp Funeral Homes is one of the main sponsors and has been a vendor at the Expo for many years.

"The Expo provides an opportunity for people to visit with businesses and ask questions in a very casual setting," she said.

VENDOR

Continued from Page 10

friendly event.

"It gathers the community together. It helps businesses and it brings children and adults together in a family event," she said.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

Have an eye-catching booth and participate in the booth decorating contest.

Bring hand sanitizer — while the COVID-19 pandemic is mostly behind

us, many guests are sure to appreciate the cleanliness and consideration for their health.

Ask guests questions about what services they need, but don't be afraid to ask other questions. How do they like the Fenton area? How long have they lived around here? What are they looking forward to as the weather warms?

Talk up your philanthropic work. Are you a regular donor to local nonprofits? Make that known. Customers love when the businesses they support give back to their community.

NEW

Continued from Page 4

ber in Rackham Park. It was successful enough that they plan to have an annual Shakespeare in the park festival in Fenton.

They're not limiting their performances to once a year. Wishing Well Theatre is a member of the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, and they wanted to get involved

in the Expo to meet the public and local businesses.

"We wanted to take this opportunity to meet members of the community, which is what the Expo is really about," he said.

They're also preparing to hold auditions March 25 and 26 for their second Shakespeare festival, which will be "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Those interested can email wishin-gwelltheatreinc@gmail.com.

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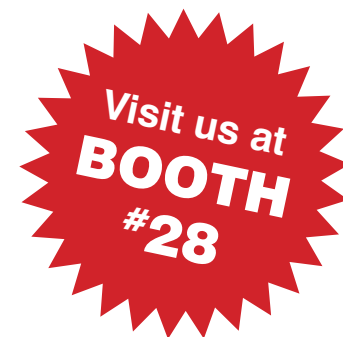
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MILLAGE

Continued from Front Page

ing police and fire protection services, equipment and services.

Council approved placing the millage question on the ballot on Monday, Jan. 31.

They are also asking residents to amend the city's charter because Section 8.2 states, "... an ad valorem tax levy for general municipal purposes shall not exceed 13.5 mills on all real and personal assessed property values in the city."

An indefinite 5-mill millage would push them over the limit. Currently, Linden imposes 10.1316 mills on residents, and they are expecting to roll this back due to the Headlee Amendment.

The charter revision, if approved by voters, would include language that gives an exception to this rule for certain levies including: "any levy for paying principal and interest on outstanding general obligation bonds; (b) any other levies authorized by law to be made beyond charter tax rate limitations; or (c) an additional levy of 5 mills upon the taxable value of all real and personal property in the city to be used solely for the purpose of providing police and fire protection operations, equipment and services."

Linden attorney Michael Gildner has been in contact with the state's attorney general's office, which must give approval before the city places a charter amendment question on the ballot. Council originally wanted to place these two question on the May ballot and potentially begin the levy in July 2022. However, the attorney general's office did not approve the request prior to the deadline to place it on the May ballot.

The vote will take place in August.

The resolution states, "the City Council believes it is in the best interests of the City to authorize a permanent levy of 5.0 mills to take effect in 2022, which fixed amount would be dedicated solely for the purpose of providing police and fire protection operations, equipment and services."

At the Jan. 31 meeting, City Manager Ellen Glass spoke about the difficulties in finding funds to work on capital improvement projects, such

as the water project, roads, and the city facilities that are getting older and require maintenance. Police and fire services are constant expenses the city is mandated to pay for.

Linden spends approximately \$782,150 for police and fire out of the general fund every year. Having a dedicated police and fire millage would free up that general fund money to be used for other capital improvement projects.

Multiple councilors spoke about using more funds on roads.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

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Lake Fenton's
Kerrigan Howdeshell

Blue Devils lock up perfect Stars title season, beat Brandon

By David Troppens

It was a busy five days for the Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team, ending with Friday.

The Blue Devils faced three opponents on the road during that span. It began with a 57-41 road victory against Corunna on Feb. 18, and three days later on Thursday, the Blue Devils faced a talented D1 Grosse Pointe North squad, losing a 49-44 verdict.

On Friday, the Blue Devils returned to Flint Metro League Stars Division action, defeating the Brandon Blackhawks 78-45. The win locked up the Blue Devils' (10-0) undefeated Flint Metro League Stars Division championship season.

Lake Fenton slowly grew its lead in the opening half. Kerrigan Howdeshell netted five points in the Blue Devils' 14-point

stanza. The Blue Devils led 14-7. In the second quarter, Savannah Fellenbaum netted nine points and Howdeshell chipped in six more, leading Lake Fenton to a 31-17 halftime lead.

Lake Fenton blew the game open in the third quarter with 28 points. Six Lake Fenton players scored in the quarter with Cola

See **DEVILS** on 15

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 | **PAGE 12** | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Metro champions once again!

■ Smaller squad, no problem — Tigers win 11th straight league crown

By David Troppens

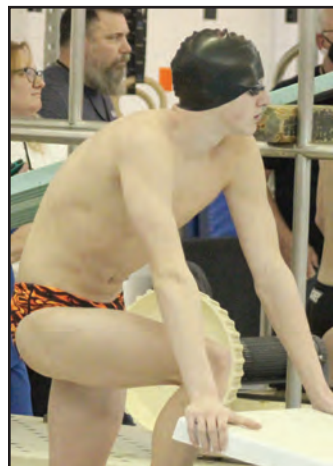
The Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team was the smaller team that packed double the punch.

That equation enabled the squad to capture its 11th straight Flint Metro League championship at the Metro League Meet on Friday and Saturday at Brandon High School.

The key to the Tigers' success over the last decade usually was a combination of talent, depth in terms of roster size and work ethic. With numbers dwindling this season, only two-thirds of the equation still existed, but the Tigers were still pretty dominant. After an undefeated dual season, the Tigers placed first at the league meet with 484 points, 153 more than second-place Corunna. The Kearsley/Lake Fenton co-op placed sixth while the Holly squad placed seventh.

"It's very pleasing and satisfying to defend the title another year, mainly after all of the hard work we put in every day," senior Jake Shanahan said. "As a matter of the legacy, I feel accomplished to be able to keep the streak going, especially for our forefathers who held it before us."

"Being a part of the Metro streak has been a special experience," senior Jack Fries said. "It gives us tons of motivation



(Top) The Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team celebrates its 11th straight Flint Metro League title. Two of the team's individual event champions were Jack Fries (left) in the 100 backstroke and Max Haney (above) in the 200 individual medley and the 100 butterfly. **David Troppens**

during the season to work harder and not let the streak die."

The smaller numbers didn't really matter as the Tigers' strength in what they did have was powerful. Every swimmer that had a chance to qualify for one of the

two finals, not only did, but qualified for the top-eight race. That set Fenton up to get a lot of points during Saturday's final, pretty much locking up the title during the preliminaries. Fenton earned nine event

See **CHAMPIONS** on 15



Linden's Jase Becher posts up in a recent game. Becher hit the game-winning shot in the Eagles' victory against Kearsley. **Photo: Christopher Summers**

Becher's final shot leads Eagles past Kearsley, 49-48

By David Troppens

The Flint Metro League boys basketball season has been filled with tight thrillers all season long.

Why not end the season with one?

The Linden Eagles got a layup from freshman Jase Becher off a pass from senior Brandon Green at the buzzer, earning the Eagles a thrilling 49-48 road victory Friday night against the Kearsley Hornets.

Kearsley had just taken the lead seconds earlier when Lucas Groulx hit a bucket, giving the Hornets a 48-47 lead at the time. Not long before that, the Eagles led 47-43 late in the fourth, but a

See **BECHER'S** on 15

Logan's bucket leads Tigers past Flushing

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity boys basketball team has been in an many close games as anyone in the state.

And on Friday, the squad had another against the Flint Metro League Stripes Division champions, Flushing Raiders.

Fenton's Seth Logan drove to the bucket in between two Flushing defenders and hit the game-winning layup with five seconds remaining, earning the Tigers the 55-53 victory. Flushing's Devin Watts had a jump shot chance at the buzzer to either tie or win the contest, but he missed the shot, allowing the Tigers (6-4, 13-6) the chance to celebrate on Flushing's home floor.

It was Logan's second game-winning shot of the season and it also gave the Tigers a victory against both the Stars Division winner (Goodrich) and the Stripes Division champs (Flushing) during the regular season.

"We were trying some high-low action, to get Connor (Luck) to the basket and on a down screen," Logan said. "I got a crease, took it and finished it."

"We are pretty battle-tested. Friday nights on the road (in the Flint Metro League) can be pretty tough. We feel like we have a good squad and can compete with a lot of teams."

"What a wonderful high school basketball game, and we've been lucky enough to be involved in five to six tremendous basketball games," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "We were lucky to (have Seth) beat someone off the dribble, take a layup with a couple of seconds left. We were able to execute during a late-game situation."

The Tigers led for most of the first half, taking a 16-10 lead after one quarter. The lead grew to 32-22 when Connor Luck was fouled at the end of the half and converted his free throws.

In the third quarter, the Tigers still led 48-40 after Lance Barkholz was fouled on a three-point shot. He made all three shots. However, the Raiders fought back, cutting the gap to 43-40 entering the fourth quarter.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Fenton's Seth Logan prepares to attempt a shot in a recent game. He hit the game-winning shot against Flushing. Photo: Christopher Summers

Fenton, LF cheer squads place 10th at regional events

By David Troppens

Two area competitive cheer teams saw their state dreams end at the regional round last weekend.

The Fenton Tigers and the Lake Fenton Blue Devils qualified for regional action after advancing through their district rounds, and both teams posted 700-plus team scores.

The Tigers, who won a Division 2 district at its own district on Feb. 19 placed 10th in a tough regional hosted at Holly High School on Saturday. Meanwhile, the Blue Devils also placed 10th in their D3 regional hosted by Grand Blanc. The top four teams in each regional qualified for the state meet.

Fenton recorded a total team score of 709.68. The Tigers opened with a round one score of 220.30, and followed it up with a 204.88 in round two for a subtotal of 425.18, placing them ninth at the time. The Tigers finished the meet with a See **CHEER** on 14

Three area bowlers qualify for state

By David Troppens

The tri-county area will have three bowlers headed to the Division 2 individual state meet.

The Holly Bronchos had two qualifiers and Linden had one. The area's top qualifier was Holly's Emily Sorter, who placed fourth in the 62-bowler field. Two boys qualified at the same Oak Lanes



Holly's Emily Sorter

D2 regional meet. Linden's Austin Heck placed eighth while Holly's Ryan Sparklin placed 10th. The top 10 individuals qualified for the state meet.

Both regionals had heartbreaking results as well, finishing 11th, just one place out of the top 10. Fenton's Brianna Soule finished 11th with a six-game pinfall total of 909 pins, just three pins out of 10th. In boys' action, Sparklin found himself battling teammate Ryan Dalton

for the 10th spot. Sparklin had a 1,116 six-game pinfall total while Dalton recorded a 1,096 pinfall total.

Sorter was the area's strongest performer. Her 1,018 score was one of just four girls to bowl in the 1,000s. She started with an 180 and followed that up with a 168, 175 and 150. She finished up her strong performance with a 179 and 166, averaging nearly 170 a game. Sorter finished 230 pins out of first place.

Linden's Heck opened with a 164, out of the top 10. However, he followed that up with scores of 195, 193 and 195 in his next four games, putting him in the conversation to qualify. He probably locked up his state bid in his fifth game when he bowled a 217. He clinched the spot by 56 pins by bowling a 188 final game.

Of course, the biggest area drama was the two Holly teammates trying to qualify. Sparklin started with a 224, putting him in third place at the time. However, he bowled a 159 in his second game. He rebounded with a 221 third game, putting him in the conversation.

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CHEER

Continued from Page 13
round three score of 284.50.

The Tigers had an outstanding season, capturing a district crown with a total score of 731.02, and also were Metro League champions for the second straight season.

The Blue Devils' scores were pretty close to their district scores, earning a 700.40 at the regional meet. They finished their second-place district performance with a 701.44.

In round one, the Blue Devils posted a 214.40, which actually ended up being a stronger score than their district mark. Lake Fenton had a 203.70 score in round two, but experienced a 10-point penalty. They had a two-round score of 208.10 at the district. In the final round the Blue Devils posted a 292.30, very close to the 295.90 they posted at districts.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Gavin Teffner scored 14 points in a win against Brandon.

Photo: Christopher Summers

Lake Fenton boys cruise past Brandon, finish second in Stars Division

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team was on a mission Friday night.

The Blue Devils wanted to erase the memories of a past loss to Brandon, a loss that kept Lake Fenton from earning a share of the Flint Metro League Stripes Division title.

Lake Fenton completed its mission.

Lake Fenton (12-6 overall) played strong first-half defense and scored double-digit points in each of the four quarters, leading the Blue Devils

to a 54-36 road victory against the Blackhawks.

"These guys wanted to get some payback on Brandon," Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Tyler Szczepanski said. "I think early on we tried to do it all at once, which is a little uncharacteristic for us offensively probably for the first 20 minutes of the game. But then we settled down and took care of business.

"So now reflecting on the Metro season now that it is officially in the books, I'm proud we finished 8-2 (in the

Stars Division) and we had some quality wins on our resume. Obviously we want some hardware and wish we finished in first place, but you have to look at the big picture. You have to look at where we were in past seasons and see what we accomplished this year. That's something to be proud of."

Lake Fenton jumped to a 12-7 lead after one quarter. Gavin Teffner hit a trey and scored five points in the opening quarter, leading the squad.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Bradley sparks Lady Eagles' dominant road victory vs. Hornets, 63-27

The Linden varsity girls basketball team completed its best regular season in years Friday night, earning a 63-27 road victory against Kearsley.

The Eagles finished the regular season in second in the Flint

Metro League Stripes Division (8-2) and 15-5 overall. It was a night for the seniors to shine, particularly Megan Bradley. Bradley finished the night with a team-high 15 points and six rebounds.

"I started my two seniors and three other girls that have never started a varsity game to get them a little more experience," Linden varsity girls basketball coach Zack Darling said. "It was great that our senior Me-

gan Bradley, who doesn't play much, had (a big game).

"The regular season was one of the best that Linden girls basketball has had in a long time, finishing 15-5."

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Tigers play well in loss to first-place Flushing

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team ended its regular season on one of its strongest efforts of the season.

Facing the Flint Metro League Stripes Division champions, the Tigers (6-4 in the Stripes Division and 10-10 overall) led for long portions of the first three quarters on the road against the Flushing Raiders, but ended up losing a tough 40-28 verdict at Flushing.

The game was much closer than the fi-

nal score would indicate. Fenton entered the final quarter with the lead after a put-back hoop, foul and converted free throw by Fenton's Adrie Staib. The Tigers led 28-25 entering the final period. However, the Raiders' defense clamped down during the final quarter and eventually they also scored enough points to extend to a lead for the victory while completing their perfect 10-0 Stripes Division season.

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Holly boys bowlers finish fifth at regional meet

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity boys bowling team was the tri-county squad that came closest to earning a state trip as a team during team regional action, Friday at Oak Lanes in Westland.

The Bronchos finished fifth with a total team score of 3,488 pins. The top three teams qualified for the state meet. St. Clair Shores Lakeshore finished third with a pinfall total of 3,651.

See **HOLLY** on 15

Holly girls basketball drop verdict vs. Creek

The Holly varsity girls basketball team will enter district action still looking for its first victory of the season.

The Bronchos lost a 55-16 verdict against Swartz Creek Friday night

The Bronchos netted just two points in

the first quarter — a field goal by Morgan Fluckey. In the second quarter, the Bronchos had just one field goal (by Annabelle Basham) and netted three points. The Bronchos trailed at halftime 38-5.

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Holly boys lose thriller vs. Creek

By Dale Smith
Holly — On Autism Acceptance Night at the Horseshoe, the Holly varsity boys basketball team fell behind in a big way in the first half against the visiting Dragons from Swartz Creek.

Down 14 points in the second quarter, the Bronchos battled back to take the lead heading into the fourth quarter but couldn't hold on, losing 53-50.

The Dragons came out with a lot of fire early and were aided by a bevy of Holly turnovers in the first half. The visitors led 17-6 in the first minutes of the second stanza with Holly's points coming solely from Antonio Simmons. Creek upped that lead to 24-10 after a three-pointer from Quadre Wright. A last-second three from the Bronchos' Bryce Goings cut the lead to 26-16 at the end of the half.

Not much was falling for the Bronchos early on but they kept within shouting distance by scoring 15 of their first 23 points from beyond the arc.

Holly senior Dean Brown got them rolling in the third with a steal and bucket followed by splitting a pair at the free-throw line. He hit another basket pulling the Bronchos within seven at 33-26 at the 3:16 mark of the third. The Bronchos pressed on hard on the



Holly's Bryce Goings scored 14 points in the Bronchos' loss against Swartz Creek. Photo by: Christopher Summers

defensive end and it was paying off.

Junior Ashton DeHart had an "and one" and Holly only trailed by two at 34-32 with a little over a minute left in the quarter.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

CHAMPIONS

Continued from Page 12
league titles and had 10 second- or third-place efforts in the individual events.

"Having a smaller team this year definitely made it a bit more stressful going into the meet, but it also made it a lot more exciting," senior Evan Koch said. "We

BECHER'S

Continued from Page 12
three-pointer by Kearsley's Dylan Rickstofer cut the margin to 47-46.

Linden found themselves in a battle. The Eagles scored just five points in the

HOLLY

Continued from Page 14
Fenton's boys finished 10th (3,206) while the Linden Eagles placed 12th (3,012).

In girls action, the Fenton Tigers came

needed every point we could get. The saying every person counts really becomes apparent when the team is half the size it was a few years ago.

"I feel like despite having less people on the team, we had much faster swimmers than past years."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

opening quarter, and trailed 8-5 entering the second stanza. The second quarter went better for Linden offensively, scoring 15 points. Joe Miller hit two three-pointers and Green scored five points, helping the Eagles tie it at 20 at halftime.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

the closest to qualifying, earning a sixth-place finish with a team total of 2,558 pins. Livonia Clarenceville finished third with a team pinfall total of 2,896. Holly placed ninth (2,186).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

DEVILS

Continued from Page 12
Sisk, Amaya Smith and Ella Prevost netting six points each. Prevost and Smith hit two three-pointers each for their six points

while Sisk hit three two-point buckets. Lake Fenton led 59-33 after three quarters. Lake Fenton's lead was never threatened during the final eight minutes.

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Holly Area School District will receive firm prime contractor bids for the Holly High School Translucent Panel Replacement project located in Holly, Michigan.

The bidding documents consist of plans and specifications as prepared by GMB Architecture + Engineering, 85 East Eighth Street, Suite 200, Holland, MI 49423. Documents may be downloaded from Pipeline Suites. Contact Steffan Demetropoulos or Shawn Debo at AUCH Construction, 248-334-2000, if you need assistance viewing or obtaining documents from Pipeline Suites. A copy of the documents will also be available for review at the offices of AUCH Construction., 65 University Drive, Pontiac, MI, 48342, 248-334-2000, on or after March 01, 2022.

A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at Holly High School, located at 6161 E Holly Rd, Holly, MI 48442 on **Thursday, March 10th at 3:00 PM**. The meeting will be held on-site at the main entrance.

An opaque envelope bearing your proposal must identify your company, the project being bid "Holly Area Schools Holly High School Translucent Panel Replacement" and "Sealed Bid, Do Not Open". The proposal shall be addressed to the attention of Mr. Scott Roper, Superintendent, Holly Area Schools, 920 Baird Street, Holly, MI 48442.


Bids must be delivered no later than **12:00 noon, Thursday March 24th, 2022** to Holly Area School District at the address noted above or AUCH Construction. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms furnished by the Construction Manager and must be completed in full. Familial Disclosure Statement and the Affidavit of Compliance to the Iran Economic Sanctions Act must both be completed and notarized. A bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury Listed Surety Company acceptable to AUCH Construction or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Holly Area Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of **\$26,046.00**. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at a meeting convened at the Holly Area Schools Administration Building located at 920 Baird Street, Holly, MI 48442 starting at 1:30 PM on March 24, 2022.

Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish a Satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of the Bond shall be included in each proposal.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids in whole or in part and to waive any informalities therein. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept that bid which in its opinion, is in the best interest of the Owner.

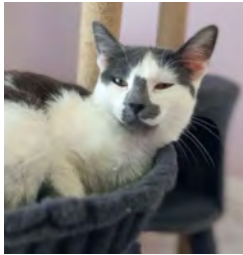
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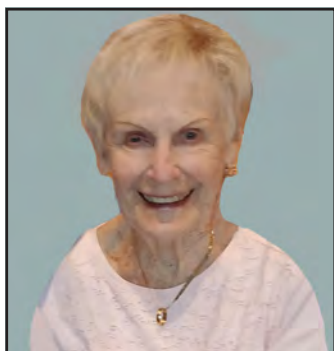
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Obituaries

Times

Nina Dolores Zuk

Nina Dolores Zuk – age 92, of Holly, passed on Wednesday, February 23, 2022. A memorial Service will be held in her honor at 11 AM on Friday, March 4,



family trips up north, skiing, snowmobiling, playing cards, and spending time together. She loved golfing and bowling. She bowled

on a league through the age of 90. She was kind, loving and always a lady. She will be greatly missed by all. Nina is now back with her childhood Sweetheart and at peace. Nina was preceded in death by her husband, Alex Zuk and is survived by her children, daughters Bunny (Craig) Schmeisser, Darlene (Donald) Skinner, Tammy (Daniel) Kostecke, Sherry (Leonard) Galanty and son Gary (Sharon) Zuk; grandchildren, Randi Whitney, Andrea Gregory, Jamie Carl, Nina Kostecke, Tracy Carroll, Daniel Kostecke Jr, Jeremy Galanty, (Late) Ryan Zuk, Jordan Zuk, Nikalette Gros, Rachael Williams; 25 great-grandchildren and her beloved Chihuahua Sammy. In Lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations may be made to Compassus Hospice. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

2022, at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly. Nina was born as a first generation American in Detroit, to Steve and Helen Kovalchuk. She was one of two siblings, losing her older brother in World War II. Nina graduated High School in 1947 where she began to work in a downtown Detroit attorney office. At the age of 13, Nina was a member of a Russian Dance Group performing at the Masonic Temple in Detroit. She danced and played the Mandolin. Here is where she met her sweetheart and late husband of 65 years, Alex Zuk. They married on June 11, 1949, and they had five children. Together they raised their children in a very loving family environment in the country on a lake. Nina's fulltime job was raising her children and she loved every minute of it. She has given us many fond memories of our



VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. TCTIMES.COM

Madeline “Beth” Bourne

1931 – 2022

Madeline “Beth” Bourne - age 90, of Fenton, died peacefully at home on Saturday, February 26, 2022 surrounded by her family. Funeral services will be held 3 PM Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Pastor Jeff Jaggers will officiate. Visitation will begin at 12 PM Wednesday and will continue after the service until 7PM. Private burial will be held at Oakwood Cemetery. Those desiring may make contributions to the Humane Society of Genesee County. Beth was born July 13, 1931 in Fenton, the daughter of Lloyd and Frances (Cornell) Hungerford. She married Harry George Bourne on June 23, 1957; he preceded



her in death on January 15, 2016. Beth was an active member of Fenton United Methodist Church. She worked at Ideal Pharmacy in Fenton and Kirks Auto Sales in Fenton for many years. She had also been a member of the Questers. She is survived by her children, Debbie

(Oley) Frappier and Harry (Lori) Bourne; grandchildren, Bethany Wolf, Jessica (Jason) Ledford, Danielle Bourne, Cody (Ashley) Bourne and Kyle (Tannis) Bourne; great-grandchildren, Emily, Aubrey, Alec, Seth, Colten, Bradley, Brody, Dalton, Bryar, Cooper and one on the way; sister, Lorraine (Bill) Lahring; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Thomas Douglas Bourne; brothers, Garner and Lee Hungerford. Many thanks to Kindred Hospice for their outstanding care. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Ronald John Wingblad

1944 – 2022

Ronald John Wingblad - age 77, of Fenton, died Thursday, February 24, 2022. Funeral mass will be celebrated 1:30 PM Saturday, March 5, 2022 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton, with Rev. Fr. Robert Copeland celebrant. Interment will follow at Tyrone Memory Gardens. Visitation will be held 2 - 4 and 6 - 8 PM Friday, March 4, 2022 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton, where a rosary will be prayed at 7 PM Friday evening. Visitation will also be held 12:30 - 1:30 PM Saturday at the church. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to



Adopt-A-Pet, Fenton, 13575 Fenton Rd, Fenton, MI 48430 (www.adoptapetfenton.com). Ronald was born June 13, 1944 in Wyandotte, the son of Gerald and Lauretta (Brennan) Wingblad. Ronald married Jane Schroeder in 1966. He was a toolmaker

for many years. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, hunting, gardening, bird watching and loved his beloved cats, Ricky and Larry. Surviving are wife of 55 years, Jane; three children, Bethany (Tim) Stewart of Kalamazoo, Peter (Kristine) Wingblad of Linden, and Ben Wingblad of Brighton; six grandchildren, Riley, Jackson, Joshua, Jason, Roslyn, and Ben; brother, Terry Wingblad of Hartland; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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