

Township considers special assessment

■ Board agrees to continue discussions for proposed Sonora Drive/Minerva Street district

By Hannah Ball

Special assessment districts in Fenton Township are typically en-

acted when a majority of parcel owners in an area bring a petition to the municipality for road improvement or another capital improvement project.

The situation facing the 13 property owners of the proposed Sonora Drive/Minerva Street special assessment district is different. The proposed district involves

15 parcels and 13 property owners. Two parcels are adjacent lots used for garages.

Four out of 13 property owners signed a petition to bring the matter to the board and create the district. Those four signers represent 63.43% of the total road frontage. Despite fewer than 50% of land owners not signing the petition, the district

could still be created.

“Some properties constitute less than 4-5% of the roadway but are being asked to pay the same assessment per parcel plus we are being asked to build a driveway for one parcel,” said Tom Smith, Fenton Township resident who spoke during the

See **TOWNSHIP** on 13



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VOL. 29 NO. X

Midweek Times

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022

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Homicide in Groveland Township

■ MSP investigates body of 35-year-old man discovered in home

By Hannah Ball

The Michigan State Police (MSP) is investigating a homicide after conducting a welfare check at a home in the 6500 block of Hillcrest Drive in Groveland Township.

MSP Metro Detroit announced the investigation on Saturday, March 5 around 2:45 p.m. When troopers entered the home, they discovered a deceased 35-year-old male. At that time, the investigation

See **HOMICIDE** on 6

Blue Devils are district champs once again



The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team celebrates earning its third straight Division 2 district title. The Blue Devils defeated Goodrich 55-40 in the championship game Friday night. The Blue Devils played Imlay City at Ortonville Brandon High School in the regional semifinals on Tuesday. The results of that contest will be posted at tctimes.com. See full story in sports on page 14. Photo: Dave Troppens

Moose member named Detroit's Biggest Fan

■ Comerica Bank puts on contest; public voted daily

By Hannah Ball

A Fenton Moose Lodge member has received a notable Detroit distinction- being named Detroit's Biggest Fan.

Gary Campioni of Flint won the title through a competition put on by Comerica Bank. He was originally named Detroit Lions Biggest Fan on Feb. 1, which entered him into the contest to win Detroit's Biggest Fan. The public voted daily in both competitions.

“I’m just thrilled. So many people I didn’t even know were voting for

See **FAN** on 8



“Thank you to the kind gentleman who paid for our meal Tuesday in Linden. Our furnace just quit for good and had to be replaced. You warmed our hearts and made our day. We will pay it forward.”

“I went to the annual Hold'em tournament at the Fenton Hotel and I loved it. I played crummy poker, but had the best buffet I've had in a long time. Money goes to a good cause. Ran by really nice people.”



“When are we going to get an explanation for the loud booms that have been occurring in the evenings every few months?”



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Expo exceeds expectations

■ One of area's largest community events deemed a success

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — Prizes were won and connections were made at the 2022 Fenton Community Expo, which returned this year on March 5 and 6. Organizers say the event, now in its 37th year, was a success.

"The Fenton Community Expo truly meets our mission of connecting business and community," said Shelly Day, executive director of the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, which puts on the event. "We couldn't do this show without the hard work of our committee, volunteers, sponsors and exhibitors — thank you to everyone that made our 37th Community Expo a success!"

Attendees enjoyed walking the halls and gym at Fenton High School to meet business owners, civic groups and nonprofits.

Linda Hathaway, Community Expo committee chair, said, "We are very pleased with the attendance we saw over the weekend. It exceeded our expectations. Our exhibitors were extremely



The 37th Fenton Community Expo was a family friendly event with games, giveaways, a petting zoo and something of interest people of all ages.

Photo: Hannah Ball

happy to be face-to-face with the community again."

Advanced Care Chiropractic won the booth decorating contest with their Disney-themed decorations. One half of their double booth was decorated like "Frozen" and the other half was "Toy Story."

"It's always such an honor," said Misty White, who serves as chief operating officer of Advanced Care Chiropractic. Her husband, Jason White, is the doctor of chiropractic and owner of the practice.

This is the second time they've won

this award.

"There were so many great booths there. I thought (the event) was amazing. People seemed really happy to be out again and enjoying getting back to normal, which was wonderful to see," she said. "The Expo was really busy again this year. It just had a really great energy. People were happy to be reconnecting with people they haven't seen in while."

White especially enjoyed seeing the facepainting for kids. She also likes meeting and speaking with the new vendors.

See **EXPO** on 8

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Building Brands

If you're anything like me, your Christmas lights are still lit outside. My theory is that winter is long and cold and the white lights add a much-needed sparkle. Even if your lights are long packed away, March is still a bit early to think about Christmas 2022. That said, I won't be offended if you skip this read today. Do me a favor, however, save this column and read it in November, because it may help you cross something off your 2022 to-do list.

A little over a year ago, as we entered our first COVID Christmas, the leadership team at View Newspaper Group gathered to chat about client gifts. For years, we've worked with local vendors to provide a variety of goodies to our clients delivered to their offices. I always liked that we stuck with something edible, because it seemed practical.

With many of our clients working from home last year, we knew we had to come up with a new plan. In the end, we decided to take the money we'd spend on treats and make donations to two community foundations that serve our readership areas.

The perfect gift does exist and it's good for your brand

With the need to help nonprofits still high in 2021, we opted to do the same again.



Emily Caswell

I can't predict the future, but I would like to see some version of this continue for years to come.

I write a lot about why companies should give back, but you don't have to take my word for it. A forbes.com article on the topic offers a few reasons, one being appealing to the coveted "younger" crowd.

"A full 70% of Gen-Z consumers seek out socially responsible companies. Forty-two percent of Millennials do the same. Unsurprisingly, the pan-

demic is causing those numbers to grow even more."

Giving back during the holidays doesn't have to be just writing a check. For example, my best friend's employer sent team members out with cash and a scavenger hunt of sorts before they sat down for their holiday lunch. The scavenger hunt was really a list of good deeds to accomplish with the money, like pay for someone's gas. One of the women they did this for was moved to tears. She explained that she was caring for her ill mother, stretched very thin and the gift of a tank of gas was both the moral and financial support she needed to keep going.

See **BRANDS** on 7

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IT'S A JOKE for someone to say that baseball owners are rejecting a 'fair' proposal from the players. Does this mean a salary of \$50 million to \$100 million is fair?

■■■

JUST RECEIVED MAIL

containing a package from Blue Cross containing all sorts of items to support my good health at age 90. During last year's annual physical, Blue Cross denied my usual Coligard mail-in test claiming I was too old.

■■■

WON'T SAY WHICH store, but I have bought meat, put it on my digital scale and found as much as a 20% discrepancy from the weight listed on the package. Confirm the weight on the register scale at the store before you buy.

■■■

DIDN'T HITLER USE the same excuse to invade the Czech Republic as Putin is using to invade Ukraine? Who's next? We need to stop him now.

■■■

I WOULD RATHER see gas at any price rather than see more of our young killed and maimed in another war we can't possibly win.

■■■

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

What did you give up for Lent?



"It's actually more of what I am trying to change. Due to all of the sadness that has recently hit our family, I am trying to focus on joy in the little things with much appreciation."

Pamela Peabody, Fenton



"Dessert! It's my favorite food group and a true struggle for me to live without!"

Melissa Johnston
Fenton



"Potato chips and BS. I hope that I can make it through the potato chips. Too much BS though, doubtful."

Bernadette Stoll
Southgate



"Sweets, I have been doing this for years. I do have a sweet tooth so I ate a cinnamon roll from the Crust and a paczki on fat Tuesday."

Sandy Leone-Consiglio
Fenton

| streettalk

State reps spearhead plan for police protection

■ Would protect police funding for rural road patrols

State Reps. David Martin (R-Dist. 48) and Mike Mueller (R-Dist. 51) are helping spearhead a plan to provide permanent and stable funding for a program that ensures rural Michigan communities have police protection.

The state's secondary road patrol program provides funding for sheriff's deputies to patrol roads outside of cities and villages. The program is funded by an assessment included in the fines paid on motor vehicle civil infractions, but this funding has declined in recent years. The number of deputies supported by the program peaked in 2001, declining since then as funding has fallen.

"The secondary road patrol program puts officers on patrol in neighborhoods outside of town, making sure they're available to respond quickly in an emergency," Martin said. "We're making changes to make sure this program is sustainable and that more



State reps. David Martin (left) and Mike Mueller discuss their plan to provide permanent and stable funding for the state's secondary road patrol program.

officers aren't pulled from the roads."

Mueller, a retired sheriff's deputy, said House Bills 5772, 5773, 5732 and 5569 will stabilize the funding by dedicating \$15 million of the liquor taxes collected by the state each year to the program. The bills do not increase the tax on consumers in any way.

"Our neighborhoods are safer when

deputies are out patrolling local roads," Mueller said. "Rather than depending on officers to issue tickets, our plan provides a permanent dedicated funding source that will keep officers patrolling our local roads long into the future."

The plan remains under consideration by the House Government Operations Committee, which Mueller chairs.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

RUNAWAY HOLLY TEEN LOCATED, PARENTS NOTIFIED

On Sunday, Feb. 27, at 9:30 a.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to a residence where a parent reported last seeing her 14-year-old son at 1 a.m. When they went to wake him, they discovered him missing and information that he may be endangered. Officers contacted command officers for assistance as well as Michigan State Police for troopers and Oakland County Sheriff's Office for a tracking dog and helicopter air search. Officers discovered shoeprints that led to railroad tracks and began following them. Area police departments in the area of travel also were notified. At 12:45 p.m., two MSP troopers located the teen in the area of Dixie Highway and Baldwin Road. He was fed and transported to Common Ground for mental health assistance and his parents were notified.



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Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the
judge

The 180-day rule

Although it is likely that most people probably have some familiarity with the right to a "speedy trial" that criminal defendants have under the United States Constitution, it's also likely that most people aren't familiar with another form of speedy trial right given to a small group of defendants under what is commonly called the "180-day rule."

With this in mind, I present the following brief primer.

In Michigan, there are times when defendants are sentenced and sent to prison while still having other pending felony charges against them. Sometimes new felony charges are brought when the defendants are in prison.

To ensure that these defendants are promptly brought to trial, there are two Michigan statutes which apply.

The first statute provides that when the Michigan Department of Corrections is notified of untried charges against an inmate, it is to send notice to the prosecuting attorney of the county where the charges are pending. Thereafter the inmate is to be brought to trial within 180 days (hence the title)

of the notice's delivery.

The second statute provides that if an "action" isn't commenced within 180 days, the pending case must be dismissed with prejudice.

The Michigan Supreme Court has held that despite the wording of the first statute, reading the statutes together, a dismissal isn't necessarily required if the trial isn't held within 180 days. Instead, if the prosecutor proceeds promptly in good faith to move the case to the point of being ready for trial within that period, the 180-day rule has been satisfied.

If it is shown that the prosecutor engaged in inexcusable delay beyond the 180 days with an evident intent to not bring the case to trial promptly, it must be dismissed.

On March 3, the Michigan Court of Appeals released its opinion in *People v Witkoski*. It involved a review of the reasons for a trial delay as to a defendant's claim that the 180-day rule had been violated.

The court made two important findings:

- It confirmed the prosecutor's duties during the 180-day period;
- It found that trial delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic are justified.

This published opinion is an important binding precedent and, for future reference, definitively answers the question of the appropriateness of adjournments of matters due to COVID concerns.

HOMICIDE

Continued from Front Page

was active and it was determined that this was not a random incident.

Detectives obtained a search war-

rrent for the home and have determined that this is a homicide investigation. The MSP Forensic Lab was on scene collecting evidence.

This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

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BRANDS

Continued from Page 4

I love the idea of a group of employees participating in these acts of kindness together. And experts love the added benefits — beyond feel good vides — this type of exercise has. From the forbes.com article, “According to a 2016 study, 64% of Millennials would refuse a job if the employer didn’t have a strong CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) policy, and 83% say they’d be more loyal to a company that helps them contribute to social and environmental issues ... What’s more, having a strong give-back culture results in a 13% increase in employee productivity, while also encouraging greater levels of cooperative behavior and supporting closer employee relationships.”

View loves giving back so much we don’t limit it to the holidays. In fact, through our events and other donations we gave back about \$45,000 to the communities we serve in 2021, including a donation to FARR (Fenton Area Resources & Referral Network, Inc.) the beneficiary of our annual Bottles, Brews & News craft beer and wine fest. (Back Sept. 24, 2022!)

When we made the decision to give a donation in lieu of gifts, we knew our clients would appreciate that since they all value giving back.

We know this because, while we love to share our story of giving back, we also love to share our clients’ stories of giving back. This is another aspect the forbes.com article hits on. “Giving back can also be a great creative source for your marketing team, who can craft specific campaigns around the cause you stand for, or even develop co-branded events or campaigns with an organization you support.”

I couldn’t have said it better myself. Luckily, we get to work with a lot of area marketing teams to do just that.

I’d love to hear how your company gives back. Email me at ecaswell@mihomemapaper.com.

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

POLICE & FIRE
REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

CAR BROKEN INTO IN HOLLY

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 6:44 p.m., a Holly police officer was dispatched to a residence after a female caller reported that she heard glass breaking from her driveway and discovered the rear window of her car had been broken out and new brake parts for her vehicle had been stolen. Officers are investigating.

13-YEAR-OLD ARRESTED FOR ASSAULTING HER MOTHER

On Thursday, Feb. 24, at 6:49 p.m., Holly police were dispatched to a residence for a reported assault in progress. Upon arrival, officers discovered a female victim who told police that her 13-year-old daughter assaulted her and left the home. While gathering information from the victim at the home, the daughter returned to the residence. At the conclusion of the investigation, the juvenile was arrested and lodged at Oakland County Children’s Village pending charges and a hearing.

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, March 4.

Senate Bill 768: House vote to cut state income tax rate

To cut the state income tax rate from 4.25% to 3.9% starting Jan. 1, 2022; authorize a \$500 nonrefundable income tax credit for a taxpayers’ dependents who are age 18 and under; and lower from age 67 to age 62 eligibility for certain income tax exemptions on retirement income.

Passed 62 to 42 in the House

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

Senate Bill 768: Senate vote to cut state income tax rate

The Senate vote on the House-passed version of the bill described above, which does not include the

business tax cut in an earlier version the Senate approved. With this vote, the bill gets sent on to the Governor for signature or veto.

Passed 22 to 15 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

House Bill 4833: Reform heavy equipment rentals tax

To replace the property tax levied on heavy equipment owned by rental companies with a 2% tax on heavy equipment rentals, to be distributed mostly to local governments.

Passed 35 to 2 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 392: Cut state business income tax rate

To cut the state’s business income tax rate from 6% to 3.9% starting Jan. 1 2022.

Passed 22 to 15 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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EXPO

Continued from Page 3

"I thought it was really great to see some new vendors this year. It's great to keep it a little different and change it for the people coming through. It was fun talking with them and seeing what their experience was like," she said.

FAN

Continued from Front Page

me. It was a huge honor to win Lion's Biggest Fan. I was happy with just that, but winning Detroit's Biggest Fan just means so much. I will certainly live up to it," he said.

Comerica Bank made the announcement Monday, March 7. Campioni competed against Detroit Red Wings Biggest Fan Rosemary Nicholson of Brownstown and Detroit Tigers Biggest Fan Matt Bengle of West Bloomfield.

Campioni will receive the overall grand prize, valued at \$15,000, which includes two season tickets to the Detroit Lions 2022 home games. All three team finalists received a prize package with upgrades and makeovers to their respective sports caves.

"The announcement concludes a year-long celebration and search for the Motor City's most passionate sports fans. All year long, fans have joined the fun, sharing photos of their sport-watching experience and submitting via Detroit'sBiggestFan.com on why they are Detroit's Biggest Fan," according to Comerica.

Campioni said so many people, many of them strangers, offered him support during that last few weeks. He said he feels undeserving, but winning offers him validation, especially when his kids see him leaving the house in spandex.

Campioni and a group of his friends started dressing up in Lions gear to attend games, tailgates and other events about five or six years ago. These superfans are called The Blue Mane Group and each has a different moniker. Campioni is known as "Macho Mane." He wears a hat with sewn-in extensions, along with blue and white pants, an eye-catching jacket, a Lions hat and sunglasses.

"Throughout the contest, Gary represented everything the Detroit's Biggest Fan Contest is meant to be — a celebration of the spirit and loyalty of the

White thanked the Fenton & Linden Chamber of Commerce for all the work they did organizing the event.

"It's a great opportunity for businesses to connect with the community on a scale like that. We always enjoy being there and we really appreciate all the effort they put into creating a community based event," White said.



world's greatest fans," said Jim Weber, Comerica Bank executive vice president and chief experience officer. "He wears his passion on his sleeve and, oh yeah, his love for the Lions is unquestionable. He's the kind of fan that makes this city such a special place to cheer on your favorite team."

One of Campioni's most special sports memories was taking his boys to their first Lions game and watching it through their eyes. He also lists Barry Sanders and Herman Moore as his favorite former Lions and T.J. Hockenson and Head Coach Dan Campbell as his favorite current Lions, according to the press release.

"It comes down to believing in our team and having the same heart we see on the field and on the sidelines — the Lion Heart," Campioni said. "Even though the Lions have been the underdog a lot, it's in those moments that you have to dig a little deeper and cheer a little louder, because our time will come."

Comerica's Detroit's Biggest Fan will continue in 2022.

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TOWNSHIP

Continued from Front Page

Tuesday, March 1 Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting.

State statute on special assessment districts requires signatures of more than 50% of the owners who own more than 50% of the front-footage along the road. Fenton Township asks petition circulators to obtain more than 50% of the parcel owners by number to sign regardless of front footage, said Township Treasurer John Tucker.

“This makes it more likely that the Township Board will approve the special assessment district as we would have both a majority of front footage and a majority of owners approving. To be clear, we accept petitions that only have the required front-footage signers and we don’t automatically reject any petitions that have less than 50% of the parcel owners signing off, because that is a very hard thing to do,” Tucker said.

Included in the public meeting packet were estimated cost allocations using an equal share approach, called pro rata, and a cost allocated by road frontage.

The estimated cost of the project is \$507,000, along with approximately \$120,000 in engineering and inspection costs, which the Genesee County Road Commission would pay.

With 13 parcels assessed evenly, each would pay \$39,000, potentially over a 20-year period. If they are assessed by road frontage, parcel owners would pay different amounts. The lowest cost is \$5,237. The highest is \$184,716.

This assessment would come with the following assumptions: The street

will be brought up to Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) standards (pavement, curb and gutter, etc.); the GCRC would accept the street into the county road system and be responsible for future maintenance. The status of the road would change from mostly private to 100% public.

If the district is created, work would involve redoing the road, adding curb and gutter and multiple other improvements. After a public hearing that lasted an hour, the board took no action on the item. Most of the residents that spoke said it was too expensive and had multiple concerns.

Douglas Wyrwicki, vice commodore of the Lake Fenton Sailing Club, said they as a club believe it would be a good idea to pave the road, but the cost, based on the number of adjourning property members, “seems extremely excessive especially if it’s assessed over 20 years.”

The sailing club is a nonprofit organization. Wyrwicki said they have an issue with the Moose Lodge not being included in the assessment district. He hopes the Moose would be included because they would benefit.

The project is too expensive for them. “We did poll our membership and our membership is not for it at this time,” he said.

Robert Emerick, who lives on Sonora Drive, agreed with Wyrwicki. “We certainly agree that something needs to happen. The road is terrible. But at this cost structure, there’s just more questions than there are answers,” he said.

Resident David Copus has issues with the Moose not being involved. He said he signed the petition, but he understands why people don’t want to pay these costs.

Tucker, who’s also on the planning

commission, said the board takes everything into consideration. He said in this situation, he’s not inclined to approve an assessment on a per parcel basis. He’s in favor of assessing based on road frontage.

“It seems front footage is the fairest option because of the impact or

improvement it’ll add to the parcels affected,” said Clerk Robert Krug.

The board agreed that they need to have more discussions about the boundaries of the district and potentially involve the Moose Lodge, as well as explore more pricing options that would be more palatable for property owners.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS
OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

2022 BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review of the Charter Township of Fenton will meet at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan at the dates and times listed below.

Monday March 14, 2022	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday March 15, 2022	1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday March 16, 2022	1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday March 17, 2022	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At these sessions the Board of Review will hear any appeals or objections and review potential corrections to the assessment roll.

Property owners may file their appeals in writing, provided such appeals are received by the Board of Review no later than 8:00 p.m. on March 17, 2022.

Property owners wishing to appeal in person should call the assessor’s office at 810-629-3445 to schedule an appointment with the March Board of Review. Questions may also be addressed to the March Board of Review via email at bor@fentontownship.org.

TENTATIVE EQUALIZATION MULTIPLIERS

Property Class	Ratio	Factor
Commercial	47.59	1.05064
Industrial	49.51	1.00099
Residential	47.36	1.05574

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The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team celebrates earning its third straight Division 2 district title. The Blue Devils defeated Goodrich in the finals to earn it.

Photo: David Troppens

Blue Devils are district champs once again

By David Troppens

Goodrich — Energy.

That one word explained the Lake Fenton varsity girls Division 2 basketball district championship game better than any other word in the dictionary.

Lake Fenton had loads of it against the Goodrich Martians on Goodrich's own home floor for at least the first three quarters. Meanwhile, the Martians looked baffled, a step slow and out-classed for most of the

contest, resulting in the Blue Devils capturing their third straight D2 district championship on Friday night during the squad's 55-40 victory against the Martians.

Lake Fenton came out with more energy than one

could imagine and forced the Martians into turnovers on seven of their first eight possessions. Meanwhile, the Blue Devils (19-3) busted out to a 10-0 lead. From that point on, the Martians never See **DEVILS** on 17

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 | PAGE 14 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Holly's Gonzales completes state title three-peat

■ Becomes first Bronchos' wrestler to ever win three individual state championships

By David Troppens

Jacob Gonzales is a three-time individual state champion.

The Holly senior Brown University recruit capped his prep wrestling career by earning a 7-3 decision victory against Paw Paw's William Bradley in the D2 160-pound state final match at Ford Field on Saturday.

"It feels amazing to finish my high school career the best I could after a couple close mistakes my freshman year," Gonzales said. "I've dreamt of winning the most in Holly history since I knew it was possible, and to actually put it all together and have such a career makes me so thankful to everyone who helped out."

"Holly wrestling means a lot to me. I grew up with great examples of what tough wrestling looks like and always heard stories of the passion that was needed to be great."

And now, many of those stories involve Gonzales. Gonzales was always in control during the match. He took a 2-0 lead with a takedown with about a minute left in the first period

and rode his opponent during the final minute. In the second period, he started in the down position and earned an escape 30 seconds into it, giving him a 3-0 lead. His opponent did earn a brief takedown after that, but within seconds Gonzales had a reversal and a 5-2 lead. Bradley eventually earned an escape, cutting the match to a 5-3 lead, but Gonzales grabbed Bradley's foot and eventually used it to get another takedown, giving him a 7-3 lead. He enjoyed that lead going into the third period. In it, he was able to cruise to the title without any real difficulties until the final seconds. That's when Bradley, who will be wrestling at the University of Maryland next year, almost earned a near fall, but Gonzales worked out of it quickly.

"The moment I knew I could get to his legs, I knew the match was over," Gonzales said. "I knew that he was tall, and I wasn't going to let him stop my shot. From top, I knew I could return using legs and I am confident in the win. On bottom, I knew his cradle and hooking



Jacob Gonzales (left) stands on the podium after winning his third individual state championship to conclude his prep career at Holly High School.

the ankle was coming, and I was able to get up and get out.

"Winning the first state championship was only the first step to making history, and now putting it all together and making it

happen through everything negative that could have happened, was amazing."

Gonzales finished his season with a 49-0 record.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Detroit Catholic Central wrestler and Linden resident Drew Heethuis won his second individual state wrestling championship on Saturday.

Heethuis earns second state title

By David Troppens

Last season, Detroit Catholic Central wrestler and Linden resident Drew Heethuis experienced the moment of a lifetime when he won a Division 1 individual state wrestling championship.

This season, he found out repeating is twice as nice.

Heethuis captured his second individual state championship by defeating Davison's Justin Gates by a 4-1 decision in the 119-pound weight class title bout Saturday at Ford Field.

"Winning the second straight title was an amazing feeling, because it showed that my first one

See **HEETHUIS** on 17

Eagles' 'D,' fourth quarter sparks district win vs. Fenton : Linden's Shingleton places second at state meet

By David Troppens

The Linden Eagles have had their good times this season, and their bad times this season.

They've had win streaks, losing streaks and everything in between.

There have been two constants to the season as well. The Linden varsity boys basketball team's defense has been very good all season long, allowing just 41 points a game. Meanwhile, the offense has struggled, netting just 43 points.

Well, the Eagles' offense woke up just at the right time on Monday night.

They did it during the second half of a Division 2 district opening contest against area rival Fenton on the Tigers' own gym floor, resulting in a 53-41 victory.

Linden plays Howell in today's semifinal at 7 p.m. at Fenton High School, with the winner earning a spot in the district title game Friday at 7 p.m. between the other semifinal victor (Holly or Hartland).

"Coming out of the start of the game we were playing

pretty well defensively, but we were giving up too many second-chance opportunities," Linden senior Reichen Lund said. "That's what was giving them the lead and giving them momentum. ... We just weren't prepared for them being that aggressive (on the offensive boards). Then, in the second half, we were ready for it and played much harder.

"That third quarter was pretty special. I don't want to speak for myself, but the guys were letting the game develop and everybody wasn't really there (offensively in the first half) tonight. Coming in the third quarter, we started picking things up. Then once we hit that fourth quarter, everyone was on. We were hitting everything. We were meshing well together.

After a tight first quarter that saw both teams have a surge, Fenton enjoyed a slight 11-10 lead entering the second quarter. In it, the Tigers enjoyed as much as a nine-point lead after Ja'Hion Bond hit two free throws after being fouled while making an offensive board.



Linden's Reichen Lund finds himself among three Fenton defenders. Lund scored a game-high 22 points in the Eagles' district opening victory against the Tigers. Photo: Christopher Summers

Fenton enjoyed a 24-15 lead. However, Lund ended the first half with a three-pointer, cutting the margin to just 24-18 at halftime.

Lund took over in the third quarter for Linden. He nailed

four of Linden's six buckets, including the team's two treys in that stanza. Lund tied the game up twice in the waning moments of the period, hitting a pair of jumpers.

See **EAGLES** on 17

By David Troppens

Linden's Bryce Shingleton didn't get a chance to compete for an individual state wrestling title a season ago.

The COVID-19 pandemic protocol struck the Linden varsity wrestling team and none of the athletes were able to compete in the individual state series.

Shingleton (125) made up for it this season. Shingleton advanced to the Division 2 125-pound match at the state finals and lost a tough 6-1 decision against Lowell's Owen Sigorski.

It was a tight match throughout with the contest, tied at 1-1 after Sigorski tied it with an escape 30 seconds into the third

See **SHINGLETON** on 17



Bryce Shingleton

Many tri-county wrestlers place at individual state meet

By David Troppens

While the tri-county area had two wrestlers win individual state championships and another earn a spot in a state championship match, that wasn't all of its representation at Ford Field's MHSAA Individual State Championship meet last weekend.

The area had six other placers, including the tri-county area's first female placer at the first-ever MHSAA girls state tournament.

Fenton's Philip Lamka placed third while teammate Ben Triola took home a sixth. Linden's Jase Grundy, and Lake Fenton's Ty Johnson and Jack Conley took home seventh-place finishes and Linden's Adelia Carr took home eighth

place in the women's final. All the male wrestlers competed in the D2 event.

Lamka (152) won his first match by technical fall, but then lost in the quarterfinal by sudden victory, making a win in his next match vital to placing. He won that match by pinfall, and then won a 6-4 decision against Lake Fenton's Jack Conley. He followed that victory with a pinfall of Adrian's Connor Krueger in 3:12 and then won the third-place match with a 6-4 decision win against Jackson Northwest's Zach Jacobs. Lamka finished with a 48-6 record.

Triola (152) won his first match by a tight 4-3 decision and then lost in the quarterfinal by a 9-3 decision. He had

See **WRESTLERS** on 16

DEAR CITIZENS OF THE SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION (SLPR) DISTRICT,

SUBJECT: Trailhead at Triangle Park

On Tuesday, March 15th, 2022, the public is invited to take part in an hour-long public forum SLPR is conducting at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center's Rec Room, downstairs at 6:00 PM. A trailhead at Linden's Triangle Park is proposed as a part of The State Bank Trail, which connects the City of Fenton with the City of Linden along the south side of Silver Lake Road. The trailhead will have ADA accessible parking and amenities, which may include a pavilion, picnic tables, benches, bike repair station, drinking fountain, interpretive signage, and trash/recycling receptacles. The intent of the public forum is to gain input on their need and exact locations within the park. Once complete, the plan will be brought to the Linden City Council for approval of the trailhead at Triangle Park.

Questions in advance of the meeting can be directed to Ed Koledo at 810-714-2011 or ekoledo@slpr.net. Look to the SLPR website for a Zoom link to this meeting for those not able to attend in person.

Two LFLF Gymnasts qualify for state meet

Two Linden/Fenton/Lake Fenton gymnasts are headed to the Division 2 state meet for gymnastics.

They are seniors Maty Temrowski and Avery Miller.

The squad finished in fifth place at the regional meet held at Grand Ledge High School, posting a season-high team score of 139.20.

Temrowski led the area squad and will be competing in the all-around after narrowly missing the D2 regional all-around title with a score of 36.125, .3 points behind Grand Ledge's Emma Olds who won the crown. Only the top three athletes scored a 36.00 or better in the all-around.

Temrowski's top event was the balance beam where she placed fourth (9.075). She also placed sixth in two of her other event — the vault (9.175) and the uneven bars (8.55). She narrowly finished out of the top eight spots on the floor, recording a 9.325 score.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Maty Temrowski

Seven Tigers headed to D2 state swim meet

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity boys swim team will have seven performers at the state meet when the Division 2 event starts at Oakland University on Friday.

The squad will see those seven athletes compete in eight different events, including all three relays. The Tigers should be able to pick up a decent amount of placings and points this season.

Max Haney and Jack Fries will be the busiest of the Tigers, each competing in four events. Fries and Haney will team with Kaz Sieja and Evan Koch in the 200 medley relay and the 400 freestyle relay while also competing in two individual events each as well. Haney will compete in the 200 individual medley and the 100 butterfly while Fries will be in the 200 freestyle and the 100 backstroke.

"We just want to go as fast as possible," Haney said. "We are probably capable of getting back to the top heat (on Saturday)."

"My biggest goal heading into the state meet is to get top three in the 100 backstroke," Fries said. "I would definitely have to perform well to achieve it. For the team, I just want to have fun, not put too much pressure on ourselves and focus on making our swims as fast as they can be."



Fenton's seven Division 2 state qualifying swimmers and divers start competing at Oakland University on Friday. Photo: David Troppens

Owen Cox will be the team's final individual event competitor, competing in diving. He qualified at regionals with a third-place score of 373.40.

The other event that will see Tigers in it is the 200 freestyle relay. Sieja, Koch, Shanahan and Braden Flavo will be in that event. Koch will be in all three re-

lays.

Many of the Fenton event times would suggest they'll be making some second-day swims.

"Being in all three relays means that the others will be relying on me and I'll be relying on them," Koch said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION (SLPR) DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Submission of a Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Land Acquisition Grant Application for April 2022

The Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation Commission is considering applying for a MNRTF Grant in the amount of approximately \$1,000,000 for the acquisition of 37 acres of land adjacent to The State Bank Trail between the runway at Price's Airport and Silver Lake Road for the purposes of developing a park for outdoor recreation. SLPR is looking to inform the public about the concept drawings of this plan and gain input from the public on the acquisition of this land for outdoor recreation purposes.

A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 15th, 2022, at 7:00pm at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center, located at 150 South Leroy Street, Fenton, MI 48430. The meeting will be held in the Rec Room in the lower level. Questions in advance of the meeting can be directed to Mr. Ed Koledo, Executive Director of SLPR at the following contact information: Phone 810-714-2011 or email ekoledo@slpr.net. Look to the SLPR website for a Zoom link to this meeting for those not able to attend in person.

WRESTLERS

Continued from Page 15

to win his third match in order to place, and did so by pinfall. He followed that win with a tiebreaker victory against Edwardsburg's Nathan Andrina, but then lost to St. Joseph's Jacob Halsey. He lost to Harper Woods's Mikus Bishop by pinfall in the fifth-place match. Triola finished the season with a 22-11 record.

Grundy (189) lost his first match and then had to win the next two to get in the placement rounds. He did that, but then lost by pinfall, placing him in the seventh-place match against Fremont's Michael Romero, defeating him by pinfall in 2:18.

Johnson (130) won his first match but then lost his second match. Both were close decisions. He followed with a pinfall win, but then lost a 3-1 decision, placing him in the seventh-place match against Allendale's Harris Meekhof. He

won that match 6-4, making four of his five matches at the state meet decision verdicts by no more than two points.

Conley (152) won his first match by pinfall but then lost by decision. He defeated Goodrich's Max Macklem by decision to get in the placement matches, but then lost to Fenton's Lamka by a tight 6-4 decision. In the seventh-place match he won a 2-1 decision against Zeeland East's Martin Landes.

Carr (115) opened her state experience with a tough 4-3 decision loss, but then won her two next matches with first-round pinfall wins to get in the placement matches. However, she lost her next two bouts, earning her eighth.

Others that competed at the meet but did not place were Lake Fenton's Jorge Marvin (103), Clay Cook (112) and Noah Hall (145); and Linden's Luke Haney (135).

DEVILS

Continued from Page 14

could pose a serious threat, resulting in the Blue Devils' third straight victory against Goodrich (15-7) this season, and second at the Martians' home gym. This victory came in front of a vocal full house with plenty of fans cheering on both squads.

"We knew coming into this game that we needed a lot of energy to win this and we did," Lake Fenton's only senior on the roster Kerrigan Howdeshell said. "We came out right away with a lot of energy."

"The energy and atmosphere was the most impressive. Our student section — and all of our fans were amazing. They played a part in us winning this."

"We were talking about coming out strong because we knew this was going to be a tough game," Savannah Fellenbaum said. "We've been going at it all season between us and Goodrich, so we knew they were coming out for blood. So we needed to go out there and give everything we had. (Getting three wins against Goodrich in the same season) is surreal. We can't even believe it. But we worked so hard for it, so it was bound to happen."

The 10-0 run started after a Howdeshell steal. On Lake Fenton's next possession, Cola Sisk got two offensive boards, hit a putback hoop, was fouled



Lake Fenton's Savannah Fellenbaum finds herself among four Goodrich defenders in the Blue Devils' district championship victory against the Martians. Photo: David Troppens

and converted the free throw. Lake Fenton was up 3-0. Howdeshell followed with a driving layup and Fellenbaum hit her own driving layup, making it 7-0. The Blue Devils made it 10-0 when Sisk dished a pass to Fellenbaum for a three-pointer. Lake Fenton had its 10-0 lead with 4:21 left in the opening quarter.

Goodrich was able to cut the gap to 17-11 early in the second half on a jumper by Emilynne Braue, but that was the best rally Martins were really able to muster as a counter. Amaya

Wright hit a three-pointer and then Emerson Baker earned a steal and a fast break driving layup, moving the gap back to 22-11 just a couple possessions later. Lake Fenton enjoyed a 20-13 lead after a steal, fastbreak layup, foul and converted free throw by Howdeshell. The only thing giving the Martians any hope going into halftime was a miracle three-pointer hit by Goodrich's Alexis Kosmowski at the half-time buzzer. Still, Lake Fenton was dominating 30-16.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

SHINGLETON

Continued from Page 15

period. Shingleton, who was basically the wrestler on the offensive most of the match, tried to shoot for a takedown but during that eventual attempt there was a crazy battle that resulted in Shingleton being taken down with 30 seconds left in the period. He was unable to escape and was called twice for two-point near falls, giving Sigorski, a freshman, his first state title.

Shingleton finished fifth in his weight class two seasons ago. Shingleton won his first three matches to get to the final. He defeated Coopersville's Jake Wiersma by pinfall in 3:21 in his opening match, and defeated Richland Gull Lake's Camden Miller by a 9-2 decision in the quarterfinal. In the semifinal, he defeated Middleville Thornapple Kellogg's Ashton Corson by a tight 6-5 decision.

In the championship match, Shingleton was routinely the

wrestler to go for the takedown when the wrestlers were in a neutral position. Each time, Sigorski, with some effort, was able to stave off the shoot attempt. The first period ended scoreless.

Shingleton started the second period in the down position and escaped in 30 seconds. His 1-0 lead from that escape was maintained until Sigorski escaped in the third period.

Shingleton finished the season with a 46-2 record.



Fenton's Connor Luck tries to dribble past Fenton's Joe Miller (left) and Brandon Green (right). Photo: Christopher Summers

EAGLES'

Continued from Page 15

The Eagles were tied 31-all entering the fourth.

In the fourth, Lund let his teammates take over. Fenton took a quick 34-31 lead on a Seth Logan trey, but that was followed by a jumper by River Meckstroth, cutting the gap to just one. Meckstroth then hit a trey that put the Eagles up 36-34. From that point on, the Eagles would never trail again.

Fenton tied the game at 38-all on a putback hoop by Bond, but Brandon Green hit a shot and Jack Kenney hit a putback hoop, putting the Eagles up 42-39. From there,

Keeney took over, scoring nine fourth-quarter points. He followed the putback hoop with a three-pointer, making it a 48-39 Linden lead. Fenton never really closed the gap again.

"We came in the locker room (at halftime) and discussed some things we needed to fix and fixed them," Kenney said. "We brought the energy. We closed the game and played very well."

"Anything can happen and anything can change. A little bit of energy can spike something in a player and it happened to me (in the fourth)."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

HEETHUIS

Continued from Page 14

wasn't just a fluke," Heethuis said. "It was completely different than the first one in many ways. Not just my opponent, but the environment was completely different this year being back at Ford Field."

Last year's state championship matches were at Kalamazoo's Wings Event Center due to COVID-19. He won the 112-pound title a year ago. Gates was a returning state champion

from last year at 103 pounds.

In this final, he took a lead and never trailed, controlling the match from the start.


"I wrestled Justin the weekend prior to the individual state tournament so I kind of got a feel for him," Heethuis said. "But he and I have wrestled so many times throughout the years that we both know each other's styles very well, so it's always going to be a close but fun match. It was definitely a match that I was looking forward to."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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Employment

Times

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Times

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KING
FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

ACROSS

1 Offend

5 Vegas lead-in

8 Biting remark

12 Jacob's twin

13 Antlered animal

14 Latin love

15 Printout

17 Earring site

18 Roscoe

19 More slothful

21 Filled fully

24 — colada

25 Cupid's alias

26 Street vendor's vehicle

30 Sawbuck

31 Attorney's load

32 Bee follower

33 Barber's offerings

35 Panache

36 Aachen article

37 Utter impulsively

38 Architectural style

41 Hero sandwich

42 Actress Perlman

43 Ski lodge cupful

48 "A Room of — Own"

49 Prior night

50 Not so hot?

12

15

21

25

30

33

38

42

48

51

52

53

Trade

1 "I'm not impressed"

2 "This — recording"

3 Distant

4 Fakes, as figures

5 Author Uris

6 Jungfrau, for one

7 Urban silhouettes

8 French novelist

9 Mine, to Marcel

10 Judicial garb

11 Rabbit's title

16 Cow's chaw

20 &&&&

21 Actor Rogen

22 Location

23 Singer Braxton

24 Stickum

26 Hindquarters

27 Rights advocacy org.

28 Bring up

29 Bivouac shelter

31 Roman 202

34 Go over again

35 Macaroni shapes

37 Tampa Bay NFLer

38 Pirate's drink

39 "It can't be!"

40 Golf props

41 Dance move

44 Eggs

45 Cornfield noise

46 Mouths (Lat.)

47 Music booster

DOWN

1 "Holy cow!"

2 Enervate

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Midweek Sudoku

FUN BY THE NUMBERS

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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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.

ARNGD

PEWIR

MEELAF

RWHYOT

IN A

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

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

Today's Guest JUMBLER is
GREG CRAVENS
Creator of The BUCKETS

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO
DISPLAY A BACKWARD
DRAWING?

11-15

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

Horoscopes

For the week of
March 7, 2022

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, the universe is subtly trying to tell you to slow down a bit. Don't ignore those nagging feelings that you should take breaks whenever you can manage them.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Prioritize your goals and put yourself first for the time being, Taurus. All eyes will be on you and you want to be sure that you are presenting the best version of yourself this week.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, take every opportunity to foster growth in your professional ambitions. Network as much as you can and explore continuing learning offerings through your job.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Something surprising may help you feel more connected to the universe around you, Cancer. Sensory overload can be enhanced by spoiling yourself with something special.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, the small steps you are taking lately will eventually cover much distance, so keep up the progress. Some things take time and right now it's a lesson to learn.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, even if things seem like they are a bit out of control, find ways to put yourself in a good place Slow down and stay grounded as much as you can.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, only a few months into the new year you may be having trouble staying motivated with your resolutions. A partner or cheering squad can keep you going.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Physical affection is a great way to showcase your love right now, Scorpio. Take advantage of all the hugs, kisses and subtle touches you can muster in the days to come.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, space out your tasks so the week doesn't seem like it is rushed early on. Don't put too much pressure on yourself to get everything done immediately.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Look for ways to delve into the arts this week, Capricorn. Explore unique hobbies or visit a museum with a new exhibit. Work with your hands as much as you can.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, invest in your home space with some upgrades that will add warmth and a feeling of coziness. Creature comforts can have a profound impact on your mood.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

This week you will need to assert yourself at work, Pisces; otherwise, others may overlook your contributions. Get what you deserve.

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