‘The sky was wicked, sinster’

By William Axford

Fenton couple in Joplin when EF-5 tornado hit

While economic disaster hit Joplin, Mo., last Friday is one thing, but one local couple experienced the wrath of Mother Nature firsthand. Ron and Mary Hicks, of Fenton Township, were in Joplin last Sunday when the 200-mph tornado ripped through the city. The couple was attending their grandson’s graduation from Joplin High School.

The graduation ceremony was held at nearby Missouri Southern State University, ending about 40 minutes before the tornado formed.

See TORNADO on 10A

I still get goose bumps and chills when I think about it.

Mary Hicks

Fenton Township resident

Summary

Barbara Kincaid is a Gold Star Mother who promotes awareness about who they are and what they do. She has been a part of the Linden Memorial Day Parade for the past four years and will be walking it this Monday.

“I could have become bitter or I could have become better,” said Kincaid, who is a public speaker on behalf of Gold Star Mothers. “I knew what my son would have wanted, so I became better.”

See GOLD STAR MOTHER on 26A

Son’s death in Iraq sets mom on mission

By William Axford

Gold Star Mother keeps veterans alive in the minds of Americans year round

The mother

Barbara Kincaid never heard of a Gold Star Mother until she became one. While grieving the death of her veteran son, Kincaid was informed of her new title by the military during her funeral. In the 20 years that have followed since her son’s death, Kincaid has been a constant advocate for fallen soldiers and has brought exposure to Gold Star Mothers.

“Gold Star Mothers. "I could have become bitter or I could have become better,” said Kincaid, who is a public speaker on behalf of Gold Star Mothers. “I knew what my son would have wanted, so I became better.”

See GOLD STAR MOTHER on 26A

Methodist church to withdraw objection to liquor license

‘Neighbo rly cooperation’ leads to agreement

By Sharon Stone

Fenton — The Fenton United Methodist Church filed an objection to the Michigan Brewing Company’s request for a liquor license about two weeks ago, but has decided to withdraw that objection.

“The Michigan Brewing Co. did a wonderful job on this and addressing our concerns,” Jim Austin, liaison for Fenton United Methodist Church

See LIQUOR LICENSE on 18A

Snyder signs historic tax overhaul

Businesses to pay less taxes, citizens lose many tax exemptions

By Tim Jagieło

On Wednesday, Gov. Rick Snyder signed the tax reform plan that could send change sweeping across Michigan’s economic landscape, one week after receiving the bill.

“This is a defining moment in Michigan’s turnaround,” Snyder said in a news statement. “Michigan has been trying to compete economically with one

See TAX on 31A

Council approves another $1 lease downtown

Old Depot new home to Southern Lakes Parks & Rec

By Sharon Stone

Fenton — The old train depot in downtown Fenton will soon have a new tenant.

On Monday, Fenton City Council approved a lease agreement with Southern Lakes Parks

See LEASE on 13A

SLPR is moving into the old Fenton depot.
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Local man breaks records at weight-lifting competitions

Dead-lifts 512 pounds

By Tim Jagielo
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Tim Roche, 51, owner of Kan-Rock Tire for 25 years, broke some records in weight lifting. He began lifting weights for exercise and just recently began competing.

Roche isn’t just in impressive shape for his age. He also has a laundry list of accomplishments that give him substantial bragging rights. He has broken records in each weightlifting competition.

Roche said his records and accolades apply to his weight, age and class. “That’s an important statement,” he said. “There’s some big guys out there lifting a lot of weight.”

Most recently, Roche competed in Fenton at the Powerlifting Association Meet two weeks ago and broke his own 507-pound national deadlift record by five pounds, by lifting 512 pounds. He won with his age and weight class, competing against every age group in his weight class, including 20-year-olds, and came in first place.

Summary

Tim Roche, aged 51, was the owner of Kan-Rock Tire for 25 years. He recently began to compete in weightlifting and has broken several records. He is a DJ on Banana 101.5 out of Burton.

At the Fenton competition, he won three awards, including first place in Age and Weight Class, first place in All Ages in Weight Class, and Best Lifter, out of 30 who participated in the meet.

Prior to this, Roche set the national dead lift record for his age and weight class of 507 pounds at the American Powerlifting Federation National Meet held in Orlando, Fl. He competed against 120 people to win Best Lifter Overall. He also beat out all weightlifters for his weight class, 40 and over. “You lift more than anyone else,” he said.

See WEIGHT-LIFTING on 13A
Carry a big stick

If you want to capture the true spirit of Memorial Day, you need only remember the motto of former president Theodore Roosevelt: ‘Speak softly and carry a big stick.’

For most of us (me included), Memorial Day will be celebrated not by revering those who gave their lives in defense of our freedom, but by activities such as barbecuing, beer drinking, boating and baseball. Sadly, for many of our neighbors and fellow citizens, Memorial Day will be about an empty seat at the picnic table and an empty place in their lives.

Undoubtedly, most Americans feel sorrow when they read or hear of the death of one of our young men or women serving their country in the military. But I also sense a change in the way many of us perceive this ultimate sacrifice. These days, many tend to view these soldiers as victims, not as human beings who chose freely to serve their country knowing full well that the price they pay may be their lives. By minimizing their sacrifice we minimize our own guilt at sitting on the sidelines.

I say this because so many of today’s generation simply can’t conceive of one of their peers making this choice of their own free will. They view our military personnel as being comprised of mostly disadvantaged youth desperate for any opportunity to escape their impoverished life, or militant war-mongers whose primary motivation is a thirst for blood. It is incomprehensible to them that someone would volunteer for the military out of a sense of duty or obligation to their country. Most naively believe that distasteful matters like war can be avoided if we would only listen to the sage voices of Hollywood. Teddy Roosevelt be damned — these are problems that can be solved with love and understanding, not guns and tanks and bombs.

History, and the endless rows of crosses and markers at Arlington, tells us otherwise. They are stark reminders that pure evil is not just surviving, but thriving in our world today. Slavery, discrimination, the killing of 20 million Jews, Pearl Harbor and 9-11 were all fostered by men and women who claimed they were doing good in the world — and convinced entire civilizations to follow them. The current American generation’s liberal weenie-logie on matters of obligation and patriotism doesn’t change the fact that there has always been, and always will be, evil in the world.

Without America’s big stick, the ungrateful, spineless French would not even exist today. Nor would Germany, nor most of Europe, nor Japan. I often wonder what 9-11 American civilians who died in World War II would think of all the yuppies driving around today in German and Japanese vehicles — vehicles manufactured by countries who considered the American big stick policy that saved their @$%$ in the past, and allow them the freedom they so enjoy today.

If America truly wants to avoid building more Arlingtons, the surest way is to heed the advice of Teddy Roosevelt and ‘speak softly and carry a big stick’ — and never, ever forget the past. That big stick is our military — past, present and future.

To the brave men and women serving in our military — and especially to those families with an empty seat at their table, may your deepest gratitude to you on this Memorial Day.

Submitted for the July 4th edition, this column takes a more historical approach to the theme of our country’s military history. The theme is to remember the American military that defended us from the war years of the 1940s, 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, and today, and to remember the fallen American military personnel who gave their last full measure of devotion.

Compiled by William Arford, Staff Reporter

Hot lines

Submit an idea or your story to Times at 810-629-9221 or email tctimes@cttimes.com. All submissions are subject to editorial approval. This week’s Hot line is about the question of whether we should be sending our children to school. I wonder if anyone would like to comment on the idea of the lottery to fund education and the debate about whether it is a good idea for the future of our children?

TO THE PERSON who keeps stealing the gas out of my Suburban on McCaslin Lake, I am going to catch you and you will wish that I had called the police.

WHO ASKED to name Republican legislation that helps workers, the only response is Reagan and Bush cut taxes. How has tax giveaways to the rich and miniscule token cuts to every other one worked out? We have record deficits, massive debt, millions of job losses, lower wages and the biggest gap between rich and poor since the Depression. How does this benefit the working class?

CONCERNING REDISTRIBUTION OF wealth, as usual, Republicans have it backwards. For 30 years, the wealth has gone from hard-working lower and middle class to the rich, much due to the massive tax give-aways to the most well off. How does giving money to the rich help workers?

TAX CUTS have been enacted by both Democrats and Republicans. Republican tax cuts are heavily skewed to the wealthy. Obama’s cuts benefit 95 percent of Americans, leaving out the top 5 percent. Tax cuts are not the exclusive property of the GOP.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED to the saying, ‘Friends don’t let friends drive drunk?’ Please call someone to come get that person before letting him or her drive drunk.

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SCOTTY MCCREERY of American Idol is heading to the state finals. Scotty is known for his great voice and his good looks. He has been a favorite of mine for a long time, and I am sure that he will be the winner. Scotty is a great singer and a nice guy, and I am sure that he will do well.

Street talk

What is your favorite vegetable?

Eggplant, because it’s so versatile. You can fry it or grill it.” — Andrew Couser

Holly Township

“I like corn on the cob. I only eat it in the summer and I look forward to grilling it.” — Danielle Eddy

Fenton

“My favorite is asparagus. I use it in my ham rolls. It’s crunchy, too.” — Lucy Johnson

Fenton Township

“Asparagus, I like the taste and it is good for you.” — Peggy Crug

Holly Village

“I love broccoli because it has a lot of nourishment and tastes great.” — Joseph Pez

Tyrone Township

“I like spinach because of its cancer fighting agents. I can mix it with anything.” — Shelly Long

Fenton Township

“I like gravy in my food, not just for the flavor, but also because it makes the food more filling.” — Bill Miller

Fenton Township

“I love to eat broccoli because it is good for your health.” — John Smith

Fenton Township

“I like to eat carrots because they are good for your eyes.” — Mary Brown

Holly Township

“I love to eat brussels sprouts because they are good for your weight loss.” — Dan Taylor

Fenton Township

“I like to eat beets because they are good for your heart.” — Sue Johnson

Holly Township

“I love to eat green beans because they are good for your diet.” — Tom Smith

Fenton Township

“I like to eat spinach because it is good for your health.” — Mary Brown

Tri-County Times
Fenton hires consultant for redevelopment of DDA properties

Fenton — Fenton City Council approved an agreement with Jerry Mansour, a consultant, at the recommendation of the Fenton Downtown Development Authority.

The DDA would like to redevelop the southeast corner of Silver Lake Road and North LeRoy Street since it owns three contiguous properties. To do this, DDA members believed they would need the assistance of a consultant. Mansour will work with Stephen A. Auger Associates, an architectural firm, also hired on Monday, to complete an architectural analysis of the area.

Mansour and the DDA have established a relationship, including the redevelopment of the old fire hall. This and the fact that Mansour has more than 25 years of experience in commercial real estate throughout the region made him a favorable choice with DDA members.

The 18-month contract begins June 1. Mansour will be paid $3,000 per month, with the first three months paid up-front. The contract expires on Nov. 30, 2012 and can be ended at anytime with a 15-day notice.

Mayor Sue Osborn was pleased to retain the services of Mansour, "Jerry’s done a wonderful job in the past," she said.

Council approves hiring Lake Orion architect for DDA project

By Sharon Stone
ststone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton — A Lake Orion architect has been retained by the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for a redevelopment project.

At the recommendation of Michael Burns, assistant city manager and director of the DDA, Fenton City Council approved a motion to allow the DDA to retain the architectural firm of Stephen A. Auger Associates, of Lake Orion.

Councilwoman Dianne North voted against the motion. According to Burns, if the DDA wishes to develop three contiguous sites along North LeRoy Street, between Silver Lake Road and the Fenton United Methodist Church, in accordance to the Downtown Master Plan, it needs to find out what would be appropriate.

An architectural and engineering analysis of the site needs to be done before moving forward with marketing the site with a potential developer and potential tenants. Jerry Mansour, who was hired Monday as a consultant on the project, suggested earlier that the DDA interview Auger and John Costa, an architect from Flushing.

Bid proposals from both architects were submitted. Auger's quote was $7,500 and Costa's quote was $2,750.

Summary

Jerry Mansour was hired as a consultant to help develop three sites along LeRoy Street, between Silver Lake Road and the Fenton United Methodist Church.

“A cost of $7,500 is insignificant when you’re looking at experience at developing this.”

Tim Faricy
Fenton City councilman

Costa has experience in designing some of the new development projects in downtown Flint. Auger designed and built Ashford Commons, a three-story mixed use building in downtown Auburn Hills, beginning in 2004. It was completed in 2006.

The selection committee believed Auger was the most suitable firm to address the project, despite coming in with a higher bid.

“I do believe he is the one we need to move forward,” said Burns.

Auger said, “We’ve done five or six projects like this. “This has the most potential.”

Councilwoman Dianne North questioned the range in quotes and expressed concern that this was not bid out. She said she would have preferred to see more information on the price difference.

Councilman Tim Faricy told North that this is not untypical. “A cost of $7,500 is insignificant when you’re looking at experience at developing this. We trust this recommendation.”

Councilman Benjamin Smith agreed that there was a big difference in bids, however, after reading about both firms, everything pointed toward Auger for his experience and detail. “I was impressed,” said Smith.

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Crash sends three people to hospital

A 16-year-old male driving this pickup truck rear-ended this Dodge SUV on Torrey Road, just south of Laахing Road in Fenton Township. Fenton Township Fire Department and the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department responded to the scene at 3:25 p.m. on Wednesday. The two female occupants in the SUV were transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township. The driver of the truck was also transported to the hospital.

Mother and son injured in crash

A 47-year-old Fenton woman and her 15-year-old son were injured in an automobile crash Thursday at 4:50 p.m. on Owen Road. The woman was eastbound on Owen Road, waiting to turn left into a gas station. A stopped westbound motorist waved her through and she struck a pickup truck traveling in the outside lane. The mother and son were transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township with serious injuries. A 14-year-old Tyrone Township male, seated in the backseat of the car was not injured. The truck driver was not injured. The woman was placed at fault on the accident report.
Another water increase in Holly

Bills to swell 30 percent with August statement

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly Village — Residents in the village of Holly may try to avoid watering their lawns this year. Residents can expect to pay up to around 30 percent more for their water and sewer rates in the near future. The Holly Village Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to adopt a plan that raises rates.

After many meetings discussing the issue, and a public forum to hear residents’ opinions, the council adopted the second of two proposed water and sewer rate plans. The plan includes an increase to the base rate and increasing bond debt service. The rates will take effect July 1 and will be reflected in the August billing statement.

“I don’t like it, but I think it’s necessary,” said resident Lenore Johnston. “I think it’s fair. I think each household should pay the fee.”

Although the rate has been set and residents will begin to pay higher rates in August, Village Manager Jerry Walker said the village has committed to evaluating the rate system annually. “Council can always amend the rate schedule,” he said. “Even though it’s proposed for five-year increments, council can always revisit and amend.”

Council member Sandra Kleven said she liked the second option because the debt service can be charged to foreclosed or empty properties. “That does lessen the burden on the rest of us,” she said. “I don’t like raising the rates, but we have to pay our water bill, we have to pay our bonds.”

The village must pay back bonds that were used to build the new water treatment plant and will do so through increasing debt service built in. Because the village took action on their bond debt related to water service, they will avoid a further degrading in its bond rating status from a BBB+, or “good.”

“I hope we can hold on until 2014, folks,” said Council member Jackie Campbell. “That’s when the first bond expires and we could see a rate decrease.”
Village takes resident’s public accusations seriously

By Tim Jagielo

Lilly has accused the village of using bond money to purchase a Citizens Police phase 3 console and alleged the village is not properly using grant money to purchase boilers.

Lilly’s letter was read into the record by Village Manager Jerry Walker.

“I’m not proper to read a letter like that. Everything with me has been face to face, not through letters.”

Larry Lilly

Holly resident

School district to cut energy costs with new boilers

By Sharon Stone

Linden — Linden Elementary School and Argentine Elementary School will have new Patterson-Kelley high-efficiency boilers installed over the summer.

Linden Board of Education approved the purchases at its meeting on May 18. The boilers for Linden Elementary School will cost the district $170,246 and the boiler for Argentine Elementary School will cost $122,406. Combined costs, which includes equipment and installation, are estimated to be $292,652. Sinking Fund dollars are available to cover the costs.

Three manufacturers, Lochinvar, Patterson Kelley and Thermal Solutions bid on the package. Greg Vadasz, operations manager for Linden Community Schools, said Patterson-Kelley was the best choice for the school district.

The new boilers at Linden High School and Hyatt Elementary School have already reduced the school district’s natural gas consumption by more than 30 percent, according to Vadasz.

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The 200-mph tornado that ripped through Joplin, Mo., last Sunday was the worst ever recorded in the National Weather Service’s 50-year history.

TORNADO
Continued from Front Page

The Fenton couple noticed the sky darkening and anticipated heavy rain while driving to their son’s house after the graduation. “The sky was very ugly and vicious. It looked wicked, sinister. I’ll always remember it,” said Mary. By the time they reached their son’s house, sirens were blaring, warning people of the oncoming tornado. Ron, Mary and 13 other family members took refuge in the basement as the tornado touched down. “The wind sounded like a freight train when we were down there,” Mary said.

“You could hear your ears pop,” Ron said. “It was raining and blowing harder than I’ve ever seen.”

The family emerged from the basement after about half an hour. There was no damage to the house or the surrounding neighborhood. “You wouldn’t have even noticed there was a tornado unless you were there before it hit,” Ron said.

Residents in the heart of Joplin were not so lucky. Last Sunday’s tornado was the worst ever recorded in the National Weather Service’s 50-year history. The Associated Press reports that at least 130 people have died and that hundreds more are injured. The Missouri Department of Public Safety released a list of 232 missing people earlier this week.

Ron said that the destroyed area of Joplin was a quarter of a mile away from his son’s house and was blocked off. It wasn’t until the couple left town and visited a restaurant that they saw the aftermath for the first time.

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WEIGHT-LIFTING
Continued from Page 3A

Despite his recent accolades, Roche has only been competing for one year. He broke out into the weightlifting scene in Michigan by beating all three statewide records in bench press, squat and dead lifting. He gives credit to his trainer, and his gym, Powerhouse Gym.

How did he break out in the weight lifting world and break records?

For the last three years, Roche has worked with a trainer, 1½ hours per day, six days per week. “It’s a sport that brings me enjoyment,” he said. “In the gym we have camaraderie. It’s an environment I enjoy being a part of.”

Roche’s diet consists of protein, fruits and vegetables, very little carbohydrates, and no alcohol. He receives 10 hours of sleep each day. Aside from occasional muscle and joint soreness, he feels like a 25 year old. In short, weightlifting has been good for Roche.

“I would say, everybody should do it,” he said. “It’s good for bone density, overall health, and makes you look good.” So good, that Roche, who said he has virtually nobody fat, is considering body-building competitions as his next step.

Roche urges anyone to exercise at least a little. “It’s all good,” he said. “Basically, get up and move, every day, every day, every day.”

SLPR had been using office space in Lake Fenton Middle School and felt it would have been better to be closer to downtown Fenton. SLPR also has space inside the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

With the $1 per year lease, SLPR agreed that it will, at its own expense, keep the building in good repair and pay any applicable property taxes and assessments. SLPR also agreed that it will not make renovations that would alter the historical significance of the building.

Stephen Schultz, the city attorney, said the city and SLPR has the right to terminate the lease agreement at any time.
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Two suspects arrested for armed robbery

By Sharon Stone  
ssstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

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A 21-year-old man from Burton and a 22-year-old man from Argentine Township were arrested on suspicion of being responsible for an armed robbery on Thursday, May 19.

Argentine Township Police Chief Dan Allen said one of his officers responded to the area of Linden and La-hring roads, as back-up to the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department, for a possible armed robbery at 4:30 a.m. Police soon learned the robbery took place in a home on Rolston Road in Argentine.

Two complainants, a 19-year-old woman and 23-year-old man from Harrison, stopped by the home on Rolston Road to purchase illegal prescription medicine (Adderall). After entering the home, one of the suspects accused the Harrison man of owing him money.

After arguing about the money, the Harrison man told police that one of the suspects came back into the room, carrying a baseball bat. The Harrison man reported that he begged the suspect not to hit him. The suspects asked the Harrison woman to come into the home because she had money. She, too, begged the suspect with the baseball bat not to hit her friend.

Once the man and woman from Harrison turned over some money, the suspects allowed them to leave. Police were unsuccessful in locating and arresting the suspects that night.

On Sunday, May 22, Argentine and Linden police arrested one of the suspects at the Rolston Road home after an officer spotted their vehicle. Information gained from that arrest led to the arrest of the second suspect.

Following a tip, Fenton police arrested the second suspect at a home improvement store on Silver Parkway.

What is Adderall?
Adderall is a central nervous system stimulant. It is used to treat narcolepsy and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Summary
- Argentine Township, Fenton and Linden police departments, as well as the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department were involved with apprehending two suspects believed responsible for an armed robbery last week in Argentine Township.

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We wish to thank Jim & Laura Smith and Jim & Patty Peabody and their families for the wonderful opportunities that they have given to us.
Yard ‘N Garden has deep roots
in Fenton

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

After starting her business on a whim more than 30 years ago, Carol McAlister’s shop has really taken root in the Fenton community. She is the owner of Yard ‘N Garden Center and Florist.

The shop had a history dating back to the 1920s of being a greenhouse and florist. McAlister saw endless possibilities with the location, despite it being abandoned when she purchased it. She knew she could bring it back to life when she took ownership in April 1979.

McAlister settled into this area because it was close to family and friends. She found she liked the Fenton area. She grew up on a farm between Linden and Gaines and had many fond memories of coming “to the big town” of Fenton for shopping.

Based on the phrase, “location, location,” McAlister has found that her location, at the corner of Silver Lake Road and West Street is quite convenient for her many loyal customers. Her expertise on plants, as well as her problem-solving skills, brings customers back repeatedly. She serves as a florist all year long and has a vast assortment of cut flowers and plants. “When warmer weather comes, it’s outdoor products,” she said.

McAlister hears from her customers that they like the small-town atmosphere. “It’s all about close ties, loyalty and convenience,” she said. “A customer becomes a friend, not a number and you try to help them with whatever the problem is.”

An advocate of the “Shop Local” initiative, she believes the premise encourages both long-term and new residents to explore businesses they haven’t visited before.

McAlister’s staff is eager to help customers. “They’re enthusiastic about what they are doing,” she said.

She describes her customers as being a blend of old and new, of all ages, home-owners, renters and people who like to have flowers in their homes. “And, those who stop by because they were referred by another and business,” she said.

Yard ‘N Garden Center and Florist is located at 603 West Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. To speak with McAlister or one of her knowledgeable employees, call (810) 629-4539.

Those interested in what Yard ‘N Garden has to offer can visit www.carolysyardngarden.biz.
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11:00AM - 1:00 PM
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(weather permitting) or
LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
$10 per person

Water and snacks provided!
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Q: I have a frontloader washer, and every time I run a load a small drizzle of water runs down the front of the machine. There’s not more than a couple of tablespoons on the floor. Any ideas as to what might be causing this issue?

A: Do you have a pet? If you’re like most of us you probably do. Pet hair no matter how little can form on the bottom of the glass portion of the door, causing a break in the seal of the door just enough to allow a trickle of water to escape. When you remove the clothing from the washer, wipe the lower inside glass, and that should solve the issue.

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LIQUOR LICENSE
Continued from Front Page

In March, restaurant owners received the keys to the old fire hall, which is within 500 feet of the church, after finalizing an agreement with the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

The deal with the DDA calls for a seven-year lease at $1 per year. At the end of the lease, Michigan Brewing Co. has the option of buying the property for $1. In addition, the DDA will provide 33 percent of the project cost, up to $400,000.

By the end of March, restaurant and brewery owners applied for a liquor license with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (LCC). The license it applied for is a small winemaker, microbrewery and small distillery license, which means the restaurant could serve products it produces. The application is pending.

The LCC has received the necessary recommendations from Fenton City and the police department. Since the church is within 500 feet of the business, it had the right to object to the liquor license, within 15 days of the application.

Jim Austin, a church member, who was told by the church’s administrative head to work as the liaison between the church, city and restaurant, provided an update on Friday. He said the congregation was surveyed and it was split as to those who were opposed and in favor of the restaurant’s plans.

The church filed a formal objection with the LCC, based on the survey and listed several concerns that members believed needed to be addressed.

The main reason for the objection was the safety of pedestrians and additional traffic. With the church’s family life center located between the church and restaurant, youth groups and activities are taking place every day, including evenings. Other concerns included parking, possible offensive exterior advertisements and if another restaurant was needed.

Austin said the restaurant owners responded to the concerns, which prompted church leaders to withdraw the objection. He said the restaurant offered concessions.

“It was neighborly cooperation,” said Austin.

The restaurant agreed to not have any amplified music in the front of the building and they would plant shrubs to soften the appearance.

Many feared the brewing system would be an eyesore, overshadowing the church. Austin said the restaurant’s brewing system is small.

Parking concerns were also addressed. With a capacity of 100, and between 70 to 80 parking spaces behind the building, an elevator inside the restaurant will allow easy access for customers from the back parking lot. Austin believes there should be ample parking.

The restaurant owners indicated to the church that there would be no advertising out front other than a modest Michigan Brewing Co. sign. Even though it’s known for its Bad Ass beer by Kid Rock, the restaurant will not have outdoor advertising on this.

“They want to be a good neighbor and work with us,” said Austin.

 Owners of the Michigan Brewing Co. did not respond for a request for comment by press time.

Fish Day!
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M18 Combo Kit
18 volt Driver Drill and Impact, charger, 2 batteries, and hard plastic case
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Happy 90th Birthday Jim! Have a Wonderful Day!

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2001 LINCOLN Town car. Signature Series, automatic, perfect condition, 109,000 crude miles. $9,750. Call 810-249-8315.

1999 CHEVY EXPRESS cargo van, includes shelves, 300,000 miles. Runs good. $1,050. Call 810-433-6793.

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2 bedroom, 1 bath, includes washer and dryer. $525. 810-964-3472, 810-735-6887.

NOTICE

ROSE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Annual Meeting of the Electors of the Township of Rose, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 beginning at 7:00 P.M. at the Rose Township Hall, 204 Franklin Street in Rose Township.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting, a Regular Meeting of the Rose Township Board of Trustees will be held to conduct township business and, in accordance with state law, a Public Hearing on the following:

Proposed Rose Township Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 covering estimated revenues and proposed expenditures

AND

Proposed 2011 Tax Rate for Rose Township.

Ten (10) days prior to the hearing, copies of the proposed budget will be available for review during regular office hours at the Clerk’s Office or the Treasurer’s Office, 9080 Mason Street in Rose Township. Office hours are 10:30 AM to 6:30 PM Monday and 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Tuesday through Thursday, except for holidays.

Comments and/or suggestions, written or oral, are encouraged and will be accepted at the Rose Township Clerk’s Office at the Above address, until the date and time of the hearing.

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

Debbie Miller
Rose Township Clerk

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Debbie Miller
Rose Township Clerk
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KING CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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SUPER CROSSWORD

Puzzle Answer Keys

SUPER CROSSWORD

WEDNESDAY SUDOKU ANSWERS

SUNDAY SUDOKU ANSWERS

OUTDOOR RECTANGLE table. 10 chairs, almond color, $100; 4 high bar chairs, light beige, $100; round table with umbrella, 4 padded chairs, $80; electric kitty litter box, $85. 810-735-9010, 810-287-9554.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES PHOTOS

- Any staff photo published in the Tri-County Times can be purchased by calling 810-433-6797.

FINDS - MALE black Lab, no collar, found on Thompson and Linden Rd. Currently at Companion Animal Hospital, 810-714-8318.

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SUNSET Restaurant & Bar

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1011 S. Dort Hwy 810-433-7630

Try our injectable buttons available. Call 810-287-0912 or 810-655-6891.
Notice is hereby given that Simply Self Storage will, upon personal lien, sell at public auction on Wednesday, June 8th between 2:00-5:00pm for the following units.

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We reserve the right to refuse any bid. Terms are cash only at close of auction.
FORFEITURE NOTICE

FORECLOSURE NOTICE. The time for filing a petition in chancery to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made by the holder of a certain mortgage, made by Mark W. Ainsworth, and is described as Lots 27 thru 31 and NLY ½ of Lot 26 Locust Heights.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of resident Ann Hayes and the victims of the World Trade Center and of the settlers of Unadilla Township, Livingston County, Michigan, and are described as: Parcel 1: The Southeast corner of section 14, 656.28 feet; thence South 87 degrees 04 minutes 20 seconds West 278.95 feet; thence North 328.46 feet; thence North 87 degrees 04 minutes 20 seconds East 125 feet of the West 1090.8 East 4369 Page 81 Livingston County Records, Michigan, the surveyed boundary of said premises is situated in Township of Unadilla, Livingston County, Michigan, and are described as Lot 87 of Genadale Subdivision.

A complete copy of this tax description may be viewed at the Township office during regular office hours.

Denise Graves, Clerk
Argentine Township

SYNOPSIS OF MAY 23, 2011 ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Call to order. 7:00 p.m.
Supervisor Cole led the Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call:  Ciesielski, Cole, present, Schmidt, present, Graves, present, Hallman, present
Absent: none

Message: (Max. 20 words)

A beautiful memory, dearer than gold, of a father whose worth can never be told. There's a place in my heart my one can fill. I miss you, Dad, and always will. Love your family

DENISE GRAVES, CLERK

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Denise Graves, Clerk
Argentine Township

FATHER’S DAY MEMORIALS

In Memory of departed loved ones Place a special Memorial this Father’s Day

Sunday, June 19 in the Tri-County Times
Mail the completed form below to: Dear Dad PO Box 1125, Fenton, MI 48430 (must receive by noon on June 18th)

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REASONABLE RATES!

GOLD STAR MOTHER
Continued from Front Page

Kincaid’s role is one that has blossomed beyond a grieving mother. Dawning the striking white dress that all Gold Star Mothers wear, she has spoken at fundraisers, scholarships, beauty pageants and modeling shows. She published a chapter in “Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul,” and has walked in Memorial Day parades all over the country for the past 18 years.

“There hasn’t been much awareness for Gold Star Mothers,” Kincaid said. Striking in her all-white ensemble and piercing sash, the presence of a mother is subtly tranquil. “We wear white for the purity of both the mother and for our children.”

Her son
William George Henry was born in Detroit, Mich. on New Year’s Day, 1962. Kincaid described her son as being inquisitive from a young age, taking apart toy cars and putting them back together at the age of 5. He enlisted in the Navy while living in San Diego, where he and Kincaid had moved when he was 10 years old. His mechanical nature shined through his training, as he graduated top of his class.

Henry achieved the rank of Petty Officer Second Class and worked in surface warfare. He served on the USS Buchanan and did three tours in Iraq, months before Desert Storm. One memory that sticks out to Kincaid of her son’s travels came while he was in Iraq and he met a few Russian sailors. During the brief encounter, Henry was able to exchange cigarettes with the Russians and spoke of how each respective military operated. Henry traveled the Philippines, Diego Garcia and around the Pacific during his service.

“He saw things that he probably would have never seen had it not been for the Navy.”

He died in September 1990, just 28 years old, while on duty in Iraq. Though he is buried in Riverside National Cemetery in California, he is recognized as a veteran from Michigan.

“It broke my heart when he died,” Kincaid said. “He had so much more to offer, so much more life ahead of him. But he did his job quite well and served his country. I’m proud of him.”

The spirit of Memorial Day is not just a weekend for this mom, but a way of life, an ideal worth championing all days of the year. Kincaid keeps her son close, by retaining items that he accumulated during his service — pictures of him in exotic locations, letters of recommendation and insignias that were awarded to him.

GOLD STAR MOTHERS
• All mothers of fallen American veterans are Gold Star Mothers.
• The organization started on June 4, 1928 by 25 mothers in Washington D.C. President Woodrow Wilson advocated that the mothers should wear a black armband with a gold star, thus forming the name.
• The organization is a nondenominational, nonprofit and nonpolitical organization. It is a charter that operates under the laws of D.C.
• The gold star represents devotion and pride, rather than loss and mourning.
• Gold Star Mothers wear all white, much like a bride at a wedding. White signifies the purity of fallen soldiers and their surviving family.
• Gold Star Mother’s Day is the last Sunday of September of every year.
• Advocating patriotism, assisting grieving parents, helping veterans are a few roles that Gold Star Mothers fulfill.
• Adoptive mothers and stepmothers who assumed responsibility of a son or daughter under the age of fifteen who died while serving in the military are eligible as members too.
• Interested mothers can find more information at www.goldstarmoms.com.

Local Gold Star Mothers can contact Barbara Kincaid at (810) 735-2860 or email her at goldstarmother90@aol.com.

A patriot
Like her son who so bravely ventured the waters of the world, Kincaid braves new seas daily by sharing her experience. She said that being a Gold Star Mother isn’t strictly for military families and that grieving the loss of a child is universal. Parents who have recently lost a child find solace in her story.

“I tell all grieving parents that the loss of a child is not something that you get over — it’s something that you learn to live with. I help heal other parents and in return, they help me heal.”

Kincaid will be walking in the Linden Memorial Parade this Monday, just as she has for the past five years. She will lay down flowers in the river at Bridge Street in honor of fallen comrades at sea. And for as long as she can, Kincaid will participate in parades, keeping the memory of her son and other veterans from fading in the minds of her fellow Americans.

“I feel that parades pay tribute to all our veterans, dead and alive. We recognize how they’ve dedicated their lives.”
Doctor Helps LEGALLY BLIND to Read & Drive!

International Academy of Low Vision Specialists member Dr. Sheldon Smith helps macular degeneration sufferers with reading, driving, TV, & maintaining independence.

By Elena Lombardi, Freelance Writer

Just because you have macular degeneration (or other vision-limiting conditions) doesn’t always mean you must give up driving or reading.

Ever look through a pair of field glasses or binoculars? Things look bigger and closer, and easier to see. A Michigan optometrist, Dr. Sheldon Smith, is using miniaturized binoculars or telescopes to help people who have lost vision from macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy or other eye conditions. “Some of my patients consider me the last stop for people who have vision loss”, said Dr. Smith, a low vision optometrist who limits his practice to visually impaired patients in his offices throughout Michigan.

Macular Degeneration is the most common eye disease among seniors. The macula is one small part of the entire retina, but it is the most sensitive. When it degenerates, Macular Degeneration leaves a blindspot right in the center of vision making it impossible to recognize faces, read a book, or pass DMV’s vision test.

“In some states, Bioptic Telescopic Glasses can be used to pass the vision test for driving”, says Dr. Smith. “This can allow some with conditions like macular degeneration or diabetic retinopathy to continue driving”.

“Our job is to figure out everything and anything possible to keep a person functioning,” says Dr. Smith. “Whether it’s driving, reading, TV, seeing faces, check writing, bingo or bridge. We work with whatever is on the persons “wish list”.

With interest free payment options this technology is now more affordable than ever. If you want to experience the freedom and independence that custom designed low vision telescope glasses can bring, call Dr. Smith now, for a free telephone consultation.

For more information and a FREE telephone consultation, Call Today: 877-677-2020.

Don’t believe “there’s nothing left to do”, ask if you qualify for a free low vision screening.
**HOT-N-READY LARGE PIZZA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Size</th>
<th>Pizza Description</th>
<th>Price (plus tax)</th>
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<tr>
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**In dedication to all those patriots who have given their lives that we might remain free—we honor them and their families this Memorial Day Weekend.

God Bless the USA**
TAX
Continued from Front Page
arm tied behind its back,” said Lt. Gov. Brian Calley in the statement.

The bill eliminated the Michigan Business Tax (MBT), and includes $1.8 billion in tax breaks for businesses, while eliminating many personal tax exemptions, including exemptions that barred retirees’ pensions from being taxed.

Many businesses that are not C-corporations will pay only Michigan income tax, which will end up being 4.35 percent. Corporations will pay a tax rate of 6 percent.

Local accountant Penny Fausey estimated some of her clients could save upwards of $20,000 annually.

Democrats are feeling the sting of the bill’s passing. Sen. John Gleason (D) has received an overwhelming number of calls and e-mails from constituents. “They are not happy,” he said.

Gleason supported eliminating the MBT, but not removing exemptions and taxing pensions. “I feel terrible that it has been passed at the expense of seniors and retirees,” said Gleason.

Gleason expects some seniors will have to get low wage jobs, taking jobs away from high school or college students. “You can just about guarantee it,” he said.

HOT LINE
Continued
TO THE PERSON who is appalled at the teachers union for supporting Obama, they support someone every election. It has nothing to do with what is taught in the classroom. Besides, you wouldn’t be saying that if they were supporting Newt Gingrich.

WE HAVE SEEN Florida the dog a lot, in the farmer’s field in front of our home. She runs away when we try to catch her. As far as I know, the owners have been contacted and told where she is but they have yet to come out and look for her. I’m not sure why, either.

I WENT TO middle school with seventh- and eighth-graders and never had a problem with it. We had our own section of the school and all ate together. It was a nice change from grade school, and I often looked up to the older kids. I think moving the sixth-graders over is a great idea and will save the district some money at the same time.

I WOULD LIKE to congratulate Danny Brodie for qualifying for States in the high jump at the regional in Bath on Friday. He jumped 6 feet, 1 inch. Danny will be representing Lake Fenton in the high jump and Lake Fenton is also sending their 4 x 100 relay team. Good luck in the state tournament on June 4.

Miscellaneous individual tax deductions

• Political contributions will no longer be deductible.
• Wages included in federal adjusted gross income (AGI) not deductible under Section 280C of the Internal Revenue Code will no longer be deductible.
• Senior citizens born after 1945 will no longer be able to deduct a portion of interest, dividends, and capital gains received.
• Taxpayers will no longer receive an additional $600 exemption per dependent child under the age of 19.
• Distributions from certain individual retirement accounts used to pay qualified higher education expenses will no longer be deductible.
• Charitable contributions made from a qualified retirement plan or account will no longer be deductible.

Source: legislature.mi.gov
Sunday, May 29, 2011

Local woman elected president of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Olive Horning has been elected Alpha Iota State Michigan president of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, effective July 1. Horning previously held state offices of recording secretary, second vice president, and first vice president. She is a member of Gamma Beta Chapter in South Genesee County.

Horning was employed as a special educator for Fenton Area Public Schools for 29 years. During that time, she brought many innovative programs to the school district. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honor Society for key women educators.

THIS WEEK’S INSERTS

• ACO
• Alpine Food
• Arby’s
• Auto Value
• CVS
• Holly Foods
• Home Depot
• Knmart
• Linden Community Education
• VG’s
• Walmart

PERIO AND HEART DISEASE

Periodontal disease is the number one cause of tooth loss in adults. Over half of the adult population has signs of gum disease. It is becoming apparent that periodontal health affects more than just the teeth but the entire body. Results of a study were released in July of 2009 found a direct correlation between periodontal disease and heart disease. Research is ongoing but initial results found that if you have periodontal disease, you have a two-fold increase risk of having heart trouble. Most heart disease is the result of blockages is the coronary arteries that feed the heart muscle tissue. Gradual and ongoing build-up of arterial plaque, which is different than dental plaque, and is composed of fat and cholesterol causes blockage of blood flow to the heart. The greater the amount of arterial plaque the greater the blockage of blood flow feeding the heart. Once the blockages in the coronary arteries reaches a critical point, the heart muscle tissue becomes starved for blood and begins to die in a process we call a heart attack. Periodontal disease seems to enhance arterial plaque formation. Therefore those folks who have periodontal disease have more coronary artery blockage and a higher incidence of heart disease. The correlation between periodontal disease and heart disease is so well established that heart surgeons are now postponing cardiac surgery until a patient’s periodontal health is improved. If you have not been to the dentist in over a year, I highly recommend scheduling an appointment for a cleaning and examination. It may not only save your teeth but it could save your life.

I welcome your questions and comments. Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net

YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro
The calendar may say it’s Memorial Day weekend, but for most area gardeners, mid-Michigan’s wet and cool spring has put planting back a few weeks.

“The majority of things that we plant like the warm ground,” said Carol McAlister, of Yard ‘N Garden in Fenton. “For years, I haven’t put in my own garden until mid-June, sometimes even as late as July 4, and it always does just fine. To be safe, the first week of June is usually a good time to plant, because it’s past the frost date. If you plant much earlier than that, be prepared to cover your plants in case of chilly nights.”

You can grow your own vegetables in the backyard this summer in a container or along a border of your landscaping.

Summary

You can grow your own vegetables in the backyard this summer in a container or along a border of your landscaping.

The right tools make gardening enjoyable

See Page 13B

Decide where you want to plant your garden. Be sure to have at least six to eight hours of full sun daily for best success.

• Use good soil, and then feed it with compost and lots of organic matter.

• Plant vegetables that you and your family will love to eat. Choose seeds or plants, based on your own comfort level and advice from a successful gardener.

• Water your garden regularly, in order for it to thrive. You may want to consider a micro-watering system that attaches to an outdoor faucet, for less than $40.

• Your garden will need sustenance from organic fertilizer, compost, even liquid seaweed.

Paw’s Corner

Our Chow Chow is trying to dominate us. What do we do?

It’s healthy, economical and a whole lot of fun

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The calendar may say it’s Memorial Day weekend, but for most area gardeners, mid-Michigan’s wet and cool spring has put planting back a few weeks. “The majority of things that we plant like the warm ground,” said Carol McAlister, of Yard ‘N Garden in Fenton. “For years, I haven’t put in my own garden until mid-June, sometimes even as late as July 4, and it always does just fine. To be safe, the first week of June is usually a good time to plant, because it’s past the frost date. If you plant much earlier than that, be prepared to cover your plants in case of chilly nights.”

See GARDENING on 14B

There’s still time to plant!

5 steps to a successful vegetable garden

Source: cowlickcottagefarms.com

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• Use good soil, and then feed it with compost and lots of organic matter.

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**AROUND the World**

**Why so many tornadoes in the U.S. this year?**

**Why do so many occur in the U.S.?**

The Central and Southern states lie in a meteorological battleground where warm, humid air from the Gulf of Mexico collides with cool, dry air from Canada. One third to one half of all tornadoes occur each year in Tornado Alley, centered in the southern Great Plains. In Dixie Alley, which runs through the Southern states, tornadoes tend to come earlier in the spring and hit harder. But with tornadoes, there are few hard and fast rules; all 50 states have had them. They have been reported in Europe, Asia, and Australia, but the U.S. is “the tornado capital of the world,” said climatologist Bill Patzert of NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

**Is global warming a factor?**

There is no evidence that it is, and to make such a claim would be “irresponsible science,” said Chuck Doswell, a meteorologist at the University of Oklahoma. We do know that the number of tornadoes reported has nearly doubled in the past 50 years, but the frequency of strong ones rated EF-2 and above has actually been decreasing. Most scientists believe that more tornadoes are being reported because more people live in tornado zones, and there are more storm spotters.

**How do you survive one?**

Essentially, by getting as low to the ground as possible. Researchers who studied deaths and injuries from the powerful tornadoes that hit the Oklahoma City area on May 3, 1999, found that basements and hallways were the safest spots in a home. Stay away from windows (and don’t bother opening them) and above all avoid mobile homes, where half of all tornado deaths occur. Cars are “death traps,” said the Storm Prediction Center of NOAA. Unless you can find shelter or drive out of the path of a tornado, get out of the car and lie face down on the ground. But don’t let prudence yield to panic. For all their fury, tornadoes kill an average of 60 people a year, fewer than heat waves or floods.

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**Bin Laden’s secret porn stash**

Pornography is the Muslim world’s “dirty little secret,” said Asra Nomani. That’s why it was hardly a surprise to U.S. intelligence sources when a cache of video porn was recovered, from Osama bin Laden’s hideout in Abbottabad. Called fuhsha in Arabic, pornography is strictly forbidden under Islamic law, though Muslim nations that repress and segregate women also have the highest rates of pornography use in the world. It’s “rife in even the most conservative realms,” and porn invariably turns up in raids of al Qaeda safe houses. And though it’s not clear whether bin Laden himself viewed the X-rated material found in his home, its presence there points to the tortured hypocrisy at the heart of militant Islam’s restrictive culture. “Islam has a very rich tradition of sacred sexuality and eroticism,” but extremists have turned that tradition rancid with their misogyny; by dehumanizing women and making sex dirty and forbidden, they actually encourage young men’s porn fetishes.

**Flower smells like a rotting corpse**

It is that time again folks! Get ready to plug your nose! A giant, rotting-flesh-scented flower was expected to draw 10,000 people to a Swiss garden to watch it bloom for the first time in nearly 20 years. The nearly two-metre Amorphophallus titanum flower opened its giant petals Friday evening at Basel Botanical Gardens in Basel, Switzerland. It has been 75 years since a plant of this variety has bloomed in Switzerland. The bloom of the so-called “corpse flower” – coined for its foul smell to attract insects for pollination – is expected to last just a day or two until it wilts Saturday night or Sunday. Just 134 of the cultivated flowers, native to Indonesia, have ever bloomed worldwide. More than 100,000 have tuned in to an online webcam to witness the rare occurrence.

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**Is your “white gold” turning yellow?**

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**IT’S NOT ALL BAD IRAQ COMMANDANT SHIPS PET DONKEY HOME**

A donkey beloved to U.S. Marines stationed in a camp near Ramadi but left behind when the unit went home. Retiring commandant Col. John Folsom felt bad leaving the beast transported 7,000 miles from Iraq to the U.S. Smoke will take the drawing home because my son’s rights” by telling him to turn the drawing be-

---

**ONLY IN AMERICA A MASSACHUSETTS TEACHER refused to display a student’s American flag drawing because it might offend a classmate who is a Jehovah’s Witness. For years, 11, drew the flag to honor his brother in the military. His father says the teacher “violat-

---

**WIT & WISDOM**

“I haven’t the slightest idea how to change people, but still I keep a long list of prospective candidates just in case. I should ever figure it out.” David Sedaris

“It would be interesting to find out what goes on in that moment when someone looks at you and draws all sorts of conclusions.” Malcolm Gladwell

“Truth may be stranger than fiction, goes the old saw, but it is never as strange as lies.”

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**Garden to watch it bloom**

**Your nose! A giant, rotten-flesh-scented flower was expected to draw 10,000 people to a Swiss garden to watch it bloom for the first time in nearly 20 years. The nearly two-metre Amorphophallus titanum flower opened its giant petals Friday evening at Basel Botanical Gardens in Basel, Switzerland. It has been 75 years since a plant of this variety has bloomed in Switzerland. The bloom of the so-called “corpse flower” – coined for its foul smell to attract insects for pollination – is expected to last just a day or two until it wilts Saturday night or Sunday. Just 134 of the cultivated flowers, native to Indonesia, have ever bloomed worldwide. More than 100,000 have tuned in to an online webcam to witness the rare occurrence.
Change may be only a prayer away

Here's how to be perfectly miserable. Focus on everything negative in your marriage, your church, your job or business and conclude there's no way of anything changing.

This kind of negative thinking feeds despair. So reject it. Things and people can be changed by prayer.

Jack Odell was controlled by alcohol and it was ruining his life.
Not anymore.

In his book, 'Here's How!' he says, 'It used to take about a quart of whiskey a day to keep me going. Now, I don't need it. I know personally a couple of dozen other people who used to be in the same boat. Many of them were in worse shape than I. Now, and in some cases for many years, they just don't need it. I know the case histories of literally hundreds of others. They've been changed.'

Odell says, when he was at the end of his rope, God sent a very convincing person across his path who told him he had found a new way of life and freedom through faith in Christ. She said he could change, too.

Last that day, after 25 prayerless years, Jack pulled his car over to the curb and committed himself to the One who had changed his new friend and discovered faith makes a difference.

When my friend, Dan, entered the hospital, he had no idea of the seriousness of his condition. Not long before this, he had undergone heart surgery and survived being hit by a speeding snowmobile, but the pain he was enduring now exceeded any he had ever experienced before.

'This madness must stop,' Dan cried out but the pain continued, as did the uncertainty of his survival. Months passed, and it appeared he'd not leave the hospital alive. Dan learned later that his doctor had thought the question was not if he would die — but when.

Hundreds of people of faith prayed for Dan, and against all odds, he recovered. Today, he's busy counseling troubled people, letting them know that in the darkest of times, light can break through because prayer changes things.

A young minister accepted the challenge of becoming the pastor of a tiny, struggling church in a small town. There had been no growth there for many years and common sense might have led to closing the doors and merging with another congregation. Adding to the challenge was the fact that the church was in the pastor's hometown, where it is often most difficult to succeed.

Still, this youthful minister believed things could change and he prayed expecting a miracle. Within a few years, the congregation wasn't small anymore, frequently having more than a thousand worshippers in weekly church services.

'If you believe, all things are possible,' said our Lord (Mark 9:23), removing all limits for those who pray expecting answers.'

Let's not settle for ruts and regrets. No matter how bleak things seem today — change may be only a prayer away.

Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rogercampbell.net.
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AGS Middle School raises $300 for MS

Students display talents, donate proceeds

By William Axford
Axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

AGS Middle School students put their talents to good use Monday night. The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and Optimist Club joined together and produced a talent show to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The show raised about $300 and drew an audience of about 200 people.

Advisor Rebecca Laflue said YAC is involved with one community service project a year. Students chose to donate to MS since a member of YAC has a mother with MS.

Claire Wielichowski, who won first place for the eighth grade and displayed her baton twirling skills said, “I’ve been doing this since I was 5. I like performing because it’s fun. I love to do it.”

Jordan Dawson won first place in the sixth-grade category by channeling Aretha Franklin for her rendition of “Respect.” Ymani Ethridge won in the seventh-grade category. Other notable performances included Nick Cambell playing electric guitar and Shan’na Bowyer singing “Part of Your World” a cappella.

The top performer was sixth-grader Brianna Miller, who earned first place overall by singing and playing “Rhythm of Love” on her guitar. Miller was awarded two movie passes to the Grand Blanc Trillium and two dinner passes to the Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille. Other local businesses donated prizes for each winner.

“We are always striving to increase the sense of belonging to the community, and I think this is one of those events that showcased our talents as a middle school,” Assistant Principal Eric Rettenmund said.
2011 “Turn Around” STUDENTS
Andrew G. Schmidt Middle School
Cade Eversole
Justin Sanborn
Spencer Maddix
Amy Perness
Linden Middle School
Hannah Zambiasi
Macee Sova
Jarrett Mitchell
Seth Daves
Lake Fenton Middle School
Rory Gundy
Taylor Williamson
Zak Searles
Tyler Stewart

Area middle school students recognized for their “turn around” in achievement this year include (back row from left) Hannah Zambiasi, Macee Sova, and Jarrett Mitchell (Linden Middle School); (middle row) Cade Eversole, Justin Sanborn, and Spencer Maddix (AGS Middle School); (front row) Rory Gundry, Taylor Williamson, Zak Searles, and Tyler Stewart (Lake Fenton Middle School).

“it’s not about how hard you get hit, it’s how you respond, and how many times you keep getting back up,” he said, relating life to wrestler Rocky Balboa from the Rocky film series.

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8282

Hannah Zambiasi, a seventh-grader at Linden Middle School, got organized this year. She began to ask questions, use her planner and get in the mindset of learning.

“It was such a dramatic ‘turn around’ for this usually shy and reserved student, that Hannah’s science teacher, Linda Allen, took notice. She nominated her for the 2011 Turn Around Achievement Awards, sponsored by the Fenton Area Optimist Club. Twelve students, their parents and community leaders were recognized at the eighth annual banquet on Tuesday at Spring Meadow Country Club in Linden. This is the Optimist Club’s eighth year of recognizing middle school students from Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden school districts.

Keynote speaker was Linden Schools Superintendent Ed Koledo, who spoke about the importance of persistence and determination in changing your life course. “It’s not about how hard you get hit, it’s how you respond, and how many times you keep getting back up,” he said, relating life to wrestler Rocky Balboa from the Rocky film series.

Each award recipient received a gift bag from local business donations, certificates from the Fenton Area Optimist Club and their local municipalities.

Fenton Optimist President Jeff Phillips emceed the event, which he says is his favorite project of the year. “I look forward to it every year,” he said.
Linden High School Baccalaureate set for June 4

The annual Baccalaureate service for the Linden High School graduating seniors will be held on Saturday, June 4, at 12 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church. The service is organized by the Student Council seniors under the guidance of Pam Moughler and in partnership with Hope Lutheran Church. Attendance is voluntary.

The Student Council seniors recruit classmates who participate in the service and provide musical selections. At least six different students will participate in the service this year. The student leaders also choose the speaker.

Gemma Keech will give the Baccalaureate address. Keech teaches art at Linden High School.

The public is welcome. Hope Lutheran Church is located at 7355 Silver Lake Road, just west of the Linden High School.

Tri-county fundraisers

Fenton Karate, 1366 N. LeRoy St., Fenton is hosting a Women’s Self Defense Course on Saturday, June 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. This is a fundraising event. All proceeds will go toward sending the Fenton Karate Competition Team to the International Tang Soo Do Federation World Tournament in Seoul Korea in April 2012. For more information or to register, call (810) 750-9800.

 McMahon Rehabilitation Institute, G-4466 W. Bristol Rd., Flint, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The first half of each series will be educational and the second half will be support time for survivors and their families. These free programs will be held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the McLaren Neurological Rehabilitation Institute, 4466 W. Bristol Rd., Flinton from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The fee for each full series will be $150.

The GLS Building Trades are sponsoring a fundraiser to benefit the Fenton Lakes Sportsman Club’s annual gun raffle. The event is free and offered to all individuals. All supplies and safety equipment are provided. To register, call (810) 299-2914. The program is held at the Fenton Lakes Sportsman Club, 1140 Butcher Rd., Fenton, on Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

The Medical City, 1366 N. LeRoy St., Fenton is hosting a Women’s Self Defense Course on Saturday, June 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. This is a fundraising event. All proceeds will go toward sending the Fenton Karate Competition Team to the International Tang Soo Do Federation World Tournament in Seoul Korea in April 2012. For more information or to register, call (810) 750-9800.

Fenton Karate is a 2008 graduate of Linden High School.
Sarah Eggleston

FAMILY:
My parents are Kristina and Matthew Eggleston. My sister Melissa is in eighth grade and my brother Adam is in 10th grade.

SPORTS AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES:
I’ve been active with tennis and theater at the high school. I’m also a member of Key Club and National Honor Society. At home, I’m big in scrapbooking. I got involved with that after my mom had a bunch of photos and I put together a scrapbook for her for Mother’s Day one year.

What is your personal motto? ‘Champions keep playing until they get it right.’ It’s a quote by tennis player Billie Jean King.

What is your dream car? Is probably a GMC Acadia. I don’t really like the sports cars. I like cars that are more economical.

What is your all time favorite movie? ‘The Notebook.’ I like the story behind it. I just like these types of movies.

Ok, you’re the school principal. What’s the first change you would make? We would have an open campus for lunch. Everyone wants to leave.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be, and why? I’d like the ability to fly. I want to see everything from a different perspective.

What is your earliest memory? Meeting my little sister for the first time. I remember climbing onto the hospital bed and my mom was holding her. I was about 3.

I always: try to help others.

I never: skip class. That’s something I never do.

Is there an event in your life for which you would like a “do-over”? I’d redo situations that I haven’t handled very well. There’s been several times when I’ve said things that I wish I could take back.

If you could travel back in time to witness one event, what would it be? Watching a space shuttle going off into space. It would be cool to watch.

If you could make one rule everyone had to follow, what would it be? Respect everyone around you.

My future plans include: I plan on going into military nursing with the Army. My uncle and grandfather were in the Army. It runs in the family. My great-grandmother and one of my grandmothers were nurses. My mom is a nurse in Owosso.

My parting advice for a better world: Respect everyone and live life to the fullest. You never know what’s going to happen.
Linden women receive Daisy Award
Hurley Medical Center has announced Shawndra Jones, RN, of Linden as its latest DAISY Award winner. Jones works in the Hurley Burn Unit. The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses recognizes the super-human work nurses do every day, all over the country, and the world. DAISY is an acronym for Disease Attacking the Immune System. Jones has been at Hurley nearly six years, and graduated with her nursing degree from Mott Community College. She’s been in the Burn Unit three years.

Local man receives ‘Leader & Innovator of the Year’ award
By Sally Rummel
news@tcetimes.com; 810-629-8282

Phil Hagerman, of Fenton, president and CEO of Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy in Fenton, was named Grand Traverse County’s “Leader & Innovator of the Year” at a reception April 28 at Lawrence Technological University.
The Leaders & Innovators program was developed by Lawrence Tech to recognize Michigan business executives engaged in cutting-edge professions and industries expected to be key to Michigan’s economic future. Hagerman was chosen from among 45 nominees profiled during the past 12 months.

In selecting Hagerman as this year’s winner, the Leader & Innovator judges noted that Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy has stayed at the forefront of the pharmacy industry by embracing and using technology to improve processes and better serve patients — from patient care software called e-Nav to prescription robotics to improve patient safety and efficiency.

Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy, founded in 1975, is the nation’s largest privately held specialty pharmacy and focuses on complete medication management programs for patients with serious and chronic conditions. It currently employs 450 people and has already hired 70 people so far in 2011. Diplomat plans to hire 150 more people this year.

Diplomat also earned a Gold Shovel Award from Area Development magazine — one of 10 Michigan companies to accept the award on behalf of its contributions toward Michigan’s success in significant job creation.

Solid Gold Jewelers buys/sells jewelry and coins
By Sally Rummel
news@tcetimes.com; 810-629-8282

Many people have jewelry boxes at home that are filled with unworn jewelry, some that needs repair, some too old to be in style and other pieces that just aren’t worn. With the prices of gold, silver, platinum, palladium and rhodium metals changing by the day, you may be sitting on jewelry with cash value that could be helpful to you in today’s economy.

That’s why Fenton native Dan Williams has opened Solid Gold Jewelers in Fenton — a new business that will evaluate your pieces and match anyone’s price. “You should entrust your valuable jewelry and coins only to people who have earned your trust,” said Williams.

Solid Gold Jewelers will buy gold, silver, platinum, palladium and rhodium metals from customers at today’s market prices. “We will weigh it in front of you, figure out the karat, which measures the purity of the metal, and give you a price to buy it from you,” he said.

Williams advises customers that many pieces of gold or silver jewelry are alloyed with other metals, which will affect the quality of the piece. “We will either have it melted at a refinery, or will re-sell your jewelry piece, if we feel it has market value,” he added.

Coins are another metal that Solid Gold will evaluate, buy or re-sell, depending on the value of the precious metal of the coin, or the rarity of the coin itself.

He and store manager Lindsay Kendall advise residents who have jewelry “tucked away” that they are not wearing, to bring it in for a free evaluation.

Solid Gold Jewelers is located at 1242 N. LeRoy St., next to Locke’s Party Store. Store hours are Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with extended summer hours planned.

For more information, call Solid Gold Jewelers at (810) 208-7447.
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This weekend take time to Thank all Veterans for their Service & Sacrifice

Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memoriums

Benny Robinson, Benny Robinson - age 77, died May 26, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.


Lucy Van Loan, Lucy Van Loan - age 88, died May 26, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Nina Yufa, Nina Yufa - age 70, died May 25, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Nicholas J. McNallen, Nicholas J. McNallen - age 75, died May 23, 2011. Beloved husband of Barbara (Ryba), predeceased by first wife Irene (Kobylyay), father of Marie McNallen and husband Glen Climo. Dan (Cindy) McNallen, Kathleen (Mike) LaGorio, stepfather of three, grandfather of eight, youngest brother of five and brother-in-law of several and uncle to many. Predeceased by oldest sister Margaret and best friend of Casey. Per Nick’s request he has been cremated and there will be a private family memorial at a later date. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Ethel Lucille Windsor, Ethel Lucille Windsor - age 71, died May 24, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Jon C. Bergeron, Jon C. Bergeron - age 40, died Monday, May 23, 2011. A memorial service will be held 12:30 PM Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be held from 10 AM until the time of service. Those desiring may make contributions to U of M Cancer Center or to a college fund for Brendan Mcinerney. Jon was born July 3, 1970 in Wayne, the son of Paul and Carol Lynn (Joppich) Bergeron. Jon was married to Nicole Medich on March 1, 2009, they had only a short time together, but knew they had found “the one great love” and never wasted a minute. Jon worked as a sales rep for 15 years, where his clients became friends. Recently he and his wife co-founded his vision, Grand Pinte Collection. He had a smile that would light up a room. He was witty and always held his sense of humor through everything he did. Jon lived life to the fullest, enjoying the ocean, scuba diving some of the most dangerous shipwrecks; driving full throttle, whether it be a car, motorcycle or speed boat. He loved living on the edge. Jon enjoyed nature and animals; he especially loved his dogs, Moby and Charlie. For a while, he held the world in the palm of his hand. He leaves his brother, Paul; step-son, Brendan; parents, Paul and Carol Lynn; sister, Shawn; great-aunt, Rosemary Miller; many aunts, uncles, cousins and a world of friends. Tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Ted Morse, Ted Morse - died May 25, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Adelaide Alexander, Adelaide Alexander - age 96, died May 25, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Geraldine Reed, Geraldine Reed - age 90, died May 22, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

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**Dueling daughters put mom in the middle.**

**DEAR AMY:** My husband and I are at odds regarding our daughters’ arguments. Both girls, mid-20s, argue with each other at times. Sometimes they say very hurtful things and sometimes their fights are just plain stupid. Often they will call me and complain about each other, putting me in the middle. I refuse the middle stance and do not take sides but do listen, try to validate their feelings and guide each to a sensible solution. My husband says I should not talk to them when they are in a snit. He says I should tell them to “deal with it” and hang up. Their fights and how I react to them—which I call parenting—have become an issue between us. So what do I do? Should I tell them to “deal” and hang up—or should I tell my husband to deal and shut up? — Mom in the Middle

**DEAR MUM:** I vote for a less brusque version of your husband’s technique. Your daughters are adults. It’s time for them to take responsibility for having and settling their own disputes. They must learn how to “validate” their own feelings, for goodness’ sake. Your daughters call you to mediate their disputes for a reason: When they do this they don’t have to work things out for or between themselves. If they had to stew in their juices, patch up their own wounds and repair their relationship after a fight, they might realize that the hateful things they say when they are fighting are not so easily mended. For your own sake, they must change the way they interact when they’re angry. One day when you are with both of them and they are not fighting, you should talk to them about this and let them know that putting their mommy in the middle of their fights is not what adults do. After that, if you get one of these mediation calls, by all means say, “Wait a minute—I think your father wants to say hi.” And hang him the phone.

**DEAR AMY:** My daughter is in fourth grade and is very creative, kind and beautiful. Recently she told me about her “boyfriend” at school. I have seen this boy a few times when working in my daughter’s classroom and he seems nice. All the children seem to be playing this boy/girlfriend game and it seems harmless, but I still feel really uncomfortable with the idea of my daughter having a boyfriend because she is so young. Should I lay down the law and call the boy’s parents or their teacher about this issue or should I lay off and let my daughter play should harmless game until it gets old? My husband is aware of this but he’s leaving this one up to me. — Mom

**DEAR MUM:** It is very common for kids at this age to act out behavior they perceive as grown-up by playing various versions of the “Dating Game.” This is their way of rehearsing for the drama of romantic life, and for the most part this behavior is developmentally appropriate—and benign. By all means, speak with the teacher to make sure she’s aware of it and to solicit her advice. Also, ask your daughter open-ended questions about this—for example, “What does it mean to have a boyfriend?” React temperately, appropriately and proportionately. If you don’t like this, then say to her, “You’re way too young to have a boyfriend, honey. That’s for much older people.” This is not the time for your husband to back off from an issue.

**DEAR MUM:** It might be the cause. For most, a cause cannot be found. Your daughters call you to mediate their disputes for a reason: When they do this they don’t have to work things out for or between themselves. If they had to stew in their juices, patch up their own wounds and repair their relationship after a fight, they might realize that the hateful things they say when they are fighting are not so easily mended. For your own sake, they must change the way they interact when they’re angry. One day when you are with both of them and they are not fighting, you should talk to them about this and let them know that putting their mommy in the middle of their fights is not what adults do. After that, if you get one of these mediation calls, by all means say, “Wait a minute—I think your father wants to say hi.” And hang him the phone.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** For several years I have had spasms in my left leg at night while asleep. Now I get them in my right leg. They are intense and painful. My calcium is normal. I have taken magnesium and leg-cramp pills without results. I have put soap in the bed, used mustard and tried many other home remedies without any luck. I would be indebted for any other suggestions you might offer. — S.G.

**ANSWER:** Nighttime leg muscle cramps are another one of the joys of aging. Why? I don’t know. A cramp is a sustained, painful muscle contraction. In a very small number of people, low blood calcium or magnesium, an underactive thyroid gland and dysfunctions of the kidney or liver might be the cause. For most, a cause cannot be found.

Quinine was a favorite remedy. Now quinine has a limited use—only for malaria. It has potentially dangerous side effects that make it unwarranted for muscle cramps. Some find that tonic water stops their cramps. That’s fine that they do; the amount of quinine in tonic water is quite small. There is evidence that the heart and blood pressure drug diltiazem can be useful. Vitamin B complex—a mixture of the B vitamins, including B-6—also has some support for its use. Stretching the leg muscles three times a day and again before going to bed might prevent cramps. One exercise is standing on the lowest step of a stair with heels projecting off the edge of that stair. Raise high on your toes and then slowly lower yourself until the heels are well below the level of the stair. Hold that position for 10 seconds and repeat the exercise 10 times. Some have found that a warm bath taken before heading to bed stops their cramps.

**George Takacs,** 500 Main St. • Fenton • 810-629-2533

**Paula Dulman,** Paula Dulman - age 60, died May 22, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

**Richard “Rick” Barton,** Richard “Rick,” Barton - age 46, died May 24, 2011 Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

**Gladys Oliger,** Gladys Oliger - age 73, died May 26, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

**Jeanette Falsetti,** Jeanette Falsetti - age 89, died May 27, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

**Paula Dulman,** Paula Dulman - age 60, died May 22, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

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Tri-County Living
March 27, 2011

GARDENING
Continued from Page 1B
That means there’s still plenty of time to decide what kind of vegetables you’ll enjoy eating fresh from the garden this year — whether you want to grow them in a backyard garden plot, in containers, or even as a colorful border along with your home’s other landscaping.

Homegrown fresh vegetables help beat the high cost of store-bought produce and may even improve the quality of your life this summer. “I work full-time on computers,” said Lynn Kippe, a Fenton gardener. “It's a huge stress reliever after work to get out and dig in the garden.”

For new gardeners, the most important piece of advice is to start small.

“You don’t have to have a big garden plot to grow fresh vegetables,” said Martha Hyypio-Irwin, a master gardener from Fenton. “You can get creative by using different containers — from pots and hanging baskets to old buckets. There’s really no reason not to have a garden of fresh vegetables, even if you don’t have room for a backyard plot.”

She believes tomatoes are about the simplest produce to grow, because all they need is sun and water. Her best advice for growing tomatoes is to plant them deep in the soil so they can develop a strong root system.

Lynn Kippe has been gardening for about 15 years, and loves growing grape tomatoes, bell peppers and cucumbers in her 15-by-15 foot garden plot at her Fenton home. “My sons say you can’t kill a tomato,” said Kippe, who likes the versatility of the small grape and Roma varieties. “I eat half of them before I ever get them back to the house.”

One of her secrets for successful gardening is the use of composted soil that she and her husband, Bill, gather from fall leaves, to which they add lime to break them down, “It helps you get really good black dirt,” said Kippe. “Then it’s just a bit of Miracle-Gro to make it all happen.”

Gardener Donna Verhille, of Fenton, enjoys growing heirloom tomatoes because of the intense tomato flavor that she feels has been sacrificed over the years with the some of the new hybrid varieties. She buys heirloom tomato plants rather than starting from seeds, which is another common piece of advice from experienced gardeners.

“For me, it’s ‘hit or miss’ with seeds,” said Kippe. “I do grow cucumbers from seeds, but otherwise, I start with plants.”

Paul and April Russell, of Linden, are excited to have planted their first vegetable garden in about eight years, and they’re driving about seven miles from home to do it. They are using a garden plot at a friend’s home in Fenton.

The Russells tilled the 10-by-14 foot plot on Tuesday and planted cabbage, tomato plants, carrots, radishes, lettuce, spinach and green beans — mostly for fresh salads and juicing. Paul was diagnosed with colon cancer in August 2009 and the Russells have committed to a healthy lifestyle — including fresh vegetables. They’re growing all of the vegetables organically, minimizing weeds by using a tarp poked with holes for the plants. “The tarp will also hold a lot of the moisture in, so we won’t have to do much watering or weeding,” said April.

“You don’t have to have a big garden plot to grow fresh vegetables. You can get creative by using different containers — from pots and hanging baskets to old buckets.”

Martha Hyypio-Irwin
master gardener
The right tools make gardening enjoyable

Check out local stores for all of your gardening needs

By Sharon Stone
ssstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Gardening is a wonderful way to grow your favorite vegetables and flowers, and having the right tools makes digging, pruning, clipping and trimming all that much easier.

An abundance of power and hand tools to fit every gardener’s needs can be found at many local stores.

Basic tools every gardener should have on hand include garden gloves, garden kneelers, a long- and short-handle rounded shovel, a rake and hoe, a hand trowel, garden shears and pruners and a garden hose.

Keeping the tools together in a caddy or rack helps the gardener stay organized. It makes it much easier to find things when all of the related tools are in one place. Fiskars Garden Bucket Caddy, available at The Home Depot, has a clever design that has spots for tools, seeds and even a beverage.

Ensuring plants are watered properly and conveniently, gardeners might want to check out Craftsman’s heavy-duty 50- and 100-foot hoses that never kink. These hoses are available at Sears and The Home Depot. Storing the hose is easy when it’s rolled into compact and attractive Suncast hose reel with tracker.

Craftsman has a 3-in-1 Garden Tool that is easy to use. Its interchangeable accessories can be used to trim grass, maintain a hedge or loosen the soil around plants. It operates on a 12-volt Die-Hard lithium-ion battery. It lists for about $100.

Simple, quality-made tools do not have much that can go wrong with them. Craftsman carries several simple tools, including the push hoe/edger with an industrial strength fiberglass handle. It’s best for digging, edging, weeding and scraping in hard rocky soil.

The Rapid Digger by Craftsman is another simple tool. It makes quick work of digging. The head is drop-forged so it’s strong and long-lasting and the handles feature a fiberglass core encased in a polypropylene shell for added life/durability.

Dandelions frustrate many homeowners, especially when they do not want to use chemicals on their lawn. The Garden Weeder, by Radius, is perfect for removing the pesky little weeds. It has a sharp serrated blade that slides through the ground. Weeds pop out with ease. This is priced around $15.

Also by Radius is the Garden Cultivator and Trowel. The cultivator’s unique shape angles tines into soil for deep cultivation. This precision tool is great for working in small spaces. Gardeners can use the back-blade wings to pull roots and weed stems.

ACE Hardware carries a deluxe aluminum garden tool set, which includes a trowel, transplanter and cultivator. This runs less than $20. A hand weeder, costing less than $10, is a safe and handy way to remove weeds. ACE Village Hardware in Linden carries several other hand and power gardening tools.

McKay’s Hardware carries gardening tools. One of their top-rated garden tools, is the Winged Weeder, by Fisher Industries, is made in the U.S.A. It weeds, cultivates, edges, hoes, and tills with a push-pull motion. The 8.75-inch tempered spring steel blade never needs sharpening. It’s ideal for flowerbeds and tight garden spaces.

McKay’s, 30-inch Clog Free Plastic Rake by Ames True Temper is also a top-rated product. The uniquely designed clog-free rake head contains special tines, which prevent leaves and debris from clogging between the tines.
Fenton Kite Festival for Art
A Fenton Kite Festival for Art is planned for Saturday, June 25 at Bush Park in Fenton. At the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation board, Fenton City Council approved a request from eos Business Surveillance Solutions and Color the Sky, Inc. to hold the festival to raise funds for the arts. Organizers are planning many activities and will be selling kite kits for $3 to $8. They will have art supplies available to decorate the kites. Organizers hope to make this an annual event. This year proceeds will benefit the International Academy of Flint. In the future, they would like to consider a local school or group that would have an art or creativity need.

Fenton Firefighters 5/10K Run
Fenton City Council approved a request from Fenton Firefighter Charities to conduct the Fenton Firefighters 5/10K Run on Aug. 13. The race begins at 10 a.m. It coincides with the Taste in Fenton, which begins at 12 p.m. Race organizers will be providing up to 40 volunteers to assist with traffic direction and other duties.

Shrine Paper Sale
Members of the Fenton Shrine Club and El Khurafeh Shrine Temple obtained approval from Fenton City Council to hold the festival to raise funds for the arts. Organizers are planning many activities and will be selling kite kits for $3 to $8. They will have art supplies available to decorate the kites. Organizers hope to make this an annual event. This year proceeds will benefit the International Academy of Flint. In the future, they would like to consider a local school or group that would have an art or creativity need.
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DATE: Sunday, June 5, 2011
TIME: 1:30pm - 5:00pm

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
1:30 - 2:00: Sign-in
1:30 - 2:30: Face Painting, Refreshments and Meet the Staff
2:00 - 3:00: Camp Tours
1:00 - 4:00: Activities (High Ropes, Pony Rides, Arts and Crafts, Archery, S'more Making, and much more?)
3:00 - 4:30: Treasure Hunt
4:30 - 5:00: Free Dinner with Live Entertainment

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Memorial Day Parades and Ceremonies

Linden

The Memorial Day Parade in Linden will take place at 10 a.m. and start at the VFW Hall (105 Mill St.), and ends at Fairview Cemetery.

Fenton City

The Curtis-Wolverton VFW Post 3243 will be conducting the annual Memorial Day Parade in Fenton on Monday. The event will begin at 10 a.m. at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The parade route will travel south on LeRoy Street, with a brief stop adjacent to the gazebo, then turn west on Shiawassee, with a brief stop at Freedom Park, to Davis and south to Oakwood Cemetery. A memorial ceremony will be held at the cemetery.

Holly

The Holly Memorial Day Parade begins 10 a.m. Monday, in front of the Holly Village offices at 315 S. Broad St., and travels down Maple Street, ending at Lakeside Cemetery.

Great Lakes National Cemetery

The Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly Township will hold its Memorial Day observance at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 29. Several hundred veterans, families, friends and community members are expected to attend the ceremony honoring deceased veterans interred at the cemetery.

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Pastor Bob retires from Hope Alive Assembly of God

By Sally Rummel

Pastor Bob Fish will preach his last sermon this Sunday at Hope Alive Assembly of God in Holly, retiring this summer with his wife, Pat, to the Saline area.

“I want to honor Pastor Bob and Pat for all that they have done in their 14-year ministry here,” said Shawny Neubecker, former youth minister at Hope Alive and now a leader for “Fuel for Teens,” a youth recreation program in Holly. “My passion for youth began at Hope Alive, under the mentorship of Pastor Bob.”

Pastor “Bob” and Pat leave a rich legacy of worship leaders among their family, according to Neubecker. They have five children, 17 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

The church plans a potluck dinner after Sunday services, in honor of the Fish family.

Hope Alive Assembly of God is located at 104 Lake St. in Holly.

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A clean sweep for the Holly track program

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — Rachel Derocher never expects to win a meet before the Holly varsity girls track team competes.

But maybe she should’ve this year.

The senior and her teammates completed what was a dominating performance from the first meet to the last, winning the Metro League Meet by more than double the total point total of second-place Fenton. Holly took first place with 223.4 points, while the Fentons took second with 106.2 points. Linden placed fourth with 63 points.

“We hoped for it, but we never go into a meet expecting to win because you never know what is going to happen,” Derocher said. “But with our training and our mileage, we hoped it. It’s been an exciting year.”

During what was otherwise a dreary, wet and windy 40-something degree day, the Bronchos were the bright spot at the meet.

The Bronchos captured league championships in six events, and had seven individuals finish second in 10 events. They opened the finals with a first in the 3,200 relay with the team of Melissa Bott, Derocher, Mariah Rickard and Abby Lewandowski (11:07.5) and capped it with the 1,600 relay team of Bott, Tatum Harmon, Paige McElroy and Ridal winning in 4:25.8.

In between, there was a ton of Holly winning as well with four individuals taking firsts in events. They were Jenna Mitchell in the discus (116-1), Elizabeth Hawkinsley in the shot put (33.2), Ridal in the 400 (1:03.47) and Bott in the 800 (2:30.2).

Their overall team balance was displayed with their seconds spread all over the meet. Sarah Dewaelersch had two, one in the discus (99-10) and the other in the shot put (30-10). Meanwhile, Other second-place performers were Megan Piovowarski in the high jump (4-6), Amy Derosh in the high jump (4-6), Marissa Moorhead in the 100 hurdles (16.54), Rachel Derocher in the 1,600 (5:43.8), Ridal in the 800 (2:34.5) and Tatum Harmon in the 400 (1:04.3).

The Bronchos’ dominance was really displayed in the throwing events, taking the top five positions in the shot put and the discus.

“The girls’ (points) were pretty spread out,” Holly coach Rob Basyldo said. “We have to be balanced.

“The kids worked hard, and it’s good to see that hard work pays off.”

The Holly Bronchos dominated both Flint Metro League meets on Thursday at Linden High School, earning both Metro League titles in the process. (Above) Holly high jumper Megan Piovowarski clears a bar. (Top) Linden’s three-time Metro champion Ted Parcher (middle) edges out Evin Papuga for first in the 400 relay.

TRI-COUNTY’S TOP 5 TEAMS SPRING 2011

The Holly boys win third crown in four seasons

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — The Holly varsity boys track and field had a great season a year ago.

The Bronchos placed high at the state meet and had two state champions.

However, they didn’t win the Metro League championship for a third straight year, and that bothered the team.

The Bronchos made up for that on Thursday, capping a dominant Flint Metro League season with a dominating performance in the Metro League Meet at Linden High School, blowing the competition away with 175.5 points.

Swarz Creek (118.5) was a distant second, while Linden (105.5) finished third and Fenton (105) took fourth.

“Last year was devastating,” Holly senior Keon Ellison said. “I was expecting to go four years undefeated, and that kind of hit me hard. It pushed us harder to get better this year.”

“Last year we were expecting to win, and I think we got a little too over-confident and it slipped away,” Nixson said. “A lot of people doubted us this year, and it feels good to prove them wrong and become champs.”

Bronchos proved little doubt into the final results of the meet, just as they had done with their 8-0 record during the dual portion of the season.

Holly won eight of the events in the cold and rainy conditions, never seriously being threatened. Dallas Cranwell was the only individual double-champion for Holly, winning the 110 hurdles (15.74) and the 300 hurdles (41.92). Meanwhile, Ellison won the 400 (52.08), TJ Peake swept at various events.

See BOYS on 22B
LF boys take second at GAC Red meet

By David Troppens
dtroppens@ctimes.com, 810-433-6789

The Fenton varsity boys track team knew competing with Goodrich at the GAC Red meet was next to impossible.

And coach Eric Doyle figures his team is a better dual meet team than an invitational squad.

So, when the Blue Devils finished the GAC Red Tournament by taking second place, the squad was pretty happy.

The Blue Devils took second place, behind Goodrich, earning second by six points over Lakeville. That also earned them second in the overall GAC Red final standings.

“I am happy with the showing,” Doyle said. “We are a much better dual meet team than an invitational team because that is where our depth can really come into play in duals. Goodrich is very good. They really dominate in the distance events. That is where we are going to have to close the gap on them to win a league championship. But I’m pleased where we’re at.”

The Blue Devils had two conference championship efforts.

Danny Brodie won the team’s only individual title, taking the top spot in the high jump. He did it with a new GAC record leap of 6-foot-3.

“When I jumped 6-3, I was so excited,” Brodie said. “It was the I had cleared before. I would’ve been close to the league meet record. I instantly jumped off of the mat, ran over to my parents and team members to give them high fives. … When they announced that I now hold the meet record, the whole place was cheering, so it was a very exciting accomplishment.”

“Danny jumping 6-3 was huge,” Doyle said. “If he can do that in two weeks, he has a legitimate shot of being an all-stater.”

Brodie qualified for the state meet by leaping 6-1 at regionals. He’s excited about getting a chance to compete at the state meet.

“My strategy is not to let things get to me,” Brodie said. “High jumping is a sport that requires mental strength, and I plan on not letting anyone get inside my head. I’m going to start at the required opening height and take it one jump at a time.”

The Blue Devils’ other championship event winner was the 400 relay team of Kyle Frank, Rob Kesler, Matt Hommer and Austin Gottron. They finished in first with a time of 44.65 seconds.

“They ran a great race with the best exchanges we’ve had all year,” Doyle said. “That excites me for the state meet because I think we can run a lower time than what we ran (at the meet).”

The Blue Devils had four other individuals finish the meet with third-place efforts. Chase Hanson took third in the 800 (2:21.57), while Rob Kesler was third in the 200 (23.9) and the long jump (19-4). Tim Simons was third in the 300 hurdles (44.34). Finishing just behind in the Kessler in the long jump in fourth place was teammate Kyle Frank (18-11).

“We are extremely young,” Doyle said. “The bulk of our roster is freshman and sophomores. They have been brought along with great leadership from Danny Brodie with our field kids, Kyle Frank the Dragons on the artificial turf at Fenton High School.

Michigan State-bound Mary-Kathryn Fiebertenz scored both goals for Linden. She got the Eagles on the board midway through the first half.

Karragh Varner passed it, and a nice headed from Sam Thornton went to me. I just put it in the back post,” said Fiebernitz. “It was nice to end the (regular) season like this. We connected more with our feet and gave more of an effort.”

“You will always be disappointed when you don’t win (the League championship),” said coach Kevin Fiebernitz. “After losing many good players to graduation, we were asking talented but younger players to help lead the Dragons. It was a great win.”
Area teams do well at Metro track meet

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — Freshman Ted Parcher has made some new friends in the last couple of months.

And while he’s only a freshman, he’s also become the focal point of just about any track meet that’s he’s around.

And he’s enjoying every minute of it. The Linden freshman had another huge outing at the Flint Metro League Track and Field Championships, earning three league titles.

Minus Holly’s team dominance, the next big story was Parcher’s dominance at the event held in the cold, wind and rain on Thursday night.

Parcher teamed with Andrew Lucky, Lucas Belmore and Taylor Anderson to win the 400 relay (46.82), and also won two individual events. He won the 100 (10.95) by nearly a half-second, and then went on to win the 200 (23.13) by exactly a half-second. The freshman is already among the top sprinters in the entire state of Michigan.

“All I can say is it’s been fun,” Parcher said about his newfound stardom. “It feels kind of special. It’s been pretty interesting. I’m starting to meet new people, and I’m making new friends.”

Parcher helped lead the Linden boys to a third-place team finish. Three other Eagles earned at least individual runner-up finishes. The only other champion was Kyle Fisher in the high jump (5-10). Meanwhile, Connor O’Connell took second in the pole vault (11-0) and Roger Phillips placed second in the 3,200 (10:24.2).

The Fenton girls track team had a strong showing, taking second as a squad. The Tigers had two event firsts and had four other individuals place second. Meredith Brown took part in both firsts. Individually, she won the long jump (15-5). She also teamed with Lauren Davis, Emily Beemis and Alessandra Kozlowski to win the 400 relay (54.61).

The four seconds were split among four participants. They were earned by Taylor Thorpe in the 3,200 (12:12.3), Julie Gilbert in the high jump (4-6), Kozlowski in the 100 (13.02) and Alyssa Sander in the 300 hurdles (52.52).

The Fenton boys placed fourth, just one-half point behind third-place Linden.

The Tigers didn’t have any event champions, but did have three individuals earn runner-up honors. They were Matt Gilbert in the 1,600 (4:37.1), Kyle Walsh in the 110 hurdles (16.52) and Michael Burgess in the high jump (5-10).

The Linden girls took fourth as a team and had one event champion. That champion was freshman Sydney Elmer, who won the 3,200 (12:11.9).
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TRI-COUNTY SPORTS

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BOYS

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kids to play teams more physical. We got pushed around, and we did not win the battle at midfield. Many of these players will come back even better from the experience next year.”

The second half did not see another score until Mary-Kathryn Fiebernitz scored with 15 seconds left in the game, icing the win. Swartz Creek had many opportunities to score in the second half but could not cash in. The Eagles’ keeper Lexi Downes recorded the shutout.

Linden dominated with the field position all game long.

“The Eagles are prepared for the district tournament. “It’s a whole new ball game now — a new season,” Kevin Fiebernitz said. “Records and what you did the first time with the same team doesn’t matter. I have been on both sides of it where people think you will win and you lose or when they think you will lose and you go out and win.

“We have to focus on Kearsley only, but if we get a rematch with Fenton or Holly that would be great. The Fenton game earlier was a classic when we lost 2-1. Any time you put Linden and Fenton on the soccer field anything can happen.”

“We just need to play our game,” said Mary-Kathryn Fiebernitz. “We would love to play Fenton again, and if we play Holly that would be nice. We played a bad game and tied with them 3-3 earlier.”

LAPPEER EAST 4,
LINDEN 0

Lapeer East moved to within a game of a co-Metro League title with the victory at home against Linden.

Ariana Donahue had two goals for East, while Brittany Morrell and Emily Joseph had one goal each.
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