How about a compromise, repeal the helmet law and place those who own motorcycles into their own insurance pool. If it’s really about personal freedom then those advocates of repeal will be glad to take on the extra costs involved as a direct result of that freedom."

— John T.

Summary
Joe Bommarito, Joshua Bommarito and Steve Bloom recently spent Memorial Day weekend in Joplin, Mo. to give away cell phones to residents affected by the tornado on May 22.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Joshua Bommarito (left), his father Joe Bommarito and Steve Bloom turned Bloom’s fifth-wheel trailer into a makeshift store to hand out donated cell phones to tornado victims in Joplin, Missouri. Joe Bommarito and Bloom are each owners of multiple Wireless Zone franchises in Michigan.

The gift of life

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | WILLIAM AXFORD
Detroit resident Pam Powell stands next to a picture of Brad Stone on Saturday, June 18 at Fenton Farms during the Brad Stone Summer Classic. Powell is an organ transplant who has Stone’s lungs, after he died of an asthma attack at age 12.

by Sharon Stone
stone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6796

The death toll from the May 22 tornado that struck Joplin, Mo. has climbed to 153. Devastation blanket-ed the city as buildings were crushed, knocking out power lines and cell phone service for many.

In an effort to aid tornado victims, several own- ers of Wireless Zone stores trav- eled more than 15 hours to dis- tribute donated cell phones and emergency relief blankets over Memorial Day weekend.

See JOPLIN on 9

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
(Above) A man comforts a young girl after a tornado whipped through Joplin, Mo. on May 22. Devasta- tion was widespread, and more than 150 residents were killed.

““As far as you could see, it was just devastation.”

Joe Bommarito Wireless Zone franchise owner

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | WILLIAM AXFORD

by William Axford
Axford@tctimes.com

Pamela Powell, of Detroit, knows that every breath she takes is a gift, and she’ll never forget it. Powell is an organ recipient of two lungs after undergoing surgery in July 2000. The lungs came from Brad Stone, who died after an asthma attack when he was 12 years old. Brad was a student in the Lake Fen- ton school district. His

See GIFT OF LIFE on 7

What’s your credit score?

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | WILLIAM AXFORD

by Tim Jagielo
jagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Few words instill dread in adults, as does the term “cred- it score.” Most adults in the United States have been given a credit score, whether it is 500, 650 or high- er. And like it or not, your credit score affects more than just your ability to get a mortgage or an auto- mobile loan.

See CREDIT SCORE on 12

Remote check
New account
35%

Credit report
Amount that is owed relative to credit lines available
30%

Payment history
Length of credit
10%

Inquiries
Different credit types
10%

Summary
Your credit score helps you to get a mortgage, a car or even a job. It is used by lenders to determine the level of risk involved in each client.
No salary increase for school administrators

Merit pay and higher drug copays part of contract

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

Lake Fenton — The Lake Fenton Board of Education approved contracts for its administrators during a special board meeting on Monday. In lieu of any pay raises, administrators will instead receive a merit pay of three-quarter of a percent of their base pay, as long as they meet criteria on their evaluations. For an example, ¾ percent of $90,000 equals $675.

Superintendent Wayne Wright said there was restructuring done but it included no pay increases.

Administrators will also have a higher deductible for their health insurance, which puts them in line with what the teachers have. Co-pays of $5 for generics and $10 for name brand are increasing to $10 and $20, respectively.

LAKE FENTON SCHOOLS
Base salaries and merit pay

West Shore Elementary School principal: $82,400, merit pay $618
Torry Hill Intermediate School principal: $85,490, merit pay $641
Lake Fenton Middle School principal: $90,000, merit pay $675
Lake Fenton High School principal: $96,000, merit pay $720
Lake Fenton High School assistant principal/athletic director: $85,000, merit pay $637
Executive director to superintendent: $92,200, merit pay $691
Superintendent: $118,000

Fenton foundation announces grants

On Monday, May 2, the Fenton Area Public Schools Education Foundation (FAPSEF) Board of Directors unanimously recommended, and the Fenton Board of Education unanimously approved $10,996.10 for the 2011–12 school year in the form of classroom grants, to 24 teachers throughout the district.

This year’s classroom grants range through all grade levels from preschool through 12th grade. The funds that were raised by the FAPSEF board of directors through its multiple fundraising efforts, inclusion but not limited to, the annual Black Tie Dinner, The Colonel Fenton Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournament, the Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, and the IB World Fair, along with the donations from many generous community members and businesses.

In addition to the funds donated by the FAPSEF Board of Directors annual classroom grant program, the Arts Foundation awarded an additional $6,000 to K–12 classrooms as a part of the second annual Student Film and Arts Festival.

This brings the combined grants for the 2011–12 school year from the FAPSEF to $16,996.10.

BANKRUPTCY
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E-mail: garysiegel@jc.com
Michigan strawberries

Worth the wait this year

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com

This year’s crop of strawberries may be two weeks behind schedule, but they are definitely worth the wait. Just don’t wait too long, because this sweet, succulent Michigan favorite has a short season. “We’ll be harvesting strawberries for about another 10 days to two weeks,” said Will Cartwright, market manager at Spicer Orchards in Fenton.

People have been calling daily to ask about pick-your-own strawberries at Spicer’s, especially since the season usually starts in early June. “We’ve had a good crop, it’s just a little late this year,” he said. “Strawberries are a ground crop, and it took awhile for the soil to warm up this spring. The plants took longer to ‘take off’ and begin producing their berries.” See STRAWBERRIES on 10

Christine Jones, of Grand Blanc Township, picks three flats of strawberries at Spicer’s Orchard in Fenton. “I’m looking for a more natural alternative,” she said. She also likes to support local farms.

Minor leagues offer major family fun

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

If you want to see live baseball played up close, you’ll like to have a few bucks in your pocket. Watching a Minor League baseball game is a fun, affordable family activity.

Three minor league teams who are affiliated with major league baseball teams play in Michigan: the Lansing Lugnuts, the West Michigan Whitecaps, and the Traverse City Beach Bums. They play in Michigan’s three minor baseball leagues in the state of Michigan that provide a fun, affordable family activity this summer.

The Traverse City Beach Bums are one of the minor baseball leagues in the state of Michigan that provides a fun, affordable family activity this summer. See MINOR LEAGUES on 8

The Lansing Lugnuts are a Class A affiliate with the Toronto Blue Jays, playing the Midwest League. The team plays at Cooley Law School Stadium, which seats over 11,000 fans and is one of the largest Class A Minor League baseball parks in the U.S. The Lugnuts have their own “theme,” which plays immediately after the national anthem for every home game.

The West Michigan Whitecaps are members of the 16-team Midwest League and Class A affiliate of the Detroit Tigers. They play 70 home and 70 road games each season. “Home” is Fifth Third Ballpark, a privately owned stadium built in conjunction with the Whitecaps’ arrival in 1994, located in Comstock Park, seven miles north of Grand Rapids.

Minor leagues offer major family fun
Normalizing deviance
In the aftermath of the exposure and resignation of Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.) from Congress, his colleagues, some journalists, ethicists and pundits are trying to sort out what it means. Has a new standard been created in Washington? Clinton lied about sex and was impeached for lying (but not for the sex because as actress Janeane Garofalo told Bill Maher recently, ‘everyone lies about sex’).

A University of Maryland student friend of mine tells me one of his classes last semester discussed ‘the normalization of deviance.’ Is an age when what is normal is determined by culture and opinion, deviance has ceased to have meaning. That’s because there is now no nationally accepted standard by which it can be measured.

If lying is now the unpardonable political sin, we may at last have found a way to limit congressional terms. If lying is sufficient reason to expel a member, then the halls of Congress may soon be vacant of all but the janitorial crew who empty the trash and mop the floors at night.

George H.W. Bush promised, ‘Read my lips. No new taxes.’ We read his lips, but were they lying lips? He caved into Congress, which raised taxes during his first term. President Obama’s lies about many things are catalogued on various websites and increasingly in mainstream newspapers. The Fact Checker column for the Washington Post recently awarded the president “three Pinocchios” (out of four) for his claim that ‘Chrysler has repaid every dime and more of what it owes American taxpayers for their support during my presidency.’

Republicans lie, too, but if lying about something, rather than bad ideas or bad behavior, is the new standard in Washington, D.C., someone had better tell the politicians.

Thomas Jefferson did in an Aug. 19, 1785 letter to Peter Carr: ‘...he who permits himself to tell a lie once, finds it much easier to do it a second and third time, till at length it becomes habitual; he tells lies without attending to it, and truths without the world’s believing him.’

The problem
I have had teachers protesting in front of students is that I know they are trying to influence the kids to join a union when they grow up, then make someone else take care of their every need, like health care and pensions. I would rather kids grow up and learn to be self-sufficient and take care of their own needs. That’s why my kids are not in public schools.

A big thanks
The Cub Scouts who put on the spaghetti dinner for one of their own, a scout with an inoperable brain tumor. Good to see parents and kids working together.

I would like to thank the person at Fenton Coney Wednesday night who paid for my family’s dinner. Don’t know who you were, but thanks.

As a local
As a local retired teacher (not from Fenton), I find the criticism of picketing Fenton teachers interesting. They can’t go on strike, which is a good rule. Parents don’t want them sending propaganda home with their children. So, they are trying to let the public know what is happening. Do you same people try to tell your doctors, airline pilots, etc., how to do their jobs? Good luck teachers and keep your chins up.

I’m so tired
I’m so tired of hearing about all these whiny teachers and whiny union workers. I think the most important factor here is that you all have jobs. So what is there really to complain about? Everyone has to pay for something. Get used to it. Stop complaining.

Just finished
Just finished reading the story on the attempted child abduction. I guess someone in town is trying to ‘Be Closer.’

Some retired teachers
Some retired teachers would have you believe that they pay their retirement and health insurance. I am a retired teacher and the school district funded most of my retirement. I pay a small monthly insurance premium. The retirees who were born before 1945 will not be taxed at all. You taught your kids to be honest, so you should also tell the truth.

Am 65 years old
I am 65 years old, and I can remember teachers all demanding 3-percent pay raises every year or they went on strike. Don’t tell me it’s for the kids.

How many of you
How many of you have been issued parking tickets in Linden? Did you know that if you are a city official, your friends and family will not be ticketed if they habitually park in no parking zones? This is not right.

Fifteen years ago
Fifteen years ago, Michigan enjoyed some of the highest incomes in the country. Today Michigan’s per-capita income is in the bottom 20 percent. Fenton teachers, the economic conditions in this state have changed. Be realistic at the bargaining table. Many, many workers have made concessions.

It’s pretty bad
It’s pretty bad when you can’t enjoy your own yard because your obnoxious neighbors can’t speak in a normal tone of voice. Instead, they scream every word, all day long or they have lots of company over and do karaoke (and can’t sing) and use lots of filthy language. That’s sad, what ever happened to being considerate?

See hot line
See Hot Line throughout Times.

Keeping smiles healthy & bright!
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Dr. Jeremy M. Grove DDS
501 S. Bridge Street, Linden • 810-735-7511
www.dentistinlinden.com

How important is your credit score?
“IT’S VERY IMPORTANT. You can’t get loans for a mortgage, car, anything. Everything is based on credit these days.”
— Beth Spencer, Fenton

“NOWADAYS IT MEANS EVERYTHING. Even the jobs you apply for check your credit score.”
— Debbie Walsh, Linden

“I THINK IT’S A JOKE. It’s a banker thing, not a people thing.”
— Dave Roberts, Milas Township

“It’s very important if you need credit. If you run it in the hole, you have to pay it.”
— Ed Powell, Fenton

“It’s very important. It affects the loans you can get. I just got my credit report back and was amazed by the false information on it.”
— Mark Funk, Fenton

“It’s very important because everything is based on credit. Every type of insurance involves credit.”
— Jennifer Matthews, Wyandotte

Bits & pieces
Kids at a meeting?
I attended a Holly Township Board of Trustees meeting a couple of weeks ago as there was something on the agenda that was of interest to me. The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. and went on for several hours, ending at around 10 p.m. I could hear the sound of children, playing in the background. I asked the person next to me what was going on.

The person replied saying they were the children of one of the trustees on the board and the trustee routinely brings her children with her while conducting her duties as trustee.

Now, I was a reporter for many years, and I covered municipal, school board, DDA, planning commission and many other governmental meetings and not once have I seen young children of any public official have to sit through a meeting. The children were in a side room, but I, for one, not only found it distracting, but I couldn’t help but feel sorry for the kids. I would consider hiring a babysitter.

What do you think? Is it OK for a public official to bring their kids to a business meeting?

Good ole summertime
Yes, it’s summertime and the livin’ is easy. The Times has a special section in this upcoming Sunday’s edition chock full of features about exciting and fun things to do this summer in the tri-county area. The summer months bring many festivals and activities to look forward to, starting this weekend in Linden with Mill Days.

Express yourself
Now that school is out, the Times is suspending the popular Look Who’s Talking and Student Body features for the summer months. Instead, we will allow our readers an opportunity to express themselves.

I am inviting our readers to share photos of what they did over this upcoming Fourth of the July holiday, which will be featured in our Tri-County Living section on Sunday, July 10. Please e-mail your photos to photos@tctimes.com. Provide any names of the individuals in the photographs and a description of the event. We will provide a topic each week, including a day at the beach, a day at the car show, etc. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Enjoy your week!”

Compiled by William Axford, Staff Reporter
Holly Township approves balanced budget

By Tim Jagielo

The Holly Township Board of Trustees formally approved the 2011-12 budget on Wednesday, following the budget hearing at its last meeting, and budget workshop in early May. Holly Township, unlike many other local municipalities and school districts, approved a budget without having to make deep and painful cuts. “Our challenges have been in the last few years,” said Clerk Karin Winchester.

The main reason cuts did not have to be made was assessing fees from Oakland County had been paid off, and therefore did not appear in the 2011-12 budget.

The board reflected $652,178 in revenues, which is a $2,138 increase over the 2010-11 budget. As with last year, revenues and expenditures across the board matched exactly on the approved, balanced budget. “Some (municipalities) may choose to show there is an excess amount (of revenue),” said Winchester. “It’s just style, I think.” There are a few large jumps in expenditures. North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) rose from $30,000 to $69,696. Last year, special assessment funds covered the extra cost, and this year the extra monies were paid out of the general fund.

“Our challenges have been in the last few years,” Karin Winchester

Holly Township clerk

The cost of general services increased from $170,299 to $184,200 due to an increase in health and life expenses totaling $15,295 to $17,831 in early May. Following the budget hearing Wednesday, following the budget hearing Wednesday, the board formally approved the 2011-12 budget on Wednesday, following the budget hearing.

June 24th & 25th, 2011

THE FENTON VILLAGE PLAYERS

are proud to announce the winners of the one-act play writing competition. The top selected plays will be produced on stage June 24th & 25th, 2011.

FAIRY TALE

Our favorite Fairy Tales have never been told like this!

Author: Amy Herman, Fenton MI

DANCE GAME

Getting your husband to sign up for seven weeks of dance class has never been easier!

Author: Mary Hackett, Flushing MI

PETTY THEFT

What chance do a couple of bungling burglars have against a sweet old lady?

Author: Brendan Michael Lindberg, Howell MI

THE FAIRY TALE

A discovery helps a young couple make a life changing decision.

Author: Christopher Tremblay & Linda Pohl, Canton MI

IN THE DARK

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How to get a job by telling the truth!

Author: Jeffrey Gold, Salt Lake City UT

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHESS

A game for memories.

Author: Steven Shelton, Grand Blanc MI

HOLLY TOWNSHIP 2011-12 budget

SALARIES

Supervisor .......................... $25,708
Clerk .................................. $46,505
Treasurer ............................. $46,505
Code enforcement officer ........ $20 (hour)
Trustees - monthly per diem ....... $150
Trustees - per regular scheduled meeting ... $95

Faster and more current work stations make the office more efficient,” said Winchester. “The rest is just standard operating stuff.”

The township also budgeted $7,000 to bring back “Clean up Day” in Holly. The township saved $15,295 in elections in 2011-12, and $23,381 in assessing fees the township will not have to pay this year. Winchester noted that the township also saved $10,000 by changing chloride treatment contracts.

The Holly Township Board of Trustees - per regular scheduled meeting $95

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Culver’s to open in Fenton

Brother and sister hope to open restaurant by year’s end

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com, 810-433-6766

Fenton — They are known for their signature ButterBurgers and fresh frozen custard. The brother and sister team of Kevin Powers and Katie Schmitt are confident that opening up a Culver’s restaurant in Fenton will be a win-win situation.

Powers and Schmitt own the Culver’s restaurant in Clarkson. Now, they are working with the city of Fenton to construct and open a new restaurant on Owen Road.

Powers said he and his sister definitely have strong interest in Fenton. They are currently in the planning process with the city. “We’re pushing forward,” he said. “We’re in negotiations and the planning process is not complete.”

The plans as of now involve tearing down the State Bank building on Owen Road and constructing a Culver’s restaurant in its place. They like the location since it’s across the street from Fenton High School and it’s close to U.S. 23. A district manager for the chain lives in Fenton and Powers said this area is very comparable to his location in Clarkson. “We’re ready to move forward with our second restaurant,” he said.

After getting its start in Wisconsin by the Culver family in the ‘80s, the number of Culver’s restaurants across the country now stands at 428, 19 of which are in Michigan.

Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland said the city has been working with the owners for several months. The Buxton report, which was commissioned by the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) listed Culver’s as one of the companies that would fit with the demographics in this area.

Markland said the owners are planning to have their submittals ready for review by the Planning Commission at the July meeting.

“The city of Fenton has a wide variety of dining establishments in our community, we look forward to the addition of Culver’s,” Markland said.

Powers hopes to have everything ready for submittal to the planning commission. With a three to four month build out, if everything goes well, they should be ready for business by the end of the year.

The new age of communications and jurors

I have a confession to make. I do not have a single Facebook friend. I do not have any space on Myspace and I have never tweeted a single message on Twitter.

The above statements do not in any way reflect any negative impressions on these and other similar modern day communication services, but rather is more a function of the generational differences between people who are my age and are less familiar with new technology and members of a younger generation who know far more about this topic than I. I hasten to add that I do know people my age and older who use this service daily and I find it to be a very pleasant interaction and are very pleased by it.

What brings this subject up is a recent case before an English court where a sitting juror in a very complicated and expensive criminal trial exchanged messages on Facebook with a previously acquainted female defendant because she empathized with him. This juror told the defendant about how the juror’s deliberations were going as to the female’s boyfriend who was also a defendant in the same case. The juror also admitted doing online research on the boyfriend.

When this came to light, the judge stopped the jury’s deliberations and sent them home. The juror was held in contempt of court and given an eight-year jail sentence.

The reason for this punishment was the juror had disobeyed the trial judge’s direct orders not to talk to anyone about the case or do independent research on the facts of the case.

Although this case involves use of the Internet, the basic premise is not dependent on it. Jurors are normally instructed by the trial judge, through jury instructions, not to conduct investigations on their own and not to discuss the case with any other persons outside the jury (including parties, witnesses or attorneys) and to not even discuss the case with their fellow jurors until the end of the trial when all the jurors together can make a decision in their deliberations. Jurors are also told not to watch television accounts, listen to radio accounts or read newspaper accounts about the trial. This instruction applies to all forms of communications be they through the internet or otherwise.

This is to ensure that the jury’s final decision is based entirely on the evidence introduced at the trial.

This is a critical aspect of the law and the fact that finding and then communicating with people after deliberations have been completed no longer bound by the law.

Unfortunately, for our English juror she had to learn this lesson the hard way.
GIFT OF LIFE
Continued from Front Page

In 2010, there were 790 organ transplants performed. Each organ donor can save up to eight lives and help up to 50 more. Two million people in Michigan are currently registered for organ donations.

“We knew that we would eventually meet,” Stone said. “But the way we did meet was very unplanned.”

Powell was invited to sing at a Gift of Life event that the Stones attended. Seeing a picture of Brad during a slide-show, Powell shared her story with the crowd and sang “The Wind Beneath My Wings,” which prompted Brad’s father, Jeff Stone, to introduce himself to Powell.

“I screamed and I hugged him, hard,” Powell said, laughing. “I wouldn’t let go. I made a scene.”

From then on, Powell has been close to the Stone family, getting involved with charitable events dedicated to Brad’s memory and even various family events. Powell sang to Brad’s graduating class and stays committed to events that involve Brad.

“I have a picture of him at work. I know he’s still there. And I talk about him like he’s still here,” Powell said.

A great love transpired into an incredible gift for the Stone family. While nothing can replace their son, the Stones take solace in knowing that he lives on in his donations, improving the lives of others.

“Every time we hug her, we can hear her breathe and know that it’s Brad’s lungs,” Stone said.

“There’s a huge need for donations — can you imagine being the person needing an organ? We fully support donating organs.”

Powell and her husband David attended the 11th annual Brad Stone Summer Classic on Saturday, which raised more than $12,000 for scholarships. She has become part of the Stone family after receiving organs from their son.

“A great loss transpired into an incredible gift for the Stone family. While nothing can replace their son, the Stones take solace in knowing that he lives on in his donations, improving the lives of others.”

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MINOR LEAGUES
Continued from Page 3

While three of these Minor League teams play in Michigan, only the West Michigan Whitecaps are affiliated as a Class A team of the Detroit Tigers. Other Tiger Minor League affiliates are the Toledo Mud Hens (Class AAA) in Ohio, the Erie SeaWolves in Pennsylvania, the Norwich Tigers (Class A) in Connecticut and two Lakeland, Florida teams: the GCL Tigers in the Rookie League and the Lakeland Flying Tigers.

The Great Lakes Loons, playing at Dow Diamond in Midland, are a Class A affiliate of the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Lansing Lugnuts, playing at Cooley Stadium, are a Class A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays.

How do the minor leagues work?

Minor league teams are professional teams affiliated with major league teams. The Minor Leagues and Major Leagues are bound together by the Professional Baseball Agreement (PBA). The Major League clubs are responsible for player, manager and coach assignments, as well as their compensation. The Minor League clubs provide stadium facilities, administrative staffs, uniforms, and travel expenses.

The Minor Leagues consist of more than 200 teams in 20 leagues in a developed “feeder system” for the Major Leagues.

Most Major League teams have one Class AA team (closest to the majors), one Class AA team (more experienced players, likely to jump from here to the majors), two Class A teams (just above the rookie team), usually one Short-Season Class A team, one Advanced Rookie team (usually young players just out of high school or college, with an average age of 19).

Although there are some baseball stars who are drafted or signed to contracts and go straight to the majors, they are the exception to the rule. The majority of players play at least one minor league season. Occasionally, exceptional players whirl through all the farm teams in one season and wind up in the majors in the following season.

MINOR LEAGUE
Detroit Tigers farm system:

Class AAA — Toledo Mudhens, International League
Class AA — Erie SeaWolves, Eastern League
Class A — Lakeland Flying Tigers, Florida State League
Class A — West Michigan Whitecaps, Midwest League
Short-Season Class A — Connecticut Tigers, New York/Penn League
Rookie-Developmental — GCL Tigers, Gulf Coast League
Rookie-Developmental — DSL Tigers, Dominican Summer League

and travel expenses.

The Minor Leagues consist of more than 200 teams in 20 leagues in a developed “feeder system” for the Major Leagues.

Most Major League teams have one Class AA team (closest to the majors), one Class AA team (more experienced players, likely to jump from here to the majors), two Class A teams (just above the rookie team), usually one Short-Season Class A team, one Advanced Rookie team (usually young players just out of high school or college, with an average age of 19).

Although there are some baseball stars who are drafted or signed to contracts and go straight to the majors, they are the exception to the rule. The majority of players play at least one minor league season. Occasionally, exceptional players whirl through all the farm teams in one season and wind up in the majors in the following season.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I JUST SAW a sign on U.S. 23. It says, ‘Fenton Be Closer... to each other.’ What does that mean?

A COMMENT ABOUT Fenton City Council, I think it’s typical that these people are who they are when it comes to making decisions, especially about medical marijuana. They seem to be like the voter who has never voted. When you don’t vote, you’ve already voted. And it’s obvious what their decision is. Why don’t you step up to the plate and make a decision?

FINALLY, A GREAT liberal Hot line. I’ve submitted many that are similar, to no avail. I’m sure it will erupt many conservatives off their sofas in anger. Good.

I’M JUST WONDERING if Fenton’s new slogan is ‘Be Closer’, why the city is purchasing a new vehicle for the Fenton fire chief at a Chevrolet dealer in Lansing? I would think they would do it from a local dealership.

I READ in the Tri-County that the principal of the Sherman Middle School is moving to the Karl Richter Campus. Is it necessary to have a principal over just two grades? The staff already at Richter could handle the facility with the principal duties added to those of Holy Elementary, which is within one block.

IN REGARDS TO the new campaign for the Fenton area, allow me to suggest that they made a poor choice. I would like to state that ‘Be Closer’ is ‘Be Confused’. It would better serve the Fenton community to have the simple slogan of ‘Fenton First.’
JOPLIN
Continued from Front Page

By setting up a miniature Wireless Zone area in the parking lot of the Joplin relief center, the Wireless Zone Foundation for Giving was able to activate more than 60 cell phones and donate more than 500 phone chargers.

OtterBox, an innovator in protective solutions for cell phones, helped by donating $50,000 to the Wireless Zone Foundation for Giving.

Joe Bommarito, owner of the Wireless Zone store on North LeRoy Street in Fenton, volunteered his time and traveled to Joplin to be part of this endeavor. Bommarito said he was happy to make the trip to help. Franchise owners give back a percentage of their commission to the foundation. After seeing the devastation, he was compelled to make things happen. Several conference calls were made and Bommarito was able to collect more than 200 phones from vendors. With the help of another franchise owner from Michigan, Steve Bloom, Bommarito, his son Joshua and Bloom traveled to the devastated area in Bloom’s fifth-wheel trailer and set up shop.

“It’s all about keeping business local,” he said. The work of the foundation can be done anywhere across the country. The first thing that went through their minds upon arrival was, “Where do we go?” Contact was soon made with College Heights Christian Church in Joplin.

The church, which was outside of the tornado-stricken area, was transformed into a warehouse of every imaginable supply, for both volunteers and victims. “It looked like a Sam’s Club,” he said. Bommarito was touched by the heart-wrenching stories told by local residents. He was a police officer for 20 years and thought he had seen it all. “As far as you could see, it was just devastation,” he said. The tornado’s path was about three-quarters of a mile wide by about 16 miles.

Verizon’s infrastructure was not damaged from the tornado and as soon as they activated the cell phone, Bommarito and the others watched as the local residents started making calls to loved ones before they even walked away from their trailer.

Securing Their Life...

I took a vow: To have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse. I promised to be true in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will keep that promise till death do us part - even after, I will always take care of you.

That’s why I bought Life Insurance. Because it’s not about my life, it’s about hers!

HARTLAND INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

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barbarawalker@hartlandinsurance.com

Auto-Owners Insurance

HOT LINE CONTINUED

SINCE 1981, REPUBLICAN administrations have submitted 20 budgets, none of which was balanced. They voted to raise the debt limit every year for the last 32 years. Now, they are flip-flopping by opposing their own practices just to sabotage Obama, to the detriment of the nation as a whole.

CURRENTLY, BANKS ARE solvent. Money is available with low Federal Reserve interest rates. Businesses have large amounts of cash. Productivity is up. These factors are favorable for expansion, investment and hiring, yet the economy is sluggish and unemployment remains high. Until the middle and lower income classes receive higher wages, they do not have enough buying power to improve the economy. When workers can’t purchase products and services, businesses can’t hire.

REPUBLICANS ARE THE voice of the wealthy, by the wealthy, for the wealthy. They have never had a plan that included the middle- and lower-income Americans. I’m still asking to name one piece of administration the Republicans have passed that benefited the working man.

Super 8 is fun summer blockbuster

Rated PG-13 • 112 min.

Super 8 could have easily taken place in the tri-county area circa ‘80s, given its small town setting, open skies and roaring trains. A mix of E.T. and the Goonies, the summer blockbuster gives viewers explosions, aliens and secret government agendas — all seen through the eyes of young, robust filmmakers.

The movie revolves around a band of middle school students who spend their free time filming a zombie movie. Tension mounts though when Charles (Riley Griffiths) casts Alice (Elle Fanning) as the lead female role. Joel (Joe Lamb) develops an instant crush on the beautiful but troubled Alice and rift begins between the two friends. While filming the most important scene for the movie, a train is derailed and the kids scatter through a furious storm of boxed cars and exploding locomotives. Something fearsome escapes from the train into the night and the military swarms in. People start to disappear and the once quiet Midwestern town is suddenly enveloped in mystery.

Director J.J. Abrams does a brilliant job of building suspense early in the movie through queues taken from Jaws, showing the aftermath of the escaped alien rather than revealing the creature full on. The town is caught in a quagmire of fear and confusion, scrambling for an explanation and railing against the military.

What really drives the movie are the relationships between the young heroes and their parents. The death of Joel’s mother has left him in the custody of his stepfather, who views his son’s filmmaking as a waste of time. Alice’s own father feels guilty in the death of Joel’s mother and forbids Alice from being with Joel. This fuels a rebellion that leads to disastrous results.

For a movie that hits all the right notes, it still seems to be lacking in stark originality. The movie pins down the Spielberg summer blockbuster formula perfectly but doesn’t breathe enough fresh air into the genre to stand out on its own. The ending is a bit rushed; if not overly cliché, which is a shame, given Abram’s talent as a director (he single-handedly made Star Trek cool again).

Still, Super 8 is a quintessential summer film, especially before the release of Transformers and Harry Potter. It is a film that reminds us that summer can still be magical, especially for young adults who have yet to embark upon the adult world.
Academic achievements

Barbara Willard-Wilkins received a master’s degree in education from Oakland University. She is the daughter of Jimmy and Terry Willard and a graduate of Holly High School.

Theresa Laubrick graduated summa cum laude from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor’s degree. She is the daughter of Lawrence and Susan Laubrick and a 2007 graduate of Linden High School.

Grand Valley State University has announced Nicole Rombach has been named a recipient of a Faculty Scholarship. She is the daughter of Matt and Sandy Rombach and a graduate of Holly High School.

Strawberries

While strawberries can be found in every county in Michigan, the west Michigan counties of Berrien, Van Buren and Leelanau produce the majority of berries, according to the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Once picked, strawberries stop the ripening process, so "pick your own" enthusiasts should select deep red berries free of green or yellow patches, which may carry a sour flavor. Experts suggest that small- to medium-sized berries are often more flavorful than their larger counterparts.

"The conditions change from day-to-day. It’s wise to call before coming out to pick." Will Cartwright

Strawberries are the most popular berry in the world. There are more than 20 named species and 600 varieties of strawberries that differ in flavor, size and texture. The United States is the largest strawberry producer in the world, followed by Spain. There is an average of 200 tiny seeds in every strawberry.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

Thank you, Patterson Elementary School teachers in Holly for an outstanding school year. We’re thrilled to be coming back next year! See you in September.

I just wanted to say how much I love and support the Holly Area Schools. My children have had a great education given by wonderful, caring teachers. You can add all the new buildings you want to the outside of your school, but you’ll never match the quality on the inside.

The time has come for teachers to decide. Are they true professionals or merely union workers in the public education factory? True professionals take full responsibility for those placed in their care and don’t blame others for their failures. In the current environment, charter or private schools look much more attractive and produce better results. If you want respect as a teacher, stop being a union thug and be the professional you should be.

Many times, life can seem crazy in this community and we bicker about stupid stuff in the hot lines. But, we are all one community made up of one fabric and interrelated with each other in many ways. Katy’s passing has ripped a hole in that fabric for many of us who never knew her personally, but we know of her fight. So sorry for your loss. May God bless and comfort.

Legalize pot.

I thought fireworks that leave the ground are illegal. Well, people in Holly Shores were setting them off last night. I actually had to go outside and make sure they didn’t blow up my car. It was that loud. Of course, the cops don’t do anything about it.

Comedy Night

July 8th, 2011 • 8:00pm-10:00pm

$15 Per Ticket for Show

Dinner will be available at 7:30pm. Show starts at 8:00pm.

Receive 20% off when you purchase your ticket before 7-1-11

The Coyote-Preserve Golf Club

Restaurant, Bar & Banquet Facility

HOT LINE continued

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The Adjustment Bureau
Matt Damon stars in this thriller — based on the short story “Adjustment Team” by Philip K. Dick — as a man who glimpses the future fate has planned for him and realizes he wants something else. To get it, he must pursue the only woman he’s ever loved, on the streets of modern-day New York. On the brink of winning a seat in the U.S. Senate, David Norris (Damon) meets beautiful contemporary ballet dancer Elise Sellas (Emily Blunt). But just as he realizes he’s falling for her, mysterious men conspire to keep the two apart. David learns he is up against the agents of Fate itself — the men of The Adjustment Bureau — who will do everything to prevent them from being together.

Unknown
Dr. Martin Harris (Liam Neeson) awakens after a car accident in Berlin to discover that his wife (January Jones) suddenly doesn’t recognize him and another man (Aidan Quinn) has assumed his identity. Ignored by disbelieving authorities and hunted by mysterious assassins, he finds himself alone, tired and on the run. Aided by an unlikely ally (Diane Kruger), Martin plunges headlong into a deadly mystery that will force him to question his sanity, his identity, and just how far he’s willing to go to uncover the truth.

Dear Dr. Donohue: Please tell me about post-traumatic stress disorder. I think someone in my family suffers from it. — A.F.

Answer:
Having faced an event that threatened life or caused serious injury is the basis for post-traumatic stress disorder. The event keeps resurfacing in the mind with a clarity that imparts terror and helplessness, and sometimes guilt. The remembrance can happen during the day or in dreams. An affected person stays in the alert mode at all times. He or she loses interest in life, neglects those around him or her, suffers from fragmented sleep, often erupts in outbursts of anger and is usually quite depressed.

RELEASED THIS WEEK

DVDs & Movies

The Adjustment Bureau
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Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1 Houston acronym
5 Have a bug
8 Urban pall
12 Black, in poetry
13 Expert
14 Hemingway nickname
15 Join with a blowtorch
16 Uralmodnist
17 Formerly, formerly
18 Moe, Larry or Shemp
20 Croon
22 Property
26 Get more ammo
29 Shade source
30 Trigger’s rider
31 — Major (constellation)
32 Pigs’ digs
33 Existed
34 That man’s
35 Buck’s mate
36 Carries
37 Integer, e.g.
40 Daytime drama
41 Cruel
45 Too
47 Couric’s network
49 Thought

DOWN
1 Information
2 Help under handedly
3 One’s performance
4 Pyrenees nation
5 Breathing problem
6 Anger
7 Without precision
8 Exhausted
9 “Dennis the Menace” girl
10 Chances, for short
11 “Roscoe”
12 Jewel
13 Doctrine
14 “Eat Cake”
15 Ripped
16 Spud’s buds
17 Rhino feeder
18 Buron’s neighbor
19 Booth, e.g.
20 Trace
21 Employed
22 “CSI” evidence
23 Command count
24 Full, as eyebrows
25 “American Idol”
26 Infamous fiddler
27 Moist
28 Matterhorn, for one
29 Reed or Ravis
30 Feathery neckpiece
31 20% OFF cut and style for men & women — with Liz Curtis only — MUST PRESENT COUPON
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CC & Company Salon In Fenton on Rounds Drive

NATIONAL NEWS OREGON

Portland draining reservoir after man urinates in it
Oregon’s Portland Water Bureau is draining an 8 million-gallon reservoir after surveillance cameras caught a man urinating into it this week. The move will cost the water bureau $28,000 to $35,000 in lost revenue and $7,500 in disposal costs, CNN affiliate KATU-TV reports. Is that worth it when the urine involved is really a drop in the bucket?

Dr. Gary Oxman, a Multnomah County health officer, also told The Oregonian: “The health risk associated with that is really, really tiny.”

Water bureau administrator David Shaff told KATU it’s not about the science. “There are people who will say it’s an overreaction,” he said. “I don’t think so. I think just dealing with the ‘yuck factor,’ I can imagine how many people would be saying, ‘I made orange juice with that water this morning. That’s not what I want to hear.’”

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DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Please tell me about post-traumatic stress disorder. I think someone in my family suffers from it. — A.F.

ANSWER:
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CREDIT SCORE
Continued from Front Page

“It might make a difference getting the job you want,” said John Ottney, a loan officer with Star Mortgage of America in Fenton. “Trust me, it’s scary.” Ottney sees the affects of credit scores every day. “There has to be a minimum credit score to even consider a mortgage.”

Credit scores are used as a tool to help lenders learn about their potential clients, and how much of a risk they might be.

Your credit score is usually called a FICO score, because of the software the three major companies use to tabulate a person’s scores developed by Fair Isaac and Company. “Think of the credit score as references,” said Rod Griffin, director of public education for Experian, one of the three credit reporting companies. “Your credit history works in a similar way.”

There is more than one credit score for each person. Three credit-reporting companies gather information on consumers. Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion all build credit reports from information sent from lenders. They also collect court judgments against consumers and bankruptcy information. “Our responsibility is to accurately show what lenders are reporting to us as to what is in their records,” said Griffin.

Your credit history goes into a credit report, which is then used to calculate a credit score.

“Even if they’re good people, if their credit score is not where it needs to be, we cannot consider them for a mortgage.”

John Ottney
loan officer, Star Mortgage of America

Information like timeliness of bill payments, debt to available credit and diversity of credit are calculated depending on what kind of loan the consumer is applying for, said Griffin. The lenders decide what type of scoring system they are going to use. Mortgage companies and larger banks use their own system to determine a score.

When Ottney is considering a client for a mortgage, he takes three different scores, and picks the middle number. “All mortgages are now credit-score driven,” he said. “Even if they’re good people, if their credit score is not where it needs to be, we cannot consider them for a mortgage.”

Credit scores range from 300 to 850, and in general, it’s better to have a higher score, but there is no “cut off” number that will exclude someone from credit. Griffin said that if their credit score is tighter than it has been in recent years, and requires a higher score.

Ottney hesitates to give a minimum number that would exclude someone from credit, because it depends on what type of mortgage they need. “If it’s below 640, we try to counsel them on improving their score,” he said.

Ottney compared taking care of one’s credit score to taking care of a Harley Davidson motorcycle. It needs to be cleaned, maintained, and free of dents and dings. “The younger you can get this message, the easier your life will be when you’re in your late 20s and ready to buy,” he said.

Unfortunately, there is no magic cure for bad credit. “You can’t pay somebody to fix it,” he said. Aside from paying your bills on time, Ottney said outstanding debts in collection need to be settled. He suggests calling the creditor to make a deal. If you can afford to pay $800 on a $2,000 debt, the creditor may take that offer to clear up your account. “In today’s economic situation, now is a great time to make deals with creditors you owe money to,” said Ottney. Just get proof in writing, he said.

“To be empowered as a consumer you need to change your report over time,” said Griffin. Delinquent payments can be cleared up in about six months of paying on time, but money in collections or bankruptcies can take years to repair.

By law, every person is entitled to one copy of their credit report every year from each of the three reporting companies. The information contained is used to figure your credit score.

To check your credit report go to annualcreditreport.com, or get free reports. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) warns consumers that there are impostor sites that you may be directed to if the website is not spelled correctly.

Credit issues? No problem! Call and drive today!
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www.4mycredit.com

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How to maintain or improve your credit score
1. Pay any bills you have on time.
2. Don’t transfer balances from one card to another. This will show creditors you don’t know when you flip cards over and counts it against you.
3. If you have a short credit history, don’t open new accounts, because the affects of your credit scores may not be known when you flip cards over.
4. Don’t close unused accounts. It’s better to leave unused accounts open.
5. You need to check your credit, and take care of your credit like any prized possession.
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

In 2009, Hadenville Unity Christian ended the Flint Powers girls soccer team’s chances of a state title in the championship game, as the Chargers lost 1-0.

This season, the Chargers, a squad comprised of mainly tri-county area players, weren’t going to let that happen again.

This time it was Powers’ turn to shine. Playing a roster that included many of the players that lost to the six-time defending state champions two years ago, the Chargers showed why they are the cream of the crop in Division 3 by defeating the Crusaders 1-0 at Michigan State University in Saturday’s Division 3 State Championship game.

“I could not even believe that we actually pulled it off,” said Fenton resident and junior player Addison Carno. “I’ve been looking forward to that moment since freshman year because we made it there and then we lost. Ever since then, I wanted to get back to that point. As the seconds wound down, we got so excited. We finally did it. I was so proud of everyone and so ecstatic.”

The state championship ends a history of near-misses for the Powers program. Powers (18-3-1) was playing in its fifth state championship game in 12 years, losing twice to Unity Christian (2007 and 2009). But the fifth time turned out to be the charm.

“I am ecstatic,” Fenton resident and freshman keeper Heather Rolls said. “It’s such an honor to be a part of this team in the first place, and winning the state championship was the icing on the cake.”

“It’s very surreal. I don’t think it’s hit me yet,” senior captain Jessica Rolls said. “I don’t think I could ask for anything better.”

The Chargers, particularly on defense, couldn’t have played much better on Saturday. The six-time defending champs entered the contest outscoring foes 8-3.

See POWERS on 15

Linden’s Fisher to wrestle at Central Michigan

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

For Kyle Fisher, wrestling comes as natural as eating and breathing.

He’s been doing it all his life. Whether he’s a state champion or a player to watch, Fisher’s a name that comes to mind in wrestling.

However, this was Fisher’s first time to be named to a state team. The senior wrestler has spent his high school career putting in the work to be the best and he’s done just that.

Fisher lived up to his expectations by winning the 113-pound weight class.

“I’ve been working so hard for this,” Fisher said. “I’ve got this feeling that I’m doing something right.”

Fisher started working towards his goal over the summer, seeing the results of his hard work over the course of the season.

“I’ve been coaching Kyle since he was a third grader. Kyle has always been someone that you can depend on,” Linden varsity wrestling coach Todd Skinner said. “His strength, dedication, willingness to learn and mindset makes him the perfect college wrestler.”

Skinner said Fisher’s work ethic will help his collegiate career.

“I’ve had him over my house doing work for me, and he hardly takes breaks,” Skinner said. “He just works. The early morning lifting, drilling and running that he’ll have to do in college will be perfect. This young man does not only have a desire to work, but a desire to work hard no matter what he does. Kyle is also very coachable, and I think at hits level, that will take him a long way.”

Fisher has known he wanted to wrestle at the collegiate level for a long time.

“It was very important to me because that’s what I’ve been working for all of my life,” Fisher said. “I’m glad someone noticed me, when you consider all of the people in the state. I don’t think it was my stats, but my stature that put me at that level. I practiced very hard for it. I work hard every day. I like to compete and hopefully I’ll compete for an NCAA championship.”

Unlike most DI teams at Central, the wrestling program can compete with the top teams around the nation. The Chipewas were one of only 13 teams at nationals this year despite it being considered a rebuilding year for the program. The Chipewas have been in the top 15 in the nation the past two years.

See FISHER on 15

Linden’s Kyle Fisher (top) is headed to Central Michigan University to wrestle in the fall.

Golfers post same scores at state meets

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

The tri-county area had two golfers at state meets last weekend, and both — Lake Fenton’s Merrick George and Linden’s Kurtis Jones — had two-day, 36-hole totals of 162 scores.

Jones, a senior, posted his at Michigan State’s Forest Akers East Golf Course, while George, a sophomore, posted his at Akers West Golf Course.

Neither was particularly thrilled with their overall performances.

“No, I wasn’t happy,” Jones said. “My irons (were not strong). But it was awesome being there. It was a good experience. I had a lot of fun.”

“I was disappointed, but I guess it was a good experience because I am a freshman,” George said. “I hope to make it back here next year. Now, I know what it’s like.”

It was Jones’ first time at the state meet as well. He was consistent throughout, posting an 81 on Friday and Saturday, resulting in his 162.

“I shot eight-over on the front and one over on the back nine the first day,” Jones said. “I completely turned around my round, so I was pretty proud of that. I think I started concentrating more and started hitting better shots. Once I started making pars, I kept going.”

George shot an 83 on Friday and followed that up with a 79 on the second day. He finished 10 shots out of the top 10.

“My driver and putting was off on both days,” George said. “I was missing those three-footers that I usually make every time.

“On the second day, I was five-over-par and I had seven holes left. Then I had back-to-back birdies. But then, I double- bogeyed my 15th and 16th holes.

It wasn’t a horrible round, but it should’ve been better.”
By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Powers varsity girls soccer has always been a strong program.

But this year Addison Carino knew something was different. While the team had never won a state title before, she could sense something was special about this year.

“The first day of practice after the first week of tryouts we could tell this year was going to be different,” the Flint resident said. “We had all the experience. We had some great seniors that have been playing for four years, some juniors that have played for three years and then some really talented freshmen came in. You could tell this team was different and was going to make it far in the playoffs.”

Carino was exactly right. Powers, made up of many athletes from the tri-county area, won the school’s first-ever varsity girls soccer title, defeating six-time defending champions Hudsonville Unity Christian 1-0 in the Division 3 State Championship game held at Michigan State University on Saturday.

The Chargers (18-3-1) had been here before. They had lost to Unity Christian twice before in the state title game, the most recent coming in 2009 in a 1-0 loss. Many of the girls from that team remained on Powers’ squad. This time, they knew they belonged on the field with Unity Christian.

“Honestly, we were not intimidated,” Jessica Rolls said. “We looked at the teams we beat to get there. They had to beat teams, we played the best teams in the state and that gives you confidence.”

“I told (the team) we were going to win the game because we had more heart and we wanted it more. We found that extra drive to bury a goal and then defended it. They gave us a game, but in the end, we outplayed them.”

When you ask the team why they became the first team in Powers’ girls soccer history to win a state title, most bring up two key aspects to the team — its season-long focus and its leadership.

“Really, it’s our captains,” Linden resident and player Emma Phillpotts said. “They push us so hard in practice. They make us do fundamentals and make us do them right, so when we are in the games, we do them perfect. Our captains help us out a lot, as well as our coaches and the whole team.”

“Our dedication throughout the year (was a key),” senior captain McKenzie Mora said. “We came really far and were really close this year. We went game-by-game and one game at a time.”

“Literally the first day of the year we had parents coming out telling me we had a phenomenal team,” Powers coach Art Moody said. “But we told them to take it one day at a time. As coaches we prepared them for that. We knew if we could get to this level and potentially win it but we had to focus on each day and each game.”

When they played Detroit Country Day, we never mentioned Unity Christian. We focused only on the game on hand. The captains only looked at that game and that made the difference. Last year we overlooked Frankenmuth and that hurt us. The seniors learned a lesson last year and they taught the underclassmen how to be successful.”

Tri-County Times Submitted Photo

(Above) Flint Powers’ state championship Division 3 girls soccer team poses with its trophy minutes after winning the title in a 1-0 victory against Unity Christian on Saturday. (Right) Jessica Rolls tries to possess the ball during Wednesday’s semifinal game.

Wednesday Night
Cross Country Races

Here are the results of the first week of the Wednesday Night Races held at Linden County Park. The races continue through July 20. The races begin at 6:45 p.m. The cost is $2 per runner or $5 per family.

HALF-MILE RACE

GIRLS 5 & UNDER
1. Madelyn Strauss .................. 6:21.0
2. Olivia Strauss .................. 12:39.0
GIRLS 6 & 7
1. Emily Grob .................. 4:43.0
GIRLS 8 & 9
1. Lauren Bossenberger .... 3:51.0
2. Claire Grob .................. 4:31.0
3. Brock Dobbs .................. 6:17.0
4. Sophie Swift .................. 6:41.0
BOYS 5 & UNDER
1. Max Smith .................. 8:18.0
BOYS 6 & 7
1. Jack Larson .................. 4:00.0
2. James Melchor .................. 8:26.0
BOYS 8 & 9
1. Curtis Johnson .................. 3:19.0
2. Eli Bell .................. 3:25.0
3. Logan Canada .................. 3:29.0
4. Gavin Dolliver .................. 4:11.0
5. Steven Bigelow .................. 4:17.0
6. Justin Melchor .................. 4:27.0
ONE-MILE RUN
GIRLS 9 & 10
1. Madeline Smith ........ 11:54.0
GIRLS 11 & 12
1. Sabrina Bigelow ........ 10:33.0
BOYS 9 & 10
1. Andrew McDonald .... 8:36.0
BOYS 11 & 12
1. Josh Bell .................. 6:49.0
TWO-MILE RUN
GIRLS 13-15
1. Alexis Madrigal ........ 17:11.0
2. Mimi Moughler ........ 17:25.0
WOMEN 40-49
1. Jackie Bossenberger .... 19:29.0
2. Vickie Woodbeck ........ 20:08.0
WOMEN 50-59
1. Vickie Dolliver ........ 20:06.0
BOYS 9 & UNDER
1. Eli Bell ........ 13:26.0
2. Jacob Woodbeck ........ 19:26.0
BOYS 10-12
1. Derek Belighton ........ 15:58.0
2. Nicholas McDonald .... 16:04.0
3. Zach Hurst ........ 16:26.0
4. Trenton Woodbeck ........ 18:23.0
BOYS 13-15
1. Nolan McDonald .... 12:56.0
2. Matt Bell ........ 13:09.0
3. Bailey Davis ........ 13:09.0
4. Adam Howard ........ 13:12.0
5. Josh Deighton ........ 16:00.0
6. Connor Brooks ........ 16:06.0
THREE MILE RUN
WOMEN 30-39
1. Anna Troppens ........ 29:22.0
BOYS 13-15
1. Dustin Sack .......... 20:45.0
2. Scott Shultz ........ 20:46.0
3. Mark Vuillemont ........ 22:06.0
MEN 16-19
1. Sam Moughler ........ 19:11.0
2. Zach LeMeux ........ 20:30.0
MEN 20-29
1. Ben Cox ........ 18:32.0
2. Kyle Wallace ........ 20:29.0
MEN 40-49
1. Dave Madrigal ........ 18:42.0

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30 YEARS
POWERS Continued from Page 13
109-2. But, on Saturday, the third goal the Crusaders allowed this game sparked the Crusaders’ first-ever state championship. That goal came with 8:03 left in the first half. Maddie Reynolds took a pass from Morgan McKerchie and then took a shot that hit the left side of the net for the game’s only goal.

“The goal helped take a lot of pressure off of things,” Linden resident Emma Phillpotts said. “From then on we knew it would be harder. A goal against a team like that is not going to be a deal breaker. We knew that we still had to play hard because one little mistake could tie it up, but it helped.”

Powers’ possession game was constant, and the Chargers controlled the ball more than Unity Christian. Most of Unity Christian’s attacks involved thru balls or long kicks toward the corners. However, the Chargers’ defense defended most of those attacks well.

“Part of (the credit I think) has to do with myself and two other defensive players (Jessica Adams and Phillpotts), we’ve been playing together for 10 years, so we have good chemistry,” Madeline Carino said. “And we have a freshman who plays middle (Ally Haran) and while she was new, she has a lot of experience playing on high level teams. We know our positions well, rotate and talk to each other a lot. It all works out.”

“They do make my job a lot easier,” Heather Rolls said. “It’s hard to get through our defense, and there are not many breakaways. We get some shots from far away, but even then, some of our midfielders come back to help as well.”

If anything Powers probably had the better chances to increase the lead in the second half. Meanwhile Rolls recorded her 14th shutout in 18 games. Powers allowed just nine goals this season.

“We came out there and shocked them a little bit,” Powers coach Art Moody said. “Unity came out with fire. They challenged the net and woke us up. But when we played our possession game, we made them play our style, and frustrated them a little bit.”

“The defense played fantastic. That’s what I’ve been talking to the press about, is how solid our defense has been. It’s very true, if you don’t allow shots, they can’t score. They did an amazing job, and did what we asked of them to do.”

And now Powers not only has its first girls state soccer title, but the first in the Flint area ever.

“I am numb. I still don’t think it has hit me yet,” said senior captain McKenzie Mora. “It’s an amazing feeling. We kept saying it over and over. We made history and we are the first team to bring the championship to the school. I love this team to death.”

Some are thinking about the future a tiny bit.

“I have thought about (next year),” said Addisyn Carino, a junior. “Right now, I’m just enjoying everything, but I thought about it for sure. Next year we’ll be the defending state champions. It’s going to be motivating. A lot of the returning girls are going to remember how this feels and be hungrier to win it again.”

FISHER Continued from Page 13
ition in each of the last five years, and seven of the last eight seasons.

“Central is a very good school,” Fisher said. “They have a good wrestling team which is ranked in the country. They have a good coaching staff and I like the campus.”

Fisher expects to wrestle at 184 pounds. Most likely, he’ll redshirt this season, meaning he won’t compete in NCAA matches this year, giving him four more years of eligibility beyond that season. Fisher has some ideas where he’ll have to improve.

“My endurance, my strength and some of my technique is where I need to work,” Fisher said. “Besides that, I believe I am pretty well prepared. I know at that level there are going to be a lot of athletes that have better technique and going to be stronger, so I am going to have to continue to work on that. I will be that person that’s underneath the person that’s starting. It’s going to make me humble and make me want to work harder to get that starting spot. I’ll be training with some of the best kids in the country.”

“I think Kyle is ready for Diviision I because he really enjoys tough competition,” Skinner said. “He’s wrestled in several national tournamenets, including the Disney Duals, as this will be his third year on my team. As an individual that is not used to sitting out, it will be very humbling for Kyle to redshirt his freshman year. At the same time it’ll motivate him to work hard so that he can get in the starting lineup.”

Linden Young Champions cheer team has earned first-place performances in recent events

The Linden Young Champions cheerleaders group has a proud tradition, and it continues to only get better.

Earlier this year, Linden’s Elite Division 5 team went to the regional competition and captured first place out of 14 teams.

Last weekend, history repeated itself. The squad competed at the Young Champions’ State Cheer Competition, and Linden’s Elite Division 5 team came home with another first-place finish.

Currently the squad is preparing for a trip to the Young Champions National Cheer Competition to be held in Las Vegas July 12.

The competitors that helped create the teams’ recent success in the two most recent events include Maddie Liss, Sara Hopkins, Marissa Quiroz, Gabby Dumanos, Tori Deskins, Madison Fendert, Emily Pearce, Taylor Hagel, Alex Premo, Syndie Graham, Alexis Harden and Janette Rich, Gabby Wolak, Reegan Gadany, Macee Sova, Sydney Graham, Madalynn Liss, Breyanna Turnipseed, Savannah Matras, Madison Fendert, Kelsey Townley and Jordan Moros.
HOLLY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JUNE 15, 2011
REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call:
Supervisor Lambert, Clerk Winchester, Township Treasurer, Trustee Leslie.
Approved: Consent Agenda.
No Action: Appointment of ZBA Member - Term 01-01-11 to 12-31-13.
Approved: Village Fireworks.
Approved: Noxious Weeds Services Proposals Ace Outdoor Services...
Approved: 2011-2013 IT Services Contract.
Approved: Street Lighting Agreement - Golfview at Woodfield
Approved: 2012-2014 CDGB Cooperative Agreement
No Action: OCRC – Road Signage.
No Action: Township Hall Roof – Color and Chimney Repair.
No Action: TIA Membership.

CARING GENTLEMAN would like to make your days a bit easier. I will be your companion, administer your meds, drive you to your appointments, do your shopping, light meals, housekeeping and laundry. I have experience, local references, and am CPR certified. Round the clock supervision, or just check in daily. Your needs are my concern. Call 810-735-9510, 810-265-6814, 810-513-1646.

FENTON GARAGE sale 3 family, 11441 Nors Dr. June 23rd-25th 9-4p.m.Off Bennett Lake Rd.

FENTON GARAGE sale 23rd, 9-4p.m., off Melabray Hill. Tons of infant, kids clothes and toys, household items.

FENTON GARAGE sale, 1008 State Rd., June 23rd-24th, 9-5p.m. Hot tub, furniture, much more.

FENTON OAKS Community yard sale! June 23rd-25th, 9-4p.m., 13598 Lakebrook Dr. Entertainment center, wheel bearings, household items, kids clothes, toys and miscellaneous.

FENTON SPRINGFIELD Hills subdivision sale, June 24-25th, 9-4p.m., off Fenton between Thompson and North Long Lake.

FENTON THE Landings Rooms/Acts. 13133 Harbor Landings Dr., Lahrin/Torreys A.., Saturday June 25th, 9-4pm.

FENTON THURSDAY 9-4p.m., household, furniture, kitchen, workshop, miscellaneous. 3/4 mi. west of US23 on White Lake.

FENTON YARD sale, 111 Third St, June 24-25th, 9-5p.m.
**LINDEN GARAGE/MOVING Sale**

**Thursday, June 23rd, 9-4 p.m.**

Town, off South Bridge, LINDEN GARAGE sale. 158 quilt rack, lawn chairs, Jenn oak entertainment center, pit, vacuum cleaners, full wall and golf bags, portable antique wash tub, golf clubs faucet, mirrored horse collar, 9-noon. Full size bed frame w/ mattress & boxspring. Available July 1st. Call 330-500-5455.

**TOWN, OFF SOUTH BRIDGE, LINDEN GARAGE SALE**

Thursday, June 23rd, 9-4 p.m. Lots of stuff. Antiques, tools, household goods, decor, clothing and so much more. Look for signs. North side of lake access off Whitaker and Linden Rds. South side of lake access off Owen St. Gardens included in (are in) Linden Dr., Harpt Dr., Whitaker Rd., Scenicview Dr., Lake Forest Dr., Island View Dr., Jacob Rd., (in) Fenont Eleanor St., Pavilion Dr., Pine Bluff Ct., Meredith Ct., LINDEN HIDDEN Ridge Condos garage sale. June 24th-25th, 9-6 p.m. Furniture, kitchen, formal teenager dresses, large and South Holly. 2 person bed, bedside cabinets, winter clothing, great quality household goods, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, 248-634-3300.

**HOLLY JUNE 23rd-25th, 9-5 p.m.**

Furniture, kitchen, formal teenager dresses, large and South Holly. 2 person bed, bedside cabinets, winter clothing, great quality household goods, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, 248-634-3300.

**HOLLY EARLYBIRDS!**

HOLLY JUNE 24-25th, 9-5p.m. Furniture, kitchen, formal teenager dresses, large and South Holly. 2 person bed, bedside cabinets, winter clothing, great quality household goods, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, 248-634-3300.

**HOLLY JUNE 23rd-25th, 9-5p.m.**

Furniture, kitchen, formal teenager dresses, large and South Holly. 2 person bed, bedside cabinets, winter clothing, great quality household goods, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, household stuff. Antiques, tools, blankets, decor, 248-634-3300.

**HOLLY 3 FAMILY sale.**

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Hi, I'm Kittens
Kittens is a black and white kitten. Kittens is 3 months old. Kittens is neutered. Kittens is up-to-date on shots. Kittens is very good at gate training and is very good with other cats. Kittens loves to play and loves to cuddle. Kittens is available at the Saginaw County Animal Shelter, 1215 N. Saginaw St., Fenton, MI 48430. Kittens's adoption fee is $70.

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Sally Ann Justus

1940-2011

Sally Ann Justus - age 70, of Fenton, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2011 at her residence. Per Mrs. Justus' request, cremation has already taken place and no services will be held. Any contributions may make contributions to the Genesee County Humane Society or Adopt-A-Pet.

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