For police, threat of taser is ultimate deterrent

Local officers use tasers less than once a year

By William Axford

It has been more than a year since Michigan residents with a concealed pistol license (CPL) could purchase a taser, an electroshock weapon and alternative to guns. Tri-City Trading Post salesperson Jessie Curtis said tasers are popular amongst women and the elderly who cannot handle the kick of a gun.

“We’ve had to order more since

Since tasers have become legal, Tri-City Trading Post in Fenton has sold approximately 20 kits.

New state bill aiming to weed out animal abusers

By Tim Jagielo

The animal abuse registry derived from HB 4535 and 4534 is shelved because of the potential cost of the registry. It’s being abandoned because of the hefty

See ABUSERS on 7

Space issues tackled with library renovation project

Phase 1 not to exceed $9,375, may take up to 70 days to finish

By Ryan Tackabury

Fenton — The city of Fenton has received a proposal to address functional planning, space usage, shelving and furniture

See RENOVATIONS on 11

Summary

Library Design Associates, which has worked with other Geneese District Library locations in the past, will work on Fenton’s library renovations.
Longtime Fenton detective retires his badge

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

After nearly 28 years, Det. Ron Skarzynski is retiring from the Fenton Police Department. The detective, who turns 50 in November, has taken a job as an investigator with the Attorney General’s office in Lansing.

“I don’t know where all the time went,” said Skarzynski. “It’s been a great career, no regrets.”

Though he believes this is a good move for his career, he admits it has been a little stressful. His family supports the move.

As the primary investigator for Fenton, Skarzynski has been involved with all of the critical cases for the past 25 years, including train accidents, boating accidents, carbon monoxide deaths, arsons, homicides and the disappearance of Randa Jawhari.

The homicide investigation that took two years resulted in Robert Parks’ conviction and prison sentence. Parks was convicted of strangling his wife Jessica to death in 2004 in their Fenton apartment.

Skarzynski said the Jawhari case is a heart breaker. “It’s still ongoing,” he said. “It’s in the hands of the Violent Crimes Task Force of the state police.”

Looking back over his career, Skar-...
Food allergies on the rise

Many children and adults have allergies that require them to avoid certain foods to prevent life-threatening reactions. These allergies can affect one or more of the following:

- Peanuts
- Tree nuts
- Soy
- Milk
- Eggs
- Wheat
- Fish
- Shellfish

These allergies tend to last a lifetime and may be triggered by accidental ingestion of the allergen. Individuals with severe allergies should carry an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) and have a plan in place in case of an allergic reaction.

HUSBAND ARRESTED
On Aug. 5, Linden police responded to a home in the 200 block of Cathy Circle to be on stand-by. A woman was divorcing her husband and was attempting to get her belongings from the home. Linden Police Chief Scott Sutter said the 40-year-old husband was not cooperative and became belligerent. A computer check revealed he man had a valid warrant from the Friend of the Court. He was arrested and taken to court to take care of the warrant.

LINNEN MAN REPORTS THEFT
On Aug. 7, Linden police responded to the 300 block of East Rolston Road, near Bridge Street on a report of a larceny from automobile. The owner of a 2003 Chevy Impala told police that someone entered his unlocked car overnight and stole 30 CDs from the center console.

TEXTING AND DRIVING IN HOLLY
On Saturday, Aug. 3, at 12:05 p.m., a Holly police officer observed the driver of a vehicle texting while driving. The driver was arrested and taken to court to stand-by. A woman was divorcing her husband and she was going through a divorce. The driving husband was not cooperating and became belligerent.

School cafeterias offer alternative choices for kids with variety of allergies

By Sally Rummel

For most Americans, a peanut butter sandwich is one of life’s simple pleasures, but for 1 percent of the population, such a meal can be deadly.

About three million Americans have an allergy to nuts, and if you’re one of them, you understand just how serious this allergy can be. Every meal or snack can bring you one step closer to anaphylaxis shock — a life-threatening allergic reaction. Making matters worse, a peanut allergy can last a lifetime.

Meet Romy

I’m a shy, quiet girl, who is just under a year old. A quiet home, with minimal activity would suit me best.

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The 13th annual Taste in Fenton featured pie eating contests (above), various activities for kids (below left) and food from local vendors (bottom right).
GOP searches for its missing white voters

Remember how Republican leaders vowed to improve their outreach to minorities after Mitt Romney’s demographic disaster in November? A lot of folks in the Grand Old Party’s conservative wing prefer to tap another group that let them down: the ‘missing white voters.’

They’re the focus of a widely discussed post-election series by Sean Trende, senior elections analyst at RealClearPolitics.

‘Democrats liked to mock the GOP as the “Party of White People” after the 2012 elections,’ Trende wrote. ‘But from a purely electoral perspective, that’s not a terrible thing to be. Even with present population projections, there are likely to be a lot of non-Hispanic whites in this country for a very long time.

The 2012 elections actually weren’t about a demographic explosion with non-white voters,’ Trende wrote. ‘Instead, they were about a large group of white voters not showing up.’

Trende estimates the actual turnout of blacks, Hispanics and other non-whites was about two million less than in 2008, but that was less of a decline than the six million drop-off in the white vote.

Romney, who won 59 percent of white voters, would have needed 62.54 percent to beat President Obama, political consultant Karl Rove writes.

I don’t often agree with Rove, but I think he’s right this time. As the “autopilot” report found in polls and focus groups, the GOP has lost touch with a lot of voters across racial and ideological lines. What happened to the missing white voters? Democrats asked that same question after 1988, their fifth loss of the previous six. They responded by reconnecting with working class white ‘Reagan Democrats’ and reoriented their message back to the political center to solve problems, not just present policy arguments.

Trende’s candid language drew some predictable criticism, but he was not calling for the GOP to ignore minority voters. He mainly argues that the fate of the parties will not turn on a single issue like immigration. On that point, he’s right. There’s no need for the parties to argue over which Americans deserve our attention most. We all do.

From the Right

Cal Thomas

The legacy of Anne Frank

On the day I visit the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, which is actually the family’s hiding place atop Anne’s father’s business, the wait to get in is as long as three hours. Such is the attraction of this historic site, 53 years after it was opened to the public.

Anne and her family were among an estimated 107,000 Jews deported to concentration camps from The Netherlands during the German occupation in World War II.

Anne’s diary has sold more than 30 million copies worldwide and is available in 75 languages. It is a testament to the indomitable spirit of a young girl and a vision of hope in the midst of perhaps the greatest inhumanity in world history.

Her story and that of her family and some friends who eluded the Nazis for two years before they were betrayed by an unknown person, is a living narrative that must be retold to this and future generations.

Anne’s diary entry dated April 11, 1944: “God has never deserted our people. Through the ages Jews have had to suffer, but through the ages they have gone on living, and the centuries of suffering have only made them stronger!”

In the midst of this declaration of strength, there was also her understandable fear of being discovered. As Anne wrote, also on April 11 after hearing footsteps outside the wall of the building: ‘That night I really thought I was going to die. I waited for the police and I was ready for death, like a soldier on the battlefield...’

Ultimately she was not spared, but the literary classic she created in the midst of suffering, indeed because of it, has survived.

Anne and her sister, Margot, died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in March 1945, just weeks before liberating British troops arrived.

In a diary entry dated April 4, 1944, Anne wrote, ‘I want to go on living even after my death.’ And so she has.

Anne Frank’s life was a candle in the midst of great darkness. Her flame should burn forever.

To what are you allergic?

“I found out a couple years ago I’m allergic to sulfas. My son’s allergic to bananas.”

—Sam DiVito

Tyrone Township

“Nothing, I’m a very fortunate person.”

—Bob Adams

Rose Township

“Nothing, but I have three daughters and one is allergic to amoxicillin.”

—Deb Beeners

Swartz Creek

“Peppers, roses and apricots. I break out and itch like crazy. I can also suffocate and go into shock.”

—Misty Drinkwine

Deertownfield Township

“I do take allergy pills for dirt, dust, musty smells. So probably mold and dust.”

—Gail Morgan

Linden

“I’m allergic to certain metals such as tungsten. I had to return my wedding band for a titanium one.”

—Randon Davis, Flint
New Google gadget connects computer, smartphone to television

By Ryan Tackabury
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Do you ever want to show a video to family or friends, but don’t want to make everyone crowd around your computer? Or maybe you just want to watch Netflix from your couch, but have no way to get it on your television. Google may have the easiest, and cheapest, solution for you.

The new device called Chromecast simplifies the process of taking what’s on your computer, and sending it right to your television for your viewing pleasure.

In fact, it works with a lot more than just computers too. Smartphones, both Android and iPhone, tablets, and laptops can all be used to send the content you want to watch to your television.

Chromecast is a small device that you can hook up to any HDTV. It’s small, and requires essentially no set up — just plug it in, and you are good to go, easily enough for the most novice computer users.

Only supported apps will work with Chromecast. Current apps include YouTube, Netflix, Google Play Movies and Music, with Pandora coming soon. If you are using Chromecast with your computer and you use the Google Chrome web browser, you can surf the World Wide Web from your television.

Chromecast requires a Wi-Fi connection to work however, enabling it to connect to your mobile device.

Another great feature of the device is its small size, meaning it is easy to take with you. “This is going to be great to travel with. It’s so small and so easy to set up on a new Wi-Fi network that it’s truly portable,” wrote Mat Honan in a review of the device for Wired.

The new device can be purchased online through Google’s website, through Amazon, or at a Best Buy store for the small price of just $35.

Google’s new device is meant to compete with much more expensive alternatives such as Apple TV or the Roku box.

Though they are a new release on the market, there has already been an incredible demand so finding one may be difficult.

If you have to wait however, time will likely only improve the product as Google expands the number of apps available that work with the gadget, increasing its functionality.

“It’s going to be great to travel with. It’s so small, and so easy to set up on a new Wi-Fi network that it’s truly portable.”

Mat Honan, Wired

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Summary

The new Chromecast device easily lets you turn your HD television into a receiver for content from your computer, smartphone or tablet.

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New Google gadget connects physically to your TV and accepts Wi-Fi signals from a computer or mobile device, much like Apple TV or a Roku box.

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“Summary

The new Chromecast device easily lets you turn your HD television into a receiver for content from your computer, smartphone or tablet.”

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Google’s Chromecast device connects physically to your TV and accepts Wi-Fi signals from a computer or mobile device, much like Apple TV or a Roku box.
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POLICE
Continued from Page 3
typing or reading on his cell phone. The
driver put the phone down when he saw
the officer. The officer followed the car
as it pulled into a parking lot. A com-
puter check revealed the driver had two
warrants for his arrest. The man was
taken to the police station for process-
ing and was issued two citations, one
for driving with a suspended license and
one for texting while driving.

CAN’T DRINK BEER IN PUBLIC
On Sunday, Aug. 4, a Holly police of-
ci er received a report of individuals
with open alcohol at a drug store on Grange
Hall Road. A caller told police that the
individuals went to an apartment com-
munity at the 11000 block of North Saginaw
Street. At 8:25 p.m., the Holly police
officer saw one of the individuals walk
out of the apartment and walk along Sag-
nav Street, drinking from a glass bottle of
beer. When stopped, the 27-year-old
Holly man said he was carrying the bottle
in public because he had not finished
the beer yet. The man was arrested for
having open intoxicants in public. When
searched, the officer found plastic bags
containing prescription medicine in his
pockets. A computer check revealed the
man also had an arrest warrant out of
Fenton. He was taken to the Holly police
station for processing and then released
to Fenton police. Holly charges are pend-
ing the analysis of the unknown pills.

TEEN GIRLS SHOPLIFT SNACKS
At 7 p.m. on July 25, Holly police re-
sponded to a grocery store in the 15000
block of North Holly Road to investigate
retail fraud involving two teenage girls
that were detained by employees. After
observing the girls behaving suspi-
ciously, an employee followed them
around the store. One girl, later identi-
cified as a 15-year-old from Pontiac, was
seen selecting snacks and concealing
them in a backpack worn by the other
girl, later identified as a 13-year-old from
Holly. The girls were confronted as they
exited the store without paying. They
denied taking anything, however, the
items were recovered from the back-
pack. The storeowner indicated to police
that they prosecute all shoplifters so the
girls were taken to the police station for
processing. The girls were released to
their mothers and both will be petitioned
into probate court.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE WORD OF God is not intended to be used as sound bites to support
one’s position. True, Jesus said, ‘Let
he who is without sin cast the
first stone.’ He also said four verses later,
‘Go and sin no more.’ The (whole) truth
shall set you free.

YOU PEOPLE ARGUING about the GM and Chrysler bailouts need to
remember it was Bush who bailed them out, not Obama. It happened in
December of 2008 and Bush rerouted money from the TARP bill to give to
the automakers. Obama just agreed with it, but he was not president.

WHEN YOU CALL sexual orientation,
something that science proves is not
chosen, but biologically determined
during birth, ‘abnormal,’ use the legal
system to take away rights from gay
human beings and then say that
the fact that gay people exist offends you,
you’re being homophobic and are
bashing gays. Enough said.

FENTON TOWNSHIP NEEDS to get
Fenton and Linden and build a bike/jogging trail. You
can’t jog or ride a bicycle around here
without putting your life at stake. Also,
many small towns have street parties
with sidewalk sales, bands, vendors.
Please Fenton area, get with the
many small towns have street parties
without putting your life at stake. Also,
you can’t jog or ride a bicycle around here
without putting your life at stake. Also,
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with sidewalk sales, bands, vendors.
Please Fenton area, get with the

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can’t jog or ride a bicycle around here
without putting your life at stake. Also,
many small towns have street parties
with sidewalk sales, bands, vendors.
Please Fenton area, get with the
Fenton Township board. I’m just say-
ing this to keep the fire alive.

In 1955, the Los Angeles Police
Department conducted a contest to
have an official motto for its police
academy. The winning selection
was ‘To Protect and Serve’ submit-
ted by Officer Joseph S. Dorobek. This
motto now appears on all
department patrol vehicles.

The right of the people to be
secure in their persons, houses,
papers, and effects, against unre-
asonable searches and seizures, shall
not be violated, and no Warrants
shall issue, but upon probable
cause, supported by Oath or affir-
mation, and particularly describing
the place to be searched, and the
persons or things to be seized.

There are a number of recent
meanings that have been ascribed
to the motto and a number of dif-
ferent exceptions developed by
the courts over the years to the warrant
requirements of the Fourth
Amendment.

One very important but perhaps
not well known of the exceptions is
based on what is usually described
designed to protect the police in dealing with
‘emergency situations.’

Community caretaking involves
the police or other government
personnel ensuring the health and
safety of people.

Indeed the American Bar As-
Sociation Standards for Criminal
Justice indicate that society expects
the police to aid individuals who
are in danger of physical harm
and provide other services on an emer-
gency basis.

There are times when such
emergency requirements may
require the police to make a war-
rantless entry or into premises
without a warrant. Examples of
justified warrantless entries require
a reasonable belief of a problem ex-
isting and include rendering aid and
assistance to a person in need or
help, entry to avert the possibility of
fire (as to firefighters), and entry
to prevent imminent violence.

When proper entry is made and
evidence of criminal activity is ob-
served it may be seized and used in
a subsequent criminal prosecution.

By definition in such situations,
every case is different and the court
must evaluate the facts and the
law to determine if the warrantless
entry and/or seizure was legal.
**On a roll . . .**

> Linden senior takes second place in national bowling championship

**By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-6828

Grace Vickroy, 87, of Linden, has been bowling for almost half of her lifetime, but never did she expect to win second place in a national tournament in Reno, Nev. She and her husband, Mel and daughter and son-in-law Diane and Doug Jordan made a vacation out of their trip out west, but the two days of the United States Bowling Congress Senior Championships on July 2-3 were anything but restful.

“I bowled three games on Tuesday and six games on Wednesday,” said Vickroy. “I was worn out by the last game.”

Vickroy had earned her spot in the national tournament following her win in the state senior ladies tournament for ages 75 and up. She bowls twice a week, on a Tuesday ladies league at Fenton Lanes and a Thursday mixed league at Grand Blanc Lanes. The state association paid for her bowling, her shirt and $250 of her travel expenses.

“It was one of the most exciting things that has ever happened to me,” she said. “I wasn’t at all nervous, and I certainly didn’t expect to take second place.”

She came in second out of a field of 32 in her age group. By the time the field was narrowed to six bowlers, she was in second place. “If I wasn’t so tired on the last game and could have bowled my average (150), I think I would’ve come in first,” she said. Her last three games were a 146, 191 and 120.

For her win, Vickroy brought home an engraved mantel clock and $600 in prize money. “My family was more excited than I was,” said Vickroy, mother of six in a blended family, plus 17 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

“They thought it was pretty good for Grandma to have done this,” she said.

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**TASERS**

Continued from Front Page

they’ve become legal,” said Curtis, who estimates the store has sold approximately 20 tasers in the past year. “The voltage on it is smaller than a Christmas light bulb. It hits two separate points on the body and can incapacitate someone for 30 seconds.”

While tasers aren’t flying off the shelf for CPL holders, they remain a popular option for those seeking a nonlethal form of protection.

For local police, simply showing a taser is usually enough to deter people from interacting aggressively with officers. Lt. Jason Slater of the Fenton Police Department said seeing a taser on an officer has usually been enough to calm an aggressive person down.

“We’ve had many, many times where the presence of the taser has stopped a situation,” said Slater, who estimates the department has deployed tasers five times in the last six years.

Slater said tasers could be deployed whenever an officer resists arrest or if an officer encounters an aggressive animal. Fenton police upgraded their tasers last year, which now shoot two cartridges and have high definition cameras attached to them.

Det. Heather Wolkow of the Holly Police Department said tasers are deployed whenever an officer experiences resistance from an individual. Wolkow said having tasers is more preferable to other nonlethal weapons such as pepper spray, where officers have the risk of accidentally spraying themselves or a bystander.

“Tasers are a safe tool for us to have for ourselves. For the person who is being tased, it lessens the injury,” Wolkow said, who estimates the Holly Police Department received tasers in 2007.

Det. Sgt. Julie Bemus said Holly police have deployed tasers once in the past three years since they’ve had the devices and that most officers with that department have been tased at least once. Bemus also added that getting tased does not immobilize someone for a long period of time after the prongs are removed.

“It’s not like in the movies where people get stunned and can’t move afterward,” Bemus said.

Slater, who volunteered to be tased during his training, echoed Bemus and said that while the five-second electric shock is quite painful, people who are tased are capable of movement afterward.

“There are no after effects. You just feel as though you had a strenuous exercise, since the taser interferes with the body’s ability to communicate with your muscles,” Slater said.

At Tri-City Trading Post, Curtis said getting tased is not a requirement when purchasing a kit. For those interested in purchasing a kit, Curtis encourages CPL holders to stop in the store or call them at (810) 750-1644.

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**ABUSERS**

Continued from Front Page

price tag a new system would impose.

But have no fear — both sponsoring legislators are working on a bill that is supposed to achieve the same results. The original bill was introduced in April by Democrat Harvey Santana, and Republican Paul Muxlow, and it had the support of local groups like Adopt-a-Pet, and the Genesee County Animal Control Shelter.

“We’re going to take a different path to achieve the same results, and even double those results,” said Santana’s Chief of Staff Chris Zavisa. Santana represents Michigan’s 89th district in Detroit.

New language is being drafted, and Zavisa expects the new bill to be available for reading on Sept. 10. The bill could be reintroduced by mid-September, and back on the winding road to becoming a law.

Because the original bills had positive hearings, and there is already support in the Senate, Zavisa expects the bill to have an easier time making it though. “We expect that the animals in Michigan will get a Christmas present this year, and I guess I should say animal lovers too.”

The upcoming bill will utilize the existing Michigan State Police (MSP) Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) system. When someone tries to adopt an animal from a Michigan Department of Agriculture licensed shelter, the person’s criminal history will be checked on ICHAT.

If the person has been convicted of violating Michigan laws concerning animal abuse within five years, that person by law cannot adopt the animal. If they have other offenses, or have an abuse record more than five years old, that adoption is up to the discretion of the shelter.

Zavisa feels this is better than the previous bill, because only those convicted after the law’s implementation could be barred from adopting.

Though he can’t say exactly, he thinks the bill could become a law by the end of the year.
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Michigan’s constitution has history of revisions

Most recent document amended 31 times since 1964

By Ryan Tackabury
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-2828

It’s all over the news, and it would be easy to find someone who hasn’t heard about it — Detroit filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy.

Almost immediately after however, the filing for bankruptcy was challenged by a ruling from Michigan Circuit Court Judge Rosemarie E. Aquilina, who ordered Gov. Rick Snyder and Detroit Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr to withdraw the bankruptcy petition. Why? The state constitution.

Filing for bankruptcy would be unconstitutional Aquilina ruled, as it would disrupt the pension benefits. According to section nine, article 24 of the Michigan constitution, “The accrued financial benefits of each pension plan and retirement system of the state and its political subdivisions shall be a continuing obligation thereof which shall not be diminished or impaired.”

The state constitution is an interesting document — and one that many people are not familiar with. While our national constitution is a famous document that is often talked about, the same is not true of our more local legal document.

If one were to look at the Michigan constitution, they would find something very similar to its older brother in D.C. Consisting of 12 articles that spell out how the government of Michigan is to function, as well as your rights — it may be one of the most important pieces of writing that barely anyone reads. Yet it is still brought up every year around election time, used to support or oppose particular different arguments — or sometimes both at the same time.

Amending the constitution is not necessarily an easy task, although it has been done in the past. In fact, the most recent constitution has been amended 31 times since it was first put into place in 1964.

The two questions you may be asking are how is the constitution amended, and what do you mean first constitution?

What may be most interesting about our state constitution is just how fluid it has been over the years. Michigan has in fact had four different state constitutions over the years, the first of which was adopted by voters in 1835. In this first version of our constitution, the right to vote was restricted to white males of at least 21 years of age.

It was just 15 years later that a constitutional convention was called, resulting in the drafting of the Great Lake State’s second constitution. This included changing how the positions of Secretary of State and Attorney General, and Supreme Court members were elected and included articles on managing local government.

ALLERGIES
Continued from Page 3

is seldom outgrown and compared with other food allergies, is more severe and persistent.

Anaphylaxis may begin with severe itching of the eyes or face and, within minutes, progress to more serious symptoms — including swallowing and breathing difficulties, abdomi- nal pain, cramps, vomiting, diarrhea, hives and swelling beneath the skin, according to WebMD.com. The condition can turn deadly fast, with an increased heart rate, sudden weakness, a drop in blood pressure, shock and unconsciousness.

This makes a nut allergy the most seri- ous food allergy to deal with, especially in the close quarters of a school cafeteria.

Jaymi Whalen, food service director for Fenton Area Public Schools for 18 years, has seen the incidence of food allergies grow in the past decade. “We do have kids who carry EpiPens (epi- nephrine shot) with them throughout the school day,” said Whalen. “There are definitely more cases of it today than there were in the past, but the number of cases we see has remained quite stable in the past couple of years.”

At each school in the Fenton school district, there is a peanut-free table in the cafeteria, if necessary, to provide a non- contaminated environment for a child who suffers from a severe peanut allergy.

“We don’t use any open peanut butter products in our kitchens,” said Whalen. “Even our peanut butter and jelly sand- wiches are bought from Smucker’s and arrive in our building sealed and ready to eat.”

There is new hope on the horizon for peanut aller- gy sufferers, according to a recent article in USA Today. A patch containing a peanut protein may be worn to desensitize a person who is allergic to peanuts. It is now being researched in 24 medical centers worldwide.

Other food allergies are also preva- lent, especially gluten sensitivity, ac- cording to Whalen. “It’s a close second to peanut allergies,” she said. “We shop for gluten- free products for about 10 kids throughout the district. When we’re serving whole- grain pizza for lunch, we’ll use a gluten-free crust for those kids. We even serve gluten-free lunch meats, because they contain gluten, too.”

Any kids who suffer from food allergies, including lactose-intolerance, can have special foods to meet their dietary needs. “We just have to have a signed medical statement from your child’s physician,” said Whalen.
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The flash mob is coordinated during the Saturday flotilla on Lake Ponemah, for the video being produced about the Shiawassee River and the communities it connects.

FLOTILLA
Continued from Front Page

attached to pontoons until 3:30 p.m.

“We had young and old,” said Lossing. Essentially the gathering was like any other staged in a vibrant community — this one just happened to float. “It was just a really cool community event,” he said. “It was just a great sense of community to be out on the lake.”

The flotilla was organized with support from Fenton, Linden, and Holly government, along with the Keepers of the Shiawassee and Headwaters Trails. A social media campaign helped to spread the word.

The initial purpose of the event was to film the flotilla, and include it in a video the municipalities are making to compete for a Community Excellence Award from the Michigan Municipal League (MML). Participants began putting their watercraft in at 1 p.m., and taping began at 2:30. A coordinated flash-mob activity was conducted, as shots were taken. Afterward, $5 lunches were available at Spoonz Lakeside Tavern, and participants paddled back to their respective areas. “We had a blast,” said Lossing. “We all got sunburned as well, I know I did, I’m feeling it today.”

They’ll know the results of the competition in mid-September.

Ponetian Nights parade

Lake Ponemah was a flurry of activity Saturday as the Ponemah-Squaw-Tupper (PST) lake association hosted its annual Ponetian Nights Parade and boat-decorating contest. The best-decorated boat in the parade was called, “Angry Swans.” It was the creation of Larry, Lorie, Morgan and Madison Gavulic, Lisa, Jeff, Hannah and Chloe Polzin, Michelle and Mike Sloop and Rachel and Rylie Becker. They won a gift certificate to Spoonz Tavern. Best Costume Boat went to “Duck Dynasty” and Best Decorated House went to “Palm Tree House.”
One concern that everybody has is ensuring that we have a functional library to utilize once the upgrades are complete.

Michael Burns  
Fenton assistant city manager

The council voted unanimously to approve the upgrades.

Assistant City Manager Michael Burns said that the first set of library upgrades will include a new design pattern and ensuring ADA compliance. “One concern that everybody has is ensuring that we have a functional library to utilize once the upgrades are complete,” Burns said.

A day will have to be spent getting measurements and information, and after the work is done DeBear hopes to have a layout for both floors of the library. “In terms of coming up with a functional layout, I would say it will take 65 to 70 days,” DeBear said.

The cost for Phase 1 of the project is set for a cost not to exceed $9,375, and will come from the Capital Outlay line item of the library budget.

This does not include the new carpet and paint that is being planned for the library, which is coming out of the $100,000 the DDA budgeted for library improvements for the 2013 fiscal year. Councilman Bradley Jacob, who serves as the appointed representative to the Library Board said that he was all for this upgrade.

Councilman Les Bland agreed with Jacob. “It’s been a long time coming,” he said.

The council voted unanimously to approve the upgrades.

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DEAR DO DR. DONOHUE: My heart’s desire is to have long hair. I would like it to grow to my waist or lower. I have seen pictures of singers and movie stars with such hair, but my hair doesn’t grow longer than my shoulders. Is there a vitamin or medicine that promotes hair growth? — V.T.

ANSWER: Hair growth is something that is programmed in every individual. The majority of people have a two-year hair-growth cycle. Such a cycle permits hair to grow to shoulder length. A few people have a six-year cycle. These are the people whose hair grows to the waist and even farther. I wish I had better news for you. I don’t.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN

When the White House (Secret Service Code: “Olympus”) is captured by a terrorist mastermind and the President is kidnapped, disgraced former Presidential guard Mike Banning finds himself trapped within the building. As our national security team scrambles to respond, they are forced to rely on Banning’s inside knowledge to help retake the White House, save the President and avert an even bigger crisis. Antoine Fuqua (Training Day) directs an all-star cast featuring Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart, Morgan Freeman, Angela Bassett, Melissa Leo, Ashley Judd and Rick Yune. R, 1 hr. 59 min.

THE BIG WEDDING

With an all-star cast led by Robert De Niro, Katherine Heigl, Diane Keaton, Amanda Seyfried, Topher Grace, with Susan Sarandon and Robin Williams, THE BIG WEDDING is an uproarious romantic comedy about a charmingly modern family trying to survive a weekend wedding celebration that has the potential to become a full blown family fiasco. To the amusement of their adult children and friends, long divorced couple Don and Ellie Griffin (De Niro and Keaton) are once again forced to play the happy couple for the sake of their adopted son’s wedding after his ultra conservative biological mother unexpectedly decides to fly halfway across the world to attend. With all of the wedding guests looking on, the Griffins are hilariously forced to confront their past, present and future — and hopefully avoid killing each other in the process. Screenplay by Justin Zackham. Directed by Justin Zackham. R, 1 hr. 29 min.

KING FEATURES

ACROSS
1 Paddock papa
5 Rotating part
8 Lateen-rigged boat
12 Mid-Eastern Gulf
13 “The Greatest”
14 Architect Saarinen
15 Paper quantity
16 Under the weather
17 George Herman Ruth
18 Damage
20 Praise highly
22 Conclusive proof
26 Grip
28 Trigger’s rider
30 Id counter-part
31 See 36-
32 Victory
33 Auction
34 — out a living
35 Lubricate
36 With 31-
37 Forefront of activity
40 From square
41 Etta James classic
45 “The Forsyte —”
47 $ dispenser
49 Perjurer
50 Paradise
51 Unruly group
52 Advan-tage
53 “The Da Vinci —”
54 “Mayday!”
55 Dilbert’s workplace
56 With 31- across, 1957 Pat Boone hit
57 Ganges garment
58 Footnote word
59 Harvest
60 Whales’ fodder
61 Wrinkly

DOWN
1 As a group
2 Egypt’s capital
5 The whole enchilada
7 Top prize on many recent game shows
8 Fix, as software
9 Hats
10 Sphere
11 Misery
12 Unhappy tyke
21 Whatever number
22 Balen
23 ..
24 Mushroom
25 Christmas refrain
26 Staff leader?
27 Norse trickster god
28 Did a mean job?
30 Some Native American homes
33 Relaxed
35 Individual
38 Pismire
39 Poetic feet
42 Staffer
43 Drops
44 “Star —”
45 Moment
46 Commotion
48 Excessively

WEEKLY

Wednesday Jumble

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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HARTOU
DENORM

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

Print answer here: _____________________________________________

Answer in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

Wednesday Sudoku

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

Answer in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times
Area football teams pumped to get season started

Setzke’s troops continue midnight practice tradition

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

Fenton — For Jeff Setzke, the opening day of football season has one pretty good comparison.

And that day involves visions of reindeer, Santa Claus and presents.

“The start of football season is like Christmas Day,” the Fenton varsity football coach said. “You work for it and work for it all summer.”

So just like most want to get Christmas Day going as soon as possible, it’s apparent the Fenton football program likes to do the same with their varsity team. And just as they have every year Setzke has been at the helm, the Tigers opened the football season at exactly the same time — 12:01 a.m. on Monday.

“The rules say it has to be Monday, Aug. 12 so 12:01 a.m. is Aug 12,” Setzke said. “It’s not like we get a lot accomplished, but it’s fun. It’s fun for the kids and coaches to get the season kicked off. It’s not every day you come out at midnight to go practice.”

The excitement of the night begins at about 11:30 p.m. when See TRADITION on 15

Blue Devils celebrate start with fans during late-night practice

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

Lake Fenton — When it comes to preparing for a midnight football practice, Lake Fenton’s program is still in its infancy stages.

But it seems with every year, it gets a little bigger.

Two years ago, the Blue Devils held their first midnight football practice during the official practice day of the fall sports season with little fanfare. The team was pretty much by itself while they celebrated the start of the season together with a short practice.

On Monday, it was a different story. Approximately 50 students and another 50 parents were eager observers cheering on the practice that started right after midnight.

There was music, and, just as you’d expect during a Friday night football game, a lot of kids throwing a football around behind the stands. Indeed, in many ways Lake Fenton’s first football practice felt like a game.

“It’s starting to grow,” Lake
See DEVILS on 15

Bronchos don’t let rain dampen their excitement for new season

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

Holly — In many ways, one couldn’t ask for better weather on Monday morning for the first official day of prep football practice.

Just like most of the summer so far, the morning was cool, making it perfect to get a lot of work done without overheating.

If there was any issue, it was an occasional light rain that turned off and on frequently through the practice.

But at Holly High School, that rain didn’t seem to bother the team as they began their second session of two-a-days at around 10:30 a.m. After all, the squad is excited to get the new season going.

“The rain doesn’t bother me at all. We still have to do what we have to do in the rain and you never now what is going to happen at game time,” said Holly linebacker Kyle Pepper. “You have to be prepared for everything.”

Pepper was just excited to be back on the football field.

See BRONCHOS on 15
Linden football camping trip remains a hit with coaches, players

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789
Harrison — In the backyard, Linden co-head football coach Denny Hopkins is keeping score of a cornhole single elimination event. The winning team earns free ice cream at Dairy Queen.

In the sideyard, co-head coach Nick Douglass is riding a winning streak. He is on a team that has already won about 10 can jam games (a contest where players try to throw a Frisbee into what looks like a round laundry basket). He is talking trash against two of his football players, who are his current opponents.

Meanwhile near them four Linden football players are competing in a game of slam ball, while another large group is sitting at a picnic table, trying to figure out how to play Texas Hold ‘em poker with a chip set one of the players brought up.

Indeed, it seemed everyone was having a fun time at Linden’s annual canoe camping trip at assistant coach Jeff Krause’s summer cabin in Harrison. The camp has been held at various locations for about 15 years, but the highlight of the weekend before the start of the football season is for both players and coaches.

All players are invited to join in. All that’s asked of them is to behave responsibly and have as much fun as possible, allowing everyone to see players and coaches in a different light before the start of the actual football season.

“It’s fun to see the coaches, especially when they are competitive like that,” said junior Andy Roberts, just moments after losing to the Linden coaches at the can jam game. “We get to see them as coaches, but this gets them out of the coaching element and we are able to try to beat him and talk back.”

“It’s really fun just hanging out with everyone, playing around with everyone,” Linden junior Kyle Korman said. “I have fun playing all these games and the competitions. That’s what I enjoy most.”

This year about 40 kids ventured to Harrison on Saturday afternoon, preparing for a weekend of fun. The biggest venture for the trip is the Saturday canoe trip down the Muskegon River. The ride is about four hours long and involves a lot of splashing, tipping and rowing down the river.

“The players sleep in tents they bring and meals of hotdogs and hamburgers become the norm for most of the weekend. However, the annual trip to Daity Queen is another bright spot. After the trip to Daity Queen comes the one event that is semi-football related — learning the words of the fight song. Players stand in groups of four and must recite the fight song 100 percent correctly. If a player doesn’t get the same exactly, right, they remain as one of the group of four until he gets it right. At the end, the entire team combines to sing the song enthusiastically together.”

“It’s the starting of the season,” Krause said.

“It gives us a chance to show some love for the kids because God knows we’ll do our share of hollering and screaming at them over the next season.”

See CAMPING on 15
DEVILS Continued from Page 13
Fenton varsity football coach Eric Doyle said about the growth of Lake Fenton’s first ever practice, which lasted until about 1 a.m.

“We have a tradition going and it’s getting stronger. This is another beautiful thing about this program. Not only do we have a student section, but they are playing music and having fun.”

“For one night we appreciate the neighbors allowing us to do this. We are only out here for an hour, but it’s something to get excited about. We are excited about the year and that’s what is great about doing this.”

Another aspect of it was seeing the numbers. The Blue Devils don’t make it just a varsity football experience. They had about 80 kids on all three Lake Fenton teams, varsity, JV and freshman — compete at practice together.

“We are building excitement about the program for all three levels,” Doyle said.

“When the freshmen come out with the lights on and the fans in the stands, it gets them excited to play football. Our numbers are pretty good. We are at 80 kids in the program and that’s not too bad. If we can keep that and grow on those numbers, we will be excited.”

For a good portion of the practice, the teams ran off their field on the front in front of their fans. They hurried up and down the field, executing some of their plays. The evening ended with a drill that had players in a defensive stance, counting and then sprint toward one of four pylons located on the sidelines. Once the player reached that pylon they did standing knee lifts while running up until a whistle blew, but usually they did it much longer.

In many lines, the older players would encourage the other to continue to do the knee lifts until the next person made it to the line. In most cases, the player did so, eventually encouraging the reinforcement of their teammates.

Doyle admitted that the early Monday practice was more ceremonial. The team was slated to start their actual two-a-day practice on Monday at noon.

“I’m glad we were able to this on tonight and show the people something,” Doyle said. “But the real work starts tomorrow (later Monday).”

TRADITION Continued from Page 13
players start filing the field. Before midnight, coach talked to the players for about 10 minutes before the team headed to the field. The team waited at one of the entry fences as Setzeko warned them, and stood after about one minute 50 seconds to go, get lined up." The players did lineup behind a vocal Lake Idoni. Before he charged on the field at 12:01 a.m. he yelled, “Everyone touch the field (goal pole).” Most everyone as the team ran to the 50-yard line to the Tiger emblem on the field. While there, a player yelled, “Let’s get better tonight.”

And then after that the players lined up to do their stretches just as they would a regular practice. However, this one was happening deep into the night.

“I think the community is not built on just the week,” Fenton varsity coach James Clayborn said. “It brings a lot of energy to the season. It’s something everyone looks forward to.

“I’m a late-night person, so I like it.”

Of course, this wasn’t the first time the team has practiced during the summer. Just as with most teams, there were camps, conditioning sessions and weekly seven-on-seven camps. But, this was the first of the official practice of the season, even if it was more symbolic than anything. The Tigers were to practice again on Monday, at 3:30 p.m.

“If anything, it affects the coaches because we are the ones sleeping at this time,” Setzeko said. “It doesn’t affect (Monday’s afternoon) practice that much. Tonight we just get a little bit done. But really it’s tomorrow (or in better terms later on Monday) when practices really start. This is more ceremonial.”

One theme came out of the practice, however. For the second straight season, the Tigers will open the season with a game against the Linden Eagles. The home game is slated for Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. Chants of “Beat Linden” and “17 days” were heard occasionally, reminding the players what is coming up during that first game of the season.

“It would be cool to play them later in the season after both teams figure things out, but it doesn’t matter,” Clayborn said. “I am looking forward to that game right now. I know the whole team is. We are looking forward to playing them and beating them.”

WAKEBOARDING Continued from Page 14
since I was the only girl at first.”

Another advanced wakeboarding competitor was Chelsea’s Brendon Thibodeau. Thibodeau also began wakeboarding since he lived on a lake.

“My dad brought a board home one day after work,” Thibodeau said. “I decided to give it a try. I like that it feels free, that you can do what you want. It do 360s, rail tricks and big air tricks.”

Like Thibodeau and Marks, White Lake’s Theresa Kewley also competed in the Advanced division. Kewley, who eventually finished 1st in the Girls Division, began wakeboarding just two years ago because she was into snowboarding.

“I was really big in to snowboarding,” Kewley said. “In the summer I wanted to do something similar so I got into wakeboarding, because they are so similar I was able to pick it up easily.”

The Pro Division was won by Ohio’s Gunther Oka. He beat out 11 other competitors to earn the first purse of $1,000 and other prizes. Other Division winners were: Adam Mars in the Advanced Division, Jess Reed in the Girls Division and Marko Ross in the Wake Skate Division.

CAMPING Continued from Page 14
week. It’s a neat way for them to see a different side of us, and that’s neat.”

“It’s fun,” Roberts said. “I just like hanging out and doing the stuff, the canoeing and the games. It’s a lot more relaxed and fun. We don’t have to be going 24/7 playing football. It’s just nice to be together and have fun.”

Douglas has been coming since joining the varsity staff.

“The fact they come up here speaks volumes about the kids,” Douglas said. “They want to hang together and have fun. That speaks about the true nature of the kids.”

The Holly varsity football team works on some blocking tactics during the first practice of the season on Monday.

BRONCHOS Continued from Page 13
“I love it,” Pepper said. “Just being out there with all the guys, I have one more year at it. It is the best sport there is out there.”

The Bronchos return with a squad that has about half of its starters back, but at the same time lost a lot of veterans that had two or three seasons of starting football games.

“We have a young team,” Holly coach Ryan Culloty said. “If we are dialed in and ready to go, we’ll be OK. We have some people stepping up.”

Cool weather has helped the Bronchos adjust to their changes with their lineup.

“BRONCHOS Continued from Page 13
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Cool weather has helped the Bronchos adjust to their changes with their lineup.

“It’s been a unique summer and we have been able to get a lot of work done with the lower temperatures,” Culloty said. “It’s been really nice. We had only one really bad week where the heat index was an issue.”

“I think we got a lot of work done,” Pepper said. “It’s one of the better summers we’ve had in a long time.”

Pepper is excited about the team’s possibilities.

“I think we have the potential to do anything we want to do,” Pepper said.

“We have to get a team goal set and work as a team to accomplish what we want to do. We can compete with every team in our league if we work at it.”

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We provide an atmosphere based upon respect, dignity and an excellent quality of life,” said Amy Hawkins, who, along with her husband John, has operated this facility in Fenton for 10 years. Their top priority is seeing that the residents are happy, comfortable, and well cared for. “We feel fortunate to be a part of each of our residents lives and are very thankful because we know that our residents are the best care possible, thanks to our wonderful staff!” Hawkins said. And, huger is not always better, as coming to Hawkins. “At Almost Home, our residents become familiar with the staff and we know they are on a personalized schedule, rather than having to cope with new faces every eight hours,” she said. “Because of this, our staff is much more familiar, not just with each resident’s physical needs, but also with what makes each resident unique: their likes, dislikes, and what truly matters to them.”

The success of the facility is due to staff and because they operate with the knowledge that they do in truly changes. Hawkins said the staff at Almost Home understands that the most difficult decision a person will ever make is to what when their loved one can no longer be left alone. Every moment you are away you feel that something bad might happen.”

Hawkins said, “At Almost Home, your family becomes our family.”

The staff enjoys being a part of the residents’ lives and the lives of their families. They host family dinners once a month and other family-oriented activities. “We and our staff like to think of ourselves ‘as guests in the home of our residents,” explained Hawkins. “We want them to really feel ‘at home’ here and know that they are loved and cared for.”

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Caretel Inn of Linden
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Fenton

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FENTON AUGUST 15-16th, 9-5pm., 13324 Firestone Drive. Girls’ clothes, sizes 5-6, women’s clothing, miscellaneous.

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MISSISSIPPI RIVER ROAD, 810-714-3103.

HUGE INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE - OVER 200 CARS IN STOCK TO CHOOSE FROM...

0% for 36 MONTHS on all GM Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles

1.9% for 60 MONTHS on select GM Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles

Areas largest selection of Certified Pre-Owned!

2009 Chevrolet Silverado
$28,138

2008 Pontiac G6
$8,995

2009 Chevrolet Aveo
$5,995

2010 Chevrolet Traverse
$11,900

2006 Volkswagen Passat
$3,997

2008 Buick Enclave CXL
$7,995

Village of Holly
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Village of Holly is seeking bids for a copier/fax/scanner for the village office. Bid specifications may be obtained by contacting the village offices at 248-834-9571 or by visiting the website at www.hollyvillage.org.

Bids will be due on August 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM.

Catherine A. Behrens
Clark-Treasurer
The City of Fenton will receive sealed bids at the City Clerk’s Office, 301 South Ferry Street, Fenton, Michigan 48430 for the maintenance of Oakwood Cemetery, until 2:00 PM on September 15, 2013.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at that time in the conference room of the City Office, 301 South Ferry Street, Fenton. (Any persons submitting sealed envelopes shall be admitted into the conference room at this time.)

City of Fenton
INVITATION TO BID
OAKWOOD CEMETARY MAINTENANCE
DATE CORRECTION: The City of Fenton will receive sealed bids at the City Clerk’s Office, 301 South Ferry Street, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2186, for the maintenance of Oakwood Cemetery, until 2:00 PM on September 5, 2013.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at that time in the conference room of the City Office, 301 South Ferry Street, Fenton. (Any persons submitting sealed envelopes shall be admitted into the conference room at this time.)

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**FORECLOSURE NOTICE** This firm is a debt collector attempting 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.

**Access Storage** will dispose of contents of the following Units: 406-A, 409-M. Quenelle on September 9, 2013, 3124 Granger Hali Rd., Holly, MI 48442. 248-634-3533.

**PUBLIC AUCTION** due to unpaid rent at Fenton Storage, 1159 N. Leroy St., 810-714-3707 on August 29th, 2013 at 9:30 a.m., on behalf of, Callie Paik International, #C401-L John Graham Jr., #510. All units contain miscellaneous items.

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**ARRANGE ARROW**

**CONCRETE**

**Concrete Work**

**Paving Brick**

**Driveways **

**Footings**

**Footings & Foundations**

**Driveway Repair**

**Curb and Gutter**

**Concrete Services**

**Driveway Repairs**

**Patios**

**Conc**
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- Nightclub Two-Step
- Quickstep
- Rumba
- Salsa
- Samba
- Tango
- Viennese Waltz
- Waltz
- West Coast Swing

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