Excessive drinking costs U.S. billions

By William Axford
aford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792
Excessive alcohol consumption costs the U.S. $223.5 billion, or $1.90 per drink, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The costs include healthcare, vehicle crashes, lost productivity and criminal justice.

Binge drinking accounts for a bulk of the costs. Binge drinking is defined as four or more drinks per day for men and three or more for women.

Living in an empty nest

By William Axford
aford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792
Linden — Michael Vernon knew the day would eventually come but it didn’t necessarily make it easier for him. Checking in on his daughter’s empty room, the reality that she would one day grow up and move out finally hit him.

“It’s hard to describe unless you have children,” said Michael, whose daughter, Alexandra, recently left home to attend Grand Valley State University. “You spend 20 years concentrating all of your efforts in the kids and trying to get them to their classes or sporting events. All of a sudden...”
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Back-to-school gadgets for all ages

When picking up supplies, consider one of these newest tech items

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

From elementary school to college — it’s back to school time, students have packed their backpacks and are ready to get back to school and hit the books.

There are all kinds of technology available — gadgets that can do everything you can think of, and more. Some may be practical, while others may be a bit expensive — but are quite impressive.

Livescribe Pulse Smartpen — $150

Every student has to take notes — and while a pen and notebook is the standard tools of choice, this smartpen can take things to the next level. While it looks like a normal pen, it can also act as a voice recorder. The pen also keeps track of your writing movements, keeping track of everything you have written in digital form that you can then upload to your PC.

The pen will also sync up what you were writing at the time it was recording — making it easy to remember important details from lectures.

Livescribe Pulse Smartpen

Airbac Backpack — $60

As any student can attest to these days — they have a lot to carry around. Large textbooks, lots of homework, and...
FROM THE LEFT

Clarence Page
Nationally syndicated columnist

Don’t forget the rest of King’s speech

Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves. Christopher Columbus discovered America. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. ‘had a dream.’

We like to remember history in short and snappy bumper-sticker sound bites. Real life is a bit more complicated. Columbus ‘discovered’ a ‘New World’ that was new to him anyway, not to the people who already lived in it. Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation did free slaves in the states that seceded. He had to prod, cajole, bribe and browbeat Congress to free the rest.

And the Rev. Dr. King did have a ‘dream’ that he described eloquently at the historic March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom 50 years ago. He described his dream so powerfully and memorably in the concluding portion of his 16-minute speech that it has been too easy for the rest of us to forget the agenda that he laid out in the earlier part. King grounded his speech, not in radical notions of social change but as a fulfillment of the nation’s founders’ noblest ideals. His dream, as he put it, was ‘as old as the American dream.’

King had a major case of writer’s block over how to end his speech. He was the final speaker of the day and wanted to leave his audience inspired. But how? The answer came in a woman’s voice shouted over the crowd: ‘Tell them about the dream, Martin!’

He did. He smoothly segued into an improvised version of the ‘dream’ refrain that he had used to great effect in speeches earlier that year. It has since come to define King’s entire career, especially this often-quoted line: ‘I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.’

Conservatives on talk radio and cable TV praise King’s memory today. But if they were still around, I imagine they would be accusing him of waging ‘class warfare’ and ‘playing the race card.’ Names change but the political game stays the same.

THE IPCC DID say that average temperatures have not increased since the 90s and the IPCC also said that glaciers and polar ice melt has increased during that period causing ocean levels to rise and larger swings in seasonal temperatures.

I HAVE TO believe that God cares, but remarkably very little, about unions ‘coercing’ to get pay for workers. I could be wrong though, I did hear somewhere he sent his son to free the underpaid and abused workers back in the day.

IF I WERE King, I would install a democratic system of government. Corporate money would not be considered ‘freedom of speech.” Accepting money from lobbyists and special interests would be considered ‘treason of the people.” Then I would relinquish my power.

NO, OF COURSE no Republicans are delaying Obamacare. Twenty-four Republican states refused to set up the health care exchanges. Republicans in congress are still trying to repeal and undo it. Republicans in congress actually sued the government and took it to the Supreme Court.

YOU'RE WORKING two part-time jobs or more? You can’t afford $4 per gallon gas? You have lost, or now have to pay, substantially more for your health care? Your auto insurance has gone sky high? If you voted for a Democrat this, is what you voted for—quit whining.

TOO MUCH Poo in the park! To encourage dog walkers around Clover Beach Park to do their job I propose investing in doggie-doo bag dispensers near trash receptacles. No longer would we keep this problem underfoot but place the responsibility where it belongs—in the hands of the pet owner.

MY FRIEND THINKS global warming is a scam, said Earth has been warming and freezing for millions of years. I said prove it. He said everyone knows that dinosaurs once roamed Montana and the Great Lakes formed from melting Glaciers. I was shocked he believed in any science.

HOLLY’S COUNCIL APPROVED live department heads’ raises. Where’s the money coming from (selling dispatch equipment/lawsuit money)? They got rid of dispatch to save money. Instead of raises, money should go back to people who are paying on bond debt on water bill. Taxpayers should get to vote on that.

WELL, SOON, THE signs of school starting will be here in the form of crazy parent driver orientations. How do you know your children off at Holly Academy. Our summer was so peaceful.

JUST LIKE a Republican to assume the homeless being rounded up in S.C. are mentally ill or addicts. Do some research on who is homeless and why. I thought you were against government handouts and government intrusion. I forget—not if it makes your life better. Tread on this.

SEPT. 6, 1986, I married my high school sweetheart at Court Street Methodist Church. Happy 27 years Honey! I love you. See HOT LINE throughout Times.
The goal is to get them healthy and adopt them out,” said Dr. Sandy Smith, of the Animal Health Clinic of Fenton. Peggy is one of seven cats currently recovering at the clinic.

Out-of-town runner home for race finds her purpose in distressed cries of kitten

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

When it comes to cats, Ann Mora Ramos of Denver, Colo., formerly of Fenton, admittedly has a sixth sense.

That’s why she knew something was seriously wrong with a kitten she heard crying in distress at a chance meeting at a garage sale just one day before the Crim Festival of Races, which had brought Ramos back to her hometown.

“It looked as if her leg had been caught in a trap, her hind leg was missing and there was a rope tied around her back leg,” said Ramos, who was at the garage sale with two of her sisters, Sue Fassett and Michele Mora. “She was emaciated, too. She kept following us around crying, like she was trying to tell us something.”

Ramos, a cat lover with three cats of her own, knew she had to take action, so she boxed up the kitten and brought her into the Animal Health Clinic in Fenton, after calling ahead. Meanwhile, she fed the kitten a whole pack of tuna, which it devoured, and kept eating when offered food at the clinic.

Dr. Sandy Smith spun into action, diagnosing the kitten’s medical issues — a severe infection on one leg and an infestation of maggots. “Fleas and ear mites are also taken care of,” said Smith. “The infection is also better. But someone definitely did this to her. They tied a clothesline cord around her leg. Now her leg may have to be amputated, depending on what an orthopedic surgeon has to say.”

Ramos took care of the financial cost of immediate testing and care, and then signed ownership of the kitten, which the staff named “Peggy,” to Smith. Now the Animal Health Clinic will be her new home as she recovers from her injuries, then Smith hopes she can be adopted out as an indoor cat to a loving family. “She can live a happy life with three legs, if that’s what happens,” said Smith. “But she’ll be living here with us here for a while.”

“All I can do is my part, and hope it has a ripple effect and that more cats are saved.”

Ann Mora Ramos

Summary

► Ann Mora Ramos flew home to Michigan for the Crim Festival of Races, and discovered her true reason for coming home.

► Out-of-town runner home for race finds her purpose in distressed cries of kitten

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Who should you call if you witness animal abuse?

If it’s clearly a case of animal abuse, then call the local police department or 911, because that is a crime, according to Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro. If it’s a situation where an animal is not being properly cared for, call the Genesee County Humane Society at (810) 744-0511 or Genesee County Animal Control at (810) 732-1660.

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FHS Class of 1968 loses classmate

Antrim County Prosecuting Attorney Charles Koop dies from pulmonary embolism

By Sharon Stone

Charles Koop, a 1968 graduate of Fenton High School, died suddenly on Aug. 6 from a pulmonary embolism according to his sister Diana Conklin of Fenton Township.

After growing up in Fenton and graduating from Fenton High School, Koop graduated from Eastern Michigan University and earned his Juris Doctorate from Detroit College of Law.

Conklin said her brother’s death came without warning and one day shy of his 42nd wedding anniversary to wife, Christine. He was 63.

Although Koop moved to Bellaire from Fenton, many family members remain in the tri-county area, including Conklin and Chester Koop, a former supervisor of Rose Township. He also had many long-standing professional contacts through his role as Antrim County Prosecutor for the past 23 years and president of the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan in 2007 and 2008.

Koop is survived by his wife, Christine, three children, Haley, Sally and Charlie and his grandchildren.

Correction: In the story “Choosing a nursing home,” published on Wednesday, Aug. 28, attribution was given to the incorrect person at A Place for Mom. Comments were provided by Paul Flancbaum, senior living advisor.
DRINKING
Continued from Front Page
for women in less than two hours and
five or more drinks for men in less than
two hours. Overall, the CDC reports one
in six people in the U.S. are binge drink-
ers and do so about four times a month.
With 38 million binge drinkers across
the country and 80,000 deaths caused annually,
binge drinking continues to be a major health-related
concern.
Parents may have cause for concern for their chil-
dren as they flock to college campuses this fall in purs-
uit of higher education. According to the CDC, 18-
34 year olds make up a bulk of binge drinkers and those
who earn less than $25,000 a year are more likely to
drink more alcohol while binging. But it’s not just the
youth that are binge drinking — the CDC reports that people 65 and older have a large amount of binge drinkers, as well as those who earn $75,000 a year or more.
Geographic location may also play a factor in the likelihood of becoming a binge drinker. The American Journal of Preventive Medicine estimates Michi-
gan loses $4 billion a year to excessive alcohol consumption or $2.6 per drink. That’s higher than the national average of $2 billion per state or $1.91 per drink. Overall, the journal placed Michigan as the sixth highest state for excessive alcohol abuse.
So what can parents do to help curb alcohol abuse amongst their children, especially if they’re attending college hours away? The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) recommends parents commu-
nicate with their kids and emphasize the dangers of excessive drinking. Parents should be aware of alcohol policies on campus and their children’s living ar-
rangements. Emphasizing the increased risk in injuries, assaults and deaths can also steer college students from exces-
sive drinking.
Indications of alcohol abuse amongst college students include lower grades, avoidance of phone calls and activities, incidents with authorities and mood changes. Parents who suspect alcohol abuse are advised to seek out a counselor or health official who can work with their children.
Alcohol abuse causes approximately 80,000 deaths a year. Most binge drinkers in America are between the ages of 18 and 34.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Signs of binge drinking
• Changes in mood and lack of communication
• Decrease in grades and classroom attendance
• Increased incidents with campus authorities

Binge drinking, at a glance
• Excessive drinking costs Americans on average $1.90 a glass or $223.5 billion annually
• Michigan has a high frequency of al-
cohol abuse compared to other states
• Excessive drinking on college campuses annually account for 1,825 deaths, 97,000 non-fatal assaults and 599,000 injuries according to the NIAAA
• 38 million people in America are considered binge drinkers
• Excessive alcohol consumption causes 80,000 deaths a year

VISITING A SON OR DAUGHTER UNANNOUNCED MAY BE ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO GAUUGE WHETHER THEY ARE ABUSING ALCOHOL. MEETING FRIENDS AND ATTENDING CAMPUS EVENTS OPEN TO PARENTS ARE OTHER WAYS ADULTS CAN CHECK FOR ALCOHOL ABUSE. THE NIAAA REPORTS THAT THE WORSE THING A PARENT CAN DO IS BLAME THEIR SON OR DAUGHTER FOR A DRINKING PROBLEM. SEEKING PROFESSIONAL HELP AND STAYING IN COMMUNICATION ARE THE TWO MOST EFFECTIVE METHODS FOR PREVENTING OR REDUCING ALCOHOL ABUSE.

For parents seeking more information, visit collegedrinkingprevention.gov.

HOT LINE CONTINUED
THE UNIVERSITY OF Michigan raised more than $1 billion in donations to ex-
pand sports facilities. The State of Michi-
gan can’t raise a third of that to make public schools solvent. Republicans blame government. I blame the people who sit silently watching and don’t even try to make a difference.

MOSSES WAS ONE of the first labor organizers in recorded history. His boss must not have thought too much of those who treated workers unfairly.

SO, YOU TOOK away pensions and tax retires so they have to work now. You

CRASHES
Continued from Front Page
medical issue while driving, which caused him to lose control, veer off the
roadway and crash into the front of Lin-
den Kitchen and Bath.

The airbags in the vehicle deployed, which protected the driver from further harm. The building was closed and empty at the time of the crash. Sutter said the building owner is assessing damage.

The front of the damaged building — the NIAAA reports that the worse thing a parent can do is blame their son or daughter for a drinking problem. Seeking professional help and staying in communication are the two most effective methods for preventing or reducing alcohol abuse.

For parents seeking more information, visit collegedrinkingprevention.gov.

### CRASHES

**Continued from Front Page**

For parents seeking more information, visit collegedrinkingprevention.gov.

### HOT LINE CONTINUED

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**CRASHES

**Continued from Front Page**

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**CRASHES

**Continued from Front Page**

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2013 Malibu, one owner
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11 TO CHOOSE FROM
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2013 Sonic, one owner
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Robin Bedwell

In today’s age of computers, a lot of teachers and professors will accept digital submissions. A lot of them however, also won’t — they still want paper submissions. In that case, it is nice to have a printer on hand. The Epson WorkForce WF-2520 All-in-One Printer can be picked up rather inexpensively, and also works as a copier and scanner, which can also be useful.

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We rely on computers a lot, and sometimes it is easy to forget, sometimes computers fail us. They stop working, and in the worst situations, data can be difficult to recover — if it can be recovered at all. Back up your assignments on an external hard drive in case something happens and you will never have to feel too bad about losing something you have done. The WD My Passport offers a 1 terabyte external hard drive for just $85 — giving you a lot of bang for your buck.

Kindle Fire — $150

School involves a lot of reading, and for college students that means a lot of buying. Many schools offer e-books for purchase that can be significantly cheaper than the physical copies in which case, an e-book reader may be a wise investment. For younger students, there are thousands of education themed apps available for download for very little or even no costs.

Mary Jo Hackett

Continued from Page 3

Many different school supplies — it can be a heavy burden to carry around all the time. One solution to this problem is the Airbac backpack, which comes with a built in “air cushion” to help keep pressure off of wearer’s back, and reduce pressure that pulls down on their shoulders. At the end of the day, students will have only homework to complain about, and not a sore back.

Ryan Wasko

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Ryan Wasko

Continued from Page 3

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Continued from Page 3

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Ryan Wasko
TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELLO

Gavin Smith’s floor plan is spacious and relaxed. It’s his first loft apartment, after living in the suburbs.

LOFT
Continued from Page 3

projector, framed by crown molding. Below his living area is his photography studio. Next to his building is the Shiawassee River.

Though there are many lofts available in the tri-county area, and more coming with Fenton’s Cornerstone building, Smith’s is unique with its river access, and combination of business and living space.

This is Smith’s first time living in a loft. He lived in a suburb, with his studio in Grand Blanc and Fenton. Just this February, he’s moved everything under one roof, his studio on the middle floor of his building.

“It’s taken a slight getting used to,” he said. Outside there is steady traffic and the regular noise of the city. “It’s also really neat.” He enjoys the juxtaposition of the business and commerce happening out of his front door, and the park and millpond out his back door.

He plans to build another level onto the building, offering a better view of the river and millpond.

The building at Bridge and Broad streets along the river was originally a firehouse. It has also been a police station, library, florist, antique store and another photography studio. It was most recently a dance studio. “There were mirrors everywhere,” he said.

Despite the age of the building, the floors are solid, and the brick walls are clearly intact. “They built this thing right.”

Many lofts have open floor plans, meaning there aren’t any walls, with kitchen and living space and even the bedroom being part of one big room.

The largest area of Smith’s home comprises his living room and bedroom. Dividing the two is a unique wall made of cobbled together wooden palettes, with contemporary Americana art. Hoisting the wall to the ceiling are two antique barn pulleys which suspend the heavy structure from the ground.

Also perched on the pallet are old cameras, sculptures made from motorcycle chain. In his room is a telescope and also an old barn lamp with rusted edges that casts a warm glow. His bulldog Cooper even has a bed that rests in a pallet to match.

History dots his unique apartment. It looks like Smith did a lot of antique store shopping to push old and new together — but much of the artifacts in his loft are part of family history.

Cooper makes several photographic appearances on his walls. “You can tell he’s my best friend,” said Smith. “I can take him to a shopping mall and he’ll stay by my side.”

Being riverside influences his bottom level walkout styling, with canoe paddles for the downstairs railing. “The river was one of the main reasons I bought here,” he said. “Being able to kayak out of my backdoor is pretty cool.”

Kayaks are mounted to the walls, spitting distance from a small fire pit. “I couldn’t ask to live in a better community,” he said.

LIVING
Continued from Page 3

• How often do you visit museums, concert halls?
• What is your idea of a beautiful view?
• What type of people do you want living around you?
• What space are you comfortable living in?
• Where do you like to shop?
• What decor are you attracted to?
• Would you like tall ceilings, large windows?

The most expensive loft/apartment properties on the market in New York, according to Realtor.com.

The Woolworth Mansion: $90 million
East 60th Street

The Beaux Arts mansion: $34.8 million
East 80th Street

Stanford White Mansion: $49 million
Fifth Avenue
— www.huffingtonpost.com

SMOKING BAN
Continued from Front Page

off, with alcohol still being slightly lower, but food sales higher.

Food sales have improved as the clientele has shifted from the bar, to a restaurant crowd. Her business is now drawing people that may have been discouraged by cigarette smoke in the past, like families with children. In response, they’ve added eneens where before they had mostly fried bar food.

Alcohol sales have remained lower, because smoking and drinking for some literally go hand in hand. Club Keno has never recovered.

In all, the change has been positive. She said she never wanted to choose between her smoking and non-smoking clients, but said “non-smoking works better for us in a lot of ways.” She didn’t expect business to bounce back. “I hoped for it, but I never expected it.”

The Linden Hotel experienced a drop as well. An employee who chose not to give her name said the business has lost money and clients. She said they are coming in, but not staying as long, and feels that the civil rights of smokers is being infringed upon. She said alcohol sales are less, but she’s not sure by how much.

Holly Lanes owner Brian Aubuchon, was managing a bowling center in northern Oakland County when the ban took effect. “There was initially some backlash,” he said. But he said he quickly saw an increase in business over the last several years because of the ban.

No smoking has brought in more families to bowl, and food and alcohol sales haven’t changed much. Because in many cases bowling is a team sport, he sees players grudgingly return to play, smoking ban or not, and even change some habits. “We don’t even see E-cigarettes,” he said.

In a Tri-County Times poll, votes were cast decisively in favor of the ban. Nearly 50 percent voting supporting the ban, “I enjoy restaurants and bars without cigarette smoke.” See sidebar for the poll breakdown.

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) reported that before the law was enacted, a pool of more than 10,000 were polled, and 7,412 approved of a ban. A poll conducted afterward by the MDCH showed the same level of support.

While some establishments still feel the sting, the air quality in restaurants that have ceased inside smoking has improved significantly in the Flint area. The MDCH report for the Flint area, based on six locations with pre-smoking law measurements, improved by 92 percent.

Angela Minicuci, Public Information Officer for the MDCH said, “We’re very confident this has improved the health of Michiganders, at least in the environment.”

A report by the MDCH in conjunction with the Department of the Treasury utilized sales tax data at retail eating and drinking establishments. Combining their sales tax and lottery sales showed little economic affect, though some establishments would probably disagree.

Tri-County Times poll results
How do you feel about the smoking ban in bars and restaurants?

• 50.5 percent enjoy restaurants and bars without cigarette smoke.
• 25.8 percent still disagree with the ban.
• 16.5 percent support the ban.
• 7.2 percent disagree with the ban on restaurants but not bars.
• More than 90 voted in the poll.

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TIMES MIDWEEK
Wednesday, September 4, 2013 11

NEST
Continued from Front Page

you don’t have to focus your life on children.

With his son Jacob Tomek to soon join the Air Force, Michael and his wife Jennifer will have the home to themselves.

As fledgling adults move into college dorms, sign up for the military or simply move out on their own, parents find themselves without children for the first time in decades. Colloquially known as an ‘empty nest,’ this period of life is a transition for married couples where the focus shifts from child rearing to their relationship and wellbeing.

The Vernons have mixed feelings about their children moving on. There’s excitement as they watch their two kids become adults and move on with their lives. But so too is their apprehension. Starting out on your own isn’t always easy and the economy has been hard on many people, especially younger generations.

“I have read this is the first generation who has that chance of not necessarily doing better than their parents’ generation,” Jennifer said. “But what do you do? You prepare them the best you can. You hope they make the right decisions and are a good person overall.”

While the Vernons are looking forward to dedicating their free time to each other and personal hobbies they have always wanted to pursue, they admit it is too early to determine how having an empty home will affect them. According to the Mayo Clinic, empty nest syndrome is an instance where parents experience feelings of sadness and loss when their children leave.

Experiencing an empty nest has been rarer in the past few years, as young adults continue to live with their parents. According to a Pew Research report, 36 percent of people 19 to 31 years old were living with their parents, up from 32 percent in 2007. Last year, 63 percent of people in the same age group were reported to be employed, down from 70 percent in 2007. Young adults have been called, “The Boomerang Generation,” since many have moved out for a period of time and then wound back up at their parents’ house.

“There is no room for improvement at this facility…”

The Vernons are looking forward to spending more time together, therefore, they admit that parents tend to worry.

“I don’t think any parent would be able to say, ‘See ya! You’re not my problem anymore!’” Jennifer said. “But once you become a parent, you don’t ever stop worrying. They can get to be our age with children and we’ll still worry.”

Advice for parents coping with an empty nest
• Feelings of sadness as your children leave are normal. It’s healthy to miss them.
• Stay connected to your children through the internet, phones and visits, if possible. Video chat options like Skype are also available.
• Get involved in activities by joining a group or volunteering. Being active helps to cultivate a sense of purpose.
• Allow yourself to grieve and reflect on this transition in life and avoid any other big life decisions like moving.
• Lean on friends and family for support.
• Do something for yourself, like take a vacation or get a massage.

Source: Huffington Post

Summary

As students flock to college campus for fall classes, many parents find themselves at home without kids, possibly for the first time in decades.

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Source: Huffington Post

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6. A spacious customer waiting area with a café stocked with free coffee, popcorn and donuts.
7. A play area to keep your kids busy while you wait, stocked with books, toys and a TV.
8. Skilled, GM Certified Service Technicians to work on your vehicle and get the job done right.
9. Hertz car wash with any service.
10. Free Pick up and delivery for most services within 15 miles.

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NEST
Continued from Front Page

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NOW YOU SEE ME
Now You See Me pits an elite FBI squad in a game of cat and mouse against “The Four Horsemen,” a super-team of the world’s greatest illusionists. “The Four Horsemen” pull off a series of daring heists against corrupt business leaders during their performances, showering the stolen profits on their audiences while staying one step ahead of the law. PG-13, 1 hr. 55 min.

EMPIRE STATE
A pair of old friends scheme to rob an armored car company with a cop hot on their tail in this crime drama from director Dito Montiel. Liam Hemsworth and Dwayne Johnson star in the Emmet/Furla Films production. R, 1 hr. 34 min.

THE LORDS OF SALEM
From the singular mind of horror maestro Rob Zombie comes a chilling plunge into a nightmare world where evil runs in the blood. The Lords of Salem tells the tale of Heidi (Sheri Moon Zombie), a radio DJ living in Salem, Massachusetts, who receives a strange wooden box containing a record, a “gift from the Lords.” Heidi listens, and the bizarre sounds within the grooves immediately trigger flashbacks of the town’s violent past. Is Heidi going mad, or are the “Lords of Salem” returning for revenge on modern-day Salem? R, 1 hr. 41 min.

 Released this week

DVDs & Movies

NOW YOU SEE ME
Now You See Me

EMPIRE STATE
Empire State

THE LORDS OF SALEM
The Lords of Salem

ACROSS
1 Smart phone download
4 Studies hard
9 Golf standard
12 Witness
13 Sire
14 Exist
15 It goes without saying
17 Zero
18 Aculpoluc gold
19 “Help!”
21 Kermit or Fozzie
24 Lotion additive
25 401(k) alternative
26 Red or Black
28 Power glitch
31 Supermarket stack
33 Knight’s address
35 Streamlet
36 Island greeting
38 Unruly group
40 Greek consonants
41 Start from scratch
43 Darceviil’s cord
45 Zigzag on the slopes

Answer here: A “IN WHICH IT’S DIFFICULT TO ROW WHEN YOU MANIPULATE HANG OARS.”

In this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

Crossword Puzzle

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Linden soccer looks mighty strong in 2013

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

From the minute the Linden varsity boys soccer team’s season ended in districts last year, coach Kevin Fiebernitz has been thinking about the potential of this season’s Eagles’ squad.

“It’s easy to see why. The Eagles returned virtually their entire team from a season ago and already hold a 6-0 mark for the 2013 season. Linden’s returners include second-team All-State and returning Tri-County Soccer Player of the Year Zach Bakos, and also return honorable mention All-State selections Ben Thornton, Kevin Wright and keeper Collin Hooperling. Without a doubt, the Eagles aren’t only a threat to win the Metro League, but also do some serious damage in the state tournament as well. “We have 15 returning and one that was on JV last year, but worked his way up to varsity and we have a German exchange student and we’ll see about him,” Fiebernitz said. “All indications is he should be a good player. “One of our goals is to win the Metro League. We have a lot of teams to play through to get to that. But our ultimate goal is to make a really long run in the state playoffs.”

Fiebernitz had five steps that need to be accomplished for the Eagles to reach their goals. “To do that we have to have the talent. We know we have the talent,” Fiebernitz said. “We have to have chemistry, and that remains an unknown. You need to be able to defend your goal and score goals. Last year we allowed just nine goals and scored a bunch. You need to approach every game with a sense of urgency…” We’ll see how that

Fenton’s Moss spearheads Birdies for Babies campaign

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

Samantha Moss has watched her fair share of professional golf tournaments over the years.

And through all her experiences watching those tourneys, Fenton’s No. 1 girls golfer learned about a tradition of all professional tours. “When you watch the LPGA and the PGA events they all have charities,” Moss said.

Then, one day a thought came to Moss’ mind. “I was thinking what way could we use our skills, get money for it and give back to the community,” Moss said.

That thought sparked what has now become known as Birdies for Babies. Moss and the Fenton varsity girls golf team is finding people to sponsor 50 cents for every par and $1 for every birdie in competition up through the Metro League Meet, with the money raised going to Genesys Regional Medical Center for mothers who suffer from medical bills due to the medical needs of their children.

“I saw Genesys Hospital and I saw they had a fundraiser for mothers and their babies who couldn’t afford surgery,” Moss said. “I thought that was great. We can call it Birdies for Babies and it even sounds cool.”

“I think it’s a great idea,” Fenton coach Kurt Herbstreit said. “She went to (Fenton athletic director) Michael Bakker to get it okayed. She’s taking care of it completely.”

Now the team is in the process of finding eight to 10 sponsors per a member to raise money for the cause. But it isn’t only Fenton doing it. Moss reached out to the rest of the Metro League teams and many are getting on board with the campaign. See BABIES on 15
Tri-County Boys Soccer Previews

LINDEN EAGLES

Coach: Kevin Fiebernitz
2012 Record: 6-0-2 second in Metro League, 15-3-2 overall, lost in district final.
Returning All-TCT players: Ben Thornton, Zach Bakos, Kevin Wright, Tyler Ziccardi, Collin Hoeberling.
Team summary: The Eagles pretty much return their entire team from what was a really strong squad a year ago. The defense was outstanding, and a lot of those players return, including keeper Collin Hoeberling and defenders Ben Thornton and Kevin Wright. Offensively, Zach Bakos is a strong midfielder, who is our returning Tri-County Soccer Player of the Year. Also returning, after taking a year off, is Ted Parcher. Parcher’s speed will create fits for any defense. Players like Tyler Ziccardi and Michael Ziccardi should help the midfield as well.

Coach Fiebernitz says: “I know we have our superstar type kids, but what is going to make our team is how all these other guys fit in and how they play their role. I am pretty happy with where we are at right now. … I might get redundant at times, but our goal is to build the confidence. We’ve been working on it and it’s been decent. We want to move the ball quickly and have less touches. That’s one of our priorities and a work in progress. We’ll keep hounding it.”
Prediction: The Eagles have high goals this season. With so much experienced talent returning, Linden not only wants to win the Metro, but thinks a long trip in the state tournament is possible. We agree. The squad should do well in the Metro and should be looked upon as the favorites. And, a long trip in the state tournament is certainly possible.

HOLLY BRONCHOS

Coach: Mike Steibel
2012 Record: 4-2-1 fourth in Metro.
Graduated All-TCT players: Jordan Parks, Connor Bilkos.
Team summary: The Bronchos have eight players returning from a pretty solid Metro squad a year ago. The Bronchos will get senior leadership from midfielders Evan Fitzpatrick, Taylor Mills and Chandler Price, as well as from senior defender Randy Neuwirth. Some of the strong juniors include midfielders Dan Brendel and Austin Parks. Dino Vivanco is a solid junior defender as well. The team has two strong keeping — junior Sean Degnan and sophomore Lorenzo Roediguez. Also freshman Lucas Sammut should provide offense.

Coach Steibel says: “We are going to be small in numbers this year, but we are full of energy and talent. The team has blended well together and is working hard on improving our tactical skills.”
Prediction: Like Fenton, the Bronchos should be a solid darkhorse contender for the Metro League title this season. The question isn’t can they contend with most of the upper-division squads in the Metro. Certainly a top three finish is very possible.

FENTON TIGERS

Coach: Matt Sullivan
2012 Record: 8-1-1 in Metro, third place, 12-6-2 overall.
Graduated All-TCT players: Kyle Costigan.
Returning All-TCT players: Aron Ferguson, J.D. Davis.
Team summary: Soccer remains a solid squad as well this season, as evidenced by their 10-2 victory against Lakeville, and a respectable 2-0 loss to Powers. It looks like the tri-county area should see some fun times when it comes to boys soccer this fall.

Coach Sullivan says: “Of course we are always excited for what concerns we have are defensive concerns because we lost all four defensive starters and a goalie. … We will need to win games by outworking teams, and that’s the only way we are going to win games.”
Prediction: The Tigers should be a solid squad in the Metro once again this year. They should be solid darkhorse contenders for the league crown.

FENTON BLUE DEVILS

Coach: Michael Korhonen
2012 Record: Fourth in GAC.
Graduated All-TCT players: Sawyer Scott.
Returning All-TCT players: Jacob Morrison.
Team summary: The Blue Devils return eight players from last year’s squad, including five starters. Those starters are Jacob Morrison, Nick Gorelick, Jacob Hernandez, Zach Oldenburg and Raelid Jawhari. The others who also return but weren’t starters are Jared Carter, Josh Brophy and Josh Slough. Filling in the spots will be 11 players who are either freshmen or athletes with no high school soccer experience.

Coach Korhonen says: “Our biggest goal is to compete for a district title. The rest of the year will be preparation for districts. We will be trying to build on each performance throughout the year to make sure we are playing at our peak by the time the GAC tournament comes around. And we’ll carry that momentum toward the postseason.”
Prediction: The Blue Devils will take some time to develop, but expecting a solid finish in the GAC seems very realistic. How good the team can be will depend on how the young players develop.
Sister combo proves deadly at gymnastics state meet

By Torrey Christopher choppers@tctimes.com; 810-435-8789

Vault, beam, bar and floor seem to be four words sisters Cassandra and Stashia Campbell have in common. They both made it to the state meet in Traverse City recently.

And over the last two years, the Holly sisters and Patterson Elementary School students have something else in common — both have been all-around state champions.

This year, Stashia, 10, won the 2013 State Level 5 Age 10 champion with an all-around score of 38.225. Stashia came close to cornering the firsts in all four individual events. She received firsts in the vault (9.525), in the bars (9.775) and the floor (9.425). She placed fourth in the beam (9.500) points and fourth in beam with 9.5 points.

“I feel I did really good,” Stashia said. “I tried my hardest and I had to practice a lot. The hardest event for me would be the floor. I wasn’t a very good tumbler at first.”

Last year Cassandra, 12, earned a first in the all-around competition with a four-event score of 37.50, earning a first in the vault (9.425) and a second in the bars (9.425). This year she came in third in the all-around (37.75) and repeated as state champion on the vault (9.675).

The sisters have been competing for three years. Before that they did gymnastics at a recreational level for two seasons. Both girls are in level 5 and compete with AGA Gymnastics Training Center where Cassandra practiced 21 hours a week and Stashia practiced 23.5 hours a week this summer.

Because the girls are in it together they help each other out during practice and at the meets.

“We practice together,” Cassandra said. “If one had trouble we cheer each other on. I helped Stashia gain confidence in floor.”

The two have been in the sport together from the beginning.

“My mom was asking what sports we wanted to do,” Cassandra said. “We thought gymnastics sounded interesting and I like it now. I (competed at) Level one and two recreationally and then level 3 team and level 5 team. I skipped level four.”

In addition to performing well at the state meet both girls are on the top 100 highest scores at a level 5 meet this year. Cassandra is ranked 12th, while Stashia is ranked 15th.

“It is a great accomplishment,” Cassandra said. “It took hard work, determination and having a great attitude. I want to win the state meet next year and make it to level 10. I would also like to compete in college.”

Stashia has similar goals to her sister.

“I want to compete for a long time,” Stashia said. “I would like to get to level 10 and go to college for gymnastics.”

Holly resident Stashia Campbell, 10, won the all-around state gymnastics meet this year at Level 5 Age 10 with a score of 38.225.

TIGERS

Coach: Brad Jones
2012 Record: Co-Metro League champions
Team summary: The Tigers came dangerously close to losing their first-ever Metro League crown a year ago, but survived with a co-championship. This year, it looks like the Tigers have the team to try to keep that from happening again this year. The league’s best swimmer is four-event state performer from a year ago Gabrielle Haaraoja. She should have another busy day at state in the sprint events. Lauren Davis is another strong swimmer, while Adison Ransom will compete in the distance events. Alexis Kontorosus returns as a backstroke performer, while Kenzie Depuy is the team’s top returning diver. The sophomore class is talented and includes Bri Coslignan, Taylor Haaraoja, Mackenzie Mearns and Danielle Rushton.

Coach Jones says: “I said it for a long time that it can’t last forever and a lot of times I think we assumed that Fenton would win the Metro League. Brandon has one of the best coaches in the state in my opinion. Their girls believe they can beat us and we need to stay focused. We plan on winning, but I’m positive Brand is not planning on giving it to us.”

Prediction: The Tigers should be the Metro’s elite team, but Brandon proved last year that at least one of the teams in the Metro is catching up to them. This probably won’t be the year they do though. Fenton is pretty strong.

BRONCHOS

Coach: Danielle Gray
2012 Record: Sixth in Metro.
Team summary: The Bronchos have a team of 30 girls with 17 returning. And they also add a Fenton transfer, Megan Megan Cassner. She’s a strong swimmer and strong in the butterfly. She should be the team’s strongest competitor. Returning seniors include Carly Postma (mid distance), Casey Chmura (many events), Jessi Kivari (freestyler and butterfly) and Grace Doyon (freestyler). Others to watch out for are Cynthia Ferguson (distance freestyler), Stephanie Spiteri (breaststroke and IM), Grace Goodall (distance freestyler) and divers Jesse Degenhardt and Sabrina Bruni.

Coach Gray says: “After seeing the newcomers we are hoping we can be competitive in the league. We are not with Brandon and Fenton, but I feel we can be competitive with the rest of the teams.”

Prediction: Third place is up for grabs in the Metro. Can the Bronchos earn that position? The addition of Cassner certainly doesn’t hurt that quest. It’s a possible goal, but it won’t come easy.
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – LITTLE LONG LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To the residents and property owners of The Charter Township of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the township signed by the record owners of land whose area constitutes more than 50% of the total land area of the hereinafter described Little Long Lake Improvement Special Assessment District, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton proposes to provide a lake improvement project consisting of the eradication or control of aquatic weeds and plants, and to create a Special Assessment District for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows:

ADDRESS
PLAN

ALL PROPERTIES ABUTTING LITTLE LONG LAKE

To further notify the residents of the above properties and those interested parties who will be benefited by the improvement on or after the date hereinafter described, a public hearing shall be held at the regular meeting of the Charter Township of Fenton Board of Trustees at the Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan within the Town -ship commencing at 7:30 p.m. on September 16, 2013.

At such hearing, the board will consider any written objections to any of said Plans, Estimates and Costs or to said Special Assessment District.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that said Plans, Special Assessment District and Petitions may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk from the date of this Notice until and including the date of the public hearing hereon and may further be examined at such public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing upon such Petitions, Plans, District and Estimate of Costs will be held at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan within the Township commencing at 7:30 p.m. on September 16, 2013.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE
FENTON, MI 48430-8817

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – LITTLE LONG LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To the residents and property owners of The Charter Township of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the township signed by the record owners of land whose area constitutes more than 50% of the total land area of the hereinafter described Little Long Lake Improvement Special Assessment District, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton proposes to provide a lake improvement project consisting of the eradication or control of aquatic weeds and plants, and to create a Special Assessment District for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows:

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At such hearing, the board will consider any written objections to any of the foregoing matters which might be filed with said board at or prior to the time of said hearing as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments, or changes to said Plans, Estimates and Costs or to said Special Assessment District.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing.

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FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE
FENTON, MI 48430-8817

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All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place and to submit comments concerning any of the foregoing.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE
FENTON, MI 48430-8817
If you found a $10 bill on the supermarket floor, would you pick it up?

If you found a $10 bill on the supermarket floor, would you pick it up?

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SMILE!

$100 Teeth Whitening
Offer good thru 9/30/13.

Teeth Whitening • Bridges • Cosmetic Veneers
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On-site custom Dental Lab with 18 years experienced ceramicist.
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Donald Chapin, DDS
Dentist & Technician with over 25 Years Experience
Member: ADA, MDA

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