Grain elevator slated for restaurants and retail

Owner says building is ‘architecturally sound’

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

Plans to outfit the Fenton granary into restaurants and venues for vendors are still in the works, albeit opening will take some time. Scott Adams, CEO of the Fenton Bean Company said this past winter’s harsh weather has kept the building from being open so far. “The cold winter set us back. Everything’s still progressing but there’s no timeline yet,” Adams said. “Right now we’re doing routine maintenance and updating our blue prints and architectural plans.”

See GRAIN ELEVATOR on 11A

Streetscape project delayed until 2015?

$1.7 million in federal funds holding up process

By Tim Jagielo
jagielo@tctimes.com

Fenton — “Obligated” is the buzzword that’s holding the streetscape project hostage until 2015.

At Tuesday’s Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meeting, Assistant City Manager Mike Burns and City Manager Lynn Markland laid out the current funding situation to the board. The frustrating trend with the project has been explaining the latest delay to Fenton City Council or the DDA, and Tuesday the trend didn’t change. The funding process with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will not See STREETSCAPE on 11A

Brush pick-up back on track

Dan Wayne (left) and John Harkness of the Fenton DPW work with Larry Schelske (right) of Republic Services to clear piles of brush on South East Street Wednesday morning. See story on Page 3A

Easter Sunday draws double the normal church crowd

Leaders spread out welcome mat for Christmas and Easter attendees

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

This Sunday is one of the busiest days of the year for Christian churches as people celebrate the resurrection of their savior Jesus Christ. Outside of Christmas, Easter Sunday tends to draw the largest crowds. In fact, there are many people who only attend church on Christmas and Easter. Some church leaders report that attendance can

See EASTER on 8A

Oakland County kills Holly recall effort

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com

Holly — Efforts to recall four Holly Village Council members failed Wednesday after members of Oakland County’s Election Commission disallowed all four recall petitions. See RECALL EFFORT on 6A
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- All 2005 and some 2006, 2008-2009 Pontiac G6
- Some 2008-09 and all 2010-13 Buick Enclave and GMC Acadia
- Some 2009 and all 2010-13 Chevrolet Traverse
- Some 2008-2009 and all 2010 Saturn OUTLOOK
- 2007 Saturn Sky

* Please note that not every single one of these vehicles that were produced and sold are being recalled.
What to do (and not to do) to revitalize your grass

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

Heaviest snow in years creates unique lawn challenges

due to the heaviness of the snow. Usually the snow comes
and goes during the winter,” said Carol McAlister, owner of Yard ‘N Gar
den in Fenton. “This winter, the snow came early while the grass
was still growing in the fall, and it held on and got heavy.”

In some areas, leftover snow actually smothered the grass un
derneath, causing “snow mold,” a fungal condition that should go
away on its own in a few weeks, with regular fertilizing and proper
mowing. Fertilizing will help it push through and “outgrow” the disease.

So now, it’s time to shake things up a bit by raking the grass gently.
It’s important that you’re gentle with raking, because spring is a
sensitive time of year for your

City finally able to pick up winter debris

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Better weather allowing crews to systematically attack curbside clean-up process

Kirk Stevens with Fenton DPW rams brush into the wood chipper on Hickory Street on Thursday. The winter left lawns scattered with branches, and the city is about half way through the clearing effort.

A wood chipper was used at the north end of the city, four of six DPW workers dedicated to the problem.

The wood chips will end up being stored at Silver Lake Park until they can give it away, and Republic Services takes their load to a brush land-fill site in Mundy Township.

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Who has been a role model in your life?

"My Grandmother, Daisy. She was cheerful and always doing stuff for the family." — Joan Graham, Linden

"My mother, who is now deceased. She was a great mom and cook." — Mike Kateman, Fenton

“My kids, for everything they have accomplished. They went to college, got jobs and stayed out of trouble.” — Lorie Cee, Fenton

“My Aunt Pat because she has awesome energy and doesn’t let her age get in the way.” — Cindy Spear, Fenton

“My mom for her hard work and dedication to our family.” — Mike Angus, Fenton

“Jesus because he died for me. I have been a Christian since 1965.” — Matt Freeland, Fenton
This crash was one of several that occurred on January 23. Several factors contribute to the Fenton area of U.S. 23 being a hotspot for crashes.

Fenton portion of U.S. 23 sees more than its share of accidents

- Icy conditions, alcohol, dangerous merging all contribute to crashes

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

Reviewing Times stories dating back to January 2011, there have been hundreds of emergency responses to U.S. 23 in the stretch of highway in Tyrone Township, Fenton City, Fenton Township and Mundy Township. Some of these responses involved multiple vehicles.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said there are some areas in Genesee County that seem to have a lot of weather-related crashes, usually because of an overpass that freezes before the roadway or an open area adjacent to the roadway when a prevailing wind is blowing snow.

In addition to U.S. 23, I-69 between Miller Road and M-13 are also bad for those reasons as well as I-69, between Irish and Elba roads. "If you compared our stretch to those areas I bet you would see comparable numbers," said Aro.

Local motorists know that the area of highway near Owen, Silver Lake and North roads sees numerous crashes. Some speculate that the incline of the on-ramp to southbound U.S. 23 from North Road forces motorists to accelerate on the curve as they enter the highway, causing some to lose control, especially when the overpass is icy.

The weather appears to be a factor in several crashes, as well as speed, alcohol and drivers who are too tired to be driving.

According to accident reports, since 2011, Fenton police responded to 64 unrelated crashes on U.S. 23. Of those calls, icy road conditions contributed to at least 23 of them. Entering and exiting issues at North, Silver Lake or Owen roads contributed to at least 14 crashes. Traffic backups were factors in at least 11 crashes. Drivers failing asleep caused four crashes, and collisions with deer occurred at least four times.

2011 CRASHES

Looking back at the crashes reported on in the Times, an Argentine Township man was killed in January 2011 in Mundy Township. Roads were snow covered and icy. On Feb. 22, Fenton area police and fire responded to 22 crashes in a few hours. Roads were slick with snow.

In April, a motorist was injured in a rollover crash in Fenton and police responded to another personal injury crash. On June 15, a Grand Blanc man was killed in a motorcycle crash in Tyrone Township. Also in June, Fenton Township firefighters responded to a rollover crash and Tyron Township responded to a rollover, which injured a North Carolina man. In September, a motorist was injured when he lost control of his car in Tyrone Township and an Ypsilanti man was injured in a rollover crash in Fenton, which was undergoing highway construction.

In October, there were two alcohol-related crashes, one in Fenton and one in Fenton Township. On Oct. 12, a Rose Township man was killed in Hartland Township when his motorcycle struck a deer. In December, Fenton police and fire responded to three snow-related crashes.

See ACCIDENTS on 9A
Holly schools considers August millage vote

**More than $6 million in maintenance and repair costs prompt district to take action**

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com; 810-620-8282

Holly — The Holly Board of Education may be asking voters to reconsider passing a sinking fund this August as the district looks at more than $6.2 million in needed repairs, maintenance and upgrades to its seven buildings.

In August 2012, voters were asked to pass a 10-year annual sinking fund that would levy 1.2 mills per annum, or just under $1 million per year to be used to subsidize Holly Area Schools (HAS) facility repairs and maintenance. Passage would have allowed the district to use what money it would normally spend on building and facility maintenance on a wide variety of programs and classes for students instead. Voters rejected the proposal.

On April 14, Steve Lenar, HAS assistant superintendent of Administrative Services, presented board members with a tentative list of maintenance issues to be addressed for each of the district’s seven buildings. On Lenar’s list were items like building parking lot pavement and lighting upgrades, roofing replacements, window replacements, playground equipment updates, updates to the direct digital controls (DDT) for heating systems, repairs to the high school pool and football field, and others. Lenar said a roofing study done in 2006 identified several areas for repair throughout the district, and said that upgrades should have been made within 3-5 years. “That was a 2006 report and we haven’t done any of them,” Lenar said.

To save the cost of running an independent election, Lenar said the district can put either the sinking fund millage proposal on the Aug. 5 or the Nov. 4 regular election ballots. In order to do so, however, Michigan election law requires the district to file a certified copy of the school board resolution approving ballot language for millage or bond propositions with the election commission at least 84 days before the election date. In order for the issue to go before voters on the Aug. 5 ballot, the filing deadline is Tuesday, May 13, leaving a relatively short window for board members to make a decision.

Of the two elections, Lenar favors Aug. 5: “August is probably better because the election will be certified by the Board of Canvassers, and I believe we could make the first levy — the December tax levy,” he said. “That means we would have the money in the bank so we could start planning projects for the summer of 2015.”

The finance committee will meet on April 21 to discuss a millage amount recommendation. Lenar said he will be sharing the information with the rest of the board prior to the April 28 meeting. At that time, the board is expected to vote on whether the issue will appear on the August ballot, and what millage amount voters may be asked to consider.

“There were a lot of things going against us, and I think many of those things have cleared their own paths,” Treasurer Michael Newcomb said.

**RECALL EFFORT Continued from Front Page**

While former Village council member Shirley Campbell’s name along with her attorney, Tom Ryan, was on the recall petition, Campbell filed recall petitions on behalf of the group with Oakland County on April 1. The petitions aimed to recall Village President Ryan Bladzik, and council members George Kululis, Debra Musgrave and Chris Rankin for their roles in approving the June 11, 2013 motion to disbnd the village’s police dispatch center and sell most of the remaining equipment to the Oakland County Sheriff’s Department for $20,000.

On Wednesday, the Oakland County Election Commission consisting of Chief Probate Judge Elizabeth Pezzetti, Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown, and Oakland County Treasurer, Andy Meissner voted unanimously to deny the petition.

The panel based its decision on inconsistencies with the ballot language as well a discrepancy in the flow of events leading to the sale of the equipment to Oakland County.

“I’m just glad we can put this whole ordeal behind us. It’s time to continue working to make our community a better place to work, play and live,” Ryan Bladzik President, Holly Village Council
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Fr. Dwight Ezop is looking forward to his first Easter service this Sunday at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton. Ezop said Holy Week, capped off by Easter, is the most important time of the year for Christians and demands the best from religious leaders.

"Preparing for Holy Week and Easter is really, in some ways, similar to being a top level athlete," Ezop said. "Top level athletes want to be at top level when they’re competing. For myself, that’s very much the same. This is the time of year when preaching and celebrating the mass needs to be at its best."

Ezop is not sure how many people will show up for Mass on Sunday but he does anticipate the halls of St. John to be as full as possible. "It’s exciting for me to see what it will be like," Ezop said. "I’m planning to celebrate these Masses in the best and most beautiful ways."

"Easter is the most important day on our calendar," said Seth Normington, pastor at Linden Presbyterian Church. "We talk about renewal and the message of hope. Death, depression and destruction even have the final word."

Where normally 100 people or so attend Sunday services at Linden Presbyterian Church, Normington expects about 180 people to attend Easter Sunday. Extra services are scheduled for Sunday at most churches to accommodate the extra attendants. As the ending of Lent, Holy Week overall has slightly better church attendance, with extra Christians attending church on Good Friday and Holy Saturday as well.

Normington is aware that some Christians only attend church on Easter and Christmas. The pastor said he focuses on being welcoming and encouraging people to attend more frequently rather than chastising people for only attending church a few days a year.

At The Freedom Center, senior Pastor Jim Wiegand said regular Sunday attendance is approximately 1,100 people. For the Easter weekend, Wiegand anticipates 3,000 people will attend his church. In addition to focusing on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Wiegand said The Freedom Center will be discussing how God affects people’s daily lives. Technology will play a significant part in Easter service too, with three full high-definition screens. He compared today’s technology to that of stained glass meaning that the two can “make our most sacred stories beautiful.”

"This year’s service focuses more on questions people have," Wiegand said. "We’re trying to combine theology with reality. There’s a lot of ‘you should’ sermons and this one is a more of a ‘how to’ sermon."

According to a December Gallup poll, about 40 percent or 118 million people said they attend a church, synagogue or mosque at least once a week. Attendance at religious organizations peaked between 1954 and 1964 when nearly half of Americans said they attended a church, synagogue or mosque at least once a week. The daily importance of religion on lives has lessened since the 1950s, where more than 70 percent of people said religion was very important to them. Today, about 56 percent of people identify religion as a very important aspect of their life.
Tyrone officials split on new fireworks ordinance

Supervisor and clerk wonder if it’s needed, or enforceable
By William Axford
axford@tcitimes.com, 810-433-6702

Tyrone Twp. — The Tyrone Township Board of Trustees voted 4-2 to give a six-month trial run on a new fireworks ordinance. Supervisor Mike Cunningham and Clerk Keith Kremer cast the dissenting votes. Trustee David Walker was not present at the meeting.

Fireworks in Tyrone Township may now be used outside of the state’s designated 30 days. Time restrictions were not included in the ordinance.

Township officials were at odds on whether an ordinance was needed since fireworks are already regulated by the state and how effectively they could enforce fireworks violations. Cunningham said investigations into fireworks violations will be dependent upon complaints with residents. Burden of proof will rely on the complainant via video, photos or eyewitness accounts.

For Trustee Charles Shultz, who voted in favor of the ordinance, enforcement can lead to a slippery slope.

“It’s almost like we are putting this in there to appease somebody. Why make it more restrictive than the state?” Shultz said. “Does this mean anybody can form a complaint? How do we determine good proof?”

Cunningham and Kremer noted that enforcement of current ordinances rely on complaints from residents. Late night fireworks use would be breaching other ordinances such as noise violation and disturbing the peace.

“The enforcement is going to be the issue,” Cunningham said. “The state police say they’re not going to go out there. The deputy doesn’t have the manpower to go out there. This is something that’s after the fact and hearsay.”

Under state law, fireworks are allowed to be used the day before, during and after 10 national holidays.

Under Tyrone Township’s Fireworks Ordinance No. 41, fireworks cannot be used on public property, schools and churches unless they are approved by the respective organizations. Fireworks are prohibited from use by people under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances. Fireworks cannot be used during an open-burn ban and must be discharged away from structures and other potential fire hazards. The ordinance also allows for sale of fireworks within the township, provided the vendor has the designated state and federal licenses necessary, as well as an authorized fireworks display permit from the township.

Violations of the ordinance can result in fines varying from $100 to $500, as well as cost recovery fines for damages and any use of services from fire departments.

Use of fireworks outside of the days designated by the state is prohibited within the cities of Fenton and Linden.

Tyrone’s fireworks ordinance will be up for review in October, past the major holidays for fireworks. This summer will be a test on whether the township needs to be more restrictive or liberal when it comes to enforcement.

“If your neighbor is shooting off fireworks in the morning, they’re going to call the police,” Treasurer Marna Bunting-Smith said. “(The police) are going to respond. There’s a state statute on (fireworks).”

ACCIDENTS
Continued from Page 5A
2012
On Jan. 14, 2012, Fenton responded to a rollover after a male driver fell asleep at the wheel and crashed. On March 9, Fenton police responded to several spinouts, due to icy road conditions. Later that month, Fenton Township responded to a rear-end collision.

In May, a motorist lost control in Fenton when she tried to avoid hitting an opossum. In June, two women were injured in a rollover. In July, firefighters responded to a rollover crash in Tyrone Township, which was alcohol related. In August, an SUV hydroplaned on the wet road surface, lost control and rear-ended another vehicle.

On Sept. 13, a White Lake man was killed in a motorcycle crash in Hartland Township. On Oct. 24, a couple traveling in a motorhome lost control and crashed in Fenton Township.

2013
On Jan. 9, a Flint man was killed in a crash in Tyrone Township. Icy roads were a factor. On Jan. 18, Fenton responded to two unrelated weather-related crashes and then on Jan. 23, black ice was a factor in several spinouts.

Many will recall the 30 to 40 vehicles that were involved in multiple crashes in Mundy Township, caused by icy roads and sudden whiteout conditions on Feb. 1. Whitout conditions occurred again on Feb. 16 and Feb. 22, causing multiple crashes in Fenton Township.

In March, a Mt. Morris man was injured after he lost control of his vehicle and crashed in Fenton Township. In August, a Canton man who had taken prescription medicine and was drowsy crashed his vehicle in Fenton. In October, a beer truck was rear-ended, resulting in a lost load.

2014

On Jan. 23, Fenton fire and police responded to 21 weather-related crashes in Fenton. On Jan. 28, a semi lost control and jackknifed in Fenton.

On Feb. 9, a Mt. Morris woman was killed when the vehicle she was a passenger of was struck by a vehicle that was traveling the wrong way on the highway in Mundy Township. Later that month, a Mt. Morris man was killed in Tyrone Township when his vehicle was rear-ended in Tyrone Township. Alcohol was a factor in that crash as well.

**THIS WEEK’S INSERTS**
- Alpine Marketplace
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**MILITARY MILESTONES**

FENTON HIGH SCHOOL 2013 GRADUATE EARNS TITLE OF U.S. MARINE

Cimbrey Ponzętlda of Fenton and a 2013 graduate of Fenton High School graduated United States Marine Corps boot camp on April 4, 2014 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. On April 22, Ponzętlda will return to Marine Corps Combat Training in South Carolina and then will report to Marine Corps Camp Geiger, in North Carolina where she will attend Basic Supply Warehousing Course as her military occupational specialty in the Marines. Cimbrey is the daughter of Julie Harrison and step-daughter of Dwight Harrison.
CLEAN-UP
Continued from Page 3A
Currently, there is no schedule, or way to let residents know when a crew will be out on these random clearing efforts, but there is a way to speed up the process, and get someone out to your property if you’re ready for a pick up.

For regular Fenton City pick-up
Place fallen brush and branches only, to the curb. Lay with cut ends facing the street, at a reasonable length. The more neatly stacked and organized the pile, the more quickly crews can remove your branches and move on to the next home, or neighborhood.

“Just put the brush down that came down with the storm and we’ll be happy to pick it up,” said Czarnecki.

Things like wooden posts, old chairs and lumber will not be taken away. Crews will leave behind any piles containing anything other than fallen or cut branches.

For Monday Republic Services pick-up
The city contracts with Republic Services for refuse, and recycling removal. On Monday, trucks will sweep through the city for yard waste. There are two ways to have your brush removed by Republic Services. One is filling a 32-gallon, trash receptacle, or brown yard waste bag with brush, with a $.50 city “green yard waste” tag. The other is simply bundling 4-foot lengths of brush, weighing less than 50 pounds, which is free. In either case, have the waste ready by 7 a.m. Monday.

This is the first time the Fenton DPW has used a Republic Services truck with their pick-up route.
STREETSCAPE
Continued from Front Page

conclude in time to start construction this year.

Everything hinges on the “obligation” of these federal funds.

Obligated is the word municipalities like Fenton use when federal funds are first committed to a project, and then assigned to be used on a specific public improvement, and spent within an allotted period of time.

The streetscape is actually two or more large projects in one — the road project itself, and then the “streetscape” portion, which is the sidewalks, benches and trash receptacles.

In this case, Burns said the road portion was obligated in February, and the rest could be obligated by April 26.

Then, the information would be reviewed by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for a couple weeks. Bidding contractors for the projects would begin with a late July early-August start to construction.

That sounds reasonable, but in order to not drag the residents and downtown businesses through two construction seasons, they needed to have started in early April. This means the next time to start construction is April 2015 — at least that’s what it looks like right now.

In order to start in 2015, they have to un-obligate the road funds, so that they hit the timeline set by the Federal Highway Administration. Currently, they would have to start in February, before winter breaks in Michigan.

Going forward, Markland and Burns had already scenario is getting all the funds obligated at the right time to begin bidding in the fall. This will yield better prices, he said, because contractors will be booking their first work of the year.

About streetscape

The project has been in the works since 2011 when conceptual drawings were made. When completed, the streetscape will alter the streets, curbs, sidewalks and lighting of the downtown, from Second Street to Elizabeth Street.

The $4.8 million project was first delayed in 2012, when the city decided to wait for $1.7 in federal funds. In the fall of 2013, Markland and Burns submitted paperwork for the grants with the expectation of it all being wrapped up by now, allowing bidding and construction to begin. The October federal government shut down, and MDOT caused delays in the obligating of the funds.

Continued from Page 3A

of time.

GRASS
Continued from Page 3A

yard. The soil is spongy, the plants are tender and weather is unpredictable.

“Get the clippings off the grass, mulch it with your mower, and get things moving again,” said Mike Fenton of Royalty Services, a full-service lawn company in Fenton. Then re-seed the grass where there are bare spots.

Cool-season grasses, dominant in the tri-county area, can be planted as soon as the air temperatures get into the 60s and soil temperatures are in the 50s. “Make sure there’s no frost,” said Fenton. Plant as soon as temperatures allow, to give seedlings a chance to get established before hot weather hits.

After the grass is up, fertilize. “Fertilize, fertilize, fertilize,” said Fenton. “The first application can go on right now. Use a pre-emergent fertilizer to give it some new life and keep crabgrass from growing.” Pre-emergent fertilizers work for about three months, so homeowners should plan to reapply again during the summer.

Begin mowing your lawn as soon as it needs it, but keep in mind that grass blades do best when you cut no more than a third of the blade’s length at a time.

Once your grass starts growing, you’ll need to make sure your lawn gets at least 1-inch of water per week. Until then, you can water less frequently, but remember that cold air is very drying to plants and lawns.

Spring is also a good time to address problems with fire ants and other insects. Grubs and mole crickets may also cause damage to your lawn in the spring but are more effectively controlled later in the summer.

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“Everything’s still progressing. We were hoping to open up a lot sooner than we will be.”
Scott Adams
CEO of Fenton Bean Company

OWNERS of the Fenton Bean Company are updating the Fenton grain elevator, hoping to open their business by the end of this summer.

get involved, further prompting Adams and Cockerton to repair the building sooner.

Adams is optimistic though that the building can be brought up to code in time.

Once business blueprints and architectural plans are submitted to the city, Adams said the building will have to be inspected by the city. Should things progress on track, Adams foresees being able to open up the building by late summer.

“Of course, it’s an old building,” Adams said of the structure, “The original plan was to open late 2014, but that’s not in the cards. We’ll open as soon as we can.”

For more information and updates on the company and the status of the grainary building, visit the Fenton Bean Company on Facebook or call (810) 629-7661.

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Lobdell Lake - $425,000

Paint Our Town Blue Campaign

John Wentworth is speaking out about child abuse awareness & support at the press conference for the Paint Our Town Blue campaign on Tuesday, April 25th at the Greater Flint Arts Council in downtown Flint. The Paint Our Town Blue campaign was launched by the Whaley Children’s Center in Flint, in honor of April, Child Abuse Prevention Month. Harris, join in on April 25th in wearing blue to raise awareness about child abuse. For more information about the Paint Our Town Blue campaign visit: www.paintourtownblue.org

Fenton Schools - $98,500

Pending in 7 Days

Lindon Schools - $199,999

Pending in 2 Days

Flint, Davison Road - $899,000

Pending in 22 Days

Benson System, Fr - $399,000

Pending in 5 Days
Sofia Rose Sharpe
Dr. John Sharpe and his wife Anita Sharpe of Germantown, Tenn. have announced the birth of their daughter, Sofia Rose Sharpe. She was born on Dec. 16, 2013 at the Methodist Le Bonheur Hospital in Germantown, Tenn., at 4:02 a.m. Her weight was 7 lbs. 8 ozs. and she was 20 inches long. She has two older brothers, Emmanuel, age 13, and John Reinhard, age 19 months. Her grandparents are John and Cheryl Sharpe of Linden and Rudolph and Eva Wilhelm of Scoul, Switzerland. Her great grandmother is Vera Jansson of Argentine Township.

NHS TO HOLD BLOOD DRIVE ON APRIL 23
Members of the Fenton High School National Honors Society (NHS) are holding a Blood Drive on Wednesday, April 23 in the high school auxiliary gym. Anyone over 17 can donate without adult consent. Appointments run from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call the high school main office at (810) 591-2600 to schedule an appointment. Last minute donations made for a successful NHS blood drive on Jan. 30, during a time of snow days. The 99 pints that the NHS collected was of help to the Red Cross since it was experiencing a blood shortage due to the inclement weather.

Diondivs announced
Fentura Financial, Inc. has announced a 3 cent per share dividend for shareholder records as of April 14, 2014, and payable April 21, 2014. Fentura Financial, Inc. is a bank holding company headquartered in Fenton. Its subsidiary bank, The State Bank, is also headquartered in Fenton with offices serving Fenton, Linden, Holly, Grand Blanc and Brighton. The Bank offers comprehensive financial services including commercial, consumer, mortgage, trust and financial planning services, and deposit products. The Bank provides services from its community offices in Genesee, Oakland and Livingston Counties and through on-line and mobile banking services. More information about The State Bank is available at www.thestatebank.com.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) announces road projects for Genesee County.
Wide-ranging I-75 construction continues next week when crews begin resurfacing 19 miles from the Genesee/Oakland county line to the I-475 north junction, including I-75 over Cook Road, I-75 under Grand Blanc and Fenton roads, and I-75 over the Flint River and Flushing Road. This $13.3 million project is weather dependent. Overall work includes bridge improvements, which are already underway on Grand Blanc Road (expected to be completed in June) and Cook Road (expected to be completed in May). MDOT will announce the schedule for additional road and bridge work as dates are determined.

Traffic impact: I-75 roadwork — up to three lanes closed at night for roadwork. Daytime traffic restrictions may remain in place to accommodate roadwork. I-75 bridge work — lane closures and traffic shifts for bridge work. Local roads will have lane closures with traffic maintained under a temporary signal. Work is expected to be completed in September.

2014 Colonel Fenton’s Texas Hold ’em Poker Tournament this Thursday
The Fenton Area Public Schools Education Foundation (FAPSEF) is hosting its annual Colonel Fenton’s Texas Hold ’em Poker Tournament this Thursday, April 24 at the Fenton Hotel. Doors open at 5 p.m. for registration and dining. The first round starts at 6:30 p.m. The grand prize is $1,000, dinner for four at the Fenton Hotel and a “World Series of Poker” themed bracelet donated by Medawar Jewelers. Tickets are available at the Fenton schools’ administrative office, the Fenton Hotel or from any FAPSEF board member. For more information, go to www.fapsef.org.

POLICE
Continued from Page 3A

teen’s shirt, cutting her stomach in the process. She broke free and ran. The suspects ran in the opposite direction.

SMASHED WINDSHIELD AT BAR
A 23-year-old Clarkston man filed a malicious destruction of property complaint with Holly police on March 16. The man told police that he had been at a bar in the 500 block of North Saginaw Street. He had come into contact with three unknown men while playing pool and words were exchanged between the unknown men and his friend. Within minutes of the men leaving around 1:40 a.m. a person entered the bar and asked if someone owned a silver Cadillac in the parking lot. Apparently, someone had smashed the windshield with a cinder block. The identity of one of the suspects was made from reviewing the surveillance tape. The male suspect admitted to the damage, which was later estimated at $3,000. The case remains open.

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Linden’s aggression sparks big Metro victory

Eagles score two first-half goals, leads squad to 2-1 win against Fenton Tigers

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

Fenton — Madeline Zayan didn’t have the ball. In fact, a Fenton defender did. But minus that defender, all Zayan saw was the ball and a clear path to the net.

So the Linden freshman didn’t need to get that ball away from Fenton’s defender, drove the field and scored a goal. It was that type of play that led the Linden Eagles to a 2-0 halftime lead and an eventual 2-1 victory against the Fenton Tigers at Fenton High School on Wednesday. “The girl was slow inside, so I tried to cut around her and then I got in and scored,” Zayan said.

“We were really aggressive and quick to the ball. We didn’t give up and we outplayed them.”

That was the theme during the first 40 minutes. The Eagles clearly outplayed the Tigers in what was the first Metro bout for both teams, a battle that could go a long way in determining this year’s league champion.

“I’m very excited we got a win here,” said Linden’s other goal scorer, Sarah Ford. “It’s incredible (beating Fenton). It puts our foot in the door. It’s a step forward. It gives us all the more drive to go undefeated this season.”

“Our adrenaline was definitely pumping. We had that first goal right off the bat. It gave us a really good step up. We were ready to go. We beat them to the ball. We just played together and showed how good we are going to be.”

In the second half, the Tigers looked more like their normal selves, and cut the gap to 2-1 quickly after a free kick goal by Brennan Sullivan just 1:41 into the second half. The Tigers also kept most of the second-half action in Linden’s defensive zone as it seemed the Eagles started to tire against the Tigers’ constant attacks.

See LINDEN’S on 18A

Two goal scorers in Linden’s 2-1 victory against Fenton are pictured here. Madeline Zayan (left) scored the Eagles’ first goal while Brennan Sullivan (right) scored the Tigers’ only goal of the game.

Linden baseball opens with DH sweep of Swartz Creek

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

Linden — The Eagles are supposed to be one of the Metro League baseball contenders this year. They looked like one in an 8-1, 10-4 doubleheader sweep of Swartz Creek on Thursday.

“I was very pleased with the pitching we had overall,” Linden coach Steve Buerkel said. “It being the first time we were outside in a game situation to pitch, both Austin (Buerkel) and Marshall (Ryan) gave us a good chance to win the game. And the way we swung the bats was nice.”

In the first game, the Eagles gradually blew the game open. In the first inning Austin Buerkel scored on a Brady Sarkon RBI-fielder’s choice grounder, making it 1-0. In the third, Jake Marshall hit an RBI-single and Cameron Cook provided a sacrifice fly, helping raise the gap to 4-0. In the fifth, Ryan provided a two-run single, making it a 6-0 lead. Two more Linden runs — one driven in by a Marshall sacrifice fly and the other on a Sarkon single — made it eight runs.

Buerkel was strong on the mound, striking out six in five innings of work. Creek loaded the bases in the sixth, but Marshall maintained the shutout.

Linden’s Jacob Klocek slides into home plate after a wild pitch during the Eagles’ doubleheader sweep against Swartz Creek on Thursday. Klocek was safe.
Eagles start rebuilding process with losses to Creek

Fenton improves to 4-0 in Metro with sweep of Lapeer West

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

Linden — There’s a new sign on the back of the dugout representing last year’s outstanding season.

The Linden varsity softball team advanced to the Division 2 Final Four last year, and the sign proudly displays that fact.

However, this year’s team has lost a lot of those players that made a year ago happen. So, there’s a little rebuilding going on at Linden. And it showed on Thursday as the Eagles lost a doubleheader against the defending Metro League champion Swartz Creek Dragons.

The Dragons used a 10-run first to earn an 11-1 victory in the first game. In the second contest the Eagles lost 9-0.

“We are a different team, a young team,” Linden coach Gordon Jamison said. “We made some really athletic plays today, but true to a young team, they made some really good plays and then made some mental mistakes. We had more mental mistakes today. It’s not just being young, but they haven’t played together a lot.”

In the opening game, the Eagles’ only run came in the third inning when Rhian non Moose singled, stole second and eventually scored after two wild pitches. However, that was the end of the hitting.

In the second game, the Eagles got singles from Alyssa Logie and Reagan Benge, but were unable to score. Creek scored runs here and there, eventually getting the 9-0 win.

The Eagles’ primary concern is getting their young team ready for later in this season and future seasons.

“The seniors have taken to this team, embracing them,” Jamison said. “They know there is a drop-off from last year and they are trying to help the younger player improve so they’ll continue to get better for the future. They understand their legacy is helping them because if they get better, they know they played a part in it.”

Fenton 12-11, Lapeer West 4-5

The Tigers (4-0) made it four straight road wins in Lapeer to start the season, crushing the Panthers on Thursday.

In the opening game, Paige Dean tossed the complete-game victory, while the offense recorded 15 hits. Brenna Hatch had three hits and scored three runs, while Ellie Cowger and Katey Caimhduff had two hits and two runs scored each. Taylor Mosover and Dori Carpenter also had two hits. Carpenter led the team with three RBI.

In the second game, Cowger tossed the complete-game victory, striking out seven, and also went 4-for-4 at the plate with two doubles, three runs scored, two RBI and three stolen bases. Emma Brant also went 4-for-4 and had three stolen bases, while Carpenter, Ali Gandy and Logan Carter had two hits each.

Fenton out-hit West 33-14 in the two games.

Fenton girls track opens Metro League with strong wins

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

The Fenton varsity girls track and field team is expected to be among the top contenders for the Metro League crown this year.

And one Metro event into the season, the Tigers look poised to do just that.

Fenton dominated Lapeer East 119-14 and Swartz Creek 101-35 at Lapeer East High School on Wednesday.

“We are looking to have a very good season,” Fenton coach Todd Mills said. “We have back most of our key components from last year. We figure we can be in the top three in the league. As always we will be looking to compete with the top teams — Holly, Brandon and Linden. We have had a few setbacks with injuries, but we are hoping to overcome them and push on.”

The Tigers took overall firsts in 14 events, with Kayla Stiles earning two individual overall firsts. Stiles won the 200 (27.43) and the long jump (16.06). The Tigers most dominant event was either the 100 hurdles or 1,600 run where Fenton earned the top three spots in both events. In the 100, Nina Lombardi (17.82) won, while Katherine Hiller (18.8) and Liria Dedivanaj (18.6) were second and third, respectively. Dedivanaj could only take third since she ran in the second heat. In the 1,600 run, Danielle Hack won (6:05.14), followed by teammates Emily Battaglia (6:17) and Emma Lane (6:17) in second and third, respectively.

Other overall individual firsts earned by Fenton included Katherine Hiller in the 300 hurdles (53.15).

See FENTON on 18A
Holly tennis improves to 2-0 in Metro play, beats Clio

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

Holly — The Holly varsity girls tennis team is two Metro meets into the season. And the Bronchos have two team victories.

Holly got the second win on Wednesday, defeating Clio 7-1. The Bronchos won all six of their flights in straight sets, and most were decisive wins. However, there was one close match. Holly’s No. 3 singles player Jenna Pepper gutted out a 7-6(3), 6-4 victory against Clio’s Sara Crock to earn her win.

On the other side of the spectrum, two Holly doubles flights won their matches by 6-0, 6-0 scores. They were Carley Postma and Sydney Renehan at No. 1 doubles and Paige Reid and Makenna Rooker at No. 3 doubles.

In singles action, Natalie Clink captured the No. 1 spot victory for Holly by a 6-2, 6-3 score against Megan Takacs, while Holly’s Lily Kossak (No. 4) defeated Morgan Ferweda 6-0, 6-1.

The other two Holly wins were in the doubles flights. Leah Moller and Skylar St. Croix (No. 2) won 6-1, 6-1, while Abby Graff and Katherine Skubik (No. 4) also won 6-1, 6-2.

Holly competes at the Forest Hills Northern Invitational on Saturday. The Bronchos also host Lapeer East for another Metro match on Wednesday.

Holly at Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational
The Bronchos took fourth in the four-team event. The No. 4 doubles team of Katherine Skubik and Abby Graff led Holly by winning two of their three matches, earning second place.

In singles action, Sydney Renehan (No. 3) won a match. The No. 2 doubles team of Chloe Reynolds and Makenna Rooker also won a match.
FENTON Continued from Page 16A
Emily Bemis in the 800 (2:49), Jenna Keiser in the 3,200 (13:03), Ellen Sage in the high jump (4-8) and Victoria Chapin in the pole vault (9-6). The Tigers also won three relays. The 3,200 relay team of Bemis, Keiser, Emma Lane and Emily Kinser (11:19) took the top spot as did the 1,600 relay team of Bemis, Sage, Emily Kinser and Bottaglia (4:33). The 800 relay of Stiles, Hannah Sage, Ellen Sage and Bemis posted a time of 1:52.53. Fenton boys vs. Lapeer East, Swartz Creek
The Fenton boys defeated East 80-53, but lost to Swartz Creek 70-57.

Fenton’s Kyle Frederick won the long jump in the dual meets against Holly and Brandon.

LINDEN’s
Continued from Page 15A

Riveting Sports

BASEBALL
Continued from Page 15A

The trio was also an example of how the team’s pride was not dampened by the loss. Fenton’s Madison Wege was the only player who scored for Fenton, while Linden’s Briana Holscher (left) scored for Linden.

SECOND PLACE

Linden’s Briana Holscher (left) tries to avoid Fenton’s Madison Wege in the Eagles’ 2-1 victory on Wednesday.

And it was needed because of the early second-half goal by Fenton. The Eagles are now 2-0, with a victory on each of Fenton’s fields. Prior to spring break Linden defeated Holly at Fenton’s football field. This contest was played at the regular soccer field. Coach Kevin Fiebertz was thrilled by his team’s play.

“I’m proud of these girls,” Fiebertz said. “This is the only time we’ve been outside. In the first half, I thought we got them out of our way. They were arguing a bit with each other, and I think speed will do that to you a little bit and we have some speed.”

“I was a little bit worried coming in because this is their fourth or fifth game and they’ve been outside about 10 times. We’ve hardly been outside. But we have a lot of potential to grow as a team.”

Fenton outshot Linden 16-9 and also had an 8-4 shots on goal edge. But, the advantage didn’t equate into better chances, Linden’s Travis Richardson said.

Linden played Davison on Thursday and were at the Chelsea Tournament on Saturday, Fenton hosted Troy on Thursday and play Mason on Monday.

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Come see Mike DeMoss at Vic Canever’s!
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Six- and seven-year car loans popular

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

Car loans are expanding beyond three or four years and stretching into six or even seven-year loans. Increased car prices and a slowly recovering economy are two major factors in loans expanding from 24 or 26 months to 72 and even 84 months. While the longer loans point to a weakened economy, local dealerships believe the longer loans won’t become a permanent aspect of car buying.

“It’s more of a trend I think,” said Jon Phillips, business manager at Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton. “When they trade in their car four years from now, they’ll have less equity. It’s hard to tell though what’s going to happen to the economy right here.”

A recent USA Today article reported that customers are paying 2 percent more for cars than they did a year ago. Popular cars like General Motors’ Chevrolet Corvette and Subaru’s Forester have substantially increased in price compared to last year’s models.

The Wall Street Journal reports the higher car prices and competition from auto loaners allows some consumers to net new cars with a $500 or lower monthly car payment. While six or seven years for one car seems like a long time, the average life of cars on the road has stretched to 11 years, allowing owners to drive their cars debt free for a few years.

While monthly payments are usually lower, the longer the duration of the loan, cars.com said more months usually come with a higher interest rate.

Phillips said loan rates and amounts are dependent upon multiple factors such as credit history, model and miles on the car and other factors. "Parents feeling strained with house payments and multiple kids to adults entering their first professional jobs and struggling to pay off student loans, car loans lasting six or seven years may make more sense than a shorter loan.

Whatever the reason, Phillips said car dealerships will try to work with customers as much as possible in order to get them into a new car. “It all depends on the customer’s budget, every situation is different,” Phillips said. “We try to accommodate them and give them the best rate possible.”

Common misconceptions about fuel efficiency

Fuel efficiency is an important issue for car buyers, and understandably so. Conserving fuel is good for drivers’ budgets and the planet, so the concept of fuel efficiency would seem to benefit everyone.

But just because fuel efficiency is a good concept does not mean there are not misconceptions about it among drivers and automotive professionals alike. The following are some of the more widely held misconceptions about fuel efficiency.

Full tanks conserve fuel.

Many people have long believed that a nearly full tank of gas means the fuel within that tank is less likely to evaporate, and that half-full tanks are losing gas to evaporation. Though this might have been the case years ago, today’s vehicle’s are smarter than ever before, and their fuel systems are designed with vapor recovery systems so drivers traveling around with tanks that are closer to empty than full aren’t losing gas to evaporation.

Manual transmissions are more fuel efficient.

Technology can once again be credited with turning conventional wisdom on its head. In the past, manual transmission vehicles might have been more fuel efficient because drivers could more efficiently control engine revving with a 5-speed manual transmission than they could with the standard 3-speed automatic transmission. However, automatic transmissions have evolved over the years to become much more fuel efficient.
The importance of your car’s VIN

► This number sets your vehicle apart from every other and provides detailed information.

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

If your car or truck is newer than 1981, it has a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) that has many important uses.

This 17-character number is what sets your vehicle apart from any other vehicle. It is used by service shops to identify the engine, transmission and brake systems installed by manufacturers, so that they can properly service your vehicle. Law enforcement agencies use VINs to identify and recover stolen cars and car parts. Auto manufacturers use VINs when they resolve safety recalls.

A vehicle’s VIN is very important to a car buyer because it can help you access information about a previously-owned car that can impact your decision. Through a VIN search, you can access a CARFAX Vehicle History Report, which will tell you:

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Ram breaks new ground

Diesel engines and pickup trucks go together like peanut butter and jelly, but manufacturers have been reluctant to put diesels in light-duty trucks.

By Derek Price

Ram is offering the first diesel engine in a light-duty truck for 2014. Called the EcoDiesel, it is designed to get impressive gas mileage and is rated to tow 9,200 pounds.

The least expensive 2014 cars to insure

In an article published on April 10, 2014 by Jeffery Steele of Insure.com, Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge have six of the top ten least expensive vehicles to insure.

1. Jeep Wrangler Sport
2. Jeep Patriot Sport
3. Jeep Compass Sport
4. Chrysler Town & Country Touring
5. Dodge Journey
6. Dodge Grand Caravan

TEST DRIVE: 2014 RAM 1500 ECODIESEL

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Chris Williamson, Certified Mechanic

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A: Jeff, this is most likely a bad wheel bearing causing this noise. You will need to jack up the front wheels. Check for any movement in the wheel by trying to move it in at the top and out at the bottom, going back and forth. Sometimes we have to run the vehicle on the hoist and listen with a stethoscope to pinpoint the exact cause when there is no obvious play in the wheel bearing. They be tricky as far as sounding like a right side when it is actually the left or vice versa. That is why we double check them with the stethoscope.

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PRE-OWNED 2013 FORD EDGE SE
The new available 3.0L EcoDiesel engine, mated to the TorqueFlite eight-speed automatic transmission, is changing the way we look at light-duty performance.

**RAM**

Continued from Page 21A

One of the biggest question marks about this truck — and one of the best reasons to buy it, too — is the gas mileage it’s going to get. The official government ratings haven’t been announced yet, but the folks at Ram swear it’s going to be “class-leading” whenever the numbers come out.

That means it should get better fuel economy than the V6 gasoline trucks that are on the market right now, with the added benefit of greater towing capacity.

It’s rated to tow up to 9,200 pounds, which is approaching the figure you would expect from a big, thirsty, V8 gas engine.

The price premium for the EcoDiesel is also reasonable. It’s just $2,850 more than a similarly equipped Ram with a HEMI V8 engine, a price that’s low enough to pay for itself in fuel cost savings over time. And given the historically higher resale value of diesel trucks, it could turn out to be an even smarter decision down the road.

Aside from the coolness of the new diesel, like what this move says about the Ram brand as a whole. This is a company that’s been breaking new ground in the pickup market and rolling out innovations before other trucks, like their diesel engine brakes in heavy-duty models and their big-rig styling in the 1990s.

Being the first to put a diesel engine in a light-duty chassis is just another step in that process. It’s a smart move on Ram’s part because I suspect there’s a large, untapped market of people who want to drive a diesel truck but don’t want to deal with the drawbacks and expense of a heavy-duty model.

It’s been a long wait, but those people finally have their truck.

**FUEL**

Continued from Page 19A

years, and they are now more adept at controlling revs and conserving fuel than many drivers of manual transmission vehicles.

When you fill up matters.

Some drivers have long believed that filling up during the cooler hours of the day earns them more gas than filling up when the temperatures are at their peak. This theory traces its origins to the fact that liquids are at their most dense when they are cool. But today’s filling stations store their gas in tanks beneath the ground, which is why you might see a tanker emptying its contents into the ground at the filling station. These underground tanks are insulated from temperature swings, so you aren’t likely to receive any more gas by filling up in the morning than you will when filling up at night.

An old vehicle is destined to be less fuel efficient.

Any product that is allowed to fall into disrepair will prove less efficient than products that are well maintained, and cars are no exception. A poorly maintained car will not operate at peak fuel efficiency because it’s likely being forced to work harder to get down the street than it would if it was well kept. But a well-maintained vehicle should not grow less fuel efficient over time.

Shifting into neutral while stopping saves gas.

This is another misconception that was once true but no longer applies thanks to advances in technology. When engines still had carburetors, shifting into neutral might have helped conserve fuel by lessening the flow of gas into the engine while the car was idling. However, fuel injection systems are now computerized and capable of sensing when an engine is revving above idle. This shuts off the fuel injectors, preventing gas from being injected into the engine and preventing gas from being wasted while the vehicle is stopped as a result.

Taking steps to conserve fuel is a good way for drivers to save money and benefit the environment. However, some of the conventional means to conserving fuel are no longer viable.
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STER# 125329A

$9,189

2003 Jeep Liberty Sport
8291787A

$4,194

2003 Cadillac CTS
1132038

$4,500

2010 Ford Focus SES
1322859D

$10,500

2013 Chevrolet Malibu Eco
173957

$18,700

2008 GMC Canyon SLT
1253238

$6,164

2001 Chevrolet S-10 LS
173971

$8,995

2010 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, Crew Cab, 4X4
STER# 6175059

$21,657

2008 Chevrolet Tahoe LT
173966

$20,900

2006 Chevrolet TrailBlazer LS
173958

$18,900

2008 Chevrolet Silverado
173950

$30,000 Cash Option

2007 Chevrolet Tahoe LTZ
173969

$16,900

2008 Chevrolet Malibu
173957

$18,900

2003 Chevrolet Avalanche
173973

$6,164

2008 Ford Escape Limited
1299357A

$8,995

2001 Chevrolet S-10 LS
173971

$8,995

2011 Chevrolet Traverse LS
173952

$17,500

2010 Chevrolet Silverado
173950

$18,900

2001 Chevrolet Equinox
173969

$153

2010 Cadillac CTS
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173955

$18,900

2002 GMC Safari
6179371B

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2003 Jeep Liberty Sport
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$4,194

2003 Cadillac CTS
1132038

$4,500

2008 GMC Canyon SLT
173973

$14,500

2003 Chevrolet Avalanche
173973

$6,164

2008 Ford Escape Limited
1299357A

$8,995

2007 Chrysler 300 Touring
125329A

$9,189

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500, DOUBLE CAB, 4X4, WT
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$193

2013 Chevrolet Malibu Eco
173957

$18,900

2008 Chevrolet Silverado
173950

$20,900

2010 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ
173956

$9,900

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500, CREW CAB, 4X4
STER# 1229357T

$18,900

2008 Chevrolet Tahoe LT
173966

$20,900

2003 Chevrolet Avalanche
173973

$6,164

2008 Ford Escape Limited
1299357A

$8,995

2007 Chrysler 300 Touring
125329A

$9,189

2014 CHEVROLET IMPALA
STER# 2120100T

$237

2014 CHEVROLET VOLT
STER# 4108350T

$209

2014 CHEVROLET EQUINOX
STER# 1263300

$153

2014 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE
STER# 1129877

$193

2010 Ford Focus SES
1322859D

$10,500

2013 Chevrolet Malibu Eco
173957

$18,700

2010 Cadillac CTS
173958

$18,900

2011 Chevrolet Traverse LS
173952

$17,500

2010 Chevrolet Silverado
173950

$21,657

2010 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ
173956

$9,900

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$18,900

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173955

$18,900

2002 GMC Safari
6179371B

$2,300

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WEDDINGS

FEATURE ARTICLE — Things you didn’t know about your Easter candy, PAGE 2B

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

With the average cost of a wedding in the U.S. approaching $30,000, the price of getting married has become one of the most expensive rites into adulthood.

Of course, this figure averages in the most expensive city in the continental U.S. for weddings, New York City at $87,000, while newlyweds in Utah and Idaho spent the least, less than $17,000, according to The Knot.com.

Somewhere in the middle of all these extremes, two area couples are “tying the knot” this year, both living their dreams of a perfect wedding while working within their respective budgets.

Tristan Taylor, 20, of Linden, will be marrying her fiancé, Andrew Gibson, 26, in an outdoor ceremony Oct. 4 at her parent’s home in Cadillac, before 180 guests. They’ve pared expenses down as much as possible, vowing to stick within their $5,000 budget.

“I’m the oldest of six and we all have $2,000 given to us for our weddings,” said Taylor, daughter of Chris and Tammy Taylor. Her fiancé, a merchandiser for Coca-Cola, is studying tourism at St. Louis Community College in St. Louis, Mo. They plan to live in St. Louis after the wedding, and then will move to New Zealand for Gibson’s career when he’s done with school.

See WEDDINGS on 6B

— FIVE WAYS TO CUT WEDDING COSTS —

1. Ease off the wedding stationery. Whether it’s save-the-dates, official wedding invites, or thank-you notes, wedding stationery can easily blow your budget. Opt for fewer frills when it comes to lined envelopes, foil lettering, etc. Don’t forget to include the cost of postage in your budget.

2. Think outside of Saturday. Choosing a Friday or Sunday can present significant savings to those who are willing to be a bit more flexible.

3. Get flowers for less. Have your floral artist recommend in-season blooms to save up to 70 percent of your floral costs. Consider using silks for altar pieces and centerpieces. Other floral options include swapping out some arrangements like alter pieces and centerpieces with silk flowers.

4. Opt for bigger tables. When possible, select bigger reception tables to save money on linen expenses and the number of centerpieces needed.

5. Stick to food favorites. Opt for common comfort foods rather than exotic dishes that will be more expensive and may go to waste.

Source: US News & World Report

Tri-County Times | Tim Jagiełło

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Source: US News & World Report
The National Confectioners Association says kids reach for chocolate Easter bunnies before anything else on Easter day. And once there, 76% of us eat the ears first, while 13% bite off the feet and 10% tackle the tail.

_**A Civil-War snack**_
When you think of Easter candy, think jelly beans. Americans pop 16 billion little chewy, sugary concoctions every Easter. Created in the 17th century and then refined thereafter, the jelly bean took rise in the U.S. when Boston candy maker William Schrafft marketed them heavily to Union soldiers during the Civil War.

_**A weighty proposition**_
Originally sold by color, jelly beans were the first candy to ever be sold by weight. They gained their Easter popularity in the 1930s behind a marketing push that pitched the beans’ resemblance to an egg. The most popular color remains red to this day.

_**To sort or not to sort?**_
Kids eat their jelly beans in different ways. 70 percent eat a jelly bean at a time, savoring the flavor of each bean. 23 percent stuff a handful in, and of those 23 percent, it’s more boys than girls that go for the mixed approach.

_**Chocolate Bunnies:**_
Seventy percent of Easter candy purchased is chocolate.

_**Jelly Beans:**_
Americans consume 16 billion jelly beans at Easter, many of them hidden in baskets. If all the Easter jelly beans were lined end to end, they would circle the globe nearly three times.

_**Smaller in America**_
A Cadbury Creme Egg in North America differs from the native egg of the U.K., where it was first hatched. In England, eggs weigh 40 grams. In the U.S., where Hershey’s has the rights to them, they dropped six grams to 34 grams of weight. Don’t fret, each egg still holds 150 calories and five grams of fat.

_**Peeps:**_
It takes just six seconds to create the popular Marshmallow Peep. When it first debuted in 1953, it took 27 hours to hand-create each edible yellow chick. But now Peeps get cranked out of machines at 3,500 per minute and four million per day.

_**A Peep takes six seconds to make**_
Americans buy more than 700 million Marshmallow Peeps each Easter season.

_**Alternative uses for Peeps**_
- Business card holder
- Wine bottle stopper
- Stabilizing uneven table
- Perfect pincushion
- Lick and stick iPhone stand

_**Peeps: 76% of us eat the ears first**_
The National Confectioners Association says kids reach for chocolate Easter bunnies before anything else on Easter day. And once there, 76% of us eat the ears first, while 13% bite off the feet and 10% tackle the tail.

_**Jelly Beans: 700 million**_
Americans buy more than 120 million pounds of candy during the Easter holiday. That’s enough jelly beans, jelly beans and chocolate bunnies to fill more than 4,600 dump trucks.

Sources: time.com, infoplease.com, shine.yahoo.com, babble.com

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Senate Bill 896: Increase speed limits
Introduced by Sen. Tom Casperson (R), to increase the normal speed limit to 80 miles per hour on rural freeways, 70 mph on urban freeways, 65 mph on state highways, 60 mph on county roads, 35 mph on unpaved (gravel) roads except in Oakland and Wayne counties, where it would be 45 mph. These limits could fall or rise based on studies of observed traffic speed. The limit for trucks would be 70 mph on all freeways (vs. 60 mph under current law). The limit on unposted residential subdivision and traditional downtown business district streets would remain at 25 mph. Speed limits on city streets, school subdivisions could only be set according to the table of driveway frequency, or based on a speed study. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5175: Permit non-husband-and-wife joint tax filing
Introduced by Rep. Siam Singh (D), to establish that individuals who file a joint federal income tax return may also file a joint tax return. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5184: Repeal limit on electric utility competition
Introduced by Rep. Mike Shirkey (R), essentially to repeal the core provisions of the 2008 law that limited electricity competition to 10 percent of the commercial customers in large utilities' service areas, and revise regulated utility rate-setting rules to accommodate this expansion of consumer choice. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5212: Require conviction for drug defendant property forfeiture
Introduced by Rep. Jeff Irwin (D), to establish that property seized from a defendant in an illegal drug prosecution is not subject to forfeiture unless the individual is actually convicted. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5250: Mandate criminal asset-set forfeiture disclosures
Introduced by Rep. Tom McMillin (R), to require law enforcement agencies to file monthly reports on number of criminal asset forfeiture proceedings concluded pending or “negotiated.” The bill would also require the reports to disclose for each property seized: the alleged violation; the date the property was seized; whether any person was charged or convicted; a description of the property; its value; whether there was a plea or other agreement; the property’s final disposition; whether the seizure was based on arrangements with federal, state or local agencies (“adoptive” seizure); details of the costs and expenses associated with the seizure and more. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5275: Give brewers and wineries tax break for Michigan ingredients
Introduced by Rep. Douglass Geiss (D), to give wine makers, brewers, micro brewers, and brewpubs a per-gallon credit against the state beer or wine tax if a specified proportion of their products’ ingredients are grown in Michigan. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5279: Let less credit-worthy municipalities incur “pension obligation bond” debt
Introduced by Rep. Ben Glardon (R), to revise a 2012 law that lets municipalities borrow money to cover unfunded pension liabilities if this is done as part of a plan to close a traditional “defined benefit” pension system to new employees (who usually get 401k contributions instead). The bill would allow local governments with significantly lower credit-worthiness ratings incur this additional debt. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.
Yogurt is your best bet to correct digestive problems

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The next time you’re sick and perusing medicine at your local pharmacy, you may want to ingest some bacteria rather than try to eliminate it. Probiotics are becoming more popular according to USA Today, due to their effectiveness at combating digestive issues. The news organization also reports that probiotics can help improve moods and so far have little negative side effects.

Locally, VG’s Grocery Pharmacist Joe Starrs is seeing more people use probiotics, especially as people use more antibiotics, which kills certain bacteria.

“Probiotics can be handy in bringing things back to normal,” Starrs said. “It will replace bacteria that were lost during an illness or over use of antibiotics.”

According to Webmd.com, probiotics are “bacteria that help maintain the natural balance of organisms in the intestines.” Probiotics help keep a healthy digestive tract and are available as dietary supplements. Gas, cramps and diarrhea can be treated with probiotics.

According to TV personality Dr. Oz’s website, intestines have more than 500 bacterial species that help with digestion, provides nutrients and improve immune systems. Nearly 10 percent of someone’s daily energy comes from “good bacteria in your gut.”

Starrs said a prescription isn’t needed in order to get probiotics, although a doctor may recommend it to their patients. Foods like yogurt, soft cheeses, sour pickles and bananas have some levels of probiotics. To get the maximum benefits of probiotics however, one may have to get specific probiotics medication. Starrs said probiotics should be used with people who may feel rundown and are experiencing bouts of diarrhea, or other symptoms that are out of the ordinary.

Webmd.com warns that probiotics supplements are regulated as foods and not drugs. Those concerned about the affects of probiotics should speak with their doctor or pharmacist.

“Bacteria is a natural system found in our stomach intestines,” Starrs said. “You can use them for symptoms that may not be associated with illness.”

Stomach problems? Try probiotics

†Yogurt is your best bet to correct digestive problems

By William Axford

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“Bacteria is a natural system found in our stomach intestines,” Starrs said. “You can use them for symptoms that may not be associated with illness.”
Easter changed everything

A college student was questioning things taught by his parents and church: the meaning of life, the reliability of the Bible, how the world began, how to prepare for eternity, to name a few. Answers kept eluding him so I raised one more question: “Did Jesus Christ come out of the grave alive?”

I knew acceptance of the resurrection would drive away his doubts and change his view of life, death and eternity just as it had for millions who had come before him.

In his book, ‘First Easter, The True and Unfamiliar Story,’ Dr. Paul Maier called the week of the death and resurrection of Christ ‘the week that changed the world.’ Dr. Maier was especially moved by the impact of the resurrection on the disciples of Christ, writing: ‘The psychological change of the disciples is certainly striking. What transformed Peter, the man who could be unhinged by questions from a servant girl into so bold a spokesman for the faith that even the entire Sanhedrin could not silence him? Had the disciples deceitfully tried to spawn a new faith on the world, their face every day.

They were convinced that their Lord had risen from the grave and this assurance overcame any doubts they may have had. There are many accepted proofs of the resurrection, including the empty tomb and the existence of millions of believers in spite of the perils of persecution.

The strongest evidence of the resurrection of our Lord, however, may be the changed lives of those discouraged and doubting disciples.

After the resurrection, these weak ones traded their fears for faith and their focus from death to life. Those who follow their example will find strength to cope with each problem they face every day.

Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rogerhcampbell@gmail.com.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
ROSE TOWNSHIP PRECINCT # 1
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014

FOR ROSE TOWNSHIP
FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOND PROPOSAL

To the Qualified Electors:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Election will be held in:

Rose Township
County of Oakland, State of Michigan

TUESDAY, May 6, 2014

THE POLLS will be open 7 o’clock a.m. until 8 o’clock p.m.

PRECINCT #1 IS HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

BRAILLE AND AUDIO VERSIONS OF VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE

AT THE POLLING PLACE LISTED BELOW:

PCT. #1 ROSE TOWNSHIP OFFICES
9080 MASON STREET

FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL:

FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BONDING PROPOSAL
NOT TO EXCEED ELEVEN MILLION DOLLARS ($11,000,000).

BONDING PROPOSAL

Shall Fenton Area Public Schools, Genesee, Livingston and Oakland Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Eleven Million Dollars ($11,000,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therfor, in one or more series, for the purpose of:

remodeling, installing security measures for, furnishing and refurnishing, and equipping and re-equipping school buildings and facilities; acquiring and installing instructional and technological equipment for school buildings; purchasing school buses and band equipment; and developing and improving athletic fields and facilities, parking areas and sites?

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2014, under current law, is 0.40 mill ($0.40 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a net $0.40 increase from the prior year’s levy. The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding for any single series, exclusive of any refunding, is eleven (11) years.

The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 1.70 mills ($1.70 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation).

The school district does not expect to borrow from the State to pay debt service on the bonds. The total amount of qualified bonds currently outstanding is $38,375,000. The total amount of qualified loans currently outstanding is $0.0. The estimated computed millage rate may change based on changes in certain circumstances.

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

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OBTAINING AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION:
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WEDDINGS
Continued from Page 1B

“We had to figure out what was worth spending money on and what wasn’t,” said Taylor. “Catering the dinner is going to be our biggest expense at $3,000, but it will be worth it to not have my parents have the stress of preparing food. I also want real flowers, white roses, for my bouquet and bridesmaids, so we splurged on that expense.”

Taylor found her dream wedding dress for $250 on the clearance rack at David’s Bridal. Family and friends are helping to provide many of the other necessary wedding supplies at greatly reduced costs — from invitations to photography. “My sister, Erica, my maid of honor, is studying cosmetology and she’s going to do all the make-up and hair for everyone,” she said.

Having a more upscale affair will be Lindsay Hensler, 23, who will marry Craig Huppertz, 23 on July 19, at Faith Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc. A reception will follow at Genesys Athletic Club’s Banquet Hall, where the couple had met playing basketball.

Her wedding dress from Bella Bridal in West Bloomfield fits right in with the average price of a wedding gown in Michigan, priced between $1,000 and $3,000. Gerych’s Special Events & Floral Designs in Fenton is handling all the flowers, as well as linens, tables and chairs, lighting/draping and centerpieces.

Her guest list of 350 spikes up the wedding costs, which are being shared by both families. “Having this many people definitely makes the whole wedding more expensive,” said Hensler. “Craig’s family is larger so we have so many long-time family friends, plus our own friends.”

Hensler’s parents, Fred and Tracy Hensler, are hosting the reception, food, gifts, etc., while Ruppertz’s family is taking care of the rehearsal dinner and the liquor being served at the reception. “It’s nice to have both sets of parents here for us,” said Hensler. The couple has already bought a home in Midland, where her fiancé works as a supply chain analyst for Dow Chemical. Hensler is a Client Relationship Specialist at Sapphire Blue Investment Partner in Fenton Township.

Either way you choose to get married, there are ways to cut down on expenses, without sacrificing the dreams you have for your wedding.

Gerych’s introduces DIY Weddings
Couples who want to hold down the cost of their wedding can do so using a new DIY concept at Gerych’s.

“It’s more of a budget approach to the big cost of a wedding,” said Jon Gerych. “Couples can sit down with us and explain what they’re looking for. They can look for items to use, re-purpose at garage sales, estate sales, etc. to save on some of the florist expenses. We can guide them as they make some of their own decisions about their wedding cake, invitations, hostess gifts. Then they can come to Gerych’s and rent many of the things they will need for their wedding and reception.”

RSVP
From the French, this means “Répondez, s’il vous plaît,” or, “Please reply.” Reply promptly, within a day or two of receiving an invitation. You’ll be doing the wedding hosts a big favor by responding quickly. Declines received quickly could make room for other guests to be invited.

Source: Emily Post Institute

2014 SENIORS
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Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

What was the most memorable wedding you’ve attended?

“My children’s because all the relatives and friends were there and it was a happy occasion.”
— Carol Day Fenton

“My own because I was marrying the man of my dreams.”
— Freya Hutchinson Holly

“My own because it was two weeks ago. We got married in Key West.”
— Jennifer Ream Fenton

“My. We got married in Massachusetts and then had a celebration here a year later.”
— Wendy Eden Fenton

“My cousin’s because it is the only one I have ever been to.”
— James Carlson Fenton

“My brother’s because I was the best man.”
— Jamie Heitman Rochester Hills

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Pastor Dean G. Dumbrille

Thursday, April 17, 2014
7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Friday, April 18, 2014
12:00 Noon: Good Friday Tenebrae Service
7:00pm: Good Friday Passion Meditation featuring Youth
Sunday, April 20, 2014
7:00AM & 9:00AM Traditional services with Communion
11:00AM Contemporary service with Communion

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2014 Holy Week & Easter (Pascha) Services:
(ACCORDING TO THE JULIAN CALENDAR)

MONDAY, APRIL 14TH, 7:00PM - BRIDEGROOM MATINS
TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH, 7:00PM - BRIDEGROOM MATINS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH, 7:00PM - HOLY UNCTION
THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH, 7:00PM - PASSION GOSPELS
FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH, 3:00PM - HOLY FRIDAY VESPERS
FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH, 7:00PM - LAMENTATIONS
SATURDAY, MAY 19TH, 10:00AM - ST. BASIL’S LITURGY
SATURDAY, MAY 19TH, 11:30PM - PASCHA VIGIL-LITURGY
SUNDAY, MAY 20TH, 2:00PM - AGAPE VESPERS
Meet Danielle Hawkins

• Customer advocate
• Art enthusiast
• Kayaker

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

Danielle Hawkins is a service consultant for Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton. Her favorite part of the job is her loyal customers, who sometimes just call her to see how she’s doing. Over a 16-year career in the field, she’s worked with all the GM brands, and also Honda. If she could do anything else as a career, she would do environmental ethics and conservation. She has a husband, and two children.

Can you describe your job? Most people think my job is to write up the card and sell the job, but I believe my job is to be “customer advocate.” I need to explain what is happening with their vehicle, in their terms, and to go to bat for them if they need to know more about it than someone else is telling them. I help out a lot with different kinds of warranties, and making sure they get all around the best service.

Is there a part of your personality that makes you good at the job? I’m really good with people. In college I was a bartender, and I sometimes think that helped me a lot in my job, over the years. Just being able to talk to people and understand them. They’re sometimes in a very bad situation when they see me. They’ve lost their transportation, and they need to be in a million places, like most people today.

How have the recalls added to your workload? It’s a lot of work. It’s a lot of phone calls, a lot of explaining to people. I try my best to explain it, and just to get them all into (loaner) cars that need them. I think because our technicians and our parts department are working so hard to get it right, and get the parts here, I think we’re working great as a team.

Does a recall like this change your opinion of your brand? Honestly, no. I’ve worked for other brands, and they all have their hiccupcs. There’s too many things in these vehicles to not have a recall at some point, as long as they’re stepping up and doing the recall. I don’t take it personally when people are upset about the recall, I would be too, especially with how big it is.

How has job changed over your career? Technology has changed a lot. I’ve been doing this for 16 years. When I first started I was handwriting everything. Technicians were just mechanical. Now there are laptops, and everything’s computerized. We take a lot of training, a lot of classes, just day to day you learn a lot to keep up with it. Right now we’re using a hand-held scanner I plug into every car that comes in. I know the VIN, the mileage, the history, why the check engine light comes on, and not very many dealers have that yet. They’re trying that out on us, and it’s been really great.

Is there a particular type of car you like seeing come through? I personally like the Volt. They’re becoming more popular. More hybrid vehicles and electric vehicles, and more people interested in them. It’s huge, everything before was just trucks. Then you went through the generation of SUVs, and now it’s becoming more environmentally conscience, that we have to switch over to something more electrical.

What’s something customers may not know about you? I’m a potter, I’m big into pottery. I’ve been doing it for three years now, I’m obsessed. I love it. I take classes at the Flint Institute of Arts. We take apart pianos and make art out of it. I’m a very avid kayaker. My husband and my kids are in the Shiawassee River, practically every weekend in the summer. I like just being out in the river. It was something when my kids were younger, it was free. My 16- and 11-year-old are very strong kayakers. We like to go to breweries a lot.

What’s your philosophy on customer service? Just be 100-percent involved and 100 with them when they’re talking to me and hopefully they always understand what happened and don’t walk out confused. And empower them. Women should really be empowered to know what happened, to know what they spent their money on, and what to do if something happens.

When people come in, unhappy about their car, how do you be positive for them? Like I said, being a bartender, I think it comes down to being able to connect with them. Our job is constant multi-tasking. I have to hear the car’s noises. Women are better at that than men. Men like to tell me what they think is wrong, women tell me what they hear, and that’s actually more helpful.
HOT LINE CONTINUED

REPUBLICANS HAVE TRIED to repeal Obamacare more than 50 times. It’s a law. Give it up and deal with it.

GAYS REFER TO themselves as the Gay community. I don’t know why that makes me bigoted or prejudiced.

DOGS DO WHAT dogs do. It’s the owner’s responsibility to make sure the dog’s not eating garbage. I never said I was going to hurt the pet, just saying the owner should be smarter than their pet. And obviously, you’re not.

TO THE PERSON who thinks that CO2 in the air helps us with trees and makes oxygen: he has to realize that all plants are balanced with decomposers. When a plant dies, it releases all of its CO2.

I’M NOT THE most politically savvy person in the world, but I can’t really tell why we care what’s going on in the Ukraine. Can someone tell me what’s going on?

HAVE YOU EVER noticed that big, luxury vehicles cause climate change and small, putt-putt cars do not? Hmm.

WHY DON’T YOU people mind your own business. If you need a fact, go to the source. Stop posting Hot lines that make no sense.

THE EXPERTS SAY this was the worst winter in 100 years, before power plants. Things that make you think?

WILL SOMEBODY TELL me what the results of the 50 years of progressive rule of our schools and cities have been?

YOU THINK PRESIDENT Obama is weak with what’s going on with Russia? Would you prefer he pull a George W. Bush and fight a losing war for 13 years?

DON’T PREACH TO me about my sport utility vehicles unless you drive an electric car powered by windmills or solar panels. You are a hypocrite and need to be quiet.
DOVE LOVE

Dove pair takes up residence above downtown Holly business for second straight year

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Holly — Henry David Thoreau once said that spring is an experience in immortality. And in downtown Holly these days, just above the front door to the Bittersweet Café, Thoreau’s revelation couldn’t ring any truer.

They’ve become Holly’s famous love birds — literally — and they’re back again this year, using the same nest with a few updates, and fearing no one as they prepare to welcome their first batch of little ones for the year any day now.

“This is the second year we’ve had ‘Holly’ and ‘Hank’ live above our front door,” Bittersweet Café owner Dee Van Boemel said of the birds. Having stayed there throughout last summer, Van Boemel said the duo became very accustomed to humans. “We go out there and talk to them all the time,” Van Boemel said laughing. “People probably think we’re crazy bird ladies over here, but Holly even appears to respond to her name.”

Mated with ‘Hank,’ Van Boemel said the couple produced three broods of squabs (young) last summer. “We think they’re going to be parents again — Hank occasionally relieves Holly on the nest, so we think she’s sitting on eggs,” she said. “Last year’s final brood fluttered down to the sidewalk and followed people around — they were fearless and friendly.”

Monogamous, mourning doves usually stick with the same mate for life, and both take active roles in nest building and sitting on the eggs. Typically, the female will lay two small white eggs — one in the evening, and the other the next morning. Two weeks to 16 days later, the squabs will hatch. In the beginning, the pair works together to feed their brood, providing “crop milk” or “pigeon milk.” Rich in protein and fat, it has the consistency of cottage cheese, and is secreted by the adult’s crop lining — or that is, the first part of the adults’ digestive system after the lining of the mouth. From there, it’s regurgitated to the babies. Weaning is fast, though. After four days, the little ones transition to seeds.

After a couple weeks or so, the babies will sprout feathers, but they’ll stay in the nest, tended to by both parents until they’re 25 to 27 days old. Three or more broods in a single season aren’t uncommon either.

Both of them are so precious to us,” Van Boemel said of her feathered tenants. “They trust us so much — we can actually put our fingers up there, and she won’t move,” she said. “She knows we won’t hurt her.”

As for Van Boemel’s customers, well, they don’t seem to mind either. “Most of our regular customers are well aware of our birds,” Van Boemel said. “Holly and Hank give everyone something to talk about when they come in — it’s all about dove love around here, and it’s great.”

FACTS ABOUT THE MOURNING DOVE

• Mourning doves primarily eat seeds, not bugs.
• The coo-woo-woo-woo call is almost always uttered by the male mourning dove and is his way of enticing a mate.
• Another name for a mourning dove is turtle dove.
• Mourning doves are considered to be closely related to the late and lamented passenger pigeons.
• Pairs tend to mate for life.

Source: www.birdsandblooms.com

“Holly” sits on her eggs and watches customers come and go all day long.
NOTICE: FAIRVIEW CEMETERY
CITY OF LINDEN

Anyone wishing to salvage flowers, wreaths, etc. from Fairview Cemetery should do so by Sunday, April 27, 2014. After that date, they will be removed and disposed of by the sexton of the cemetery.

Scott Fairbanks
Sexton of Fairview Cemetery

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During this wonderfull time of celebration with family and friends, let us remember the reason we celebrate Easter Sunday. It is all about the message of the cross. About His death and resurrection. May your Easter Sunday be filled with joy and the truth of the Easter message…

HE is RISEN!

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ROSE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
OPTICAL SCAN VOTING DEVICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on Thursday, April 24, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., the Rose Township Election Commission will conduct a public accuracy test of the voting devices to be used to conduct the May 6, 2014 Special Election. The test will be conducted in the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street in Rose Township, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer that will be used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Rose Township Clerk’s office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI 48442 (248) 634-8701 clerk@rosetownship.com

Debbie Miller, CMC
Rose Township Clerk

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Mesilla PLAN 30-183

Architect windows, clustered accent tiles, and raised stucco detailing give a clean-lined, distinctive appearance to the Mediterranean-style Mesilla.

People who enjoy entertaining will appreciate the possibilities of this plan, as will families who like lots of room to spread out.

Entering, you step into an impressive, high-ceilinged foyer where a plant shelf crowns the door, and another high plant shelf rims the right wall. On the left, rectangular columns flank an arched opening that leads into the vaulted living room and dining room.

Ahead, another columned archway marks the entrance to the bright and spacious vaulted family room. Natural illumination spills down through two skylights, and washes in through the richly windowed rear wall.

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All advertisements published in the Tri-County Times are subject to approval before publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Check your ad! Report errors immediately. The Tri-County Times will only be responsible for the first day of incorrect publication.

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Nook
ROSE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS
April 9, 2014

Supervisor Gambka called the Regular Meeting of the Rose Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Board Members Present: Gambka, Miller, Scheib-Snider

Approved: Agenda as submitted

Presentation: Pauline Kenner, OLHSA services provided to Rose Township residents.

Approved: Oakland County Road Commission 2014 Chloride Program.

Tabled: Discussion of Rose Township Buy-Back of Cemetery Plots when requested by owner.

Adjourned: By motion at 8:13 p.m.

Paul Gambka
Rose Township Supervisor

Debbie Miller, CMC
Rose Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNITIES SERVED:
Bancroft, MI; Burns, MI; Byron, MI; Clayton, MI; Durand, MI; Gaines, MI; Lennon, MI; Shavawsee, MI; Venice, MI; Vernon, MI; Argentine, MI; Deerfield, MI; Fenton, MI; Linden City, MI; Tyrone, MI (Livingston Co)

On or after May 29, 2014, Charter will start encrypting the Basic Service Tier offering on your cable system. If you have a set-top box, digital transport adapter (DTA), or a retail CableCARD device connected to each of your TVs, you will be unaffected by this change. However, if you are currently receiving the Basic Service Tier offering on any TV without equipment supplied by Charter, you will lose the ability to view any channels on that TV. If you are affected, you should contact Charter to arrange for the equipment you need to continue receiving your services. In such case, you are entitled to receive equipment at no additional charge or service fee for a limited period of time. The number and type of devices you are entitled to receive and for how long will vary depending on your situation. If you are a Basic Service Tier offering customer and receive the service on your TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to up to two devices for two years (five years if you also receive Medicaid). If you subscribe to a higher level of service and receive the Basic Service Tier offering on a secondary TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to one device for one year. You can learn more about this equipment offer and eligibility at charter.com/digitalnow or by calling 1-866-954-3019. To qualify for any equipment at no additional charge or service fee, you must request the equipment within 120 days after the date your service is encrypted, which began May 29, 2014 and will continue through September 26, 2014 and satisfy all other eligibility requirements.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014 AT 7:00 PM BY THE FENTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION AT THE FENTON TOWNSHIP CMC-COMMUNITY CENTER, 12060 MANTAWAUKA. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
Amendments to the Fenton Township Zoning Ordinance #594:
Article 3, Sections 3.18 & 3.19 to add Marine sales & service a permitted use in the Basic Service Tier offering on any TV without equipment supplied by Charter. If you are currently receiving the Basic Service Tier offering on any TV without equipment supplied by Charter, you will lose the ability to view any channels on that TV. If you are affected, you should contact Charter to arrange for the equipment you need to continue receiving your services. In such case, you are entitled to receive equipment at no additional charge or service fee for a limited period of time. The number and type of devices you are entitled to receive and for how long will vary depending on your situation. If you are a Basic Service Tier offering customer and receive the service on your TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to up to two devices for two years (five years if you also receive Medicaid). If you subscribe to a higher level of service and receive the Basic Service Tier offering on a secondary TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to one device for one year. You can learn more about this equipment offer and eligibility at charter.com/digitalnow or by calling 1-866-954-3019. To qualify for any equipment at no additional charge or service fee, you must request the equipment within 120 days after the date your service is encrypted, which began May 29, 2014 and will continue through September 26, 2014 and satisfy all other eligibility requirements.

YOUR OPINION MAY BE EXPRESSED VERBALLY AT THIS HEARING OR IN WRITING TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION PRIOR TO THIS HEARING. THE PLANNING COMMISSION ENCOURAGES YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS MATTER.

This notice is published in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Fenton Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days notice to Fenton Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Fenton Township by writing or calling the following: Fenton Township Office, (810) 629-1537, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

TYRONE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
HELD APRIL 15, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

2. Approved the agenda as amended; approved the consent agenda as presented.
3. Received and placed on file Communications #1-6.
4. Approved the Krishman-Lockwood boundary realignment and land division request.
5. Approved the Fay boundary realignment request contingent on receiving revised documents.
6. Modified the White Lake Rd. property sales agreement.
7. Approved the transfer of the Parkin Lane Road Improvement Project’s bond administrator.
8. Approved the fireworks ordinance revision as presented.
9. Agreed to invite the Managing Director, Mike Crain, of the Livingston County Road Commission and the commission’s engineer to make a presentation to the board.
10. Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The minutes of all regular and special Tyrone Township Board Meetings are on file and may be reviewed at the Tyrone Township Clerk’s office, 10408 Center Road, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and online at www.tyronetownship.us. The next regular meeting of the Tyrone Township Board will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

Waterfront homes needed immediately!

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Silver Lake
REduced to $899,900

Lobdell Lake
Lobdell Lake
REduced TO $699,900

Lake Fenton
Lake Fenton
REduced TO $699,900

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TOWNSHIP OF HOLLY
SEEKING TO FILL A VACANCY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Holly Township will be accepting applications to fill the vacancy as follows:

One vacancy for term ending December 31, 2015

The Planning Commission meets every other month on the second Monday at 6:30 p.m. and will meet more often when business requires a meeting. Commission members are paid for their participation.

Interested persons may send their resume and letter of intent no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014 to Dale Smith, Holly Township Supervisor, 102 Civic Dr., Holly, MI 48442.

HOLLY TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL SPRING-UP

LOCATION:
North Oakland County Fire Authority Headquarters
5051 Grange Hall Rd.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014
8 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Clean-up days are provided for Holly Township residents to remove refuse from their properties. Residents are also encouraged to participate in the clean-up of Township roads.

Dumpsters and/or Garbage Trucks will be located in the parking lot. You must bring refuse to the dumpster and/or truck. THERE WILL BE NO ROADSIDE PICKUP. NO COMMERCIAL DUMPING AND NO ON SITE SHOVELING ALLOWED. You must be in line by 4 p.m.

Someone will be present to verify residency and/or property owners.

All barrels and fuel oil tanks must be open-ended. No stumps, brush, leaves or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or kitty litter. There is a $2.00 per item charge for regular tires and a $5.00 per item charge for tractor or large truck tires.

For Text blasts to receive local real estate listings — Text real estate to 810-475-2030.

SUNDAY DEADLINES
Display Ads: 3 p.m.
Lines Ads: Thurs. Noon Thursday
810-629-8194

BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FENTON
ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE CITY OF FENTON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Fenton will conduct a public hearing on a proposed Amendment to the City of Fenton Downtown Development Authority Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan (the “Plan Amendment”), on the 27th day of May 2014, at 7:30 p.m., at the Fenton City Hall, 301 S. Leroy Street, Fenton, Michigan.

At the time set for public hearing, the City Council shall provide an opportunity for interested persons to be heard on the Plan Amendment and shall receive and consider communications in writing with reference thereto. The public hearing shall provide the fullest opportunity for expression of opinion, for argument on the merits, and for introduction of documentary evidence pertinent to the Plan Amendment. The Plan Amendment does not propose to amend the development area for the Downtown Development Authority. Maps, plats, and a description of the Development Plan, including the method of relocating families and individuals who may be displaced from the area, are available for public inspection at the office of the Fenton City Clerk, 301 S. Leroy Street, Fenton, Michigan, during normal business hours. All aspects of the Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing. Persons with disabilities needing accommodation for effective participation should contact the Fenton City Clerk at (810) 629-2261, a week in advance of the public hearing to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Renee Wilson, City Clerk
301 S. Leroy Street
Fenton, MI 48430
Tel. (810) 629-2261
Fax: (810) 629-2004

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REAL ESTATE WANTED.

LOON LAKE
3 lots left! Completely developed, ready to build. View of two lakes, $10,000 and up. Best offer, quick sale. 810-964-3472 or 810-735-6887.

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

NOTICE ROSE TOWNSHIP
2014 ANNUAL SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP DAYS
Rose Township will hold its annual Roadside Clean-Up for residents and property owners on the following date:

Saturday May 17, 2014
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Residents and township organizations are encouraged to participate in the clean-up of the roadsides.

Dumpsters will be located in the Rose Township Park located on the northwest corner of Milford Road and West Rose Center Road. Refuse to be disposed of must be transported to the dumpsters. THERE IS NO ROADSIDE PICK UP! No commercial dumping will be allowed.

Constable Emile Bair will be on duty to verify residency and/or property ownership. Fire department personnel will be there to assist with loading materials into the dumpsters. Propane tanks will be accepted. No barrels, gas or fuel oil tanks, stumps, brush or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or cat litter. Each household will be permitted four (4) car tires; additional tires will be accepted at a price of $4.00 per tire and $25.00 per tire for tractor or large truck tires.

Burning permits will allow the burning of leaves and brush are available by telephone at (248) 634-2620.

Bags for cleaning roadsides will be available at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan beginning April 22, 2014 until May 15, 2014 and also at the clean-up day location on clean-up day.

Rose Township’s regular daily recycling is located in the rear of the Township Office’s parking lot at 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI. Residents may call 248-634-7551 with any questions.

Debbie Miller, CMC
Emile Bair
Rose Township Clerk
Rose Township Constable

NORTH ROSE TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL SPRING-UP

LOCATION:
North Oakland County Fire Authority Headquarters
5051 Grange Hall Rd.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014
8 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Clean-up days are provided for North Rose Township residents to remove refuse from their properties. Residents are also encouraged to participate in the clean-up of Township roads.

Dumpsters and/or Garbage Trucks will be located in the parking lot. You must bring refuse to the dumpster and/or truck. THERE WILL BE NO ROADSIDE PICKUP. NO COMMERCIAL DUMPING AND NO ON SITE SHOVELING ALLOWED. You must be in line by 4 p.m.

Someone will be present to verify residency and/or property owners.

All barrels and fuel oil tanks must be open-ended. No stumps, brush, leaves or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or kitty litter. There is a $2.00 per item charge for regular tires and a $5.00 per item charge for tractor tires. All appliances will be taken.

Please click here for acceptable recycling material guidelines.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the Dale Smith, Holly Township Supervisor from 2:00 pm - 4:00 p.m. at (248) 634-9531 Ext. 304.

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Interested persons may send their resume and letter of intent no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014 to Dale Smith, Holly Township Supervisor, 102 Civic Dr., Holly, MI 48442.

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BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FENTON
ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE CITY OF FENTON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN

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Verna Lucile Cranston
1918–2014
Verna Lucile Cranston - age 95, of Linden, passed away on April 1, 2014. A memorial gathering of family and friends will start at 1 PM Sunday, April 27, 2014 at Shiawassee Shores Clubhouse, 1515 W Rolston Rd, Linden. Those desiring may make contributions to the Linden Historical Society. Verna was born October 15, 1918 to Clifton and Elsie (Thurston) Wheeler. She was a member of Shiawassee Mills Questers; the founding member of Linden Historical Society and an honorary member of the American Yarn Foundation. She is survived by husband, Claude; children, Jennifer (Gerald Corliss) Cranston, Susan Garber; sister-in-law, Glenna Teed; many step-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and special friends. Online tributes may be shared on the obit page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
**One Pot Mexican Skillet Pasta**

**INGREDIENTS**
- 1 T. olive oil
- 1 lb. ground turkey
- 2 cups salsa, homemade or store-bought
- 1 Roma tomato, diced
- 1 cup corn kernels
- 1 cup canned black beans, rinsed
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 avocado, halved, seeded, peeled and diced
- 2 T. chopped fresh cilantro leaves

**DIRECTIONS**
1. Heat olive oil in a saucepan over medium high heat. Add ground turkey and cook until browned, about 3-5 minutes, making sure to crumble the beef as it cooks; drain excess fat.
2. Stir in tomato sauce and salsa until well combined. Add pasta, tomato, corn and black beans, and gently toss to combine.
3. Stir in cheese until melted through, about 1-2 minutes.
4. Serve immediately, topped with avocado and cilantro.

Recipe from damndelicious.net

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**DEAR AMY:** My husband’s mother became ill this winter. She’s youngish (early 60s) and recovered fairly quickly, but has to have more surgery this spring. She asked my husband to come out and take care of her for a few days when she is released from the hospital. My problem is that she did not ask me if this is OK. I feel the amount of stress I will have when he is away is too much when she has other support close by. I gave him my blessing to go there for the initial surgery to make sure everything goes smoothly, but she is taking advantage of the situation to ask him to come home again. What’s your take? — Conflicted

**DEAR CONFLICTED:** If she had approached you before making this request, it might have made you feel better by being included. But, honestly, does she need your permission to ask her son to do something for her? Answer: No. Would your mother need your husband’s permission to ask you to come home? I hope not. This falls into the category of: ‘Stuff happens.’ I can certainly see why it would be inconvenient and even unnecessary for your husband to make this long trip. But because he is doing it you need to assume he wants to. He is the one with whom you should negotiate.

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**NEW DVD RELEASES**

**RIDE ALONG**
A motor-mouthed high-school security guard joins his prospective brother-in-law, a decorated police detective, on a shift along the mean streets of Atlanta and learns that life on the force is no picnic. Ben (Kevin Hart) longs to marry his gorgeous girlfriend Angela (Tika Sumpter), but before he can propose he must first get the approval of her tough-as-nails brother James (Ice Cube), a top detective in the Atlanta Police Department. PG-13, 1 hr. 39 min.

**THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MIDDLE**
In this comedic adaptation of James Thurber’s short story, Ben Stiller stars as Walter, a milquetoast proofreader for a magazine publishing firm. Walter is constitutionally incapable of standing up for himself, so he retreats into his fantasy world, where he is heroic, poised, self-assured, and the master of his fate. PG, 1 hr. 54 min.

**THE NUT JOB**
A scheming squirrel named Surly (voiced by Will Arnett) gathers a crackjack crew of critics to pull off a heist of the local nut shop so that they will have enough food to make it through the winter. Liam Neeson, Brendan Fraser, Katherine Heigl and Gabriel Iglesias also lend their voices to this upbeat animated caper comedy, PG, 1 hr. 26 min.
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