

## “ ” tctimes.com ONLINE COMMENTS

“Dog owners, make sure your dog is indoors and confined over the July 4th holiday. More frightened dogs are lost over the holiday than any other time due to fireworks. I lost mine two years ago, learn from me.”

“If the Redskins are really serious about eliminating something embarrassing about their name, they should eliminate ‘Washington’ from it.”

“Based on what I’m seeing, it will not be long before criticism of the president will be construed as a hate crime.”

“Hate crime laws are necessary to protect minorities and people with different lifestyles from the low IQ, so-called normal person. Once a Neanderthal, always a Neanderthal.”

“The mural on the Linden City Hall is absolutely the most inappropriate image for our community, or any community, I have ever seen. I think it should be called the ‘OMG mural.’”

## “ ” HOT LINE OF THE WEEK

“Have you ever noticed that you see a lot of smart men with dumb women, but you rarely ever see a smart woman with a dumb man. That says a lot.”

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

A crew member from Fick Construction carries a concrete saw over the mounds of sand that covered the pavement of Silver Lake Road. The road was closed most days this week.

## Motorists confused by random detours at main Fenton intersection

By Tim Jagielo  
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**Fenton**—All this week, the confusing intersection of LeRoy Street and Main Street was made even more confusing due to Silver Lake Road being periodically closed.

Fortunately, there is the little Main Street jog next to the Fen-

ton Hotel Tavern and Grille to go around the closure.

Unfortunately, there is no light. This creates a choke point, backing up traffic, especially if there is a semi-trailer, and cars line up waiting for a chance to turn.

Passers-by can see barricades, piles of sand and if they get a little

closer, a giant hole in the middle of Silver Lake Road in front of the Cornerstone Building.

All the mess is because crews with Fick Construction are tying the city sanitary sewer into the Cornerstone Building.

Over the last couple weeks, all  
**See CLOSURES on 12A**



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | WILLIAM AXFORD

The partially finished mural on the side of Linden’s City Hall has drawn praise and criticism from residents and business owners. City officials have proposed adding additional murals around the city.

## Opinions mixed on new mural

►Linden officials accused of double standards, neglecting infrastructure

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

Work on the mural on Linden City Hall has begun, drawing scrutiny and praise from residents and business owners. Many have sounded off on the city’s Facebook page.

“Awesome, we can’t patch roads, put in uniform street lights, clean up the millpond area, fix the steps at the  
**See MURAL on 16A**

## Fenton schools collects bond money

►Technology, buses and security to be first projects funded

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

The Fenton Area Public School district (FAPS) has received monies from the \$11-million bond that was approved by voters this past May. Superintendent Timothy Jalkanen said the district just received their first bond payment at \$6 million, which will be  
**See BOND on 17A**

“We ordered a lot of hardware... so everything should be there by the first of August.”

Lynn Hopper  
Fenton schools Board of Education President

## Are you ready for Fenton Freedom Festival?

►Here’s a breakdown of Fenton’s biggest annual event

By Tim Jagielo  
tjagielo@tctimes.com

On Thursday, June 26, Fenton Freedom Festival Queen Sara Lawrence was crowned after 6:30 p.m., officially kicking off the festivities for the following July 4 weekend.

**See FESTIVAL on 17A**



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO  
Local members of the police and fire departments are always highlights at the Freedom Festival Parade.





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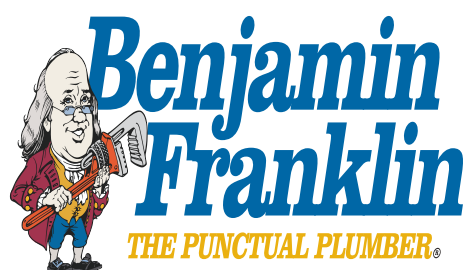
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## Police & Fire report

### WEDDING RING, TUNES TAKEN FROM CAR

A Holly police officer was dispatched to the 4000 block of Grange Hall Road to investigate a larceny complaint on June 20. The complainant told officers that her wedding ring and 50 CDs had been stolen from her vehicle, which she had left unlocked. There are currently no witnesses to the theft and the case remains open.

### MAN WITH MULTIPLE WARRANTS CAUGHT IN PARK AFTER DARK

Holly officers apprehended a man at Lakeside Park after dark who had multiple warrants for his arrest on June 22. The Grand Blanc man had a warrant for a minor in possession charge and a misdemeanor weapons charge from the city of Fenton. Holly Police arrested the man without incident and processed him at the Holly Police Department. The man was then turned over to the Fenton Police Department, where he was processed and held, as the man was unable to post bond for his warrants.

## Covered bridges have their own story

► Michigan boasts a number of covered bridges, some more well-known than others

By Sally Rummel

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If you watched Meryl Streep and Clint Eastwood in the Academy Award-winning 1995 film, *The Bridges of Madison County*, then you can understand the romanticism and interest people have in covered bridges.

Dotted along many rural landscapes in the U.S., including Michigan, covered bridges are similar to old, red-painted barns — historic landmarks that once served a purpose but are celebrated today for history and preservation. They're a favorite among historic architecture and bridge enthusiasts.

See **COVERED BRIDGES**  
on 6A

Fallasburg, Ada bridge



As close as 15 minutes from Grand Rapids are three of the state's six remaining historic covered bridges, a well-preserved look at early roadways and river crossings.

### — OTHER COVERED BRIDGES IN MICHIGAN —

- **Ada Bridge**, near Grand Rapids, is a 125-foot covered bridge spanning the Thornapple river.
- **Augusta Creek Bridge**, in Augusta, is one of west Michigan's newest covered bridges, only dating back to 1973.

- **Bowen's Mills Bridge**, in Middleville, is just a stone's throw from Yankee Springs State Recreation Area in Barry County on the southwest side of the state.
- **Fallasburg Bridge**, just five miles north of Lowell and dat-

ing back to 1840, is one of only three covered bridges in Michigan open to vehicle traffic.

• **Fisher's Bridge**, spanning the Chippewa River in Isabella County's Deerfield Nature Park, was originally built in 1968.

See **MICHIGAN** on 6A

## TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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## Genesee County bridges: among worst in state

► Advocates blame state legislature for failing to act

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

More than 40 percent of Genesee County's bridges are ranked as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, according to the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA).

Using data collected by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the advocacy group found that 165 of Genesee County's 371 bridges are in need of some sort of update. Overall,

See **BRIDGES** on 9A

### Counties with the highest number of failing bridges

#### WAYNE

549 out of 1,026 total  
bridges

#### GENESEE

165 out of 371 total bridges

#### OAKLAND

159 out of 468 total bridges

#### MACOMB

107 out of 405 total bridges

#### LIVINGSTON

54 out of 156 total bridges

(source: MDOT, MITA)



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Silver Lake Road bridge over the Shiawassee River is rated at a 23 out of 100 by MDOT — which targets it as a priority for repairs.

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# 'Redskins' name – controversy or hypocrisy?

The latest hypocrisy from the politically correct police on the left is the manufactured controversy about changing the name of the Washington Redskins to something else because, in the words of people who know all things, it is 'offensive and racist.'

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell recently, and stupidly, said, 'If even one person is offended on this issue, we need to listen.'

Really Roger — one person? Those are the new rules? Okay, you asked for it.

I — one person — am offended by the New Orleans Saints. I think it's disrespectful to the Catholic church. For the same reason I am offended by the Los Angeles Angels (which technically is The Angels Angels).

We will also need to change the name of the great state of Oklahoma, as the word Oklahoma is Choctaw Indian for... Redskin. And that offends me — one person.

And let's not forget about the Kansas City Chiefs, the Atlanta Braves and the Chicago Blackhawks. If we're going to spend a lot of time and money on these matters of critical importance, well dammit, let's clean the whole mess up.

On the amateur front, we will likely have to intervene at Wellpinit High School in

Washington, where the student body is 91.2 percent Native American, because they are so clueless that they don't even know that the 'Redskins' name they wear proudly across their chests is insulting to them. 'I've talked to our students, our

parents and our community about this and nobody finds any offense at all in it,' says Tim Ames, the superintendent of Wellpinit schools. 'Redskins' is an honorable name we wear with pride.'

Someone is also going to have to straighten out the Kingston, Oklahoma High School Redskins, 57.7 percent Native American. They don't even know that the name they've worn on their uniforms for 104 years has been a joke on them this whole time. Sheesh, some people are so clueless.

The same goes for the Red Mesa, Arizona High School Redskins. They wear the name with fierce pride. But what do they know? The student body is only 99.3 percent Native

American.

Truth be told, the vast majority of the people who are actually 'offended' by these terms are overwhelmingly busy-body white liberals who seem to want to get offended on behalf of Native Americans because Native Americans... well, they clearly don't have enough sense to know when they should be offended themselves.

So, to all Native Americans, I say just trust us — we know what's best for you. Why don't you just step aside and let the white man make the decisions that affect your life — 'for your own good.'

Heck, look how well that worked out the last time.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. E-mail the King at king@tctimes.com. Some information reprinted from the Internet.



## Hot lines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

**FAREWELL TO A** great mail carrier. We'll miss you, Jerry. Thank you.

**THIS IS FOR** the one looking for cash for their bridge card. You're the kind of people that need to be cut off.

**NOTE TO ALL** lawmakers in the legislature, who enjoy putting things on the ballot for us to vote on — if we have to vote for everything, we don't need you.

**BIG BLACK HEADLINES** on my southern liberal newspaper — 'Expert says marijuana can be harmful.' But I got news for you, this old man says that cigarettes can be harmful, guns can be harmful, cars can be harmful, fatty foods can be harmful. I guess I could go on and on and on.

**FENTON BEWARE, FENTON** Police want to get into your wallet.

**I'M SURE I'M** not the only one who thinks this — why do bikers feel the need to twitch the throttle at stoplights?

**TO THE CITY** of Fenton, even if you have 1,200 parking spaces, that doesn't help if you are the 1201st person. And they're not all handicapped accessible. Come down on a Sunday, it's a mess. There's not a parking space available.

**I'M CALLING ABOUT** the person who said 'President Obama doesn't salute

the flag,' or 'he doesn't wear a lapel pin.' He does wear a lapel pin, and no one can make you fly anywhere, for any reason, if they don't want to. These Hot lines, you only feed stupidity to the idiots.

**ONLY A MORON** democrat like Hillary Clinton could claim they were broke, while making between \$100,000 and \$700,000 per speech. What an idiot.

**SO TO BENCHMARK** my business decision against the rule of a city's interpretation of an alternate lifestyle choice, and if you think I've misbehaved, I get sent to the city manager's office. It's no wonder I moved my businesses away from this town.

**TO THE PERSON** that had the Hot line, the first one on Wednesday. At one time, I walked from Fenton to Linden and another time I walked from Holly to Fenton. Now I can only walk 50 feet, let alone a few blocks.

**HERE'S A POINT** to ponder for lawmakers: if you insist on making the populace vote on everything you're afraid to vote on, why do we need you? Why not put lawmakers on the ballot? We could save a lot of money without them there.

**HOW MANY LANGUAGES** should you learn? All the major ones — English, French, Spanish, maybe even Mandarin now.

**TRUMAN SAID, 'THE** buck stops here.' Nixon said, 'I'm not a crook.' Bush said, 'How much is a gallon of gas?'

**DEMOCRATS RUINED AMERICA?** Name one bill the House has passed. Everything is a 'no.' Nothing even makes it to the Senate to be held up.

**IF FENTON HAS** considerate drivers, when

are they going to start using their turn signals and stopping at stop signs?

**I ENJOYED THE** piece on Les Bland and his Christian beliefs. I did notice he voted in favor of the anti-discrimination ordinance, which goes against his beliefs. What's up with that?

**OBAMA'S THE WORST** president ever? What about Bush? If it wasn't for him, we wouldn't have this problem over in Iraq.

**AS I SAID** before, if it's against your moral and religious convictions to have an abortion, don't have an abortion. However, don't force your beliefs on other people.

**THE PROBLEM WITH** President Bush is that no one criticized him on a racial basis. They didn't insinuate he was from some place he wasn't, or questioned his nationality.

**TO ALL THESE** people who are arguing about not speaking other languages in America. I'm willing to bet more than half of you can hardly speak English correctly.

**HEY MR. RADAR** repair man, put your phone on vibrate. You're just showing off, 'Hey! I'm important and can disrupt any solemn event I want!' What a loser.

**I THINK SEATBELTS** are a good thing. But I find it odd I can ride my motorcycle without a helmet but can't drive my dump truck without a seatbelt. I just find that very peculiar.

**THE LOOSE CENTER** is a nice place but the staff isn't so friendly. Seems like they're taking after the director.

**WHETHER YOU'RE A** Republican, Democrat or Independent, we have the most inept administration that's ever been in office.

Every day it's a new scandal.

**NOT ONE AMERICAN** service person should give their lives in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria or any of those gravel pit countries to protect our billionaire's oil.

**AH, STATED LIKE** a true Republican. There should be no protections for Iraq, short of closing our embassy and getting our people out.

**THESE BIG CAR** companies need to quit worrying about the all-mighty dollar. What they need to worry about is be thankful they even got a buy-out to start with and they need to start watching out for safety.

**TO ALL THOSE** people hung up on separation of church and state not being in the constitution, there's nothing in the constitution about voting rights or discrimination but these are all great ideas that have made their way into laws and are good for this country.

**NOW, I DON'T** know what's more shameful — the fact there are people out there who don't think it should be illegal to fire someone just for being gay or transgender, or the fact that John Bonehead, the speaker of the House of Representatives, is actually on their side.

**OBAMA AND HIS** staff are liars. I believe the weatherman before I believe anything Obama has to say.

**WHOEVER HAS CHICKENS** in Fenton; would you please come get your chickens? They are tearing up my yard on Franklin and Shiawassee. Please come get your chickens; a red one, white one and black one. Thank you.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

## Would you pay more in gas taxes to fix Michigan roads?

## streettalk



"Yes, I would agree with an extra tax. I would be willing to increase it about five cents."

—Christine Allmand  
Fenton



"Yes. Most of the side streets by Tomek in Fenton need fixing."

—Karen Blissett  
Fenton



"No, I think we pay enough already and they should figure something else out."

—Jacqui Blackwood  
Holly



"No, gas prices are high enough. My family has a long commute to work so it would punish us and others who don't have hybrids."

—Stephanie Shellhaas, Fenton



"No, I thought that was what the lottery was for. They should look into big businesses more and find other avenues."

—Mike Cross, Fenton



"Yes. There isn't a decent road in Michigan."

—Bob Karrow  
Fenton





**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO  
Danny Kinney of Flint Township arranges concrete blocks for the construction of one of the new service facility walls on Wednesday at Lasco Ford in Fenton. The 30,000-square-foot building will be completed late fall.

## Lasco Ford investing \$5.5 million on new service facility, expanded sales department

**By Tim Jagielo**  
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795  
**Fenton** — Passers-by on Owen Road have been wondering for weeks what was going on at Lasco Ford.  
On any typical weekday over the last month saws were spinning, dust was flying, hundreds of 16” concrete blocks were being laid and dozens of hard-hat construction workers were seemingly everywhere at the Lasco Ford dealership in Fenton.  
The highly visible 30-foot tall walls represent the footprint of what will become a

brand new, state-of-the-art, 30,000-square-foot service building for the growing dealership. The exterior block walls have taken shape in just the last couple days.  
Lasco Ford is in the first phase of constructing their new service department. In May, they broke ground, with the goal being to be moved into the new service building in late fall.  
Shortly after that project is finished, the next phase will be renovation and expansion of the existing sales department and  
**See LASCO on 16A**

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## COVERED BRIDGES

Continued from Page 3A

Built originally to protect the bridge from the elements, covered wooden bridges could last for up to a century, compared to just a decade for a normal wooden bridge.

Today, they are fun to travel across and reminisce about "the days gone by." The nearest one to us in the tri-county is in Frankenmuth, just a 45-minute drive.

Zehnder's Covered Bridge spans the Cass River to connect the Bavarian Inn Lodge with the downtown shopping area. This "Holz Brücke" (wooden bridge) is 239 feet across and weighs 230 tons, easily accommodating the hundreds of thousands of automotive and pedestrian foot traffic that has crossed it since it was built in 1979.

While this might be the only covered bridge that easily comes to your mind, there are actually about a dozen in Michigan, including another well-known structure situated in the historic setting of Greenfield Village in Dearborn.

This 80-foot bridge was actually moved to Michigan from Pennsylvania, where it had been built in 1832 to span the Wheeling Creek, between Washington and Greene counties.

It was situated on property owned by the Ackley family. More than 100 years later, the dilapidated bridge found its new home in

southeastern Michigan at the request of Henry Ford, who was looking for a covered bridge in the 1930s to relocate to Greenfield Village.

Why were bridges covered in the first place?

In the 1800s, when crews began building wooden bridges to cross the rivers and streams around Michigan, they thought it would be easier to add sides and a roof to protect the floor boards from rotting so quickly, according to Michigan Home and Lifestyle magazine.

Another benefit of covering the bridges was to help leery horses be less afraid of crossing, especially when they could see and hear the running water beneath. Builders thought that by placing the floor boards close together and painting the bridge red, it would help a horse maintain their gait through the bridge.

Another secondary benefit was for gentlemen courting the ladies during horse-and-buggy days. A covered bridge provided a bit of privacy from the watchful eyes of the public, gaining covered bridges the title, "Kissing Bridges" for a short time.

If you're looking for an excuse for a Sunday drive, this just might be it. Covered bridges are found primarily in the lower peninsula, in the southeastern and southwestern corners of the state, with a few in mid-Michigan.

## MICHIGAN

Continued from Page 3A

• **Langley Bridge**, at 292 feet, is the longest covered bridge in Michigan and one of the longest in the U.S. Located in St. Joseph County, the bridge features three spans, each 94 feet long and stretching over the St. Joseph River, just three miles north of Centerville.

• **Nichols Bridge** is a 108-foot covered footbridge, crossing the south branch of the Black River in South Haven. Built in 1988, it's actually a converted railroad trestle on Kal-Haven Trail Linear State Park.

• **Pierce Stocking Bridge**, one of the highlights of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, was built in 1967 and is part of the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive.

• **Reed City Bridge** is a charming addition to the 92-mile Frederik Meijer White Pine Trail Linear State Park, which stretches between Grand Rapids and Cadillac. Built in 2000, this is the newest of Michigan's covered bridges.

• **White's Bridge**, crossing the Flat River in Ionia County, is the oldest covered bridge still in use in Michigan. The current 116.5-foot structure was completed in 1869.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**IRAQ, DON'T BLAME** Obama.

Thousands of lives have been lost, both Iraqi and Americans, billions of American dollars wasted in a senseless war that everyone knew we could never win. Thanks George W. Bush and Dick Cheney.

■■■■  
**LISTENING TO THE** questions from reporters to the President of the United States, my head is literally spinning. I don't know how a two sentence question takes five minutes to answer. I wish they'd ask 'yes' and 'no' questions. I've never seen anybody drag on and never answer the question to begin with.

■■■■  
**TAKE THIS MESSAGE** for Fenton Public Schools, IB program, RIP. Grand Blanc public schools early college program, we are on our way. Schools of choice is a two-way and we're leaving.

■■■■  
**SEATBELTS — ONE GOOD** way of improving your chances of staying alive are to click your seat belts. There is no better safety device in your car than your seat belt.

■■■■  
**TAX, TAX, TAX**, that's all they want to do is tax. But they're not going to create any money, they are going to force people not to drive, they're gonna force people not to shop, they're gonna force people to move out because you cannot afford to live here anymore.

■■■■  
**THE FENTON LIBRARY** is a ridiculous and noisy playground. The so-called adult supervision is non-existent. You obnoxious people and your brats should be ashamed.

■■■■  
**IS FENTON TRYING** to 'Be Closer' to Flint? The grass in the lot for sale in front of Walmart on Owen Road is over 4-feet tall. That's nice for those using the sidewalk to come into town to shop and eat. Perhaps we should be called 'Flinten.'

■■■■  
**FENTON HAS** flushed a quarter of a million of our tax dollars down the 'Be Closer' toilet. It's time for new leadership.

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Precations have to be taken with both gas and charcoal grills. Gas grills can flare, as demonstrated in this photo.

# Grills can kill

►Fourth of July holiday brings extra need for caution when grilling outdoors

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The Fourth of July holiday will find many tri-county area residents outside cooking on their grills, flipping hamburgers, hot dogs and other fine outdoor cuisine.

All of the fun can go “up in smoke” if you’re not familiar with how to cook safely on your grill.

“Gas grills can be dangerous,” said Linden City Fire Chief Brian Will. “Not only does the gas build up inside the grill, but it can also cause a fire if you grill too close to the siding on your home or in any enclosed area. Also, make sure to open the lid when lighting the grill to make sure gases aren’t trapped under the lid.”

While there aren’t any specific local numbers about injuries due to grilling, the national statistics tell the story that grills can be dangerous. Grill fires can ignite in an instant, leading to serious injury, death or property damage.

The Home Safety Council reports that fires and burns are the third leading cause of unintentional injuries and related deaths.

The National Fire Protection Association reports that, on average, grill fires cause 13 deaths, 120 injuries and \$70 million in property damage in the U.S. each year.

Interestingly, 81 percent of grills involved in home fires were fueled by gas, while 17 percent used charcoal or other solid fuel. Children under age 5 account for about 22 percent of burn injuries involving grills.

Here’s how to prevent barbecue-related injuries:

- **Never leave** your grill unattended.
- **Choose the** right location, away from flammable objects such as leaves and wood. Always grill in a well-ventilated area, and keep children and pets away from the grill area. Never grill inside a house, garage, carport, tent or camper.
- **Keep your** grill clean. Grease collects in your grill when you cook, and builds up over time. Whether you grill with gas or charcoal, flare-ups can cause serious injury or death.
- **Do not wrap** your grill grate with aluminum foil before lighting. If the flame does go out, the gas will store up under the foil then ignite when re-lit, causing serious personal injury. Instead, remove the grate, wrap with foil, light the grill, then put the grate back on.
- **Be prepared** to put out a fire. Keep a fire extinguisher accessible to your grill and know how to use it.
- **Use the right** tools. Protect yourself from burns while handling hot food. Use long-handled tongs and spatulas with heat-resistant handles.
- **Stay sober** while grilling. Grilling requires attention and awareness, so save the beer or cocktails until after the food is cooked and the grill is turned off.
- **Follow your grill** manufacturer’s instructions. You can look up your model number online and check your grill’s specific safety recommendations and restrictions.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR GAS GRILLS:

**Tip #1:** Check the tubes that lead into the burner for any blockage from insects, spiders or food grease. Use a pipe cleaner or wire to clear blockage.

**Tip #2:** Check grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks. Move gas hoses as far away as possible from hot surfaces and dripping hot grease.

**Tip #3:** Replace scratched or nicked gas connectors, which can eventually leak gas.

**Tip #4:** Check for gas leaks if you smell gas or when you reconnect the grill to the LP gas container. If you detect a leak, immediately turn off the gas and don’t attempt to light the grill until the leak is fixed.

**Tip #5:** Don’t attempt to repair the tank valve or the appliance yourself. See an LP gas dealer or a appliance repair professional.

**Tip #6:** Use caution when storing LP gas containers. Always keep them upright and never store under or near the grill or indoors.

(Source: Consumer Products Safety Commission)

## SAFETY TIPS FOR CHARCOAL GRILLS:


**Tip #1:** Never add lighter fluid directly to hot coals to get a sluggish fire going again. If coals are slow to start, place several new briquettes in a small metal can and apply lighter fluid following lighter fluid instructions. Add these briquettes using tongs to warm coals and light with a match.

**Tip #2:** Never use gas or kerosene to light a charcoal fire. Both can cause an explosion.

**Tip #3:** Don’t close the lid until you are ready to cook.

**Tip #4:** Use insulated, flame-retardant mitts when cooking or handling any part of the grill. Also, use long-handled barbecue tongs to handle the food and keep your hands away from the hot surfaces of the grill.

(Source: Kingsford Charcoal)



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# MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTED ON THIS WEEK

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report contains more votes from the very active final week of legislative sessions ending June 13, before an extended summer break.

## House Bill 5070: Authorize penalties on rental property "squatters"

To authorize criminal penalties for a "squatter" who illegally occupies a residence, including up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for second and subsequent violations. "Squatter" is defined by the bill as someone who has not "at any time during that period of occupancy, occupied the property with the owner's consent for an agreed-upon consideration" but not a "guest or a family member of the owner or a tenant." Introduced by Rep. Kurt Heise (R).

**Passed 32 to 6 in the Senate**

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## House Bill 4688: Repeal licensure mandates for dietitians and nutritionists

To repeal a law that imposes a licensure mandate on dietitians and nutritionists. The mandate has not been enforced since it was authorized in 2006 because the state licensure agency was unable to devise acceptable credentialing and education requirements. Introduced by Rep. Edward McBroom (R).

**Passed 26 to 12 in the Senate**

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## House Bill 5558: Clarify preemption of insurance lawsuits under Consumer Protection Act

To clarify that a prohibition of "unfair practices" lawsuits against insurance companies under the state Consumer Protection Act (rather than the state's Insurance Code) applies even if the cause of action occurred before a 2001 law was enacted specifying that industries like insurance which are already subject to a comprehensive state regulatory regime are not covered by the Consumer Protection Act. Lawsuits that have already been filed could still proceed, however. Introduced by Rep. Tom Leonard (R).

**Passed 24 to 13 in the Senate**

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County)

☐ YES ☒ NO

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## Senate Bill 948: Restrict radioactive material storage and disposal

To prohibit storing or disposing radioactive waste from another state or country in Michigan, and ban storing any radioactive material other than what is allowed under current law for nuclear power plants, uranium mines and medical uses. The bill would also create a state advisory board for the purpose of writing a report on the potential impact of depositing radioactive waste deep underground at a site in Kincardine, Ontario, as proposed by an Ontario utility. Introduced by Sen. Phil Pavlov (R).

**Passed 38 to 0 in the Senate**

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## House Bill 5089: Create new pseudoephedrine "straw man" buyer crime

To authorize up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for purchasing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine while knowing that it will be used to manufacture methamphetamine. Introduced by Rep. Robert Genetski (R).

**Passed 37 to 1 in the Senate**

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## Senate Bill 853: Ban automated eye-glass "kiosks"

To prohibit automated testing devices that provide eye exams and issue prescriptions for glasses or contact lenses. Instead, only licensed optometrists and physicians specializing in eye care could write eyeglass and contact lens prescriptions. This would preempt eyeglass "kiosks" in drugstores and other retail locations, which are reportedly a lower-cost alternative to conventional optometry services and are available in some states. Introduced by Sen. Rick Jones (R).

**Passed 108 to 2 in the House**

Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township)

☒ YES ☐ NO

## Senate Bill 872: Reduce regulatory obstacles to developing stamp-sand property

To establish that property where "stamp sands" have been deposited is not subject to state environmental law restrictions unless the sands contain hazardous substances that exceed the allowable levels for unrestricted residential use. "Stamp sands" are finely grained crushed rock resulting from copper ore processing and are not uncommon in the Keweenaw region. Introduced by Sen. Tom Casperson (R).

**Passed 67 to 43 in the House**

Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township)

☒ YES ☐ NO



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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**IN NO WAY**, shape or form should a chamber of commerce building have been 'blessed' by a priest. Not only is that offensive to other religions that weren't included, the chamber is a public representation associated with the municipalities —there shouldn't be any religious affiliation.

**WHAT IS THE** ordinance on barking dogs? To the neighbor on N. LeRoy, please, it's like living next to a kennel — the smell of dog crap and endless relentless barking.

**CLASSIC, LIBERAL DRIVEL.** Everybody's fault but the perpetrators.

**ACCORDING TO** a story in the Times, about 3.8 percent of citizens lead alternative lifestyles. Most homosexual websites state it as 20 percent. Truth be told, less than 1 percent of all Americans fall into this category. The new Fenton law is needless, toothless and useless.

**WHY IS IT** that if you're a week late, Consumers is Johnny-on-the spot about shutting off your power, but yet when they're being paid for a permanent service disconnection, it takes them a month? The public service commission is going to hear about this!

**THIS IS TO** the people who like to cut their lake weeds and let other people 'enjoy' them. I spoke to the DEQ and they said it's like littering. 'Enjoy' getting fined.

**HEY, HERE'S** a great tagline that the council would likely endorse. 'The LGBT Capital of the Midwest.'

**I AM A STAMP COLLECTOR.** I have never been hassled about it but would like an ordinance passed to protect all stamp collectors and I would like to have a couple dozen of us march in the parade. Does that make any sense?

**TAGLINE TIME AGAIN?** Okay, how about 'Bountiful Fenton – Where Fruits and Nuts are Plentiful.'

**DO YOU KNOW** this latest thing, where if you're being audited by the IRS all you have to do is tell them your computer crashed? You won't get audited.





**TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO**  
The Silver Lake Road bridge over the Shiawassee River is slated for replacement during the Streetscape project, which should happen in 2015.

## BRIDGES

Continued from Page 3A

Wayne County is the only other county in the state with more bridges that are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.

Coupled with poor road conditions and legislators in Lansing debating funding conditions, driving for Michigan motorists continues to be a growing problem.

“This report is a stark reminder of what Michigan drivers experience every day — potholes and worn out bridges,” Mike Nystrom, executive president of MITA said in a press release. “Michigan roads and bridges are in desperate need of an overhaul.”

MDOT Spokesperson Anita Richardson echoed Nystrom’s view that state legislators need to act and improve funding to MDOT. Richardson notes that the Michigan gas tax hasn’t increased since 1997 and that the current material approved by state legislators is crumbling fast.

“We’re dealing with an ongoing funding crisis. We have a band-aid approach instead of reconstruction for bridges and roads,” Richardson said. “Ultimately, we hope the senate discussion for more funding continues.”

State lawmakers have faced criticism from voters and media outlets throughout the state for embarking on summer recess before presenting a comprehensive solution to tackle Michigan’s crumbling infrastructure.

Richardson adds that while multiple bridges across the state are being rated as structurally deficient, it doesn’t mean the bridge is unfit for driving, but that some portion of it needs to be updated. Richardson said that a bridge found to be unsafe for driving would be closed down by one of the state’s 20 bridge inspectors.

City of Fenton Director of Public Works Dan Czarnecki said that bridges are rated on a scale for 1 to 100, and that two of



the city’s bridges have stark differences in rating. The higher the number, the better the condition of the bridge.

The bridge over the Shiawassee River on Silver Lake Road has a current rating of 23.2 by MDOT and the bridge on Torrey Road has a rating of 96. Thankfully, the city has a bridge grant that will be used to help replace the bridge on Silver Lake Road, which will coincide with the city’s upcoming Streetscape project.

“The state of bridges in Michigan is a serious issue,” Czarnecki said. “There’s a lot of work to upgrading them and they’re inspected every two years. If MDOT finds an issue with a bridge, they could close it or put stipulations on it such as load size.”

Statewide, MITA reports that, on average, one in four bridges in the state are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.

In neighboring Oakland and Livingston counties, more than 30 percent of bridges are in need of upgrading.

In March, Gov. Snyder spoke of how the state was in need of adding \$1.2 billion per year in road and infrastructure funding. The Michigan legislature is expected to tackle infrastructure funding following summer recess.

**“We have a band-aid approach instead of reconstruction for bridges and roads.”**

**Anita Richardson**  
MDOT Spokesperson



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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**AS A MOTHER** of four boys, I was thrilled to see PFLAG in the parade. My husband and I thought it a great lesson to our boys to be brave and be who you are.

**THIS IS TO** the person who thinks people in Fenton are gay. Not everyone in Fenton, Holly and Linden is gay.

**REGARDING THE KING** column. He’s right about the silly ‘Be Closer’ tagline. Fenton’s a great place but that tagline doesn’t make any sense.

**THE MAJORITY IN** the House of Representatives have not passed anything. How can anyone support them? We need leadership and constructive criticism, not blocked efforts.

**WE HAVE LOST** all common sense when we have a law say you need over 2,000 signatures to put out an amber alert for two missing babies.

**FENTON TAGLINE?** “Where millages, ordinances and bad drivers abound.”

**IN RESPONSE ABOUT** the LGBT community and it being a matter of choice — when did you choose to become a heterosexual?

**WHEN ARE POLITICIANS** going to understand that when you raise taxes on everybody, you just force people not to spend? I’m not going to buy what I used to buy, go where I used to go. Why doesn’t it come out of their pockets? Why does it always have to come out of ours?

## NOTICE TO THE ELECTORS OF TYRONE TOWNSHIP LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR THE AUGUST 5, 2014 PRIMARY ELECTION

**ALL ELECTORS ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE** that a Primary Election will be held in all voting precincts of Tyrone Township, Livingston County, Michigan, on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at which time candidates of the Republican and the Democratic Parties seeking nomination to the following partisan offices are to be voted for in Livingston County: Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative in Congress (8th District), State Senator (22nd District), State Representative (47th District), County Commissioner (3rd District), and other partisan offices that may by law be required to be nominated at the Primary Election.

Please be further notified that delegates to the Republican and the Democratic Party County Conventions will be elected at the Primary Election.

**Electors who wish to vote in the August Primary Election must be registered to vote no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 7, 2014.** To register, visit any Secretary of State Branch Office, the Livingston County Clerk’s Office, or the Tyrone Township Clerk’s Office. The Tyrone Township Clerk will be available for the purpose of receiving registrations at the following times and location:

**Tyrone Township Hall  
10408 Center Road  
Fenton, Michigan**

**Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

The following ballot proposal will be presented at the Primary Election:

### PROPOSAL 14-1

#### APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF AMENDATORY ACT TO REDUCE STATE USE TAX AND REPLACE WITH A LOCAL COMMUNITY STABILIZATION SHARE TO MODERNIZE THE TAX SYSTEM TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES GROW AND CREATE JOBS

The amendatory act adopted by the Legislature would:

1. Reduce the state use tax and replace with a local community stabilization share of the tax for the purpose of modernizing the tax system to help small businesses grow and create jobs in Michigan.
2. Require Local Community Stabilization Authority to provide revenue to local governments dedicated for local purposes, including police safety, fire protection, and ambulance emergency services.
3. Increase portion of state use tax dedicated for aid to local school districts.
4. Prohibit Authority from increasing taxes.
5. Prohibit total use tax rate from exceeding existing constitutional 6% limitation.

Should this law be approved?

\*\*\*\*\*

Voters may obtain a full text of the ballot proposal on Livingston County’s website ([co.livingston.mi.us](http://co.livingston.mi.us)) by accessing the County Clerk’s web page (under elections) or by calling the Tyrone Township Clerk’s Office at (810) 629-8631.

Keith L. Kremer,  
Tyrone Township Clerk





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**16120 Haviland Beach Linden - \$599,999**

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OPEN HOUSE! Sunday 1-3pm

**13525 Torrey Rd Fenton - \$599,999**

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**Lake Fenton - \$1,499,999**

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**Lake Fenton - \$775,000**

Lake Fenton 72' Frontage, 4 Beds & 2,701 Sq. Ft.

**Lake Fenton - \$759,000**

400' Frontage, 4 Beds & 4,000 Sq. Ft.

**Lake Fenton - \$724,999**

80' Frontage, 4 Beds, & 3,345 Sq. Ft.

**Lake Fenton - \$474,999**

Lake Fenton 50' Frontage, 3 Beds & 2,032 Sq. Ft.

**Lake Fenton - \$449,000**

85' Frontage, 4 Beds & 2,500+ Sq. Ft. Land Contract Available

**Lobdell Lake - \$349,999**

115' Frontage, 4 Beds & 2,250 Sq. Ft.

**Bevins Lake - \$219,999**

75' Frontage, 3 Beds & 2,419 Sq. Ft.

**Tyrone Lake - \$199,900**

61' Frontage, 3 Beds & 1,332 Sq. Ft.

**Pine Lake - \$549,000**

285' Frontage, 4 Beds & 4,500 Sq. Ft.

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**Linden Schools - \$169,999**

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**Lake Fenton Schools - \$139,999**

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## Social News

### ENGAGEMENT



#### FULLAN-PLASTOW

Jim and Rose Plastow of Fenton, Michigan are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, David, to Norine Fullan of Bethel, Connecticut, daughter of Maureen Fullan and the late Dan Fullan.

## CLOSURES

Continued from Front Page

the important city service tie-ins are happening with the Cornerstone Building, which is the responsibility of the city.

Over the past few weeks, the road has been torn up in certain spots downtown — in front of the Fenton Fire Hall, to tie in the storm sewer, and on LeRoy Street, for the water main. These most recent closures are all part of getting the building city services for the businesses and residents who will be housed there.

## QUICK CORNERSTONE UPDATE

Rohn Smith of Sorensen Gross, lead contractor for the building, said rain this week has slowed masonry work. Still, the plan is to have roofing material for the middle of July.

The floor decks are done, and the second floor concrete is being poured, which will allow interior walls to be built.

The masons have one more floor to go with the elevator shaft, which will peek out over the rest of the building.

# Dance, learn and grow this summer at Studio of Stars

►Dance academy offers summer intensive, CrossFit for women, start of fourth season

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Summertime isn't "off season" for dancers at Studio of Stars Dance Academy in Fenton Township. In fact, it's a time for dancers to sharpen their dance skills by participating in a summer intensive course to prepare for more competitive dance in the fall.

Studio of Stars Dance Academy offers jazz, tap, ballet, pointe, pom/tumble, hip hop, lyrical, kickline and contemporary, all in a studio setting with a staff of professional instructors. Studio owner Pam Darrin is passionate about dance, for not only fun and recreation, but also for the confidence and poise it brings to each student.

In addition to the recreational study of dance, Studio of Stars also offers competitive teams for students who want to take dance to the next level.

"I am so proud of our first-year competitive team," said Darrin. "Our seniors brought home five High Gold

Awards and our juniors earned two High Gold Awards plus a Rising Star Award. Both juniors and seniors placed first overall in their division.



Pam Darrin, Owner of Studio of Stars Dance Academy

**“We really want to teach a passion for dance.”**

They did awesome!”

Dancers who would like to perform on competitive teams must attend the summer intensive course, which begins Monday, Aug. 4 and ends Wednesday, Aug. 27. “This course will help you learn the try-out choreography,” said Darrin. “Try-outs for the competitive team will take place on Thursday, Aug. 28.

Other opportunities for fitness fun abound with the new offering of CrossFit classes for women ages 18 and older. “We are offering CrossFit

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Studio of Stars Junior and Senior Competition Team and Instructors.

by the session at \$3 per class or \$25 per month for unlimited sessions,” said Darrin.

Studio of Stars Dance Academy will begin its fourth dance season on Monday, Sept. 8. Registration for the 2014-2015 year will begin Monday, July 7 with summer registration hours on Monday through Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the studio.

Darrin prides her studio on being very affordable, which was one of her goals when she opened the studio three years ago. “I want dance to be within reach of all students, not just a select few,” she said.

The studio is located at 3235 West Thompson Rd. near the Legends Café in Fenton Township. For more information, call (248) 895-8115 or email [studioofstarsda@yahoo.com](mailto:studioofstarsda@yahoo.com). “Visit us on Facebook,” said Darrin.

## Calendar of events

### LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY TO MEET

The Livingston County Genealogical Society will hold its next meeting at **7 p.m. on Thursday, July 10**. The topic of discussion for the evening will be “Connecticut Research.” The meeting will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1230 Bower St. in Howell. For details, call (810) 227-7745.

### LABEAU SALON & DAY SPA ‘CUTS’ FOR CANCER

On Tuesday July 15, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., LaBeau Salon & Day Spa at 4013 Owen Road in Fenton will give free haircuts in exchange for donations toward the Breast Cancer Foundation. At the Love the Ladies Cuts for Cancer event, they will have food, door prizes and more. Donations for more than \$25 will have their names put into a drawing for a gift basket with hair and nail products worth more than \$100. Check the company Facebook page to make donations directly.

## THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Alpine Marketplace**
- CVS Pharmacy**
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SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2014

**INSIDE SPORTS:**  
**FENTON SOFTBALL**  
No. 9 for the 2013-14 school year



PAGE 13A

**Q** When was the last time the United States men's soccer team advanced to the quarterfinals of the World Cup?

**A**

In 2002, the United States defeated Mexico 2-0 in the round of 16 earning a spot in the quarterfinals.

### U.S. VS. BELGIUM PREVIEW

**Date/TV:** Tuesday at 4 p.m. The game is on ESPN.

**Records:** Belgium finished 3-0-0 in Group H, while the United States was 1-1-1 in Group G.

**Last meeting:** Belgium defeated the United States in a friendly 4-2 on May 29, 2013.

**Scouting Belgium:** Belgium entered the tourney looked upon as one of the darkhorse contenders right after the typical list of favorites. This is a very talented team, who won all three of its group games, yet, it seemed they didn't play up to their potential. It's a squad that has been criticized as being one of many talented individuals instead of being a team. But, let people say what they want, this team has allowed just one goal in the World Cup so far.

They are going to be a challenge for the United States. Anyone who watches the elite soccer leagues around the world are going to recognize a ton of names — Eden Hazard, Marouane Fellaini and Vincent Kompany to name a few — on this squad.

## It's Miller's time to shine on CMT show

►Fenton resident competing on Steve Austin's Broke Skull Challenge

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Melissa Miller has never been afraid to try anything.

As an All-State keeper during her soccer playing days at Fenton High School, Miller wasn't afraid of physical altercations between the pipes with opponents.

Miller, a 2007 graduate, still seeks those physical challenges, and that will be evident to anyone who turns on the Country Music Television station on July 13 at 9 p.m. They'll notice the 25-year old physically fit college student on the new physical combative competition program Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge.

Miller will be on the first show with female competitors. The program's debut is a week earlier starting with the men. The one-hour show pits eight competitors in a variety of physical events against each other. The winner will get a chance to compete for \$10,000 in an obstacle course. Steve Austin, of course, is known best for his World Wrestling Entertainment

### About the show

Fenton resident Melissa Miller will be competing on Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge, a program that tests athletes against each other in tests of strength, stamina and wit.

**When does it air:** The show premieres on July 6, but Miller's episode will be July 13.

**Network/Time:** It's on Country Music Television at 9 p.m.

days as one of its greatest champions.

"I feel honored to be chosen to compete on the first show with women," Miller said. "Physical challenges are right up my alley. I love doing that type of thing."

Miller found out about the show from a friend on Facebook who thought Miller would be ideal for the program.

"A friend told me about the casting auditions. I am into fitness,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fenton resident Melissa Miller will be competing in the new television reality show Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge on July 13 on the Country Music Television channel. She will test her own strength, stamina and wit against seven other contestants in the pursuit to have a chance to win \$10,000. Above, Miller is competing in one of the events during her show.

cross-fit and being competitive," Miller said. "She said the things they were looking for reminded her of me. I thought, 'What the heck, just fill it and go for the show.'"

Miller's friend ended up being right. Miller got a call back, had to fill another more extensive application and had an interview. See **MILLER'S** on 15A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's baseball team won a Metro League and district title, earning them the 12th spot on our Tri-County Top 16 Poll of the 2013-14 school year.

## So many league champions for too few places on Tri-County Top 16

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Before I continue our countdown of the Tri-County Top 16 Teams of the 2013-14 school year, I thought I'd bring up a few points.

First off, I enjoy getting emails about the subject. What it shows me is people do care about the teams they support and kind of respect my opinion (even if they disagree) enough that they feel the need to argue their points. I enjoy seeing those emails come in when they do.

Secondly, these selections are not

easy. We have 16 spots in this poll. When you consider our coverage area only includes four schools, 16 sounds like a lot of spots. Well, in some areas it might be, but around here we have some good athletics. For example, we had 17 Fenton, Holly or Linden teams earn at least a share of a Metro League title last school year. Lake Fenton had five other teams win Genesee Area Conference Red crowns. That's 22 league champs, and only 16 spots.

Compounding matters, some teams who didn't win league crowns ended up. See **TOP 16** on 14A



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Fenton's Brent Nakkula (right) congratulates Brant Cassidy after Cassidy broke the school record in the 50 freestyle at the Division 2 state swim meet in March. The Fenton boys swim team dominated its Metro League foes, en route to the title, helping the Tigers finish 10th in our Tri-County Top 16 Poll of the best varsity prep teams during the 2013-14 school year.



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## TOP 16

Continued from Page 13A

posting great credentials in the postseason, earning spots in the final 16. There are a lot of championship teams not on the poll.

Now back to the poll. We listed 16 to 13 on Wednesday. We'll list a few more today. This is part two of a four-part story.

### No. 12 - Linden

**baseball:** Originally listed as our No. 3 team of the spring, the Eagles have made our Top 16 list for the first time ever. Remember, we didn't have the list when they went to the state semifinals in 2004. After a semi-slow start to the season, the Eagles ended up co-Metro Champions at 12-4, Flint City Tourney champions and district title champs.

They also earned the honor of being the baseball, softball or soccer team that advanced the farthest in the state tournament by making it to the regional final contest. It's taken the Eagles awhile to make their debut appearance on our poll, but we wouldn't be shocked to see them make more appearances in the future. It seems varsity head coach Steve Buerkel and his entire staff within the program has things headed in a very positive direction.

### No. 11 - Lake Fenton boys golf:

The Lake Fenton boys golf team was the hardest to rank in this poll. The Blue Devils captured the Genesee Area Conference crown, by defeating second-place Goodrich by a combined 52 strokes in the preseason and postseason GAC meets.

The Blue Devils were well on their way to having an outstanding postseason as well, advancing to regionals and then finishing in a three-way tie for second at that meet. However, one of the Lake Fenton golfers was hit by a golf ball and was forced to withdraw from the tournament. That meant the Blue Devils didn't have a fifth golf score when it was needed to break the tie for second. And because they didn't, Lake Fenton finished fourth in the meet and

failed to qualify for the state tourney by a place.

We thought No. 11 was a strong spot, and one deserving of the team. Bad luck happens, and in this case, it may have cost the team a higher ranking.

**No. 10 - Fenton boys swim:** The Fenton boys swim team is starting to make a habit out of making it on our

Top 16 list, earning a spot for the third straight year. And they are gradually sneaking up the list. Two years ago they were 15, and last year the Tigers were 13.

As the rankings suggest, this is a team that has been on the upswing, peaking last year. The Tigers dominated their Metro foes, going 5-0 in duals and winning the league meet with 621.5 points, almost 300 better

than second-place Brandon. They also had many swimmers qualify for the state meet, placing 17th at the meet.

**No. 9 - Fenton softball:** The team which was ranked No. 1 in our spring poll, recently sneaks in the top 10 at No. 9. They aren't the No. 1 spring team in this poll. By human error, I neglected what was the best performance of the spring, and that team will be presented here in a future story when we reach them in the poll.

Fenton softball is probably the team one would suspect is in the Top 16 every year, but really isn't. This is their first appearance since the 2010-11 season, when they were No. 13. This season the Tigers had an outstanding spring, posting a 37-5 overall record and a Metro League championship 14-2 mark. At one time during the spring, the Tigers won 16 straight contests. They also won 11 straight games until losing to Romeo in the regional semifinals. Prior to that loss, though, Fenton defeated state-ranked Lakeland in their district championship game 6-4.

The scary thing is the Tigers are a young team. Only two seniors graduate, so don't be shocked when we do this poll next year, if you see the Tigers a bit higher than No. 9.

## We are the champions

Here is a list of the tri-county area's Metro or GAC champions during the 2013-14 school year.

**Fenton:** Girls tennis, girls track, softball, boys swimming, girls golf, football, volleyball, girls swimming.

**Holly:** Boys track, girls basketball, boys basketball, boys cross country, boys tennis.

**Lake Fenton:** Softball, girls soccer, boys golf, wrestling, boys cross country.

**Linden:** Girls soccer, baseball, boys soccer, girls cross country.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Fenton's softball team celebrates after winning the first game of a doubleheader against Swartz Creek, clinching them a share of the Metro League crown. In the second game, the Tigers also won, earning the title outright. They are the No. 9 team in our Tri-County Top 16 Poll of the top varsity prep teams of the 2013-14 school year.



## David's Dabblings

A few thoughts about the area's sports scene and some others not dealing with sports at all.



### BEST 1984 TIGER GAMES

The Detroit Tigers will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the franchise's 1984 World Championship team.

I was 15 that summer, and I remember the year quite well. I remember all the hype surrounding the team as the season was about to start. I was so confident that 1984 was the year the Tigers were going to win the World Series, that I created a game log notebook where I would write all of my thoughts about each game. In 1984, I made a promise to myself I would not miss a game and I actually did honor the promise. Now, there were a few rules. I had to either watch, attend or listen to at least six innings of a game for it to qualify. Anything less, and it was a strike against me reaching my goal. But, believe it or not, I accomplished it. I did get lucky one day. The Tigers had an 11 a.m. game scheduled with the Red Sox on a Monday, and it was a school day. There were other school day afternoon games in 1984, but in every case, the school day wasn't long enough to keep me from getting to a transistor radio and listening to the rest of the game. And, at the time, there weren't as many weekday afternoon games, so it really wasn't that much of an issue.

Well, with the celebration of the 1984 Tigers, I thought I would list what I thought were the five most impressive games of the 1984 Detroit Tigers regular season. Here I go.  
**No. 5: Seattle 6, Detroit 1**  
**Played on May 16**

This is the only loss on the list. The Tigers entered the trip to Seattle's Kingdome with a 35-5 record and were swept by the lowly Mariners. This game was on TV. I remember seeing a couple Mariners' fans with brooms, as they celebrated like they won the World Series. I was steamed.

**No. 4 Detroit 7, Toronto 4 (10 innings)**  
**Played on Sept. 7**

The Tigers led Toronto by 8 1/2 games entering this three-game series at Toronto, and the Tigers won in the 10th on Dave Bergman's three-run home run. After this game, I knew it was only a matter of time before Detroit clinched.

**No. 3 Detroit 4, Chicago 0**  
**Played on April 7**

It was NBC's game of the week and Jack Morris tossed a no-hitter during the team's fourth game of the season. I remember Morris was wild early and loaded the bases in one inning, but got out of the jam. From there, he cruised.

**No. 2 Detroit 6, Toronto 3 (10 innings)**  
**Played on June 4**

In what was the greatest at bat in Tigers history for someone about my age, Dave Bergman had an 11-pitch at bat with Roy Lee Jackson before clubbing a three-run home run in the bottom of the 10th with two out. Bergman fouled off seven straight pitches with two strikes.  
**No. 1 Detroit 3, Milwaukee 0**  
**Played on Sept. 18**

Randy O'Neal made his first start of his MLB career and tossed seven innings of shutout ball, sparking the win and clinching the Tigers' AL East division on that day. For a long time I had the postgame celebration from the radio broadcast on a cassette tape.

## MILLER'S

Continued from Page 13A

view done through Skype. After that she was flown to California and earned a spot on the show. Miller said it was a four-month process.

"They said thousands of people applied and they told us they wanted us at the beginning, to give a good episode because we were the first female episode," Miller said. "They told us we were their first choices and they wanted us to represent the show well."

### About the show

According to a press release, Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge pits athletes against everyday men and women in the ultimate test of strength, stamina and wit. Each episode has eight competitors engage in head-to-head battles until the last man or woman remains, earning the right to take on an obstacle course created by Austin named the Skullbuster.

Miller said she was impressed by the competitors she had to go against.

"I was with seven other contestants — a mixed martial arts fighter, a competitive boxer, a professional Lingerie Football League player, a cross-fit competitor and a couple of bodybuilders," Miller said. "I was like I just do this stuff because I love it. I'm a student."

Miller wasn't able to explain much about the physical challenges and unable to discuss the results, but based on some of the promotional photos, events include competitors tugging objects with large ropes as they run, tossing cinder blocks and the carrying of logs above the competitor's heads.

"The events are one-on-one and there is physical contact with them," Miller said.

Miller loved being given the opportunity to compete.

"Instead of looking at it as intimidating, I look at it as exciting, because you are thrown in a world you know you are going to be challenged with," Miller said. "It's up to you to see if you can overcome it and not let something overcome you. At the end of the day, that's how I approach it. Everyone has the ability to beat anyone. ... You just have to prepare for it mentally and physically."

"But I'm not going to lie. The MMA fighter was a little intimidating."

### Waiting for the show to air

Miller has no clue what will be aired. During the competition, the competitors were encouraged not to talk to each other, therefore they really didn't know each other at all during the events.

"We were not allowed to talk to each other at all," Miller said. "We couldn't leave the hotel room and we had to have

**"It was an awesome opportunity. I was afraid to take time off of school to do it, but I couldn't give up an opportunity to compete against great athletes and challenge my own abilities."**

**Melissa Miller**  
*Fenton resident and competitor on Broken Skull Challenge*



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Melissa Miller (fourth from the right) is pictured with her competitors during her episode of Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge. Austin, a professional wrestling legend, stands next to Miller.

personal assistants do everything for us. They didn't want us to be friends with the other girls."

Miller said each girl sort of portrayed a type of identity. There was the pretty girl, the intense girl and the southern girl.

Miller said she was the outdoorsy northern girl. Miller is curious to see how they portray her on the show.

"I have to wait like everyone else to find out," Miller said. "I'm hoping I'm not portrayed like a person I am not."

After the airing, Miller said all the women became friends.

"We all became friends and I'm contact with them now," Miller said. "They want

to make us hate each other, but afterward we were all friends."

### Meeting Steve Austin

Miller enjoyed working with Austin. "He's really funny," Miller said. "That was the thing that surprised me. If you met him you would not think he's a famous person. He's a cool, chill guy."

For one of the promotional photos for the show, Miller was photographed right next to Austin.

### Up next

Miller is pursuing education and will be student-teaching next semester. She hopes to one day combine her passion to teach with her passion for personal training. But until then, don't be shocked if you see her on other shows.

"My parents always told me to go for Survivor and the Amazing Race," Miller said. "After this happened I now understand I can make it on a show. ... You have to stand out and show your true personality, don't be a fake and you can get on any show."

Miller will be watching the show with a couple of close friends.

"They'll laugh at me being goofy on TV," Miller said. "I don't want a big party."

11th Annual

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SUN 10:45 2:00 5:15 8:30  
MON 10:45 2:10 5:35 9:00  
TUES-THUR 10:45 2:10 5:35 9:00 11:25  
**\*@3D TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION: REALD 3D (PG13)**  
FRI 11:05  
SAT 11:05 • TUES 11:05  
**\*@3D TRANSFORMERS:**  
**AGE OF EXTINCTION: REALD 3D (6FL) (PG13)**  
FRI-SAT 12:45 4:00 7:15 10:30  
SUN 12:45 4:00 7:15  
MON - TUES 12:45 4:15 7:40  
WED-THUR 12:45 4:15 7:40 11:05  
**\*@TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF EXTINCTION: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG13)**  
FRI-SAT 11:45 3:00 6:15 9:30 12:40  
SUN 11:45 3:00 6:15 9:30  
MON-THUR 11:45 3:05 6:30 9:55

**STARTING TUES JULY 1**

**\*AMERICA (PG13)**  
TUES 7:00 9:20 12:05  
WED-THUR 11:25 1:45 4:15 6:50 9:10 11:30  
**\*\*DELIVER US FROM EVIL (R)**  
TUES NIGHT/WED MORNING 12:05  
WED-THUR 11:05 1:40 4:20 7:05 9:45 11:55  
**\*TAMMY (R)**  
TUES 8:00 10:10 12:05  
WED-THUR 10:15 am 12:25 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30 11:40

**STARTING WED JULY 2**

**\*EARTH TO ECHO (PG)**  
WED-THUR 10:00 am 12:10 2:20 4:30 6:40 8:50 11:00

**CONTINUING**

**\*\*THINK LIKE A MAN TOO (PG13)**  
**\*JERSEY BOYS (R)**  
**\*@3D HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2: REALD 3D (PG)**  
**2D HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)**  
**#22 JUMP STREET (R)**  
**THE FAULT IN OUR STARS (PG13)**  
**2D EDGE OF TOMORROW (PG13)**  
**A MILLION WAYS TO DIE IN THE WEST (R)**  
**2D MALEFICENT (PG)**  
**BLENDED (PG13)**  
**2D X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST (PG13)**  
**2D GODZILLA (PG13)**  
**NEIGHBORS (R)**

\*Due to movie company policies no passes are accepted.  
© No \$5 rate available. • No \$5 TUES evening rate.



## TYRONE TOWNSHIP BID NOTICE

The Tyrone Township Board is seeking bids for the road repair of Parkin Lane in Fenton, MI, a private asphalt road about one mile in length. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from our website at [www.tyronetownship.us](http://www.tyronetownship.us) or from the Tyrone Township Hall. Submit bids by 5:00 pm. July 15, 2014.

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## ROSE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

June 11, 2014

Supervisor Gambka called the Regular Meeting and Public Budget Hearing 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: Miller, Gambka, Trevethan, Kemp, Scheib-Snyder Board Members Excused/Absent: None  
Approved: Agenda as submitted.  
Approved: Consent Agenda as submitted.  
Public Hearing: Open public budget hearing at 7:52 p.m. Closed the public budget hearing at 9:00 p.m.  
Approved: Resolution for 2015 Rose Township meeting dates as submitted.  
Approved: Resolution designating the Tri-County Times and Oakland Press for general circulation.  
Approved: CDBG Cooperation Agreement for 2015-2017.  
Approved: 2015 publically funded health insurance contribution.  
Approved: 2014 West Nile Virus Fund Participation and Reimbursement Authorization.  
Adjourned: By motion at 9:21 p.m.

Paul Gambka  
Rose Township Supervisor

Debbie Miller, CMC  
Rose Township Clerk

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FLINT PAVING**

## MURAL

Continued from Front Page

library, but we can paint abstract art on the side of historical buildings!" Christopher Fairbanks posted on Wednesday.

"Glad that you support artists. It's too bad you couldn't support small business owners who wanted to revitalize your tiny town," posted Valerie Thompson. "We used to love coming to Linden, but our favorite stores all closed!"

"Shouldn't the residents have had a voice in this? I'm happy to support the arts, but this genre does not really represent the historic theme of our downtown," posted Terry Bretzlaff. "There are so many things that need to be done... let's not distract ourselves with fluff when there are so many things that need attention."

An initiative to bring art to downtown Linden was proposed by City Manager Paul Zelenak at the June 9 Linden City Council meeting. The mural on the side of city hall began last weekend during Linden Mills Days, where Linden schools art teacher Gemma Amendola and other volunteers brought more art to the city's historical district.

While residents and business owners agree that more art will help beautify the city, some feel there are more pressing needs city officials should be addressing.

"I'm a big supporter of the arts but there's all these other things we should have put our efforts into," said Gavin Smith, who owns a photography studio in downtown Linden. "We can't fix the potholes but we can paint a psychedelic tea pot on the side of city hall. I feel this

is a slap in the face of business owners who have to watch clients hit potholes. I shudder to think how long it took to get this approved. What else could we have put our effort into?"

One of the biggest critics of the mural is Chris Mathews, former owner of the Linden Sweet Shoppe. Mathews, who served on the city's Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board, said many of the colors used in the mural were forbidden from use for business owners on their own buildings and signs.

Mathews added that city officials only allow business owners to select from approximately nine different colors, all selected and approved by the city's historical committee.

Mathews, who closed down his business in 2012 and no longer lives in Linden, views the mural as an insult to business owners who are hampered by the city's restrictive

ordinances.

"The contention is the double standard. The 'good ol' boys' can do whatever they want," said Mathews, noting that the blue and pink in the city's mural are restricted colors for business owners in the city's historic district. "When we finished the (Linden Sweet Shoppe) sign, they threw a fit because it included colors not approved by the historical committee."

Zelenak expressed interest in initiating other mural projects around the city at the June 9 meeting, with the intention of drawing more people downtown.

"By doing something like this in our community, it will hopefully draw more attention to the area," Zelenak said.

## LASCO

Continued from Page 5A

showroom in the current building.

"Our goal is customer satisfaction, customer enjoyment, the whole customer experience," said Jay Lasco. "We want the red-carpet feel to give the customers the best experience."

The service department will be a self-sustaining building, with new waiting rooms, amenities and lots of extra space. Customers will be able to take delivery of their vehicle from the comfort of an indoor receiving lane.

The long-planned project began in earnest last year, with the addition of approximately 100 parking spots to make way for the new service building. By

moving the entire service and parts department to its own facility, the current Lasco building will expand sales into all 20,000 square feet, roughly tripling the size of the sales floor. This renovation of the current building could be finished by fall of 2015.

The cost of the entire project is in the \$5.5 million range.

The last expansion was in 2000, adding a drive-through lane in the current service department.

During construction, they've had one entrance to the parking lot with valets available, and signs posted to guide incoming customers.

"Our real goal is to reinvest in the community," said Lasco. "We ran out of room, we've outgrown our current facilities."

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SCHEDULE  
OF FREEDOM  
FESTIVAL EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 3

Silver Lake Ski Show

7:00 pm

at Silver Lake Park Beach  
(Jennings Road and Silver Parkway)

Grand Marshal  
Adult Reception

8:00 p.m.

at Fenton Hotel Tavern and Grille  
Fr. David Harvey and Pastor Dale  
Swihart will be recognized as Grand  
Marshals of the festival

FRIDAY, JULY 4

American Legion #38  
Pancake Breakfast

7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Community Center and Gazebo  
area

Ecumenical blessing of  
Pancake Breakfast

9 a.m.

5K race run/walk

(applications at the Chamber of  
Commerce) — 9:45 a.m.

Race begins at the former middle  
school on West Street.

Parade

(rain or shine)

10 a.m.

A.J. Phillips Museum open

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Grilled chicken,  
hot dogs, etc

11 a.m.

AFTER THE PARADE

Rubber Ducky Regatta

12:30 p.m.

Children's activities

12:30 p.m.

Fireworks at Silver Lake  
Park Beach

10 p.m.

PARKING/VIEWING  
IS NOT ALLOWED  
AT THE PARK

BOND

Continued from Front Page

used for four new buses and computers.

Two other payment installments will follow, with \$2 million in 2018 and another \$2 million in 2022.

"We started receiving new computers this week and we're expecting more computers to arrive in the coming weeks," Jalkanen said. "That's a big part of the initiative of the bond, trying to get computers all across the district."

FESTIVAL

Continued from Front Page

The Freedom Festival is the biggest event in Fenton each year, bringing thousands downtown for the parade, shopping, activities and grilled chicken.

This year, activities will run all day on July 4 — from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be arts crafts and other vendors along the sidewalks. Starting at 11 a.m., there will be grilled chicken dinners for sale, along with hot dogs, brats, chips and pop from the Fenton Lions Club until they are gone.

Of course, the parade is at 10 a.m. this year, starting at Rounds Drive at Shiawassee Road. It travels to Adelaide Street, down to South Holly Road, and then north on LeRoy Street, up through downtown. The parade ends after turning west on Caroline Street, ending at West Street.

The 5K race and fun run/walk follows nearly the same route as the parade, but instead it starts and ends on West Street at the old middle school, starting south on West Street, turning east on Shiawassee.

The Rubber Ducky Regatta starts at 12:30 p.m., with hundreds of ducks being dropped into the Shiawassee River at the gazebo near city hall, winding around behind the Community and Cultural Center. At the same time, a Children's Games Tent will be provided by the Fenton Kiwanis Club.

Pony rides from Adopt-a-Pet, and water games provided by the Fenton Fire Department happen at the same time. The A.J. Phillips Museum will also be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Of course, the crescendo of the whole day is the fireworks display, fired off from Silver Lake Park Beach.

Parking will be available in the parking lots along Silver Parkway — but don't wait until the last minute, as spaces will be at a premium closer to the event. Parking will not be allowed at Silver Lake Park. The best view will be around the Kmart parking lot.

Crafters interested in a 10x10 spot should call Carla Juarez at (810) 964-9439.

Buses should be available to the school district by October, with two of them retrofitted to carry extra cargo for sports teams or trips.

In addition to receiving bond money, school officials are in the planning stages of generating more revenue for the district after the next decade.

At Monday's Board of Education meeting, Director of Personnel and Finance Doug Busch said school officials will designate funds usually reserved for transportation

and technology upgrades into an account that will collect interest during the life of the bond. The district's finance board is aiming to accumulate enough funds to continue paying for transportation and technology once the monies from the \$11 million bond are depleted.

"The assumption was, because we have new bond money coming in, we won't cut that money to the general fund, but hold that money each year and use that money to become post-bond, self-sufficient," Busch said during the meeting.

Other projects school officials hope to accomplish by the fall include installing a pool

cover at the high school, which Jalkanen said should save enough on energy costs to pay for itself within three years.

Adding a parking lot to State Road Elementary is also slated, but Jalkanen is unsure if it can be done by the end of summer.

Updates to athletic equipment, increased security and updates to infrastructure are other projects planned to be completed with the bond monies.

Lynn Hopper, board of education president, said school officials will strive

to be as transparent as possible with the bond monies and appreciates the public's support of the bond.

"We ordered a lot of hardware, everything should be there by the first of August," Hopper said. "They'll be there when classes reconvene in September."

The \$11 million bond was approved after two failed attempts in 2012, with one in May for \$9.6 million and another in November for \$8.4 million. FAPS had to pay \$13,466 to Genesee County for the May 2012 election since it was held outside of a general election. FAPS will have to pay Genesee County again for this past May election as well.

“We’re grateful  
the community  
supported the bond.”

Timothy Jalkanen  
Fenton schools superintendent

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NOTICE  
HOLLY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Holly Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on:

DATE: JULY 14, 2014  
TIME: 5:45 PM  
PLACE: HOLLY TOWNSHIP HALL  
102 CIVIC DRIVE  
HOLLY, MI 48442  
PHONE: 248-634-9331 Ext. 301

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider a Variance Request from the Holly Township Code of Ordinances Chapter 32 Zoning, Section 32-150 b2 Kennels and Stables Setbacks, by the following applicants:

Gretchen Summer to operate a Kennel at 11063 N. Holly Rd.,  
Parcel 01-03-126-001 and 01-03-101-001 in an AGRE Zoning District.

Any person having interest is encouraged to attend the hearing or comment by letter to the Holly Township Zoning Administrator, 102 Civic Drive, Holly, MI 48442.

A copy of the application may be reviewed at the Clerk's office at the above-mentioned address during regular business hours Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. except holidays.

Handicap persons needing assistance to attend or participate in this hearing are asked to contact the Township Clerk at 248-634-9331 Ext. 301 or by writing to the above-mentioned address at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Karin S. Winchester, Clerk/Zoning Administrator

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## Business profile



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Nick Patel shows the interior of the new, relocated Smoker's Palace in Fenton.

## Smokers Palace Shop has new location, management

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Smokers Palace has been in business for a number of years in Fenton, but has now made a move to a new location.

Now at 1509 North LeRoy St., next to Village Vacuum in Fenton, Smokers Place remains a destination for low-priced cigarettes, other tobacco products, electronic cigarettes and more. The shop is pleased to offer a variety of e-cigarettes with popular brand names Tsunami and Puff.

"We offer the lowest prices on ciga-

rettes anywhere," said Nick Patel, who now manages the store. His family manages several other locations in Genesee and Oakland counties. "We will meet any competitor's price, at our discretion."

Smokers Palace now features a newly built Cigar Room, filled with dozens of brands of premium cigars.

Open seven days a week, store hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call Smokers Palace at (810) 519-8181.

## Business profile



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Rebecca and David Howard stand amidst the "treasures" that are found at Fenton's newest resale shop, Howard's Hidden Treasures.

## Howard's Hidden Treasures New resale shop opens in Fenton

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Rebecca Howard admits she's a woman who loves to collect things and lives to shop.

That's why she and her husband, David, opened Howard's Hidden Treasures in May, at 17075 Silver Parkway, near The UPS Store in Fenton.

"We are a resale shop, not a consignment store," said Howard. "We've been buying our inventory for two years in preparation for opening our store. You'll find something new in here that you haven't seen before, every time you stop in."

Howard's Hidden Treasures boasts a

well-displayed collection of antiques, home décor, household items, crystal, women's clothing, designer purses and more, in a neat setting that is easy to browse. Everything is of high quality that the Howards chose to buy and sell in their store. "If we don't have what you're looking for, we keep a Wish List and will try to find it for you," said Howard.

The store is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call the store at (810) 354-8318. "You can also follow our store on Facebook," said Howard.



our town

# Meet John Wiley

- Engineer
- Ski patroller
- Hunter Education instructor

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Chances are you are familiar with the Wiley name from Wiley Amusements, a long-time family gaming business in Fenton, operated now by John Wiley's brother, Mike. John Wiley, 50, has his own game plan for life, with work and life experiences that have taken him all over the globe, but always bringing him back home to Fenton.

**You've had a lot of interesting jobs in your career. Can you tell me about them?** I've been working for GM since November at Powertrain as a supplier quality engineer. I travel a lot with this job. But I've also worked for a company that built military tanks, worked for Lionel Trains as an international buyer, and as a business manager for Tanglewood Assisted Living, to name a few. I've done many different things and have always learned a lot and enjoyed each job. New opportunities seem to come my way through a lot of networks and friends.

**What is your favorite thing to do when you're not working?** Without a doubt, it's ski patrolling at Boyne Highlands, three out of four weekends during ski season. It feels good to help people when they need it. It's something I definitely have a flare for. You've got to be able to stay cool in very difficult circumstances.

On a typical eight-hour shift, I'm probably involved with 15 to 20 incidents, many minor ones like a broken wrist or knee, but also some very serious accidents. I've been doing it for 11 years and I love the camaraderie I have with other patrollers and the mutual respect we have for each other. It also provides some great family time with Diane and our daughters, Caitlin and Erin.



"I'm passionate about child safety in cars. I know how to get a good tight fit for a car seat so that it will be safe for kids."

John Wiley

## What else do you do in your spare time?

I'm a Hunter Education Safety Instructor, holding classes three or four times during the fall. I also do a lot of sport shooting. I'm still a NRA certified firearms instructor out at Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club and have done that for years.

**What is something else you do that might surprise people?** I'm passionate about child safety in cars and was a child passenger safety technician for nine years through the Flint Area Safekids Coalition. I know how to get a good tight fit for a car seat so that it will be safe for kids.

Parents are often embarrassed that they don't have it right. I always recommend that they follow the instructions right on the seat, or watch for free car seat checks at local dealerships. Never pass down a child's car seat to someone else when it's past its expiration date or if it has been in an accident. Once you're done with the car seat, it's best to destroy it.

**You've mentioned your wife and daughters. Tell me more about your family.** Diane is a GM engineering group manager, and at one point from 2001-2002, we lived in Munich, Germany for her work. I was the stay-at-home dad for Caitlin, now 18, and Erin, 16, during their elementary school years when we returned to Fenton from Germany. I subbed at State Road Elementary during that time, so I got to be at school with my girls. It was a lot of fun. I got to know my

TRI-COUNTY TIMES  
SALLY RUMMEL

John Wiley still enjoys showing people how to correctly install child safety seats so that their kids are safe in the event of an accident.

kids in a way I never would have otherwise. We're still close to this day.

**In your busy work and family life, who does the cooking?** I got used to doing it when I was the stay-at-home parent and it's still my gig. I do a lot of grilling year 'round and I cook a mean chili.

**What are you most proud of in your life?** The single thing I'm proudest of are those girls up there (pointing upstairs).



## ASK THE MECHANIC

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Certified Mechanic

**Q: The heat in my car makes a chirping sound when I turn it on. What is it? Please help.**

- Alecia

**A:** Alecia, This sounds like a blower motor getting ready to quit on you. You may want to take it out of the car first to make sure that there is not something caught in the squirrel cage as it can cause this as well.

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If less than 800 tickets are sold, the drawing may revert to a 50/50 raffle with a minimum prize of \$10,000 and a maximum prize of \$30,000 to winning ticket.

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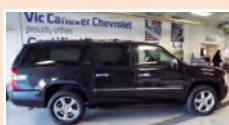
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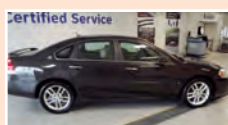
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2011 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab  
1123340A..... \$23,800.



2011 Chevrolet Suburban  
1168410A.....\$32,295.



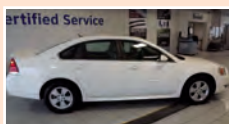
2008 Chevrolet Impala LTZ  
8270872A.....\$10,970.



2008 Chevrolet TrailBlazer  
173997A.....\$9,946.



2011 Chrysler Town & Country  
174024.....\$17,995.



2009 Chevrolet Impala LT  
173974A.....\$8,995.



2006 Dodge Ram 2500  
1275386A.....\$15,800.



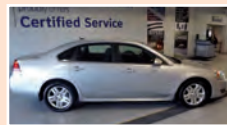
2002 Ford Escape XLT  
1302583A.....\$4,741.



2005 Ford Expedition XLT  
1126916A.....\$8,950.



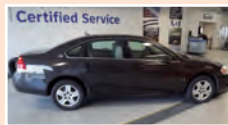
2001 Volkswagen Jetta GLX  
8329810A.....\$5,500.



2011 Chevrolet Impala LT  
1218275A.....\$12,962.



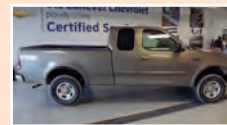
2006 Pontiac G6  
173980A.....\$5,660.



2008 Chevrolet Impala LS  
6169218A.....\$6,550.



1995 Chevrolet Lumina  
8242307A.....\$2,600.



2003 Ford F-150  
1303052B.....\$8,750.

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