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\$219,000 Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971



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Super cute ranch centrally located to shopping and activities in Ortonville.

Don't let the cute fool you.

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and a sauna!

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721 N. Leroy Street
Enjoy the tranquil and peaceful setting of over 200 feet along the Shiawassee River Unbelievable 1.5 acres located in the city of Fenton. You will think you are in the country yet 5 minutes to everything. Adorable 3 bedroom home with a large sunroom allows you to appreciate the outdoors from inside. Don't miss out on this hidden gem!

**FENTON** 

**FENTON** 

18500 Old Hickory Lane (Hickory Ridge Rd to Sackner

west to Old Hickory Lane)

If you want a private up north setting,

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windows, roof and well. Enjoy the wild life from the large deck overlooking the two

ponds and wooded areas. Large pole barn,

insulated and heated is a man's dream.

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**\$125,000**Call Sue Fleming 989-627-048

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11248 Ridgeview Trail

Saltbox Inspired Colonial located in prestigious Hills of Tyrone! Beautiful wooded lot & a home w/quality features including wide Crown Molding & HW floors. Huge farmhouse kitchen w/pantries, HW floors, & tile countertops. Main level offers: Living Room w/ natural fireplace, kitchen, study, family Room, 1st floor laundry. The upper level features gallery overlooking kitchen, master suite w/private bath, his/her closets & 2 additional bedrooms & bath. Freshly painted & nicely maintained. Side Entry Garage. Daylight Basement w/high ceilings. Private Deck & yard, too.

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12393 Fish Lake Road

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\$79.900

Call Cam Gonzalez 810-348-4076



# LINDEN

16235 Orchard Trail Nice ranch with

finished lower level. Master bedroom and bath with walk in closet. Basement has recessed lighting, bar and 1/2 bath for entertaining. Firelit living room with nice size yard and brick patio for outside entertaining.

\$159,900

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# **FENTON**

16195 Hill Forest

Growing family?? We've got you covered.
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3 car attached garage.
This home is move-in ready!

\$249,900 Call Mark Goldsworthy 810-955-3736



## LINDEN

16354 Waterview Lane

Home on Lobdell Lake with beautiful views of the sunsets every night. Seawall and sandy beach ready for summer fun. Master suite with view of the lake to wake up to, also master bath. Nice size living room. Dining room with fireplace. Still time to enjoy the summer! Seller has installed a dry system in crawl that has a transferable warrantee. Invisible fence and generator is included with sale of house.

\$333,900

Call Donna Mynatt 810-397-5779



#### **GENESEE**

7136 Birchwood Drive

A hidden gem! This ranch in a cozy suburban yet wooded setting with a walkout finished basement and bonus master suite has everything you want in a family home. With inviting, richly finished hardwood floors upstairs and a huge family/rec room with fireplace and walkout patio downstairs. This is a great home for hosting friends and family! All of this living space plus bonus 4th bedroom and 3 bathrooms makes this price more than right!

\$92,500

Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



#### **OWOSSO**

1115 S. Chipman Street

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath home on nice deep lot with newer 2 car garage. Large dining room with french doors and good size living room. Laundry area in kitchen. Repairs and painting are in progress. Deck off side entrance.

Why rent when you could own? \$51,900

Call Sue Fleming 989-627-0481

# **FENTON** 610 Hickory Street WHY RENT?

3 bedroom, 2 bath home in quiet and pretty neighborhood. Excellent location close to downtown, schools and parks. Some updates complete including vinyl windows.

Main floor bedroom with walk-in closet, main floor laundry, and nice detached 2 car garage. Great backyard.

\$72,900 Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



# **FENTON**

12220 Dentonview

Great family home with plenty of room to spare. Beautiful ranch with 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Completely finished walk out basement, 2 car attached garage with an extra, detached 2 car garage. Extra large lot located in a well established neighborhood.

\$149.900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



#### HOLLY 4687 Alden Drive

Beautiful, affordable country home with access to Tipsico Lake. Large living room with doorwall to deck overlooking the lake. Updated kitchen and bath. Large master bedroom with walkin closet. 1st floor laundry for convenience. Third bedroom is in lower level walkout. Move in ready!

\$114.900 Call Shelia Rhoades 810-348-7357



# HOLLY



# **HOWELL**

111 E. Brooks Affordable home near downtown Howell.

Needs significant renovations but with lots of potential.

\$75,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



# NEWSANDFEATURES

# Police&Fire report

#### **TEEN RECEIVES FAKE CHECKS**

On July 10, a 44-year-old Holly woman filed a fraudulent check report with Holly police. The woman reported that her 19-year-old son had received two checks (one for \$3,600 and one for \$2,956) in the mail from unknown sources and they believed the checks were fake. She had the checks inspected by her bank and the employee advised her to report the fake checks to her local police department. Both checks were delivered in cardboard envelopes. The woman did not cash the checks against her account, however, she wanted to warn others of

#### **DRIVER IN CRASH FLEES**

On July 10, Holly police responded to a car crash near the intersection of North Holly and Grange Hall roads. An 80-year-old Holly woman reported that while she was stopped at the traffic light, a blue Jeep or pickup truck

See POLICE on 10A

# Flight camp for kids takes off

Local pilot debuts First Flight Aviation Camp in memory of flight instructor Jerry Zerbe

#### **By Sally Rummel**

**I** have

this camp

to continue

passion of

youth to

**Bill Brown** 

Founder of First

introducing

aviation. 77

Flight Aviation Camp

Jerry's (Zerbe)

founded

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Pilot Bill Brown of Fenton Township has been passionate about flying since he was a young boy. Now at age 34, he is getting the inaugural First Flight Aviation Camp off the ground to introduce area kids to flying

as a hobby or a career.

Designed for boys and girls aged 10 to 14, this three-day camp is intended to light a spark in kids who have expressed interest in flight. "I have founded this camp to continue Jerry's passion of introducing youth to aviation," said Brown, referring to Jerry Zerbe,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Bill Brown, 34, of Fenton Township founded FirstFlightAviation.org, to introduce flying to kids 10-14. "Flying is not just for the rich, flying is for everyone," he said. Here, he stands by the Cessna 150 he flies out of Price's Airport in Fenton Township.

the 82-year-old local pilot and 40-year flight instructor who passed away last July in a plane crash. Both Jerry and his brother, Dick, had taught Brown how to fly.

Activities will include the use of professional flight simulators, large-scale helicopter remotes, build-your-own custom rocket and aircraft, an opportunity to

talk to a real commercial pilot and tour an air traffic control tower at Flint's Bishop Airport. Campers will also learn about the history of aviation and the aerodynamics of how wings fly.

"You'll learn how to actually fly a plane and land by using these simulators," said

See FLIGHT on 8A

# TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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# Most unaware of proper **BATTERY RECYCLING**

▶Tip: Don't toss them into your general recycling bin

# By Yvonne Stegall

Ask a typical American consumer how to dispose of the dozens of types of used batteries that the average household uses every year and chances are you'll get a puzzled look as opposed to a ready answer.

Research indicates that many households



Summary ▶ Recycling

batteries can be an easy eco-friendly step, but not all of them need recycling.

simply toss used batteries in their recycling container where they assume they will be properly disposed of.

Gary Hicks, municipal services manager at Republic Services, suggests checking out calltorecycle.org for the best information on recycling rechargeable batteries. He said, "Rechargeable batteries are the only batteries containing recyclable materials." He also added that "Most of the makers of alkaline batteries have removed all of the harsh substances from their batteries making it safe to throw the in the trash."

Batteries are considered hazardous waste because they contain dangerous chemicals and heavy metals that, when tossed into the trash, will end up in a landfill where they will then become

See RECYCLING on 15A



# WHERE TO RECYCLE THE MOST COMMON **BATTERIES**

- VG's Grocery AAA, AA, C, D, 9 volt, and button cell at the service desk
- The Home Depot household, cell phone and cordless power tool batteries
- Office Depot rechargeable batteries
- Radio Shack rechargeable batteries
- Staples rechargeable batteries
- **Battery Solutions** Visit them online at www.batteryrecycling.com.



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# Why did the squirrel cross the road?

By Foster Childs

If I Were

If you've so much as driven to the local gas station lately you have likely

had to dodge a dozen or so of those beady-eyed, erraticbehaving individuals that we are forced to share the streets with, despite their lack of participation in the payment of municipal taxes.

At any given moment, they are likely to freeze in the middle of the road. Then suddenly accelerate. Or reverse direction. Often they will inexplicably perform a double or even triple direction reversal

in a matter of just a second or two. They never use turn signals and one can never predict in which direction they may suddenly turn. It's an all too familiar — and nerve-wracking — ritual for those with tails vs. those with tail-lights.

I'm speaking of course about the

annual summer rite of unintentional vehicular squirrel-squashing.

> One moment you are serenely driving down a city street 10 mph over the posted speed limit, happily and inattentively chatting away on your cell phone, when suddenly you spot a squirrel along the side of the road a hundred feet ahead of you. Motionless, it is poised on its tiny feet like a fuzzy Olympic sprinter awaiting the sound of the starting gun. Suddenly, just a split-second before you

pass the seemingly oblivious rodent, it darts into the road and under your vehicle. Knuckles clench the wheel, curses fly and feet slam on the brakes as inevitable and unavoidable disaster approaches. You grimace as you await the sickening thump that indicates

a direct, and likely fatal, hit. But wait...suddenly the animal appears in your rear-view mirror, unharmed and apparently safe on the other side of the road. You exhale deeply as the crisis is averted and you can go about your day minus the angst and

guilt associated with the unintentional, but all-too-familiar, urban road-kill experience.

A relieved smile plastered on your face, you take a last look in the rear-view mirror, mentally photographing the cute and cuddly creature that was spared a grisly death due to your exceptional driving skills and laser-like reflexes. A

serene and satisfied smile on your face, your eyes return to the road ahead only to see, to your shock and horror — oh no — a new squirrel is shooting across the road right in front of you. This time,

the outcome isn't as happy. Thump, thump.

It wasn't

my fault. It ran

right under the

tire! There was

nothing I could

damn stupid? 77

do. Why are

squirrels so

Aaarghhh! You wince, slap the dashboard, and utter more curses while explaining to no one — 'It wasn't my fault. It ran right under the tire! There was

nothing I could do. Why are squirrels so damn stupid?'

Meanwhile, you look in the rear-view mirror, inexplicably hoping a miracle has occurred, only to permanently imprint in your brain the grisly footage of the dying rodent spasmodically thrashing about like a fuzzy-tailed break-dancer on acid.

Oh, the humanity!

Why did the squirrel cross the road? To stop in the middle, of course.

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.

WERE IT A matter of choice, I am certain that most homosexuals would not change the way they are. Love them and leave them alone.

CHILDREN DO NO not 'catch' gay. If your child was born gay, it is not a choice. Exposure to people living constructive lives may prevent suicides, a sense of severe alienation and depression. Stop the ignorance and embrace the 21st century — for 'those born that

THE AD SUGGESTED I get the facts about Proposal 1. Browsing the Internet, I checked other states that had cut taxes on business and found that none could claim job increases related to those cuts. In fact, most states, after suffering a revenue shortfall, increased other taxes and fees.

WHEN, WILL THE American people wake up? We are giving pink slips to active military yet going to spend \$3 billion on illegals, let alone the local costs for education, housing, medical etc?

OBAMA IS WORSE than Nixon was. Nixon had one scandal, which was exposed by the news media, and he was forced out of office. Obama has several scandals, which are ignored by the news media, and he is still in office. I wish we could vote out the news media.

AMEN, KING, I'VE never read a column that was more right-on than the one in last Saturday's paper. Keep up the good

THE KING IS truly mad. It borders on treason to write about President Obama the way he did. He should be imprisoned for his seditious statements. Inciting rebellion against the government is sedi-

HEY DUMMY, IF you had waited your turn to exit the lumber store parking lot on Monday afternoon the world would not have had to listen to your vulgar and nasty outburst. Next time wait your turn. Sure am glad you're not my neighbor.

HOPEFULLY, YOU FEEL better about yourself, judging someone's yard and how they fit in the neighborhood. But maybe next time talk to them instead of hiding behind a Hot line. Maybe then, you'd find out what going on in their life to cause their upkeep to be lacking.

**FACEBOOK MANIPULATED NEWS** feeds off more than half a million ran-domly selected users to change the number of positive and negative posts they saw, as part of a psychological experiment. Buh bye, Facebook. Enough mind games. Please wake up people, this is a nightmare.

GOD BLESS AMERICA? We took God out of the government and out of schools. A lady was fired for saying 'have a blessed day.' A student graduating was told not to mention God. We go against what God ordained for man and woman in marriage. Abortion. We are one nation under God. Really?

HERE'S ONE WAY to stop the influx of illegal immigrant children crossing our unsecured borders. If they aren't met at the border by a friend/relative who's an American citizen, they get shipped back to their home country, no questions asked.

CAN SOMEONE PLEASE give some suggestions for parents who don't want to send their 5-year-olds to school for five days a week all day long? It seems that not one public school around here offers half-day day kindergarten anymore.

WONDERING WHAT DAYS of the week and at what time the Fenton Community Orchestra rehearses

IN REGARDS TO the gay pride float. Think about it, if your 20-something child comes to you and tells you that he or she is gay, are you really going to not accept them in your life anymore? Love is love. Life is short. Happiness is what matters.

TIS THE SEASON. Political ads will abound. Ask yourself - are you better off than you were since the last election? In most cases you aren't. If you're a partyline voter, change candidates within the party. If you're a free thinker, change parties.

OTHER THAN THE LGBT community, what other 'group' defines themselves by their sexual proclivities? Being defined by whom you have sex with is debasing to say the least. Realize you are being used as a tool of the Left.

HAS ANYBODY ACTUALLY ever won the Publisher's Clearing House prize?

I CAN'T BELIEVE that there's anybody more ignorant in the city of Fenton than Foster Childs.

TO THE PERSON who is saying we all look like a bunch of back-wood hicks. We're disgusting? You shouldn't be waving your sexuality like that around in public on a float.

I WOULD LIKE to start a business; I was just wondering if Fenton has any buildings I could buy for a dollar.

WELL, THE STEVEN Utash case is now over with. My question is, what ever happened to the ethnic intimidation charges that were levied against one of the defendants?

**BEFORE CIVIL RIGHTS**, we were definitely headed in the wrong direction as far as racial relations. Now, we are headed in the other direction that is equally wrong. It seems that those who are in power to heal in this situation are the ones instigating trouble.

**OBAMA HAS TIME** to go play golf, play pool, drink beer, drive test cars but no time to go to the border. This country is in big trouble.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

streettalk

Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

# What was your most memorable field trip as a kid or parent?



"The week at camp in seventh-grade, I got to meet new kids. It was a ton of fun."

> - Chuck Wood Fenton



"Harpwood Pines. It was a day trip. We had a picnic and explored."

> — Pat Robertson Fenton



"When I was in eighthgrade, I went to Chicago and got to walk downtown and see plays."

— Lindsay Foster Davison



"Chicago museum. There was something there for everyone."

> — James Foster Fenton



"When I took my nieces and nephews to a farm."



"A week to Disney with the Powers band. I went with my granddaughter on a 23-hour bus ride."

— Mike Hayden – Joan Tyree Tyrone Township Fenton Township

# \$418k lotto winner to remain anonymous

# Michigan in top 10 for lottery winning payouts

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Everyone's talking about the local man who won \$418,739 by playing the Fantasy 5 lottery game this month. He bought the winning ticket at Lakeside Market in Fenton Township.

While everyone knows how much he won and where he bought the ticket, very few know who this person is. His identity will most likely stay undisclosed as a winner of this game can remain anonymous if they so chose.

This unidentified man won the July 2 drawing of the Fantasy 5 jackpot by playing five easy pick numbers. The winning numbers were 03-14-18-29-35.

"This is the first time we've ever sold a big prize like this," said market owner Louie Setto. "We're very excited. We're seeing new people coming in every day to play the lottery."

The Lakeside Market on North Long Lake Road will receive a \$2,000 flat-rate commission from the Michigan Lottery for selling the winning ticket.

Setto could only say that the winner is a customer who comes into the market every day.

The Fantasy 5 winner has the right to remain anonymous since the passage of a law by the Michigan Legislature in 1988, which gives winners of more than \$10,000 that right.

Powerball and Mega Millions winners, however, are exempt from the act, according to Michigan Lottery. The names of winners and cities where they live are considered public record. Prizes of more than \$50,000 must be claimed at Michigan Lottery headquarters in Lansing.

Lotteries are "big business" in most states, providing windfalls for both the winning ticket holders and the state

Michigan is one of the top 10 states in the U.S. that pays out the most in lottery winnings, according to business news website 24/7 Wall St. In terms of total prizes paid to all players and the size of the maximum prize, New York holds the crown.



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#### **Community Event**

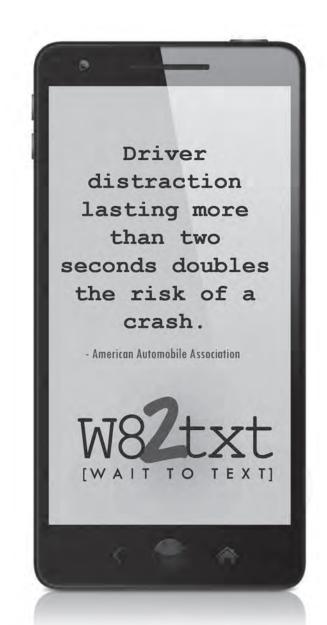
Janis Chiropractic & Wellness Center is hosting a free summer event on **Saturday, July 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** to celebrate one year at their new location at 4803 South Old U.S. 23, Brighton. A 50-50 raffle will be held to benefit the Humane Society of Livingston County and there will be several dogs available for adoption. Staff will perform free spinal screening and postural/movement analysis. Fun, family activities, as well as refreshments and artwork will be available. Everyone is welcome as this is a community event.

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Times











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1013 N. Bridge St. Linden Schools - \$119,000



5369 Van Vleet Road Swartz Creek Schools - \$395,000



16399 E. Horseshoe Trail Linden Schools - \$239,900

Lake Ponemah Channel Waterfront



16318 Haviland Beach Dr. Linden Schools - \$379,900



Dave Cantleberry



Lynn





Jennifer Frescura



13059 Lia Court Linden Schools - \$209,900

Fenton Mill Pond Waterfront



4159 Minnetonka Dr. Lake Fenton Schools - \$262,900

Backs-up to Private Wooded Area



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Gated Loon Harbor Preserve



16447 Cottage Ct.

14077 Tupper Lake Way Lake Fenton Schools - \$359,900



Carnes



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10201 Bennett Lake Rd.



11209 White Lake Rd \$799,900

11817 S. Saginaw St. **Grand Blanc** 

# **Surprise! Fenton man shoots hole-in-one on #15**

▶ First ace in league's 45-year history at Genesee Valley Meadows Golf Club

## **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

No one was more surprised than Mark Warner himself when the ball he hit about 150 yards from the 15th tee landed in the cup at Genesee Valley Meadows Golf Club in Flint. It happened during league play on Monday, June 23.

"Everyone in my foursome was whooping and hollering, but I didn't believe it myself until I actually saw the ball in the cup," said Warner, 65, of Fenton Township.

Warner, who admits he's not the best golfer, used his trusty 5-wood to hit the first ball off the tee. "I turned away after that to put my club back and didn't know I'd done anything until my friends started to yell and scream."

It was the first hole-in-one of his 25year golfing career and the first one ever

recorded in the 45-year history of Warner's golf league, GM Service Parts Financial.

What made it fun for me was that my golfing partners were so excited aboutit," said Warner. "It's an unwritten rule when you get a hole-in-one that you treat everyone in the clubhouse to a round of drinks. So I did all that, but it meant even more to me when I sat down

with my foursome after that at Scooters and bought them all dinner and drinks."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Mark Warner of Fenton Township aced hole #15 at Genesee Valley Meadows Golf Club on Monday, June 23.

When it came right down to it, the friendship and camaraderie that resulted from the hole-in-one meant more to him than the ace itself.

'My friend, Ivan, had emailed a bunch of our old friends from our GM days and I got over 100 emails of congratulations in the following days," said Warner. "I heard from a lot of

people I hadn't talked to in years. That was the most fun part about it."

# THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Alpine Marketplace
  - CVS Pharmacy



- Holly Foods
  - Kmart
    - Rite Aid
  - Sears Hometown Stores
  - Target



- Walgreens
- Walmart

To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.

# **Academic Achievement**



# Cameron Poyner,

**7A** 

of Fenton received a \$3,750 grant to conduct student research at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute

during the summer of 2014. The Institute, a biological field station located south of Hastings, MI recently awarded 19 grants to fund 13 undergraduate research projects.

Poyner is a 2010 graduate of Fenton High School and is a biology/ environmental studies major at Central Michigan University. He is the son of Dan and Holli Poyner of Fenton.

Along with research partner Dylan Sterling, Poyner and faculty mentor Dr. Brad Swanson are investigating the ability of the invasive plant Phragmites to hybridize with its native relative.





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# my club back and anything until my friends started to vell and scream. 77 **Mark Warner**

Fenton Township golfer

**L** I turned away after that to put didn't know I'd done

# What are your odds of getting a hole-in-one?

Golf Digest and the National Hole-in-One Association estimate that a tee shot hit by an amateur golfer on a par-3 goes into the hole one out of every 12,750 times.

44 ...I think

that in the

meantime

we need to

marketing

firm.**77** 

**Terry Green** 

DDA member

find another

## RESIGNS

# **Continued from Front Page**

groups and communities in this city to actually resign," he said, though he was not told specifics.

Burns thanked NMV for their service to the city of Fenton. "Without their efforts, the DDA would not be as strong as it is currently. They have been tire-

less in their efforts to promote Downtown Fenton," he said.

The question now faced was should the DDA be hiring someone to fill a full-time marketing position, or looking for a different marketing

Many, but not all DDA members voiced the same concerns that were voiced in May, that one individual would be unable to provide the same quality of work as

NMV for the same price. "I tend to doubt we could get someone to come in for \$100,000 that could do what they did," said Mayor Sue Osborn.

Likewise, DDA member Terry Green suggested the \$30,000 salary for a potential marketing individual was too low. "You better be prepared to spend double what you're thinking right now," he said. "I like the idea of getting a marketing person, but I think that in the meantime we need to find another marketing firm."

On the other hand, DDA member John Strayer voiced the dissenting opinion that a firm would not necessarily be better than an individual would be.

The DDA decided to pursue a third option — reaching out and attempting to bring NMV back.

Osborn suggested that she talk with NMV to see if they could be convinced to continue provid-

> ing services to the DDA. Meanwhile, it is likely that a special joint City Council and Downtown Development Authority meeting will be called

> to discuss the matter. In 2010, the city hired NMV to handle a myriad of tasks, including all the downtown advertising and outreach. They spearheaded the teal and copper welcome signs

and the "Fenton Be Closer" campaign, which includes the website and billboards.

Several business owners in downtown Fenton attended the meeting to speak on behalf of NMV, praising the services the firm provided them. A representative from NMV was not in attendance.

View all stories online at tctimes.com



# **FLIGHT**

# **Continued from Page 3A**

Brown. "It doesn't get any more real

Campers who desire to have a real flight experience can take a discovery flight on an airplane or helicopter through the Young Eagles Program.

'This program has successfully given more than 1.6 million discovery flights to youth," said Brown. "The rides are completely optional and require a signed waiver by a legal guardian. The flights are held on Aviation Day during the day camp. The flight program is free and doesn't require camp participation."

In addition to the Young Eagles flights on the final Aviation Day during camp, there will also be a family barbecue, simulators, games and tours for all.

Camp dates are Aug. 21-23 at Dalton Airport in Flushing. Fee for the three-day camp is \$299. The last date to sign up will be Friday, Aug. 8, according to Brown.

For young people 15 and up who are

serious about becoming pilots, Brown offers the Zerbe Flight Academy, at no charge to participants. "The academy is a huge stepping stone for any young aspiring pilot to begin flight training,' said Brown. "With our FAA-approved flight simulator and professional flight instructors, we are able to train and fully prepare those who want to become pilots. The perfect age to begin traditional flight training is 15 to 16 years of age."

The academy will also offer free flight lessons to any veteran who was training with Zerbe before his death.

Brown is a private pilot, flying multiple aircraft for pleasure and personal use out of Linden Price Airport and Dalton Airport in Flushing. Professionally, he is a residential architect with his own company, BJB Custom Homes in Fenton Township.

For more information, visit www.firstflightaviation.org. To register your child, call or text Bill Brown at (810) 240-0288 or email: info@firstflightaviation.org



# **Is your Dancer** looking for a challenge?

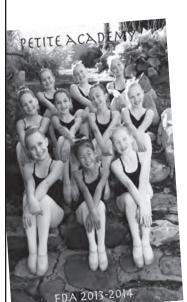
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# **ALERTS**

# **Continued from Front Page**

mobile phones during recent severe weather, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) reminds residents of Michigan that newer mobile phones are automatically enabled to receive Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA).

"Many people have been asking questions about Wireless Emergency Alerts," said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, deputy state director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "This is a life-saving technology that helps inform the public about a potential life-threatening situation. When these alerts are received at the right time, they can help direct you to safety during an emergency or disaster."

Known as WEA for short, these alerts are emergency messages sent by authorized government alerting authorities - such as the National Weather Service and state and local emergency response officials through a user's mobile carrier. If an imminent threat does occur and an alert is sent, a WEA-capable mobile phone will emit a special emergency tone or vibration with a text-like instructional message.

#### **THERE ARE THREE DIFFERENT KINDS OF ALERTS:**

- Imminent threats, such as extreme weather and other life-threatening emergencies in your area
- AMBER Alerts
- Presidential Alerts during a national emergency

Mobile phone users are not charged for receiving these notifications and are automatically enrolled to receive them. Users may opt out of receiving imminent threat warnings and AMBER Alerts; however, they may not opt out from receiving Presidential Alerts.

For more information about WEA, go to www.ready.gov/alerts.

# News briefs

#### **Hall of Fame seeks nominations**

The Fenton High School Alumni Association seeks nominations for its Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame recognizes graduates and former students of Fenton High School who have gone on to gain state, national or international recognition in any category of achievement. The association has established a committee to research material, establish criteria and review nominations. The committee is composed of five association members and is appointed by the association President. The nominees are presented at a regular meeting of the association and require a majority for confirmation. Nomination forms are available and anyone may submit a name for consideration. In addition to the prescribed form, the nomination package should include a written, documented biography of the nominee and a 5 x 7-inch portrait of the individual. A plaque bearing the photo and biography of all individuals elected to the Hall of Fame is displayed in the main corridor of the Fenton High School building. The mailing address for the association is: Fenton High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 961, Fenton, MI 48430.

#### **Tyrone Historical Society**

Tyrone Historical Society members will meet at the Township Hall, 10408 Center Rd. on Monday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m. for their annual picnic, which will include hamburgers and hot dogs. Please bring a dish to pass. There will be a short meeting following the picnic. The speaker for the evening will be Pat Burgess, who will speak on the one-room schoolhouses in the area. Everyone is welcome and bring a friend. For more information, call (810) 629-2031.

# **Hospice seeks local volunteers**

Michigan Community VNA Hospice needs volunteers from the Fenton area to provide companionship to patients at the end of life. Free training is required and begins Saturday, Aug. 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Michigan Community VNA headquarters at 801 West Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 200 Plymouth, MI 48170.

# Host an Exchange Student Today! (for 3, 5 or 10 months)



Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.

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Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, Australia, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Single parents, as well as couples with or without children. may host. Contact us ASAP for more information or to



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

Call Teresa at 616-560-1893 or

Amy at 1-800-677-2773 (Toll Free) host.asse.com or email info@asse.com

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# **ALL PLUMBING SERVICES**

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# Garbage truck fire



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton Township Fire Department climbs atop a garbage truck to extinguish the last of the flames and smoldering garbage. The driver of the truck pulled off at the rest area along U.S. 23 in Fenton Township at 9:40 a.m. Friday to report the fire. Fenton City Fire Department assisted through mutual aid.



Thursday, August 7th 2014





# CHILDREN'S DONUT EATING CONTEST

6:00pm at Taste in Fenton

**HOW TO WIN:** eat one entire donut, tied to a string (using no hands) in the shortest amount of time

WHAT YOU WIN: 1st - Donut for a Year Certificate (once a month, get a donut of your choice)

**HOW TO REGISTER:** -you must be 12 years and younger

-visit the CRUST booth at Taste in Fenton between 4:00-5:45pm to enter your name into the drawing

at 5.45 and at the Taste in Forton 13 contactants

-at 5:45pm at the Taste in Fenton 12 contestants will be selected from the drawing (must be present to be selected)

# ADULT PIE EATING CONTEST

6:30pm at Taste in Fenton

**HOW TO WIN:** eat one entire pie in the shortest amount of time

WHAT YOU WIN: 1st - \$500 cash prize

2nd - Pie for a Year Certificate (once a month, get a pie of your choice)
3rd - Cookie for a Year Certificate (once a month, get a cookie of your choice)

**HOW TO REGISTER:** -you must be 13 years and older

-you have to register at CRUST, or through crustandbeyond.com, prior

to the event to be entered into the drawing

-at 6:15pm at the Taste in Fenton 12 contestants will be selected from a drawing *(must be present to be selected)* 

**CHARTER** 

**Continued from Front Page** 

population, behind only California, Texas, Florida and Arizona, according to the Council of State Governments. More than 135,000 students attend 232 charter public schools in the state, with \$1 billion of state taxpayer money funding their efforts

Holly Academy in Holly is the only charter school in the tri-county area, although there are several nearby in Genesee County and Livingston County. With more than 900 students in grades K-8, its student population has doubled in size since 2002-2003, according to Jen Potteiger, student director.

In existence for 15 years, Holly Academy is a self-managed charter school authorized by Central Michigan University. It is operated by a Board of Directors and an administration headed by Director Julie Kildee, who serves as both superintendent and principal.

Being self-managed sets Holly Academy apart from other charter schools, in that they aren't being operated by a forprofit company. Holly Academy teachers and staff are employed by the state, not by a for-profit company.

"We're actually twice as accountable as a regular public school, because we're accountable to both CMU as our authorizer and the state of Michigan," said Potteiger.

What confuses most people about char-

ter schools is the difference between them and traditional public schools.

"We are a public school," said Potteiger. "We adhere to all the same guidelines from the Michigan Department of Education. The only differences are that we can't levy a millage because we don't have a tax base, and we are non-union.

**44** Parents

like to have

options.77

Jen Potteiger

Student Director at

Holly Academy

Potteiger said that the biggest misconception people have is that Holly Academy can "choose" its students.

"People think our high academic standards come from the fact we can handpick our students. We have no choice who walks through our door. Because we are funded by the

state as a public school, we have to take anyone, whether he or she is a special education, gifted or average student. The only difference between us and a public school is that our enrollment is capped at 950 students, while a public school has to deal with a possible influx of students with no enrollment cap."

So why do families choose to go to a charter school rather than a traditional public school?

"Charter schools originally opened to give parents a choice," said Potteiger, whose son has just graduated from Holly Academy's eighth grade. "Parents like to have options. They like that we're highly academic, have a high rate of parental involvement, a smaller setting and very involved staff and teachers."

# WANT AREA GARAGE SALES TEXTED TO YOUR PHONE WEEKLY?

# **POLICE**

**Continued from Page 3A** 

struck the rear of her 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix. After the crash, both vehicles pulled into a nearby parking lot to inspect the vehicles. The male driver of the other vehicle told the woman that he could not have caused the "old" damage to her car. When she began to call 911, he got back in his vehicle and fled. If anyone has information about this, they are to call Holly police at (248) 634-8221.

# **SPEEDING DRIVER HAS WARRANTS**

At 4:30 p.m. on July 9, a Holly police officer observed a 2008 Chevy Malibu speeding on East Maple Street. A traffic stop was initiated and the officer made contact with the driver, a 24-year-old Southfield woman. A computer check revealed the woman had two outstanding arrest warrants from West Bloomfield. Arrangements were made for West Bloomfield police to take the woman into custody while one of her friends picked up her car.





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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

The Chelsea Milling Company's downtown plant is nearly 400,000 square feet, which includes the flour mills on the right, and the wheat silos on the left, which hold 1.5 million bushels.

# How blueberry muffin mix is made, and shipped

The process begins with raw ingredients. Flour, soda, sugar, shortening and some secret



ingredients, along with the blueberry "bits," made of soy, flour and flavoring, are blended in the mixing department to achieve a particular consistency.

A blended batch is dropped into holding tanks, and distributed into the packaging department, where they are weighed to come in slightly overweight.

The boxes are sealed, and run through metal detectors, after which they are boxed together in different sizes.

A retailer like VG's will order directly from Chelsea Milling Company, and stock the shelves you shop from.

# JIFFY MIX

Continued from Front Page

Jiffy has 20 consumer products, and nine muffin mixes.

On Wednesday, a few tour groups got a snapshot of the plant with a brief walk-through, and a video presentation. The mill hosts 23,000 visitors each year.

The Wall Street folks refer to our brand as 'iconic,' and 'hip.' You can't get any better than that. 77

Howdy Holmes
President/CEO,
Chelsea Milling Company

The baking mix, pie crust and corn muffin mixes haven't changed since they were introduced in the middle of the 20th century, and still compete solidly with colossal competitors General Mills and Pillsbury.

Walking through the cavernous ware-

house that holds 1 million cases at a time, President/CEO Howdy Holmes said his family-owned business is a "flat organization," with decentralized management, and an open collaborative communications style with all 290 employees.

His grandmother invented the first ready-to-bake mix in 1930, and he's the fourth generation Holmes to run the company in Chelsea. He also said they own about 90 percent of the muffin-mix market share

The nearly 400,000-square-foot facil-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Web content specialist Kurt Hierholzer shoots footage of the production process on Wednesday for a training video he'll make. There are 20 products under the Jiffy brand, nine of which are muffins.

ity in downtown runs all three shifts, the mills looming white above the city, but blending into the quaint downtown.

"The Wall Street folks refer to our brand as 'iconic,' and 'hip,'" he said. "You can't get any better than that. It's good to have a label that's past, present and future."

CMC controls every part of that little blue and white box. The boxes themselves are printed by the company, to which a machine molds a plastic liner. CMC produces all the flour for the product, though it no longer sells its flour in bulk.

Much of the sugar, wheat, corn and shortening is grown regionally, and the wheat comes from the Thumb area of Michigan. Holmes said the product is made for working-class America, and operates on a "razor-thin" profit margin. As a private company, he doesn't have to disclose earnings, and he chose not to.

They're unique, in that they don't do any advertising, and manage to release few new consumer products at a time. The first three products were released 10 years apart, though the food services arm of the company is responsive to the industry through their research and development department.

Holmes said expanding production to 510 million pounds of product a year is the next goal for the 127-year-old company.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Lynne Farley, tour host, leads a group through the production area of the Chelsea Milling Company Wednesday. Approximately 23,000 visitors tour the plant each year.



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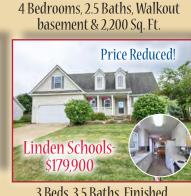


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plan & 3,657 Sq. Ft.

Beds. 3.5 Baths. Finished basement & 1,700 Sq. Ft.



4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms, Full

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walkout basement & 1,326 Sq. Ft.



3 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths, Finished 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1st floor basement & 1,500 Sq. Ft. laundry & 1,754 Sq. Ft.



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\$700,000



#### 2265 Sonora, Fenton

Boating, skiing, sailing and more right outside your front door. Enjoy All Sports Lake Fenton with sunset views in this low maintenance home. 2 bedrooms, a large deck, attached garage all nestled on a quiet Lake Front street.

\$375,000



#### 2227 Wiggins, Fenton

Spacious ranch overlooking Lake Fenton. Enjoy 100ft of frontage on All Sports Lake Fenton without the high taxes. Completely renovated home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Waterfront lot is across the street.

\$380,000



#### 2271 Sonora, Fenton

All of the appeal of a condo without the fees! Enjoy beautiful sunsets on your multi level decks. This home has 2 bedroom, 2 updated baths, updated bathrooms, appliances included, new roof in 2002.

\$350,000



# 8390 Penisular, Linden

Enjoy beautiful sunrises on All Sports Lobdell Lake. Spacious 4 bedroom home with elevated open water views. Attached garage, new paint throughout, new stain on the deck, storage shed.

\$350,000



# 1463 Eden Garden, Fenton

Peaceful lake living on a quiet cul-de-sac. Beautiful, spacious home with cathedral ceilings and open floor plan. Hardwood floors throughout, granite kitchen, stone fireplace. Finished lower level.

\$335,000



# 13012 Cascade, Fenton

Lake Fenton island home on 18 acre island with 45 cottages. This is one of the newly renovated & updated homes on the island. Bring the marshmallows and move your family in. There is a new roof, nice yard and large enclosed porch overlooking large deck with view of the lake.



# 5098 Moceri, Grand Blanc

Spacious ranch in Grand Blanc Schools. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,428 sq ft.Enjoy the fire lit living room, open kitchen and dining room, large bedrooms. Finished lower level with large family room. Private back yard, with storage shed and

large deck for entertaining.



# 3 Barrington, Fenton

This beautiful home features an open floor plan with hardwood floors, custom cabinets, Living Room with a wall of windows, Gourmet Kitchen with granite throughout

\$499,000



# 5167 Hunters Ridge, Holly

This stunning home was built in 2003 and has over 2,266 square. and 3 bedrooms.

\$375,000



# 1051 S East St, Fenton

This home has an amazing kitchen with granite, custom cabinets, and Viking stove. Master bath with steam shower, and ceramic throughout. Relax in the four seasons room and enjoy the beautiful yard.

\$200,000



# 310 Lindenwood, Linden

Open floor plan with large family room, fireplace and walkout to oversized deck. Living room plus formal dining room. Professionally finished basement with wet bar. Ideal for entertaining. First floor laundry. Perfect family home with a big back yard.

\$185,000



13480 Horrell, Fenton \$439,900



16263 Seymour, Linden \$290,000



5419 Waters Edge \$249,000



16230 Hill Forrest, \$214,900

# RECYCLING

**Continued from Page 3A** part of the air and water pollution problem.

Batteries are a part of daily life, used to power many household items, from your TV remote control to cellphones, and beyond. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, each year Americans buy almost 3 billion dry-cell batteries to power common household items. The average American discards eight batteries every year.

#### **RECYCLING GENERAL-PURPOSE AND ALKALINE BATTERIES**

Most Alkaline batteries can actually be safely disposed of in normal household

**According to the** 

**Protection** 

**U.S. Environmental** 

Agency, each year

**Americans** buy

almost 3 billion

dry-cell batteries

household items.

to power common

waste, unless it's going to get burned. Batteries can explode in extreme heat. Companies like Duracell have removed the mercury from their Alkaline batteries in order to help make them safer for the environment.

Duracell warns that it is important not to dispose of large numbers of alkaline batteries in a group. When used batteries are not completely dead

and are grouped together they can cause health risks.

### **RECYCLING OTHER BATTERIES**

Because of the chemicals present in some battery types, it's important to recycle rather than trash them. This includes rechargeable, lithium, lithium ion, and zinc air batteries.

In addition to "traditional" rechargeable batteries like AAs, other rechargeable batteries (camera batteries, laptop batteries, and even those from power tools) should also be recycled.

Car batteries containing lead should be taken to waste-management centers only, where they can be recycled. Because of the value of battery materials, some auto retailers and service centers will buy back used car batteries for recycling.

#### **FACT OR FICTION: LAPTOP BATTERIES CAN EXPLODE**

One last important thing about batteries and safety is about the risk of fire when a laptop lithium battery overheats, starts a fire, and explodes. While snopes.com says that it is false that "laptops pose a general danger of catching houses on fire," other

sources, like the Economist, tell a different story.

According to a recent article from the Economist, in 2006 Sony replaced millions of lithiumion battery packs used in laptops because of overheating, which caused some people's computer to catch fire. This sounds pretty scary, but it is also a rare thing. Lithium batteries aren't the only culprits of fires and explosions,

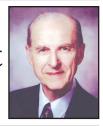
however, lead-acid batteries of the past have been known to explode, too.

Work is being done to make lithiumion batteries safer, with continuous improvements in manufacturing techniques and the use of smart control systems to monitor temperatures.

To help keep laptop batteries from overheating, be sure to use something like a cooling pad or chill mat, which helps keep the laptop's temperature regulated.

# **Featured** columnist

By Roger Campbell



# Load lifters needed

In his book, 'Strength of Soul,' W. Phillip Keller says one of the most compelling invitations ever extended by God to man came when the Lord said quietly, 'Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,' (Matthew 11:28). He explains that we don't have to go far to find those laboring, carrying heavy loads. Our responsibility is to be alert to their needs and respond to them.

I once received a call from someone facing an urgent financial need. I was glad to help. Let me tell you why: Preceding the call for help I had read Proverbs 3:26-27: 'Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do so. Do not say to your neighbor, 'Go and come back and tomorrow I will give it,' when you have it with you.'

This Biblical text reminded me of my responsibility to be a load lifter, loosening my grip on funds that could help and allowing me to be part of a miracle; actually two of them: later in the day a man placed a check in my hand amounting to nearly the amount I had given earlier.

Sept. 18, 1957, found us serving our first church. We had three children and were awaiting the birth of another but had no health insurance and didn't know how

we would pay the hospital expenses. On that very day, a letter arrived from people in another community, who knew nothing about the soon arrival of another child, saying they had sold their farm and that God had let them know we had a special need. These caring ones had thoughtfully enclosed a generous check. The baby was born that night and the check sent was within five dollars of the amount of the hospital bill, making them our heaven-sent load lifters.

**15A** 

When concluding a telephone conversation with a customer service representative of a bank, I said, 'Have a wonderful day and remember God loves you!'

'Thank you for saying that,' she replied, her voice trembling. 'Are you going through a tough time?' I asked. She was. Within moments, we were praying together. I mailed a helpful book to her; one intended to replace loads with love.

Tired and troubled people are everywhere. We meet them every day. Some are standing in checkout lines or at cash registers. Others deliver mail or drive fire trucks. We're deputized by our loving Lord to always be looking for these weary ones so we can personally pass on His load-lifting invitation to come and find rest.

When we have no money to give, we can pray for those in need and simply say, 'Have a wonderful day and remember God loves you!'

He does and will likely send a miracle their way through another able messenger.

Even then, you'll have helped lift a load through your love and prayers.

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

"All the candidates are conservative but Hank Vaupel has the experience to do what is right for us.'

Mark Fosdick, Cohoctah Township Supervisor

"I support Dr. Hank Vaupel for state representative because he understands local government, a person of high integrity, and he is a problem solver." Kathy Horning,

Hartland Township Treasurer

"I know Hank Vaupel will go to Lansing and do the right thing for hardworking taxpayers of Livingston County. He has what it takes to stand on principle when the pressure is on. He has outstanding personal integrity." State Representative

Cindy Denby

"I normally don't endorse candidates but because of his work, ethics, values and conservative credentials, Hank Vaupel has earned my support." —Joe Hune, State Senator

"Hank Vaupel has proven to be an effective leader and small businessman. Hank understands the issues facing townships and state government." –Mike Cunningham, *Tyrone Township* 

'I will be working very hard to help elect Hank Vaupel, and I encourage my supporters and all Republican voters to support Hank in the August 5th primary." –Charlie Aberasturi, former candidate for the

47th District House Seat

Supervisor

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- Prioritize Spending

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Right to Life of Michigan PAC Michigan Farm Bureau Agri PAC Great Lakes Education Project Michigan Associations of Police Organizations

Michigan Education Association of Livingston County Michigan Ground Water Assoc.

Michigan Harness Horseman Association

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TENNIS

Who was the first American woman to win the Wimbledon singles title?



May Sutton was 18 when she won Wimbledon on July 8, 1905.

# DETROIT TIGERS OUTLOOK

With the All-Star break coming and going, this is as good a time as any to look at the Detroit Tigers' season so far.

#### The Good

One of the biggest positives has been the play of lan Kinsler. He's hitting for average, providing some power, has a solid glove at second and even brings some good decision making on the basepaths. His only drawback is he doesn't walk too much.

Kinsler has helped the Tigers' offense place third in runs scored so far this year. And that's another positive, how productive the offense has been.

Second, four-fifths of the starting rotation has been strong, but it's the development of Rick Porcello that has me most excited. Still only 25, he's putting together the best year of his already lengthy Tiger career.

## The Bad

I was a bit concerned about Justin Verlander entering the year, and he's done nothing to erase those concerns. The bullpen has been lousy and needs work.

# The Future

The Tigers will do something to get help in the pen. It also would be nice to see a power lefty bat added. But the team has been better than I expected. With an addition or two, this team could contend again.

Times

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# Sports

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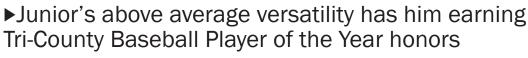
NOW A BULLDOG

LF's Alexander
headed to Adrian
College



SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2014

# **Buerkel leads our team one more time**



# **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Austin Buerkel was healthy last school year.

After a sophomore season of dealing with an ACL injury, the Linden student went through his junior year without any concerns.

"I don't feel a thing any more. I didn't notice a thing," Buerkel said when asked about the ACL injury he suffered on June 8, 2012. "I feel it's as strong, if not stronger, than the one that never got hurt. I don't notice it at all."

And that's good for Linden athletics. Because a healthy Buerkel makes the Eagles that much more a threat on the baseball diamond. That showed with his performance as Buerkel has now become our 2014 Tri-County Baseball Player of the Year. He also won the honor his sophomore season.

Buerkel was physically 100 percent healthy entering his sophomore year on the diamond, but mentally he had to show he had confidence in that knee his junior year. First he did it on the football field and then he did it on the baseball diamond, leading the Eagles to a co-Flint Metro crown, a district cham-

pionship and a spot in the regional title game.

And it seemed if it was an element to baseball, the Eagles heavily relied upon Buerkel to provide it to the team.

Buerkel led the team with a .388 batting average and a .492 on-base percentage. In 32 games, he drove in 22 runs from the lead-off spot and scored 33 runs. He also stole 28 bases while being caught just three times. His stolen bases give him 54 for his career, just 12 away from his father's career total of 66. His father happens to be Linden head coach Steve Buerkel, who won't be upset when his son breaks that record.

"I told him I was going to start sitting him so he doesn't break the record," coach Buerkel joked. "Seriously, he should destroy the record."

And we've yet to discuss Buerkel's season on the pitcher's mound. Buerkel pitched in nine games, tossing a team-high 42 innings. He recorded a 5-4 record, striking out 41 batters while walking 20. He allowed 46 hits and posted a team-best earned-run average of 2.29.

And if that wasn't enough, he was named a captain by his peers, along with fellow junior Brady Sarkon. In short, Buerkel did a little bit of everything in 2014.

"After being a varsity player my sophomore year I went into my junior year with the confidence level of a senior because you realize you've done it already before," Buerkel said.

See **BUERKEL** on 18A

# **All Tri-County Baseball Team**

Here is a list of the players that made our All Tri-County Baseball Team as selected by the sports staff.

Linden's

**Austin Buerkel** 

photo by Mark Bolen

# PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Austin Buerkel, Linden outfielder/pitcher Buerkel hit .388, drove in 22 runs and scored 33 runs. On the mound he had a 2.29 earned run average, winning five games.

# **REST OF FIRST TEAM**

<u>Pitchers</u>	<u> 3011001</u>	
Jamie Castiglione	Fenton	
Joel Perry	Holly	E
Drew Eggelston	Holly	
Marshael Ryan	Linden	-
<u>Outfielders</u>	<u>School</u>	١
Logan Crisp	. Lake Fenton	(
Justin Norris	Fenton	J

Cody Alexander	Lake Fenton
<u>Catcher</u>	<b>School</b>
Brady Sarkon	Linden
<u>Infielders</u>	<b>School</b>
Jake Marshall	Linden
Neil Allor	Lake Fenton
Chase Coselman	Fenton
Joe Boughner	Lake Fenton

# [ Buerkel's Stats ]

Linden junior Austin Buerkel is our Baseball Player of the Year. Listed below are some of his stats from last year.

# **OFFENSE**

- Batted .388 with an on-base percentage of .492 and a slugging percentage of .485.
- Finished the season with 22 RBI and 33 runs scored.
- Stole 28 bases.

# PITCHING

- Posted a 5-4 record.
- Struck out 41 batters in 52 innings of work.
- Had an earned-run average of 2.29, while posting a WHIP of 1.27.



# David's **Dabblings**

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

# **DUMB DOOR THINGS I'VE DONE**

We all do dumb things.

Many people don't like to admit
when they've done stupid stuff.

Others don't mind.

And, of course, there are others like me who like to put their moments of stupidity into a column.

Just recently, I started to realize that when it comes to doors, I've had my share of continuous follies. It's hard to believe. It's a door. You open it, close it. How can you do that many stupid things involving doors? Somehow, I've figured a way to do just that.

The door hook The most recent involves the screen door at our front door. The screen door has one of those handles that stretches out at the three o'clock position and extends about four inches. It makes it an easy handle to grab and open the door when you have a box or 10 bags of groceries in your hands. However, recently I've figured out another 'use' for that handle. Somehow, while using the keys to our main front door, or doing whatever I find myself connected to the storm door. I try to go and next thing I realize I'm stuck to the thing. How does it happen. Somehow, I've earned the great ability to get a belt loop on my pants to hook to the door handle. It's happened at least six times (including today) in the last nine months.

Bang your head

This is one I've done twice. I'll explain the first time I did it over 20 years ago during my internship at the Muskegon Chronicle. The sports office had it's own door, and one day while opening it, I got my front leg too far in front of the door while I swung it. Well, the door hit my foot, bounced back and hit me squarely on the ol' cranium. When one is convinced he has the skull of a Neanderthal, that's not too big of a deal. The noise from the door hitting my head made a huge crack noise and everyone busted out laughing. Of course, I did too. I wasn't going to pretend it wasn't funny. Stupidity is always hilarious.

Where are those keys?

This is another that as I get older, I seem to do more each year.

When one enters their house, they usually unlock the door, pull the key out and enter the house. For some reason with each year I find myself forgetting to 'pull the key out.' It's probably happened 10 times in the last year when I've lost my keys and then found them in the keyhole.

## Watch out for the door frame!

This one was the most painful. On Friday nights I frequently find myself being the only one in the office while I work on deadline. Working on deadline can be stressful, so when I get the occasional five-second break waiting for the printer to print something, I'll usually run around the office, pick up my paper and then jump into my office door. I've also been known to take off my shoes and socks when my feet are wet from a rainy game during those nights. Well, one time I was barefooted and running to my door. I stopped, but my foot didn't grip the carpet and my left knee smashed squarely on to the corner of the metal door frame. OUCH, that one hurt. I thought I broke my knee cap for about a half-second. And for about five days, I hobbled around.

Well, that's about all of them. Next time maybe I'll discuss my mishaps with the dryer.

# Alexander's college goals come true

► Lake Fenton catcher headed to Adrian College

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

For those who know Cody Alexander, one word comes up quicker than any when his name comes up.

That word would be baseball.

Alexander loves the sport.

"I've played it since the third grade and after fourth grade that's when I wanted to get serious about it, play on the next level and work really hard on it. I played basketball through middle school, but once I was in high school I wanted to always practice baseball in high school because it was the game I love so much."

Alexander's dedication paid off. The Lake Fenton graduate is headed to the place he's wanted to play since is sophomore season, Adrian College.

"My sophomore year I visited it and I fell in love with the school and the baseball team there. I watched a game there. I liked the way the team played."

Lake Fenton varsity baseball coach Brad LaRowe thinks Alexander has made an outstanding choice.

"I think Adrian College is a great fit for Cody, not just for baseball but, more importantly, for academics. I know he is interested in becoming an athletic trainer and Adrian has a great athletic training program. He fits well as a baseball player because they are a very successful program. ... I have always referred to Cody as a baseball junkie. He loves to play this game and is very committed to it as he plays it fall, spring and summer. This is the only sport he played in high school and spends a lot of time working on his skills."

Alexander's senior season was a tough one considering a back injury forced him to miss about half of the season. However, when he did play, he batted .500 with 14 RBI and 16 runs scored in just 11 games. Ten of his 17 hits went for extra bases, with eight being doubles.

"I was struggling with it in the middle of my sophomore year, had it under control my junior year and for some reason it flared up in the offseason. I kept it under control in April, but in May I could barely walk to school. It was frustrating, but I'm glad I am getting a chance to play (in college)."

The Adrian College Bulldogs won the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association title last spring with a 21-7 league mark. The Bulldogs were 33-15 overall, earning a spot in the Division III Midwest Regional tournament.

"Cody has worked all throughout high school to get a chance to play college baseball, so he's well prepared for it," LaRowe said. "He is a student of the game, always asking how he can get better. He works extremely hard on all aspects of the game, including the mental aspect, which is probably the most important part of the game."

Alexander thanks his family.

"I want to thank my dad (Fred Alexander) for all of his hard work," Alexander said. "He's the one that plays soft toss and gives me extra batting practice. Without him, I would not be where I am right now.

"I also want to think my brother Robbie Alexander for all the time he helped out my game and all the times he played catch. Every time I got down on myself, he'd pick me up."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton graduate Cody Alexander will play college baseball for the Adrian College Bulldogs during the 2014-15 school year.



**Austin** 

**Buerkel** 

# BUERKEL

Continued from Page 16A

Now let's examine how Buerkel got better during the 2014 baseball season.

#### **BUERKEL'S HITTING**

Buerkel worked hard on changing his approach, and it appeared to have worked. The Metro League had a lot of strong starting pitchers, but Buerkel figured a way to bat .388, and reach base by either getting a hit, being walked or getting hit by a pitch 61 times in 32 games.

"I feel like I improved my plate approach, getting my pitch and taking my walks," Buerkel said.

"Two main things help at the plate first, making sure I get my pitch when I'm at the plate. The second is letting the ball travel. You want to hit the ball so much and sometimes that still happens. I try to catch the ball up front too much.



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#### \*@3D PLANES: FIRE AND RESCUE: REALD 3D (PG) FRI-THUR 12:00 4:10

\*PURGE: THE ANARCHY (R) FRI-SAT 12:05 2:35 5:05 7:35 9:55 11:05 SUN-WED 12:05 2:35 5:05 7:35 9:55 THUR 12:05 2:35 5:05 7:35 9:55 11:05

\*\*SEX TAPE (R) FRI-SAT 10:15 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:25 8:50 9:40 11:05 11:55 SUN-WED 10:15 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:25 8:50 9:40 THUR 10:15 12:30 2:50 5:10

7:25 9:40 11:55

STARTING THUR JULY 24 \*2D HERCULES (PG13) THUR NIGHT/FRI MORNING 9:50 12:05

**\*@3D HERCULES: REALD 3D** (PG13) THUR NIGHT/FRI MORNING 7:30 12:05 \*AND SO IT GOES (PG13) THUR NIGHT/FRI MORNÌNG 12:05 \*@HERCULES: AN IMAX

**3D EXPERIENCE** (PG13) THUR 7:00 9:25 12:05 \***LUCY** (R) THUR 8:00 9:15 12:05

# **CONTINUING**

\*@3D DAWN OF THE PLANET OF THE APES: REALD 3D (PG13) \*2D DAWN OF THE PLANET **OF THE APES (PG13)** EARTH TO ECHO (PG) TAMMY (R)

\*DELIVER US FROM EVIL (R) **AMERICA** (PG13) **EXTINCTION: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE** (PG13) \*@3D TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF **EXTINCTION: REALD 3D (PG13) 2D TRANSFORMERS: AGE OF** 

**EXTINCTION (PG13)** JERSEY BOYS (R) **2D HOW TO TRAIN YOUR** 

DRAGON 2 (PG) #22 JUMP STREET (R)
THE FAULT IN OUR STARS (PG13) **2D MALEFICENT (PG)** 

**BLENDED** (PG13) \*Due to movie company policies no passes are accepted No \$5 rate available. • # No \$5 TUES evening rate. Letting the ball travel and getting my pitch are two huge things the coaches taught me that have helped me a tremendous amount."

# **BUERKEL'S BASERUNNING**

Perhaps this is the most overlooked aspect of many players games, but for Buerkel it's never overlooked. Because if he gets a single, chances are he'll make it a "double" by stealing second. He stole 28 bases in 31 attempts this year. That was a slight improvement over his 26 steals in 29 attempts during his sophomore year.

"Assistant coach (Mike) Gates was our first-base coach and he'd be the first person to tell you about the pitcher's move," Buerkel said.

"This year we saw a lot of lefties. When you steal it was on the first move. Coach Gates and my dad taught us all year to align yourself on the inside of the basepath. ... You need to make sure you get a good read off of the pitcher's move. You don't steal bases on the catch, but on the pitcher by getting good jumps."

#### **BUERKEL'S PITCHING**

It was on the pitcher's mound where Buerkel probably saw his biggest change. At the very least it was the spot where he made more of an impact than last vear.

During his sophomore season, Buerkel went 4-1 on the mound, but only tossed 20 2/3 innings. He had a 1.47 earned run average. This year, he saw that workload increase dramatically as he typically was the No. 1 starter during key twinbills.

He pitched a team-high 52 innings, heading to the mound in nine games. [ Buerkel's Challengers ]

The tri-county area wasn't lacking for good competition for the Tri-County Baseball Player of the Year honor in 2014. Here's a list of some players given consideration for the honor before Linden junior Austin Buerkel was given the honor for a second straight year.

Jamie Castiglione - Fenton: Castiglione was the area's best pitcher, despite his 4-3 record. At one time during the season, the senior hurler tossed back-to-back no-hitters, and came within a hit of tossing three straight. He had an earned run average of just 1.35, and he allowed only three unearned runs all season. He struck out 87 batters in 57 innings.

Joel Perry - Holly: Perry batted .296 with 21 runs scored and 20 RBI. He also posted a 5-2 mark on the mound, while recording an ERA of 0.85. Of the 23 runs he allowed only seven were earned. He stuck out 109 batters in 57 2/3 innings.

Neil Allor - Lake Fenton: Allor batted .444 and scored 27 times on offense. He had a .557 on-base percentage.

In those 52 innings, he saw his WHIP (walks plus hits divided by innings pitch) decrease from 1.36 last year to 1.27 his junior year. His ERA was higher at 2.29, but that number was made much higher by the regional championship game against DeWitt where he allowed eight earned runs. Prior to that game, he had allowed just nine earned runs and had an ERA in the ones. He struck out 41 and walked 20. He won five contests.

"I just focused on pounding the strike zone and getting ahead in the count and throwing strikes," Buerkel said.

"Getting ahead of the batters is a huge part of your success on the mound. If you are ahead in the count, you can almost work with anything.

"I'm also lucky to be working with the best catcher in the league (Brady Sarkon). Brady blocks everything. He's an animal back there. I have 100 percent confidence to pitch anything at anytime. And I never shake anything he calls. What he calls, I throw it."

#### **BUERKEL'S DEFENSE**

Buerkel plays center field, a spot where his speed can play a huge role in the game. However, it's up to him to make that speed count, and he does just

"I think I improved a lot getting good reads off the ball and getting good jumps," Buerkel said.

"My Dad played center field in college and he works the outfielders hard with making sure you get good jumps. He teaches me something new everyday."

# **BUERKEL'S FUTURE**

With one more season remaining with the Eagles, it appears Buerkel's game should only get better.

He's playing summer ball on a team coached by Jeff Hamilton. The squad consists of many of the top players in the tri-county area.

"It's a fun team to watch," coach Buerkel said.

"They are doing well and playing against a lot of collegiate guys on teams. They (Brady Sarkon is also on the team) are seeing the best talent in our area.

"It's nice to see him have a lot of dimensions to his game."

"I try to set my goals high," the incoming senior said.

"I set my personal goal to get on base as much as I can, to get into scoring position and score a lot of runs for my team. I'm not a stat junkie. I'm all for the team. I want my success to drive the team's success. That's always been my goal."

And next season, the Eagles should be able to have an outstanding year. The entire pitching staff returns, as does most of the team.

"I think every year the bar gets lifted a little higher for us," Buerkel said.

"Obviously every year the ultimate goal is to get as far as we can get. I have no doubt that next year we will have a chance to make a long state run. With the talent and pitching we have coming back, it should be exciting. We lost two seniors and they'll be tough to replace, but we didn't lose any of our pitching and our one through fifth hitters return in our lineup. I don't see us having any lower expectations than winning a state championship next year."



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# Five ways your vehicle 'takes the heat' of summer

►When temperatures rise, so do some of your car repairs

## **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

When the summer heats up, you aren't alone in "taking the heat." Your vehicle also wreaks havoc from high temperatures. "You may start noticing these things when the temperature gets to be 85 degrees or above," said Chris Wilkinson of Wilkinson Auto Repair in Holly.

Here are five parts of your vehicle that may sustain damage during the heat, and how you can help maintain your ride this summer.

# **Tires**

In addition to the heat generated by rolling resistance and friction of your tires, summer pavement temperatures can exceed air temperature by 10 to 15 degrees. The extreme heat increases stress on tread cracks, sidewall bubbles, bald spots, etc., that could cause a blowout or disintegration of the tire, especially at highway speeds.

Tires also need to be at their best in a summer rain. "You need to have adequate tread on your tires all year 'round," said Don Whitney, fixed operations manager at Randy Wise Buick GMC in Fenton. "Otherwise, your car could get into a hydroplaning position that's very dangerous." He reminds drivers to also remember their wiper blades in the summer. "Wiper blades are the most overlooked item on your car."

# WHAT TO DO:

Have the tires inspected during each oil

change for proper inflation, tread depth and signs of wear or damage.

#### COST:

Tire replacement is about \$100-plus each, plus mounting and balancing.

# Battery

Extreme temperatures, whether winter or summer, can render your battery useless. High temperatures can accelerate chemical operation and cause its internal fluids to evaporate.

#### WHAT TO DO:

Keep the battery functioning all year 'round by keeping it clean. The terminals should be free of corrosion. If not, apply a solvent of water and baking soda with steel wool to get rid of it. Have the battery checked regularly by a professional mechanic.

# COST:

\$100-plus for new battery, plus cost of towing if you're stranded.

# Belts, hoses, cooling system

Prolonged exposure to excessive heat can cause cracks, leading to radiator failure and engine overheating. "If your cooling fans aren't working properly, you may not notice until the temperature gets up to 85 or 90 degrees," said Wilkinson. "This could cause radiator failure and overheating."

"You need to make sure your cooling system is in good working order," said Whitney. "Running your air conditioning makes your engine labor harder, and so

See FIVE WAYS on 22A





"Heat is the number one cause of failure for transmissions."

— **Don Whitney,** Randy Wise Buick GMC











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David Stolk of Clarkston guides Shane Barnette of Rose Township over the difficult rock-crawling course on Memorial Day weekend last year at the Mounds ORV Park in Genesee Township.

# Going off-road?

▶If you spend your weekends rock-crawling, trail-blazing or mountainscrambling, then you already know — going off-road can be a blast

The market for products available for upgrading your vehicle to an off-road machine is broad, but you can make the right decisions with a little research and general understanding of how your truck works in the elements.

# **Upgraded Suspension**

For off-roading, a standard suspension just won't cut it. The way a suspension system is designed can literally make or break your off-roading experience, so choose your products wisely when upgrading your vehicle.

The suspension modifications you make to a vehicle used only for offroading will be different than ones



you make to a vehicle you still need to use for common commuting. In general, the stronger and tougher your spring and shock setup will be offroad, the bumpier and rougher it will ride on-road.

In addition, suspension lifts are available in various heights, purposes and configurations, and all should be guided by the amount and type of off-roading you plan on doing.

# Off-road tires

Tires are vital to the off-roading experience. The point of transfer from your truck's power to the dirt, tires need to be the right fit for you to truly enjoy your ground-pounding experience.

See OFF-ROAD on 22A



# Tow rating controversy

Truck manufacturers are proud of the weight that their products can tow — so much so that these tow ratings have become the centerpiece of their marketing and advertising in many cases

#### By Derek Price and Joe Szynkowski Green Shoot Media

There's just one problem: the numbers they boast about in TV commercials and magazine ads can't completely be trusted because every manufacturer uses a different method to come up with their ratings.

That means it's not an apples-toapples comparison. When each company uses its own testing method, it's likely for them to pick one that presents its own truck in the best possible light.

If buyers want a consistent, reliable way to compare the actual towing capability of different trucks, though, there's no way to do that unless every truck is tested using the same criteria, under the exact same rules and conditions.

That's not happening right now.

# A solution: J2807

To fix this problem and give buyers a reliable way to compare truck capability, the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) has developed a standardized towing test called J2807.

Getting the manufacturers to agree to use it hasn't been so easy, though. While the manufacturers say they're all on board, only Toyota has started using this standardized testing method to report towing numbers to potential buyers.

# What is J2807?

The SAE standard, "Performance requirements for determining towvehicle gross combination weight rating and trailer weight rating," is known as J2807.

A large component of J2807 is how a laden truck climbs a grade such as the Colorado River's Davis Dam. Tow vehicles need to climb the grade, a 3,000-foot run over an 11.4-mile stretch of Arizona State Route 68 southeast of Las Vegas. Vehicles can also undergo testing at an equivalent simulation.

# The launch

On an incline that rises 12 feet for every 100 feet of horizontal distance, the tow vehicle must also be able to move 16 feet from a standstill five times within five minutes. The SAE states that the launch must be in the uphill direction, both forward and reverse.

# The weight

J2807 requires that vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 8,500 pounds must carry a 150-pound driver and a 150-pound passenger. Vehicles above 8,500, states SAE, should add an extra 100 pounds of equipment, while if the driver is heavier than 150 pounds or carries more gear, you should deduct that extra weight from the maximum towing figure.

There are more specific and detailed rules, but the bottom line is this: If all truck brands followed the J2807 procedures, buyers would have more consistent information with which to make their decisions

## Will it take hold?

While many truck-market watchers were optimistic that J2807 would help to standardize these towing figures after it was introduced, so far it hasn't reached its goal. Until all the manufacturers start abiding by this consistent set of measurements, their reported towing numbers should still be viewed with some degree of skepticism.

The reasons it hasn't been adopted industry-wide yet are varied. Some people speculate that the reported tow ratings for some trucks are going to drop precipitously under the J2807 rules.

If you ask the manufacturers about it, their response is usually simpler: They don't want to adopt the stringent J2807 standards if their competitors are going to continue using test methods that are presumably more favorable to their particular offerings.



The Society of Automotive Engineers has developed a method of consistently rating the towing capability of pickups, but not all the manufacturers are using it yet.



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21A

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# **FIVE WAYS**

#### **Continued from Page 19A**

does towing a camper or boat or driving in stop and go traffic."

#### WHAT TO DO:

Have the hoses and belts checked regularly, plus regular oil changes according to your car's maintenance recommendations. Also, have the cooling system pressure tested for leaks, then flushed and filled regularly.

#### COST:

\$300 to replace belts, hoses, cooling system.

# Paint and upholstery

Constant, direct sun exposure can damage your vehicle's clear coat and cause paint, rubber and plastic trim to fade, crack or peel. High temperatures inside the car can cause the dash and upholstery to fade, dry out and crack.

#### WHAT TO DO:

Protect your car from oxidation, bird droppings, acid rain and other contaminants, as well as sun damage. Waxing

MONTH



your car on a regular basis also helps protect it from the elements.

\$2,000 minimum for professional, factory-finish paint job.

# Transmission

Your car's most critical component is under increased stress in a hot summer. Its complicated network of parts is subject to failure if overworked or not properly maintained.

#### WHAT TO DO:

Keep on top of scheduled maintenance, including fluid and filter changes every 20,000 miles. For the everyday driver, keep unnecessary cargo out of your vehicle, which can build up and add taxing weight.

#### COST:

\$3,000 for replacement.

# OFF-ROAD

#### **Continued from Page 20A**

Size, tread design, fit and aspect ratio are all factors to consider when equipping your vehicle with tires. And if tires are your first purchase for upgrading your truck to off-road ready, consider having a plan for the rest of your modifications.

Tires have a big impact on getting the most out of that specialized suspension system or engine upgrade.

#### Skid plates

There are many obstacles out on the trail — some more dangerous than others. Safe off-roading takes common sense and knowledge of the area you're exploring. It also requires a protected vehicle.

Skid plates are a great way to prevent damage to your truck's most vital components, including your gas tank, transmission, under carriage and U-bolts. Most adhere directly to the frame for easy installation.

Stainless skid plate kits can provide optimum protection without adding a lot of extra weight to your vehicle.



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Customer must qualify for all applicable rebates and must finance through Chrysler Capital. 24 month lease with 10,000 miles per year-pricing includes all taxes, title & license transfer, and doc fees. \$2,000 due at signing. Must take delivery by 7/30/2014

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I have a '97 Chevorlet **Blazer. When I hit the** brakes while driving the first few times they work fine, but then they go all the way to the floor and make a beep noise. It doesn't need brakes though. What could this be? - Kim

Kim, This sounds like you may have a bad master cylinder or anti lock brake problem. First make sure that your brake fluid is full then test the master cylinder with the vehicle turned off. Pump the pedal until it is high and firm. Hold steady pressure on the pedal to see if it fades slowly to the floor. If it does and you are not loosing brake fluid, I suspect the master cylinder. If not, you may want to have it diagnosed at a repair facility. Other problems could be binding caliper pins, brake pads and/ or misadjusted rear brake shoes.

Do you have a question that you would like to have answered? E-mail it to me at: askthemechanic@wilkinsonautorepair.com



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# What's the temperature inside your vehicle?

You may be surprised to find out how high temperatures can soar within the interior of a car during a hot, sunny day. Below are two charts showing how the temperature rises inside your vehicle. One chart shows the temperature after 20 minutes and the other shows results after 60 minutes, both with varying outside air temperatures.



It is important to note that the outside temperature does not have to be hot in order for a car to become an oven-like death trap. Even temperatures considered mild can lead to death during an extended period of time. After just one hour of 70 degree weather, the inside temperature in your vehicle can climb over 40 degrees, reaching 113 degrees.

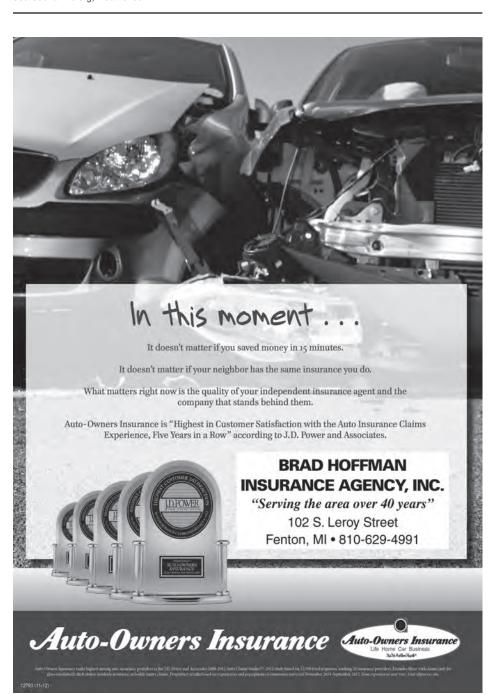
# Estimated vehicle interior air temperature (F) 20 MINUTES ELAPSED

Outside	Inside
70°	99°
75°	104°
80°	109°
85°	114°
90°	119°
95°	124°

Sources: avma.org, weather.com

# Estimated vehicle interior air temperature (F) 60 MINUTES ELAPSED

Outside	Inside
70°	113°
75°	118°
$80^{\circ}$	123°
85°	128°
90°	133°
95°	138°





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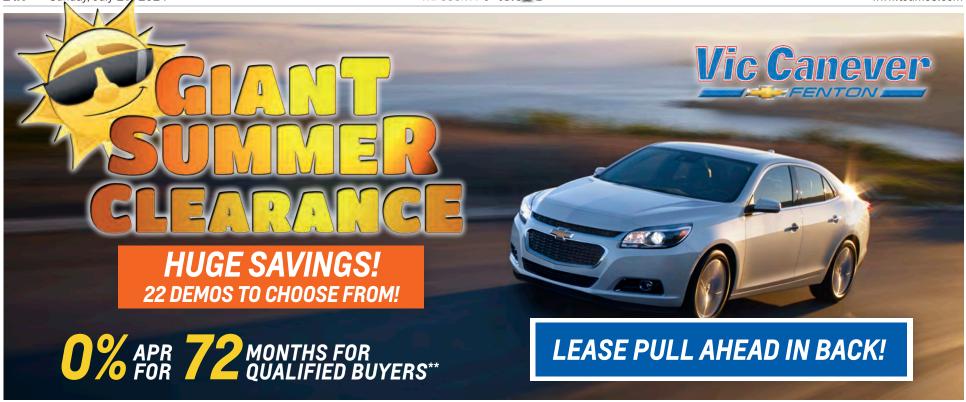
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