FENTON VILLAGE PLAYERS, 3A

Coming soon to Fenton: 'Shrek' the play



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LOCAL INSURANCE EXPERTS ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS, 14-17A

Their answers could save you money, and headaches





Weekend **SUNDAY EDITION**

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014

2012 & 2013 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

tctimes.com

VOL. 21 NO. XXX

ff There is no better example of liberalism killing America than



the deeply disturbing image that now dominates Linden's downtown.

LL Good art is supposed to be metaphorical and subjective, not the same old sappy crappy. The mural is here to stay so quit whin-

LLI, for one, am very glad that New



Moon Visions will no longer 'Be Closer to us.

LLI know my dog is cute, but you really should say something before just reaching out and petting him. 'Hey, mind if I pet your dog' would work great. Thanks."

66 Has anyone else noticed the proliferation



of deer running all over town? I see them day and night.

Can anyone tell us taxpayers one benefit we received for the several hundred thousand dollars spent with the marketing firm? I didn't think so. What a waste.'



66 As a practicing psychologist I can state that no one is born with an anomalous sexual preference. Circumstances during the formative childhood years are the basis for all abnormal behavior, including homosexuality. ""



Know what you are voting for on Tuesday, Aug. 5

Primary election features governor, local races and proposals

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

It pays to be an informed voter. Aside from watching TV ads that have

candidates boasting why they should be elected and why their opponent should be ignored, voters can

PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, Aug. 5 Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

look to their Secretary of State office and the League of Women Voters for information on the upcoming Primary Election on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

These races are partisan, which means you cannot split your votes between Democrats and Republicans. Doing so will spoil your ballot. If there are mul-

tiple candidates in one political party, the Democrat See PRIMARY on 6A

How much are our local elected officials paid?

►You'll be surprised how little officials make, and what they really do for a living

By Yvonne Stegall ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

While mayors, council members and other elected officials may make the big bucks in some bigger cities, not all elected officials can make a living on their wages. Some make far more than others do, and some make enough to set them on the poverty level, which is why most of them have a "day" job.

It's time to get to know a few of the elected officials here in the tri-county area; why they do what they do, and how they make a living outside their municipal positions.

Fenton Township

In Fenton Township, the elected officials get their salary plus a vehicle allowance. Supervisor Bonnie Mathis is the highest paid at \$33,333 base pay per year. Clerk Robert Krug and Treasurer, John Tucker make \$12,100 a year — a See PAID on 8A

I love being involved in the community and being able to help out whenever I can. 77

Pat Lockwood Fenton City councilwoman

Body of missing fisherman found



Rescue workers in a Fenton Township Fire Department search boat and waverunner search for James Lehmkuhle on Lake Fenton Wednesday morning. Lehmkuhle had been missing since Tuesday night, prompting helicopter searches and lake and road closures. His body was found a little before 1 p.m. on Thursday by Michigan State Police using side scanning equipment.

Longtime Moose Lodge member from Flushing found in 43 feet of murky water

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton Twp. — The body of 61-year-old James Lehmkuhle of Flushing was found Thursday afternoon in 43 feet of water northeast of Cases Island in Lake Fenton, according to Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz.

Lehmkuhle, who had been a member of the Fenton Moose Lodge since the 1980s, was a

regular fisherman of Lake Fenton.

His disappearance came to light when a resident on Mantawauka Drive, just east of the Moose Lodge, called 911 Tuesday

See FISHERMAN on 10A

The cost of higher education in Michigan

▶ Tuition for four-year degree costs \$30,094 on average

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 Whether it's the University

of Michigan-Flint, Michigan State University or Central Michigan University, tuition is increasing for all students this academic year.

The average four-year

degree in 2014 was \$30,094, according to collegedata.com. UM-Flint's increase for the next academic year is 3.2 percent. Although modest, increases this year will add approximately \$900 to the final bill, or several months

See COST on 10A

Many public universities are raising tuition this year. State aid is increasing, however, the trend has been decreasing per student funding, putting more burden on students and their families.





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NEWSANDFEATURES

Police&Fire report

WITNESSES SOUGHT IN HIT AND RUN

On Tuesday, July 22, at about 4:10 p.m. a Michigan State Police trooper was dispatched to a hit and run injury crash on Clyde Road just west of U.S. 23, in Hartland Township. A 58-year-old Howell man was bicycling eastbound on Clyde Road when another eastbound dark blue extended cab pickup truck with a white and red trailer struck him. The bicyclist sustained injuries and was transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township by Livingston County Ambulance The unknown truck driver left the scene without stopping and witnesses reported that the driver of the pickup was last seen entering northbound U.S. 23. The crash remains under investigation by the MSP-Brighton Post. Anyone who may have information regarding the pickup driver is asked to call the Post at (810) 227-1051. Troopers were assisted at the crash scene by Livingston County EMS and the Hartland/ Deerfield Fire Department.

See POLICE on 20A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

(Above) The cast of fairytale creatures in Shrek the Musical rehearse the song "Freak Flag," at the Fenton Village Playhouse Tuesday evening. Up front is Jonathan Smith as Pinocchio, and Carrier Boeger-Hayes as Gingy. This is the first year the rights to the play have been available for the small stage. (Below) Andrew Forsyth, 17, is playing Big Bad Wolf in Shrek the Musical.



PLAY DATES AND TICKET INFORMATION

Dates: July 31- Aug. 3 and 8-10, and 15-17 **Rating**: PG

Synopsis: Join Shrek, our unlikely hero, and his loyal steed Donkey as they set off on a quest to rescue the beautiful (if slightly temperamental) Princess Fiona from her tower guarded by a firebreathing, love-sick dragon. Add the diminutive Lord Farquaad, a gang of fairytale misfits, and a biscuit with an attitude, and you've got the must see musical comedy — SHREK THE MUSICAL! **For tickets:** go to fentonvillageplayers.org, they

Coming soon to Fenton: 'Shrek' the play

► Green ogre to grace local stage starting July 31

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton — Although Tuesday was not a dress rehearsal, various bits of tell-tale artifacts provided evidence of the world they're creating at the Fenton Village Playhouse.

Lord Farquaad's tiny shoes and an angry sign with a green ogre warning possible visitors to go away are evidence that on Thursday, July 31, "Shrek" will open at the Fenton Village Playhouse.

Director Rick Spangler said this is the first year the play is available for amateur theater, and it will be happening all over Michigan this season—so much that props will be shared between various groups putting on the play. A dragon for example, will be borrowed from a Hartland production.

See SHREK on 20A

Photo overload!

► What to do with all those images on your phone

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Most people have a digital camera these days, or even a smartphone with photo-taking capabilities. Whether we fill our digital device full of selfies or pictures of our cats and kids, sooner or later we run out of space for our photo-taking addiction and it becomes imperative that we find somewhere to unload all of these precious memories.

So what do you do with all of those images? You do not want to lose all of those moments frozen in time, so it is important to get them into a safe place for long-term storage.

Storing your images

One of the best places to save your digital images is right on your personal computer. You will want to store them somewhere with a good amount of storage space (depending on how many photos you take on a daily basis). It is

See IMAGE on 8A



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Random royal thoughts

By Foster Childs

If I Were

■ How to save America in three easy steps! 1) Let those men who want to

marry men, marry men. 2) Let those women who want to marry women, marry women. 3) Let those people who want to abort their babies, abort their babies. In a mere two generations, there will be no more radical liberals.

■ If you love someone, set them free. If they don't come back, call them late at night when you're drunk.

■ Note to all politicians: You cannot, under any circumstances, legislate integrity, intelligence or common sense into people. Quit wasting your time — and our money — trying to do so.

■ A 'suspended sentence?' What the hell kind of punishment is sentencing

someone to time in jail and then 'suspending' it? It's just another way government

'solves' a problem by using completely illogical logic. Why do we silently accept such idiocy from our leadership?

■ A politician is a person who will lay down your life for his country.

■ In keeping with its reputation of pioneering social madness, California recently passed legislation, which eliminates the words 'husband' and 'wife' from all state laws. California's statutes will now

read 'spouse and spouse' after Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill eliminating 'outdated husband and wife references' from state

■ Our country would be just fine if

everyone would judge everyone else by what they do, not what they say.

■ I can tell you from experience that common sense is not a gift, it's a curse. That's because you have to deal with everyone else who doesn't have it.

44 If you love

someone, set

they don't come

back, call them

them free. If

late at night

when you're

drunk.77

■ Those that chronically receive financial assistance from the government have traded their freedom for money. They have sold their right to live free in exchange for a monthly stipend. It's disturbing to see so many Americans surrender their freedom without a shot being fired.

■ To live is the rarest trait in the world. Most simply

Expand your vocabulary. Today's word is Askhole: A person who constantly asks for advice, yet always does the exact opposite of what you tell them.

■ America's immigration policy is a

mistake. No country in Europe grants automatic citizenship for a foreign child born in their country. Other major countries that did have it are eliminating it. Australia, Ireland, India, New Zealand and the United Kingdom have all quietly offed this asinine

> policy. We should too — immediately.

■ We are actually living in an age where morals, common sense and sanity are grounds for public ridicule, condemnation and punishment.

■ It is a simple task to find a woman who has never had one love affair. It is a nearly impossible task to find a woman who has had only

■ Be yourself? Are you kidding me that's about the worst advice you can give to most people I know.

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.

ibmissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words is and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County s. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

WHY WAS TASTE in Fenton moved to a weeknight? It was so nice having it on a Saturday night. Why 'cram' so many nice events into one night?

AS A SENIOR and veteran, it ticks me off no end when some idiots stole my candidate's sign and then poured beer over my mail and then spray painted over my address on my mailbox. I'll be watching.

I WONDER HOW the good people of Fenton would feel if prostitutes or exotic dancers entered a float in the parade. What if they showed up in 'working attire?' After all, wouldn't they just be expressing their personal sexual preferences? What is done in the bedroom should stay there.

NEW MOON VISIONS felt pressured to resign as Fenton's marketing firm, which they wouldn't have had to do if a weak DDA and Fenton board would have fired them years ago. Now the DDA and Mayor Sue Osborn want to reach out to bring them back? Insane.

YOU SOUND PRETTY stupid when you still claim Obama is a Muslim or born in Kenya. Who cares if he is a Muslim? Do you have to be Christian in order to be president or are you just prejudiced?

I UNDERSTAND YOU don't like gay

people because of your bible, but when you tell me to read it in the hopes that I will change my opinion, you are trying to force your religion on me. Keep your religion to yourself.

GLOBAL WARMING IS taking away the habitat of polar bears as the ice melts. You're all for it because we happen to be having a nice summer? Way to make it all about you.

I NO LONGER read Foster Childs' column. Fenton does not need its own literary hate monger.

 $\Box \Box$ I JUST READ the nicest piece of news that says Obama is buying a home in California. That's the one place in the United States he should end up.

WILL ANYBODY WHO receives a call from SKYPE please inform the people what that means because I have received three calls from them and nobody ever answers the phone.

VOTE 'NO' ON Proposal 1. This one is extremely confusing. Local politicians will apparently be appointed to determine the community stabilization share, the amount of how it's applied and so forth. The Citizens for Strong Communities is the pac pushing this. They have raised \$5,730,000 and have spent \$418,000. Apparently, \$5 million is up for grabs.

FOSTER CHILDS FINALLY wrote on something he's qualified to talk about; squirrels, and what problems they are crossing the road. Right up his alley.

I SAW ON this morning's news that John Kerry is meeting with another head of state. Kind of funny isn't it that our head of state never meets with another head of state.

TO THE GUY who stopped traffic at the corner of North Leroy and Dauner to spit in somebody else's face. You almost caused a bad accident.

ATTENTION ALL DOG owners, Clover Beach is not a dog park. If you cannot pick up your dog's poop, leave them at home. Leash or no leash, it's just laziness!

CASEY KASEM HAD ties to Fenton. He built a beautiful brick ranch home for his mother. For Casey's sake, put down your electronics and clean up your mess. You know who you are.

WELL, IT'S GOING to take many years to get the respect back that we had with our friends and allies. They certainly don't respect Obama, and with good reason.

EVERY SINGLE PERSON I spoke to is aghast at the new mural in downtown Linden. It is completely inappropriate for our community. It makes Linden look silly. I will gladly buy the paint to paint over it.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

street talk

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Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

What do you think the salary is for the mayor in Fenton or Linden?



"He probably makes \$150,000. I think that is too much."



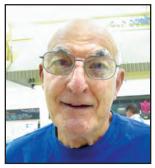
"\$120,000. I think that is a fair salary for a mayor."



"\$106,000. That's about the average salary."



"\$50,000, if it's a fulltime position. I think that is fair."

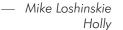


"\$45,000, because that seems like an average salary."



for the amount of work they do. I would guess \$80,000 to \$85,000."

Leonard Kaninski Tyrone Township





 Jerry Sheyachich Fenton

Kim O'Leary Deerfield Township

Jesse Abraham Fenton Township

A first at Lake Fenton schools — mother-daughter teachers

re Elementary

► Daughter beats out 450 applicants for first-grade position

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton — When Patti Sabourin

started her teaching career at Lake Fenton, she began at West Shore Elementary. Her first year there she found out that she was pregnant. Then along came Katie. Patti raised her daughter to believe she could be anything she wanted to be, and she pushed her to explore different career paths other than being a teacher. It is not that Patti does not love what she does; it was that she knows the difficulties that come with becoming a teacher.

Katie Sabourin grew up knowing that the one thing she wanted to do for a living was to be a teacher, even with the warnings from her mom. She dedicated herself to making her dream come true of becoming a teacher.

She loved the difference that teachers can make in the lives of their students, and the ability to be a creative force and explore the joys of learning. Katie dedicated her college career to becoming a teacher once she was done, and she definitely did something right.

Katie graduated from Hope College

in Holland in May of this year, so it meant a lot to her to find teaching work quickly, and at a school that she grew up in. She has a degree in special education, but she did her student teaching in both general education and special

education.

While there were many applicants seeking a teaching position at West Shore, Katie managed to snag the job without the help of her teaching alumnus mom. She went through an intense interview process that included two rounds of interviews; a panel interview and a teaching lesson.

Katie will be teaching first-grade at West Shore starting this school year. Katie's mom said that, "It's amazing and we are grateful for the opportunity for her to work there." She added that Katie "has a passion for it," in regards to being a teacher.

It looks like Katie will be a great asset to the team at West Shore Elementary, and a role model for

the children she teaches. West Shore Elementary Principal Sonya Shaughnessy said, "There were over 450 applicants for the position. We have the best of the best with Katie Sabourin and Joseph Rohen on board at West Shore."

The openings became available due to movement within the District."

Host an Exchange Student Today! (for 3, 5 or 10 months) Make a lifelong friend from abroad. 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 Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. parents, as well as couples with or without children, family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his may host. Contact us ASAP for more information or to American high school. select your student. Call Teresa at 616-560-1893 or

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Call (248)328-3106 or fax (248)328-3145 – www.has-k12.org

There were over 450 applicants for the position. We have the best of the best...at West Shore. 77

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I YVONNE STEGALL

Lake Fenton teacher Patti Sab-

ourin (left) poses with her daugh-

ter Katie, who was just hired as a

first-grade teacher at West Shore

Elementary.

Sonya Shaughnessy
West Shore Elementary principal

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Private mailboxes provide a safe, secure place to receive mail, packages

▶The UPS Store sends e-mail and text alerts to mailbox customers

Have you ever wondered who would pay to have private mailbox services when mail delivery is free? With personal mailbox services from The UPS Store, there's no need to wait at home (or anywhere else for that matter) for a package delivery or risk having valuable shipments left on your doorstep.

The UPS Store can receive packages from any carrier and hold them in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience. As an additional advantage, mailbox holders have the option to receive notifications, via e-mail or text, alerting them that their packages have been received, eliminating unnecessary trips to the center. For small-business owners, The UPS Store provides an actual street address for their businesses, which conveys a more professional touch, and if they're running a business out of their home, they don't have to give out their home address.

"Our 24-hour access mailbox services are a convenience that more general and small-business consumers are discover-

ing," said Les Beare, The UPS Store owner. "They like the fact that we provide them with a street address, not a P.O. box number, as well as the option to receive an e-mail or a text alert when they have a package waiting," he added.

The UPS Store also provides a package only option for customers. "Package only is a great service. We can receive most packages a customer is expecting one-time or on a regular basis, without the need to purchase a mailbox," says Beare.

Other mailbox service options include mail holding and forwarding for snow birds or travelers—The UPS Store will hold your packages in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience or forward them to you, wherever you are.

In addition to domestic and international shipping, The UPS Store offers full-service packaging; digital printing and online printing; black-and-white and color copies; document finishing (binding, laminating, etc.); printing services (business cards, letterhead, rubber stamps,

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etc.); notary; custom crating and shipping for large items (furniture, artwork, motorcycles, etc.); mailbox and postal services; office and packaging supplies; and more.

The UPS Store located at 17195 Silver Parkway is offering customers 3 months free with a 3 month mailbox agreement (new boxholders only, with this ad). For more information, call 810-750-2920 x 3 or visit us at www.theupsstorelocal. com/3351.



PAID ADVERTISMENT

PRIMARY

Continued from Front Page

and Republican candidate who wins the Aug. 5 election will move on to the General Election in November.

ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters, a

nonpartisan political organization,

encourages informed and active

participation in government, works

to increase understanding of

major public policy issues, and

influences public policy through

education and advocacy. For

details, go to the organization's

website, lwvmi.org.

The Michigan Secretary of State has a vast amount of voter information on its website, Michigan. gov/vote. If you have any doubt as to candidates in your area, local and statewide proposals, polling locations and times, you can input your name, birth month and year, and zip code, and a sample ballot will appear for your review. You

can also look up your individual ballot by inputting your driver's license information.

The League of Women Voters has produced an online Voter Guide for the August 5 Primary Election. In many areas,

WIFI **ACCESS**



810-433-6800

county and local candidate information and proposals are available as well. Click on VOTE411.org, type in your address, and your ballot information will appear.

The governor's race has Republi-

can Incumbent Rick Snyder campaigning against Democrat Mark Schauer. Since they both are running unopposed for their political party, both will advance to the General Election in November.

Michigan's U.S. Senator race includes Republican Terri Lynn Land and Democrat Gary Peters. They both are running unopposed for their

political party, and both will advance to the General Election in November.

Residents in the tri-county area will also be voting on their state senators and state representatives, as well as county commissioners, and delegates.

Michigan voters will cast their ballot on a statewide proposal (Proposal 1),

which would reduce the state use tax and replace it 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.

Voters in the Holly Area Schools district will also be voting on a building and site sinking fund tax levy. The estimate of

POLLING LOCATIONS

Fenton City

St. John Activity Center 600 N. Adelaide St. Fenton

Fenton Township

Lake Fenton High School 4070 Lahring Road, Linden

Holly area

Holly High School 6161 East Holly Road, Holly

Linden City

Faith Baptist Church 4518 Silver Lake Rd, Linden,

Argentine Township

Argentine Township Hall 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden

Tyrone Township

Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church 10235 White Lake Road, Fenton

the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2014 is approximately

\$907.116.

Genesee County residents will also be voting on the Senior Services millage renewal and the Mass Transit Authority (MTA) renewal. Oakland Coun-

ty residents have a mass transit millage renewal, as well.

Remember to vote on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOT

Absentee ballot procedures and deadlines are the same throughout Michigan. Some key points are:

- Ballots can be requested and processed by mail or in person.
- Voters applying for an absentee ballot in person must show photo ID.
- Only the voter can pick up his/ her own ballot in person (i.e. you can apply for and pick up a blank ballot for yourself, but you can not pick up one for your spouse).
- Any person residing in the same household can return a voted ballot in
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail or to take a ballot home is Saturday, Aug. 2, 2014 at 2 p.m. (Fenton Township office is open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday for that
- The deadline to vote an absentee ballot in person is 4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4, 2014, however the ballot must be voted at the clerk's office (cannot be taken home).
- Any absentee ballot returned before the close of polls (8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2014) will be processed.
- Absentee ballots must be returned to the Clerk's office, not at the polls.
- Voters who receive an absentee ballot but decide to vote in person may surrender their ballot at the polls and vote in person.

"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

"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

Treasurer

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* Supervisor

'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

DR. HANK THE PRESENTATIVE A7TH DISTRICT • LIVINGSTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN

For a list of candidates

in the tri-county area

as well as local and

statewide proposals,

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LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE:

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Michigan Education Association of Livingston County

Michigan Ground Water Assoc. Michigan Harness Horseman Association Michigan Milk Producers Assoc. Michigan Township Association (MTA-PAC)

Michigan Veterinary Medical Association PAC

Mike Murphy, Livingston County Undersheriff

Brian Jonckheere, Livingston County Drain Commissioner



Dr. Hank Vaupel endorsed by State Senator Joe Hune and State Rep. Cindy Denby



Hartland Township Treasurer, Kathy Horninរូ endorses Dr. Hank Vaupel



Absentee ballots are available now at your local clerk's office



LEGISLATORS' KEY VOTES **OF THE 2013/2014 SESSION**

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. While the Legislature is on a summer break from voting, this Roll Call Report, released on Friday, July 18, summarizes key votes of the 2013-2014 session.

House Bill 4668: Increase hunting and fishing license fees

To increase hunting and fishing license fees, and revise the fee structure. The cost for a resident to hunt deer would go from \$15 to \$31, and the minimum fishing license cost would increase from \$15 to \$26. The House Fiscal Agency reports this would extract an additional \$19.7 million annually from sportsmen. This was one of several fee increases enacted in connection with setting state spending levels for the next fiscal year.

Passed 72 to 36 in the House State Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)

□ YFS Passed 24 to 14 in the Senate State Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) 🔀 YES 🗆 ŃO

State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) ☐ YES 🔀 NÓ

House Bill 4664: Allow pension double-dipping by some "retired" prison workers. To repeal a Sept. 30, 2013 sunset on a 2012 law that "temporarily" allowed retired prison employees to simultaneously collect pension benefits and a regular paycheck for going back to work in a prison. Under current law, prison guards can retire and begin collecting pension checks as young as age 51 in some cases.

Passed 58 to 51 in the House State Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) X YES

Passed 20 to 18 in the Senate State Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) ☐ YES

X NO

State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) X YES □ NO

House Bill 4813: Establish procedures for dissolving fiscally failed school districts. To establish criteria and procedures for dissolving a school district that has become so financially unviable that it can no longer educate students, and for attaching the failed district's territory to one or more nearby school districts. The bill was introduced after the Buena Vista and Inkster school districts reached this state shortly before the end of the 2012-2013 school vear.

Passed 58 to 49 in the House State Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) X YES □NO

Passed 20 to 18 in the Senate State Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) □ YES XÑO State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County)

X YES

House Bill 4529: Establish and impose minimum indigent defense standards.

To establish statewide standards and accountability measures for court-appointed attorneys who represent indigent criminal defendants, and establish a process by which all counties in the state would be required to conform with the standards. The bill authorizes state grants to counties to cover increased costs.

Passed 101 to 6 in the House State Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) X YES INO

Passed 33 to 4 in the Senate State Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Genesee County) XYES NO

State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) X YES □ NO

Senior Citizens millage up for renewal

Let It would be hard

to imagine what

like without this

center, even for

Loose Center executive director

one day. 77

Carl Gabrielson

our area would be

to \$170,255.

► Loose Senior Center dependent upon passage for continuation of services

If you think your vote in the Aug. 5

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Primary Election doesn't count, just ask Carl Gabrielson, executive director of the Loose Senior Center in Linden, how

The Senior Millage is up for a renewal of .7 mills for 10 years for senior citizen services for Genesee County seniors age 60-plus. The current

important this election is.

millage runs now through Dec. 31, 2015. "The Genesee County Commissioners are taking a proactive approach to

passing this renewal by putting it on the August primary ballot," said Gabrielson. "Hopefully, it will pass, and the renewal will extend from 2016 to 2026."

Gabrielson puts faces and numbers to the importance of this millage for the tri-county area. "Loose (Senior) Center serves more than 4,500 people age 50plus in a 12-mile radius. There's a core group of about 1,700 people who come in here all the time, doing a full range of activities from fitness classes to computer classes, monthly workshops and more. There are also people under age 50 who use our recreational services like pickleball, rental of our facilities for weddings and other special events, etc. It would be hard to imagine what our area would be like without this center."

Calendar of

2014 Hero Foundation Golf Outing

Four-person scramble takes place at Heather Highlands Golf Club, 9028 East Holly Rd. in Holly on Saturday, Aug. 23. Sign-in is at 8 a.m. and shotgun start is at 9 a.m. Scramble is \$95 per person, or \$35 for dinner only. The Hero Foundation is a nonprofit organization and all proceeds are donated to The Hero Foundation, which goes to local families struggling with cancer. For details about the outing or for sponsorship opportunities, contact Al or Terri Knake at (248) 674-0051 or (248) 214-2316, Katie Larsen at (248) 840-0238 or Jason Knake at (586) 258-8135 or allanknake@att.net.

SCAN FOR MORE BUSINESS LISTINGS



Loose Senior Center operates with approximately a \$325,000 annual budget. Its two main revenue sources are the Southern Lakes millage funds, which bring in \$72,000 annually and the Senior Services Millage, which amounts

> "You can see the importance of these two budget figures in our annual budget," said Gabrielson. "Without them, we'd be in a dangerous situation to run a building of this magnitude while being able to maintain our staff and services."

Loose Senior Citizen opened the doors to its newly rebuilt facility on Dec. 20, 2013, after a fire all but destroyed the building on Sept. 30, 2011.

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IMAGE

Continued from Page 3A

a good lesson to learn to save your images from your phone or digital camera every day, or at least as often as possible. You want to make sure that you do not lose something important like your teenager receiving their high school diploma, or your baby walking for the first time.

Some computers come with built-in card readers, where you can just pull out the memory card (SD card) from your digital image device and upload to your computer. If you have a WiFi enabled device, you can send them directly to your email or even Facebook, for online storage.

These days, there are many online places you can save your images, in the "cloud." Some great online cloud storage sources include Dropbox, Flickr and rackspace. By using your cloud, sharing options for your images will also instantly be available to you on whatever Internetconnected device you are using.

Terry Green at Billmeier Camera in Fenton suggested, "External hard drives are good, the cloud, CDs or DVDs — but the best way to preserve them is to print them. No other way is as tried and true as prints are.'

Keeping your images safe

One of the most important things to do when it comes to doing anything in cyberspace is always to have a backup. Save your images to a disc, or onto a thumb drive. Take the time to organize your images too when you have gotten them off your digital camera or smartphone. Group similar pictures together, and title them with an event or place name (like Sherry's Wedding or Trip to the U.P.). This helps to make your images searchable, meaning they will be easier

SD CARD IMPORTANCE

- Size matters There are currently three sizes of SD card. The original format cards measure 32 x 24mm. The invention of the smartphone called for smaller cards, which resulted in the miniSD format, measuring 21.5 x 20mm, and then microSD cards, measuring 11 x 15mm.
- Storage capabilities Storage comes in three types also SD, SDHC (High Capacity) and SDXC (eXtended Capacity). Before you opt for a card with lots of storage space, it is important to make sure that the device you are using can support it.
- The need for speed There are two important things when it comes to speed of an SD card — how fast the card itself is, and how fast your device can send data to the card.

to find when you want to show them off or print some of them out.

Editing your images

You do not have to be a Photoshop wizard to edit images. Some printers come with software that allows you to do quick edits, like cropping and color restoration. If you want something a little more professional, you can opt for photo editing and organizing software like the latest version of Photoshop, iPhoto, or even Picasa.

Last, but not least, your SD card matters. $Green \, suggested, ``The \, SD \, card \, is \, important$ based on the type of camera one is using. For cameras that record HD video at high speed, a high capacity card is best. For point and shoot cameras only taking stills, a standard card is fine. On the opposite end, you don't want to buy a card that a camera can't support, for example an older camera may not be able to read anything more than 2 gigs, so the card should match the performance of the device."

PAID

Continued from Front Page

little more than the amount one would make in a part-time retail or fast food job. At the lowest end in Fenton Township are the four trustees, bringing in \$110 a month.

What do the members of the Fenton Township Board of Trustees do for a living; there is an attorney, some entrepreneurs, and even a nurse in training. **Fenton City**

Fenton City council members receive \$69 per meeting plus a small lump sum that equals \$3,833 a year. The mayor makes the same thing per meeting, but gets a little more in the lump sum, coming out to \$4,508 a year.

Councilwoman Pat Lockwood, former mayor of Fenton and current council member said that she "decided to run for city council two years ago at the urging of local residents and a few councilpersons." Lockwood added that, "I love being involved in the community and being able to help out whenever I can."

Linden City

Linden's Mayor David Lossing brings home \$500 a year, and he has been serving as the city mayor for 10 years now. While the pay may seem lower than Fenton and Fenton Township elected officials, it is likely something to do with Linden's smaller population.

Linden city councilors receive \$150 per year for their service, and they get a yearly incentive of \$25 through the Elected Officials Academy (EOA), up to three levels. The Michigan Municipal League (MML) offers the EOA program. The MML is one of the oldest advocacy organizations in Michigan.

Lossing said, "We implemented this incentive program because I believe it's important for elected officials to understand their office and to learn how to govern. With the changing landscape of new laws, policies and procedures coming down from Lansing and Washington, DC, it's important to stay up to date."

Lossing's "day" job is two-fold — "I work as the director of government relations at the University of Michigan-Flint and I'm an adjunct lecturer at the University of Michigan's (Ann Arbor campus) School of Education. I started at U of M 14 years ago in the Office of State Outreach, vice president of Government Relations as an associate director. I began working at the UM-Flint campus in 2006. I've been teaching at U of M for the past six years." He will also be starting a PhD program through Indiana State University in August.

Holly Village

Information obtained from the charter states salary for Council President and members in Holly village is \$900 annually. This is the only pay they get -no added money for vehicle expenses or any added benefits.

It is obvious that elected officials serve our townships, villages, and cities because they love the people and the community, rather than doing it for money. Their jobs come with no benefits and no retirement funds. Nevertheless, they do come with the satisfaction of doing something important for the people they live with and serve.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Maxx, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois, and member of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit recently died from natural causes.

Sheriff's office mourns loss of K-9 **Unit member 'Maxx'**

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office has announced the death of one of its K-9 members, "Maxx." Maxx was assigned to the Narcotics Enforcement Team and was credited with uncovering large quantities of narcotics during his tenure at the Sheriff's Office.

In January, the sheriff's office acquired Maxx from the United States Customs and Border Protection and immediately, he became an asset to the agency. Maxx was a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois and passed away due to natural causes.

"Maxx was a natural at finding and uncovering dangerous narcotics. He conducted many tracks and drug searches during his time with the sheriff's office," said Sheriff Michael Bouchard. "He was an exceptional deputy and his presence will be missed by our agency."

While the sheriff's office is sad to see one of its own pass away, the K-9 Unit is pleased to announce that there have been two new members added to the team recently. Two Dutch shepherds named Bak and Morus have recently joined the K-9 Unit and will be deployed when necessary for law enforcement investigations.

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit is currently comprised of 14 dogs that are specially trained in bomb detection, arson detection, narcotics, fugitive apprehension, tracking, and property recovery. In 2013, the K-9 Unit responded to 1,938 requests for police service throughout Oakland County.

A LOOK AT MAYORAL WAGES ACROSS THE U.S.

This is a look at what the mayors of the biggest cities were paid for their services in 2007:

New York City, NY	\$195,000
Los Angeles, CA	\$205,661
Chicago, IL	\$216,210
Houston, TX	\$176,762
Phoenix, AZ	\$87,996
Philadelphia, PA	\$186,000
San Antonio, TX	\$3,000
San Diego, CA	\$100,464
Dallas, TX	\$60,000
San Jose, CA	\$115,000

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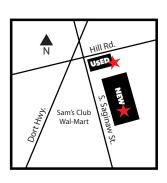


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COST

Continued from Front Page

of payments for the student paying it back after.

"We do everything we can to keep the increase as low as possible," said Jennifer Hogan, UM-Flint spokesperson. She said fixed costs like utilities increase each year. Fortunately, state appropriations are increasing to about 6.6 percent.

Choosing tuition increases "is serious business," she said. "No one takes joy into this. We know our students and their families make sacrifices. It's not something we take lightly."

MSU is increasing their tuition by 2.9 percent, CMU by 2.94 percent, and Saginaw Valley State University by 3.19 percent. These increases are modest, but will still affect a student's final bill, once the grace period for repayment ends.

SVSU Spokesperson J.J. Boehm said that in their case, per student appropriations decreased by \$1,700 between 2002 and 2012. In that time, the state's share of tuition overall decreased from about 50 percent per student, to 22 percent, putting 78 percent of the burden on families.

In any case, the increase is generally suggested by the college administration. In the case of The University of Michigan, a Board of Regents, elected by the public, will vote to adopt the increases, much like a city council taking a recommendation from its city manager. MSU has a Board of Trustees.

All university spokespeople say that increases are due to a history of declining state appropriations — though that amount is finally going up, also modestly.

Local colleges are still in better shape than public schools. When a college needs money, they can increase tuition and seek donations and grants. Schools are generally on a fixed income.

Hogan at UM-Flint said salary increases have also been kept at 2 percent in the past, when needed. She said increases

What is undergraduate college tuition, housing?

This information is from university websites, with closest comparable numbers. These do not include different associated fees, and some academic courses cost more than the basic rate, depending on the school.

The University of Michigan-Flint

In-state, undergraduate tuition	.\$383.74
Price of 12 credits	\$4,605
Room/board, per academic year	\$7,911

Michigan State University

Tuition for freshmen, sophomore	3440
Tuition for juniors, seniors\$49	0.25
Price of 12 credits	
(freshmen, sophomore)\$5	,280
Room/board\$9	,204

Central Michigan University

In-state, undergraduate tuition	\$385
Price of 12 credits	\$4,620
Room/board (standard, unlimited)	:\$8,780

Saginaw Valley State University

Tuition	\$275.10
Price of 12 credits	\$3,301
Room/board	\$8,400

Wayne State University

Tuition (excluding several programs)	.\$336.45
Price of 12 credits	\$4,037
Room/board (double occupancy,	
unlimited meal plan)	\$8,764

will be set in September.

All these universities reported making cost savings when possible, like shared purchases, and not replacing staff members who retire. Steve Smith of CMU said they haven't laid anyone off since 2003.

Universities say they have to balance cuts, with still maintaining the quality learning environment, and retaining talent to provide that quality.

FISHERMAN

Continued from Front Page evening to report that a large fiberglass fishing boat had drifted to shore by his home about 9 p.m. There were no people on board.

As the family of Lehmkuhle reported him missing, a search was initiated and the Genesee County Sheriff's Department marine patrol instructed all boaters off the lake. Volz said searchers worked until nearly

3 a.m. and then resumed the search at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Lake Fenton, which was closed to all boat traffic Tuesday night, has since been

Volz said the sonar equipment of the Michigan State Police (MSP) detected a human shape just before 1 p.m. about 200 yards northeast of the island. The water was murky and visibility for divers was about 5 feet. The sonar equipment, which was attached to the MSP boat, was dragged underneath the water. It showed the layout of the lake, the terrain and any objects that may appear.

Using the Moose Lodge as their staging area, the Fenton Township Fire Department, MSP, the Genesee County Sheriff's Department dive team, the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department dive team, the Lake Orion Sheriff's Department, K-9 One Search & Rescue out of Flint and the Fenton Fire Department worked together



James Lehmkuhle

and worked from a grid to conduct the search. In all, about 40 rescue workers were a part of this search, said Volz.

In addition, the K-9 One Search & Rescue workers searched the perimeter of the lake, state police helicopter conducted several aerial searches and Fenton City firefighters checked shorelines.

Volz wanted to express his condolences to Lehmkuhle's

family who were on scene the entire time and appreciation to the Moose Lodge for providing food and beverages for all of the rescue workers and for opening up their facility as a staging area. "God bless the Moose," he said.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO The Fenton Township Fire Department search parties used Michigan State Police sonar equipment to scan the bottom of Lake Fenton while looking for James Lehmkuhle.





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Insurance CAA

Insurance can be very confusing, whether you are trying to find out answers on a life, home or auto policy. With so many details, provisions, exclusions, and addendums, it's no wonder people's eyes glaze over when they read the fine print. To alleviate some of this uncertainty, numerous insurance agents in the tri-county area agreed to answer an array of questions asked by local residents. In a simple question-and-answer format, insurance experts provide explanations in easy-to-understand language. Browse through our pages in this issue and see what your local insurance agents have to say. You might even see answers to your own questions.





Simple ways to save money on insurance costs

Over the course of their lifetimes, men and women can expect to spend thousands of dollars on insurance. People insure their vehicles, homes, health, lives, and a host of other things, and the cost of such security can be significant. Considered essential by many men and women, insurance is unlike any other product or service, as people will pay for it all the while hoping they never need it. That reality leaves many policy holders wondering if there are any ways to save on their insurance policies without diminishing their coverage.

Though insurance companies consider a host of factors when determining the cost of each individual policy, there are some ways that all men and women can reduce their insurance bills.



When looking for an agent, look for one who is knowledgeable in solving your needs and one who is professional and accessible.

- Bundle your policies. Multi-policy discounts, which many insurance companies offer to policy holders who combine two or more policies, can save men and women substantial amounts of money. Purchasing homeowners,' automotive and life insurance policies from the same provider saves consumers an average of 10 percent, and such a discount can add up to a significant amount of money over the life of your policies.
- Comparison shop. Though shopping for insurance might not be as fun as finding your next television or test driving cars, comparison shopping when buying insurance can save policy holders a significant amount of money. The cost of insurance often varies significantly from provider to

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Things you need to know before looking for an agent



Bob Reynolds



Kellianne Reynolds Auckland



Joe Resta



Joe Sly



Mike Ignash

In shopping for an agent, what should you look for?

You should look for an agent who is KNOWLEDGEABLE about providing solutions for your insurance needs, is ACCESSBILE to you, and REPRESENTS quality companies with COMPETITIVE rates. In addition, an agency that offers professional and courteous service. You should also look for an Independent Agent who represents many companies providing options when rates or insurance needs change.

What sets your agency apart from others?

Professional Insurance has over 90 years of combined experience. We represent multiple A+ Rated companies. We are proud that most of our clientele is referral based. We have a retention rate over 85 percent in the past 10 years. We pride ourselves on always doing what is best for the client. We offer all lines of personal, commercial, life and medical insurances. One stop shopping.... At whatever stage of life you are in, from families to the senior citizen, we have the solution. We do it all!

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ings for the child.

benefits to getting Life Insurance on a child?

There are a few benefits, the first is price. A young, ■ healthy child is a very affordable rate, and if the policy is kept in force, that rate will stay with them. Another benefit is if for any reason as an older child or adult they become uninsurable, such as being diagnosed with a disease, they will already have a policy in place. You can also choose a policy with a cash benefit, so it can be a form of sav-

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Auto-Owners Insurance



How do you submit a claim to your insurance company?

It is always best to start with contacting your ■ agent. We like to offer guidance through the process. Your insurance is for the catastrophic occurrences, it is the job of your agent to help you weigh the options of paying a claim out of pocket or turning it in to your insurance company. It is important for your agent to advise you of claims made versus claims paid surcharges that could apply. If you have a serious loss when your agency is closed, you may check their website. We have a claims tab with all our company after-hours claims contact information for your convenience. This service helps to expedite the claims handling process.



What sets your insurance agency apart from other insurance agencies?

First, the Peabody Insurance Agency team has de-■ cades of experience, years of education and a love for what we do. Our approach to insurance is unique; we call it the Risk Reduction Approach. We Discover what your business needs are, then we Design an insurance program to help meet those needs. Next we Implement a plan and work with you during the implementation process, and then we Continue that process. It is our goal to make you more attractive to the insurance carriers, so ultimately you reduce your risks and your costs. Our personal lines customers also benefit from our experience and advice in ways to reduce your risks and save you money.



INSURANCE

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Are jewelry and other valuables covered in your homeowners policy?

Homeowners insurance is designed to cover things ■ that are deemed ordinary in everyday life. Companies usually pick a limit for jewelry, guns, artwork, collections, etc. You need to check with your agent to see if the limits on your homeowner's policy are sufficient for your situation. You can always buy a rider to add coverage over and above what the policy allows. It is a good idea to discuss this option, because the coverages are usually broader. Please note that there is never coverage on a homeowner's policy for ATVs, boats, cars parked in the garage or anywhere else, motorcycles and tractors that are larger than what you would use to mow your lawn. If you have any of these items, you will need to contact your agent for ways to obtain coverage.



Auto-Owners Insurance

10 things you can do to control insurance costs

product options with your independent insurance agent. One of the advantages of using an independent agent is that he or she represents a number of insurers with different products and can assist customers in fitting the right product at the right price for the unique exposures you present. Keep in mind that a lower price often means inferior service and lesser coverage, possibly lesser to a greater degree than the premium decrease. Also note that this tip deliberately avoids advising you to "shop"

around" because that implies price

comparisons should drive the decision.

Investigate coverage and

Carefully consider whether increasing deductibles NOW **■ is appropriate.** While increasing a deductible can save money, it's important to do it at the right time. Don't raise the property deductible well past the point of sensible premium reduction on the theory that "it will never happen to me"...insurance purchasing decisions are often made with little regard to post-loss consequences of our current buying decisions. A higher deductible could pay for itself in 3-5 years, but it could take 7-10 years and not be a good investment. The preferred approach is to increase deductibles during good economic times when you can afford a \$1,000 - \$2,500 loss while accumulating a deductible fund that can be used during hard times if a loss actually occurs then.

Consider multiple-policy discounts. This is common advice and generally good advice. Having homeowners, auto, and umbrella policies in the company will likely save money and, perhaps even more important, will make it less likely that a coverage gap will show up when more than one insurance company is involved in a claim. Likewise, in business insurance, having general liability and auto coverage in the same insurer using "ISO-standard" or superior forms is often critical.

Ask for credits. Too often. consumers are entitled to credits for alarms, extinguishers, good student driving discounts, etc. but the agent is not aware of them. Ask your agent for a list of everything that could reasonably reduce your premium and see if you can meet those standards. A good example is how your auto is rated for use. If you're laid off from work or you've found a job closer to home, you might very well be entitled to a lower premium. Unless you tell your agent about these kinds of changing circumstances, you won't reap the benefits of reduced risk.

If you're going to drop coverages, consider dropping noncritical coverages.

Examples include towing and rental reimbursement, credit insurance, etc. Your independent agent can assist you in making these decisions. Consider discontinuing

high-risk activities such as using ATVs, jet skis, etc. Catastrophic injuries are common with vehicles of these types.

CAREFULLY consider dropping physical damage cover-■age on your vehicles. As outlined above, this is not always a good idea unless you can absorb a significant 4- or even 5-figure loss. Keep in mind, too, that as an auto loses value, the physical damage premium generally declines as well. Do not be fooled by any simple formula that says you should drop coverage when the value of the vehicle drops below "X" times the premium. You should base your decision on what you can afford to lose and, if your car was destroyed and you could not replace it, how would that affect you financially.

Weigh risk management alternatives to insurance.

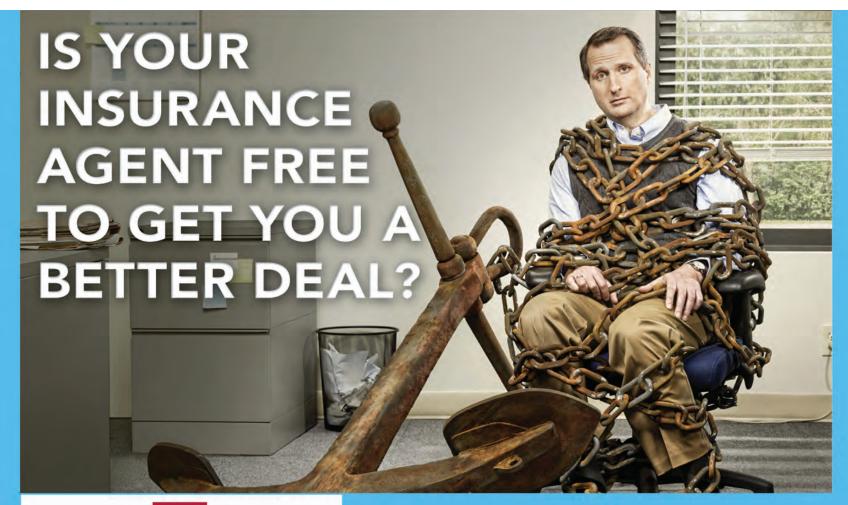
For example, you could place jewelry in a safety deposit box rather than scheduling it. Needless to say, this is probably more risky, but it's a reasonable consideration. Also, do not cut back on maintenance and loss control procedures that yield long-term benefits like the reduction of frequent losses and those often excluded by insurance policies.

If necessary, sell some possessions. Can you get by without certain autos, motorcycles, ATVs, jet skis and boats, homes, jewelry, guns, etc.? If so, you can drop the

insurance on those items. However, it is generally a good idea to not drop insurance on property until your exposure to loss no longer exists. This is especially true of any possession that has a significant liability exposure.

Seek expert advice. Start with your independent insurance agent who is familiar with you and your circumstances, not a consumer web site or publication that presents generalized, sometimes suspect, advice, nor someone who lacks the training and experience to provide sound insurance advice. Work with your agent to seek outside advice from other experts. If you are getting insurance advice from your attorney or accountant, run it by your insurance agent to see what impact it might have on your policy coverages.

Question any advice you get, even the advice in this article! It may not be right for YOU. Before you make decisions to reduce or eliminate insurance coverages, assess your risks of loss. What are your exposures? What can you lose? What exposures represent losses you cannot afford? What exposures can you retain? The quality of your decisions may be the difference between economic survival and bankruptcy. Carefully chose an insurance representative who can help assess risk with a degree of sophistication and business acumen.





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Free to do what's right for you."



Couples and individuals would be wise to do some comparison shopping when it comes to purchasing insurance. Reviewing all existing policies and eliminating duplicate coverage can be a cost-saving move.

INSURANCE

Continued from Page 14A

provider, and consumers should exercise due diligence when looking to cut their insurance costs. Comfort level with an existing insurance provider should not outweigh the savings you might earn elsewhere, especially if another provider can offer you the same exact coverage at a much lower price. You may even be able to lower your existing policy if you contact your current provider and inform them you have received a more affordable estimate with another company.

• Consider specialist companies. A handful of insurance companies specialize in particular types of insurance. For example, one company might specialize in motorcycle insurance and might be more capable of tailoring your policy to your particular driving habits, offering you discounts depending on how many years you have been riding motorcycles. However, a more general company might simply lump you into one big group, meaning you're likely to earn similar rates as novice riders without your experience. There are specialist companies offering various types of insurance, so look into such companies if you have special needs or less popular hobbies that require insurance.

• Stop paying for duplicate coverage. Many people can trim some of their monthly insurance costs by combing their existing coverages to determine if they are paying for duplicate coverage. For instance, your auto insurance policy may include health coverage, but chances are your existing health insurance will trump the health coverage offered by your auto insurance policy, meaning you're paying for the same thing twice. Examine each of your policies to determine if you are paying for any duplicate coverage, and then contact your provider to remove such items if you find them.



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Nadine Weed, AAA Michigan - Fenton Sales & Service

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get exclusive discounts at thousands of leading retailers both online and instore, in addition to hotels, restaurants, theme parks, and repair shops nationwide. AAA has a free prescription savings plan for its members whose prescriptions aren't already covered by insurance. It's accepted by 9 out of 10 pharmacies, covers everyone in your family, and is good for many pet prescriptions too! When you join AAA, you're joining a club that's committed to putting your interests first and helping you in all kinds of ways. Primary Memberships start at only \$51/yr. I welcome you to come by my office to explore all the ways AAA can help you save. Plus, when you complete a free no-obligation quote on insurance- you'll receive a complimentary 2014 AAA Road Atlas!

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Shouldn't the cost of physical damage coverages (comprehensive and collision) for auto insurance go down as the car gets older?

Most claims for damage to your auto are for something less than a total loss. The cost for new replacement body parts and for the labor to repair an older vehicle is the same as it would be for a newer model. So even though the value of the car decreases with age, the cost to repair it does not.

What is personal injury protection coverage on auto insurance and why is it so expensive?

PIP provides two major benefits: 1) Unlimited lifetime medical expenses for any claim which would be covered by No-Fault insurance, including rehabilitation expenses. 2) Work Loss – lost wages are payable for up to 3 years. Having personal medical insurance that covers an individual injured in an auto accident helps reduce the cost of the PIP, but it cannot be eliminated from the No-Fault coverages. As medical costs continue to rise, so does the cost of the PIP to insurers.

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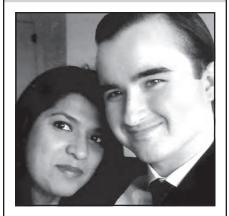




Addie Thomas, 9, of Grand Blanc caught this 5-pound largemouth bass at Grandma Karen's home on Silver Lake in Fenton. Addie is shown here with her mother, Nikki.

Social News

ENGAGEMENTS



MURLIDHARAN-MCCLURE

Tom and Pam McClure are proud to announce the engagement of their son, Jacob McClure, of Linden to Manali Murlidharan of Mumbai, India. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Murlidharan of Mumbai, India. Jacob graduated in 2006 from Linden High School. He graduated from Ferris State University in 2010 with a B.S. in Business and 2012 with an M.B.A. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois. He is employed as a Digital Analyst with MSLGROUP in Boston, Massachusetts. Manali graduated in 2009 with a B.M.S. in Business from Mumbai University, Mumbai, India and 2013 with an M.S. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University in Chicago. She is employed as a Marketing Associate with Arus Inc. of Boston. A winter wedding is being planned in Mumbai, India. The couple will reside in Chicago after returning from their honeymoon in India.

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Karen Esker



Pat Findlater



Steven Melchor (AKA Melch) 810-513-1561



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Jerry Rule 810-965-4011



Andrea Shearer 810-919-1375



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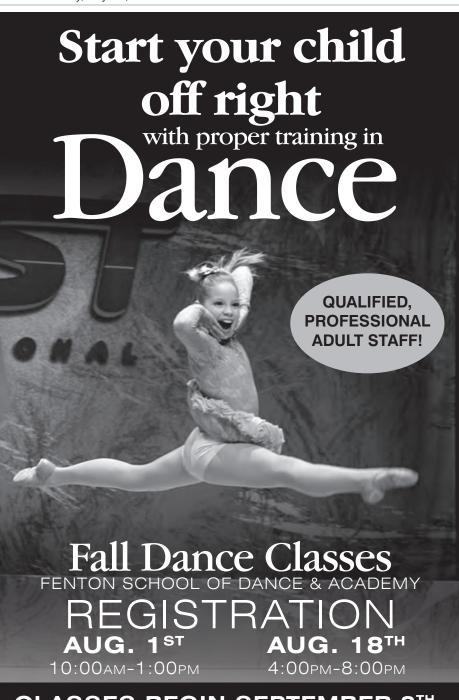


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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Costumer Karen Craner is excited about a costume detail for Leah Lynch, 16, who is playing Peter Pan, in Shrek the Musical.

Lit's new,

recognizable

and kids.77

and it's popular

with both adults

Rick Spangler Director for "Shrek," at FVP

it's very

SHREK

Continued from Page 3A

There's always excitement and energy surrounding a play in production with the Fenton Village Players (FVP).

Actors portraying Shrek, Fiona and Donkey rehearse on stage, while magic

fairytale creatures go over a big musical number in another room.

Spangler said although this is a little bigger than the last play he directed, "The Wedding Singer," "Shrek" will feature the typical community players mix of young, old, experienced and brand new.

"This is a major, major production," said costumer

Karen Craner. She isn't even the main costumer on this show — but she's still making 12-15 pieces for it.

This play will feature a lot of things people love about the 2001 Pixar movie — Steve Morgan of Lake Orion has a convincing stage voice for the green ogre, across from Jennifer Williams as Fiona. Corey Nichols' Donkey will also be familiar, while certainly making it his own.

Spangler said the signature farce and

campiness of the original movie will shine through. Ironically, the players will work hard to make it look like the play doesn't take itself too seriously.

While great care is taken with some props, others are there to remind playgoers how silly the production is supposed to be — like

a blow-up deer, rather than a life-like animal.

Aside from characters and a recognizable story, the play features extra songs that will flesh out characters that before were there for comedic purposes only. "We have a lot of really fun dance numbers," said Spangler, even a tap dance performance. "I think the characters are colorful,

they're allowed to be over the top."

The rights to this play cost approximately \$4,000, which will be recouped through ticket sales. The cast and crew are generally volunteers, but that hasn't stopped them from taking ownership of the production. "They really gelled early on," Spangler said of the 15-member cast.

In this case, it's the ensemble that drives the play, not just the lead characters, according to Spangler.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON looking for half-day kindergarten, go to Mid Michigan Parents for Half Day Kindergarten on Facebook or contact burwell48430@aol.com. It may not be too late for this fall.

AH, CHRISTIANS USING selective Bible quotes to oppose gays again. Do you really believe everything you read: 'He that curseth his father...shall surely be put to death' (Exodus 21:15), or '... whosever doeth any work in the sabbath day...shall surely be put to death' (Exodus 31:15)? Agree with those, too?

A QUOTE TO consider before voting: 'Tyranny of the Left is just as repressive as tyranny of the Right.' Please vote.

HEY TIMES, COULD you do a story on why the old Topps building is still sitting there falling apart? There are a lot of people that would like to know what the status is

POLICEContinued from Page 3A

ID THEFT

A 37-year-old Fenton woman has become a victim of ID theft. The woman told Fenton police on July 22 that she received a statement from Sam's Club indicating she owed more than \$8,000 on a Sam's credit card that she was not aware of. Two purchases were made at Sam's Clubs in Georgia and billed to her. Fenton police have advised Georgia authorities about the fraudulent transactions.

SCAM ALERT

A 38-year-old Fenton man was a victim of fraud. Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said on July 23, the man reported that he had been at a store on Owen Road when a white male approached him saying he would sell him a \$40 store gift card for \$30. The suspect had a

service counter person verify there was \$40 on the card so the Fenton man bought the card. When the Fenton man tried to use the card to cover a purchase, he found out that the card was worthless. Apparently, the suspect switched cards after verifying its validity. The suspect was described as in his mid-30s and bald.

POLICE HAVE LEADS IN THEFT

Fenton police have identified two possible suspects involving a theft from a restaurant under construction at North and Torrey roads during the nighttime hours between July 20 and 21. Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said suspects stole thousands of dollars worth of construction items that were stored outside at the new Big Cats Bar and Grill. Surveillance video from nearby businesses showed two suspects in possession of the stolen property. The case remains under investigation.



SWIMMING

Has there ever been a tie for a gold medal in an Olympic swim event?



It happened for the first time in 1984 when Americans Nancy Hogshead and Carrie Steinseifer finished tied with a time of 55.92 seconds in the 100-meter freestyle.

TRI-COUNTY RUNNER'S LOG

Run Through The Flames 5K, 10K Run

Fenton Firefighter's Charities is hosting their fifth-annual 5K walk/run and 10K run on Aug. 9 at 8:30 a.m. starting at the Fenton Fire Hall. Registration is \$25 before Aug 1 and \$35 beyond that date. For more information go to www.Fenton-FireCharities.org.

Linden Cross Country Alumni Race

The Linden cross country teams will be hosting their first-ever Linden Cross Country Alumni Race on Aug. 16 with the men's race beginning at 8:45 a.m. and the women's race at 9:15 a.m. The race will be run on Linden High School's cross country course and costs \$30. The race is open to any Linden cross country alumni who want to compete against this year's Linden cross country runners. There will be a pancake breakfast afterward for \$3 a person or \$10 a family for anyone who doesn't run. Runners eat free. For more information contact Clint Lawhorne at clawhorn@ lindenschools.org.

rimes Sports

INSIDE SPORTS: HEAD OF THE CLASS Fenton, Holly finish 1-2 in GPA in the

state



WWW.TCTIMES.COM

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014

Tour des Lacs getting down & dirty with new course

▶ Adding dirt road course to its charity bike ride

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

For 11 years the annual Tour des Lacs has evolved from a bike race, to a combination bike race and charity bike ride to exclusively a bike ride.

But during the past 11 years, one thing was always a constant the courses always involved paved roads.

That's going to change during the 12th-annual Tour des Lacs (TDL) when it's held on Aug. 2, starting near The Laundry in downtown Fenton. This year's event will include a ride that's more dirt-bike or trail-bike inclined, as there is a new 37-mile dirt road loop.

"I went out on the dirt road loop yesterday and it's gorgeous," Foerster said. "I have to say most of the dirt roads are in better shape than the paved roads.

"I did about 2/3rds of the ride and it's almost like a roller coaster. You have a nice climb up a hill, but then you have the fun going downhill. There are a lot of little creeks, and you get to see lakes off the distance."

For those who have gotten used to the paved road courses, have no fear. They still exist as well with three different paved road courses. The shortest is an 18-mile road course and the largest is 62 miles. In between there's a 36-mile course run through the back roads located in the tri-county area. The

See TOUR DES LACS on 23A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN

Cyclists from last year's Tour des Lacs begin their ride through the back roads around the tri-county area. This year's event is on Saturday, starting at 8 a.m.

'It's the best weekend of the year'

Area runners take win Great Lakes Relay

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It's demanding.

It involves running through rivers, fields, poorly marked paths and, quite frequently, runners get lost.

But for a team of runners, most from the tri-county area, there is no better running event during the year than the Great Lakes Relay.

The Great Lakes Relay is a three-day outdoor running event which teams of 10 runners race about 300 miles in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower Peninsula. Each runner competes in about two legs of the relay each day, with each leg covering about five miles. The event attracts some of the best runners in the region, including some past olympians. However, when the 2014 version of the race ended, the victors were a members from a team called Meat Train. The squad

includes past Fenton prep runners Joe Dimambro, Alex Ralston, Wes Stoody and Jesse Anderson and Lake Fenton graduate Kyle Smith. The team captain is Clarkston's Leo Foley who has Fenton roots. The team's other runners include Zac Widner, Shane Logan, Scott Mindel and Cole Sanseverino.

"It's the best weekend of the year," Stoody said. "For people who love to run hard, run a lot and love the outdoors, it's great. Frequently, you are in the middle of nowhere. Until you do this, people don't understand how much country Michigan has up north. We are on dirt roads, fields and woods and you feel there is no civilization around at all."

While teammates run their leg, the others race to the end destination with motorized vehicles.

"It's running's best gypsy caravan," Anderson said. "Everyone

has to be into running a lot, travelling a lot and roughing it. There's camping involved and the running gets to be very hard on the legs. Everyone is super friendly and devoted to fitness, so it's great to be with a lot of like-minded people. And you get to see some unbelievable scenery. You get to run next to rivers and places like Tahquamenon Falls. You finish at the beach on sand dunes. It's my favorite way to tour Michigan."

The event began in 1991 and Foley competed in his first event in 2005. Early on, he had success with mixed teams (some men and women runners), being on squads who won two years in a row, but then he created a men's only team.

"Every year we get a couple of new runners. We're always evolving," Foley said. "We are out here to compete and to win, and we've won it the last two years."

See **RELAY** on 22A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

Leo Foley runs one of his legs of the Great Lakes Relay. The event lasts three days and covers about 270 miles.



Fenton, Holly finish top in the state for academics

▶Tigers edge Bronchos for top GPA in Class A during 2013-14 season

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

During the 2013-14 girls basketball season, the Holly Bronchos and Fenton Tigers battled each other for Metro supremacy and a district championship.

In all three contests the Bronchos were victorious.

But the two area teams butted heads in another area outside the basketball court, and in this case, the Fenton Tigers came out the victors. However, finishing No. 2 won't bother the Bronchos too much either.

What was the competition? It involved team grade-point average. The Fenton Tigers captured what could be considered the state championship in Class A when it came to GPA, posting a state-best GPA of 3.866. And guess who came in second? Why, it was the Holly Bronchos, of course, with their collective team GPA of 3.850.

Both varsity coaches said the outstanding GPAs had more to do with the girls than anything.

"I don't have much to do with it, because the kids work really hard themselves. This group is so responsible," Fenton varsity coach Becki Moore said. "They'll get things in and get done whatever they have going on. Basically, they get the big picture, that

Head of the Class

The Fenton and Holly varsity girls basketball teams were 1-2 in Class A in the state when it came to grade-point average. Here's a list of the top four, with their team GPA.

1. Fenton 3.866 2. Holly 3.850 3. PH Northern 3.833 4. West Ottawa 3.828 * Linden's varsity girls basketball team was listed as an All-State Honorable Mention with a 3.430 GPA.

academics come first, and we are blessed we have that."

"We have highly motivated kids, so it's more on the kids," Holly coach David Hall said. "In all my years of coaching, we have never had a kid not able to play basketball because of academics. A lot of the kids are very motivated, and I don't think I have a big influence on the kids as the kids do on themselves and as their parents do."

Linden did well too, earning state honorable mention status in Class A, with a 3.43.

"We finished first, Holly finished second and Linden was honorable mention. That's three area schools. That's pretty awesome," Moore said. "That says a lot about the teams."

It's easy to see why the Tigers were No. 1 in the state. Ellie Cowger was one of Fenton's valedictorians and there's a good chance two other players on the team will eventually be valedictorians — Emma Brant and Emma Evo. Hannah Evo was an Academic All-State player last year.

"I think the kids in the program are doing the extra things," Moore said. "All of my seniors are at least two-sport athletes, on NHS, are on student council, volunteer for causes or have jobs. It's amazing what they are able to do and 99.9 percent of them walk in to practice with a smile on their face."

Hall said his kids don't get the study trait from him, but maybe assistant coach Casey Lombard, who was a top 10 student himself. Leading the way for the Holly girls was senior valedictorian Abby Lewandowski with her 4.0

Hall said he found out about who finished just ahead of Holly at a soccer game.

"Hannah Evo's mom was sitting near me and someone brought up grades and about Fenton being No. 1 in Class

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTO

Fenton's Ellie Cowger (front) is defended by Holly's Jenna Pepper during districts. Fenton had the state's best GPA among Class A girls basketball teams in the state last year, while Holly finished second in the state.

A," Hall said. "I thought 'They must have a high GPA' because I knew we had a high one. I checked, and sure enough she was right. They had the highest and we were second."

Hall said his players are in-

volved with a lot of activities beyond basketball. Hall said the three area Metro schools' GPAs is a great source of pride.

"It's a nice story for our community and the entire area," Hall said.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

The runners making up the winning team at the Great Lakes Relay were (from left) Alex Ralston, Wes Stoody, Jesse Anderson, Joe Dimambro, Scott Mindel, Cole Sanseverino, Shane Logan, Kyle Smith, Leo Foley and Zac Widner.

RELAY

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The terrain is tough enough, but quite often competitors get lost while doing

"The first day we got lost for an hour and 20 minutes," Foley said.

"The second day we got lost and fell back to fourth. But on the third day none of us got lost and we beat everyone by 30 minutes. The worst part is when you are lost in the woods and you don't know where to go. The last seven to eight years we've had GPS watches. They've revolutionized the event."

Foley says you never know what you might run into.

"A few guys have seen bears in the past," Foley said.

Anderson had a run involving Tahquamenon Falls.

"I had to run through rough terrain with a lot of switch backs," Anderson said. "There were a couple of swamps to run through. There are logs set up but you don't always land on them, so you are running through water."

Stoody's most interesting run involved the military.

"I was running really close to an Army base in Grayling and they had a ton of soldiers training," Stoody said. "They were doing practice movements and they were shooting off big cannons. They were shooting them while we were running. We were running down two track roads with army guys with guns. Every 10 yards or so there'd be another with a gun. They were trying to keep the area secure. It was crazy."

What keeps the runners coming back each year is the love for running.

"Last year was my first year and it made me realize I love running on trails," Anderson said. "The event itself is such a good time, and I had a better time this year. I'll always mark my calendar at this time and make it the one vacation I take every year at least. It's truly a remarkable event."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

Runners compete at one of the Wednesday Night Cross Country Race events held this summer. The final session was held on Wednesday.

Wednesday Night **CROSS COUNTRY RACES**

Here are the results for the third week of the

Wednesday Night Races held at Linden County Park.	
HALF-MILE RACE	GIRLS 14-16
GIRLS 5 & 6	1. Maya Gossett 15:19.0
1. Kendra Kuch 3:36.0	2. Madison Wabel17:04.0
2. Isabel Banks5:31.0	3. Emma Wabel19:33.0
GIRLS 7 & 8	WOMEN 50-59
	1. Connie Nunham 20:39.00
1. Ava Fahrenkopf 3:38.80	Boys 10 & UNDER
2. Paige Lefever4:17.0	1. River Meckstroth 15:13.0
3. Natalie Needham4:59.0	2. Evan Crane
GIRLS 9 & 10	3. Sean Bowles
1. Olivia Tremaine 4:00.0	4. Dillon Hamilton17:56 5. Dylan Katzenberger18:36.0
BOYS 4 & UNDER	6. Devin Meckstroth
1. Abram Larsen 6:27.0	BOYS 11-13
BOYS 5 & 6	1. Sam Cox 13:15.0
1. Carson Kuch 3:35.0	2. Kolten Steele14:45.0
2. Dillon Hamilton3:43.0	3. Chris Lafave
3. Titan Tremaine	4. Joe Faye14:50.0
	5. Justin Longworth14:53.0
4. Aidan Banks6:22.0	6. Drew Krueger15:08.0
BOYS 7 & 8	воуѕ 14-16
1. Grant Tremaine 4:32.0	1. Alex Lay 15:09.0
2 Nolan Page4:41.0	MEN 40-49
3. Vincent Loria7:47.0	1. Ken Hecht 15:02.0
BOYS 9 & 10	2. Andy Johnston
1. Patrick Hamilton 3:24.0	3. David Troppens20:22.0
BOYS 11 & OLDER	TUDEE MILE DUN
BOYS 11 & OLDER 1. Michael Crane 3:44.0	THREE-MILE RUN
	GIRLS 14-16
1. Michael Crane 3:44.0	GIRLS 14-16 1. Kaylea Biland28:59.0
	GIRLS 14-16 1. Kaylea Biland28:59.0 GIRLS 14-16
1. Michael Crane 3:44.0 ONE-MILE RUN GIRLS 5 & 6	GIRLS 14-16 1. Kaylea Biland28:59.0 GIRLS 14-16 1. Savannah Ferrara20:59.0
1. Michael Crane	GIRLS 14-16 1. Kaylea Biland28:59.0 GIRLS 14-16 1. Savannah Ferrara20:59.0 WOMEN 40-49
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1. Michael Crane	GIRLS 14-16 1. Kaylea Biland

TOUR DES LACS

Continued from Page 21A

dirt course is 37 miles.

The event's official cyclist send off is at 8 a.m. near The Laundry, but cyclists can begin as late as 10 a.m. since the event isn't timed or of a competitive nature. All the proceeds for the event are donated to the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital to support babies born with heart defects.

There are some other tweaks to this year's event. The shortest paved road course is larger and there isn't a 100mile paved run. Instead, for those feeling venturou for a 100-mile trek, the dirt road course will satisfy that craving by having cyclists repeat a large portion of the course three times.

"We bumped up the 11-mile route because by the time people were finishing it, the (end of the race) party hasn't even started," Foerster said. "Eighteen miles still seems pretty reasonable. We talked to the people who did the 11-mile course and they said they would still ride."

But the big talk this year will be the dirt course. It became a vision in Foerster's mind with a talk she had with The University of Michigan's cycling coach over the winter.

"He explained all of the rage is the new dirt road rides," Foerster said. "They are gaining huge popularity. He wanted to change the whole tour to dirt, and I was like, "Have you lost your mind?' It's the first time we are going to do it. We are just hoping to get the world out we re doing this. I think it will appeal to another group."

Just as was the case last year, the drinking stations will include an 80s party theme, as will the post-ride party. Tour des Lacs'

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impact and future goals

Over the years, the Tour des Lacs has raised well over \$100,000 to the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital for babies born with heart defects. Last year, Foerster said they raised over \$25,000. But this year, the goal is higher than ever before. Past money generated from the Tour helped support research that allowed medical students to search global genetics data, resulting in the identification of the gene which, when defective, is the cause of a certain congenital heart defect.

The next step was to observe developing hearts of zebra fish and see if an identified gene could be turned on or off, directly impacting the development of the heart muscle.

"You can see through them and see the heart chambers develop," Foerster said about the zebra fish. "You could see the heart cells developing in a petri dish. It was super amazing. This helps put the visual confidence we are doing something that's huge, and it's making an impact."

The research helped prove a theory and earned the medical team more grant money and private donor dollars. Now, the project hopes to include 100 patients in a study to identify the causes of a specific heart defect. The cost for each patient is \$700, meaning Foerster wants to raise \$70,000 during this year's TDL.

"We'd love to raise enough money to fund all 100 patients," Foerster said. "It's a pretty big goal. It's huge. We raised over \$25,000 last year and that's far from \$70,000, but that's our objective. It would totally make my day if we hit it."

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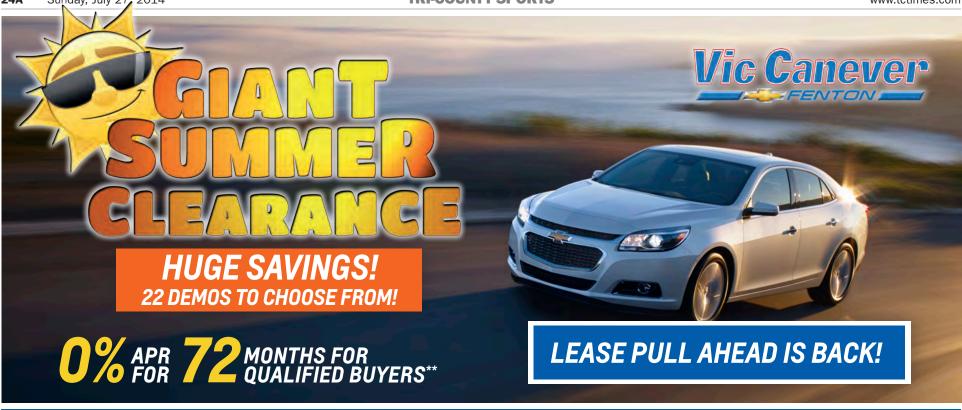
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