Another moratorium extension for Fenton?

Planning Commission to discuss medical marijuana again at end of month

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

Fenton — A familiar action took place Monday night at the Fenton City Council meeting — the moratorium on special land use for medical marijuana, such as dispensaries, has been extended.

What’s different this time, as opposed to last time, is that the Planning Commission will take up the issue at its Aug. 19 meeting and recommend it to the City Council for a vote.

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Many don’t know it’s illegal to drive under the influence of medical marijuana

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

Drugged driving and drunk driving are both cases of impaired driving. They are punishable by law and officers are not tolerating impaired driving, which risks the lives of everyone on the road. But what are the laws?

Drunk driving is the act of driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. It is illegal for a driver to have alcohol in their system and still drive. The legal limit for a driver under the age of 21 is .02 and .08 for drivers age 21 and above. It is the same for medical marijuana and drug use.

If you watch PGA golf tournaments, you are seeing a broken man who traded his family and his career for a few nights with tramps and groupies. Are all you men paying attention?

I’ve never seen such a beautiful summer in my life. The lakes, the trees, and the flowers are such a gift. Make sure you slow down and enjoy it.

Downtown oasis

Passionate gardener creates spectacular tropical gardens in downtown Fenton

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

It looks like Dow Gardens has come to Fenton. All you have to do is drive by the home of Stewart Melrose on Shiawassee Avenue across from The Laundry in Fenton, and you’ll notice a wall of giant tropical flowers that make a spectacular statement in this city landscape.

Next door at the home of his parents, Howard and Sonya, you’ll see Oasis on 9

Tropicals are my favorite, but I love everything in the garden.

Stewart Melrose
Fenton city gardener

Local twins represented at Twins Days in Ohio

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com

Every year The Twins Days Festival in Twinsburg, Ohio is the largest annual gathering of twins in the world. This amazing event takes place the weekend of the first full week of the month of August. This year there were nearly 2,000 sets of twins there competing in more than 50 different twin contests.

The Twins Days Festival is an event that is open to all twins.
The Linden community held a candlelight vigil to remember Linden High School student Josh Pacheco in this 2012 file photo. Linden schools recently held a district-wide workshop for its employees as it strives to bring more awareness to bullying and ways to prevent it.

Better awareness is district’s goal

Linden Community Schools readies entire staff with anti-bullying workshop

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

More than 50 employees with Linden Community Schools took part in an anti-bullying presentation on Wednesday. The Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation facilitated the event at Loose Senior Center in Linden.

The Foundation brought in Larry Newman and Joe Brancaccio of Newman/Stecher International. The men spent the day training the Linden staff how to deal with several issues including bullying and conflicts.

Linden, like other school districts, has had incidents of bullying over the years. After being on the receiving end of bullyinging at the high school, Josh Pacheco took his own life in 2012. An outpouring of support followed for his family and many sought to establish a better awareness and to put an end to bullying.

Kathy Hardy, a first-grade teacher at Linden Elementary attended the Bullying Prevention and Conflict Management presentation on Tuesday. A teacher for 23 years, Hardy said the school leaders are working toward bringing the district, and the community, together for better awareness.

If you want to know where bullying is happening, ask the kids. That was an important, yet basic, fact that was discussed on Tuesday.

Once these areas are known, it’s important that there be more adult supervision. Bullying doesn’t necessarily happen in the classroom, but in areas beyond the watchful eye of adults.

With her first-graders, Hardy said she wouldn’t label some of their behavior as bullying, instead she perceives it as the young children becoming more independent and testing out independent behaviors like any typical first-graders.

“We need to help them develop how to interact nicely while away from their parents,” she said. “This can be their first time away.”

Angie Kelley, a counselor at Linden High School said she gained a lot of insight at the presentation by listening to all of the other employees’ takes on situations. Group sessions brought teachers, counselors, bus drivers, custodians, etc. together for discussions. “It was positive to me. We were all sitting down and working on it together.”

One goal that the staff focused on was to make sure everyone in every building knows how to identify bullying. Oftentimes bullying can come across subtly as joking around. “One key point was — if you see it, who do you call,” Kelley said. She said it’s so important to know what to do if you observe behavior that could be considered bullying.

If any form of bullying is observed, Kelley said it needs to be reported. It can’t be addressed if it’s not reported. To start with, the incident should be reported to any staff member or by calling the hotlines at the middle school and high school. The more adults it is reported to, the faster it can be responded to.

Kelley, who is starting her second year as counselor at the high school, did not deal with any major bullying situations last year. “You hear about it by talking about other things,” she said.
SHOPPING AT THE DOLLAR STORE

Quality is the difference between a good or bad dollar store purchase

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

With the recent news about Dollar Tree buying competitor Family Dollar in a cash-and-stock deal worth about $8.5 billion, it makes people wonder why there is so much money in the dollar store business. Most people are happy to save a buck or two when it comes to shopping, but are dollar store prices really a good deal?

First, it’s important to know that not all dollar stores are equal — in the respect of cost, anyway. Stores like Family Dollar and Dollar General sell low-priced items, but they come at varying costs to the consumer. Dollar Tree, however, sells all of its items for one dollar.

Once upon a time, it seemed like dollar stores were a rare breed, but now there is one on nearly every corner. Consumerist recently did a couple articles on what to buy at dollar stores, and what not to buy. There are many items at the dollar store that are worth the trip, but not everything is a good deal and some items can actually be found cheaper elsewhere. Some items aren’t as good quality from dollar stores either, which is why people need to know what they should and shouldn’t buy from there.

A dollar store that has dollar and up pricing will be more likely to carry some name brand items that are higher quality, but those same items may See SHOPPING on 14

Quality items:
- Water and soft drinks
- Milk and juice
- Garden center plants
- Frozen food
- Baby food

Quality items:
- Medicines
- Grooming supplies
- Personal hygiene
- Essential vitamins

Quality items:
- Be sure to check before you buy
- Read the ingredients
- Check the expiration date
- Check the size of the item

Quality items:
- These are not usually marked as prime
- Cost savings are not always worth the trip
- Compare prices
- Do your research

...and what not to buy

Worst: Frozen foods
— Cheryl

Worst: Baby items
— Erin

Worst: Woman’s perfume
— Sandi

Worst: Random toys
— WORST

Worst: Toiletries
— worst

Worst: Wedding gifts
— Worst

Worst: Kids’ toys
— Michelle

Worst: Gift cards
— Michelle

Worst: Snacks
— Michelle

Worst: Sunglasses
— Michelle

Worst: Takeout food
— Michelle

Worst: Plastic bags
— Michelle

Worst: Food
— Michelle

Worst: Personal hygiene
— Michelle

Worst: Pet supplies
— Michelle

Worst: Gift baskets
— Michelle

Worst: Sunglasses
— Michelle

Worst: Glasses
— Michelle

Worst: Candy
— Michelle

Worst: Gum
— Michelle

Worst: Cosmetics
— Michelle

Worst: Christmas ornaments
— Michelle

Worst: Family pictures
— Michelle

Worst: Pen Sets
— Michelle

Worst: Lip gloss
— Michelle

Worst: Baby products
— Michelle

Worst: Candles
— Michelle

Worst: Books
— Michelle

Worst: Makeup
— Michelle

Worst: Pillows
— Michelle

Worst: Footwear
— Michelle

Worst: Cosmetics
— Michelle

Worst: Stocking stuffers
— Michelle

Worst: Nail polish
— Michelle

Worst: Baby clothing
— Michelle

Worst: Lingerie
— Michelle

Worst: Personal hygiene
— Michelle

Worst: Adult products
— Michelle

Worst: Condoms
— Michelle

Worst: Workout clothes
— Michelle

Worst: Clothing
— Michelle

Worst: Baby gear
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Worst: Infant car seats
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Worst: Baby gear
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Worst: Children’s clothing
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Worst: Baby gear
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Worst: DVDs
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Worst: Toys
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Worst: Gift cards
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The problem isn’t consumers. The problem is the use taxes that we all pay on our purchases.”

If you don’t believe me, just look around. You can prove that Obama lied about his birth certificate. You can prove that he was born in Hawaii, not in Kenya, Timbuktu, or even our great town of Fenton. The problem is where he lives and governs now — The White House.

TWO PEOPLE who complained about having their truck towed from the driveway after ‘no parking’ signs posted that you were not allowed to park there were not allowed to park. The problem is that the truck was illegally on private property and you are the victim. But you have no business voting. It’s your problem to solve. YOU CAN PROVE that Obama lied about his religion? Why, because of his name? Like Kareem Abdul Jabaar and Muhammad Ali, right? THE IRS JUST audited my tax return. It clearly asked me to list all dependents. I replied: 12 million illegal immigrants; 42 million on food stamps; 2 million in prison; 535 persons in the U.S. House and Senate. Evidently, this was not an acceptable answer. THE PROBLEM isn’t where Obama was born. I don’t care if he was born in Hawaii, Kenya, Timbuktu, or even our great town of Fenton. The problem is where he lives and governs now — The White House.

SHAME ON THOSE celebrity smokers in the August 15 issue. I was fortunate enough to have one of their successful lives, I would not smoke it away. I’m too grateful for that. They think their lives are stressful, but they should try struggling to pay bills.

I HAVE A burning question that I would like answered: How many psychics have ever won the lottery? WHILE TRAVELING NORTH on U.S. 23, Saturday, on July 9, just past Clyde Road, just before 6 p.m., I believe I saw what appeared to be a dead lion on the left shoulder of the highway. Can anyone tell me if that’s what I actually saw?

I HAVE BEEN thinking about the $180,000 to be used to renovate the library. You know when you put lipstick on a pig, you still have a pig.

YOU CAN PROVE that Obama lied about his religion? Why, because of his name? Like Kareem Abdul Jabaar and Muhammad Ali, right?

I'M DIFFERENT. I'M a woman who is a dog person, always have been. In photos of me as a toddler and small child, I was cuddling a stuffed toy dog. As a teen, I had a dog. Today, I still love doggies.

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WE HAVE PEOPLE complaining about low voter turnout in the Hot lines along with an article listing the Kim Kardashian smartphone app as one of the most downloaded. Nobody who has the Kim Kardashian app should be allowed anywhere near a voting booth. Low voter turnout isn’t always a bad thing.

BOLD? YOU PARKED illegally on private property and you are the victim? No, shame on you!

TO THE PERSON who complained about having their truck towed from the ‘empty’ lot at the Taste in Fenten. There were ‘no parking’ signs posted that you chose to disregard. Follow the rules or pay the consequence.

IF YOU DON’T know anything about the candidates or proposals on the ballot then you have no business voting. It’s not a shame that so few people voted. It’s a shame that so few people took the time to educate themselves on the candidates and issues we were voting on.

NO FOOL who voted for Proposal 1 can complain when the lost tax revenue from manufacturers is made up by raising the use taxes that we all pay on our phones, cable bills, etc. You’ve just voted for another mass transfer of the tax burden from large corporations to consumers.

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What’s the most unusual job you’ve had?

“I worked for the FBI as a fingerprint examiner. It was fun to put that on my resume.”

— Paul Lennox, Fenton

“I worked for about seven years fitting cancer patients with a prosthesis, until the company was bought out.”

— Dawn Burrell, Fenton

“I worked for a horse farm as a teenager and had to get up at 4 a.m. to go to work before school, then worked after school there until 10 p.m.”

— David Carter, Linden

“I manage a DNA-sequencing lab at University of Michigan, serving all the labs at U-M and other universities in the U.S.”

— Connie Esposito, Fenton

“I worked at a junkyard and drove a crane that cut iron, and also wrapped boats for win- terizing.”

— Dennis Wolverton, Linden

FROM THE LEFT
Clarence Page
Nationally syndicated columnist

To fight social chaos, build good neighbors

There’s a hidden side to today’s poverty debate that traditional politicians on the left and right too often overlook or undervalue: the decline in neighborliness.

My column-writing colleague Timo thy Carney at The Washington Examiner linked a decline in ‘neighborliness’ to the recent wave of stories about parents getting arrested for letting their children play alone. For example, a mother in North Augusta, South Carolina was thrown in jail earlier this summer for leaving her 9-year-old daughter at a neighborhood park while she went to work nearby.

More recently, a Port St. Lucie, Florida mom was similarly charged after she allowed her 7-year-old son to walk a half mile to a park alone.

Well-meaning people call the cops when they see a child without parents, writes Carney, but ‘neighborly adults look after other adults’ kids when the parents are unavailable.’

‘We’re arresting parents,’ observed Michael Brennan Dougherty of The Week magazine, ‘because civil society is retreating from children altogether.’

Indeed, that should concern all of us. Edmund Burke, the 18th-century father of modern conservatism, highlighted the importance of churches, trade groups, civic associations and others for providing the glue that holds a society together.

We see that glue coming apart in many of today’s social crises. For example, in the recent surge in gun violence in Chicago, police complained of a lack of cooperation from witnesses in high-crime neighborhoods.

Yet witnesses, who have had bad experiences with some police officers on one hand and with gangbangers on the other, often feel too strangled and intimidated to get involved.

The anxiety and frustration calls for more than the traditional liberal answers, such as more day care and higher wages, which are largely out of reach in today’s political climate anyway.

Taxpayers could cut out middle men and receive a full credit from their income taxes for contributions to an approved list of community-based non-profits that show a good track record of results. Ideas like that won’t solve all of our social problems, but at least they would help build good neighbors.

FROM THE RIGHT
Cal Thomas
Nationally syndicated columnist

Nixon’s resignation 40 years later

On the occasion of last week’s 40th anniversary of Richard Nixon’s resignation from the presidency, The Washington Post sponsored a reunion featuring Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the Watergate reporters who ‘brought down’ the 37th president.

In fact, Nixon committed political suicide. He thought he could get away with what other politicians had done, but forgot the rules.

Lyndon Johnson ‘stole’ the 1948 Senate election away from Coke Stevenson, allegedly by use of voter fraud. It is also no secret how Kennedy money and a little mafia influence helped Johnson win the 1960 presidential election to John F. Kennedy.

Nixon was different. While Kennedy expertly schmoozed the press and Johnson was a master manipulator and arm-twister, Nixon brooded about slights and injustices he felt he had been done to him.

Nixon, or someone on his staff, likely pre- cleared the speakers in order to avoid the potential embarrassment of one of them criticizing Nixon for not immediately ending the Vietnam War.

I found these events uncomfortable and a contrast in content and form from my own church experience. An explanation came when the secretly recorded Oval Office conversations became public and Nixon is heard asking God’s name in vain and disparaging Jews and his ‘enemies.’ On hearing the tapes, Graham expressed shock and dismay at Nixon’s language, though on one recording Graham is heard agreeing with Nixon about Jews controlling the media, a comment for which he later apologized.

Nixon defenders have always contended that he did nothing different from other presidents. Maybe, but he certainly appears to have done a lot more of it than other presidents.

Nixon was not a conservative Republican. He imposed wage and price controls, created the Environmental Protection Agency and two of the four justices he appointed to the Supreme Court — Harry Blackmun and Warren Burger — were part of the 7-2 majority vote in the Roe v. Wade case, which ushered in abortion on demand.

Still, he remains one of our most fasci nating presidents and one we can be sure historians will ‘kick around’ for at least another 40 years.
Have you seen the fireflies?

Some areas are overrun, others have none

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com

It really depends on where you live and what type of area surrounds your house on whether you have seen fireflies this year.

According to entomologist Howard Russell, MSU Extension, people surrounded by trees and wooded areas are more likely to see these flashing lightening bugs than those who live in the city, or in more urban areas.

“The woods are the perfect firefly habitat,” said Russell. “The larvae live in dead trees and on the forest floor. The presence of larvae determines how many adults there will be.”

Russell said that reports have come in from various areas in Michigan on the sightings of fireflies:

- Grand Rapids had more this year.
- Wexford County didn’t see many.
- Allegan County had a lot this year.
- The U.P. had a lot the last two years, but not so many this year.

Firefly.org points out one of the reasons fireflies are seen less is too much light. Because fireflies use their flashing lights to attract mates, many aren’t seeing each other in more urban areas, which means fewer are being produced. There are ways to help keep the fireflies alive and reproducing though.

Turn off outside lights at night. Fireflies use their flashing lights to signal each other, attract mates and warn others of danger. While the science is still preliminary, it’s likely that human light pollution can disrupt their flashes—making it harder for fireflies to find mates and breed.

Let logs and litter accumulate. This is a great place for firefly larvae. Litter, such as leaves and fallen branches give baby fireflies a place to grow.

Avoid using pesticides. These things can have a negative effect on the firefly population. They may ingest poisons on plants, or be exposed to it other ways.

Don’t over-mow your lawn. Fireflies like to stay on the ground during the day and mowing can disturb their habitat. Adding some long grass areas into your landscape can promote areas where fireflies can stay and the yard still is well groomed.

Most fireflies only live up to two months, which is why it is important for them to attract a mate and keep the life cycle going. Those that are alive when winter hits burrow themselves underground or behind tree bark and hibernate until spring.

Interesting firefly facts

- There are more than 2,000 species of fireflies, and it is a type of beetle. Only some species produce adults that glow.
- Males that do glow use their flash to attract females.
- Each species has its own pattern of light flashing, and sometimes fireflies synchronize their flashes.
- Firefly light can be yellow, green or orange.
- Firefly larvae may glow, which is why they are called glowworms.
- Firefly Larvae are carnivorous and particularly enjoy snails. However, adult fireflies usually live off nectar and pollen, and some don’t eat at all.
- A chemical reaction within the firefly’s light organ produces the light.

Source: firefly.org

“The woods are the perfect firefly habitat.”

Howard Russell
MSU Extension Entomologist

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INFORMATION

INVESTMENT & TRUST SERVICES
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Untreated hearing loss tied to lower earning potential

Maximizing one’s ability to hear well should be part of any smart career strategy. Individuals performing a job in an organization is found to be directly related to the ability to perceive and listen effectively. In fact, listeners are one of the top skills employers seek in entry-level employees and in those being promoted.

People who both hear and listen are more likely to establish positive working relationships with bosses, clients, and colleagues.

An alarming new study by the Better Hearing Institute (BHI) reveals a direct correlation between unaddressed hearing loss and earnings. The national survey, entitled “The Efficacy of Achieving Hearing Aid Equity in the Workplace,” clearly demonstrates that hearing loss has a significant impact on people’s ability to earn a livelihood. The study underscores how critically important it is for workers to treat hearing loss early in order to improve their job performance and earning potential.

According to Sergei Kochkin, PhD, author of the study: “The real tragedy in delaying hearing loss treatment is that when left unaddressed, hearing loss negatively affects individuals and their families for the rest of their lives in the form of lost wages, lost promotions, lost opportunities, lost retirement income, and unrealized dreams. But when people with even mild hearing loss use hearing aids, they improve their job performance, increase their earning potential, enhance their communication skills, improve their professional land interpersonal relationships, stav off depression, and improve their quality of life.”

Key Study Findings

• People with untreated hearing loss lose as much as $30,000 per year annually.
• There is a strong relationship between the degree of hearing loss and unemployment for those who do not use hearing aids.
• Use of hearing aids was shown to reduce the risk of losing income by 90%–100% for those with milder hearing loss, and from 65%–77% for those with severe to moderate hearing loss.****

Why 22 million Americans delay trying a hearing device to solve their hearing problem

Inadequate Information. Most people lose hearing gradually and may not realize they have significant loss. Your family and friends adapt by speaking to you more loudly and clearly.

Stigma and Cosmetics. Some people reject hearing aids because they are concerned of what others will think. This does not need to be a barrier to improving your hearing.

With advances in technology your hearing loss can be nearly invisible to others. Once your quality of life is improved, cosmetics will be of less concern to you.

Not Realizing the Importance of Hearing. Another reason for rejection of hearing aids is that many people do not realize how important hearing is to their quality of life. However, untreated hearing loss can lead to anxiety, stress, fatigue, withdrawal from family and friends, impaired memory, reduced alertness and personal safety, reduced job performance and earning power and diminished overall health.

Cost. Your hearing solution will be based on your type of loss and level. Many factors go into your hearing aid purchase and will affect the price. Which type and style is best for you? What features do you need? What’s included in the price? (Warranty, 30-day trial period, free cleaning and adjustments).

Your hearing healthcare provider should present to you clearly and easily understood pricing options as well as financing options. Be sure to freely ask any questions that will help you make an informed decision.

Call and Schedule a FREE Ear Inspection Using the Latest Video Technology

Getting started. It’s FREE and easy. At Miracle-Ear, we make our process comfortable and convenient. We also offer you a variety of valuable services— at no charge.

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Miracle-Ear Hearing Center of Fenton
18310 Silver Parkway
810-936-6524

Jason Gilmore
Hearing Professional

FREE VOTING CARDS

The Michigan Legislature has passed an election law that allows people to cast absentee ballots for the November general election. The Michigan.gov absentee ballot form is online at www.elections.michigan.gov. To learn more about this law, visit www.ElectionsMatters.org.

The Michigan Secretary of State is encouraging all 8.5 million registered voters to complete an absentee ballot request form and cast their ballots in this year’s election. To request an absentee ballot, visit www.ElectionsMatters.org or call 888-757-VOTE (8683).

For help to vote, call 888-757-VOTE (8683) or visit www.ElectionsMatters.org.

Meeting with some significant changes in the law coming, Jan. 1, 2015 – Part 1

Some significant changes in the law coming, Jan. 1, 2015 – Part 1

Whenever a defendant has been charged with a crime there are certain rights that are afforded to the accused. Included among these rights are the right to remain silent, the right to have an attorney present at any questioning the defendant consents to, and the right to have an attorney at all subsequent court proceedings.

These subsequent court proceedings may include pretrial conferences and hearings, motions, and the trial itself, if the case is tried.

In Michigan, one of the types of hearings that a defendant is entitled to in a felony case is a preliminary examination, where a district court judge hears the evidence from the prosecution and the defense and decides if there is sufficient evidence to have the case set for trial or other proceedings in the Circuit Court.

At a preliminary examination the Michigan Rules of Evidence apply. These are rules that generally ensure evidence is admitted or excluded based on established protocols. One of the oldest rules of evidence is that hearsay evidence is not admissible unless there is an exception, which has a guarantee of trustworthiness. However, in an out of court statement offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted.

In 2001, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled the evidence specifically provide that in preliminary examinations in criminal cases hearsay is admissible to prove with regard to property, the ownership, authority to use, possession and entry. This means that a witness who is given this information by a non-testifying person is allowed to testify in spite of the testimony being hearsay.

On May 21, 2014 Governor Snyder signed into law Act Number 123 of the Public Acts of 2014, to be effective January 1, 2015, which makes some rather significant changes to the hearsay exclusionary rules at preliminary examinations. Additionally some of the duties of district court judges will also be changed as well as some new district court procedures, which will be implemented in felony cases.

In next week’s column, 1 will summarize the new provisions.

POLICE

Continued from Page 3

MDOP ON EAST ELLEN STREET

A 20-year-old Fenton woman report- ed to Fenton police that between 9 p.m. on Aug. 11 and 7 a.m. on Aug. 12, someone broke the rear window out and broke the side mirror from her 102 Buick, which was parked in her driveway on East Ellen Street. The doors remained locked and no entry was gained.
Most populous counties in state have most crashes

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

So far in 2014, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates 6,800 died in a motor vehicle crash, which is a 4.9-percent decrease from last year at the same time.

In 2013, 32,850 died in traffic crashes nationally. Since 2006, fatalities have dropped each year, except for 2012, where there was a 3.3-percent increase.

Any traffic deaths are too many — but at least in Michigan, they happen only about 0.3 percent of the time.

Today, there are more than 210 million licensed drivers in the U.S., according to the Federal Highway Administration. Michigan has more than 7 million drivers, ranking just below Ohio and Illinois. California has the most, at more than 22 million drivers.

Each year the Michigan State Police (MSP) compiles detailed tables of traffic crashes within the state. In the tri-county area, Oakland County had the most crashes, with more than 37,000 last year, with 54 fatal, and 3,700 injuries. Of course, Oakland County is home to bigger cities like Pontiac, not to mention much of metro Detroit. Again, fatalities seemed to only happen in about 0.3 percent of crashes.

In the same period, Wayne County had more than 44,000 crashes, with 151 of them involving a fatality. Overwhelmingly, they happen on local streets versus expressways.

In all of last year, there were 9,811 crashes in Genesee County, with 29 of them with fatalities, and 2,257 with injuries. Livingston County’s 4,500 crashes lead to 15 deaths. Like others, many of the crashes happened on local streets.

All of the 83 counties in Michigan have traffic crashes, but amazingly a few had zero fatalities in 2013. Oscoda, Presque Isle, Luce and Keweenaw counties had no fatal crashes in 2013.

In any county, drivers between the ages of 24 and 44 have the most crashes, but The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that teenagers drive in lesser numbers than any age group but the oldest in the country, but are involved in a disproportionate amount of crashes.

Between ages 16 and 19, the fatal crash rate per mile driven, is three times than that of the rest of the population, and the risk drops significantly after age 20. Those between

Of the tri-county area, Oakland County naturally had the most crashes, with more than 37,000 last year, with 54 fatal, and 3,700 injuries.

Most populous counties in state have most crashes

Fortunately, few crashes are fatal

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MORATORIUM

Continued from Front Page

to the past moratorium extensions, is that the city may have a final decision in near sight.

Fenton’s Planning Commission is set to address the issue on Thursday, Aug. 28, while the current moratorium is set to expire on Sept. 1. The next scheduled city council meeting does not take place until after Sept. 1, however.

“Therefore, I am requesting the city council to extend the moratorium to Oct. 1, 2014. This will provide the city council time to take action on the ordinance before the end of the moratorium,” wrote City Manager Lynn Markland to the council in a memorandum.

The council unanimously agreed to extend the moratorium. Since the law was enacted in 2008, municipalities have struggled to understand the reach and scope of control they have over land use for medical marijuana. Many have chosen to enact moratoriums to avoid legislating on the issue until the framework of dealing with them becomes clearer.

The village of Holly was one of the few local municipalities who have enacted an ordinance regulating medical marijuana dispensaries.
Changing jobs

Millennials will have more varied career path than previous generations

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

Aaron Brooks, 34, has worked as a swimming coach, a pool manager, substitute teacher and an entrepreneur planning to build a home-based coffee roasting business.

As a father of two working hard to support his young family, Brooks works more than 40 hours a week, but not for any one company.

“I don’t foresee that I’ll be working just one job in the future,” said Brooks of Fenton. “I’ll probably always have more than one job, working around what I hope will be a full-time teaching position in the future.”

That’s a huge contrast to Linda Ralston of Linden whose father, Ernie Nagy, had a newspaper career spanning 50 years, starting out as a paperboy at age 11 and working up to publisher, retiring from Mellus Newspapers in Lincoln Park at age 62.

With today’s shifting corporate climate, many young people are re-inventing their skills by “job-hopping” through several different career hoops rather than staying at one job for a lifetime.

Today, the average worker stays at each of his or her jobs for about 4.4 years, according to the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Ninety-one percent of Millennials (those born between 1977 and 1997), expect to stay in a job for less than three years, according to a Future Workplace Study.

Today, a third of the U.S. workforce is either self-employed or hired on a contract basis, with few of any benefits that used to provide a lifetime tie to a company. There’s little loyalty on either side of the desk — as an employee or an employer.

Employers who hire young people today do so with the realization that they aren’t likely to stay around long. With the expense of training and development, some employers never get a full return on their investment for an employee who isn’t on the job very long.

For an employee, changing jobs can help develop his or her skill set and make them more employable in the future. While Brooks is seeking a full-time elementary teaching position, he is using his certifications as a lifeguard and pool operator to “fill in the gaps” with several part-time positions.

Employees who change jobs often do so as part of their plan for more of a balance in their work and personal lives. While Baby Boomers started working with an eye on gaining stability, raising a family and settling down, today’s younger workers know that there is no guarantee for this kind of future, and they try to make the best of it. “I never planned to have so many jobs,” said Brooks, married to the former Sonja Peters of Fenton. “These were just the opportunities that were open to us.”

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THE DO’S AND DON’TS OF JOB HOPPING

Do . . .

• Build and nurture your network before you change jobs.
• Change jobs for growth opportunities, keeping your eye on your goal. Each job should be a stepping-stone to something better.
• Find a common thread among your jobs, so they tell a story about your journey.

Don’t . . .

• Change jobs without showing growth.
• Flee without fixing problems, thinking the grass is always greener somewhere else.
• Be less than truthful about your reasons for changing jobs.
Sludge cleanup – necessary step in water treatment process

Bi-yearly cost of $185,000 is approximately 50 percent less than in previous years

By Ryan Tackabury
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8382

Fenton — You can’t make an omelet without breaking a few eggs — and the Fenton water plant can’t properly treat water without producing some dried lime residue.

The sludge-like residue, a byproduct of the water-softening process, finds itself discharged in one of the two ponds by the Water treatment facility. The sludge collects for a two-year period, where it dries and becomes easier to be removed.

“We clean them, one pond every two years. Part of the water making process utilizes making slime, and the leftover sludge is left out at the pond,” said Public Works Director Daniel Czarnecki.

The lowest bid for the job came from ProLime Corp. of Washington, Michigan with the a cost of $91,500 to clean out the North pond, and $93,500 to clean out the South pond.

The city has past experience working with ProLine. “They have done this for us on two other occasions and we had no complaints with that all,” Czarnecki said.

The sludge cleaning is a necessary step that has been going on for years. The city however, has worked to lower the cleanup costs, which used to be quite a bit more expensive.

“When we first started doing this the price was a lot more than we are paying now,” City Manager Lynn Markland said. “I just want to thank Steve Guy for what he has done to get those prices down, it’s costing us basically 50 percent what we used to pay then.”

A 2010 article in the Times reported that cleaning lime from just one pond at the water treatment plant cost the city as much as $148,700.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE NEXT DATE for headstone cleaning at Great Lakes National VA Cemetery in Holly is set for Saturday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. Please provide your own buckets and brushes. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP your headcount to pardoncar@yahoo.com or (248) 318-2042. Thank you!

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF. I belong to no special interest group but like to see the diversity in our community in the parade.

HERE’S AN IDEA, why don’t you schedule your own proprietary parade and see how many local people show up to support your disturbing agenda? Note the part about local attendees, not bused in from out of town.

AMERICANS HAVE A right to vote. It’s a shame how few do. Primaries are so important to who is running in the General Election. Wake up America...Giving up your choice to vote is not a good choice.

I’M CURIOUS, IS the ‘King’ a veteran of the Great War? He sounds like he’s 125 years old.

JUST A LITTLE FYI for you Obama hater — Africa is not a country.

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Police, fire, ambulances arrive at park — for fun

Kids get hands-on with Holly Protect and Serve Day

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

Holly — On Saturday, children were in and out of the backs of ambulances and police cars, but for all good reasons. They could also see fire trucks and heavy-duty equipment, like the Jaws of Life, up close as well.

Holly Protect and Serve Day came back to Crapo Park after a one-year hiatus, letting visitors chat with local police, firefighters, and paramedics under the pleasant summer sun, instead of at an emergency.

Holly Police, North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) Holly/Grove-land Fire Department and ambulances were there, doors open, and personnel ready to answer questions.

Holly Area Schools (HAS) provided free hotdogs to visitors, and a $5 raffle was held for the toys situated on a table near the park benches. There was also face painting, crafts, live acoustic music and an inflatable slide.

“They bring us in here, to bring the community in to get the kids acclimated to what we do, and have a little fun doing it,” said Holly Police Chief Michael Story.

He credits police and fire staff for putting the event on, namely Capt. Dan Meyers of the fire department, and Det. Heather Wolkow and Officer Bob Gorder, and the police department, along with fire chiefs Jeremy Lintz and Steve McGee. “They just put on a great event,” he said. “It’s a kid friendly event that we know will continue to go on.”

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Michael Story, Holly police chief

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Need a ride? There’s an app for that

Personal vehicle taxi app that started in San Francisco, now in Flint

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

In the trend of rentals akin to Airbnb, which is the world leader in travel rentals, Internet service/smartphone app Uber has come to Flint, as of late July. The Delaware company has only existed since 2009 with its first market in San Francisco, but it has expanded to 70 cities in the U.S. and 30 more internationally.

In Michigan, Uber is also in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Lansing, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

The basic premise is that riders coming to a city need an economical way to get around, and drivers in that area who have a car, and some free time can make some extra money.

Uber is an app for your smartphone that connects drivers to riders in a certain area.

If a driver wants to shuttle people around, they have to provide documents and information about themselves to the company. If the company decides to let the person drive, they download the app, and then turn the app on to let potential riders know they’re available. According to the company, drivers are paid automatically.

Riders also have the app, and use it to find someone in their area. It works with the GPS of their phone, and much of the operation happens easily, and automatically. Riders are charged automatically on their credit card, and sent a receipt.

Riders in certain markets can request basic vehicle styles, like “low cost,” “SUV,” or “Black.” It basically lets riders decide how much room they want, and the rate changes accordingly. The minimum fare is $25 for an SUV, or down to $6 for a small car.

In Flint, for now, the options are limited to the “X” economy option, which happens to be the cheapest.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DOGS, WHO NEEDS them? They are nothing but a pain in the neck. They are expensive, they are filthy, and they are absolutely useless. What good are they? I HAVE TO say every time I see Obama on TV I get tears in my eyes. Actually, I’m crying.

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Linden saw great turnout for Back to the Bricks

Linden saw a large turnout for Back to the Bricks. It was so large that at one point they were turning people away because there was no place to park. Other than some concern for the children and elderly with all of the traffic, city officials were very pleased with how everything went. City Councilor Ray Culbert said, “This is the biggest event Linden has seen in 35 years.” Mayor David Lossing added, “I hope we can host it again in years to come.”

Linden’s Music by the Mill moves On Wednesday, August 20, beginning at 7 p.m. Linden’s Music by the Mill will be held at the Mill Pond in Downtown Linden. The city hopes to have people ride over in their boats, canoes and kayaks in order to enjoy the music from the water. There will still be plenty of places to sit on land for enjoying the music, including the hill by the gazebo. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the music from beside the pond. The Saucecats will be playing a mix of New Orleans Funk, Zydeco, Blues, Latin and Caribbean.

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News briefs

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

ESSENTIALLY, THE BARGAIN that I think every President strikes with the American people is, ‘you give me this office, then in turn my fears, doubts, insecurities, foibles, need for sleep, family life, vacations, leisure, is gone. I am giving myself to you.’ - BHO 2008

FENTON COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA 2014 fall rehearsals begin Thursday, Sept. 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Fenton High School band room. Hope you can join us.

IF ALL THE scientific jibber jabber on the Big Bang Theory show has any validity, then that would explain the thinking of the Tea Party Republicans as Jibber Jabber.

IF FOSTER CHILD is not a hate monger, he surely has me fooled. He often writes hateful things about anyone with whom he disagrees. Mr. Childs is a talented writer — he should be using that talent to spread reason, not anger and hate.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO TIGER WOODS, nah, nah, nah, nah, hey, hey, hey, good-bye. Oh, and good riddance.

NORMAL PEOPLE WHEN coming up to a stop sign look both ways. The life you save could be yours.

THE PERSON WHO got their vehicle towed. Shame on you for parking in somebody else’s driveway. I am glad you got towed. You shouldn’t have been there in the first place.

---

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Continued from Page 3

be cheaper at the big box stores. The items found at a dollar store where everything is a dollar, and no more, will carry more off-brand items, and often more items that are only made for limited use. For example, picture frames might fall apart when you put your picture inside, a new spatula might break when you try to flip your pancakes, and that off-brand box of cereal might not taste as good as the real thing.

A few keys to successful dollar store shopping include doing some research on the best pricing in the area, looking at the quality of items before checking out with them, and remember you get what you pay for! Another way to know about good deals is to ask your friends and family members.

MARIJUANA

Continued from Front Page

have a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 or greater if over age 21 or .02 or greater if under 21. In addition, Michigan has a high BAC law with enhanced penalties for anyone caught driving with a BAC of .17 or higher. Numbers aside, drivers can be arrested at any BAC level if they exhibit signs of impairment while operating a motor vehicle.

Drugged driving is driving a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, including medical marijuana. Drivers with any amount of a Schedule I narcotic, like marijuana or even heroin, are subject to the same fines and penalties as drunk drivers. Even if they are showing no signs of impairment, they are still in the wrong. Cannabis metabolites, however, are excluded under the law MCL 257.625(6), as this testing only shows recent use of the drug and not whether it is at an impaired level. Instead it goes by how much THC is found in the test. In Michigan the per se law is in effect, which means that a driver can be solely convicted for the amount of THC in their system, even though THC can stay in the body for days.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said, “The use of marijuana, like any other drug, can affect your ability to drive. It is very important to assure that your ability to operate a vehicle is not impaired before getting behind the wheel.”

In order to avoid the possibility of being pulled over and arrested for drunk and/or drugged driving, there are things a person can do:

• Designate a sober driver before drinking alcohol and using drugs.
• Call a friend, cab, ride service, walk, or take the bus.
• Stay overnight at a hotel/motel or friends.

In Michigan, a person is guilty of driving under the influence (DUI) if he or she operates a vehicle in any place open to the general public or generally accessible to motor vehicles while under the influence of a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

Some of the common penalties for driving drugged or drunk include: Community service for not more than 360 hours and/or imprisonment for not more than 93 days and/or a fine of not less than $100 or more than $500. The court may also order vehicle immobilization for not more than 180 days.

With risks such as fines, jail time, and loss of a vehicle, it seems a wise choice not to drive under the influence.

SHOPPING

Continued from Page 3

Summary

Sometimes great bargains can be found at the dollar store. Other times it’s just a waste of money.

SHOPING

be cheaper at the big box stores. The items found at a dollar store where everything is a dollar, and no more, will carry more off-brand items, and often more items that are only made for limited use. For example, picture frames might fall apart when you put your picture inside, a new spatula might break when you try to flip your pancakes, and that off-brand box of cereal might not taste as good as the real thing.

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• Call a friend, cab, ride service, walk, or take the bus.
• Stay overnight at a hotel/motel or friends.

In Michigan, a person is guilty of driving under the influence (DUI) if he or she operates a vehicle in any place open to the general public or generally accessible to motor vehicles while under the influence of a controlled substance, or a combination of alcoholic liquor and a controlled substance.

Some of the common penalties for driving drugged or drunk include: Community service for not more than 360 hours and/or imprisonment for not more than 93 days and/or a fine of not less than $100 or more than $500. The court may also order vehicle immobilization for not more than 180 days.

With risks such as fines, jail time, and loss of a vehicle, it seems a wise choice not to drive under the influence.

SHOPPING

Continued from Page 3

Summary

Sometimes great bargains can be found at the dollar store. Other times it’s just a waste of money.

SHOPIING

be cheaper at the big box stores. The items found at a dollar store where everything is a dollar, and no more, will carry more off-brand items, and often more items that are only made for limited use. For example, picture frames might fall apart when you put your picture inside, a new spatula might break when you try to flip your pancakes, and that off-brand box of cereal might not taste as good as the real thing.

A few keys to successful dollar store shopping include doing some research on the best pricing in the area, looking at the quality of items before checking out with them, and remember you get what you pay for! Another way to know about good deals is to ask your friends and family members.
TWINS
Continued from Front Page
multiples; identical, fraternal, young and old, twins, triplets, quads and their families.
This year’s festival hosted a great representation of Fenton twins, including Connor and Spen-
cer Owen, Bradley and Breanna Trecha, and Don and Dave Wolf. The Wolf brothers are stars of the hit TV reality show Big Rig Bounty Hunters.
“It’s been going to Twinsburg for 13 years and have enjoyed meeting other twins from all over the world,” said Breanna Trecha. “It’s a fun weekend to hang out with your twin.” Her twin brother Bradley said, “The twins parade walking down the street throwing candy to the people.”
Braden and Breanna took second place in Least-Look-Alike male/female twin.

Twin Facts
• A woman’s age increases her chances of having twins.
• There is a “twin gene”- fraternal twinning, which is the result of a woman releasing more than one egg at the same time, is genetically predisposed.
• Identical twins are the result of a random split of a single egg and cannot be genetically predisposed.
• Male twins will not have twins unless their wives have the ability to produce two eggs.
• Identical twins share the same DNA but do not have the same fingerprints.
• About one in 250 pregnancies results in identical twins.
• Some estimates suggest 1 in 8 people started life as a twin.
• Once you have fraternal twins, you are 3 to 4 times more likely to have another set!
• About 40 percent of twins invent their own language.
• The average birth weight for a twin is 5 pounds, 5 ounces.

CRASHES
Continued from Page 7
16 and 17 are at the very highest risk of all teen drivers.
Of the more than 16,000 crashes, 398 in Genesee County involved alcohol, and most were between the ages of 25 and 44, with 20 being under-age.
The most populous counties had the most people involved in crashes, Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Kent counties were the highest. Wayne County, home of the city of Detroit had 85,980 people involved in a traffic crash.
Oakland had 71,273, while Genesee had 16,723 involved in traffic crashes.

In 2013, Fenton had 445 crashes at local intersections, and 217 as of late May 2014.
So who in the U.S. has the worst drivers? According to Allstate, drivers in Washington DC are the worst in the U.S., with more than twice the likelihood of getting into a crash than the national average, and an average of only 6.7 years between crashes. The insurance company surveys the 200 biggest cities in the U.S. Fort Collins, Colorado was the safest, a distinction it won three of the past nine years.
Fortunately, no Michigan cities made the top 10 of the cities with the worst drivers.

More to life after Fifty
celebrating seniors in our community
Fenton continues tradition of beginning practice at 12:01 a.m.

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

Fenton — If one drove into the Fenton High School parking lot near Ivan Williams Field about 11:50 p.m. on Sunday, there would’ve been a sense that something big was going to happen.

For the first time in months, the football field lights were on, but all that was easily seen on the field were some helmets and bags. But a turn to the field’s locker room suggested a bit more activity. In one of the open doors Fenton varsity coach Jeff Setzke’s voice is heard. He is talking to his team. Roll call is being done, and after that, there is a little discussion about what is going to happen during the next week with the ending of that talk surrounding next week’s scrimmage against Midland.

“They are going to play physical football and that’s a good thing because that’s what we want to do,” Setzke says to the players.

“That will be a nice way to start our season.”

By 12:01 a.m. on Monday, the meeting was over, and it’s time for the real reason why the Tigers everyone is around at such a late hour. It’s practice time.

The Tigers charged on to the field to begin their first official practice of the 2014 prep football season. Since Jeff Setzke took over at Fenton High School eight years ago (2014 will be his ninth) the midnight practice on the opening day of football practices have become tradition. And while remaining awake for the practice can be a challenge to some of the athletes, the atmosphere always seems to be pretty festive prior to the start.

Fenton player Dominic Weiss was excited to get the season going despite the fact it was a long day for him.

“I’m a night person, but I had to be up at 6 to work this morning, so I’m exhausted,” Weiss said. “I pressure wash trucks, so it’s pretty tiring.

“But I’ve been counting down the days. It kind of seemed like it was farther away, but it’s here now, so I’m psyched.”

The Tigers’ first practice is never too difficult. It’s about 50 minutes long and it always involves special team work for many of the skill position players. However, many defenders did work on some of their block techniques as well.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS

(Above) Lake Fenton’s football team charges to their starting spots during a drill Monday at about 12:40 p.m. Before the Tigers could take the field for their practice (right), they had to move a large tire located on the field. Prep football practices started on Monday. Lake Fenton and Fenton began their sessions at 12:01 a.m.

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INSIDE SPORTS:
WATER FUN
Winch Wars event is a hit

SPORTS TRIVIA
OLYMPICS

Q

Which American track star won four gold medals at the 1984 Summer Olympics?

A

This should’ve been an easy one. Carl Lewis won the 100 meters, the 200 meters and the long jump individually. He also was the anchor leg of the 400 meter relay team which won a gold medal.

DAVID’S DABBINGS

With the fall prep sports season right around the corner, this seemed to be a good time to address some interesting issues surrounding the topic.

Flushing in the Metro

Fenton High School has won the Metro League’s All-Sports Trophy every season since the 2003-04 school year, but there will be a new threat to the Tigers’ run during the 2014-15 school year. With Flushing joining the Metro League, there could end up being a new sheriff in town.

The Raiders should fair well in a lot of sports in the Metro League. Now, should the Tigers just give up now and admit defeat? Of course not, but winning an 11th straight All-Sports Trophy will be a challenge.

Changes in football practices

Teams won’t be able to wear full pads until Friday. Once the season begins, teams will be allowed just two “consecutive practices” a week. It’s a good move. It won’t impact the caliber of play and it could help protect the student-athletes themselves.

Football teams hit the field at midnight

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

Lake Fenton — When it comes to the opening day of the prep football season, a lot of teams like to make it special by starting practice at 12:01 a.m. on Monday.

The Lake Fenton football program agrees, but they like to make it feel like an event.

Most schools who participate in the midnight practice only involve their varsity squad. That’s not the case for the Blue Devils. All three teams — varsity, JV and freshman — were on the football field at 12:01 a.m. preparing for the approximately 60-minute practice. Also, there was something else other midnight practices don’t have — there were a nice number of fans at the Devils’ session. While the offense drove the field, the fans cheered. All that was missing were the hot-dog sales.

“It’s fun,” Lake Fenton player Mason Rinks said. “It’s fun to come out in front of the fans and get everyone excited. It’s night, it’s under the lights and it’s an exciting time.

“I’m not a night person, but I’d get up for this team any time of the day. We are a brotherhood. It’s not easy (being here at midnight), but we have our adrenalin going and we have our fans here to support us. It’s easy right now. If it were not for the fans it wouldn’t be as easy. We do this because it’s fun.”

This was the fourth year the Blue Devils have hosted the first official practice of a season right after midnight. Lake Fenton

See FANS on 18

See PRACTICE on 19
Winch Wars bring out competitive side of water enthusiasts

Pond in front of Action Water Sports hosts its sixth-annual event

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

It’s not a very big pond. It’s likely a football player could punt a football from one side of the shore to the other.

Action Water Sports’ man-made lake positioned in front of their business hardly looks like a place where something like a wakeboarding competition could take place. But once a year that’s exactly what happens.

Action Water Sports, located on 8051 Old US 23, hosted their sixth-annual Winch Wars water sport event on Friday afternoon and evening.

Twenty-nine competitors from as far as Denver, Colorado and Cincinnati, Ohio, of various skill levels competed in the event. However, most of the competitors are from Michigan, with quite a few from the tri-county area. The DeLong family was represented in this year’s event.

“I’ve been doing this for two years,” said 15-year-old Derek DeLong after competing in the Advanced Division of the competition. “I am able to do it just every once in a while. This is one event I do ever year, though. I like this one.”

Unlike most water sport trick events, there isn’t a boat powering the competitors through the course. At Action Water Sports, a winch at one end of the lake is used. A winch is a hauling device consisting of a rope which can be pulled out but then brought back to the device by a power source. This enables the competitors to hold on to the rope and be “rode” across the water as though they are behind a boat. The competitors begin on a wooden dock-like surface, are pulled into the water by the winch. Competitors must choose one of three apparatuses to attempt their tricks on.

One of the apparatuses is a ramp called the kicker. The other two look more like water versions of apparatuses you’d expect a skateboarder to try their tricks on. Because the competitors are not attached to their wakeboards, perhaps the biggest challenge is completing the tricks by landing back on the wakeboard without falling.

The competitors seem to enjoy the event.

“I was here last year. I had some friends that went up to it two years ago, so they invited me and I came up,” said Cincinnati resident and Wake Skate Division winner Guenther Oka. “My dad water skis and he put me on a wakeboard when I was 3. It’s a lot like skateboarding (on water).”

It’s a sport for both sexes and any age. Shannon Sahinbas is 13 and from the Walled Lake area. She took second in the Girls Division. On one of her practice runs during Friday afternoon, she did what is called a heal-side 180. She nailed the landing.

“I tried wakeboarding when I was nine, got hooked on it and started doing things,” Sahinbas said. “I just enjoy doing the sport and how everyone is so nice.”

The beauty of the competition is it gives rookies, as well as professionals a chance to compete. Realizing there were only two other women in the girls division, Action Water Sports employee and Linden resident Jordan Garcia, 22, was prodded into competing. She struggled with entering the water on her first couple of practice runs, but eventually got the hang of it and finished her final practice run without falling.

“This is my first ever dock-start, going across the pond. It was pretty nervous,” Garcia said. “I’ve wakeboarded behind a boat, but haven’t done it in two to three years. It’s completely different than being in a boat, though.”

See WINCH WARS on 18
FANS
Continued from Page 16

coach Eric Doyle appreciates the event. “It’s fun. It’s growing every year,” Doyle said. “The first year we did it it was up to (the players), we had a couple of kids and that was about it. Now, it’s a happening. It’s an event. It’s a credit to them to help build this. People are excited about football.”

Probably the neatest aspect of the Blue Devils’ event is the fact all three teams do compete during it. At the end of the practice, the Blue Devils do an event called the team pursuit drill. In it, there are four lines of players and four pylons. Each line begins in a defensive stance near a tire. Once there’s a snap, the players put their hand in the tire, rotate around the tire and then run to the pylon. Once there, they must do knee lifts until a whistle blows. The next player begins on a whistle, and when that person comes to the end, the people who have already completed the drill encourage the other players to finish the knee lifts as strong as possible. Each line has a variety of varsity, JV and freshmen players within it, helping create a program bond.

“We have the whole program together which makes (the drill) a little easier,” Rinks said. “It’s great having all the programs here, especially for the upperclassmen. We get to see the freshmen, get to see who is coming up. We can adopt them as little brothers in school. We are a brotherhood from the smallest guy to the biggest guys. We like to have each other’s back.”

“We do run things as a program as opposed to three separate teams, but this is (one of the few times all the teams practice together),” Doyle said. “We tell the kids this is fun.”

The Blue Devils put together a busy summer. Rinks likes what he saw from the squad during the summer events.

“A lot of guys made a lot of steps in their football and athletic careers,” Rinks said. “A lot of people got stronger. A lot of people got smarter. We had team sessions with players and coaches. We had some people stand up and start leading the team and that was a cool experience.”

When the practice session ended, there was one last breakdown and a couple of comments from Doyle.

“Let’s bring it tomorrow,” Doyle said, reminding the players that the festive practice was just the start of a gruelling week.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPI
Lake Fenton players huddle up near the end of their first football practice held on just after midnight on Monday.

WINCH WARS
Continued from Page 17

“It’s really nice everyone was so supportive and patient while I learned.” Four winners were declared. Highland’s Megan Boland won the Girls Division, while Oka was the Wake Skate Division victor. Colorado’s Mike Tanz won the Advanced Division and Cincinnati’s Jonnie Paul won the Pro Division. Five of the top three performers in the four divisions were tri-county competitors, with DeLong taking second in the Advanced Division and Daviuburg’s Steven Jesionowski taking second in the Pro Division. Fenton’s Al Morris was third in the Advanced Division, while Tyler DeLong took third in the Pro Division. But one gets the sense that just competing in front of fellow wakeboarding enthusiasts makes the tourney well worth it for everyone involved.

“I look at it as a fun barbecue,” Derek DeLong said. “Everyone is having fun. When everyone comes out and shows their talent, it’s nice.”

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELLO
Fenton resident Derek DeLong tries to land on his wakeboard after doing a trick at the Winch Wars competition held at Action Water Sports on Friday.
PRACTICE
Continued from Page 16
“IT’s kind of symbolic,” Weiss said about the first practice being right after midnight. “IT’s also kind of fun.”
It was a busy summer of travels for the Fenton football squad, as they hit several 7-on-7s around the state and performed well at them. They included trips to Notre Dame and Detroit’s Ford Field. The team likes what they saw this summer as well.
“The commitment is different from last year,” said player Connor Kovacs during the recent Metro League media day.
“We had a lot of returning seniors that weren’t as enthusiastic (last year) and enthusiasm is a really big part of our team this year. They really want to be here. That’s a big plus for us.”
Based on the recent Metro League media day, the coaches selected the Tigers as the favorites to defend their co-title this year. They hope to do just that, and a little bit more.
“I want to win the Metro, but I want to win it outright,” said senior quarterback Ross Ebert at the media day.
“I don’t want to share it with anyone. Obviously, a state championship, is the ultimate goal, of course, but what we want is to go to regionals and be the first Fenton team to win 10 games. It would be a big accomplishment.”
The Tigers have a ton of talent. The program consistently produces outstanding records at all levels, meaning once the kids get to the varsity level they are accustomed to winning. The biggest key may be to keep an even keel.
“To make that work (become league champions), we just have to stay humble,” Weiss said.
“I see a lot of times people will get a big head. When they think they are the best, they don’t think they have to practice as hard. We need to work hard.”
All of that hard work, officially began at 12:01 a.m.

What’s up next?
Here’s a list of some of the significant dates coming up for prep sports players, coaches and fans.
Today: While prep football teams began on Monday, the rest of the fall sports teams can start practices today. Also, today is the first day football teams can practice with their shoulder pads on.
Friday: This is the first day football teams are allowed to wear a full-padded outfit.
Aug. 20: This is the first day girls golf and girls tennis can compete in an actual event this season.
Aug. 21: Football teams will compete in scrimmages all around the state.
Aug. 22: Cross country, boys soccer, volleyball and girls swimming can compete in actual events.
Aug. 28: Most varsity football teams will begin their seasons on this date.

Fenton lineman Reid Thompson does a drill during the Tigers’ midnight practice at around 12:15 a.m. on Monday. All state prep football teams were allowed to begin their first practices of the 2014 season on Monday.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS
Fenton’s Forest Spitzer (front) and the rest of the Tigers’ varsity football team does stretches prior to the start of Monday’s first official practice of the season. It started at 12:01 a.m.

Plans this weekend?
I’m free... the guys are heading up north for the weekend.

Let’s find a day spa and have a girls weekend!

TIMES INTERACTIVE MOBILE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Pool table, Juke box, Coke memorabilia, restaurant booth, Beautiful Furniture (library tables, chairs, oak stacking file, oak Barrister bookcase, oak glass door cabinet, pine log bedroom suite, TV stand, wicker coffee table, church pew & more), antique time clock, Victrola, Fiestaware, Home Laughlin dishes & figurines, Fenton Glass cats, Tom & Jerry punch set, other glassware & household items, child’s outdoor play set w/fort & slides, pontoon, drill press, table saw & more!

PREVIEW: AUG. 19, 9-6
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Fenton

AUGUST 14-16TH
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AUGUST 15-16TH
9-4P.M.
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Fenton

AUGUST 14TH
9-4P.M.
206 E. Rockwell St. Antiques, collectible’s, Fenton photograph, WWI/WWII ribbons/metal, sporting goods, Fenton postcards, old toys, Tin signs, bottles, cast iron, tin, movie posters, books, and Fenton postcard books autographed. Rain date Friday.

Fenton

AUGUST 16-17TH
10-5P.M.
15434 Beattreed Dr. Tools, fishing equipment, household items.

AUGUST 15-16TH
9-4P.M.
106 Walnut St. Estate/moving sale! Everything must go! 100 years of accumulation. Antiques, collectible’s and everyday household treasures.

Linden

AUGUST 14-15TH, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 9-3PM.
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Linden

AUGUST 14-16TH, 9-4P.M.
Lakeview Farms, off Lobdell Rd., 1/2 mile west of Linden Rd. MULTIPLE FAMILY GARAGE SALE!
Obituaries, Funerals, Services and Memorials

Michael J. Ashley
1942-2014
Michael Ashley - age 71, of Holly, died Friday, August 8, 2014. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at St. Rita Catholic Church of Holly. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery. Visitaton was held from 2-9 PM Monday and Tuesday at the Dryer Funeral Home. He was a member of St. Rita Catholic Church. He enjoyed hunting, golfing, ice fishing, attending his grandchildren's activities, and spending time at his pool for the past 30 summers. Surviving are his wife, Barbara; 3 children, John (Christine) Ashley, Renee (Jim) Scott, and Michele (Terry) Ashley (Vernon) Wildoy with 5 grandchildren, Jennifer, Sean, Lauren, Zachary, and Jillian; siblings; Dennis (Monica) Ashley, Brian (Kathy) Ashley, Patricia (Aaron) Kleckner, Dan (Christine) Ashley, and Colleen (Tom) Cianciolo. Memorial contributions may be made to the Zion Lutheran Church.

Paula Ann Gilreath
1966-2014
Paula Ann Gilreath - age 48, of Linden, died Friday, August 8, 2014. Funeral services will be held 12 noon Saturday, August 16, 2014 at Sharp Funeral Homes, 209 East Broad Street, Linden, Michigan. Visitaton will be held 1-8 PM Friday with a 7 PM prayer service, and 10 AM - 12 Noon Saturday. Those desiring may make contributions to University of Michigan Cancer Center. Paula was born April 30, 1966 in Hamtramck, the daughter of James and Frances (Topolski) Kalisz. She worked as a dental technician. Paula was survived by husband, Charles "Al" Gilreath; children, Angela (Jeff) Vadasz, Brandon Gilreath, Kara (Sean) Boillat, Scott Gilreath; grandchildren, Nicholas, Hans, Chloe, Palmer, Cade Vadasz and Casey Vadasz; sisters, Louise Prusac, Jenny Ream, Francine Kalisz, brother, James (Teresa) Kalisz; several nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles. She was preceded in death by her mother, Frances Ann Kalisz. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page of www.scpfuneralhomes.com.

Loretta Frances (Young) LaForest
1935-2014
Loretta Frances (Young) LaForest - of Ralph, MI, formerly of Linden, age 78, died Saturday, August 9, 2014 at home. Funeral service will be held at 11 AM Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at the Swartz Funeral Home, 125 West Hill Road, Pastor Joel Smeby officiating. Burial in Fairview Cemetery in Linden. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Metropolis, W4703 Metropolitan Road, Fitch, MI 48311. Loretta was born in Gayekw, West Virginia on October 30, 1935, daughter of Nellie and John Young, and eight children moving to Michigan in 1940 and they had two more. She was a resident of Linden, MI and Ralph, MI (in the Ryland area). Loretta attended Beaverton Rural Agricultural School, graduating in 1954. She married Lloyd Joseph LaForest in Flint, Michigan July 2, 1950 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. They had five children, Rebecca, Stephen, Cynthia, Lisa, and Karen. She worked for General Motors while Lloyd served eighteen months in the military. She remained a "stay at home" mom until 1973, when her political career began at Argentine Township as a Deputy Registration Clerk. She held several elected positions until her retirement from Argentine Township in 1997. She was very active, serving on the Board of Review, as Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer. Loretta was named "Business Associate" of the Linden Chapter of ABWA (American Business Women's Association). In 1992 she ran successfully for Argentine Treasurer. She served her fourth term, she was re-elected in 1996 and served one more term, then resigned to move to the Upper Peninsula, where she and Lloyd built a beautiful home on the 120 acres they had purchased. Loretta kept busy after moving to the U.P., being very active at Zion Lutheran Church as financial secretary and a quilter. She continued, her political career by being elected trustee of West Branch Township. She was also a member of the Board of Review, the Planning Commission and the Tri-County Ambulance Authority. She is survived by her children, Rebecca Kosial, Cynthia (Bryan) Umphe, Lisa Eby, Patricia (Ralph Mathis) and Karen (Carl) Smith; grandchildren, Joshua, Julie, Har ris, Michael Kosial, Kyle (Brinna) Harris, Jennifer (George) Boillat, Eric Eby (Kayla Powell), Tyler Wells; Samantha Smith and William Smith; great grandchildren, Oliver and Henry Harris and Alianna Eby; sisters, Louise LaForest and Susan Loretta (Scheele) of Tennessee. She was preceded in death by son, Stephen M. LaForest, who was killed in an auto accident the night of his high school graduation in 1977. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd J. LaForest, in 2007 after fighting a courageous battle against lung cancer. Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, John and Nellie Young; in-laws, Lawrence and Elizabeth LaForest and many other close friends and relatives. Your condolences may be shared with the family at www.swartzfuneralhomeinc.com.

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**DVD RELEASES**

**RAGE**

Paul Maguire (Academy Award winner Nicolas Cage, Leaving Las Vegas) is a respectable businessman and loving father living peaceful life... until his violent past comes back to haunt him. When his teenage daughter is taken from their home, Paul rounds up his old crew to help him find her... by any means necessary. His search for justice leads Paul down a dark and bloody path of revenge, betrayal and long buried secrets. Danny Glover (The Lethal Weapon films), Rachel Nichols (G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra) and Peter Stormare (Fargo) co-star in this heart-stopping thrill ride that shows no mercy. Unrated, 1 hr. 38 min.

**MUPPETS MOST WANTED**

Disney’s “Muppets Most Wanted” takes the entire Muppets gang on a global tour, selling out grand theaters in some of Europe’s most exciting destinations, including Berlin, Madrid, Dublin and London. But mayhem follows the Muppets overseas, as they find themselves unwittingly entangled in an international crime caper headed by Constantine—the World’s Number One Criminal and a dead ringer for Kermit the Frog—and his dastardly sidekick Dominic, aka Number Two, portrayed by Ricky Gervais. The film stars Tina Fey as Nadya, a feisty prison guard, and Ty Burrell as Interpol agent Jean Pierre Napoleon. PG, 1 hr. 47 min.

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**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

1. PC peripheral
6. Shrimp recipe
12. Tranquil
13. Establish by decree
14. Anti-elderly bias
15. Disguised, in a way
16. New Mexico resort
17. Tournament format
19. DDE’s WWII command
20. Rooney of “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo”
22. Frat party prop
24. Lamb’s dam
27. Showbiz egotist
29. Frat-party garb
32. Place for doctors-to-be
35. Poker variety
36. Oodles
37. Buck’s mate
38. Coquettish
40. Blood line?
42. Grazing land
44. Somewhere out there
46. Works with 50
52. Amount consumed
54. Big name in tabletopware
55. Small sofa
56. Cruel one
57. Up (excited)

**DOWN**

1. Humongous
2. Black-and-white snack
3. Basic religious belief
4. Halves of 24
5. Monument
6. To a degree
7. Part of a really old telephone
8. Commercials
9. Indemnify
10. Painter
11. Mondrian
12. Took a meeting
13. Ballet legend Anna
21. Mil. staffer
23. Biblical verb ending
24. Type measures
25. Drench
26. Learned
28. It shares a key with B
30. Stickum
31. Hearty brew
33. Altar affirmative
34. Vegas-based TV series
39. Gridiron stats
41. Eccentric
42. Asian nation
43. Sicilian spouter
45. Accomplishment
47. Fill till full
48. Out (supple mented)
49. Witness
51. Square root of IX
53. Born

*Answer provided by trustedreviews.com*
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- Three Group Lesson Series
- Two 45-minute Semi-Private Lessons for the Bridal Party
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- Performance at a Studio Dance Party

THE Diamond PACKAGE
Start Six Months Prior to Wedding Date
- Twenty-five Private Dance Lessons
- Choreography of your 1st Dance
- Four Group Lesson Series
- Three 45-minute Semi-Private Lessons for the Bridal Party
- Sixty Zumba Fitness® Classes
- Rehearsal Time (no instruction)
- Performance at a Studio Dance Party

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