PAGE 8-9B **Applefest** schedule of events

PAGE 10A **Best and worst** 'As Seen On TV items



PAGE 1B **Michigan second** largest appleproducing state



PAGE 6A: THE 42ND ANNUAL APPLEFEST KICKS **OFF THIS THURSDAY** 

# Weekend \* SUNDAY EDITION

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

2012 & 2013 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



### **So** America is

a racist country? We have a black president, black attorney general, subsidized affirmative action for years, and so on. How many white voters voted for Óbama? Stop the nonsense.

**Since** 

when is a single apple

worth almost \$27 No



Honeycrisps for me I guess.

### **C**Some 'Einstein'

finally pointed out that Americans throw out over seven billion



of paper you know.'

### **C I** received an email saying that this winter is



double the

if that is actually true or not?



### **GACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT** statistics, two of five children go to bed hungry, and three out of five children are obese. That's not possible. Typical of government to create illogical statistics with no basis in fact in order to promote their liberal agendas. 🎵



### Yes — there really are 1,264 parking spaces in downtown Fenton to visit. If you are of you might have to walk Not all are available to the public

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

It's apparent that the city of Fenton is doing something right as the downtown area continues to attract new businesses, develop-

**Pick-up and** 

drop-off hectic

experience at

local schools

Staff struggles to

keep traffic orderly

hicles and at least a dozen buses

wait as school lets out at Lake

Fenton Middle School (LFMS),

There's no other

place in the city

this happens. It's

a thousand people

See SCHOOLS on 11A

on a rainy Wednesday.

at beginning and

ment and events. However, with this expanding landscape come new headaches.

For some, these headaches come from trying to find a parking spot near to where they want

the "glass is half-full" mindset, this is a good problem to have because it means people want to be in downtown Fenton. If you have the "glass



is half-empty" mindset, it means

a ways to visit a favorite store or business.

<sup>\$</sup>1.00

Based on fluctuating city records, people looking for parking spaces in downtown Fenton have See PARKING on 15A

# Downtown icon on schedule for January completion



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Glaziers Pat King and Steve Whitehead install an aluminum window frame 30 feet in the air in the Cornerstone building Wednesday morning. These frames will be used in the stairwells, corners and store fronts. This week, exterior touches like shingling the window "eyebrows" were finished as masonry work continues.

### **Public hearing** on medical marijuana set for October 6

Moratorium extension required to accommodate public hearing

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

Fenton — Last month was supposed to see the last medical marijuana moratorium for Fenton — though it received one more extra adjustment at last Monday's city council meeting. However, there was one more adjustment that needed to be made.

See MARIJUANA on 6A

## Children's respiratory virus spreading to Michigan?

### **By Yvonne Stegall**

ystegall@tctimes.com;810-433-6792 Michigan health officials are investigating severe respiratory illnesses in children in Michigan, but haven't confirmed if they are associated with a national outbreak of enterovirus.

Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Public Information Officer Angela Minicuci said, "We have seen an increased number of respiratory illnesses coming into Michigan hospitals and doctor offices."



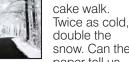
CLIPENDER.COM

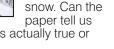
In addition to Missouri and Illinois, several states are investigating clusters of children with severe respiratory illness. possibly due to enterovirus D68. The CDC is watching this situation closely and helping the states with testing of specimens.

The Genesee County Health Department is working with MDCH to investigate the cases and determine if there is any association with the nationwide Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68). At this time, there have been See VIRUS on 13A

end of school day toilet paper **By Tim Jagielo** tubes each tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 year. Recycle Lake Fenton — For about them folks. They are made 20 minutes each weekday, a school can potentially be the busiest place in a city or township, traffic-wise. Scores of ve-

going to make last winter look like a



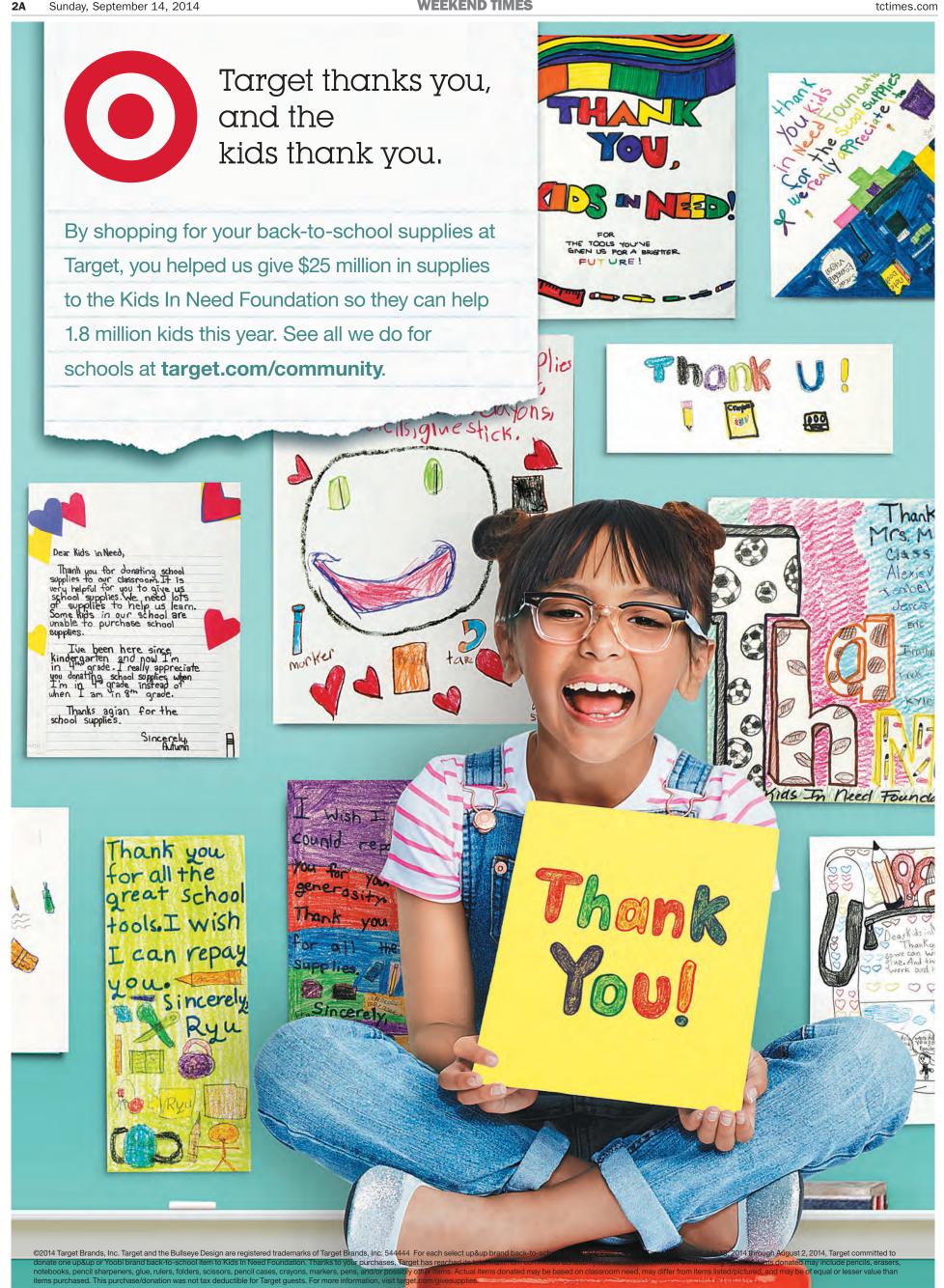




# accessing the same place at the same time.77 Heidie Ciesielski AGS Middle School principal



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Schools, such as Lake Fenton Middle School, are briefly congested with traffic, as students are dropped off or picked up for school.





# **NEWS**AND**FEATURES**

### SMART SOLUTIONS



### Monitor cough and still work

Next time your little one is home with the sniffles, make both of your lives easier by putting some walkie-talkies to work. Place one of them next to her bed and keep the other with you. This way, she can page you when she really needs you and you can monitor her cough and tackle your must-dos at the same time.



Next time stuff gnaws at you like that job you didn't get or your mother-inlaw's offhand comment — jot it down on a piece of scrap paper, then stash it in the folder marked "Healing." The act of filing it sends a signal to the brain that you are done with the thought and you can move on.

### TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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### TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Volunteers with the Fenton Rotary Club attach planks to the 36-foot ramp going in at this Holly Manor home. The rotary club identifies a family in need once a year, and spends a day and approximately \$2,000 to install a ramp to make the residents' lives less difficult.

# 'It's such a blessing' Rotary Ramp eases family's struggle with cancer

### By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com **Holly** — Angela Simms priced similar ramps to the impressive one materializing Thursday to the clatter of wood planks and drills at her home. For a basic ramp that would accommodate her grandmother's wheelchair would have cost the family \$8,000.

"There is no way we could have done this ourselves," said Simms. "We are so blessed."

On Thursday, the Fenton Rotary Club with more than a dozen volunteers erected a 36foot ramp, with landings outside her mother's mobile home. Simms, a professional caretaker,



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** I TIM JAGIELO Three generations in this home (from left) are Angela Simms, 48, Elaine Davis 90, and Virginia Reinhold, 70. Simms is taking care of both her grandmother and her mother, who has cancer. The ramp will make it possible for her grandmother to leave the house. had been called to help with her grandmother, and as her mother was diagnosed with cancer, suddenly was taking care of both.

After the day's work, the pay-off is the "maiden voyage" of the ramp that gives new freedom to someone in need. "It's a feel - good moment, the first time you see someone confined to their home for years are able to traverse the ramp and get the mail on their own," said Fenton Rotary Club Community Service Chair Brad Alvord.

This mobile home's door is 36-inches off the ground, meaning the ramp has to be 36feet long, per American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. There are two landings to make turns off the ramp to get to sidewalk level. The wood is treated, and weather proofed, and can be painted after a year of sitting.

If you contributed to the Rotary Club's Rubber Ducky Regatta in July, or any of the other events, this is where some of the money goes.

The project will cost about \$1,600, taking up most of the \$2,000 ramp-project budget, with materials and permits through the village of Holly. The ramp is a community service project, though Alvord said they can usually do one or two per year, so who they choose is significant.

In this case, there are three generations of women living there, a mother, grandmother and adult granddaughter. The grandmother is See **RAMP** on 15A

# Not so peachy this year

### Michigan loses half its peach crop from last winter's extreme cold

### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 "Just peachy" is not the way you'd describe Michigan's peach season this year.

Several stretches of extremely cold days last winter wiped out the majority of peach tree buds in prime peach-growing regions in southeast Michigan.

According to Bob Tritten, Michigan State University Extension district fruit educator, there's not one grower with one peach out of 60 peach growers in that region. He said it's been

decades since the losses were this staggering. At Spicer

At Spicer Orchards, between Fenton and Hartland, 750 of their 900 peach trees were lost due to the ex-



treme cold. "We'll have to replace those trees by replanting and it will take about five years for them to reproduce again," said Alyse Schneider of Spicer's.

This local orchard and farm market was able to bring in peaches from the Grand Rapids area, whose crop was slightly more protected due to lake effect. However, the See PEACHY on 12A



SODANDMULCH.COM

Due to the extreme cold temperatures from last winter, many Michigan peach orchards, including Spicer Orchards, lost a significant number of peach trees.



# Reward or punish?

Like most everyone my age I played else. If you wanted it back, you had to earn it. both organized baseball and football as a

kid. The primary lesson I took from these competitive experiences is that if you want to win at whatever group endeavor you are involved in, reward the people who produce, not the ones who don't.

I learned this in Little League baseball and all the way through high school football. The best runners, hitters, catchers, blockers, tacklers and throwers made the team each year. If you didn't produce or excel in one or more

of these skill-sets, you didn't make the team. And even if you did make the team, you quickly learned to work even harder if you wanted to stay a starter. If you slacked off you were benched and replaced by someone



TO THE DEMOCRAT thinking Obama won't be running for President during the elections - mark my word, Obama will take his mighty pen and sign in to law by executive order to abolish presidential voting and become America's first dictator.

### 

TO THE DOG hater, I own three Chow Chows, two black and one white. Chows have the reputation of being ferocious dogs around children. All three of mine are afraid of children. Everyone who greets my blonde Chow falls in love with him. He is so precious.

WHY ARE THE kids living in the Eastview Drive trailer park being dropped off on North Road at East Bay Park? That's a long walk on rainy and freezing cold days. According to the schedule, they're to be picked up and dropped off at Éastview Drive.

THINGS ARE BETTER in America? What planet do you reside on? Literally, our entire world is on fire. Heads being decapitated, Ebola running rampant with no end in sight. Obama is in over his head and hides on the golf course. Pelosi only wags her finger and Feinstein can't get the 'boys' to listen. Only God can possibly help us.

PELOSI AND FEINSTEIN do not run the country, nice try in attempting to

Compiled by Yvonne Stegall, staff reporter



It's a simple, proven formula: If you want

to win — reward the producers. It's a formula that has been the blueprint for success since the beginning of time.

America became the leader of the world by following this principle for 200 years. Now, the liberal politicians, led by President Obama, have destroyed that principle in just six years. They have used our government tax dollars - yours and mine — as an incentive to build a constituency that can be

counted on to vote for the politicians who can assure them of a life of leisure and idleness — subsidized with a glut of monthly checks in addition to free food, free health care, free rent and even a free cell phone.

catch a sexist Democrat off guard, to further your agenda.

I GOTTA QUIT watching Obama on TV. Maybe he'd make a good actor in Hollywood. In his mind, he's a great talker, but I think you can take the word 'great' out of there.

### 

I VOTED FOR Barack Obama but as time goes by I wonder more and more if he really does understand world politics and how much is at stake.

THE PRESIDENT IS doing his best during a time of stress and responsibility never before experienced by our country. How about considering all the great things he has already accomplished? 

I'D LIKE TO thank the idiot shopper at Home Depot on Friday for putting his cart in the handicap parking spot. Thanks a lot. 

TO THE PERSON complaining about people with handicap stickers, I have them. I have asthma, a hip replacement, and had a knee replaced. I walk all over.

WE LOVE TROUBLE, left versus right, gay versus straight. People standing in their yards yapping on their cell phones, we get to hear all their dirty laundry. That's why reality TV is so popular. Enough already, give me a break.

YOUR ARTICLE said to research online to learn how to fix your computer. What if someone only owns one computer? What if that someone is me? Did you ever think of that?

I DON'T KNOW much, but I know those dog owners must have an axe to grind. 

To put it another way, our current leaders are rewarding the citizens who don't produce and punishing those who do produce.

How would that work if the Detroit Tigers operated that way? Or the Lions? Or

the Red Wings? Or MSU or U of M? How successful would **44**...our current any of them be if they were managed by the same fools who rule America today?

We all know the answer to that. They would fail miserably. Oh, they might stumble along for a period of time due and punishing to their successful past, but ultimately they would be forced to either close their doors or hire a new management team.

So, why would anyone consciously perpetuate an agenda that is certain to result in social and fiscal suicide? The only possible explanation is personal gain — the perpetrators are enriching

I CAN ONLY hope the Republicans take over the Senate and the House and then maybe they can impeach Obama for malfeasance of office. If you don't know what that word means, look it up in the dictionary.

### GOOD MORNING HOLLYWOOD!

WATCHED ABC NEWS and watched the video of Ray Rice getting suspended for knocking out his so-called fiancé. He then said, 'she cannot do wrong, she's an angel.' So you beat up angels? You should be beat.

TWO FENTON RESIDENTS get a year in prison for lying, yet VA administrators get bonuses, Susan Rice gets a promotion and Lois Lerner gets 3 or 5 months off with pay. Moral of the story: if you're going to tell a lie, make sure you're a Federal employee. 

### I DO AGREE with the person as far as handicap parking spaces. You have to understand that all symptoms are not always a bad leg. My friend has MS and needs handicapped. Our problem is doctors who give handicap stickers to people who really do not need them.

HEY ROSE TOWNSHIP representatives, how about getting off your duffs and getting out in the field to see what's going on in our Township instead of giving us the same old answer by phone or when we come in 'I don't know.'

LOVE THE NEW Fenton Tiger banners in Dibbleville, from a proud Tiger Alum.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

# leaders are rewarding the citizens who don't produce

those who do

produce. 77

themselves at the expense of our country. Or, to put it more simply, they are committing treason.

United States Code 18, U.S.C. § 2381 states 'whoever, owing allegiance to the United States, levies war against them or

adheres to their enemies... is guilty of treason and shall suffer death...and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States.'

Let me say it again. The elected politicians that rule in America right now are traitors. They have consciously made the choice to betray their country for personal gain and personal power.

On November 4, 2014, we will have a choice – the choice either to reward them for their performance, or to punish them for their performance.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not neces-sarily 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.



Letters, 150 words or less must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and liability. Letters must be written exclusively for the Times.

### Michigan's wolf hunt

Dear Editor,

Your article 'Michigan wolf hunt - the great controversy' on Sept. 3 fails to mention the misleadingly named 'Scientific Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act' recently passed by the legislature. It is simply an attempt to silence voters, and has nothing to do with science. In fact, esteemed wolf scientists, including those in Michigan, maintain that there is no scientific justification to hunt wolves to control conflicts. Current law already allows lethal control of problem wolves, and it's working. A wolf hunt would be just for trophies, or to kill wolves out of hatred, ignorance, or fear. What is 'scientific' about that? Fortunately, wolf advocates (including many sportsmen and women) have placed two referendums on the November ballot to overturn wolf hunting laws and protect our right to vote on wildlife issues. Visit www. KeepWolvesProtected.com to learn more, and vote 'no' on Proposal 1 and Proposal 2 in the November election. Thank you.

> Trish Marie, Grand Blanc

# What has been your experience with road rage?



"I see people going down the road cutting people off for no reason all the time."

— Keith Craffey

Fenton



"I've seen it and I think it's absurd. People need to chill and think of the other drivers and people on the road."

– Pam Glomstead Waterford



"I always see people cutting off others on 75."





someone with road rage many times. To me, it seems silly. Why get so mad over something so trivial?"





"I get enraged when someone passes me on the highway but then goes the same speed and holds up traffic from both lanes. Either pass or don't!"

– Wyatt Rich, Vassar



street talk

"I've had personal experiences, and think people need to reach out to family. Think of the consequences of your actions."

– Jason VanDeWater, Argentine Township

### Internet users could face slower downloads. more fees with proposed FCC rules

Summarv

Internet access is

under attack, and if

win, people will be

the ones paying for

it. The price will be

loading, and more

charges.

blocked sites, slower

the cable companies

### By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Wednesday was a day of protest in the

war on the Internet. According to a Time.com article, "a coalition of tech companies and Open Internet activists claimed victory Wednesday evening after a day-long campaign, Battle for the Net, succeeded in swamping the federal government with millions of public comments demanding that the Federal

Communications Commission (FCC) scrap its proposed rules governing net neutrality and write new ones."

For anyone not privy to what net neutrality is (which likely would only

be people not using the Internet on a regular basis), it is "the Internet's guiding principle: It preserves our right to communicate freely online," according to savetheinternet.com.It is free speech on the Internet, and the allowance of open networks. It means that people can watch streaming videos of their

favorite TV shows, and more, without someone saying they've used too much broadband, or infringed on a television company's rights. It's about treating all Internet traffic equally.

A good comparison is the phone company. They don't say whom you can call, and they don't have any concern with what you say when you are on the phone.

Why should an Internet Service Provider (ISP) care what someone is doing with the Internet service they are paying for?

In January 2014, a court decision destroyed protections that kept the Internet open and allowed users' privacy and individual choice. ISPs like AT&T, Comcast and Verizon want to take what they've done with cable TV and use it to manage the Internet, too

While the FCC's 2010 ruling that allowed

net neutrality has been struck down by courts, it doesn't mean that the courts are against net neutrality. According to

savetheinternet.com, it means that the court doesn't believe that the FCC has the ability to properly regulate open Internet.

What the loss of net neutrality means to those who spend time on the Internet is more time waiting for certain sites to load, more dropped emails, and the possibility of

paving more for certain services. ISPs will be charging certain sites, like Netflix, extra to allow for faster services to their customers, and whom will that excess cost be passed onto? The con-

sumer, of course. If the site doesn't pay the fee, they may be blocked by certain ISPs, leaving the consumer without their favorite website(s).

Netflix public relations spokesperson Anne Marie Squeo said, via email, "Consumers, not broadband gatekeepers, should pick the winners and losers on the

Internet. Strong net neutrality rules are needed to stop Internet Service Providers from demanding extra fees or slowing delivery of content to consumers who already have paid for Internet access. Any FCC rules must ensure access to content without ISPs favoring, impeding or charging particular content companies."

> On the day of the battle, members of Congress were receiving an average of 1,000 calls per minute, according to Free Press, a public advocacy organization that underwrote the campaign in support of net neutrality. The FCC reported that its rule on net neutrality, which is open for public comments

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> • 10A.M. to 5P.M. Food Concessions by Kiwanis HAVE FUN WITH YOUR CAR & LET OTHERS ENJOY! Music by Throttle Up No Entry Fee Youth Activities FREE Moonwalk No Classes by Great Party No Judging Productions • All Makes, Models Raffles ..... Clubs Welcome Arts & Crafts Come & Go at Will Orchard Apples, Cider & Donuts Bikes Welcome A Great Way to Enjoy Buying Local!

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**Consumers**, not broadband gatekeepers, should pick the winners and losers on the Internet.77 **Anne Marie Squeo** 

Netflix PR

### Companies and websites that participated in the

### 'Battle for the Net' Common Cause

American Civil Liberties Union Twitter Tumblr Netflix Kickstarter Etsy Vimeo WordPress Digg Greenpeace Reddit Dropbox Meetup Source: battleforthenet.com



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until Sept. 15, has officially generated more public comments - 1.4 million and counting — than any other rule making in its history. The right agent, the right coverage, the right price.

### MARIJUANA

### Continued from Front Page

While the issue was addressed at the August planning commission meeting, the board decided to schedule a public hearing to take into consideration the opinions of the public. The hearing is

scheduled to take place Oct. 6. City Manager Lynn Markland said that when the moratorium was extended previously, the possibility of holding a public hearing, as well as the time required to schedule one, was not something factored into the extension's timeframe.

The moratorium on land uses for marijuana for medical purposes is in place to allow the city to determine how to proceed with the issue. The last extension was made to provide the Planning Commission time to make a recommendation

### **44** ... I expect it will be done actually before then. **77**

Lynn Markland Fenton City manager

to the City Council on how the city should act upon the issue. The new moratorium is set to expire

Dec. 1 of this year, or until an ordinance is enacted. "Once the planning commission makes their recommendation, I expect the

city council to reach a decision and I expect it will be done actually before then," Markland said.

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.

<image>

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# **Applefest time is here!**

The 42nd annual Applefest kicks off this Thursday

### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 There are two certainties when it comes to food at the annual St. John's Applefest, debuting this Thursday, Sept.

18 through Sunday, Sept. 21 — apples and chili. Both are "stars of the show" at the

tri-county's largest festival, now in its 42nd year.

"Fr. Harvey's already working on prepping his 'Padre's Chili," said Mary Gorzenski, from the office at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton. It takes all day to make the chili, and involves dozens of volunteers. It's always a sell-out, even when he has made as much as 150 gallons.

Harvey has been making the chili for more than 25 years, and is even making it again this year, although he retired as Senior Pastor at St. John's in 2013.

His successor, Fr. Dwight Ezop, and new associate priest Fr. Jim Rolph will not be making any chili, but they plan to greet and visit with as many people as possible during Applefest.

"I'm looking forward to not only a bumper crop of apples, but also a bumper crop of visitors to Applefest," said Ezop.

"Padre's Chili" is nearly as popular as the festival's

homemade apple pies. "We'll be selling over 2,000 apple pies, including 800 donated pies," said Dave McDermott, general chair of Applefest with his wife, Sara, for the past three

years. Volunteers will be picking up apples at Spicer Orchards on Saturday, and then will begin the huge task of making pies on Sun-

day. In addition to pies, caramel apples are another festival favorite.

There will be plenty of other food and entertainment, too. The popular Fish Fry, Sausage and Grill Stand, a taco stand, coffee shop and all of the carnival fixins'



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** I FILE PHOTO Alice Yelen of Fenton helps prepare tomatoes for Applefest chili in 2012 at the St. John the Evangelist Church Activity Center.

will be in plentiful supply.

FATHER

HARVEY'S

CHILI RECIPE

Included with

this story online

APPLEFEST

SCHEDULE

Page 8-9B

The Entertainment Tent will feature bands all three nights, including the Great Lakes Premiere Tim McGraw Tribute Band on Thursday, "Looking Back" Bob Seger Tribute Band on Friday and Rook on

Saturday, all starting at 8 p.m. The Midway of carnival rides and all the other festival events open on Thursday at 3 p.m., and then again on Friday at 3 p.m. The fun continues Saturday and Sunday until 6

p.m., followed by the Grand Prize Raffle Drawing on Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

"We'll be raffling off the winner's choice of a three-year lease on a Ca-

*PBB* dillac CTS, Chrysler 200, Chevy Impala and Buick Regal," said McDermott. "The winner also has the option of a Regal Pontoon from White's Landing or a \$10,000 cash prize."

In anticipation of burning off all those apple pie and chili calories, the Applefest Road Race steps out on Saturday, Sept. 20 offering a 10k run, 5k run/walk, onemile walk and quarter-mile kids' run.



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PLUMBING PROBLEMS?

🐡 Tankless Hot Water Heaters 👻 Video Inspection 🕸 Water Heaters

PLUMBING SERVICE CALL



4 Beds, 2.5 Baths & 1,700 Sq. Ft.



### **Makers & Doers Festival**

The third annual Makers & Doers Festival (formerly Weekend in the Country) will return Saturday, Sept. 27 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday, Sept. 28 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to the Oakland County Fairgrounds at Springfield Oaks, 12451 Andersonville Rd., Davisburg. Boasting 125 juried artisans, crafters, makers and doers with a sprinkle of vintage, entertainment and food, festival attendees can also enjoy on-site appraisals provided by famed Doug Dalton Auctioneer for \$5 per item. Guests can also visit the Drunken Goat Saloon hosted by Fenton Winery & Brewery featuring local singer songwriters, Makers & Doers presentations including seasonal décor tips from nationally recognized blogger and designer Sarah Macklem, a food truck alley including Rollin' Stone Pizzas, Ned's TravelBurger, and more. Cost is \$6 per person, \$20 early buy shopping weekend pass gets you in at 8:30 a.m. both days and \$5 per item appraised. Kids 12 and under are free. Free parking in large onsite lot as well.

### **Tyrone Historical Society**

The Tyrone Historical Society will meet at the township hall, 10408 Center Rd., on Monday, Sept. 15. A potluck dinner will begin at 6 p.m. There will be a short meeting, followed by their program. Jen McKeon-Anderson and David Anderson will present a history of St. Augustine Church on Faussett Road and the process of getting it designated as a state historic site. All are welcome. For more information, call (810) 629-2031.

# Best and worst 'As Seen On TV' items

### Some are ingenious others ridiculous

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

You've seen the infomercials and you've seen the racks at your favorite pharmacy and big box stores, but have you tried any of the prod-



ucts yourself? If you have, you already know that while some "As Seen On TV" items are wonderful, there are plenty that don't live up to their miraculous TV spots.

While the only "As Seen On TV" item I ever bought directly through the television



was my first Magic Bullet, I have bought plenty of them from the store, including the "As Seen On TV" store at Great Lakes Crossing Outlets in Auburn Hills. I make it a point to stroll through that store every chance I get. Some of the items

are comical, like

Robocut and Cami Secret. While I haven't tried either of these, I did fall for the StufZ stuffed burger maker and the Perfect Tortilla, both of which were a waste of money. The StufZ seemed great until I started to actually cook my burgers, which then started to fall apart and lose





Many stores dedicate entire sections to "As Seen On TV" products, like this one at Kmart.

all of the stuff I stuffed in them. The Perfect Tortilla made tortilla bowls that tasted perfectly stale, even though they were fresh before going in the oven. These duds

don't stop me from trying out new items though. The Magic Bullet has been one of my favorite kitchen gadgets for years. When the first one I bought from a TV infomercial finally died, I tried a cheaper fake and found that the real thing is the only way to go.

I'm not the only person who loves kitchen gadgets and great TV products. Stacy Mielcarek at Yesterday's Treasures in Fenton said, "I paid I think \$80 for a fry pan that was supposed to thaw and cook everything at once. It was a thin, cheap, China product that had the Teflon wear off within months...Over priced and over hyped!"

Summary

Pillow Pets to

StufZ, we've

all seen the

that make

commercials

us shake our

heads. Here are some of the

best and worst

of "As Seen On

TV" products.

From

Not all "As Seen On TV" items are for the kitchen, or even for adults. Kids love Pillow Pets, and other kid-centered items that were made popular by infomercials. At 19, my stepdaughter still "collects" Pillow Pets.

While there really is no way to know if an item you've seen

on TV is a good deal, it doesn't hurt to check with other people first. Maybe you'll find a friend has already tried that item you've been dying to get. If they had bad luck with it, then you can save your money. It reminds me of the Orgreenic fry pan. I thought it would be amazing to have such a miraculous nonstick pan, until I spoke to someone who tried it. Worked perfect the first time, and then after that it stuck every time!



You won't believe these items!



### Slobstopper

protection for those who like to eat and drink while they drive down the road



Better Marriage Blanket

absorbs fart odors, so husbands and wives can breathe fresh air at night

### PooTrap

forthosedogowners who are too lazy to pick up poop while walking their dogs, instead the dog walks around with a bag attached to his or her butt



Source: smosh.com

### **Fenton man** indicted for filing false tax returns

Accountant's business clients unaware of false reporting

Kleppe Houston of Fenton was arraigned Tuesday on an indictment charging him with five counts of filing false tax returns, according to United States Attorney Barbara L. McQuade.

McQuade made the announcement with Jarod Koopman, acting special agent in charge of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

According to the indictment, Houston, owner of Co-HR, LLC, a human resource management firm in Pontiac, prepared and filed false tax returns for businesses. The firm provided payroll services to Health Management Systems of America, Binson's Hearing Aid Services and Northwood Provider Network Services.

Houston prepared and filed five Employers' Quarterly Federal Tax Returns for these employers, falsely reporting that more than \$393,381 in payroll taxes had been remitted with the returns. Houston knew, but his clients did not, that the amount remitted with each return was substantially less than reported, according to the indictment.

See INDICTED on 12A

### SCHOOLS **Continued from Front Page**

Those picking up students are only allowed to turn right out of the lot onto North Long Lake Road, otherwise a choke-point can form. "The parents police themselves," said Principal Dan Ferguson. On Wednesday, parents "honked" at anyone who held up traffic as they made their way in.

In the morning and afternoon drop-off times, practically everyone is in a hurry, which is a concern and an issue at most tri-county area schools.

Maybe busiest of all is Andrew G. Schmidt Middle School (AGS). Principal Heidie Ciesielski wanted to remind drivers that student safety is their primary concern — and safety may not equate to convenience for parents dropping off students.

With 1,200 students at the high school, and 800 at AGS, there is overlap in pickup and drop-off times along Donaldson Drive, culminating into a perfect storm of congestion. "There's no other place in the city this happens," she said. "It's a thousand people accessing the same place at the same time."

Ciesielski has seen parents cut each other off, or enter the drop-off area in the wrong place, usually in the name of being in a hurry.

At both AGS and LFMS, parents and buses are required to enter, drop off and exit in a certain way to keep the flow of traffic moving, which is normally covered in a parent orientation. At AGS, Ciesielski recommends following the signs — enter and exit at the right spot.

At LFMS, parents must exit and turn right as they leave. There's even a designated grade 6, and grades 7 and 8 lane.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Lake Fenton Middle School students head to buses and family vehicles as school lets out in the rain on Wednesday. Schools are congested with traffic each morning and afternoon. Following the rules can help keep order.

Ferguson said that without a doubt, the most congested times are five minutes before they let out of school until five minutes after school. He said the addition of 100 Schools of Choice students per building, who must transport their own children, also adds to the challenge.

In either case, arriving a little early can alleviate some of the congestion, and get in and out quicker. "Avoid the fiveminute window before or after school," said Ferguson. "Certainly before school, the lot fills up the closer we get to 7:20

so if a drop-off at 7:10 is possible it will alleviate much of the problem."

Superintendent Wayne Wright cautioned against arriving as early as 45 minutes ahead of time, though. "Coming too early has caused a huge problem," he said via email.

One thing those dropping off students can do to speed things up, is being prepared with school supplies and instruments at the curb. "Being as intentional as having the items in the backseat on the curb side may help," he said.



\*Quantities are limited. Not applicable with any other on going promotions. See Sales Rep for complete details. Financing based on approved credit.



### WEEKEND TIMES

**HOT LINE** CONTINUED THE SPREAD BETWEEN regular and premium used to be about 20

cents, now it's about 30 cents at most

politicians have served in the military

I'VE GOT A talent for seeing which

and which haven't. You can tell. You

learn things in the military that stay

with you the rest of your life and you

can't learn anywhere else. It's easy to

tell the ones who have from the ones

'MONTNEY REUNION,' IT'S time to

take your sign down at Fenton and 23

HANDICAP PARKING IS not just for

people in wheelchairs, with crutches

or canes. It's also for people who

by the way they walk.

spot for shopping.

have heart problems and breathing

problems. You can't judge people just

HANDICAP STICKERS ARE not just

people can't drive due to medical rea-

for vehicle drivers. They are also for

passengers of said vehicles. Some

sons and still need a better parking

service drive. It's been there way too

long. Show some responsibility.

places.

who haven't.

# **Beacon flasher to be installed**

NORTHAMERICATRAFFIC.COM

If approved by MDOT, the

stop sign on Jennings Road

Unusual history of crashes causing safety concerns at Thompson and Jennings roads

### **By Yvonne Stegall**

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Fenton Township has approved a proposed installation of a beacon flasher

atop the stop sign for Jennings Road traffic at the Thompson Road intersection. The Genesee County Road Commission, due to a history of accidents at this intersection, identified an unusual crash experience. In response, the road commission asked that the township participate in a plan to make the intersection safer for motorists.

According to the Michiat Thompson Road will get a flashing red light added gan Department of Transportation (MDOT), local in 2016. townships must participate

in road improvements. A unanimous vote by the Fenton Township Board of Trustees

on Monday means that the application for the 2016 Federal Aid Safety Funds to help pay for the construction of this flasher will be submitted to MDOT.

The safety fund will pay for 80 percent of the total cost of installation, which is \$21,000. In a break-down, the safety fund will cover \$16,000, while the township

will pay \$4,000 and the road commission will pay \$1,000.

"This flasher is needed to improve safety in the township," said Supervisor Bonnie Mathis.

Ken Johnson with the road commission said. "It's proposed to put up flashing lights on the stop sign." He added that they have already started to attach reflective strips to the signposts.

The application will be submitted, but the funds are for 2016, so it will still

be some time before any work begins if the application is accepted.

### INDICTED Continued from Page 11A

"Our tax system depends on the honest cooperation and integrity of every citizen and business owner," said Koopman. "Employers that engage payroll service companies, and their employees whose wages have amounts withheld for payroll tax purposes, have every right to expect that those funds will be used for the payment of their taxes. The government has the same expectation."

The case was investigated by special agents of the IRS Criminal Investigation

### PEACHY **Continued from Page 3A**

prices were up substantially because of high demand and low supply. "Normally, a bushel of peaches would be about \$48 and this year, we had to sell a bushel for

\$72.95," said Schneider. Overall, in Michigan, the state's crop is down about 50 percent from last year. In 2013, Michigan harvested 41 million pounds of the fruit, ranking fourth in the nation for peach production. This year, the harvested crop was about 20 million pounds, dropping Michigan to number eight in U.S. peach production.

Thankfully, it's a much happier story in Michigan's apple production this fall (see Lifestyle on Page 1B).





💫 Linden Lions Club	VG's Food Center Fenton • 810-629-2627	Subway Linden • 810-735-5381
12TH ANNUAL	The State Bank Linden • 810-714-1175	Serendipity Linden + 810-735-6868
	Caretel Inns of Linden Linden • 810-735-9400	Muffler Man of Michigan Linden • 810-735-4385
Saturday, October 4th, 2014 12:30 p.m. registration • 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start	Fenton Deli Fenton • 810-433-0712	Uncle Ray's Dairyland Fenton • 810-629-1791
Coyote Preserve Golf Club Fenton, Michigan	John's Pizzeria & Cocktails Fenton • 810-629-5060	Beale St. Smokehouse BBC Fenton • 810-750-0507
Is to benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind, Michigan Eye Bank and More!	Buffalo Wild Wings Fenton • 810-629-0099	Lake Effect Auto Wash Fenton • 810-714-9368
Team Entry - \$320 (\$80 per golfer) Includes dinner, 18 Holes with Cart, Golf Balls & more!	Fenton Winery & Brewery Fenton • 810-373-4194	Lisa's Dog Grooming Flushing • 810-659-2003
First, Second and Third Place Team Prizes Awarded Sponsor Entry - \$400 Includes Hole Sponsorship and One Team Entry.	Shirley's Cafe & Grill Linden • 810-735-6861	The Laundry Fenton • 810-629-8852
Hole Sponsorship Only - \$100		Saginaw Spirits Hockey Saginaw • 989-497-7747
Due contest will consist of a chance at four great prizes on four different par three holes.	Ace Village Hardware Linden • 810-735-4100	Plymouth Whalers Hockey Plymouth • 734-453-8400
	Mancino's Fenton • 810-714-2000	Servpro Adrian • 517-265-6200
Please List Each Golfer	Biggby Coffee	Culver's Fenton • 810-208-7503
(2)Phone# (3)Phone#	Fairfield Inn & Suites Fenton • 810-629-0400	Boston's Fenton • 810-750-5800
(4)Phone #Phone	Great Lakes Loons 989-837-BALL	EarthWorks Linden Florist Linden • 810-735-0952
Phone#	Fenton Hotel Fenton • 810-750-9463	Muffler Man Linden • 810-735-4385
Lonail (S320 per ream (S340 Spaper's Europ)	Fenton House Fenton • 810-629-0661	Planks on the Lake Linden • 810-735-0090
Sign up deadline: September 27, 2014	Hungry Howies Pizza	Crust
)	I2TH ANNUAL A-Peerson Golf Screamber, Saturday, October 4th, 2014 I2:30 p.m. registration • 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start Coyote Preserve Golf Club Tenton, Michigan Isto benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind, Michigan Eye Bank and Morel COST Ream Entry • \$320 (\$80 per golfer) Includes dinner, IS Holes with Cart, Golf Balls & more! First, Second and Third Place Team Prizes Awarded Sponsor Entry • \$400 Includes Hole Sponsorship and One Team Entry. Hole Sponsorship Only • \$100 Mole contest will consist of a chance at four great prizes on four different par three holes. to included will be Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive (\$10 Entry Fee per Player) Please List Each Golfer 1 <p< td=""><td>Linden Lions Club I2TH ANNUAL A-Person Golf Scramble Saturday, October 4th, 2014 I2:30 p.m. registration • 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start Coyote Preserve Golf Club Fenton Michigan Is to benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind, Michigan Eye Bank and Morel COST Ream Entry - \$320 (S80 per golfer) Includes dinner, Is fieles with Carr, Golf Balls &amp; morel First, Second and Third Place Team Prizes Awarded Sponsor Entry - \$400 Includes Hole Sponsorship and One Team Entry. Hole-int-One Contest Closest to Pin + Longest Drive Mole Sponsorship Only - S100 Hole-int-One Contest Closest to Pin + Longest Drive Sto Team Skins 100% Payout Please List Each Golfer 10 11 11 12 12 12 13 14 14 14 14 15 14 14 14 15 14 16 16 16 16 16 16 17 16 18 16 18 16 18 16 18 16 18 18 16 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 19 18 19 19 19 10</td></p<>	Linden Lions Club I2TH ANNUAL A-Person Golf Scramble Saturday, October 4th, 2014 I2:30 p.m. registration • 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start Coyote Preserve Golf Club Fenton Michigan Is to benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind, Michigan Eye Bank and Morel COST Ream Entry - \$320 (S80 per golfer) Includes dinner, Is fieles with Carr, Golf Balls & morel First, Second and Third Place Team Prizes Awarded Sponsor Entry - \$400 Includes Hole Sponsorship and One Team Entry. Hole-int-One Contest Closest to Pin + Longest Drive Mole Sponsorship Only - S100 Hole-int-One Contest Closest to Pin + Longest Drive Sto Team Skins 100% Payout Please List Each Golfer 10 11 11 12 12 12 13 14 14 14 14 15 14 14 14 15 14 16 16 16 16 16 16 17 16 18 16 18 16 18 16 18 16 18 18 16 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 19 18 19 19 19 10

2014 Golf Outing Scramble is October 4th at 1:30 p.m. at Covote Preserve Golf Club **Questions: 810-735-9140** 

### VIRUS

**Continued from Front Page** 

no confirmed cases of EV-D68 in Michigan. MDCH will be forwarding samples for testing to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Enteroviruses are very common viruses, with more than 100 types. It is estimated that 10 to 15 million enterovirus infections occur in the U.S. each year, according to an information sheet released by the Oakland County Health Department. Enteroviruses are the second most frequent cause of "the common cold," and usually occur during the summer and fall.

Most enteroviruses are known to cause a variety of symptoms, but this strain, the EV-D68, has been associated

almost exclusively with respiratory disease. It causes mild to unusually severe respiratory illness.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has confirmed that the virus is in Missouri and Illinois, while several other states

are investigating clusters of children with severe respiratory illness, possibly due to EV-D68. The CDC is helping by testing specimens in order to confirm cases.

EV-D68 is most often seen in children ages 6 to 16, but can occur in people of all ages, and those with a history of asthma have an increased risk of infection. Symptoms can range from mild to severe and can include difficulty breathing, coughing, wheezing, fever and tachycardia (rapid heartbeat).

This virus can be spread even when a person doesn't have any symptoms. It is found in bodily secretions, including saliva, nasal mucus and sputum. One can be exposed by having close contact, such as touching or shaking hands, with an infected person and by touching objects or surfaces that have the virus on them, much like the cold virus.

Minicuci said, "The number one thing

# **Police&Fire**

THREAT FOUND ON BUS PUTS **FENTON SCHOOLS ON ALERT** A low-level threat was found on a Fenton Area Public School bus Friday morning, according to Superintendent Tim Jalkanen. Fenton police were notified and are investigating this incident. All students and staff were safely in the buildings. As a precaution, all school buildings remained in secure mode for the remainder of the day. Jalkanen said the safety of students and staff is their top priority.

Keep up with the Times DALY times online www.tctimes.com

As of yesterday we have seen a normal increase for this time of year, as far as respiratory illnesses. At this time we haven't seen anything unusual. 77 **Cindy Ficorelli** 

Media Spokesperson for Genesys Health System

extra precautions, like being vigilant with asthma medications and making sure children keep an inhaler with them at all times."

we are recommend-

ing is that people

take the same pre-

cautions they would

with any other virus,

like washing your

hands often and not

sharing drinks with

other people." She

added, "Children

and adults with

asthma need to take

There are no anti-viral medications or vaccinations currently available for the treatment of this virus. A mild infection can require symptomatic treatment, while those with severe respiratory illness caused by EV-D68 may need to be hospitalized and receive intensive supportive therapy.

Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) is one of many non-polio enteroviruses. EV-D68 infections are thought to occur less commonly than infections with other enteroviruses. EV-D68 was first identified in California in 1962. Compared with other enteroviruses, EV-D68 has been rarely reported in the United States for the last 40 years.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



### Ways to prevent EV-D68

WEEKEND TIMES

• Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds

• Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands • Avoid kissing, hugging, shaking hands, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs,

especially if someone is sick Stay home when feeling sick,

and talk with a doctor

 Cover mouth when coughing Source: oakgov.com

### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

HEARING AIDS COST an arm and a leg. If you don't have insurance, you can't afford to get them.

IN JULY 1981, Ronald Reagan instituted measures to restore Social Security. He sent measures to congress to get rid of the abuses and fraud that occurred underneath the Carter administration. In December 1981, he signed new legislation that allowed the taxation of Social Security in order to save the system.

WHETHER THE ISSUE is Putin and Russian aggression, ISIS, our economy, or immigration, president Obama has proved himself to be a weak president. He has the lowest approval rating of any president in the last 70 years.

### 

A NEW POLL shows that 57 percent of Americans oppose the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare. People in the medical field say it is not working and is ruining health care for the future.

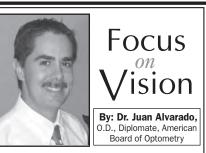
MY NEWSPAPER DOWN south

finally got a picture of Obama on the front page where he looks like he's talking to adults instead of a firstgrade class.

### 

I'M THE GUY on crutches. I don't park in those spaces because I don't need it. This isn't permanent. I walk half way across the parking lot and leave those spaces for someone else.





### WHAT CAN I DO FOR **RED ITCHY EYES?**

Eyes that become irritated, red, and predominantly itchy are usually suffering from allergic conjunctivitis. The conjunctiva is the clear membrane over the white part of the eye or sclera. Mildly red itchy eye may be helped with just using cold compresses and/or over the counter products such as Visine or Vasocon-A.

If these do not relieve the symptoms, it is best to see an optometrist. When I see a patient with a red eye, I first take a case history, this will often tell us what is causing the red eye. Then I examine the eyes with a slit lamp. A slit lamp is like a microscope to examine the eyes. This instrument enables me to determine if a red eye is from infection, such as bacterial, viral, toxic, or allergic.

Spring and the fall seasons are the most common for allergy. There are very effective allergy eye drops your optometrist can prescribe that are usually much more effective than the over the counter drops.

So, the next time you get a red irritated eye, call for an appointment and we will find the cause and prescribe the appropriate drops to clear the redness and make you more comfortable.





f

13A

**WEEKEND TIMES** 



park. The current recipient actually met

them while it was being built, before her

Alvord and his crew is pretty good at it.

'We just tell everyone to show up with

After eight years of building ramps,

bout with cancer.

# Social News

**ANNIVERSARY** 



### RUTTERS CELEBRATE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Thomas (Al) and Lois Rutter of Linden will be celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary on September 12. Rutter, a World War II veteran, and the former Lois Erickson of Flint, were married on September 12, 1939. They have five daughters: Jean Schoeppach (Jack) of Linden; Carol Vie of Phoenix, Arizona; Lynda Hutchings (Bob) of Linden; Jill Welshans of Linden and Cheri Smith (Cris) of Fenton. They also have 13 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren. A celebration was held for their anniversary on July 19, 2014 at the Shiawassee Shores Clubhouse in Linden. All 58 family members of their daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren were in attendance. Al and Lois were driven to the anniversary party in a 1930 Model T, the same model Al drove in high school, compliments of Roger Sharp at Sharp Funeral Homes.

**Guests to** 

should use

the parking

lot behind

the police

city hall.77

Fenton police chief

**Rick Aro**,

the downtown

area for events

department and

### PARKING

**Continued from Front Page** 

more than 1,200 spots from which to choose. The city's most recent report from 2011 listed 1,273 public/private spots. While there are several hundred public

parking spaces available, there are also hundreds of spaces dedicated to private businesses and residences.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said the police department and city are in the process of generating a map and a list showing where all of the current parking spaces are located. With the construction of the Cornerstone building and subsequent construction traffic and equipment, several spots are now unavailable. This situation of lost public spaces also occurred at the new Fire Hall restaurant.

Of the city's list of public and private spaces (see sidebar), not all of these spaces are for the general public.

Aro recommends guests to the downtown area for events use the parking lot behind the police department and city hall, the parking lots adjacent to the community center or on any of the nearby side streets. Customers or clients of a specific business should use available spots for that particular business.

There are approximately 150 spots by the community center and close to 200 behind the police department. Aro advised though to be conscious of the parking spots in that area because some are marked for the residents of Millpond Manor.

When seeking a parking spot in any business parking lot, Aro advises all motorists to make sure there is no sign indicating that the lot is private. Recently, the cars of about a dozen angry people were towed from a privately owned business parking lot during the Back to the Bricks Tune-Up event.

In August, the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) briefly discussed the parking issues, looking at possible ideas such as utilizing a parking structure, and turning an empty parcel of land that is owned by the city near the grain elevator building.

After consulting with the city's engineers, it was suggested that the parcel of land could be turned into a parking lot

containing approximately 50 parking spaces, at a cost that would ultimately come out to an estimated \$5,000 per space, or a quarter of a million dollars for the entire project.

DDA Director Michael Burns said previously that financially, a parking garage may not be feasible at this time, and would be likely to cost more in upkeep and maintenance than the amount of revenue it could bring in.

While the DDA believes it has enough parking spaces for the downtown as it currently exists, it was agreed that as downtown development expands, parking will have to expand as well. A discussion relating to the land parcel is expected to take place at the next city council work session in September, with more discussion amongst the DDA, tak-

ing place at next month's DDA meeting.

### RAMP Continued from Page 3A

restricted to her bed, and the mother

is undergoing treatments for cancer. While before it was the mother and granddaughter caring for the grandmother, now the granddaughter is caring for both.

The steep steps are difficult to navigate as Simms' mother leaves for chemo treatments. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) have had to show up several times, and the steps are difficult for them also, according to Alvord. "It's getting to be challenging for the amount of visits they're having," he said.

Last year, the Rotary Club built a ramp for an amputee in the same mobile home

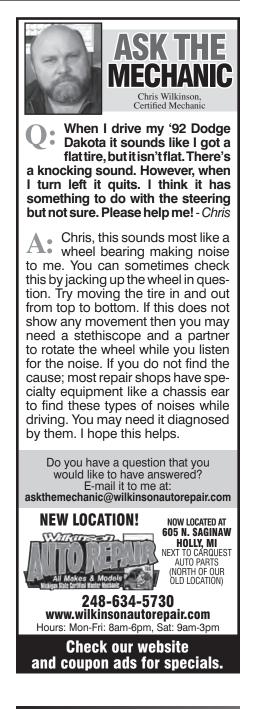
### Public and Private parking spaces in downtown Fenton

The State Bank90 West Caroline Street22 River Park Center/
River Park Center/ Community Center49River Street parking lot149River Street13South LeRoy Street77Mill Street8Post Office17FARR parking lot25Fenton Museum15Shiawassee Avenue9
Police Department lot and Mill Pond199
Ellen Street
Source: Fenton Police Department

their shovels and cordless screwdrivers," said Alvord. He's an architect, and a couple of the Rotarians are licensed builders to handle the permitting process.

The project took an entire work day — quicker than usual with pre-assembled frame pieces.

Other Rotary activities include Christmas in the Park, Angel Tree, and they donate to area little leagues, and Fenton Freedom Festival.



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