Who are the non-voters?

Those who didn’t cast ballot have their own demographics

By Sally Rummel

If fewer than half of the voting age adults actually cast a ballot on Election Day in the tri-county area, what does that say about the larger majority of people who didn’t vote?

Those who are either not registered to vote or chose not to vote are very different demographically from people who cast a ballot, according to the Pew Research Center.

For one thing, they’re younger. Roughly, a third of non-voters are younger than 30 and only 10 percent are under 50. Among non-voters, only 10 percent are younger than 30 and only

See NON-VOTERS on 7

New adventure park could lure 200,000 ORVs to Groveland

Approximately another 100 paid admission to the Dixie Gully Run event, an Oakland County Parks test event. Legally, panhandling is called “public solicitation,” and the city of Fenton has laws regulating solicitation and peddling. Solicitation is asking, or being available to receive donations, from the public.

See “Panhandlers” on 5

Civic groups only ‘panhandlers’ allowed in Fenton

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Groveland Twp. — A few minutes from Mt. Holly, 4X4 trucks rocketed up steep bowls of dirt, as others carefully picked their way through boulder-littered technical courses, covering 35 acres of a partially operating gravel mine.

Over the course of one weekend, 300 drivers registered and drove in the Dixie Gully Run event, an Oakland County Parks test event. The most popular places are in Clare (96 minutes away), north of Grand Traverse, Grayling, and the Silver Lake Sand Dune on Lake Michigan.

See PARK on 9

Tri-county area pays tribute to local Veterans

Fenton Rotary’s breakfast, ceremony at Great Lakes National Cemetery among many emotional events

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com

“Bud” Irish of Hemlock, Michigan sent more than 1,000 letters home to his parents and fiancée from the front lines of World War II in Germany, sharing his very personal story of war to his family.

One of Irish’s 10 children, daughter Teresa K. Irish, compiled and edited all the letters into a book.

See LETTERS on 5
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Driver hits mailboxes

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com

Police are on the lookout for a black truck with a black topper that
caused some damage and almost caused a head-on crash in front of Silver
Spray Sports on Silver Lake Road last week. See video online at
www.tctimes.com with this story.

Five ways your freezer can save you money and time

Buy marked-down meats and seafood and freeze them right away. You can also
prep the meat ahead by rubbing it in spices or marinating it, then freezing it flat in
freezer bags.

Freeze cooked pasta or rice for fast, easy side dishes. When it’s time to reheat your pasta, make
sure you lay it out flat in your container, the microwave equally warm the pasta.

Double a batch of chili, spaghetti meat sauce or meat loaf. Using freezer bags instead of plastic freez-er
containers saves space in your freezer. Voila — another meal is ready for you.

Buy seasonal fruit at their lowest price and freeze for later use. To avoid large clumps, rinse and let the fruit
dry before freezing, laying it out on a large tray and freezing, then bagging.

Blanch fresh vegetables from the farmers market and freeze for use later. Fill containers to the top and remove as
much air as possible from freezer bags.

Think again!

Varicose veins are a sign of vein (venous) disease.
We have pasties that we get from our neighbor. They are very good.

“A ham hock. I bought it to make green beans and haven’t used it.”

“I have a boring freezer. The only thing I have are those freezer packs.”

“We don’t have anything weird or crazy in our freezer.”

“Right now a deer head.”

Barb Adam
Fenton

Beverly Weber
Linden

Rosemary Vosbinder
Linden

Judy Dettre
Fenton Township

Amy Begofa
Linden

Jeff Juhl
Fenton Township

COMPILED BY CHRISTOPHER JONES, STAFF REPORTER

What is the most unusual thing you have in your freezer?
LETTERS
Continued from Front Page
“A Thousand Letters Home,” which she self-published after finding her father’s letters following his death in 2006. They became his legacy not only for family, but for all veterans from all wars.
She shared his story of war, love and life at the Fenton Rotary Club’s second annual Veterans Day Breakfast on Tuesday at Spring Meadows Country Club in Linden. “Where there’s life, there’s hope,” she said to all who attended.
From lonesome, moonlit nights listening to the Hit Parade, to the foxholes and frontlines in Germany where Bud later earned the Silver Star and Purple Heart, he shared his wartime experiences from a very personal firsthand account. After her father’s death, she left the corporate world and became an author and full-time speaker, addressing approximately 170 groups since 2012.
More than 100 people attended the breakfast, including Rotarians, veterans, family members and guests from the tri-county community. School superintendents Tim Jalkanen, Wayne Wright and Ed Koledo from Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden schools, respectively, attended, as did Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn and Linden Mayor David Lossing.
Veterans from each branch of the military were asked to stand when their branch was announced, including four World War II veterans in attendance.
For Mike Reyes, 58, of Linden, the breakfast was very personal, very meaningful. “I grew up very disappointed in our country,” said Reyes, who served in the Army during the Vietnam and Cold War eras. The atmosphere today toward veterans has really changed. It meant a lot to me.”

‘PANHANDLERS’
Continued from Front Page
to collect money, or anything of value, while peddling is selling goods out in public. “Panhandling” is when an individual isn’t collecting for some sort of non-profit organization.
“It’s never been a problem. I’ve never seen anyone panhandling out here,” said Mayor Sue Osborn. “I’m sure as soon as it does, we would do something,” she said. She’s seen panhandlers in Flint Township, but adding “panhandling” to the city ordinance is not currently in the works.
Civic groups, like local firefighters filling the boot, or the Fenton Rotary Club, have to ask city council to stand in streets for city solicitation.
Right now, if anyone wants permission to solicit for money at any city space or intersection, they must first ask City Council and receive its permission.
Should they be allowed to solicit or peddle, they are restricted to the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. on weekdays, and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekends.
The city code 23-1 contains the information on public solicitation, and states, the “regulation of solicitation and peddling is sufficiently connected to the city’s interest in preventing crime and protecting citizens’ quiet enjoyment and peace.”
Municipalities like Flint Township and Kalamazoo have brought panhandling into the spotlight, as winter nears and legitimate groups like the Salvation Army bell ringers adorn shop entrances in November and December.
Flint Township has its own “Beg-gars and Solicitation” committee and a Michigan Radio story by Tracy Samilton reported that the panhandling problem there has grown exponentially.
It’s normal to see someone at the Miller Road exit ramp from I-75, but the Michigan Radio story by Tracy Samilton reported that there have been fights between those wanting to use the corners to solicit, and there are also safety risks in heavy traffic times.
The city of Kalamazoo has had an ordinance on the books since 2006, making it illegal to solicit in certain public spots, at a certain time of the day. There are provisions against aggressive solicitation. The Kalamazoo City Commission made it illegal recently, to ask for money in other public places, such as outdoor seating at restaurants.
This addition is called the “right to be left alone,” and includes these fenced in outdoor seating areas, as well as public benches.

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Experts weigh in on how topics trend online

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

Once upon a time trends were a thing we did, like starting a new fashion "trend" or getting the new trendy haircut. Now trends are a completely new thing. In fact, Jamie Samples, founder and creative director at Yellow Barn Media in Fenton, said in an email, "Online trends are a horse of a different color. With the multitude of social platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, the trends are more organic, grown based off the interests and curiosity of the online world." He added, "There is also the social component of it, because after all, we never want the feeling of being out of the loop amongst our peers."

Kim Rivera, with New Moon Visions, said, "A trend is something that is popular at a certain point in time." In another email, Ryan Battishill, founder of Think Marketing in Fenton, said, "Trends are essentially set based on volume, activity and conversation around a specific topic." He also said that search volume, shares, comments, likes, tweets and adoption all play a factor in determining a trend. "Hashtags are one of those things that help with trending a topic on social media. When creating a hashtag, use keywords that are easy to remember and understand. Be sure to use the hashtag on all communications relating to the topic." Samples said, "Setting out to create a trend may prove to be challenging but not impossible. It does not happen just because of good strategy. She believes that trends come from companies that are creating consistent content on multiple social channels. She said, "The content cannot just be a sales pitch or the company 'telling' others that they are trending. It needs to be timely, out of the box, exciting and 10 times add shock value."

For those who want to make something become a trend online, Samples suggested, "One idea that I have found helpful in having our content viewed and shared was taking an already trending topic and putting a spin on it." Her example was of a video from over a year ago that was circulating on Facebook that showed sea turtle babies hatching and getting to the ocean. "Once I watched the video, it inspired me to write about how the video was a great parallel for business." She concluded that the article was visited and shared more than any of her other blog articles at that time because it was already trending on social media.

Battishill said, "I think the important thing to note about trends is that they are organic, grown based off the interests and curiosity of the online world." He added, "While many people and businesses work to build a trend around a strategic communication campaign and paid promotion, I think some of the most successful standing trends are grown organically. Basically, as far as online trends go, it’s a way for social media to help people keep up with the latest important news and lifestyle topics. Battishill summed it up. "There is also the social component of it, because after all, we never want the feeling of being out of the loop amongst our peers."

Summary

While you can still wear the latest fashion trend, you can also learn about trending news topics and celebrities in the cyber-world.

Trends are essentially set based on volume, activity and conversation around a specific topic.

Ryan Battishill
Founder of Think Marketing

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SOUTHERN LAKES PARKS & RECREATION

DEAR CITIZENS OF THE SOUTHERN LAKES REGIONAL METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT,

Beginning Wednesday, November 12th 2014 the public is invited to take part in a 30 day review of the draft SLP&R 5-Year Recreation Master Plan. The plan will be available for public review and comment in the following locations through Friday, December 12th: Fenton Community & Cultural Center, Fenton Township Offices, Linden City Hall, Fenton City Hall, Fenton Public Library, Linden Public Library, LOOSE Senior Center, Lake Fenton Schools Administrative Offices, Fenton Schools Administrative Offices, Linden Schools Administrative Offices and the Fenton Train Depot. If you would like an electronic copy sent to you please contact us at contact_us@slpr.net. We look forward to your input.

Vince Paris, Executive Director, SLP&R.
FREEZER
Continued from 3
I plan them around what we already have in the freezer. The “old me” would have never checked, continually adding to a stockpile of frozen food that would eventually be thrown away.

Fruits/desserts/ice cream
All the frozen fruits, ice cream and other desserts are stored together on the top shelf (so Mark can easily reach his Breyer’s ice cream). Frozen, ripe bananas (peeled and cut into halves) are ready to be made into smoothies or into fresh loaves of homemade banana bread. During the winter months, frozen fruits make a tasty substitute for fresh, when my favorite fruits aren’t in season anyway.

Breads
English muffins, homemade pumpkin bread and muffins, whole wheat flour (frozen for longer shelf life), and my favorite “Stone House” bread from VG’s Grocery are all labeled and stored in one place. Whenever I make a batch, I throw a whole wheat-blueberry pancakes on the weekend, I’ll divvy up the leftovers into packages of two, and then can pull them out on busy mornings.

Vegetables/convenience items
Individual bags of Eichelberg’s blanched frozen corn are bagged in larger bags for longer storage, for a fresh taste of summer on these cold fall/winter days. We’re also storing other frozen veggies, Lean Cuisines, frozen homemade entrees like chili, goulash, spaghetti sauce, etc., all labeled with dates. No more “mystery meats” are allowed in the freezer.

Meats, poultry and seafood
The large bin at the bottom of my freezer is filled with bagged and labeled fresh meats. As soon as I buy them, I take them out of their package, store them in useable sizes for us as a couple and then label and date them. These become the bases of all our meals, and all I have to do is look on the list on the fridge to see what meats we have to work with.

Side pockets
Small packages of “dabs” of frozen tomato paste (so you don’t waste a whole can when you just need a table-spoon), nuts, butter, cheese, frozen fresh herbs, are all labeled and stored on the side pockets of the freezer, so they don’t get lost in the shuffle of large spaces.

So instead of using your freezer as a “forgotten corner” of dabs of this and dabs of that, your freezer becomes your “pantry” of delicious meals to come, with fewer dollars wasted and spent.

SALT PRICES
Continued from Front Page
The reason for this higher cost could have something to do with the fact that more than 650,000 tons of salt were used on state highways last winter, at a cost of more than $32 million. According to MDOT, this coming winter’s maintenance budget for state highways is $95 million, based on a five-year average. Last year, state highway winter maintenance expenditures topped $136 million.

As anyone who has lived in Michigan for any amount of time can attest to, there is no way to guess how much snow or ice there will be during any given winter season. There have been talks of snow in our area as early as this weekend.

Non-voters are also much more likely than voters to borrow money from family or friends (41 percent vs. 21 percent). Just 52 percent say they have a credit card, while almost as many (55 percent) have a savings account. Just 37 percent of non-voters say they have a 401(k) or other retirement account, compared to 72 percent of voters. Fewer non-voters than voters are affiliated with a religion. Among voters, 21 percent identify as atheist, agnostic or “nothing in particular,” among non-voters, it’s 27 percent.

Even in a Presidential Election year, the gap between voters and non-voters remains wide. In 2012, 126 million people voted, while 93 million did not, representing about 40 percent of eligible voters.

NON-VOTERS
Continued from Front Page
39 percent are under 50.

As one might expect, non-voters tend to have low levels of political involvement. Fewer than half (47 percent) identify with either political party; 29 percent as Democrats, 18 percent as Republicans and 45 percent as independents.

Fully 43 percent of those who didn’t cast ballots are Hispanic, African American or other racial and ethnic minorities, according to the report.

There is a vast gulf in financial well-being between voters and non-voters. Non-voters are also less educated. Nearly half of nonvoters have family incomes less than $30,000, compared with 19 percent of voters. Most non-voters haven’t attended college, in comparison with 72 percent of voters who have completed at least some college.

About 45 percent of non-voters say they have had trouble paying bills in the past year, compared with 30 percent of voters.

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Even in a Presidential Election year, the gap between voters and non-voters remains wide. In 2012, 126 million people voted, while 93 million did not, representing about 40 percent of eligible voters.
Michigan Votes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. The House and Senate met one day last week, primarily so that returning members and newly elected freshmen could select legislative leaders for the 2015-2016 session. House Republicans chose Rep. Kevin Cotter to be the next Speaker of the House and Senate Republicans chose Sen. Arlan Meekhof as the next Senate Majority Leader. These selections will be confirmed in official votes when the 98th Michigan Legislature convenes on Jan. 7.

Senate Bill 637: Establish drunk driver vehicle interlock device regulatory regime

To establish regulations, procedures and fees for drunk driver vehicle interlock device installers, and give the Secretary of State the authority to oversee these programs. Current law regulates manufacturers and vendors of these devices but not installation.

Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate
State Sen. Jim Ananich (R-Genesee County) Yes No
State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) Yes No

Senate Bill 1055: Repeal mandate that state printing be done in Michigan print shops

To repeal a requirement that all state-funded printing must be done by Michigan print shops. The bill appears to leave in effect a “prevailing wage” mandate on state-funded printing, which prohibits granting the lowest bid to a shop unless its employees are paid the equivalent of local union wages.

Passed 24 to 13 in the Senate
State Sen. Jim Ananich (R-Genesee County) Yes No
State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) Yes No

Senate Bill 1033: Don’t subject “direct primary care” and “concierge medicine” to extensive insurance regulation

To establish that fixed-fee medical retainer agreements between a physician and a potential patient covering routine health care services are not considered “insurance” subject to the extensive regulatory regime imposed on conventional health insurance policies. This could presumably apply to “direct primary care” agreements, “concierge medicine” and similar innovations.

Passed 26 to 11 in the Senate
State Sen. Jim Ananich (R-Genesee County) Yes No
State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Genesee County) Yes No

USDA Forest Service needs help in identifying trees that survived ash borer beetle

By Yvonne Stegall
yvonne.stegall@fema.gov; 810-433-6792

While the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle killed off many ash trees, it is believed that some are still alive and thriving. Kathleen Knight, research ecologist for the USDA Forest Service is spearheading a campaign to search for survivors so that they can be studied.

Genesee County didn’t fall into the area of the current search credentials, but Livingston and Oakland counties did, along with eight other lower Michigan counties and seven counties in Ohio. These areas have been affected the longest.

Knight said, “We will be expanding the target area each year based on ash mortality data, so if you are currently outside of the target counties please check the website in a year if your trees remain healthy.”

The website is nrs.fs.fed.us/SurvivorAsh.

According to Knight, they have some specific search criteria when it comes to looking for the ash trees they want:
• Natural trees only (plant- ed cultivars have already been tested)
• Trunk diameter larger than 10 inches (circumference of 31.4 inches) at 54 inches above the ground (DBH)
• Healthy canopy with lots of leaves and no dead upper branches
• Not treated with insecticides

Bert Cregg, Department of Forestry at Michigan State University, said that the current goal is to identify ash trees that have survived in the core infestation area in southeast Michigan. “It’s a bit of a challenge since they have to try to determine the tree was really resistant not just to ash borer attack by emerald ash borer. Ash, or pricklyash, have “ash” in their name, they are not true ash, Fraxinus species. Only true ash are susceptible to these devices but not installation.

To properly identify ash trees, use the following criteria:

- **Branch and Bud Arrangement**: Branches and buds are directly across from each other and not staggered. When looking for opposite branching in trees, please consider that buds or limbs may die, hence not every single branch will have an opposite mate.
- **Leaves**: Leaves are compound and composed of 5-11 leaflets. Leaflet margins may be smooth or toothed. The only other oppositely branched tree with compound leaves is boxelder (Acer negundo), which almost always has three to five leaflets. Whole ash (on left) and boxelder (on right)
- **Bark**: On mature trees (left), the bark is thick with a distinct pattern of diamond-shaped ridges. On young trees (right), bark is relatively smooth.
- **Seeds**: When present on trees, seeds are dry, ore-shaped samaras. They usually occur in clusters and typically hang on the tree until late fall, early winter.
Volunteer Ryan Johnson of Burton assists with a winch during the second weekend of the test event.

PARK
Continued from Front Page

Oakland County Parks and Recreation has a grant application through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. If all goes well, by December, a 300-acre adventure park will be in the works. Considering there are 200,000 off-road vehicle (ORV) license holders in Michigan, (many in southeast Michigan) the park could be quite a draw.

The weekend of Nov. 1 and 2, was the second test event to demonstrate the interest in converting more than 300 acres of the former gravel mine into an adventure park. The first event was in August, and was invitation only.

Oakland County Parks and Recreation Principal Planner Jon Noyes is heading up the project. He said 50 acres were leased from Groveland Township, and Bedrock Express, who owns a portion of the mine. Bedrock Express still mines a portion of the mine.

He said it cost $75,000 to excavate the dozen obstacle areas and trails as well as access road and parking lot, and another $9,000 for engineering. “Those are the same types of things people can play on for years,” he said.

Noyes added that ideally, the park would also cater to trail runners, mountain bikers, and even SCUBA divers.

The courses were designed for vehicles from custom built rock crawling buggies, quads and side-by-side off road vehicles, to stock vehicles like jeeps or regular SUVs.

Noyes said of the 200,000 ORV holders, 65 percent ride quads and other non-street legal “toys.”

The course was engineered by Rowe Engineering, which designed portions of the Mounds in Mt. Morris, and other popular courses in Michigan. Off-road experts lent their knowledge and vehicles while the course was being created. Washed out areas of the mine were exaggerated, and boulders dropped into place.

“We’ve got our fingers crossed,” he said. “The luck is with us on this one.” He said there is more money available this year, and fewer applications.

There are no more test events, and now they have to convince their commission, and the natural resources trust that the park would have enough of a draw. By Dec. 3, they’ll know whether the tri-county area will have its own 4X4 park, filling a gap in Michigan, for off-road enthusiasts.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
Oakland County Parks and Recreation
Those are the same types of things people can play on for years.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
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Volunteer Ryan Johnson of Burton assists with a winch during the second weekend of the test event.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
"Those are the same types of things people can play on for years."
This year’s hottest gadgets

▶ ‘Techy’ items that will be on many people’s ‘wish list’

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

With technology continuously bettering itself, we live in an age of upgrades. Once you get one new phone, the next edition is available. A quick stop into any electronics department will berate you with innumerable choices, from smartphones to phablets and 2-in-1 laptops to notebooks. How is someone to know what the best items are to wish for this Christmas?

Well, we found out for you with a quick stop at Kmart of Fenton to ask Jason Bellant II, while he worked in the electronics department. Here are his suggestions:

**SKYLANDERS AND DISNEY INFINITY**

While pointing them out on the shelf, Bellant said, “kids love them,” referring to both the Skylanders and Disney Infinity games and figures. Both are interactive games with figures that become part of the game.

**SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB 4**

Designed with the whole family in mind, the Samsung Galaxy Tab 4 offers endless entertainment options. It has a 10.1-inch screen, perfect for watching movies or reading the latest comic book. The new Multi User Mode, brilliant display and lightweight design make it easy to use and difficult to put down, according to Samsung.

**KINDLE FIRE HD6**

Super affordable, this tablet is under $100. It offers a 6-inch display screen. You can watch movies, read books and do numerous other great things with it.

**SOUND BARS**

Sound bars are the newest craze in home sound. They take up less space than normal speakers and surround-sound systems take, but still give you the desired sound for your home theater system.

**NEWEST GAMING SYSTEMS**

From Sony PlayStation 4 to Microsoft Xbox One, there are some new choices out there for home gaming systems. That also means new and improved games.

**Grossi Baseball Club allowed to conduct fundraisers**

With a unanimous vote from the Fenton Township Board of Trustees on Monday, Grossi Baseball Club now has local approval to conduct licensed gaming events, in order for the group to do fundraisers. Grossi Baseball Club has a storied history in Michigan youth baseball and has seen some famous players pass through their ranks. They help build character, class, commitment, confidence and coachability.

**Mosquito budget cost doubled in Fenton Township**

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees unveiled their 2014 annual report from APM Mosquito Control, which showed that their cost this year had nearly doubled the allotted amount. This was, in part, due to the overabundance of mosquitoes this year because of the cool and wet springtime. Township officials talked briefly about alleviating the cost next year with possible fees to residents who request barrier control for parties and get-togethers in their yards, while still doing nuisance calls at no cost.

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Adjusting proves to be no problem

First-year coach Eisinger leads Tigers to team’s third straight district title

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

When the fall sports season began, the Fenton varsity volleyball team entered the season with some quality players returning, a 53-match win streak in the Metro League and a string of two straight Class A district titles.

But there was one person missing from the equation — legendary coach Linda Rusaw who had retired the position.

Replacing her was Jerry Eisinger. And there were differences in the two different coaching styles right from the start. Eisinger was going to teach a style of volleyball played at the highest levels, a style he had learned by going to various coaching clinics. And it did take adjusting to. However, when the Tigers walked off the court at Linden High School on Nov. 6, it was apparent the adjustments were complete as Fenton (38-14-5) earned its third straight district title.

Tigers at Regionals

The Fenton varsity volleyball team began its run in the West Bloomfield Class A regional tournament on Tuesday against Novi. For more information on this match, go to www.tctimes.com or read the weekend edition of the sports section.

If Fenton won the contest, the Tigers would play in the regional title game against either Milford or Lakeland at West Bloomfield High School on Thursday at 6 p.m.

Tigers keep the streak alive

Fenton captures 11th straight Metro League crown

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Fenton — When one walks into Fenton High School’s pool it’s hard not to notice all the Metro League championship banners tacked on one of the walls. The Fenton varsity girls swim team has a Metro League championship banner for every season the conference has hosted a champion in the sport.

The Tigers will get a chance to add another one of those banners soon.

Fenton used its overwhelmingly talented depth to crush the field at Saturday’s Metro League meet and earn its 11th straight league championship at Fenton’s home pool.

The meet started on Friday with the preliminary round and ended with the final results can be found.
STREAK
Continued from Page 11

finals on Saturday. For the most part the Tigers already had the meet won entering Saturday’s events due to having so many swimmers qualified for either the final or consolation final in the 12 events. Fenton, who finished the dual season undefeated, scored 592 points, or 161 points better than second-place Brandon. Fenton had 43 of its 45 entries during the preliminary rounds qualify for Saturday’s second day. The Holly Bronchos also competed, finishing fifth with 240 points.

“It’s inspiring that so many people have done it before us,” said Fenton diver Zoe Weinberg about Fenton’s Metro tradition. “It’s not pressure, but it makes you want to continue it.

“I wasn’t expecting (such a blowout) because we were really close with Brandon in the dual meet, but then we beat them by a lot at the meet.”

“It’s extremely important (to continue the Metro streak) because when you look at the first banner, most of us weren’t even 10 yet,” said Fenton swimmer Brianna Costigan. “It’s important to continue the tradition people started long before us.”

The Tigers had 18 individual top-five finishes at the event, including four individual event champions.

Weinberg and Taylor Shegos finished 1-2 in diving, with Weinberg posting a Metro League record score of 407.60. Shegos followed in second with a 384.80.

“Neither of us have been diving for that long,” Weinberg said. “We are really dedicated. We go down to our club (Legacy Diving in Ypsilanti) twice a week to train. It feels good (to take first). It’s nice to be able to contribute to the team.”

Elise Cassidy qualified for the state meet by posting a first-place time of 1:01.98 in the 100 backstroke. She also placed fourth in the 100 freestyle (57.99). Also earning a state-qualifying time was Costigan in the 50 freestyle. Costigan took second in the event (25.29 seconds), but did earn a league championship in the 100 freestyle (55.86).

The Tigers’ other individual first was earned by McKenzie Mead in the 100 butterfly (1:07.48). She also placed fifth in the 200 individual medley (2:40.99).

The final Fenton first was earned during Saturday’s first relay, the 200 medley relay. Cassidy, Lauren Gruber, Mead and Costigan earned it with a time of 1:58.60.

Other Fenton performers finishing in the top five individually were: Emma Cagle, second in the 200 freestyle (2:08.54) and second in the 500 freestyle (5:53.02); Cameron Mathews, second in the 200 individual medley (2:28.29) and third in the 100 backstroke (1:05.78); Gruber, second in the 100 breaststroke (1:14.68); Danielle Rushton, fourth in the 200 individual medley (2:38.38) and fifth in the 100 butterfly (1:11.81); Grace Siefker, fourth in the 50 freestyle (27.04); Milo Keranen, fifth in diving (294.95); and Haylee Skarka, fifth in the 500 freestyle (6:06.54).

The 400 freestyle relay team also had a strong showing, with the team of Costigan, Cagle, Gruber and Cassidy placing second (3:54.19). Mead, Siefker, Mathews and Cagle took third in the 200 freestyle relay (1:51.78).

“I liked how we were able to work as a team together and were able to push each other,” Cassidy said. “We all helped each other out there by going faster and being able to dominate.”

“Our team is not about the individual,” Weinberg said. “It’s been about the team as a whole. Everyone has contributed from lane one to lane eight.”

The Holly Bronchos had three individuals earn top-five performances. Diver Jennie Deghnhardt placed fourth (311.25), while Allie Spiteri placed fourth in the 100 breaststroke (1:21.47). Alex Karakoc capped the top performances with a fifth-place effort in the 100 backstroke (1:15.71).

Fenton celebrates its third straight Class A district title at Linden High School on Thursday.

TIGERS
Continued from Page 11

Class A district title by defeating Grand Blanc in a thrilling 25-10, 22-25, 22-25, 25-15, 15-13 contest. They are now approaching a 40-win season. The Tigers were defeated by Metro newcomers Flushing for the league crown, but remained one of the two dominant teams in the league as well. Apparently the change to Eisinger’s ways went pretty well.

“He’s brought a lot of new techniques for sure,” said Fenton senior Kelsie Fischer. “At first it was hard to get used to it. I would say it took about a month before we were 100 percent, but now we have it down. It’s helped us a lot.”

“It was a challenge because a lot of the technique we had used before was changed,” said Fenton senior Carly Granger. “But he’s so welcoming, so it was easy to adjust to.”

Eisinger always seems to be relaxed and in a good mood. And maybe that attitude Granger was talking about came through best in the district title match. Fenton dominated the first set and looked poised to defeat the Bobcats. However, Grand Blanc played stronger in the second and third sets, resulting in the Bobcats taking a 2-1 set lead. Eisinger remained calm and Fenton bounced back to win.

“The big thing is we got tight,” Eisinger said. “I just tried to keep it loose. There was no yelling. We were just talking. I tried to keep a smile on my face to show the girls I was OK with where we’re at. We didn’t have to do anything different. We just had to get through it. Eventually the momentum came back to us, and what a finish.”

“He’s been encouraging this year,” Granger said. “He made me confident in the way I play. He built me up. He helped me a lot.”
HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
A rejection of your attempt to be friendly leaves you with two choices: Try again, or give up. If you want to make another effort, go slowly. Let things develop without pressure.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
It could be a problem dealing with unfamiliar people who do things differently from what you’re used to. But rely on that strong sense of purpose to get you through this difficult period.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
To avoid neglecting a personal matter because of a demanding new workplace schedule, start prioritizing immediately. Knowing how to apportion your time takes a little while to set up.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
It won’t be easy to avoid some of the pressures that come with change. Best advice: Take things a step at a time, and you’ll be less likely to trip up while things are in a chaotic state.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
A much-talked-about workplace change could be coming soon. Be sure to get all the details involved in the process, and once you have them, you can decide how you want to deal with it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
You might still believe that your trust was betrayed, although the facts would appear to prove the opposite. But by the week’s end you should learn something that will help set the record straight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Holiday plans could be a challenge because of shifting circumstances. But a more settled period starts by midweek, allowing you to firm up your plan-making once and for all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
The facts continue to be on your side. So make use of them in dealing with any challenge to your stated position. Also, open your mind to the offer of help from an unlikely source.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
There could still be a communication problem holding up the resolution of a troublesome situation. Stay with it, and eventually your message will get through and be understood.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
A possible change in your workplace schedule might create a chaotic situation for a while. But once things begin to settle down, you might find that this could work to your advantage.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
A recent job-linked decision might need to be reassessed because of the possibility of finding benefits you might have overlooked. Check out all related data to help in the search.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
A personal situation you agreed to might not be as acceptable to the other person involved in the matter. Avoid pressuring and bullying. Instead, seek common ground by talking things through.

DVD RELEASES

LET’S BE COPS
It’s the ultimate buddy cop movie except for one thing: they’re not cops. When two struggling pals dress as police officers for a costume party, they become neighborhood sensations. But when these newly-minted “heroes” get tangled in a real life web of mobsters and dirty detectives, they must put their fake badges on the line. R, 1 hr. 43 min

JERSEY BOYS
Clint Eastwood’s big screen version of the Tony Award-winning musical tells the story of the four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey who came together to form the iconic ’60s rock group The Four Seasons. Their trials and triumphs are accompanied by the hit songs that influenced a generation, and are now being embraced by a new generation of fans through the stage musical. R, 2 hr. 14 min
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**Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memoriams**

**Shirley Coline Porritt**
1936-2014
Shirley Coline Porritt - age 78, of Linden, died Sunday, November 9, 2014. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Thursday, November 13, 2014 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 North Adelaide Street, Fenton. Fr. Dwight Ezop celebrant. Visit will be held 4-8 PM Morris, Steven (Brenda) Limmer of Mt. Morris; daughter, Opal Holcomb; many nieces and nephews. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star -Linden Chapter #175 service and a Rosary being prayed at 7:30 PM at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Family will receive friends at the church from 10 AM until the time of Mass. Those desiring may make contributions to Shriners Hospital for Children or Linden Order of the Eastern Star. Shirley was born January 30, 1936 in Decatur Co., Tennessee, the daughter of James and Ruth (Ragule) Mills. She married John Porritt on October 17, 1977. Shirley was a loving mother and grandmother and enjoyed restored old tractors. Surviving are: 2 daughters, Dominique; sister, Opal Terebinski and brother, James Mills. Online condolences may be posted on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

**Ralph A. Speney**
1936-2014
Ralph A. Speney - age 77, of Holly, died Monday, November 10, 2014. Funeral services will be held at 11 AM Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Visit will be from 4-9 PM Thursday and Friday. Mr. Speney was born in Wolverine, MI on December 11, 1936, the son of George and Catherine (Piley) Speney. He served in the US Air Force and the US Navy and was a member of the Amel-Schwart Post #149 American Legion of Holly. He was retired from the Village of Holly DPW. Mr. Speney was a loving father and grandfather and enjoyed restoring old tractors. Surviving are: 2 daughters, Claudette (Gary) Williams of Holly and Tina Speney of Fenton; 7 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; brother, Boyd Speney of CA; sister, Betty Babcock of Wolverine; and special friend, Louise Sargent. He was preceded in death by his wife, Grace; son, Ralph Speney Jr.; grandson, Derek Williams; sister, Elaine Secord; and brother, Russell Speney. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart and Lung Association, 777 N. Washington, Suite 300, Detroit, MI 48226.

**Funeral Etiquette**

What should I say to the bereaved? Using your own words, express your sympathy. A kind word about the person who has died is always appropriate. If the family wants to talk, they usually simply need to express their feelings; they aren’t necessarily looking for a response from you. The kindest response is usually a warm hug and to simply say, “I understand”. While you don’t want to offer only clichés, there are some commonly used expressions that you can rely on if you don’t know what to say. You want to keep your remarks simple, direct and honest.

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