# **Owen Road** — the obvious choice for commercial growth

Predictions made 20 years ago by Fenton's former mayor are amazingly accurate

By Vera Hogan • vhogan@tctimes.com

*This is the first in a series* of stories on the continuing development of Fenton.

During a July 1995 Times interview, former Fenton Mayor Leo Weigant (1975-1977) shared his opinion on the future

growth in the city of Fenton. "I believe the next phase in urban renewal is taking place right now on Owen Road with Silver Lake Village and the

See OWEN on 12A

The Owen Road corridor is easily the busiest part of Fenton, anchored by a myriad of businesses. Vic new Kmart complex," Weigant Canever was one of the first businesses to locate there.

Holiest day of the year for area churches

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO





# Fenton schools bond

# How your \$11 million is being spent

▶ First \$6 million used for technology, transportation and security

## **By Sharon Stone**

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 In May 2014, voters in the Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) district approved an \$11 million bond. By the end of last June, the district received its first bond payment of \$6 million, which has been used to buy new buses and computers. The school district will receive two more installments of about \$2 million each in 2018 and 2022.

See BOND on 11A

# We purchased four buses, each with a cost of about \$85,000.77 **Timothy Jalkanen**

Fenton Area Public Schools superintendent

# The faces of Fenton's DDA

Who's who of the core group of volunteers changing the landscape of downtown Fenton

## **By Emily Stocker**

estocker@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

With the continued growth of Fenton's downtown, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) deserves a moment in the spotlight to highlight the hard work of this board's volunteers.

Michael Burns, assistant city manager for Fenton, serves as the executive director of the DDA. The DDA board consists of business owners, employees and residents from the DDA district. The Fenton DDA is under the supervision and control of a board consisting of the mayor and eight to 12 members See DDA on 10A



### **C** The IB program should be evaluated on a regular basis, like any other

program. If it proves itself worth the investment, it will survive. The evaluation should be done by knowledgeable individuals with no affiliation, with input from teachers and administrators."



since Lent began, and is the epitome of the liturgical year.

## Craig Schmidt DDA chairman

Shooter takes plea deal for reduced charge

On Palm Sunday, Fr. Jim Rolf of St. John the Evangelist Church consecrates the Eucharist, which Catholics believe becomes

the body of Christ, for communion. "In that moment of lifting up the host and showing it to the people, it's just gratitude in my heart," he said. Easter Sunday has a different mood than Palm Sunday — Easter is the day Christians have looked forward to

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 **Flint** — After multiple failed attempts, Gregory Johnson's defense attorney, Nicholas Robinson, struck a deal with Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Archie Hayman on Wednesday, avoiding a trial, which could have landed him in prison for life.

Johnson, 47, of Fenton was charged with shooting his next-door neighbor nearly a year ago. See SHOOTER on 23A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Attorney Nicholas Robinson confers with Greg Johnson of Fenton before officially entering his plea to Judge Archie



**C** The Amber alert protocol needs to be examined. Waking tens of thousands of parents at 5 a.m. who scramble to their phone with fear, thinking it is an emergency about their children, is valueless. Every parent I know feels this way.

# To serve remaining 2.5 years of a 3.5-year prison sentence

## **By Tim Jagielo**





son is in a wheelchair and often can't find a handicap spot while we see perfectly healthy ingrates using them. Thank you.

tee ballot. It is an insult to the intelligence of every Michigan resident. Unquestionably it was written by lawyers with the clear

taxpayers.

**L**Just received my absen-

it indecipherable to us lowly

intention of making

**I**BA



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# TIMES News & Features SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2015

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# Area golf courses

# - NOW OPEN FOR THE SEASON WITH NEW IMPROVEMENTS —

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



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Larry Senter relaxes taking in the scenery as he waits for a friend to join him on Wednesday.

erry Goett of Fenton Township had to wait an hour for the frost to melt before teeing off Wednesday morning at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

He was the first golfer of the season on his home course, and it was his first round of 2015. "It was wonderful," he said. "I always play early and walk the course, enjoying the fresh air. Now that I'm retired, I play about four times a week."

Goett, 67, wasn't the only person with golf and fresh air on his mind this week. The phones were ringing off the hook at area golf courses, with eager golfers wanting to get out in the sunshine and enjoy the sport that has been dormant all winter.

The greens aren't lush yet and the grounds aren't green, but courses are now open for the season, depending on the weather. Every golf course interviewed for this story said that their courses survived this winter better than the year before.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

The weather yielded on Wednesday, to give golfers a nice clear day across area courses. Here, players enjoy the sun, breeze and greens of Tyrone Hills Golf Club that will only look better and better in coming weeks.

**L** The golfers aren't

expecting great

conditions. They're just

anxious to get out. 77

**Chris White** 

Fenton Farms Golf Club

## **Coyote Preserve Golf Course**

"We've been open for a week now and it's been 'hit or miss' because of the weather, but that's normal this time of year," said Jason Raney, general manager of Coyote Preserve Golf Course in Tyrone Township.

New golf carts await golfers at Coyote Preserve, a public course with breathtaking elevation. "It's like playing golf up north, without the drive," said Raney.

League play is busy, especially on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. For tee times, call the course at (810) 714-3206 or book online at coyotepreserve.com.

### **Fenton Farms Golf Club**

Fenton Farms Golf Club owner Chris White said his course fared pretty well over the winter with no catastrophic losses. "The golfers aren't expecting great conditions. They're just anx-



IT'S TIME TO

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Dan Coats of Milford watches his drive off the 10th tee on Wednesday.

ious to get out" White said. This time of year brings windy days and lots to pick up. We're preparing for a wet spring by roping and marking the course."

This 18-hole public course is open seven days a week "from sunrise to sunset, and then some," said White. "The only time we'll close the course is if it's flooded or lightning."

Fenton Farms is re-branding its name to Fenton Farms Golf Club & Driving Range, to bring more attention to their range, located 400 yards to the north of the property. "It's a hidden gem," he said. "We give people a cart to go out there." It's new and improved with 14 stations."

Thirty-two leagues are active at Fenton Farms. "There are still openings on the Friday Night Couples League," said White. "We also have an 'on deck list' on our website, fentonfarms.com, to match people up with leagues."

Golfers can book tee times online, from their mobile phone or by calling the pro shop at (810) 629-1212.

### See GOLF COURSES on 20A





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**WEEKEND TIMES** 

# Vanity license plates — tattoos for the timid

I travel a lot by car, averaging about 30,000 miles per year. That's a lot of road

hours so I have a variety of activities to help pass the time, such as books on tape (actually CDs), XM radio (not worth the cost), music CDs (Lynrd Skynrd) and my favorite, trying to decipher the cryptic code of those witty vanity plate (VP) punsters.

I view VPs as sort of tattoos for the timid — short and simple life statements, inked on metal instead of skin that can be altered or discarded at will.

Never one to miss any opportunity to siphon more income from the few of us that actually still work and pay taxes, Michigan is now considering auctioning off popular vanity plates to the highest



THANK YOU TO the Tri-County Times for providing a community forum like Hot lines. Everyone, no matter how scattered or uneducated they are or how smart, can chime in. Sometimes you just want to shout your opinion to everyone and it makes you feel better.

I WILL SUMMARIZE what all the brouhaha is about concerning the new law in Indiana. The legislation is not targeting gays. Gays are targeting religion. Example: Without this law, a hog farmer can compel a Muslim butcher to slaughter his pigs. Liberals want freedom only if it applies to them.

MICHIGAN PEOPLE VOTED against Daylight Saving Time in the mid 1960s. Then some politician came out after we had turned it down and said, 'Oh we are going to have it for a year and you'll love it.' Well we still have it 50 years later.

I HAVE TO weigh in on the Planet Fitness thing. That man is no more a transgender woman than I am. He is a man.

IF YOU KNOW they're putting poison out to kill rats, pay attention where your dogs are at.

THE TYRONE TOWNSHIP board wants to go ahead with the public

Compiled by Sally Rummel, features writer

bidder like some other states do.

**By Foster Childs** 

If I Were

They may be onto something. A doctor in Dallas, Texas purchased PORSCHE for \$7,500, as well as AMERICA for \$3,000

> at auction. Some people just have too much money. An oil guy in Abu

Dhabi bought a license plate that simply reads '1' at an auction for \$14.3 million in 2008.

Personally, I don't like vanity plates for the same reason other people do — they attract attention. But that doesn't stop

me from enjoying the entertainment provided by those who do like them. In my experience, women seem to

have a higher preference for vanity plates. Some of the more memorable ones I've seen are EVILMOM, AXE WMN (I as-

sume both these gals are single), WICH GRL (no argument from me), BIKR GRL (driving a car), HPYGRL (right out of the '60s) and PMS 24 7 (yikes!).

States deny certain combinations of letters or numbers considered obscene or inappropriate. Some reference lifestyles, some are invitations or statements of a personal nature, and some preference for (most actually) are not fit to vanity plates. 77 print in a respectable fam-

ily newspaper such as the Times.

Here are a few mild examples of license plate creativity that didn't quite make it past the censors: MEANMF, SZMTRS, BIPOLA, KISMYS, XX TA-TAS, 4NIK8, SHARTD and 370H55V (look at it upside down).

Conversely, here are some which

slipped by the censors: 0SI-IIT, GR8N-BED, BAD A55, FLASHME and EFFIT.

Here are some I've seen that stumped me for a bit, again mostly women: MDEULOOK (I looked),

LADYNRD (I first thought Lady Nerd but finally figured out it was Lady In Red), ZERODN (mortgage guy), H823PUT (golfer?), IMCUTE (she was), NCST MOM (uh, I'm thinking that 'nicest mom' is not how most will interpret

tctimes.com

this), and on a guys vehicle, MR BATER (really, that's your idea of a chick magnet?).

My choice, which I'm certain is still available, would be BUTIDGRS. But, I digress.

CUL8R.

experience,

women seem

to have a higher

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. Email the King at king@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

How many had AP classes toward their college? Enough said, thank you. JUST RECEIVED A call from the edu-

cational union urging a 'yes' vote on the roads proposal. I was very happy to vote 'no.' They have no business being on a bill, supposedly going to fix our roads.

OK, SO THE English language leaves the key out of a few certain things, could you please come up with something new to complain about? 

I WOULD LIKE to thank the young man in front of me at the Linden carwash for giving me a handful of tokens. What a nice thing to do.

ENOUGH ABOUT SILENT letters.

The dictionary is the dictionary, get used to it! Why don't you practice the silent letter?

ITOTALLY AGREE on 'No' on Proposal 1. You gotta be insane to think that we want to pay more taxes than we already do.

## THE PRESENT SITUATION in the

Middle East, with the prime minister of Israel and its enemies, reminds me of David and Goliath. Goliath, with all of his armor and sword, was slain by David with a sling shot and a stone. And it will happen again.

IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS that the city of Fenton does not pick up yard waste in the streets. So stop shoveling it in the streets.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

street talk

What kind of business would you like to see come to Fenton?



"Froyo Frozen Yogurt. The first one I ever went to was in South Carolina. It was fun and had great flavors."

> – Makenzie Wizynajtys Fenton



"A family department store where you can get all those last-minute necessities."

Debbie Schlenke Tyrone Township



"T.J. Maxx, Marshall's or HomeGoods. We need more places to shop."

— Sam Kiwak Hartland



"A healthy, organic fast food option with a freshingredient juice bar."

— Cynthia Thomas Tyrone Township



"An Italian restaurant like Olive Garden or Carrabba's Italian Grill."



"I'd like to see another restaurant similar to the Fenton House."



#### safety assessments without an election. Before the special assessment we had police, paid for through the general fund. Those ITHINK IT'S height of arrogance to think that we, as mere microcosms in this vast universe, can actually change the weather. monies were diverted for the sewer fund. That's why they charge us extra money for MY THANKS GO out to the Holly High Shthe police and fire fund. cool Theater department for their presenta-PEOPLE, THE U.S.A. has come to a contion of Cinderella, a most enjoyable evening of entertainment. To you who missed it, it crete conclusion that this country's going down faster than that jet liner did in the Alps. was your loss. LAKE FENTON'S TORREY Hill school does IS IT JUST me, or does anyone else not appreciate being jerked out of bed at 5:22 in not need another access. Why not ride the the morning for an Amber Alert? school bus that has been provided and paid for, for these children? TO THE PERSON concerned about their FENTON SHOULD NOT keep the IB program. How many got into U of M this year?

dog being poisoned, keep your dog in your own dang yard. Problem solved.



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**WEEKEND TIMES** 





# Financial Q&A

I have a pension and I am in my mid-50s how much do I need to save for retirement?

It Depends. Which came first the chicken or the egg? There definitely is a number that you can set for retirement that will give you a high probability for not outliving your savings, but it depends on three variables: your current income, your retirement goals, and your needs in retirement. Your pension and social security will offset the need for a large nest egg, but there will always be an emphasis on spending in retirement. Housing, Healthcare, and Food expenses will be your first objective. Variable spending on vacationing, hobbies can often be a challenge for many retirees. Advisors use a probability analysis that will give them the likely outcomes of their investments based on different market conditions. This is the first step you should take to determine you are on the right track. The better you understand yourself and what exactly you want to do in retirement the more likely you are to achieve those goals. Your retirement is what you what it to be, are you on the right path?

If you have a question we want to answer it for you in the Tri-County times. Please submit your questions to noahmorgan@acornwa.com.

Retirement Checkpoint

	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	5150,000	\$200,000
Age	(	heckpoint (x	Current Salar	y)	
35	.6	1	1.4	2.1	2.5
40	1.1	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.5
45	1.6	2.2	2.8	4.0	4.6
50	2.3	3.0	3.8	5.3	6,1
55	3.2	4.1	5.0	7.0	7.9
60	4.3	5.4	6.6	9.0	10.2
alary. Multiply y	our salary l		point shown	to get the at	mount you

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Steven C Bliss, CEO, CFP°, APMA° Todd Tarantino, CFP° Noah C. Morgan, MBA, CFP°

# HOT LINE CONTINUED

**INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE IS** a misuse of school funds and waste of taxpayers monies. It is a global view and world influence upon local education. Not needed now and was not needed in the past. Spend the over half-million dollars in annual savings wisely.

**TO THE PERSON** who had an unpleasant experience when trying to get tickets for the FHS theater it has been that way for many years. They are not known for being friendly or making visitors or students feel welcome.

WHY DID THEY make Proposal 1 so difficult to understand and why did they have to lump so many contingencies into it? Couldn't our lawmakers come up with a simple plan that anyone could understand? When people don't understand, they tend to vote 'no.' Maybe that's what our legislators really want.

### A COUPLE OF weeks ago someone wrote in wondering where there was a good place in town to buy liver and onions. I haven't seen a response to that but I would say that the Coney Grill on North LeRoy has the best I've eaten.

OUR CONGRESS IS as corrupt as the administration which they are supposed to oversee. The Senate and House are supposed to represent the people, not their party and lobbyists. The Obama administration seems to never be checked up and held accountable by Congress. Why?

A \$276 INCREASE in your insurance because we go back to the old system of paying for police to the general fund and fire runs per run. If you went to the meetings, you'd understand the money is being used for the sewer fund.

THIS IS A 'thank you' to Kevin and Pam.



## Streetscape alert

On Monday April 6, LeRoy Street, between Elizabeth Street and Shiawassee Avenue will be completely closed to begin the water main installation as part of the Streetscape project. For motorists on northbound Leroy Street in this vicinity please follow the signed detour route on South Holly Road and Adelaide Street. This complete closure will last approximately one day. For details, email streetscape2015@cityoffenton.org.

I fell and broke a rib and they have taken care of me very well. I'm a senior citizen.

### **THE FOSSIL RECORD** shows that camels lived in the high Arctic on Ellesmere Island 3.5 million years ago. Some of us would appreciate the ability to use a longer growing season here near Fenton, 200 days would be nice.

**INSTEAD OF ALL** of the ranting about the proposed sales tax hike, why don't our representatives pass legislation making it a law that the state must pay sales taxes on all Internet purchases. Many states already do, and this would pass the burden of collection to the online merchant. Too easy!

**TO THE APRIL** fool in the white SUV in grocery store's handicapped area, your language was foul and disgusting and many heard you. You were there for over 20 minutes. The fine is up to \$500 and 30 days. You truly showed where your handicap was.



# Holly man jailed after swinging machete at police

# ►Accused of attempted rape, kidnapping, resisting Holly police

## By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 James Michael Dill, 29, of Holly is lodged at the Oakland County Jail on multiple charges stemming from an incident on March 28 in Holly.

Holly Police Chief Michael Story said at approximately 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, officers Anthony Modica and Jose Garcia were dispatched to 4041 Grange Hall Road on a report of an incident.

When the officers arrived and spoke to the 29-year-old female victim who had called police, it was determined that the woman was a victim of an attempted criminal sexual conduct (CSC).

The officers went to the suspect's location within the trailer park and attempted to make contact with the suspect, Dill. When the officers tried to make contact with Dill, he would not come to the door, but he was observed inside the home.

Officers forced their way into the trailer to take Dill into custody. Once inside, the officers continued to announce their presence and for Dill to come out. As they walked into the hallway, Dill emerged from his bedroom with a machete. Officers reported that Dill allegedly raised the machete to the officers despite being ordered to stop and drop it.

Dill allegedly refused to comply with the officers' commands and a taser was deployed. There was no immediate affect from the taser and the officers went hands-on to subdue the struggling Dill.

Dill was arrested and transported to the Oakland County Jail for processing. The Oakland County Sheriff CSI processed the scene for evidence.

Det. Heather Wolkow obtained a warrant from the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office for four counts unlawful imprisonment, assault with intent to commit sexual penetration, second-degree CSC and resisting and obstructing an officer. He was arraigned and a cash surety bond of \$250,000 was ordered. When bond is posted, home confinement and a tether will be required.



# Mortgage rates hold steady and low

Lenders very busy with pre-approvals, applications and refinancing

### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The spring home-buying season is in full swing, partly due to low and steady mortgage rates.

"We are extremely busy," said Carl

**L**If the

math works

Moraw, vice president of residential lending at The State Bank. "People are getting pre-approved right and left for mortgages and construction loans."

As of Thursday, April 2, interest rates for a 30-year fixed conventional mortgage were 3.75 percent at The State Bank, and a 15-year dropped even lower to 2.875, subject to borrower approval. Construction loans are slightly higher at 4.125 for a 30-year fixed. "These rates are phenomenal," said Moraw.

There doesn't appear to be any end in sight for these low rates, even though they were

predicted in late 2014 and early 2015 to rise throughout the year.

"They go up and down every single day, but it's so slight that most consumers wouldn't even notice," said John Ottney, of Star Mortgage in Fenton. "People hear on TV that 'the Fed' is raising the interest rates, but these rates result from global phenomenon, what's going on in the world. Another force is the fact that Baby Boomers are transitioning from stocks into bonds and CDs, putting pressure on to lower rates."

For people who are in the market for a mortgage this spring, four factors will determine your rate, according to Ottney.

### First, it's the term (30-year or 15-year, for example); then the type of loan, whether it's conventional or a government loan; followed by the size of the loan, with the lower the loan amount, the higher the rate, and finally, the credit score.

"The higher the credit score, the lower the rate," said Ottney. "A credit score of 620 is a starting point, although lenders looking at a credit score look at the whole

picture. Does a lower score indicate a particular situation that won't necessarily hinder your ability to repay the loan? Someone has to look at the entirety of a credit report, not just the score."

The refinance market comprised 60 percent of all mortgage activity, according to recent data from the Mortgage Bankers Association. "It's a 50-50 split of refinances taking out 30-year and 15-year mortgages," said Moraw. "Younger people tend toward the 30-year for both purchasing and refinancing, while older people tend to refinance for 15 years, often to coincide with their retirement date."

The benefits of refinancing can be overblown when it comes to the costs associated with closing, as well as the loss of the tax deduction for mortgage interest. "If it's purely to save two cents, you might not even save the two cents," said Ottney.

When it comes to "waiting it out" to see if interest rates will drop further before buying a house, Ottney said, "When you're buying a home, don't buy it because of the interest rates. Buy it because you want a home for your family where you can put down roots and build equity."

# **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

IT SHOULD BE a good year for coyotes over by North Road.

I'M GOING TO start honking at every driver who does not use their turn indicator when they should. It is so irritating waiting needlessly at an intersection because some oblivious driver fails to use the blinker and makes everyone wait.

FOR THE TRUTH about Proposal 1, search for the MI Campaign for Liberty website. When there, search for 'Five things you should know about Proposal 15-1.' Please take the time to find out truth about how much this Proposal will cost you.

SO, THE DEADLINE comes and goes on the nuke talks. The other countries leave the table and go home but not Kerry. Maybe he should grovel and literally get down on his hands and knees and plead

with Iran. We certainly have become a very weak country.

SO, HILLARY WIPES her server clean. She obviously has many things to hide. Presidential material? I am a woman and anyone who is this deceitful should be ashamed of herself. We need a strong person for president, one who knows the rules and abides by them. 

ITHINK THE religious freedom laws would be fine if those businesses that think they need protection from being sued if they feel their religion requires them to be discriminate should be required to post a sign saying whom they won't serve. Then we all can make appropriate decisions.

THE SALES TAX election is purposely worded and shaped to be confusing so that voters will turn it down. Once is goes down, Gov. Snyder will introduce legislation that will do the same thing.



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# today for your mortgage, that's the time to buy. **Everyone's** crystal ball into the future is broken. 77

**Carl Moraw** The State Bank's Mortgage Department







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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

This Titanium Buzz wedding band with a baseball stitch design is being worn by country music star Jason Aldean. Kevin Begola, owner of Bridge Street Exchange also owns the online business Titanium Buzz.

# Country music star buys custom-designed wedding band from Linden business

**11** m pretty

all the buzz

I'm getting

locally and

Kevin Begola

and Titanium Buzz

owner, Bridge Street Exchange

nationally. 77

excited about

# By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Kevin Begola, owner of Bridge Street Exchange in downtown Linden, was very excited to have had a hand in getting the perfect wedding ring for country (super star) Jason Aldean.

Begola also runs an online business that sells unique men's wedding bands under the brand name Titanium Buzz.

"Last summer, in 2014, we had an event here attended by Ron and Amy Shirley, owners of Lizard Lick Towing and Recovery," said Begola. "They had a TV reality show about repo'ing vehicles. We did a certain line of rings for

them. They're buddies with DeeJay Silver, the first country music DJ. He opens for big country music stars and I ended up

doing his wedding ring as well."

Aldean and Shirley attended Silver's wedding. It was there Aldean, who married professional dancer and former American Idol contestant Brittany Kerr, learned of the Titanium Buzz lines of

> men's wedding rings. He ordered a baseball stitch design for his own private nuptials, which took place on March 21 at a beach in Mexico. Willie Robertson of Duck Dynasty fame, officiated at the ceremony.

Begola said he never actually got to speak with Aldean, having done everything online. Doing business with the country music star has created quite a bit of media attention. "I'm pretty excited about all the

buzz I'm getting locally and nationally," he said.



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John Strayer

# Tom Bertschy

### DDA **Continued from Front Page** appointed by mayor and then approved by

the Fenton City Council. The DDA board votes on actions based

upon the recommendations by either Burns or committees within the DDA.

Craig Schmidt, a real estate appraiser who has been with the DDA since 2005, is the chairperson. Schmidt said, "I see a vibrant downtown in Fenton's future. There are so many things in the works and within the next two years, we are going to have an excellent downtown. There will be more restaurants and shops and with all of the events we have, there will be something for everyone."

James Saule is the current vice chairperson. Saule is a resident of the city of Fenton and has been with the DDA since 2009. He is a retired architect and has held several positions, such as president of Fenton Jaycees, Fenton Kiwanis, and Goodwill Industries of Michigan. When asked what he sees in Fenton's future, he said, "I see downtown becoming a focal point for Fenton with quality dining, entertainment and residential living.

"The walkability of the downtown will not only encourage people to walk to town from nearby residences but will draw people from outside the local area.

"Parking remains a critical item, but I

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Terry Green

WEEKEND TIMES





Jeff Canever



Doran Kasper

# Recent DDA contributions

• The Cornerstone building • The rebirth of the old Fenton Fire Station into the Fenton Fire Hall restaurant.

• The facade revitalization of

downtown Fenton.

• The renovation and expansion of the Fenton Community & Cultural Center

 Most recently, the Fenton DDA's high profile project is the new Streetscape project. Their \$3 million contribution covers 60 percent of the \$5 million price tag. The remaining 40 percent (\$2 million) is funded by grants through the State of Michigan and Federal Highway Fund.

of the DDA for the last 17 years. As mayor, she appoints all members to the DDA with the approval of the city council.

She said, "Since the DDA was formed, members have given so much of themselves to make this community a better place to live. They attend countless meetings and other activities as DDA members and all of them have done an excellent job.

In addition to being mayor, Osborn works as a Tax Enforcement Officer for the city of Flint. "I see a very bright future for the city of Fenton with many complex projects taking place, the biggest one at the moment is the downtown Streetscape. Our downtown area will be enhanced with many new features to promote the walk-

> ability of downtown as well as increase the shopping and eating experiences for our citizens.

> "I look forward to the many new establishments that will be presenting themselves very soon and enjoy the real downtown we have been without for so many years. I enjoy serving all of you."

The role of the DDA is to improve the downtown district through effective planning and implementation of pub-

lic improvement projects. The aim is to promote and coordinate activities to improve the downtown business climate.

The DDA is also responsible for fostering development, redevelopment and expansion within the downtown district while establishing a defined attractive and distinctive character for downtown Fenton. An important role is to conserve and revitalize existing private operations by eliminating incompatible use of land structure.

The DDA supports high standards for future site improvements as a method to upgrade the quality of life within the city. Innovative ways are beneficial to all facets of the community. Fentoncity.com.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I EMILY STOCKER

Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) members who attended the most recent meeting are (back row from left) Gary Henderson, John Strayer, Mark Hamel, Doran Kasper, Terry Green and Chris Bayer. Seated in the front row are Mayor Sue Osborn, Bobbie Sweetman, DDA Chairman Craig Schmidt and Tom Bertschy. Not in attendance were Vice Chairman Jim Saule, Doug James and Jeff Canever.

feel it can and will be resolved. All these improvements will make Fenton a more desirable place to live and will impact the value of all our properties."

James Saule

Roberta (Bobbie) Sweetman is a resident of Fenton. As most members have a business affiliation, hers is as a citizen. She was appointed in 2011. Sweetman works for Patricia McGarry, DDS, and serves on the Jack R. Winegarden Library Board, the Whisperwood Condo Association Board, and most recently joined the Sculpture Selection Committee for the city. Of Fenton, she said, "Fenton is getting younger instead

reaching our potential as a destination city because we respect the charm of our history but welcome new ideas, new business and new residents.' John Straver is a resident of the city of

Fenton. He has served as an at-large member since 2011. He owns Tanglewood Assisted Living and Tanglewood Home Care as well as being a licensed attorney in the state of Michigan. His comments on the future of our city, "Fenton's future is undoubtedly bright, and my hope is that the investments by the DDA will encourage many varied and unique businesses to move to our community.'

Tom Bertschy has been a member of the DDA since 2011. He is the vice president of commercial banking for The State Bank, the market manager for the Fenton, Linden, and Holly region. He also serves on the boards of the Rotary Club of Fenton, Fenton Edu-

**66** I look forward

to the many new

will be presenting

soon, and enjoying

the real downtown

without for so many

years. I enjoy serving all of you. 77

themselves very

we have been

Sue Osborn

establishments that

cation Foundation, and Spring Meadows Country Club. On Fenton's future, he said, "Fenton is making tremendous strides to be even more a viable community than it currently is."

Fenton mayor Terry Green is the owner of Billmeier Camera Shop in downtown Fenton, and joined

the DDA in 2012.

Laundry, joined the DDA in 2014.

citizen's representative. As a member of the Fenton community, he came aboard in 2009.

He is the sales manager at Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton.

Doug James, a member of the DDA since 2009, is the owner of the local car wash on

Doran Kasper is an optometrist and owner of Family Eye Care and Contact

Mayor Sue Osborn has been a member

SHERWOOD

Chris Bayer, owner of A Joyful Noise music studio in Fenton, has been with the DDA since 2011. He joined the DDA simply because he cares about Fenton. "Fenton is a great small town with a lot of potential."

Mark Hamel, owner of Crust and The

Gary Henderson holds the position of

Jeff Canever joined the DDA in 2011.

LeRoy Street in downtown Fenton.

Lense on Caroline Street.

of older and that is very exciting. We are

# Two motorcycles and a car collide



Fenton emergency responders finish up at a crash scene at Adelaide Street and Shiawassee Avenue Wednesday afternoon. The crash involved two motorcycles and a car. One motorcyclist was treated for minor injuries. This intersection will be much busier during Streetscape construction.

# BOND

### **Continued from Front Page**

Superintendent Timothy Jalkanen said the school district purchased 1,400 new computers, which are in all of the schools. Computer labs and mobile carts were also part of this project.

With that first installment, Jalkanen said, "We purchased four buses, each with a cost of about \$85,000."

The district will be installing a \$90,000 state-of-the-art cover for the high school swimming pool. They will also be replacing some of the lockers in the high school boys locker room.

Although the cost of the automatic pool cover seems steep, Jalkanen said the district will save about \$90,000 in energy costs over the next three to four years. "We'll see savings on our utility bills," he said.

Jalkanen said Grand Blanc High School has this same cover, which unrolls and floats on the water at the flip of a switch. Because of the design, air quality at Fenton High School should also improve with this insulating cover.

This summer, video cameras will be installed at all of the school buildings. As an increased safety measure, entrances to the school buildings will be reconfigured so that visitors will have to go through the main office before they enter other areas of the school. Because of its layout, AGS Middle School will have a different design.

When school lets out for summer recess, the parking lot at State Road Elementary will be redone.

As previously reported, Director of Personnel and Finance Doug Busch said school officials are designating funds usually reserved for transportation and technology upgrades into an account that will collect interest during the life of the bond. The district's finance board is aiming to accumulate enough funds to continue paying for transportation and technology once the monies from the \$11 million bond are depleted.

### **Bond history**

The \$11 million bond was approved after two failed attempts in 2012, with one in May for \$9.6 million and another in November for \$8.4 million. FAPS had to pay \$13,466 to Genesee County for the May 2012 election, since it was held outside of a general election. FAPS will have to pay Genesee County again for this past May election as well.









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### Fenton — then and now

Prior to 1995, there were only about a dozen reasons to travel west on Owen Road - buy a vehicle, pump gas, attend high school, buy groceries, frequent a handful of fast-food and dine-in restaurants, go home or leave the city.

Since then, more than 25 new businesses have popped up along Owen Road, from Rounds Drive west to just past the city's border into Fenton Township. They include the big box retailers Walmart and Target. A few long-time Fenton businesses, such as VG's, Kmart and Tractor Supply Co., chose to reinvest in their community by constructing new facilities and locating them where they could be accessed from the Owen Road corridor.

Lasco Ford and Vic Canever Chevrolet also have in recent years invested in major expansions of their facilities. Those who watched the growth take place over the years attribute it to Fenton being centrally located between three major Michigan cities, easy access to the highways, and an abundance of land on which to build.



Owen Road is especially busy at 2:30 p.m. on weekdays when Fenton's middle and high school students are released.

### tctimes.com

### **OWEN Continued from Front Page**

said. "The pattern has been set now ... All business sections have migrated to the nearest accessible roads."

Weigant died in 1998 at the age of 83, and although he did not live to witness what actually did occur, his predictions 20 years ago were remarkably accurate.

Sue Osborn has served as the city's mayor since 1997. She attributes the growth along the Owen Road corridor to the abundance of vacant land on the west side of town and great exposure to that land.

"When we first moved to Fenton, we were so excited to get the McDonald's. My kids were jumping up and down for joy," Osborn said. "I still get excited with each new development, the most recent being the expansion of Lasco Ford."

Fenton resident Mike Senyko, chief of staff for the Michigan Secretary of State, served as the city's assistant city manager tctimes.com

until 2008.

"Fenton had the opportunity to be in the right place at the right time," Senyko said of the city's growth. Fenton is well located, only an hour from Detroit, an hour from Lansing and 30 minutes from Ann Arbor, but without all the madness that comes with the larger cities, Senyko said. "As you know, we are a small-town, tight-knit community. "Sixty-plus lakes makes it feel like

being up north, too," Senyko added. "All of those items combined make for a fast-growing community. With more people and opportunities comes commercial growth. Owen Road is a naturally attractive exit and corridor for commercial options. Tie that with Silver Parkway and Silver Lake Road and you have an easy access point for locals or out-of-towners to shop or eat." The relocation of VG's and Kmart



Experience



from 1997 to 2000. He took over as city manager in 2000, a position he held

were amongst the first to show how easy the area can be accessed and utilized by customers, Senyko said. Until the mid-1990s, VG's was located in the building that now houses

Planet Fitness and Goodwill on Owen Road. Kmart once stood where the newer North LeRoy Street VG's was built.

"I also think the downtown improvements were bound to happen for similar reasons," Senyko said. "We created an attractive environment by connecting Main Street to Silver Lake Road. You now have the same type of traffic pattern that exists on Owen Road.

"Relative ease, coupled

with great options ... I think all of these things connect positively over time," said Senyko. "And this has all happened in basically 15 years. Pretty short and pretty amazing.'

Carmine Avantini has served as the city's planning consultant for the past 21 years. He attributes the growth along the Owen Road corridor to the coming

of Walmart, Target and good highway access. With Walmart and Target,

the challenges included traffic, which were addressed by both retailers.

Walmart, he said made a major financial contribution toward Owen Road improvements. "Traffic was the big issue with Target, since a new traffic light was being added too close to the (U.S. 23) interchange," said Avantini. "The traffic model, however,

showed that road safety would be improved and access management would limit the access points."

Avantini said the many projects that have taken place in the city were an**Then came Walmart** 

1**3A** 

Although Walmart has since proven to be a positive addition to the Fenton community, its coming to town was not without concerns from residents and business owners, both in the city and neighboring Fenton Township. Traffic problems, noise, environmental concerns and the impact Walmart would have on property values and the local economy topped the concerns. In the end, with everyone working together, concessions were made, rules were established and on January 23, 2002, Walmart held its grand opening celebration.

ticipated through the city's Master Plan. "The Planning Commission and Council have done a great job of supporting these efforts," he said.



**Fenton** had the opportunity to be in the right place at the right time. **77** 

> Mike Senyko Former Fenton citv manager

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# **Finding Easter fun at Torrey Hill**



Preschooler Patrick Kosmanopolous, 4, gets help re-assembling his Easter basket after spilling it on the playground Thursday after the egg hunt. (From left) Danie Bell, Olivia Ketterer, Braden Diehl and Luke Lynch lend a quick hand.

# News briefs

## **Fenton fire chief issues**

burning ban in Tyrone Township Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff has issued a burning ban for Tyrone Township until further notice. The ban was put in place Wednesday, April 1 due to dry weather conditions. Go to Tyrone Township's website www.tyronetownship.us for updates.

**Fish Lake Road construction in June** The Road Commission for Oakland

County will be doing construction on Fish Lake Road between Mitchell and Kurtz roads in Holly Township. This section of Fish Lake Road remains closed due to a collapsed culvert under the road. The detour route is Mitchell Road to North Holly Road to Elliott Road and back to Fish Lake Road and vice versa. Project is expected to begin during the June/July period when stream flows are low so the culvert can be replaced.

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is for tomato –  $\mathbf{Z}$  is for zucchini

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

Part 12, and the last of this series

The Times is finishing off the last chunk of the alphabet in one tasty swoop. We didn't find any fruits or vegetables under the V group. Do you know of any?

Fruits and vegetables have numerous healthy benefits, and the aim of these articles is to share some of those benefits with our readers. This is not a comprehensive list, but it's a good place to start.

## TOMATO

Tomatoes are a great source of lycopene, no matter what color of the tomato. Lycopene is good for heart health, among other things. Con-



trary to popular belief, tomatoes are a fruit, and they are a great source of vitamin C and many other vitamins and minerals. Tomatoes are great raw, added to salads, or even cooked in meals. Not only do they add flavor but they add color to meals, too.

## TANGERINE

Tangerines are related to oranges and are also known as mandarin oranges. Just like their citrus counterparts they are full of vitamin



C. Tangerines can be great raw, alone or in a salad or smoothies. However, they also make a great Asian dish, mandarin chicken.

# TURNIP

Turnip is a multifunctional vegetable, since both the bulb and the leaves are edible and good for you.

**Charles Nelson** 

Contrary to many beliefs, they are more closely related to leafy green vegetables than they are root vegetables. The antioxidants in turnips, such as vitamin C, help with inflammation, so it has been used for treating ailments with this side effect. Add turnip leaves to soups and salads. Boil the bulbs and mash them for an alternative to potatoes.





and enjoy it with squash or as a side dish on its own with butter and seasoning. Zucchini bread is pretty tasty, too.



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# "Why all the household dust?"

For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been companies who claim they have a truckimproving the community's health one household at a time. "Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than the air outdoors," explained Keith Meadows, Power Vac

Owner and Operator. "More than 90% of the phone calls I receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes. They tell me they will dust the house Friday, but by Sunday it needs to be done again, and they're not sure where these dust piles are coming from. Let me tell you, you're not a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts

cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household. The reason for the dust is your cold air returns. You see, cold air returns suck in dirty air. Over time it builds up in your ducts until the debris resembles what you would find in your vacuum bag."

See for yourself! For an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home's ducts, visit our website www. callpowervac.com.

"Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners experience excessive dust. While work was being done in the home, your coldair returns sucked all the dust through the system. It settled on the bottom of the duct lines and little by little, that debris is being blown back into your home," Keith continued.

"Here's a test. Take a walk down into your basement, and look up at the ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional.

"This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would vacuum your car with. Then there are mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck.' Want to see the difference between



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, Power Vac.

our equipment and portable or truckmounted equipment? Visit our website at www. callpowervac.com "The Power Vac

truck is the most powerfulequipment in the industry," Keith explained. "Simply put, the entire truck is the vacuum, and the truck motor powers the equipment. You'll know it's a Power Vac truck because it's the size

of an ambulance and when engaged, 12 large air bags come out of the roof.

What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is what you feel coming out of your register. Truckmounted equipment moves 4,000 CFMs. Well, Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is four times the power of most competitors.

'You need to beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices. Most of these companies are unlicensed, or they may advertise that they are licensed, but are not. Avoid scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-the-door prices. What sets us apart from our competitors is our honest service, and, of course, our equipment. I know the importance of being on time, working with a smile and respecting people's homes and their belongings. There are a lot of duct cleaners around, but rest assured you'll receive the same quality of service I expect in my home."

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is very quenching. Because of its red color, you know it contains lycopene among its many minerals. It is also 92 percent water! Watermelon is a great summer treat and

looks like

grapefruit,

but is a little

more lopsided and

bumpy. Use this

interesting cross-

breed as a replace-

ment for oranges in

WATERMELON

any dish.

No, yams and sweet potatoes are not the same thing. Sweet potatoes actually have more nutrients than yams, but yams are still a good

Watermelon has a mild taste and it

UGLI FRUIT

Named for its strange

look, most likely, this

is a great citrus fruit

full of vitamin C. Ac-

cording to ugli.com,

it is a botanical cross

between grapefruit, Se-

ville orange and a tangerine

becomes a "tangelo" that

source of fiber and potassium. You can use yams in almost all the same ways as



ZUCCHINI

Zucchini is home to the vitamins and nutrients you need to promote eye health, weight loss

and more. They contain vitamin C and A. What you may not know is that even though zucchini is



often used like a vegetable, it is actually a fruit. Fry zucchini

# can be eaten alone or added to a fruit salad. YAM

# TIMES

APRIL 5, 2015

# Sports

# **INSIDE SPORTS**

**DEVILS WIN** Blue Devils edge Holly in baseball contest See Page 17A

# ( ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Miss something during the prep sports season? Check tctimes.com.

# QUOTABLE

Who said, "There has never been a death attributed to a hockey fight. Why don't they write about the good things for a change?"

Give yourself five brownie points if you got this one right. Fred Shero, the Philadelphia Flyers head coach in 1975, said this when critics said there was too much violence in hockey.

## **DAVID'S** DABBLINGS

A few years back when the Detroit Tigers were signing players to ridiculously highpriced and long contacts, they did so thinking if the organization won a World Series it would be worth the issues that would eventually hit the team years later. The Tigers gave it a few good runs. But now I worry the window of opportunity is closing.

Many of the players with those contracts have had to fight just to get healthy during spring training. And with injuries comes the concern of declining ability. Fortunately, it appears Miguel Cabrera will be ready. Victor Martinez is playing, but he's not looking like himself. Justin Verlander hasn't been his old self for a long time.

If the window hasn't closed, it's fair to say this it will close after this year. If the Tigers want to get that world title, they better make it this year. It may be their last realistic chance with this cast of players.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Kim Roe (left) tries to slide by Holly's Samantha Love's tag during Wednesday's twinbill. Roe was called out.

# **Blue Devils sweep Holly**

►Both teams just happy to be outside

## **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Holly** — There's been a lot of change to the Lake Fenton varsity softball team since last spring.

Only four players return from last year's GAC championship and district title squad. However, while not many players return, the Blue Dev-

ils remain a very strong team. The Holly Bronchos found that out on Wednesday as Lake Fenton swept a doubleheader at Holly High School by 14-2 and 18-2 verdicts.

"They are pretty strong players," Lake Fenton softball coach Amos Rinks said.

"I'm very happy we were able to play. We needed to have some live scrimmage time before we get into the tougher part of our schedule. When we come back from break we play Linden on Tuesday and then Clarkston, who is always a powerhouse, on Thursday. It should be a good test for us. A good core is staying home (during break) so we can get a few things done and stay tuned up."

For Holly, the games represented the first time the Bronchos have been outside all season long. The Bronchos remain a young team and are hoping to surprise a few people this season. And even with the two defeats, the Bronchos did show some promise for

the upcoming season.

"It's great being outside. We need to have time outside," Holly varsity softball coach Matt Kessler said. "It gives us an opportunity over spring break to work on the things we know we have to work on. They've put in a lot of hard work since October. We put a lot of emphasis on the little things and it was the little things that did us in."

Lake Fenton's offense pounded out 13 hits in the opening game against the Bronchos, scoring four runs in the first inning after the first five batters reached base in succession. Kalani Lau, Melody Draeger and Kim Roe (RBI) started the inning with See SWEEP on 18A

# **Fiebernitz** collects 600th win

Linden girls soccer defeats Owosso 8-1

# **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com

It seems these days Linden varsity boys and girls soccer coach Kevin Fiebernitz can't go through a season without reaching some sort of milestone victory or breaking some Flint-area coaching record.

The Eagles' mentor accomplished another one during the Linden varsity girls soccer team's first game of the season. The Eagles trailed 1-0 early, but then scored the final eight goals of the game, defeating hosts Owosso 8-1 on Monday. The Eagles actually gave him victory No. 601 on Wednesday during a 2-0 victory at Chelsea.

See FIEBERNITZ on 17A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES **KLARI FREDERICK** Jessie Magalski (left) battles for a ball in the Linden Eagles'

8-1 victory against Owosso on

Monday.



# **Blue Devils edge** Holly Bronchos, 14-12

**By David Troppens** dtroppens@tctimes.com

Holly — For the Blue Devils and the Bronchos, Wednesday was a day of some good stuff, some bad stuff and some stuff right down the middle.

And when the two area schools finished their varsity baseball contest against each other, the final score represented that mixed bag of qualities as the Lake Fenton Blue Devils left Holly High School with a 14-12 victory against the Bronchos. Holly was leading the second game 4-0 when the contest was suspended by darkness.

"We have just a little bit of inconsistency right now, but that's going to come with being outside for the first few times,' Lake Fenton varsity baseball coach Brad LaRue said. "We haven't gotten outside on our field at all, yet. Our first two days out have been these first two games. It's been tough, just

FIEBERNITZ

about the 600th win.

**Continued from Page 16A** 

ing to make it to the game.

are great kids and it's fun."

"It felt the same as any other (mile-

"I didn't even tell the girls that we

"It's getting up there. My ultimate

stone victory) did," Fibernitz said

clipped it. I have been feeling so sick

lately, I didn't even know if I was go-

goal is to get 700 soon and then may-

be start thinking about the retirement

phase. But when you have great teams

like we have had lately, it's fun to

show up and be a part of it. The kids

against Owosso. Linden had a small

lead at the half, but blew the game

open in the final 40 minutes. Mad-

After a slow start, the Eagles had fun

getting acclimated with each other. We have eight juniors and five seniors who haven't played a lot with each other. We'll get gelled together."

"It was our first game of the season and we did some good things and some bad things," Holly varsity baseball coach Benny Jackson said. "A very strong positive is we didn't quit. We kept fighting back and I was proud to see that. We'll be ready to compete after the break."

Because of the mixture of good and bad, the opening game took well over two hours to complete. The pattern created was Lake Fenton taking a lead only to see Holly cut back into it, making it a close game again.

During the top of the first, Lake Fenton's Thomas Messenger hit a solo home run, putting the Blue Devils up 1-0. In the top of the third the lead grew to 3-0 after Messenger hit a two-run single, plating Bobby Lynch and Trevor Wright, who both singled. It was Holly's control on the mound that helped set up most of Lake Fenton's six-run fourth inning,

throw at home plate.

The Bronchos' offense scored three runs in the fourth. Hernan Solis provided the only run-producing hit of the inning, with an RBI-single. An infield error and two walks helped the two other runs score, cutting the Blue Devils' lead to 10-3.

Holly's Sean Degnan (right) tries to score as Lake Fenton catcher Nick Mermuys prepares for the

Lake Fenton's Brandon Bacon hit an RBI-single in the fifth, raising the gap to 11-3, but Holly started making it interesting in the bottom of the sixth. Singles by Frankie Richmond and Chet Wyant and a walk to See DEVILS on 19A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS



**CINDERELLA** (PG) THE LAZARUS EFFECT (PG13) FOCUS (R) **KINGSMAN: THE SECRET** SERVICE (R) Due to movie company policies no passes are accepte <sup>@</sup> No \$5 rate available. • # No \$5 TUES evening rate.

walking seven batters. Lake Fenton led 10-0. However, Holly didn't fold. hit them. They played important roles die Zayan had four goals, while Alia Frederick, Katie Wilkowski, Gabrielle Freeman and Teresa Walterhouse had a goal each. Jessie Magalski had three assists while Erica Freeman had two. "Right now we are playing around Emily Waltrip, Jordan Holscher and Erica Breitling had one assist each.

The defending Metro League champions are expected to make a serious threat to repeating its title this season. The squad returns all but two players who led Linden to a perfect Metro League season, a top-10 ranking for some of the season and a Division 2 Chelsea.

district title. "We're still a fairly young team, but it's an experienced team," Fiebernitz said. "This year we'll have four to five seniors on our roster, so my biggest concern is the senioritis doesn't for us as juniors last year and we need them to play those roles again this year. We are going to need them.

with a couple of formations to see if something will click and be really good for us.'

Defensively, the Eagles will be strong in net as well. Madison Paige and Bridget Adams shared time in net in the opener, and were solid. The pair combined for the shutout against

Offensively, Breitling and Magalski scored the goals, while Wilkowski had an assist in the 2-0 victory.

Linden returns to action on April 15 with a home contest against nonleague foe Flint Powers.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I KLARI FREDERICK Linden's Jordan Holscher (right) fights for possession of the ball during the Eagles' 2-0 victory against Chelsea on Wednesday. The Linden Eagles enter the spring break at 2-0 for the season. Monday's 8-1 win against Owosso gave coach Kevin Fiebernitz 601 varsity soccer wins during his coaching career.

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# LF soccer starts season with solid 1-0-1 slate

### By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 The Lake Fenton varsity girls soccer team is off to a solid start.

Playing two games this week prior to the beginning of spring break, the Blue Devils went 1-0-1 in those contests.

Lake Fenton began the week with a strong 2-1 victory against Brandon, and finished it with a solid 0-0 draw with Kearsley on Wednesday.

Against Brandon, the Blue Devils took a 1-0 lead on a goal by Abbey Rhodes off a corner kick attempt with 20 minutes left. Ashlyn Skidmore sent the corner with Kaitlyn Begley passing it to Rhodes on the backside, setting up Rhodes' goal.

About five minutes later, the lead grew to 2-0 when Mackenzie Kato scored into the left-upper corner off a shot from near the right touchline.

Brandon cut the gap in half on a corner kick attempt with about five minutes left, but the Blue Devils held on for the victory. Emily Moore was the winning keeper, making eight saves.

The contest against the Hornets saw no goals.

"It was a hard-fought contest with a lot of ball movement," Lake Fenton coach Lenny Glasstetter said. "Our defense played well."

# SWEEP

**Continued from Page 16** singles, while Erin Ezell was hit by a pitch, reloading the bases. Emily Angus followed with a two-run single, and an out later Allison Petts hit the first of her two sacrifice flies during her first two plate appearances of the season. Lake Fenton led 4-0.

Holly's bats put together a nice twoout rally in the bottom of the first. Katie Dewey tripled and Hailey Thompson followed with an RBI-double. Samantha Love followed with an infield single, but was unable to plate Thompson. Lake Fenton still led 4-1.

It was a six-run third by Lake Fenton that iced the contest. Ezell singled, Angus walked and Sidney Sheyachich singled, loading the bases. Petts hit a sacrifice fly and an out later McKenzie reloaded the bases with a single. The next three batters generated run-producing two-out hits. Lau tripled in three runs, while Draeger hit an RBI-single. Roe ended the rally with an RBI-triple. Lake Fenton led 10-1.

Three Holly errors produced an 11th Lake Fenton run in the top of the sixth, but Holly answered back with a run in the bottom of the sixth, staving off the mercy rule. The Bronchos' second run was scored when Lilly Raymer singled, stole second, was sacrificed to third by Rowenna Bemman and plated on Dewey's RBI-ground out.

The Blue Devils added two more runs in the top of the seventh when Petts and Sidney Conn, who both singled, scored on Lau's two-run double.

Lau was masterful in her first varsity start of her career, yielding four hits and



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Kalani Lau tossed a complete-game victory in what was her first varsity contest of her career. The Blue Devils swept Holly in both games of a doubleheader on Wednesday.

no walks. She struck out seven batters. "She has good control," Rinks said.

"She also had five hits for the day, which was good."

The Bronchos took an early lead in the second contest, scoring two runs in the first. With two out, Dewey singled and eventually scored on a Lake Fenton outfielder error off a batted ball by Thompson. Thompson also scored on Jessica Ricksgers' RBI-single. Making it a 2-1 Holly lead after one inning.

However, the rest of the game was dominated by Lake Fenton's bats, which provided 15 hits. In the fifth it was a five-hit, five-run attack. In the third the Blue Devils brought 13 batters to the plate and scored nine runs on six hits. Lau, Draeger (three RBI), Roe (four RBI), Ezell (two RBI) and Sheyachich (RBI) had two hits each, while every batter who came to the plate had at least one hit. Sheyachich was the winning pitcher, tossing a three-hitter over the four innings, striking out five.

"I saw a lot of team chemistry starting to build and I'm really happy to see that," Rinks said. "We have such a diversity of ages in the group. We have only four returning players and the rest from the JV are freshmen or are transfers."

"Communication errors are our biggest issue," Kessler said. "If they learn to communicate with each other, we'll eliminate half of those runs. We are putting the bat on the ball, but we are not being as effective as we need to be with the bat.

"This gives us a feel of where we are and what we are doing OK and what we are not doing OK. Now we have a better assessment so when we get back from spring break, we will be ready to go."

# PREP REPORT

### BOYS GOLF

▶ Fenton 167, Lake Fenton 201: At the Coyote Preserve Golf Club, the Tigers were paced by John Lloyd's one-under-par ninehole score of 36. Nick Campbell followed with a 43, while Chris Gilbert and Austin Landis carded 44s.

Lake Fenton's Wes Potts shot a 43, while Andrew Hiller netted a 44. Brenden Richert carded a 52. **GIRLS SOCCER** 

## Fenton 2, Swartz Creek 1:

The Tigers (1-1) had two breakaway goals from Chloee Foor in the final three minutes of the first half, lead-

ing the Tigers to the victory. Miranda Campbell and Eryn Isaacson recorded the assists. In net, Abby Quesnelle made seven saves to earn the victory.

### Detroit Country Day 1,

**Fenton 0:** Country Day broke the scoreless tie with a goal off a corner kick with 12 minutes left in the contest.

"We outshot them 12-5, but their goalie was outstanding and we couldn't finish," Fenton coach Mike Sullivan said. "We were very happy with our play, but not the outcome."

### Sunday, April 5, 2015 **19A**

# Diskin captures first win with Holly soccer

### **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Mark Diskin is just two games into his tenure as varsity girls soccer coach at Holly High School, and he likes what he's seeing.

The Bronchos opened the season with a respectable 3-1 loss against Waterford Mott on Monday and followed that with his first win as Holly' varsity mentor with a 5-0 victory against Carman-Ainsworth.

"I'm enjoying it. I'm looking forward to a good season with these kids," Diskin said. "They are energetic and have a

# DEVILS

**Continued from Page 17A** 

Solis set up the threat. And with two out, it was three straight RBI-singles by Adam Tooley, Clay DeVries and Masen Syjund that cut the gap to 11-8. It may have been cut closer, but a pick off ended the Holly sixth.

In the seventh, a three-run home run by Brandon Baker seemed to put the Blue Devils ahead by a comfortable 14-8 margin, but the Bronchos actually got the game-tying run at the plate in the bottom of the seventh. With two out, an RBI-double by Gaige Grondin and a two-run single by Jacob Cavender cut the gap to 14-11. Tooley singled, and Cavender eventually scored on an error, cutting the gap to 14-12 with the tying run at the plate. However, a strike out ended the threat and the game.

In the second contest, Holly jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first inning on three walks and a Lake Fenton error and never trailed. However, the game wasn't completed due to darkness.

The date was the first game of the season for Holly but the second for Lake Fenton, who lost to Swartz Creek 8-2 earlier in the week.

"We walked 12 guys in the first game against Swartz Creek," LaRue said. "We gave up only one hit but they scored eight runs. It was nice seeing us throw strikes a little bit today. That's the key for us. I have a lot of guys who can throw. I am looking for some guys who can pitch."

Holly returns back to action with a doubleheader at Goodrich on April 14. Lake Fenton faces another tricounty area foe on April 14, traveling to Linden High School for a nonleague twinbill.

# good mindset.

"Against Mott, I felt it was a confidence builder. There were a few mistakes that gave them two of their goals.

"Against Carman-Ainsworth there was no selfishness with the team. It was fun to watch them play like that. It was an extension of our game on Monday."

In the victory against Carman-Ainsworth, the Bronchos had five different scorers and five girls earn assists. The first goal came during the sixth minute when sophomore Kayden Shell scored her first goal of the season. Before the half was over, senior captain Rachel St. John and sophomore Amy Scruggs had goals, making it a 3-0 halftime lead.

Sami Hild and Kristin Hansel scored in the second half.

Senior keeper Michaela Luchow earned her first shutout of the season. In the loss to Mott, she also made 13 saves. Meanwhile, Hild scored the Bronchos' goal off a thru ball from four-year player Ann Fetzer.

Holly returns back to action on April 14 at Lapeer High School.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

PREP REPORT

## BASEBALL

► Linden 13-9, Byron 3-0: Austin Buerkel tossed a perfect game, striking out five batters. Offensively, Marshael Ryan led the offense with two hits and three RBI.

In the opener, Jake Marshall had three hits, leading the offense. Tim Sines earned the victory on the mound, tossing the first 3 2/3 innings. Marshael Ryan tossed the final 1 1/3 innings, earning the save.

▶ Fowlerville 2-5, Linden 0-2: Austin Buerkel tossed a two-hitter but the Linden bats didn't come alive, resulting in the opening-game loss. Buerkel, Brady Sarkon, Marshael Ryan, Trevor Banasiak and Bailey Davis had singles.

In the nightcap, Linden managed two runs on seven hits. Jake Marshall led the offense with two hits, while Sarkon added an RBI-double in the first.

► Hartland 16, Fenton 6: Zack Kostka had two hits and three RBI in the Tigers' season-opening contest. Drew Garrison also had a single and an RBI.

▶ **Goodrich 9-2, Fenton 8-1:** The Tigers lost a pair of one-run games. In the opener, a five-run first by Goodrich earned the Martians the win. Matt Acton, Drew Garrison and Zach Kostka had two hits each for Fenton. In the nightcap, Justin Norris had a double and Chase Coselman had an RBIsingle.

### SOFTBALL

Fenton 3-9, Howell 6-5: The Tigers split their opening twinbill of the season, winning the second game 9-5. In that contest Katey Cairnduff led the Tigers with a three-run double in the third and a triple. She scored two runs. Emma Brant had a hit and scored two runs, while Brenna Batch had a hit and a run scored. Taylor Mowery provided a two-run double in the third, while Logan Carter hit the team's first home run of the season, a two-run blast. She had two hits. Meaghan McArdle had two hits, while Paige Dean and Hayli Byers had a hit and a run scored each. McArdle tossed six innings of five-run ball, earning the victory. Dean earned the save by pitching a shutout seventh.

In the opener, Dean had a double, a single, a run scored and an RBI. Mowery also had a hit, an RBI and a run scored.

Holly's Connor Caldwell (right) avoids the slide of Lake Fenton's Chandler Fournier to make the throw to second, completing a double play. Lake Fenton defeated Holly 14-12 on Wednesday. the second game of the doubleheader was suspended with Holly leading 4-0 due to darkness.



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IF YOU'RE TIRED of reading the 'Babble,' then don't read it and take up a hobby or something. That babble as you call it are the true facts.

### 

AMERICA HAS AN incompetent president who thinks he is a king (no disrespect to our Tri-County King), Hillary is as crooked as Nixon was, the Middle East is in anarchy and Americans fighting against each other.

WATCHING WHAT IS going on in Indiana with their religious freedom law it is no wonder why the framers of the Constitution wrote in separation of Church and State. We were started as a free and equal nation not a faction of the Christian religion.

WHEN LAWMAKERS TRY to circumvent the Constitution for a special interest group nothing good ever happens. Just ask Gov. Pence of Indiana. 

## WEEKEND TIMES

### **GOLF COURSES Continued from Page 3A Tyrone Hills Golf Course**

Area golf

the winter

season.

Tyrone Hills Golf Course opened a week ago and will be open now until December, according to Denis Husse, golf professional. "We'll have the Junior Golf Program on Thursday mornings," he said. "We still have some openings in our 22 leagues."

Improvements to Summary this 18-hole public course include more courses survived bunkering and the building of a new with little or no tee last year. "Now damage and are there are four sets of now open for the tees on every hole," said Husse. "This lets

people play whatever length they want." Tyrone Hills will send out email blasts

to those who sign up on their email list on tyronehillsgolf.com. For tee times, call (810) 629- 5011.

# **Hartland Glen Golf Course**

Hartland Glen Golf Course in Hartland is Livingston County's only 36-hole course, located in a rural setting that accommodates up to 300 for league play and special events.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

tctimes.com

Tom Coats of Birch Run takes a swing at the 10th hole at Tyrone Hills on Wednesday. He was out for the second time this season, playing with his brother.

"Our greens are in excellent shape," said General Manager Steve Scherff. "We're always making improvements to sand traps. We're also building a new tee box to lengthen yardage on one hole on our north course."

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### **Hunter's Ridge Golf Course**

Hunter's Ridge Golf Course in Howell is an 18-hole public course, family owned and operated by the Miesle family. "It's in excellent shape except nothing is green yet," said owner Joe Miesle, whose son, Mike Miesle is superintendent. "We're open every day, weather permitting, except we will be closed Easter Sunday.' For tee times, call (517) 545-GOLF (4653)

### **Spring Meadows Country Club**

Spring Meadows Country Club in Linden, a private 18-hole golf course, opened two weeks ago for the season. "Guests can play with a member," said Megan Lambert, members marketing and event director.

The course is in great shape, according to Lambert, with no winter damage to the greens. "It didn't get cold until there was already snow on the ground to protect them," she said.

Membership fees include \$1,500 to join and \$360 per month, which includes unlimited golf and use of carts.

Golfers who venture out to area courses in early spring will find open tee times and affordable rates until about May 1, when in-season rates go into effect at many courses. "Dust off your clubs and come on out," said Raney of Coyote Preserve Golf Club.



# THIS WEEK'S <mark>INSERTS</mark>

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The Mackinac Center for Public Policy provides a weekly report of how local elected officials in Michigan have voted and on what topics. This report was released Friday, March 27.

### Senate Bill 56: Give judges a raise

To increase judges' salaries around \$12,000, and index them going forward to increases in the salaries paid to unionized state "civil service" employees. After the change, salaries would range from around \$150,000 to \$163,000 depending on which level of court.

# Passed 33 to 3 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)	
ÝES	$\Box$ NO
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)	
YES	$\Box$ NO
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)	_
□ YES	🗙 NO
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)	
	dn't vote
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)	
X YES	🗆 NO

# Senate Bill 54: Ban using a drone to interfere with hunter

To prohibit using an aerial drone to interfere with or harass a person who is hunting. This would expand an existing law that bans interfering with or harassing hunters. Senate Bill 55 bans using a drone for hunting and also passed the House unanimously. Passed 110 to 0 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

X YES □ NO Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) X YES □ NO

### House Bill 4193: Allow electronic "proof of vehicle insurance"

To revise the state's no-fault insurance law to allow "proof of insurance" documents motorists are required to have when driving to be an electronic communication from the insurance company visible on a mobile device. If asked, a driver could be required to forward the information to a designated site. **Passed 108 to 2 in the House** *Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)* 

X YES □ NO Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) X YES □ NO

# House Bill 4015: Repeal ticket scalping ban

To repeal a state law that bans ticket "scalping" at sports and entertainment events, or selling tickets at a higher price through a service or agency. **Passed 70 to 40 in the House** *Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)* 

X YES □ NO Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) X YES □ NO

## No more crossing guard at Main and Lemen, beginning April 13

Effective Monday, April 13, the Fenton Police Department will no longer provide an adult school crossing guard at Main and North Lemen streets as this designated school crossing intersection will be decommissioned. This decision was made after questioning the lack of student walkers, which led Fenton police to consult with school representatives. Police learned that all of the students who would cross at this intersection are afforded bus transportation. House Bill 4041: Ban welfare for **HOT LINE** CONTINUED persistent truancy To withhold welfare benefits from a LOVED LAST ISSUE of the Times. household with children who are persis-Had excellent news articles and a tently truant from school. A truant child great kick-off Spring section which age 16 and above could be removed my husband and I enjoyed imfrom the household for this. mensely. Will be shopping local as we plan our home's 800-square-foot addition and renovation of house ex-Passed 74 to 36 in the House Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) X YFS 🗆 NO terior. Keep up the good work. Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) IF FEDERAL LAWS already protect X YES □ NO religious freedom, why are so many state politicians trying to cash in on Senate Bill 85: Extend pre-emption of local gun control to air guns the debate? Because the emotional To revise the state law preempting reissues are always great fundraisers.

To revise the state law preempting restrictive local gun control ordinances so it applies to "pneumatic" guns, defined as ones that shoot "a BB or pellet by spring, gas, or air." Locals could adopt restrictions on possession of these by minors, prohibit "brandishing" them

🗙 ÝES 🗆 NO

🔀 YES 🗆 NO

🗙 YES 🗆 NO

🗙 YES 🗆 NO

X didn't vote

to induce fear, or shooting in a heavily

Passed 29 to 8 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)

Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)

Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)

Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)

populated area.

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sense to locate and remove the source of the rodent problem rather than just setting a few traps.

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I own a 1999 Plymouth Voyager. Last week the fuel gauge was reading empty with the low fuel light on. I know the tank was not empty as I had just filled it. Then it was fine. Today the low fuel light began lighting up and going off along with the won-derful dinging noise. Also the fuel gauge kept fluctuating between 3/4 which it is and empty. Any ideas? - Tony

Tony, in this case I suspect that you have a bad fuel sending unit, but you will want to test it before replacement. To test, you will need a wiring diagram and an ohm meter. The pump and level sender are located in the fuel tank, so you will want to do this when the tank is below 1/4 of a tank so that it is not so heavy when taking out. After removal of the pump and sending unit, you need to hold it steady and have a partner watch the ohm meter while you sweep the sender from full to empty slowly and watch the reading. It should change at a slow pace and not drop out which is what I suspect that you will see when it gets near 3/4 of a tank or so. If it does, then you will need to call the dealer if you only want to replace the sender, but pay attention to the cost because this sending unit also comes with the fuel pump when you replace it. It may be in your best interest to just replace the pump assembly. Check Car-Quest for a Delphi fuel pump, that is what we prefer to use, they seem to have the least problems in my opinion.

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



# OWPMeet Rolph

town

- Associate pastor of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
- Enjoys pick-up basketball
- · Likes to relax by the lake

### **By Emily Stocker**

estocker@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Jim Rolph has been the parochial

vicar (associate pastor) at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton since arriving last July.

Where are you originally from? I'm from the Ann Arbor area. I attended Catholic elementary school.

When did you make your decision to enter the priesthood? I hadn't given it much thought before, but one day in mass as a senior in high school I felt a little tug at my heart that eventually drew me to the priesthood. I obtained my bachelor degree at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota. I spent four years there, and then completed my seminary at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. I obtained my bachelor degree in Philosophy and Catholic studies, and a Master of Divinity and a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology. So how did you land in Fen-

ton? Well, this past June on the 14, I was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Lansing. The bishop assigned me here to St. John's and I started here in Fenton and I began on July 1. How are you enjoying Fenton? I love it here. It has a bit of a city feel and a great little downtown, but when you want to get away, there are so many lakes to enjoy.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? I love to enjoy the great outdoors that God has blessed us with. I've been mountain biking, which

TRI-COUNTY TIMES TIM JAGIELO

Ministers of the Holy Communion receive the Eucharist from Associate Pastor Fr. Jim Rolph, 26, on Palm Sunday, before they provide communion to the rest

of the congregation.

seems very popular around this area, I love to play a game of pick-up basketball, and I have recently been skiing. I did try snowboarding, but I don't think I'll be doing that again. I spent more time down than up. I love relaxing by the lakes. Fenton is a relaxed and comfortable place to call home.

Is there anything you want everyone to know? Yes, just that I feel so blessed to be here in Fenton.



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# SHOOTER

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Instead, his charge of assault with intent to commit murder was reduced to assault with intent to commit great bodily harm, if he pleaded "no contest."

This agreement means that there is no appeal or trial. Johnson will serve the penalties handed down by the judge, which are considerably shorter than with the latter charge.

Johnson has already served nearly a year in the Genesee County Jail, stemming from the incident on May 26, 2014. He and his neighbor, 43, had a dispute over lawn care, and Johnson shot the man in the hip area with a .380 pistol.

Johnson was facing up to life in prison if he had been found guilty as charged, which was assault with intent to murder, carrying weapons with unlawful intent

and felony firearms.

Instead, Johnson is expected to serve the remaining 2.5 years, of a 3.5-year prison sentence. He was given credit for time already served in the county jail. His sentence includes 19 months for assault, and two years for felony firearm. He also is not to make any contact with the victim.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 5, which will establish in which prison he'll serve his time.

After meeting with Hayman to agree to a plea deal, Robinson conferred with family members of Johnson in the court building hallways. They embraced after hearing the news, and smiled as a shackled Johnson entered the court to officially enter his plea.

### About the case

Fenton police and deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff's Department

responded to a home in the 800 block of North LeRoy Street in the afternoon of May 26, 2014 to investigate a possible shooting.

According to a May 2014 Times article, Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said a dispute between neighbors escalated to where one of the neighbors, Johnson, shot the other.

Johnson was charged with shooting his neighbor in his own yard over a lawnmowing dispute. Aro said one shot was fired from Johnson's registered .380-caliber, semi-automatic handgun, striking the neighbor in the hip area. Aro added that Johnson carries a concealed pistol license (CPL).

The injured neighbor was transported to Genesys Health Park for medical treatment and police did not believe alcohol played a factor in the incident.



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** I TIM JAGIELO Circuit Court Judge Archie Hayman presided over Gregory Johnson's case, and accepted a plea deal for a reduced charge.





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# ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH 2015 HOLY WEEK& EASTER (PASCHA) SERVICES: (According to the Julian Calendar)



Monday, April 6th, 7:00pm - Bridegroom Matins Tuesday, April 7th, 7:00pm - Bridegroom Matins Wednesday, April 8th, 7:00pm - Holy Unction Thursday, April 9th, 7:00pm - Passion Gospels Friday, April 10th, 3:00pm - Holy Friday Vespers Friday, April 10th, 7:00pm - Lamentations Saturday, May 11th, 10:00am - St. Basil's Liturgy Saturday, May 11th, 11:30pm - Paschal Vigil-Liturgy Sunday, May 12th, 2:00pm - Agape Vespers

