

# What's next for downtown Fenton?

**“Fenton is going to have an exciting revitalization in the next 12 months.”**

**Phil Hagerman**  
CEO of Diplomat Pharmacy

(Right) Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman purchased these two buildings in downtown Fenton. The announcement of development plans are coming soon.



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

Residents have been watching and waiting for years as one prime piece of real estate in downtown Fenton has deteriorated through the demise of several businesses.

The front building at 112 West Silver Lake Rd., connected to Fenton Collision, has housed everything from a car dealership and gas station to a burger carry-out and floral shop, never quite finding its purpose or niche.

**See DOWNTOWN on 15A**



**PAGE 3A**  
**BUYING**  
**THE PERFECT**  
**PONTOON**

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# Weekend Times

SUNDAY EDITION

## Child abuse is everyone's problem

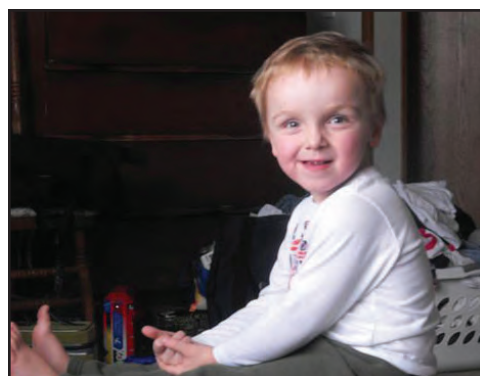
► Abused kids often say, 'No one ever bothered to ask if I was OK'

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

You might think that child abuse doesn't happen in the tri-county area, yet Dominic Calhoun, the 4-year-old who died April 11, 2010 at the brutal hands of his mother's boyfriend, has taught us otherwise.

Just last week, the Times announced the arrest of a Tyrone Township couple who have been charged with second-degree felony child abuse of their 16-year-old adopted son.

**See CHILD ABUSE on 8A**



Dominick Calhoun died five years ago at the hands of an abuser. Neither his mother nor neighbors called police to report suspected abuse.

## Former Foley farm now bustling apartment and retail development

*This is Part III in a series about the commercial development of Fenton*



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Ken Robinson, owner of Ken Robinson Construction, fits in a porch header for a fourth-floor balcony of the new Silver Lake Hills apartment building on Wednesday. In business 23 years, he has watched the Silver Lake Road corridor develop from open fields to a variety of businesses.

## Remember Aug. 24, 2007?

► Onset of storm season brings memories of worst tornado to ever hit Fenton

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

If you were visiting, living or working in Fenton on Aug. 24, 2007, you'll never forget that day when all the clocks in town stopped at exactly 5:52 p.m.

That's when a tornado hopped, skipped and jumped its way through the downtown area, damaging buildings, homes and toppling trees in its path, changing the landscape of Fenton forever and shaking the security of those who lived here.

Just two years ago, on May 28, 2013, four tornadoes touched down in Genesee County, including one in Fenton Township that hit

**See TORNADO on 7A**



Homes on Howard Street in Fenton were hard hit by an F2 tornado that struck the Fenton area on Aug. 24, 2007. It was the most destructive tornado to ever hit Fenton.

## Eighty acres west of Silver Parkway developed over past 15 years

### Summary

► Multiple residential housing and commercial shopping centers popped up along Silver Lake Road at Silver Parkway, thanks to the efforts of the Alice Foley heirs.

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Alice Foley had a farm...

Today that farm on the west side of town is gone, having been replaced over the past 15 years

by retail spaces, restaurants and two apartment complexes along Silver Lake Road where it now meets Silver Parkway.

Attorney Kevin McGraw, a licensed real estate broker, real

estate investor and developer since 1998, has fond memories of a childhood often spent on his grandmother's farm.

"It was nice," McGraw said.

**See DEVELOPED on 20A**

**“There were lots of places to play and a big pond across the tracks.”**

**Kevin McGraw**

Grandson of Alice M. Foley

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**TEXT**  
**YOUR**  
**HOT LINE**



**“Where am I going to put these monster garbage bins?”**



Where is the savings if I only have one bag a week? Taxes are outrageous enough in Fenton already without added cost. I pay for what I use now!”

**“I applaud city leaders for addressing trash and recycling. A suggestion though. Give the residents a choice in a tiered system, such as small, medium and large bins, priced accordingly. It's a solution that addresses all variables. Thank you.”**

**“Don't tell me that your ailments give you a right to handicap parking. A letter from your doctor gets you a mirror hanger or a license plate. They aren't provided on the honor system because too many people aren't honorable.”**



tctimes.com  
**COMMENT**  
**OF THE WEEK**

**“Excuse me, but there is no such thing as minimum wage. The job pays this much. If you think it is in your best interest, you take the job. If you don't, learn a higher skill and you can earn a better wage. It's that simple.”**



# LIFE IS TOO SHORT NOT TO *dance* LEARN ALL LEVELS OF BALLROOM *and* LATIN DANCE

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# Options abound when buying the *perfect pontoon*

Enjoy your favorite lake this year with a  
**new boat**

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

With the dozens of inland lakes to enjoy in the tri-county area, the days are coming soon when they will be peppered with watercraft of all description. Among the most popular of these is the pontoon boat.

Pontoon boats are a must-have for those who enjoy a variety of lake activities, including sunbathing and lounging, partying, swimming and water sports and, of course, fishing.

## Summary

►Area water sports enthusiasts have a number of options when it comes to buying the right pontoon boat to meet their needs.

When purchasing a pontoon boat, buyers have the luxury of choosing from a number of boat dealers locally.

Eric Mowery is one of the friendly sales representatives at Freeway Sports Center, located along U.S. 23 at 3241 W. Thompson Road in Fenton.

According to Mowery, his company sells between 200 and 250 pontoon boats per year. "As soon as the weather breaks, it gets crazy," he said.

When asked what people can expect to pay for a pontoon, Mowery said, "Some of them sell for as low as \$20,000," he said. "Others can go as high as \$70,000 to \$80,000."

Since many people don't have that kind of cash lying around, Freeway Sports and other boat dealers offer financing through area banks. "The interest rate is anywhere between 3.75 and 4 percent, and the length of the loan can be up to 12 to 15 years," said Mowery.

See **PONTOON** on 10A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Sharon and Keith LaFee of Fenton Township took their 2014 model out on Lake Fenton last July. They chose this particular pontoon for its power and ability to hold more friends and family.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Pontoons make great party boats. At the always raucous Fourth of July party at The Point on Lake Fenton, they outnumber other types of boats.

## Local pontoon dealers

Once you have decided to purchase a pontoon boat, seek the services of a professional, local boat dealer that sells pontoons.

### Action Water Sports

(810) 629-1342

### Freeway Sports Center

(810) 629-2291

### Lake Ponemah Marina

(810) 750-8443

### Skipper Buds

(810) 714-3570

### White's Landing

(810) 629-2905

## Buying a pontoon from a private party

If your budget calls for the purchase of a previously owned pontoon, there are some things to look for before buying.

### • Check the hull of the pontoon.

Look for signs of cracks or patches on the stem, chines, and strakes because these sustain the most damage during a collision.

• **Make sure the** pontoon logs are straightly positioned. They, too, might show signs of cracks, dents, or holes that will require repair.

• **Remove the outboard** engine cowl and check for dry white "curtains" past the head gasket. These are signs of seepage or the slow escape of a liquid or gas through small holes. Learn how many hours are on the engine and if any repairs were made.

• **Check the shift** and throttle linkages. They should be greased, show no signs of corrosion and the springs should snap back.

• **Check the pontoon** boat underneath the surface. If you feel any cracks, bubbles, waves, wrinkles or

See **PRIVATE PARTY** on 10A



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Friday: ..... 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday ..... Closed



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# 'An unarmed man?'

Condemning police officers for using deadly force is the latest destructive agenda of our deeply disturbed mainstream media. The use of the phrase 'an unarmed man' promotes the assumption that 'unarmed' is synonymous with 'harmless.' Nothing could be further from the truth. While it's good for ratings, it's bad for police officers. Here's why:

Almost all of our perception of police officers comes from the unreal world of TV, where most cops are young and fit, and can catch, tackle and handcuff a fleeing suspect without breaking a sweat. Hmmm, not so in the real world. By and large, the vast majority of cops across America are no more fit than any

other demographic. With a national average age of about 40, most are on the backside of their peak fitness years. Most lead lives the same as us, with all the time constraints, schedules and demands that accompany typical family life. Very few possess any specialized hand-to-hand combat skills that would enable them to harmlessly immobilize someone larger and younger than them. That's why we supply them with tools like mace, pepper spray and taser guns.

These weapons are intended to incapacitate suspects without injuring them. But, as any cop will tell you, often they are more akin to communism — good in theory, not so good in practice.



But, I digress. My point is that being a police officer is extremely difficult. Every situation is different and life and death decisions are literally made in an instant, under extreme duress. A healthy male can cover 21 feet in just 1.5 seconds — which is just slightly under the time it takes an officer to draw his weapon from its holster and fire one shot. That means if the officer draws his gun, fires it and misses, he loses the race. And if he loses the race, he likely loses his life.

Most civilians wonder why cops don't just shoot the suspects in their leg, thereby incapacitating them. The answer is that cops — and the military — are taught to always shoot for center mass because that provides the surest chance of taking the subject down. And taking the subject down provides the surest chance of survival.

Yes, there are some bad officers and some incompetent officers. The recent shooting by a 70+ reserv-

ist who thought he was shooting his taser comes to mind. But that doesn't change the fact that the media does a crap job of protecting our police. Their incendiary sensationalizing of the Ferguson, Missouri incident is almost criminal. The cop was in a life or death fight and did the same thing you or I would have done — he shot the man, the 6-foot, 4-inch, 292 pound 'unarmed man,' who was trying to kill him.

Think about all this the next time you hear some hair-sprayed, make-up-wearing, sissy-in-a-suit on NBC, CNN, CBS or ABC condemning a cop who shot 'an unarmed man.' Ask yourself what you would have done in the same circumstances.

Better yet, ask yourself why the mainstream media is less interested in dead cops than they are in higher ratings.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the King at king@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

## Hot lines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

**THERE IS NOTHING** wrong with Fenton's trash collection system. I use two tags each month plus \$16 for recycle. That is \$20. They want \$32 a month — that's a 50-percent increase. What about all the other items that do not go in containers? Never mind the extra cost.

**'FENTON MOMENTUM'** HAS got to be the worst line since 'Fenton: Be Closer.' It'd be nice if that money was spent toward syncing lights to make getting through this streetscap plan a little better. Those signs are absolutely ridiculous.

**STOP THE PRESSES**, the King is off his meds. He recently has been writing interesting, heartfelt columns, not the fear-mongering, hateful right-wing garbage of the past. What happened this week?

**I AM NOT** a fan of the proposed new trash pickup system. I am not 'typical.' I am a big recycler, on average only put out one bag of trash per month. The new system will more than double my quarterly cost. Why will people recycle more with a can than bins?

**THOSE OLD SENILE** pensioners 62 and up will probably support the sales tax increase and why not? They supported Governor Snyder's re-election

by a .7 margin after he taxed their previously un-taxed pension.

**IF YOU DRIVE** by neighborhoods that have those huge garbage containers, you will find that every other house stores them out in front of their garages because they don't have space for them. It makes the town look really junky.

**I'D LIKE TO** respond to the Fenton's trash tag story. I presently use two tags a month, that's \$3.20 and \$16. That's less than \$20 a month. Now they want to hike my trash up to \$31 a month. Just say 'no,' and you city council people pay attention.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

## Readers write

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

### Sales tax increase

Dear Editor,  
Two decades ago, I supported raising our state sales tax from 4 to 6 percent in exchange for property tax relief. Of course, two years ago, my homestead property tax was taken away, but I still get to pay a 6 percent sales tax. The state is now

proposing a ballot initiative to raise the sales tax once again; this time to pay for roads, along with other state programs. Instead of larger state government, we need to have a ballot initiative to determine if the current fuel tax should be used to repair roads. Why are the residents of Michigan being held hostage to a single issue like roads. If the state wants the populace to vote on taxation, let's vote on the entire state budget, not just one line item.

— Ron Sadler  
Fenton

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### Being thankful

Dear Editor,  
It is a beautiful day outside. Be thankful that all the experiences outside are on their way - bicycling, jogging, Frisbee, golf. There are numerous activities to enjoy the great weather. Forget about world peace and the problems of the day. Problems are seemingly put on hold when enjoying a great weather day. Visit the state parks and go on enjoying the sun. County parks are open and ready to take advantage of. It is said to have 60 minutes of play each and every day. Don't coop yourself up in the house. The outdoors are loved and there forever. Children are heard laughing and adults will do the same. It is a fabulous time when grilling and swimming. Get out and play.

— Craig Marglous, Fenton

Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

## What are your thoughts on stricter alcohol limits for boaters?

## streettalk



"I think that it is good, because safety on the water is important."

— Jill Shegos  
Fenton Township



"I don't think they should make a big ban on it, just because some people can drink responsibly."

— Emily Mosher  
Fenton



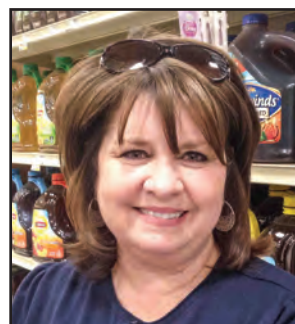
"I think that it is really good. It's a motorized vehicle and deaths happen because of drinking."

— Elisa Wuench  
Brighton



"I think it is a good idea, because it should be the same as driving a car."

— Gary Jones  
Mundy Township



"I think the stricter the better, because lives are at stake."

— Deborah Egle  
Rose Township



"I think it is a good idea. Operating a boat under the influence is as dangerous as operating a motor vehicle."

— Jerry Rucker, Tyrone Township





# I'm all in!

►Annual Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournament to benefit Fenton schools on April 23

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

Poker enthusiasts are eagerly awaiting a moment when they can sit down at a table in the Fenton Hotel and try their luck at a thrilling game of poker. Organizers are equally excited as they look at this annual event as a big fundraiser for the Fenton Education Foundation (FEF).

Dating back to 2005 when former Fenton City Manager Mike Senyko was instrumental in establishing a charitable poker game that would benefit the Fenton Area Public Schools Education Foundation (now called FEF), of which he was a member, this fun, adult event has raised thousands of dollars for the school district.

The “Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournament” is stylized after the original poker game, held in 1837, when legend has it that William Fenton won and named the town and Robert LeRoy lost, subsequently naming the main street.

Doors for this April 23 event at the Fenton Hotel open at 5 p.m. and play begins at 6:30 p.m. Player entry fee is \$100, which includes one spectator pass. Additional spectator passes are \$10 each. Appetizers will be provided to players and spectators.

The Texas Hold ‘em tournament is one of the Foundation’s favorite events and brings in players and spectators from Fenton and surrounding areas.

In addition to cash prizes, a portion of LeRoy Street in downtown Fenton will be renamed in their honor for one year.

The grand prize includes a custom-designed bracelet by Medewar Jewelers and \$1,000. This is in addition to the honorary renaming of the street.

Tom Bertschy, chair of the tournament said this is the Foundation’s main fundraiser of the year and they typically give \$10,000 worth of grants to teachers and groups at Fenton schools.

To purchase tickets online, go to [www.fenteducationfoundation.org](http://www.fenteducationfoundation.org). There will be a link to register and pay. To purchase in person, please visit The State Bank in downtown Fenton.

## Tri-county fundraisers

**Fenton Relay for Life fundraiser**  
The community is invited to attend a Fenton Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society on **Wednesday, April 29 from 5-7 p.m.** at Culver’s (3202 Owen Rd.). There will be face painting, Shriner clowns, and balloon figures to add to the fun! Ten percent of proceeds from dine-in or carry-out will be donated to ACS in its fight against cancer.

## Police&Fire report

**WHO TOOK THE VICODIN?**  
Holly police are investigating a larceny complaint involving vicodin, a narcotic. On April 12, a Holly police officer was dispatched to a home in the 4000 block of Grange Hall Road after a resident reported that about 50 vicodin pills were missing from his home. The man suspected either his 43-year-old son or a female friend. Police have questioned those involved, however, no further information led to a suspect or the missing pills.

**COMPANY TRAILER STOLEN**  
The Fenton Police Department is investigating a theft of an enclosed trailer. Lt. Jason Slater said the owner of a business in the 1400 block of Torrey Road said that between April 7 and 8, someone stole his red Haulmark 8-foot-long company trailer, which had bat stickers on it. The trailer is valued at \$900.



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**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

**I LEARNED THAT** one of your columnists Rev. Campbell had recently passed away. He truly was a man of God, and will be missed. I always valued his columns. His words helped many people, including me.

**WE ARE SO** excited to see the new sculptures in Fenton. It has become our

yearly spring scavenger hunt to find all of the new ones. This flower is so bright and colorful we fell in love with it immediately.

**TO THE PERSON** looking for the best cable provider: All TV stations now broadcast in digital HD for free. Cut the cord. Put an RCA ANT-751 up with an amplifier and use your existing cable system. I pull in 44 stations. Get Roku with Sling TV for \$20 for premiums.



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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO

Just about every city copes with some form of graffiti. This example is on the U.S. 23 overpass on Silver Lake Road.

## Graffiti — art or destruction of property?

► Unknown 'artist' could be charged with defacing public or private property

**By Emily Stocker**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you're traveling west on Silver Lake Road and drive beneath the U.S. 23 overpass, you'll notice a rainbow of spray paint scattered about. The "works of art" do not look to be done by an amateur. This spot in particular has been repeatedly chosen by taggers and vandals over the years.

Graffiti can range from simple written words to elaborate wall paintings. According to The History of American Graffiti, it has existed since ancient times, with examples dating back to Ancient Egypt, Greece and the Roman Empire.

The writing, drawings that have been scribbled, scratched or sprayed illicitly on a wall may express underlying social

and political messages and a whole genre of artistic expression is based upon spray paint graffiti styles.

Graffiti has been a bone of contention for decades and continues to create disagreements amongst city officials, law enforcement and those who wish to display and appreciate artwork in public locations.

"Banksy" is a satirical street artist who is followed by millions. Growing out of the British underground scene, his works of political and social commentary have

been featured on streets, walls and bridges of cities throughout the world.

The graffiti on Silver Lake Road is within the Fenton City limits. Police Chief Rick Aro said

that years ago when the area was covered with graffiti, some high school students were able to clean it up.

Aro said defacing public or private property is a 90 day misdemeanor, with a \$500 fine plus restitution for clean-up.

This time, that is not the case. "We don't know who has done it this time around," Aro said. The chief added that he has put in a request with the Genesee County Road Commission, which is responsible for cleaning up the graffiti.

**“We don't know who has done it this time around.”**

**Rick Aro**  
Fenton police chief

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## HOW TO PREPARE FOR A TORNADO OR THUNDERSTORM

- **Plan ahead.** Be sure everyone in your household knows where to go and what to do in case of a tornado or thunderstorm warning.
- **Know the safest location** for shelter in your home, workplace and school. Load-bearing walls near the center of the basement or lowest level generally provide the greatest protection.
- **Have emergency supplies** on hand, including a battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio, flashlight and a supply of fresh batteries, first-aid kit, water and cell phone.
- **Keep a three-day** supply of food on hand, including some that doesn't require refrigeration.
- **Make an inventory** of household furnishings and other possessions. Supplement it with photos of each room, and keep it in a safe place.
- **Sign up to receive text** or email alerts from local media, weather provider or through an app.

## WHEN A THUNDERSTORM APPROACHES YOUR AREA

- **Stayed tuned** to your weather radio or local news station for the latest updates from the National Weather Service.
- **Seek safe shelter** when you first hear thunder, when you see dark threatening clouds developing overhead or see lightning. Stay inside until 30 minutes after you last hear thunder or see lightning. Remember, lightning can strike 10 miles away from any rainfall.
- **When you hear** thunder, run to the nearest large building or fully enclosed vehicle. It's not safe anywhere outside. If you are boating or swimming, get to land and seek shelter immediately.

## WHEN A TORNADO WARNING IS ISSUED FOR YOUR AREA:

- **Move to shelter** in the basement or lowest floor of a permanent structure.
- **In homes and** small buildings, go to the basement and get under something sturdy, like a workbench or stairwell. If there is no basement, go to an interior part of the home on the lowest level. A good rule of thumb: put as many walls between you and the tornado as possible.
- **Stay away** from windows, doors and outside walls. Broken glass and wind-blown projectiles cause more injuries and deaths than collapsed buildings. Protect your head with a pillow, blanket or mattress.
- **Watch out** for fallen power lines. Stay out of damaged buildings until you are sure they are safe and will not collapse.

## WHAT IS A TORNADO?

A tornado is a column of violently rotating winds extending down from a thunderstorm cloud and touching the surface of the earth.

SOURCE: The National Weather Service

## TORNADO

Continued from Front Page

at 9:30 p.m., with the heaviest damage reported along Thompson Road between Fairbanks and Jennings roads.

Last year, Michigan experienced 13 tornadoes, not far from the average of 15, according to the National Weather Service.

While tornadoes can happen any time of year, the volatile mix of cold and warm air makes April a particularly strong month for tornadoes, second only to May for average U.S. tornado counts, according to The Weather Channel.

A tornado or other severe weather can move in very quickly, giving residents little time to prepare. That's why local municipalities offer an emergency warning system using sirens.

In the city of Fenton, a test siren sounds on the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m., beginning every year in March, ending in November. Five sirens are located in the city:

- Owen Road, adjacent to Speedway
- Silver Lake Road by the Shell gas station at U.S. 23
- Dauner Road
- State Road Elementary School
- Ellen Street, near the downtown area

There are five sirens in Fenton City, which sound off for emergencies, and for testing once a month. This siren is off Silver Lake Road and U.S. 23.



**“If there is an actual emergency, the sounding of the siren warns people that they should take cover immediately.”**

**Chief Bob Cairnduff**  
Fenton Fire Department

“The test is just to make sure they (the sirens) are functional and working, so everyone knows it's just a test,” said Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff. “If there is an actual emergency, the sounding of the siren warns people that they should take cover immediately.”

Cairnduff said that Fenton also monitors Livingston County weather conditions during severe weather. “We might not get the Genesee County warning service until it's almost here,” he said. “Storms often come through the Howell area, then toward us. That's exactly what happened on Aug. 24, 2007.”

Linden and Fenton Township are tied into the Genesee County 911 Consortium, which provides more than 80 sirens in the county that are activated for tornado warnings and 70 mph-plus winds. “Last fall, we did a study on our older siren on top of our fire station and found out it wasn't strong enough to alert all the people in our area,” said Chief Brian Will of the City of Linden Fire Department. “We found a new location on top of the pole in the city parking lot across from the VFW Hall, and installed a new pole siren in March. It seems to be giving us 100 percent coverage throughout the city.”

The sirens are to warn people outdoors to seek shelter inside and listen to their radio or TV for more information.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Magician Doug Scheer performs for Whaley Children's Center residents, volunteers and staff in 2013. Residents of Whaley often come from backgrounds involving abuse.

## CHILD ABUSE

Continued from Front Page

The lesson for all is that child abuse and neglect takes place all around us and knows no socio-economic, age or gender boundaries.

"It takes a village (to raise a child) and we're all the village," said Jen Koester, 42, of Fenton, a former social worker who now volunteers at Whaley Children's Center in Flint. Whaley is home to 48 children from all over the state of Michigan who have suffered from profound chronic abuse and neglect.

Koester is working to educate people, to make them aware of the prevalence of child abuse and neglect in this area. "It's happening right here in our own backyard," she said. "That's the biggest misconception. It does not discriminate, it crosses all lines. My motive is to make people not afraid to get involved. These kids can't do it for themselves. They need us."

A neighbor of the Tyrone Township couple charged with abuse, Eric and An-

gela Cocoran said, "I wish I had known, and could have told someone sooner."

Kevin Roach, CEO of Whaley Children's Center and himself a survivor of child abuse, said there are a number of ways for an individual to get involved, but the first step is to overcome the myth that it's happening "somewhere else."

"As soon as you realize it can happen in our own particular community, then you can start to pay attention in your community. It's not only kids with bruises and broken bones. Look at behavioral changes like a child who becomes more distant, withdrawn, angry or is not showing up at school, church or sports practice."

Roach says it takes the willingness of an adult to ask questions beyond the surface level. "So often we don't get involved," he said. "The number one way to help a child is to get involved, interfere and ask questions. When I talk to kids who have been abused, they tell me, 'No one ever bothered to ask if I was OK, if I was in trouble.'"

The smaller, tight-knit communities of the tri-county area make it easier to get involved, according to Roach. "Usually, you have at least familiarity with a family, or the local resources that might be able to help. You know where that child goes to school, for instance."

If you happen to see a potential incidence of child abuse in a public setting, it may be hard to determine whether what's taking place is actual abuse, but Roach says it is still best to speak up and do something.

"Saying something like 'Can I help?' is a way to get involved to diffuse a situation without offending a person's parenting skills," said Roach. "It can help calm the situation. If there are others around witnessing the same thing, you can find comfort in numbers and approach a store manager or call law enforcement."

Chief Rick Aro of the Fenton Police Department estimates that he gets about a dozen calls a year, mostly about sexual abuse of a child at the hands of a divorced couple's ex-spouse.

"We don't get a lot of calls about child abuse because most people report it to Child Protective Services," said Aro. "Calls to the statewide number refer it back out to the county. If it's criminal in nature, they'll call us to investigate."

The bottom line is, "If a child looks to be in imminent danger, call 911," said Aro.

### Statewide Hotline Number

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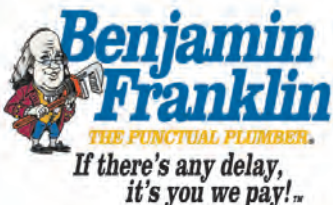
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## PONTOON

Continued from Page 3A

When selecting a size, people should consider where and how they plan to use the pontoon, if they are going to use the vessel for pleasure cruising, or more rigid activities, such as tubing and other water sports, size does matter.

A pontoon boat that is less than 20 feet long is best for smaller, calm bodies of water. The smaller pontoon can accommodate up to eight people. A 20- to 22-foot pontoon is best for lakes and rivers that don't have big waves. It will accommodate up to about 13 people. A larger, 23- to 27-foot pontoon is best for rough waters, especially when the tubes are 27 feet long. It accommodates up to about 15 people.

Smaller pontoons can travel at speeds of 17 to 20 miles and hour. "The faster ones can get up to 55 miles per hour," Mowery said.

Pontoons offer a variety of amenities to accommodate everyone's interests. For example, those who want to use their pontoon primarily for fishing can have their craft outfitted with special seats at the stern, with special holders for fishing poles.

Others, who merely want to use their pontoon to entertain, can have a bar in the back and a barbecue grill, for example.

Many additional accessories are available to meet a variety of buyers' interests.

New pontoons are typically outfitted with life jackets, comfortable cushions and dock lines, Mowery said. Other accessories like tubes, ropes and LED lighting also are available for those who like to go out on the lake after dark.

Like other watercraft, one must be 16 years of age and have earned a boater safety certificate in order to drive a pontoon.

Pontoon drivers also have to follow the same rules of the lake such as adhering to no-wake regulations, no drinking and driving and making sure there is a lifejacket available for everyone on board, said Mowery.

With proper maintenance, pontoons can last as long as 15 years or longer. "For as long as people take care of it," Mowery said.

Freeway Sports Center offers winter maintenance services, which include winterizing the motor, changing the oil and shrink-wrapping. The cost for that is around \$700 per year. Freeway will repair pontoon boats at their location. Its lower-level store features boating supplies, clothing, equipment and more.

**“Pontoons are so much more popular these days. You can do so much more on them and they're great for families.”**

**Kevin Watkins**  
*White's Landing*

**“Sales of new and used pontoon boats have been phenomenal.”**

**Dana Ceresia**  
*Lake Ponemah Marina*

## PRIVATE PARTY

Continued from Page 3A

other inconsistencies when you run your hands on the surface, it might be the product of substandard manufacturing.

• **Evidence of mold** on the flooring may mean big repair expenses and will lower the value of the pontoon boat. If the plywood is squishy, this could mean rotting wood.

• **Check to see** if the gauges are accurate and if they have a tendency to bounce. Look for signs of problems with oil pressure.

• **Finally, look for** cracks and tears on the furniture and cushions, which, if present, would indicate that the pontoon was not stored carefully.

Source: manitoupontoonboats.com

When asked if Freeway teaches new pontoon owners how to drive their new watercraft, Mowery said, "We can, but it is as easy as turning the key and going forward or backward."

### Lake Ponemah Marina

"Sales of new and used pontoon boats have been phenomenal," said Dana Ceresia, who co-owns Lake Ponemah Marina

in Fenton with her husband, Joe. She attributes the increased sales in part to the growing housing industry. "We started selling them back in February and we are selling out fast."

### White's Landing

"Sales have been really good this year," said Kevin Watkins, sales representative for White's Landing in Fenton. "Last year was a really good year and we're up from that. Our busy season

normally starts the first week in January and keeps rolling through October. Pontoons are so much more popular these days. You can do so much more on them and they're great for families."

### Action Water Sports in Fenton

"We're brand new in the pontoon genre and our pontoon is a very high quality and a higher priced," said Mary Rising, office manager for Action Water Sports in Fenton. We sell only marker One Cobalt pontoons. These are all tri-toon pontoons with a minimum 200 horsepower. It's mostly of fiberglass construction. We've been very happy with the acceptance of our product."



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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**ANOTHER MONEY-MAKING** scheme from Fenton City. I prefer to pay for garbage that I actually put out, not the neighbors. These huge bins will not even fit in my garage. I will be paying more for garbage.

**JUST DROVE BY** the apartment building on Poplar Street. Wow, it looks so much nicer now with the new siding and windows. Good job, keep it up.

**WELL, ONCE AGAIN** the seniors are having it stuck to them. The two of us use a maximum of 20 tags per year at \$32 a year. The new way, we will be paying \$121.60 more for the same service. Not to mention we just bought a new steel can because of the rats at \$25 each. That will be wasted in six months.

**JUDGING PEOPLE WHO** park in handicapped spots is no one's business. Looks are deceiving and people don't know if they have a heart problem or back pain or had surgery. Let's stop speculating and being judgmental.

**I AM CONCERNED** that the proposed garbage system will be implemented without the input of Fenton residents. If you use less than two tags a week, you will be paying more for garbage service. This system also discourages recycling. We need an incremental pay system. Voice your opinions Fenton.

**THIS BRAIN** remembers the '70s when the earth was in a cooling cycle and we were told in 10-20 years North America would be under an ice cap. And now that we are in a warming cycle, we're all going to burn up? You are insulting my intelligence.



# Prom season is here

► It's all about the dress, hair, tux, limo, and dance

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Every spring, high school students have the opportunity to partake in their school's prom. What was once typically held in the school's gymnasium decorated by students has evolved into an event at a breathtaking venue that includes dinner, dessert and dancing throughout the evening.

Typically, the junior class hosts the event, comes up with the theme and makes all the arrangements.

## HOLLY HIGH SCHOOL - APRIL 24

This year in the tri-county area, Holly High School is the first to hold its prom. Holly's prom will take place on Friday, April 24 at 59 West entertainment complex on Highland Road in Highland, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Holly's theme is "Once Upon a Time." Each ticket costs \$60, which includes dinner, ice cream sundae and dessert bar. Entertainment will be Heartbreaker Video DJ.

## FENTON HIGH SCHOOL - MAY 2

Fenton High School's prom is set for Saturday, May 2 from 7 to 11 p.m. at Lyon Oaks Golf & Banquet Center in Wixom. Their theme is "A Night Under the Stars." Tickets are \$58 per person, which includes appetizers, a sit-down dinner, and snacks later in the evening.

Tickets, pre-sale only, will be on sale during lunches on April 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 24, 27 and 28.

## LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL - MAY 2

Linden High School's prom has a "Las Vegas" theme this year. It will be hosted on Saturday, May 2 at 59 West entertainment complex on Highland Road in Highland. Tickets are \$40 per person, which includes dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and dancing at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m.

## LAKE FENTON HIGH SCHOOL - MAY 16

Lake Fenton High School's prom has a theme this year of "Mardi Gras in the Moonlight." It will take place on Saturday, May 16. Red carpet ceremonies will take place in the Lake Fenton High School commons area from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The prom will be moving on to the Lansing Michigan Princess Riverboat from 7 to 11 p.m. with transportation included with the \$50 per person. Note: all students attending prom will be traveling via charter coach bus from the high school to Lansing. The group will return to the school shortly before midnight.

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# Serendipity Wellness Spa adds new health services

► Downtown Linden spa expands evening hours

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Serendipity Day Spa in downtown Linden has been a destination for relaxation and pampering from head to toes since opening more than a decade ago.

Now leading the way with the addition of evening hours, known as "Carpe Noctem" or "Seize the Night," this local spa is focusing on new wellness services under its new name, Serendipity Wellness Spa.

"People today want more than just relaxation from a spa. They want to do something that's healthy for themselves," said owner Jessica Skop. "Their time also is more valuable than ever before, so all of our services offered during the day are also offered with a 'second shift' from 4 to 10 p.m. Our most requested times for services are evenings and weekends."

Pampering and pedicures still go hand in hand at Serendipity, now offering a brand new Pedicure Menu/Pedi-Bar rolling out in May, with appointments now being taken



Serendipity Wellness Spa owner Jessica Skop welcomes clients into her spa with a new natural stone reception counter.

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for the busy Mother's Day and prom season. "Many of our new pedi's are paired with a wine or drink from our Sterling's Wine Cellar for the ultimate in relaxation," said Skop.

"Cosmopolitan," "Margarita," "Put the Lime in the Coconut" and "Tropical Paradise" are just a few of the popular pedicures on the new Pedicure Menu. Clients will also find new wellness pedicures using essential oils, anti-aging and pure organic products.

Clients will also appreciate a fast and virtually pain-free Brazilian Wax, with a new technique and wax product.

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See **SERENDIPITY** on 20A

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## DOWNTOWN

Continued from Front Page

At one time this property was for sale for \$575,000, yet several inquiries never led to a serious buyer, until now.

This prime piece of real estate is now in the hands of Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman, who purchased this land for an undisclosed amount.

Their second acquisition is another downtown property at 132 North LeRoy St., southeast of the Cornerstone building.

This 14,450-square-foot building, originally built in 1979, now houses several businesses including Broadway Dance Academy, Fenton Flowers & Silks, Guenter Beholz Jewelers and Coldwell Banker Professionals.

Realtor Ken Brant of Coldwell Banker Professionals in Fenton handled both transactions.

The announcement was made Wednesday by SkyPoint Ventures, LLC, a company owned by the Hagermans that specializes in real estate and business investments.

Numerous conversations with city officials and Brant came up with just a location of properties purchased, with no hints of development plans.

These purchases came on the heels of another recent downtown property acquisition of the Fenton Bean Company on Silver Lake Road by the Hagermans in March.

Hagerman, CEO of Diplomat Pharmacy in Flint, said by phone on Wednesday, "We've got a couple of specific downtown projects in the works, and are probably two to three weeks away from an announcement regarding our development plans."

He also reminisced about his own childhood growing up in Fenton, saying, "I go way back remembering Fenton as a walking city, so I'm really excited about the Cornerstone building and these other projects now in the development stage. We're trying to be a catalyst for these improvements downtown. Fenton is going to have an exciting revitalization in the next 12 months."

Watch for a formal announcement of plans, coming soon.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**AMBER ALERTS — OPT Out.** If you have an iPhone, go to Settings/Notifications and (scroll down to the bottom) to Government Alerts and slide the slider.

**IN RESPONSE TO** the person talking about the percentage of IB candidates who are accepted to U of M, please cite your source. What about the percentage of students who are accepted with AP classes? You talk about one high-end university with nothing to back up your claim.

**I CANNOT BELIEVE** they're doing the road downtown already after it was done how many years ago, when the side streets like Wood Street and Trealout Drive are just terrible.

**SO, WITH THE** new garbage collection, the man who buys at least 10 tags per week and I, who uses one bag per week, now will be charged the same. OK. But I doubt his 10 bags/items each week will fit in that new bin.

**CONCERNING THE** Bill Press column on April 8, Jesus never said anything about homosexuality because He was never asked about it. Contrary to Mr.

Press' claim, 'not one word about it in the entire New Testament,' Paul, who was appointed by Jesus, did indeed comment and condemn it. 1 Cor. 6:9.

**HOMOPHOBIA? HAD JESUS** been confronted with the subject of homosexuality, surely He would have simply answered, 'neither do I condemn thee; go and sin no more.' John 8:3-11. You can hate the sin and yet have love for the sinner, a concept the left does not seem to understand, Mr. Press.

**AHH, THE OZONE** theory creeps into the picture. The ozone depletion theory blaming CFCs was one of seven theories proposed by two scientists. Sound familiar? End of the world scare tactics at work well before global warming. This was happening when scientists were claiming the next Ice Age was coming.

**NEW POLLS SHOW** that most Americans believe their taxes are too high and they want them lowered. Contrast this with the beliefs of the Democrats who pushed for higher spending are responsibly for higher debt and higher regulations and a massive expansion of government. It's time for some changes.

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## TRIVIA COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**Q** Who said his major at the University of Florida was "academic survival" in 1975?

**A** It was Cincinnati Bengals' linebacker Glenn Cameron. He was drafted in the first round.

# Lloyd leads pack at first Metro meet

►Tigers place second, Holly finishes in third

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Fenton Twp.** — John Lloyd spends plenty of time on the golf course during the summer.

But the Fenton senior doesn't always get to play that much golf.

That's because he works at the Coyote Preserve Golf Club.

But he does get to play with the

Fenton varsity boys golf team, and the Tigers do like that.

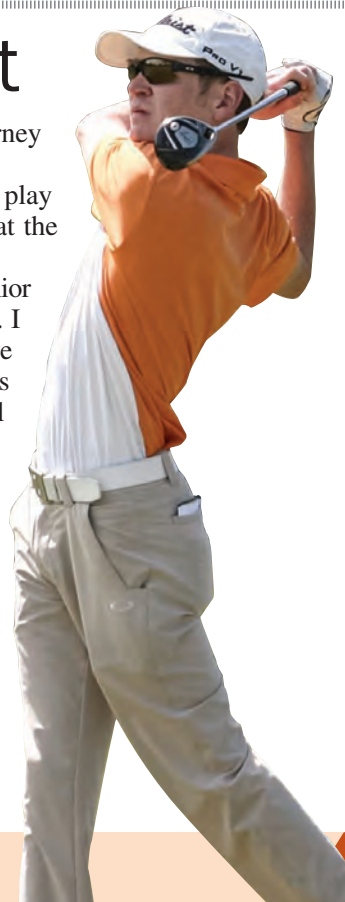
Lloyd was the only player to break 80 at the Metro League's preseason jamboree, shooting an even-par 72 at Fenton Farms Golf Club. His score helped lead the Fenton Tigers to a second-place team finish, three strokes behind first-place Flushing. The Raiders carded a team score of 334, while Fenton had a 337. Holly placed third with a 344, while Linden was

sixth in the eight-team tourney with a 361.

"I work more than I play golf," Lloyd said. "I work at the Preserve. It can be torture."

"This year being my senior year I want to give it my all. I want to take the things I have learned the past three years and put it all into one final season. For the team, we are looking good. We have a lot

See **LLOYD** on 19A



**JOHN LLOYD**

Fenton senior shot an even-par 72 at Fenton Farms Golf Club on Wednesday.

**Times**

SUNDAY,  
APRIL 19, 2015  
PAGE 16A

# Sports

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

► Follow the spring sports season at [tctimes.com](http://tctimes.com)

## HOLLY TRACK PROGRAM COLLECTS TWO SWEEPS

The Holly track program earned a sweep of both Metro opponents at Kearsley High School on Wednesday, putting both squads at 2-0 during the early portion of the Metro season.

Holly's girls edged Fenton 75-62. The Bronchos also defeated Kearsley 99-37. The Tigers defeated the Hornets 95-33.

In boys action, the two-time defending Metro champion Holly boys beat Kearsley 76-61 and Fenton 111-30. Fenton lost to Kearsley 102-34.

"I had scored the meet the night before and thought we could go either way on the boys' side with Kearsley and was pretty sure ... we could beat Fenton," Holly track coach Richie Brinker said. "On the girls' side, I was sure that with all of our injuries and sickness that we would lose to Fenton and have our hands full with Kearsley. The really cool part was we had 31 girls warm up and compete their hearts out. They ended up walking off the track 2-0."

Holly hosts Swartz Creek and Linden at home on Wednesday, while Fenton travels to Flushing.

# Linden softball earns sweep

►Both teams' offenses play well in Eagles' wins vs. Bronchos

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Holly** — Both teams hit the ball well both contents.

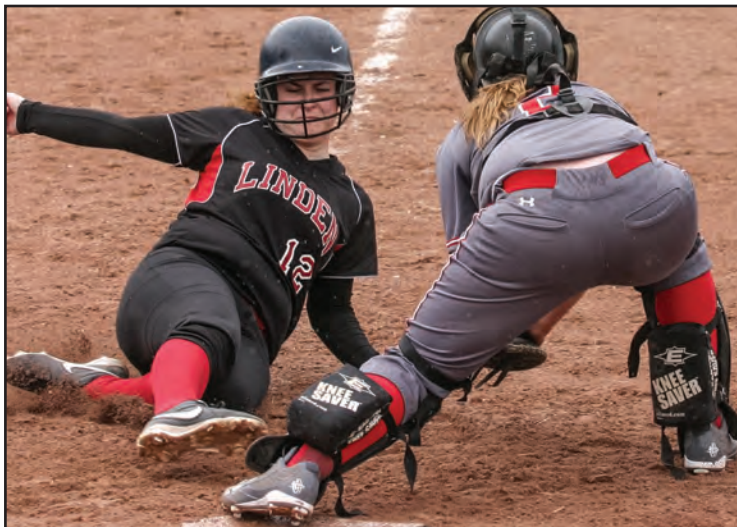
The Linden Eagles just did it a little better, earning a 12-10 and 13-4 softball twinbill sweep against Holly on Thursday.

"We hit the ball a little better today," Linden head coach Gordon Jamison said about his team's 24-hit attack in the two games. "It took us awhile to get going but once we did, we hit the ball well."

"I've been waiting for it the last two doubleheaders. The bats finally came to alive. I believe we had 16 hits," Holly coach Matt Kessler said. "Everybody put the bat on the ball."

In the opener two big innings were the story. The Bronchos scored seven runs in the first inning off of eight hits. The big blows were Hailey Thompson's two-run single, Jessica Richmond's two-run double, Emily Trest's RBI-double and Lilly Raymer's RBI-triple.

The Eagles answered back with nine hits and 11 runs in the top of the third. The big blows



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's Chelsie Caldwell tries to score against Holly catcher Sam Love during the Eagles' doubleheader sweep of the Bronchos on Thursday.

were an RBI-double by Sterling DeGayner, RBI-singles by Molly Churches and Emily Williams, a two-run single by Liz Rakowski, a three-run triple by Rhiannon Morse and an RBI-triple by Williams. Linden never trailed again. Christine Clemons went the distance on the mound to get the win.

In the second game, the Eagles jumped to an early 5-0 lead before Holly scored four runs in the fifth, cutting the gap to 5-4. However, the Eagles responded with the

game's final eight runs.

Megan Klavitter and Churches (four RBI) had three hits for Linden (4-4) in the second game. Marsh finished the first game with three hits, while Clemons, Williams and Rakowski had two hits. Marsh went the distance on the mound, getting the win.

Richmond had five hits, five RBI and four runs scored during the twinbill for Holly. Jessica Ricksgers had four hits and scored two runs.

# Bronchos, Eagles post twinbill split

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

**Holly** — Last season, the Linden varsity boys baseball team was a co-Metro League champion.

Two years ago, the Holly Bronchos were co-champs.

So maybe it shouldn't be surprising that when the two teams faced off on Thursday, fans were treated to two tight defensive-minded baseball games.

The Linden Eagles snuck over two runs in the fourth inning of the opening game, sneaking out of the contest with a 2-1 victory. In the second game, Holly scored two runs in the first inning and never trailed, earning a 5-1 victory.

In both games, pitching was the story. In the opener, winning pitcher Austin Buerkel was in a strong pitchers' duel with Holly's Peyton Molzahn. It took a defensive error to create a difference between the two. Holly scored a run in

See **TWINBILL** on 19A



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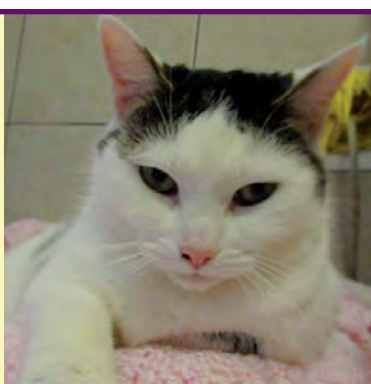
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# Blue Devils sweep Eagles in softball twinbill

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Linden** — Kim Roe likes her Lake Fenton varsity softball squad.

The senior says it kind of reminds her of her freshman season.

“What I like about this team is we work really well together,” the senior hurler said. “We are players who have not worked a ton together, but we’ve meshed really well together. This team kind of reminds me of the one we had my freshman year when we went to the state quarterfinals. We had a lot of young players, but we pulled through.”

That’s high praise indeed by Roe. Maybe she has reason to feel that way. After all, the Blue Devils won another pair of contests on Tuesday, defeating the Linden Eagles 3-2 and 7-0.

The Blue Devils, and Roe, were particularly impressive in the nightcap. Roe went the distance on the mound, tossing a five-hitter and striking out 10. She didn’t walk a batter. Meanwhile, at the plate she went 3-for-4 with two runs scored and an RBI. Two other players had huge games at the plate during the second contest. Batting second right before Roe, Melody Draeger reached base with four straight hits. Draeger also scored four times, mainly due to Sydney Sheyachich’s six-RBI contest.

Sheyachich had RBI-singles in the first and third innings, helping the Blue Devils take an early 2-0 lead. In the fourth, she followed Roe’s RBI-single with a two-out, two-run double, making it a 5-0 lead. Finally, in the sixth she had

another two-run double, making it 7-0.

“I moved Sydney to the clean-up spot because she’s hitting the ball well,” Lake Fenton coach Amos Rinks said. “She has good power and hits the ball with authority. She never strikes out, and if we can get those three girls on base in front of her, they run good and they can make good things happen.”

That was plenty of run support for Roe, who had strong control all game long.

“I didn’t throw one fastball. I kept throwing a lot of different movement pitches and they were pretty effective today, all of them,” Roe said. “I kept throwing different stuff and kept throwing them off.”

The opening game was a tight contest. Lake Fenton appeared on the verge of blowing it open early on, though. Lake Fenton scored two runs in the first after Kalani Lau singled, Roe doubled and Sheyachich provided a two-run double. In the second, Allison Petts doubled and scored on Alexis McMichael’s single. Lake Fenton led 3-0. However, that’s all the offense the Blue Devils managed against Linden starter Alexa Marsh, who relied on the defense behind her to get out of a couple other jams.

Meanwhile, Linden cut the gap to 3-2 in the fourth. Kim Freitas tripled and scored on Molly Churches’ RBI-single. Churches also scored when Marsh singled her in.

However, that was as close as Linden would get. Linden’s Megan Klavitter walked with two out in the fifth, but



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden’s Kim Freitas was safe at second base on this play, but she ended up getting hurt. The Lake Fenton defensive player trying to make the tag is Kalani Lau.

never advanced any farther. After that, the Eagles went out in order against Sheyachich, who tossed two innings of perfect relief for the save. Lau tossed the first five innings and got the win.

Despite the losses, the Eagles had to feel good about their performance, particularly defensively.

“We were just telling them we are a lot better now than we were during the first week,” Linden varsity softball coach Gordon Jamison said. “If we keep improving like this, we’ll be pretty good by the end of the year. This was a better defensive game today than any game we played all of last year.”

## Pitching sparks Linden’s DH victories vs. Lake Fenton

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Linden** — The Linden varsity baseball team’s offense has been a little rusty during the early portions of the season.

But that’s OK, because the pitching has been its ol’ typical strong unit.

The Eagles used four different pitchers to capture two shutout victories against the Lake Fenton Blue Devils Tuesday at Linden High School.

In the opening contest, Austin Buerkel (two innings), Marshael Ryan (one inning) and Kevin Bates (four innings) combined for a three-hitter, leading the Eagles to a 6-0 victory. In the nightcap, Tim Sines did the moundwork himself, taking 90 pitches to toss a six-inning two-hitter. Linden won the nightcap 7-0 in six innings.

“We have a lot of good pitchers,” Sines said. “It makes it a lot easier because when we get into a jam, we know we can to to somebody to get out of the inning. We can go to Austin, Jake or Marshael. We have a tremendous pitching staff.

“We are not raking (hitting) the ball right now, so our pitching staff has led us.”

“I expected to have good pitching this year, but I expected our hitting to be a bit further ahead,” Linden varsity baseball coach Austin Buerkel said. “But that happens early on. We didn’t give up an earned run against Fowlerville and we didn’t give up one today. And we may have, at most, allowed one or two against Byron. So we are six games into the season and we’ve given up no more than three earned runs.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden’s Tim Sines tossed a six-inning shutout in the Eagles’ 7-0 second-game victory against Lake Fenton on Wednesday. Linden won the opener 6-0.

That’s pretty good. Our pitching has been really solid, and our defense was really solid today, too.”

The Eagles (5-3) gradually worked themselves to leads in both contests. The opening contest remained close through the first three innings, as Linden managed just a single run in the third and fourth innings, each. It was a four-run fifth that blew the game open. Buerkel opened the fifth with a single and it was followed by back-to-back

See **PITCHING** on 18A

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## PITCHING

Continued from Page 17A

doubles by Jake Marshall and Brady Sarkon. Those were the big hits.

The Eagles had five hits, getting two against Lake Fenton starter John Fernelius. Buerkel had two hits while Brady Sarkon had a hit and two RBI. Bates also had two RBI. Chandler Founier, Nick Mermuys and Dakota Halszworth had a hit each for Lake Fenton.

In the second game, Lake Fenton's offense was able to get some runners on base early, but they were unable to score. Once Sines got in a groove, he became nearly unhittable. He allowed four walks, but yielded just two hits while striking out seven.

"I had a couple of problems in the first two innings and started walking batters," Sines said. "But I told myself I needed to slow down and I started getting some confidence in my fastball and with my curveball. After that, I started rolling through the innings."

Offensively, the Eagles slowly increased their lead as well. Buerkel finished the second game with two hits and a run scored, while Bates scored two runs and drove in a run. Lake Fenton's only two hits were provided by Trevor Wright.

Lake Fenton coach Brad LaRowe was hoping for a better effort from his team.

"I have to be honest about our perfor-

mance, I was very disappointed in the field and at the plate," LaRowe said. "Our energy level was low, which should not have been the case with the beautiful weather (and because) were playing our cross-town rival. ... I was hoping that we would have given them better games."

### Swartz Creek 1, Fenton 0 Fenton 9, Swartz Creek 2

The Tigers earned a split against Swartz Creek in the first twinbill of the Metro season.

In the opener, the Dragons used an RBI-single in the fifth to earn the win. Zack Kostka had two hits, including a double for the Tigers.

In the second game, Chase Coselman was the winning pitcher, allowing just two walks while striking out onne. Justin Norris and Matt Acton led the offense with two hits, while Kostka had a single and two RBI.

### Softball

### Clarkston 5, Lake Fenton 2 Clarkston 11, Lake Fenton 9

The Blue Devils were held to five hits in the opener, resulting in the loss against state-power Clarkston. Kalani Lau hit an RBI-triple, while Melody Draeger hit a sacrifice fly to lead the offense. Kim Roe struck out nine and took the loss on the mound.

In the nightcap, one of Roe's two hits was a grand slam home run. Allison Petts (two RBI) and Sydney Sheyachich (RBI) also had two hits.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Melissa Williams (right) tries to keep control of a ball during the Blue Devils' 10-4 victory against the Byron Eagles on Tuesday. Williams had a goal and two assists in the contest.

## Blue Devils begin GAC play with easy 10-4 victory

By David Troppeps

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**Lake Fenton** — If the Lake Fenton varsity girls soccer team was looking to have a breakout game offensively, the Blue Devils had it on Tuesday afternoon.

Lake Fenton had four players score goals, including five by Kuristin Porritt, leading the Blue Devils to a 10-4 victory against Byron at Lake Fenton High School.

The Blue Devils also defeated Corunna 8-0 on Thursday.

The Tuesday contest was never seriously in doubt. Just 21 seconds into the game, the Blue Devils scored what will be a contender for the team's most visually pleasing goal of the season. Melissa Williams sent a cross to Porritt who placed a beautiful header right into the net. Lake Fenton led 1-0.

The Blue Devils actually scored the game's first five goals within the first 20 minutes of the contest, and they never led by less than three goals after that point.

Porritt was the star, netting five of the Blue Devils' goals. She also had an assist. Ashlyn Skidmore also had an outstanding game, earning three goals and two assists. Skidmore scored the team's second goal on a shot from about 25 yards out off an assist by Abbey Rhodes. Rhodes and Williams had a goal each. Williams also had two assists.

While the Blue Devils (1-0 in GAC action and 3-0-1 overall) dominated the contest, the Byron Eagles (0-1, 2-2) did have their offensive moments,

and most involved Katy Anderson. She scored three of Byron's goals.

Lake Fenton's winning keeper was Emily Moore, making five saves. Raquel Hawley made 10 saves for Byron in net.

Against Owosso, Porritt had two goals and two assists, while Mackenzie Kato had two goals. Williams, Alexis Cash, Julie Craig and Skidmore had a goal each. Skidmore had two assists and Sydnie Thompson had an assist.

Emily Moore and MacKenzie Rumpy combined for the shutout in net.

### Fenton 1, Mason 0

Abbey Quesnelle made nine saves in net and Chloe Foor scored the game's only goal in the second half, leading the Tigers to the win. Margaret Berry assisted the goal.

### Lapeer 3, Holly 2

Holly took a 2-1 lead on Emma Ladd's second goal of the season off an assist from Haley Hild early in the second half, but ended up falling. Kristen Hansel scored Holly's first goal. Keeper Michaela Luchow made 23 saves in net.

### Holly 4, Owosso 0

Holly (2-2) got goals from two goals from Amanda Pucher and one each from Rachel St. John and Amy Scruggs to earn the win. In net, Michaela Luchow collected her second shutout of the season.

### Fenton 1, DeWitt 1

Chloe Foor scored the Tigers' only goal in the draw. In net, Abbey Quesnelle stopped eight shots.

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## PREP REPORT

## BOYS GOLF

► **Fenton 167, Holly 175:** John Lloyd carded a 40 at Heather Highlands, leading the Tigers to the league victory. Nick Campbell shot a 41, while Austin Landis and Chris Gilbert carded 43s.

Holly was led by Mitch Hughes' 41, while Kyle VanBommel carded a 42. Keith Cotaline had a 45 and Parker Rowse shot a 47.

Fenton won the JV event as well 192, 197. Joey Perrera shot a 46, while Patrick Conroy carded a 47.

## GIRLS SOCCER

► **Powers 2, Linden 0:** Erin Emmert and Andrea Glubzinski scored goals for Powers (3-1) earning the squad the victory against Linden (2-1).

## SOFTBALL

► **Fenton 2-6, Hartland 6-2:** The area squads split a pair of 6-2 contests. Fenton captured the victory in the second game. Brenna Hatch led the offense with two hits, including a triple, with two runs scored and an RBI. Taylor Mowery (one RBI) and Logan Carter (two RBI) each had a double and a single. Katey Cairnduff and Hayli Byers had a hit and an RBI each.

In the opener, Hatch, Mowery and Myla Wolosonovich had hits for Fenton, while Paige Dean and Carter had RBIs.

► **Goodrich 11-16, Holly 0-2:** Jessica Ricksgers and Rowenna Bemman led the Broncos' offense with two hits each during the twinbill. Brooke Jackman had an RBI-single. Bemman also had an RBI.

## BASEBALL

► **Goodrich 12-3, Holly 7-0:** The Broncos had just five hits in the opening game, resulting in the loss. Peyton Molzahn had two hits and scored two runs, while Adam Tooley and Noah Apfel drove in two runs.

In the second game the Broncos had just two hits against Hunter Holten and were unable to score a run, falling 3-0 in a five-inning contest. D.J. Tennis and Clay DeVries had hits for Holly.

## BOYS TRACK

► **Linden vs. Brandon, Clio:** The Eagles defeated Brandon 84-53 and Clio 80-57 in the double-dual. Linden had four overall individual first-place performers. They were Andy Roberts in the shot put (44-3), Devin Daul in the pole vault (10-6), Dawson Blank in the 400 (53.47) and Mike Mikat in the 1,600 (4:40.64).

Two relays also earned overall firsts. The 800 relay team of Jacob Cox, Mike Gold, Cade Dickson and Jeremy Davis (1:36.25), as did the 3,200 relay team of Mike Varacalli, Nick McDonald, Connor Sproule and Andy Bennett (8:42.34).

## GIRLS TRACK

► **Linden vs. Brandon, Clio:** The Eagles defeated Clio 76.5-60.5, but lost to Brandon 91-46. Linden's outright first-place finishers were Bella Blank in the 400 (1:04.58), Taylor Ganger in the 800 (2:33.91) and Jessica Daul in the shot put (29-1 1/2).

## TWINBILL

Continued from Page 16A

the second inning, sparked by back-to-back singles by Gage Grondin and Clay DeVries. While on third base, Grondin stole home.

However, the Eagles scored two in the top of the fourth to earn the victory. With one out, Brady Sarkon was hit by a pitch. An out later, Marshael Ryan hit an RBI-single, tying the game. Travis Petts then hit a batted ball that was booted, allowing the Eagles' winning run to score.

On the mound, Buerkel was masterful, tossing a four-hitter. He walked three and struck out six. Molzahn was pretty good himself, holding Linden to six hits and three walks, while striking out eight.

In the second contest Alex Green was making only his varsity starting performance of the mound of his career, but it was hard to tell based on his strong performance. Green scattered eight Linden hits and walked just one batter, leading the Broncos to a 5-1 victory.

"My curveball and my change up were working," said Green, who struck out three. "It really meant a lot to me because this is my first (full) year on varsity and this is my first pitching outing, and to beat the people who are the league favorites means a lot to me."

Holly took the lead for good in the first inning. Adam Tooley reached base on an error while Mason Syjud walked. With the runners eventually on second and third, Tooley scored when Syjud stole second and the ball was thrown wildly, allowing Tooley to score. Syjud also scored on a batted ball off of D.J. Tennis' bat which was booted for a third Linden error in the inning.

The Eagles had four hits in the third, but were able to score just one run. Bailey Davis singled, but was thrown out stealing second.

## LLOYD

Continued from Page 16A

of potential. Our goals are pretty lofty this season. We are going to work hard to do the best we can."

The Tigers did well on Wednesday. Following Lloyd were Nick Campbell (86), Chris Gilbert (87) and Joey Perrera (92). The squad would've loved to win the first jamboree, but is in solid shape to contend for a league crown.

Holly was paced by Mitchell Hughes, who carded an 83. Holly's other scorers were Kyle Vanbommel (85), David Mathews (87) and Mitchell Smith (89).

Linden had just one score under a 90. Tyler Ziccardi carded that score with an 85. The other Linden scorers were Nolan McDonald (90), Dylan Elmer (91), Tony Mastin (95) and Devon Cota (95).



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's Austin Buerkel slides into second base for a double just before Noah Apfel's tag.

Buerkel followed with a double and then stole third. He scored on Kevin Bates' single. Jake Marshall followed with a single, but a double play grounder ended the threat.

The Broncos blew the game open with three runs in the fifth. With one out, Noah Apfel singled. Pinch runner Shawn Deagan sole second and Tooley walked. Syjud responded with an RBI-single, making it a 3-1 Holly lead. After a double-steal, Molzahn singled in Tooley and Tennis hit a sacrifice fly. Holly led 5-0. And with Green pitching strong, it

was more than enough to give Holly the win.

"They were two great ball games," Holly coach Benny Jackson said. "Peyton pitched his best game he's ever pitched and lost. Green pitched his best game today. We played Holly baseball today."

"You can't make middle school mistakes at the varsity level," Linden coach Steve Buerkel said. "Give Holly credit, they played with a lot of energy. This is a game of momentum and pressure they did a good job keeping the pressure on us."

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**DEVELOPED****Continued from Front Page**

"We had a big family and I had lots of cousins. There were lots of places to play and a big pond across the tracks."

Like many other youngsters who grew up in Fenton have admitted, McGraw said, "We used to put pennies on the tracks."

Foley, whose husband John died in November of 1970, reached the ripe old age of 97 before passing away in March of 1998. For more than 25 years, Foley was an elementary school teacher, first at the Craft School southeast of Fenton, and later for the Linden school district.

According to an article in the March 22, 1998 edition of the Times, Foley moved to Fenton in 1920 to care for her uncle, Monsignor Maurice Walsh, long-time pastor of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Here she met her husband whom she married on Thanksgiving Day in 1923.

The couple first lived on a farm on Foley Road, near what was once Peabody Orchards in Tyrone Township. In 1941, the Foleys bought a farm on property now occupied by Silver Lake Hills Apartments — and the retail development adjacent to Silver Lake.

After she died, McGraw's aunts and

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO

Silver Lake Hills Apartments project Supervisor Rob Gerszewski looks out over Silver Lake Road from a new apartment balcony on Wednesday. As a Fenton resident, he has watched the area develop over the years.

uncles became heirs to the property. "I was a real estate attorney/developer and they asked me for help," he said.

Local officials first learned of the family's plans to develop some of the land inherited from their grandmother in July of 1998. The project called for the construction of a commercial strip mall, now called Foley Towne Square, and multiple housing communities.

The Foley property was on 80 acres of

land west of Silver Parkway on Silver Lake Road. The original development project included the construction of 15 apartment buildings, with 18 units per building, and five townhouses with eight units in each building. A clubhouse was also planned for the residential section of the development.

An adjacent 40,000-square-foot retail center and 15,290-square-foot restaurant were also featured in the plan. The residential and commercial projects would take place on 37 acres of the property, with 34 acres remaining a natural area. The remaining acreage, which was landlocked, was going to be donated for a local park.

When local officials first learned of the plan, they were especially attracted to the \$500,000 purification pond the developer had planned. It would filter and clean runoff waters before reaching Lake Ponemah.

Although not completed by the Foley family, what eventually was constructed almost mirrors their original plan.

In 2002, Silver Lake Hills Apartments was built. Located on Foley Glen Circle, the apartment community features a total of 288 units in three-story buildings. The upscale complex offers its residents a clubhouse, tanning salon, swimming pool and lake access to name a few amenities.

Adjacent to the residential apartment complex, came the retail development which is now home to Walgreens, Home-town Urgent Care, Physiotherapy Associates and Ya Ya's Flame Broiled Chicken, Medawar Jewelers, Jimmy John's and an AT&T retail store. Business further east in the retail complex include Chasse Ballroom & Latin Dance Studio, Buffalo Wild Wings and Pet Supplies Plus.

Beyond this retail shopping center going east on Silver Lake Road is the U.S. 23 Highway interchange. In addition to several smaller strip shopping centers dotted along the way, Silver Lake Road remains predominantly residential until reaching Adelaide Street.

Long-time businesses along Silver Lake Road, including Sharp Funeral Homes, Stevens Furniture, Gerych's Flowers, Yard 'N Garden and the Fenton Party Shop have been doing business at their present locations for many years.

Area residents share their memories of old Silver Drive-In. See the story in the Wednesday, April 22 edition of the Midweek Times.

**After fire, new building under construction**

In February of 2009, fire destroyed a three-story apartment building in the Silver Lake Hills Apartments. Eventually ruled an accident, the fire resulted in a mother and child being injured and the loss of family pets. The building was demolished that spring. Today, the new four-story building is almost complete and stands in the original apartment's space. It will feature 22 units as opposed to the 27 units the original building featured. Construction began in September of 2014, and is expected to be completed by July.

**'Tracking' pennies**

Back in the day, before video games and smartphones captured their attention, youngsters in Fenton and in rural areas around the country engaged in the now-widely discouraged practice of placing pennies on the railroad tracks. The result, once a train ran over it, was a flattened piece of bronze that looked like it was struck a thousand times by a giant steel hammer.

**SERENDIPITY****Continued from Page 14A**

- **Raindrop Therapy** — This non-invasive therapy uses a sequence of highly antimicrobial essential oils dropped on the back or feet to kill pathogens, reduce inflammation, support the immune system, ease respiratory discomfort, relax stressed muscles and relieve the body of bone and joint discomfort.
- **Guided Meditation Massage** — This holistic approach to massage uses a state of enhanced relaxation by combining very focused and directed audio and sensory cues.
- **Nap Therapy** — This sleep-inducing relaxation massage is followed by a deep-sleep 20-minute nap, designed to re-energize and invigorate.

Coming soon will be Bamboo Massage and Reiki Massage.

Skop also owns and operates Serendipity Day Spa in Frankenmuth, although these new hours and services are only available now in Linden.

**“People today want more than just relaxation from a spa. They want to do something that's healthy for themselves.”**

**Jessica Skop**

Owner of Serendipity Wellness Spa



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our town

# Meet Chad Brennan

- Co-owner of The Laundry
- Father
- Outdoorsman

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Chad Brennan, 42, is the behind-the-scenes co-owner of The Laundry with his business partner and brother-in-law, Mark Hamel. While The Laundry is gaining a regional and national presence through its retail growth and wholesaling, it's still a family owned and operated local business with Chad and Mark at the helm. Both of their spouses work at The Laundry and Crust, too; Marybeth Brennan in human resources and accounting and Mike Green leading Crust — a baking company.

**How did you get involved with The Laundry in the first place?** This is my dream job. I worked in restaurants while I was in college and always knew I wanted my own place, although I thought it would be a bar, not a restaurant.

I worked for AeroTech in recruiting and sales for 14 years right out of college. I was fortunate to have the ability to buy into the business with Mark six years ago, knowing that I wanted to spend more time with my kids as they were growing up. The timing was good. I approached Mark at about the same time he was looking to step back a little from always being the frontline manager of the business.

**What are your responsibilities at The Laundry?** My goal is to grow our business lines, taking The Laundry and Crust out of Fenton to help build a brand. I handle our 30 wholesale customers for Crust, including accounts in Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Owosso, Metamora and more. I also help with staff; we now have 150 employees



**"I was fortunate to have the ability to buy into the business with Mark six years ago, knowing that I wanted to spend more time with my kids as they were growing up."**

Chad Brennan  
Co-owner of The Laundry

between The Laundry and Crust. Growing our business provides great opportunities for our staff. I it keeps them energized. I love growing up around the kids on our staff. Some of them stay for six or seven years and are now married with kids of their own. I get to know their families.

**Tell me about your family.** Mark's my brother-in-law. I've been married to his sister, Marybeth for 14 years this June. We have two kids, Dylan, 12, and Owen, who is 9. Fatherhood's the reason I'm here. I grew up fatherless with a mother who did everything and worked two jobs to support us. It's very important for me to be a dad. I can pick up the kids at school and coach them with sports.

**What's your favorite food?** I like anything made from scratch, made by a chef. I loved The Laundry before I came here as owner. I like casual fare, Italian, seafood and steak. I also love beer! We dedicate three taps in our bar to our own Lynchpin in-house beer.

**Besides The Laundry, what would be a dream career for you?** An elk hunt guide in Colorado. I've been on the horse. That would be an awesome job. I love doing anything outdoors, boating and hunting.

TRI-COUNTY  
TIMES

SALLY RUMMEL

Chad Brennan pours a beer from one of three in-house Lynchpin taps at The Laundry.

**What's something that nobody knows about you?** I'm a gardener and beekeeper at home.

We have everything at home similar to what we have at the restaurant. I love making salsa from our own tomatoes and peppers. We love to eat food out of our garden.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**I GUESS IF** I had a choice as a taxpayer between paying corporate welfare or helping a young couple with a child I would choose the latter.

**IS THERE A pig** in this poke? There can be no warranty for work. All construction contracts in Michigan require a warranty, usually for a year. These warranties only cover what is in the specifications and general conditions. Anything else usually winds up in court.

**WE HAVE SINGLE** people and seniors like ourselves all around us. Now we get to pay more for the people who have a ton of garbage every week.

**THIS LIBERAL DEMOCRAT** believes every abortion is a horrible thing. I have an issue with those who don't support birth control, public sex education and a society that is against a minimum wage that would allow everyone having children the means to support them.

**THE POOR SENIORS**, on fixed incomes, just had their garbage pickup cost increase by 400 percent.

**THE THING ABOUT** Jonathan Gruber saying the American people are stupid is that the American people did not vote on Obamacare, the Democrats in congress did. So, who are the real stupid Americans? Also, not one Republican voted for Obamacare.

**WHEN MERGING ONTO** the freeway, you must yield to existing traffic flow. Get off your stupid cell phone. You were going at a faster rate than traffic and then slowed down. You had plenty of space to merge but caused danger to all other drivers because of your selfishness.

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## BUYING A PRE-OWNED VEHICLE MAY BE THE TICKET

Whether buying from a dealership or private party, here are a few tips to know before you go



“Most banks and credit unions have lightened up.”

Nick Porritt

Used car manager, Randy Wise Buick-GMC

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

While most of us dream about driving a swanky new car, the reality is that sometimes a used vehicle would better suit our budgets.

Buying a previously owned vehicle does not have to be difficult. By following a few guidelines, the process should go rather smoothly.

The first thing used-car buyers need to

do is determine how much car they can afford and whether they need a loan.

According to Nick Porritt, used car manager at Randy Wise Buick GMC, it has been somewhat easier as of late to finance people searching for a pre-owned vehicle. When it comes to buyers with “marginal credit,” Porritt said, “most banks and credit unions have lightened up.”

Porritt said bruised credit is considered by banks and credit unions, but it also

depends on what the buyer earns each month and their other debt obligations. The age of the vehicle, model and mileage are also considered, he said.

“Sometimes people slip up on a couple of things, but have always made their car payment, for example,” Porritt said. Banks look at a number of variables. The ability to provide a down payment is “always a good thing,” he added.

When you have chosen the type of car you want to buy, begin searching for that vehicle either at local dealerships, which also all have online resources, or private sources via advertisements in the newspaper or online ad sites such as tctimes.com, AutoTrader.com, eBayMotors.com, CarGurus.com or Craigslist.

To check the current value of the vehicle you are considering buying and to make sure the listed price is not out of line, check it out at [www.trumarketvalue.com](http://www.trumarketvalue.com) or [www.kelleybluebook.com](http://www.kelleybluebook.com).

Prior to contacting a used-car seller, you may wish to get a vehicle history report through [www.AutoCheck.com](http://www.AutoCheck.com) or [www.carfax.com](http://www.carfax.com). These reports can reveal important information about the used car, including whether it has a salvage title, meaning an insurance company has declared it a total loss. It should also report whether the odometer has been rolled back. If the report is negative, you should not go any further with this car.

Another essential step is to check if the vehicle is on a recall list by visiting [www.recall.gov](http://www.recall.gov) and if it is, confirm that the reason for the recall was successfully remedied.

Once you find the car you want to buy, call the seller, ask a few questions and arrange to meet to see the vehicle. Always try to meet in a safe location. The parking lots of area police departments will offer a degree of safety for both the buyer and seller.

Make sure you arrange to test-drive the car to make sure it is in good condition and the right fit for you. Ask the seller for any service records and find out if scheduled maintenance was performed on time.

Cars that have been in serious accidents or had major transmission or engine repairs should be avoided. When in doubt, you should have the car inspected by a trusted mechanic.

When you have decided that you want to buy the car, it is time to negotiate. Whether it is with a used-car sales person or a private-party seller, only negotiate with someone with whom you feel comfortable.

If you are at a dealership, you’ll conclude the deal in their offices. If you are buying a car from a private party, you just have to make sure that payment is final and that the seller properly transfers title and registration to you.

In both cases, you also need to make sure you have insurance for the car you just bought before you drive it away. Review the dealership sales contract thoroughly.

When you buy a car from a private party, either pay with cash, a money order, or cashier’s check. Before any payment changes hands, request the title and have the seller sign it over to you. Rules governing vehicle registration and licensing vary from state to state.



### What to ask the seller of a used car

- Year, make and model?
- Mileage?
- Interior and exterior colors?
- Leather or cloth interior?
- Number of doors?
- Type of engine?
- Automatic or manual transmission?
- Are you the first owner?
- Is it a trade in or lease return?
- What repairs, if any, are needed?
- Is the car on a current recall list?
- Have there been any major repairs?
- Has it been in an accident?
- Asking price?

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# TEEN DRIVERS AND INSURANCE

Your rates will go up with a teen driver in the house

By Sally Rummel

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Before your child turns 16, tell your teen that getting good grades will not only help him get into college, they might also help lower his auto insurance premiums.

Doug Mercer of State Farm Insurance in Fenton said that State Farm offers a "Good Student Discount" for teen drivers having a 3.0 or higher grade point average. "Statistically, kids with good grades tend to be more responsible in all areas of their lives, including driving," said Mercer.

That's just one way parents of teen drivers can help lower the skyrocketing cost of insuring teen drivers. Adding a teen driver to a married couple's insurance policy boosts rates by an average 79 percent, according to a recent report for InsuranceQuotes.com, cited in Forbes magazine.

Gender makes a big difference in cost, too. Insuring a 16-year-old son will increase the insurance bill by an average of 92 percent, while adding a same-age daughter will increase your bill by 67 percent.

Those figures are using a household's insurance plan, not accounting for a teen who obtains auto coverage separate from the family's plan. "It's not a good idea to move away from your household's multiple-policy insurance," said Mercer. "That will always cost more, and you're still legally responsible for your teen until he's 18 anyway."

Why does insurance for teen drivers cost so much? "Teen drivers and insurance are a hot issue in Michigan," said Mercer. "Insurance premiums cost so much in Michigan because of the Unlimited Lifetime Medical Coverage that is tied to the cost of insurance premiums. You're paying for the medical portion of that coverage because of the high rate of teen car accidents."

Car crashes remain the leading cause of death among Americans ages 15 to 19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A safe driving record is another way

to lower costs. "Staying and remaining ticket- and accident-free will result in a lower premium if you're signed up for a 'Youthful Driver Discount,' as long as the driver doesn't have an accident or ticket," said Mercer.

The best way to find out your options for teen auto insurance is to talk to a licensed insurance agent. "Every company is different, as far as when they want to be notified about a new driver," said Teresa Taylor, CIC, personal line sales agent for Peabody Insurance Agency in Holly. "Some want to know when that teen has their full license, while others want to be made aware of the driver when they're taking driver's training."

Rates will depend on how many cars and drivers are in the household, and whether your teen is a primary driver or just "occasional." "If you buy a car for your teen, they'll be listed as a primary

driver," said Taylor. "Buy an affordable car you can buy 'liability only' on. As soon as you buy a car with comprehensive coverage, your rates will skyrocket."

Believe it or not, teen insurance rates have actually dropped slightly, perhaps because of the drop in licensed teen drivers. A survey conducted by the University of Michigan Transportation Institute reveals that only about 60 percent of teens between 17 and 19 are licensed to drive, compared to 80 percent of teens back in the 1980s.



**Buy an affordable car you can get 'liability only' on. As soon as you buy comprehensive coverage for your teen, your rates will skyrocket.**

**Teresa Taylor, CIC**  
Peabody Insurance Agency

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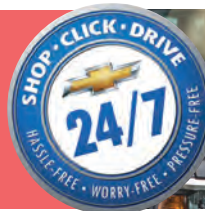
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