

'The drinks are on me'

“I raced horses 15 years before getting into real estate.”

John Wentworth
Realtor and owner of
“Chocolate Ride”

► **Realtor promises to pick up tab at Rough Draught if his horse wins race prior to Kentucky Derby**

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823
While the majority of the country's horse racing enthusiasts look forward to the 'run for the roses,' many local folks will enjoy free

drinks if John Wentworth continues his winning streak.

Wentworth's 5-year-old gelding “Chocolate Ride” has earned his way into the prestigious \$500,000

See HORSE RACE on 11A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
SUBMITTED PHOTO
Chocolate Ride, ridden by Joe Talamo, wins the Mervin H. Muniz Memorial Handicap at the Fair Grounds on March 28.



**PAGES 20-23A
FEATURED
PAGES:
TEE UP FOR A
GREAT SEASON**

Weekend Times SUNDAY EDITION
\$1.00
VOL. 22 NO. XVII
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2015
2012 - 2013 - 2014 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

State Rep. Joe Graves: 'I will be voting 'NO''

► Michigan's controversial Prop 1 to be decided May 5



Joe Graves

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823
There will be at least one 'no' vote against Proposal 1 on May 5.
State Rep. Joe Graves (51st District) said, “I do not support Proposal 1 and I strongly believe that the Legislature should have fixed Michigan's road problem with existing money. Fixing Michigan roads comes down to setting clear priorities and funding those priorities appropriately.”
See PROPOSAL 1 on 7A

Downtown Fenton — then and now

► City leaders' vision for future has been 20 years in the making

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823
The construction currently taking place may be a little — OK a lot — inconvenient for now,

but once the downtown Fenton Streetscape project is complete, business owners, community leaders and citizens may finally have the downtown they have been dreaming of for many years.

The face of downtown
See FENTON on 10A



COURTESY PHOTO

The Beanery building at LeRoy and Main streets was built in 1862, and photographed in 1917. It will receive new purpose and life through Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman's purchase.

While you were sleeping...



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELLO

Chad Luce, 26, of Flushing is prepped for his sleep apnea study 9:30 p.m. Wednesday by technician Sherrie Maxwell at the Mid Michigan Sleep Center in Grand Blanc. Luce, a truck driver, is required by the Department of Transportation to take the test because of his body-mass index. Requirement or not, he's relieved because he has trouble sleeping. “I wake myself up gagging,” he said.
See story on Page 9A

Court date pending for woman who shot Fenton man six times

► Grandmother charged with murder of grandchild's father

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823
Mary Bigford, 51, remains lodged in the Isabella County Jail after being charged Monday with the shooting death of her grandchild's father, Lawrence Howard, Jr., 39, of Fenton. Bigford faces five felony charges, including



Lawrence Howard Jr.



Mary Bigford

homicide-first degree and homicide open murder, for which she could, if found guilty, face life in prison.

According to Officer Jeff Browne of the Mt. Pleasant Police Department, on Saturday, April 18, at approximately 12:30 p.m., police were called to the 3700 block of South Isabella Road on a report of a shooting. The incident occurred in the parking lot of the Chase Run apartment complex.

See SHOOTING on 6A

**810-771-TEXT
(8398)**
**TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE**

“When I was a young woman, my mother told me to live my life in such a way that I would not be ashamed to sell my parrot to the town gossip. I think that is good advice for anyone.”



“Earth Day little-known fact. The ‘founder’ of Earth Day, Ira Einhorn, was charged and convicted of murder in 1977 when police, acting on a tip, raided his home and found the ‘composed’ body of his ex-girlfriend inside a trunk. Evidently, he was a recycling pioneer also.”



“I am surprised that these very large trash and recycling bins aren't more aesthetically pleasing. Wouldn't a medium brown, black or even dark green be more attractive and less noticeable than bright blue?”



**tctimes.com
COMMENT
OF THE WEEK**

“I find it hilarious that the entire downtown is being rebuilt causing immeasurable inconvenience to all and hardly anyone complains. But dare to change our trash cans and boy does all hell break loose.”



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OPEN SUNDAY 1-3

New Listing • 8 Acres



12233 Foley Rd., Fenton
This Exquisite home was custom built by Patrick Widing in 2002, with a Gourmet Kitchen, opening up to a Firelit Living Room, and Breakfast Nook overlooking the beautiful wooded backyard. Perfect for entertaining with a Parlor, Formal Dining Room, Den, 5 Bedrooms, 4.5 Baths, Over 4,500 sq. ft. plus a finished walkout basement.
\$680,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3

All Sports Crane Lake



13114 North Rd., Fenton
Enjoy the Beautiful Sunsets from the deck of this Immaculate home with over 2 acres on All Sports Crane Lake, Built in 1994, over 1,900 sq. ft., Main floor Master, Spacious Firelit Great Room with Cathedral Ceilings, Finished Basement.
\$348,000

NEW LISTING

Hills of Tyrone



10965 Ridge View Trail, Fenton
This Beautiful Brick Ranch has almost 4,000 sq. ft. of finished living space, Open Floor plan, Formal Dining Room, 5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths, Finished Basement includes a kitchenette, theater room, rec room, bedroom, bath and workout room.
\$400,000

NEW LISTING

All Sports Lake Fenton



12119 Margaret Dr., Fenton
Enjoy the sunrises on Lake Fenton, with 60 ft. of sandy beach front. This peaceful setting could be a perfect weekend home.
\$390,000

NEW LISTING

Holly Schools



863 Deer Run Lake Rd., Holly
Fabulous home with over 1,800 sq. ft., 3 Tiered Deck & Paver Patio, Cathedral Ceilings on the Main Floor, Neutral Pottery Barn Colors, Open Floor Plan, Large Master Suite, Plus a finished basement.
\$215,000

NEW PRICE

All Sports Lake Fenton



13238 Lakeside Landing, Fenton
This Spectacular 3000+ sq. ft home has a Gourmet Kitchen with Custom Cabinetry, Granite Countertops, Firelit Living Room, California Closets, Garage w/ Heat, Air & Bonus Room. Deck Overlooks Lake-Hot tub & Dock Included, Shared Ownership of Private 20 Acre Wooded area.
\$900,000

NEW PRICE

Fenton Schools



7489 Denton Hill, Fenton
Custom Built Cape Cod on 3.4 Acres. Gorgeous kitchen w/hardwood floors, walk-in pantry, and wet bar. Vaulted ceiling and Fireplace in living room. Finished Walkout basement plumbed & wired for a second kitchen and potential fourth bedroom. Oversized 3 Car attached garage w/bonus room above. Large open yard w/pole building.
\$350,000

Fenton Schools



908 Newport, Fenton
This Sharp Home has over 1,500 sq. ft., 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Hardwood floors, and fenced in backyard.
\$150,000

Pending

Andover Woods



737 Ridgecrest, Fenton
\$145,000

Pending

Gemstone



6230 Emerald Dr., Grand Blanc
\$269,900

Pending

Lake Fenton Waterfront



13467 Torrey Rd., Fenton
\$270,000

Pending

Lake Fenton Waterfront



12539 Margaret Dr., Fenton
\$435,000

Sold

Full Price!



Sold in 7 Days!

182 Creekwood, Linden
\$156,500

Sold

Lake Fenton Schools



Full Price!

13465 Bryson Ct., Fenton
\$179,900

Sold

Woodcroft Estates



2039 Hampden, Flint
\$209,900

Sold

Full Price!



Sold in 14 Days!

10060 N. Fenton Rd., Fenton
\$239,000





Speed on the lakes

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

A speed boat blasts across Lake Fenton last May. Boating season will be here soon, and there are several local dealerships with a variety of models from which to choose.

Ski boats continue to be tops in popularity for water recreation

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Whether you live on a lake or have friends who do, chances are that many of your leisure summer hours are spent on or behind a boat, enjoying the sport of skiing, wakeboarding or wakesurfing.

Runabouts and sport boats, specifically with inboard motors, are designed primarily for water recreation including skiing, tubing, etc.

"The trend today is definitely with ski boats, even if people aren't big-time skiers," said Jeff Nichols of Aqua Sports Marine, which carries the custom line of MB Sports boats. "They like

See **LAKES** on 14A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Action Water Sports mechanics Curtis Holden and Brad Rising prep a boat for a customer at the Lake Fenton public access last May.

Local speed/ski boat dealers

Action Water Sports
(810) 629-1342

Aqua Sports Marine
(810) 629-2800

Freeway Sports Center
(810) 629-2291

Lake Ponemah Marina
(810) 750-8443

Silver Spray Sports
(810) 629-6370

Skipper Bud's
(810) 714-3570

White's Landing
(810) 629-2905

Wilson Marine
(517) 546-3774

Stricter alcohol limits on the water now in effect

► New laws mirror automotive drunk driving laws

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Boaters on area lakes this summer will notice stricter drunk driving laws, following legislation signed by Gov. Rick Snyder last December.

New laws for drunk boat drivers, snowmobilers and off-road vehicle drivers are now in effect, reducing the maximum blood alcohol content (BAC) level from .10 to .08 percent. Other changes include:

- Individuals with illegal drugs in their system are prohibited from operating a watercraft.

- Persons under 21 years old are prohibited from operating a recreational vehicle or boat with any level of alcohol.

- Penalties are increased for violations of the law, making it a felony for a third infraction and adding a misdemeanor violation for a person operating a motorboat while intoxicated with a person under age 16 as a passenger.

"It's consistent with the same law for those driving an automobile," said Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell. "I think that's good. There's just as much danger being in a boat and hurting someone."

Michigan law prohibits anyone from boating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Alcohol and drugs cause impaired balance, blurred vision, poor coordination, impaired judgment and slower reaction times.

See **ALCOHOL** on 15A

“Our purpose isn’t to ticket people. It’s to keep them safe.”

Robert Pickell
Genesee County sheriff

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'The pilot was locked out ...'

This is an edited reprint of a column originally written by an unknown author. It was sent to *The King* with a request to be reprinted.

'The pilot was locked out of the cockpit.'

We heard this statement dozens of times over the last few weeks when co-pilot Andreas Lubitz of German Wings flight 9525 locked the pilot out of the cockpit and then deliberately flew the aircraft into the French Alps.

The disaster occurred for one simple reason — the pilot was locked out of the cockpit.

It's not difficult to imagine what the passengers experienced during those eight horrific minutes. Initially, they were probably just a bit uneasy when they saw that the pilot was locked out of the cockpit. After a couple of minutes of seeing him becoming increasingly

agitated as he pounded on the locked door, the passengers most certainly must have become more anxious.

As the next minute or two passed, disbelief and fear surely escalated rapidly as their brains processed the fact that something was horribly wrong. The final moments of flight 9525, as heard on the recovered cockpit recorder, were filled with the hysterical screams of the doomed passengers and the panicked pleas and pounding of the pilot. The explosive mountainside impact killed them all instantly.

It's eerily similar to what America is experiencing right now. Over the last six years, we have all felt the same emotions as we have watched our country, slowly at first, but at an ever-growing pace, speeding toward a disaster. We're

not sure where we're going and we're not sure how fast we're going, but we know that if we continue on this path we will ultimately all be destroyed. President Obama is piloting America at a speed and in a direction that is beyond the limits that it can endure financially, politically and morally. And we, the American people, are locked out.

We were locked out of the decision to have government take over our health care. We were locked out of the decision to let tens of millions of illegal immigrants enter our country. We were locked out of the decision to trade five Taliban chiefs for one American traitor. And Barack Obama locked out Congress, the American people and our allies when he struck a secret deal with Iran to determine the timeline (not prevention) of

their acquisition of nuclear weapons.

It's important to remember that it was only near the end of the eight-minute suicide flight that the helpless passengers finally understood what was really happening. Only then did they begin to panic and scream.

Like those passengers, a growing number of Americans are coming to the conclusion that our nation's decline is not an act of chance, but rather choice. The choice of the one man who has locked the citizens and elected leaders of

America out — Barack Hussein Obama.

We are currently over six minutes into our eight-minute flight — and time is running out.

“President Obama is piloting America at a speed and in a direction that is beyond the limits that it can endure financially, politically and morally.”

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.

MY COMPLIMENTS TO all Fenton residents on their patience, politeness and good humor with regard to the Streetscape construction. It really speaks to the character of our citizens.

LINDEN RESIDENTS, THERE'S still time to stop new laws that infringe on our property rights. Council meeting is April 27. It's more than just parking on your lawn. Go to the city's website www.lindenmi.us and read what else they plan. Major over-regulation for our nice little town.

IN THE LAST election, Proposal 1 voters gave GM and Ford huge tax cuts. Now these historical Michigan companies are planning to build new auto plants in Mexico. So much for the right-to-work law bringing jobs to Michigan.

SENIORS SEEM TO be the only people complaining about the proposed new garbage system.

I WAS GOING TO inquire about Roger Campbell's column when I read about his passing. I will truly miss his articles as I looked forward to them every week. To his wife, Pauline, and family, I am sorry for your loss.

IT WAS DISAPPOINTING to see Genesee County Road Commission workers removing brush from their truck and throwing it onto vacant land on Thompson Road April 21. Is this the example we want from our municipal workers? I'm sure that wasn't the proper dump location.

DOES ANYONE REALLY study the issues before voting? With the aid of voters, Gov. Snyder has cut taxes on big business and

increased taxes on everyone else. Now he proposes an increase in our sales tax. Meanwhile, voters send in Hot line complaints about Democrats taxing and spending?

ATTENTION SINGLES OVER 55, check out the Times online calendar of events at tctimes.com to find out details of the next 'Meet and Greet' on May 23.

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.

Baby bluebirds at Spring Meadows

Dear editor,
A special thank you to Spring Meadows Country Club for allowing me to monitor and maintain the bluebird boxes on their beautiful grounds. When I first took the project on, there were bluebird boxes in bad locations, under brush and tree canopies, most of which had been taken over by house sparrows, a nonnative invasive species. With monitoring and proper location of boxes being the essential components to bluebird success, I'm happy to announce that four baby bluebirds and five baby tree swallows all fledged successfully last year. Spring Meadows also has a very established, properly monitored purple martin colony, making it not only a beautiful golf course but also an important wildlife conservation area for native birds. As we now begin a new nesting season for birds, I appreciate this opportunity to help our beautiful Eastern Bluebird and increase their once declining numbers.

— Mary Mason
Genesee County coordinator
Michigan Bluebird Society

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Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

What are your thoughts on Proposal 1?

streettalk



"I am really concerned about it, because the money isn't going to be used properly. It has happened before."

— Sue Kearns
Argentine Township



"I disagree with raising the sales tax. I believe the money can be found through other sources."

— Mark Coleman
Fenton



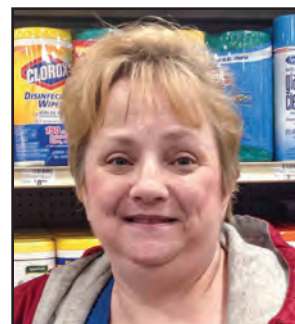
"I am against it, because there are too many additions with the proposal."

— Willie Gerecke
Fenton Township



"It's a horrible proposal and the legislature can do much better."

— David McCleary
Holly Township



"If it truly is going to fix our roads, I am for it. Our roads need fixing bad. Let's fix the roads or start billing the repair costs to the state."

— Sherri Fallis, Fenton



"I vote no, because I think they already have money set aside and don't need to raise our taxes."

— Melanie Schupbach
Tyrone Township



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Chad Pitts of Indiana, formerly of Fenton, shows off his winning cards with Tom Bertschy, chair of the poker tournament.

Chad Pitts wins Texas Hold ‘em Tournament

►Annual poker event raises \$6,000 for Fenton schools

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

The Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournament that took place Thursday evening was a resounding success thanks to the dozens of enthusiastic poker players and spectators. Seventy-three players gave it their best shot.

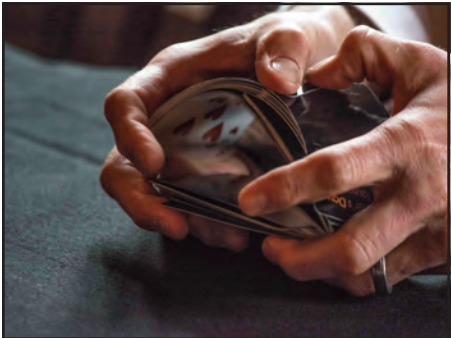
In the end Chad Pitts took first place. Not only will he receive a custom bracelet from Medewar Jewelers and \$1,000 in cash, he will also be given the honor of having a portion of LeRoy Street re-named to their name for a full year. Pitts chose to keep the road name in memory of Bella Ward.

Pitts, 42, lives in Evansville, Indiana. He was a long-time resident of Fenton and recently moved to Indiana.

The Fenton Education Foundation (FEF) hosted the thrilling event at the Fenton Hotel Tavern and Grille. The annual event is one of the FEF’s biggest fundraisers of the year, which raises funds for Fenton schools.

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.

Tom Bertschy, chair of the tournament, said the Foundation typically gives \$10,000 worth of grants to teachers and groups at Fenton schools. He said they raised approximately \$6,000 on Thursday.



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Includes a masque, exfoliant, paraffin dip and a leg and foot massage	
ULTIMATE PEDICURE	\$75
Includes a leg and foot exfoliant and soothing masque, heated therapy treatment, extended hot stone massage, paraffin dip and a cucumber heel therapy treatment	

Most desired pedicures

COSMOPOLITAN PEDICURE	\$65
Lime soak, Cranberry scrub, Cranberry leg and foot massage Served with a Delicious Cosmopolitan Martini	
MARGARITA PEDICURE	\$68
Lime soak, Smoothing Lime scrub, Lime Masque and Leg and Foot Massage Served with a Refreshing Margarita on the Rocks	
PUT THE LIME IN THE COCONUT	\$60
Coconut lime soak, lime zest exfoliant and a coconut oil leg and foot massage Served with Argentina's most popular beverage, a Tincho! (Delicately sweet white wine over ice and a splash of lime.)	
TRANQUIL OCEAN MARINE PEDICURE OWNER'S FAVORITE	\$80
Tranquil Soak, Marine Salt Scrub, Marine Cooling Masque, Marine Hydrating Oil Leg and Foot Massage and Paraffin Dip Served with a refreshing glass of Bower's Harbor Riesling	
TROPICAL PARADISE PEDICURE	\$65
Coconut Sensual soak, Coconut Micro Exfoliation, Coconut Massage and Coconut Heel Treatment Served with our Mango Moscatto	
TUSCAN PEDICURE	\$60
Citrus soak, Tuscan Citrus and Herb Scrub and Leg and Foot Massage Served with our Cabernet Sauvignon	
POMEGRANATE AND FIG PEDICURE	\$60
Pomegranate and Fig soak and scrub, Pomegranate masque, and a Pomegranate and Fig Leg and foot massage Served with our Pomegranate Riesling	
LUXURY ALMOND HYDRATING PEDICURE	\$75
Almond Milk Bath, Almond Moisture Scrub, Almond Illuminating Masque, Paraffin Dip and Almond Hydrating Leg and Foot Massage Served with our Bowers Harbor Pino Grigio	
VANILLA BERRY PEDICURE	\$60
Blueberry Vanilla Soak, Vanilla Plum Scrub, and a Vanilla Plum Leg and Foot Massage Served with our Strawberry White Merlot	

Wellness pedicures

ANTI-AGING PEDICURE	\$70
Effervescent Soak, Skin renewal scrub, Rejuvenating Leg and Foot Massage, Paraffin Dip and finished with a Rejuvenating Serum	
MILK AND HONEY PEDICURE	\$55
Milk and Honey soak, Milk and Honey Sea Salt, and a Milk and Honey Massage	
PURE ORGANIC LAVENDER BLOSSOM	\$60
French Lavender Soak, Lavender Sugar Scrub, Lavender Purifying Masque and Lavender Leg and Foot Massage	
PURE ORGANIC GREEN TEA & ACAI	\$60
Green Tea & Acai Soak, Green Tea & Acai Sugar Scrub, Green Tea & Acai Purifying Masque and Green Tea & Acai Leg and Foot Massage	
ESSENTIAL OIL PEDICURE	\$60
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Petite Pedicures

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Gentlemen's pedicures

TEA TREE OIL PEDICURE	\$50
Tea Tree Soak, Tea Tree Scrub, Tea Tree Leg and Foot Massage Served with Choice of Craft Beer	
WELL-BEING PEDICURE (USING GEHWOL PRODUCTS)	\$50
Unscented soak, Soft Feet Scrub, Gehwol Foot and Leg Massage Served with Choice of Craft Beer	

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FILE AND POLISH	\$18
Includes a soak, nail and cuticle work and fresh polish	
CALLUS REMOVAL TREATMENT	\$15
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SHOOTING

Continued from Front Page

Officers found Howard deceased in his vehicle from multiple gunshot wounds.

Police have not yet revealed a motive but it is believed Bigford's daughter and Howard were engaged in an ongoing custody dispute over their 3-year-old daughter.

It was also reported that sexual assault

allegations had been made against Howard, but no evidence of abuse was found and both parents had a right to see the child.

Howard was at the apartment complex, where Bigford's daughter and granddaughter reside, for regularly scheduled parenting time.

An Isabella County court date has not yet been scheduled for Bigford.

News briefs**WHITE CANE DRIVE BEGINS THURSDAY**

The Fenton Lions Club will be conducting its 40th annual White Cane Drive Thursday, April 30, and continues on May 1, 2, and 3. Members will be at Walmart on Owen Road and both VG's (Silver Parkway and North LeRoy Street). They are looking for a record collection year, with collections averaging \$3,500 per year. All proceeds go back in the community. Proceeds support projects like purchasing eyeglasses for those in financial need, scholarships to Fenton and Lake Fenton High School seniors (\$1,000 each), and providing transportation for area visually impaired. They also support child vision screenings, purchasing products that will help the visually impaired, and donating to the Leader Dog School in Rochester, and the Fenton Community Center.

LOOKING BACK
at this week
IN LOCAL HISTORY**5 years ago...****Sunday, April 25, 2010**

Mother of Dominick Calhoun faces life in prison. Charges filed against Corrine Baker, the mother of the 4-year-old Argentine Township boy, who was brutally beaten to death, included second-degree murder and second-degree child abuse.

10 years ago...**Sunday, April 24, 2005**

Adult entertainment ordinance passed. While there were no topless bars, massage parlors nor adult bookstores in Holly Township, the Board of Trustees took a proactive approach to make sure that these forms of adult entertainment didn't creep into town.

15 years ago...**Sunday, April 30, 2000**

Excel Corporation to shut down ... After 35 years of doing business in Fenton, Excel Corporation closed its doors on June 1, leaving more than 100 employees without jobs.

20 years ago...**Sunday, April 23, 1995**

L.E.R.O.Y. (Locals Encouraging the Route of Yesteryear) group collect signed petitions aimed at restoring LeRoy Street in the Fenton Square to its original route.

25 years ago...**Sunday, April 29, 1990**

Another train crash tragedy ... A 31-year-old Tyrone Township woman was listed in critical condition at Hurley Medical Center after her car was hit by a train. She was driving to Blaney's on the Water (now the vacant Spoonz) in Fenton Township when she drove over the tracks and was struck by a train.

30 years ago...**Sunday, April 28, 1985**

Rose Township returns funds... Federal revenue money sent back to reduce national deficit. The first installment of federal revenue sharing, \$4,700, received by Rose Township was returned to the federal government. Mike Izzo, supervisor at the time, said in a letter to the feds that it is not a matter that they couldn't utilize the money, but rather a matter of principle. The Rose Township Board agreed they didn't like the strings attached on how the money could be spent.

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PROPOSAL 1
Continued from Front Page

“I will be voting ‘no’ on May 5 and will continue working to make sure clear priorities are set to ensure existing tax dollars go to fix Michigan roads,” Graves added.

Michigan’s Proposal 1 seems to have inspired more conversation than any other ballot issue in recent history. Most of the hype, especially via advertising and TV commercials, has been that passage of this proposal will provide needed funding to improve our roads.

Whether it will benefit local roads remains somewhat of a mystery.

According to Tom Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk for Fenton Township, there has been no specific information provided on how much will be available for road funding.

“Cities get road funds directly, townships don’t,” Broecker said.

Any monies spent on township roads would come through the Genesee County Road Commission. Broecker said he has not seen anything on how the township would benefit.

Holly Township Supervisor Dale Smith echoed that sentiment. “Holly Township will receive no funds from Proposal 1,” he said. “Some of that money will go to the Road Commission for Oakland County. But there is no guarantee that any of that money will go to Holly Township roads.”

Neither the Holly Township nor Fenton Township boards have taken a position on Proposal 1. “The Fenton Township Board typically does not take a position on tax increases,” Broecker said.

Not so in the city of Fenton. With the exception of one council member, who was absent, the City Council unanimously passed a resolution in support of Proposal 1 at its regular meeting of March 16. According to the minutes of that meeting, City Manager Lynn Markland stated, “If the proposal is approved, sales tax will increase by one cent and all taxes collected at the gas pump will go toward roads.

“The money the city will receive from the state if Proposal 1 passes will allow the city to ask for a lower local roads millage which, when added to the state funds, will allow for a sustainable road maintenance program,” Markland added.

At that same meeting, Councilman Leslie Bland stated he is not in favor of a tax increase but is in favor of fixing the roads and as long as the money is used for roads, he is 100 percent in favor of it. He thinks this is the best option available to get the streets within the city fixed.

According to ballotpedia.org, Proposal 1 would increase revenue for transportation funding by increasing the fuel tax to 41.7 cents or 14.9 percent of a gallon of

If Proposal 1 is passed by voters on May 5, the following is the

DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

for Genesee, Livingston and Oakland counties, the cities of Fenton and Linden, and the village of Holly.

These figures are estimated based on the MTF (Michigan Transportation Funding) receiving a \$1.2 billion increase.

	Existing Revenue Actual Fiscal Year 2014	Estimated Year One Fiscal Year 2016	Estimated Year Two Fiscal Year 2017	Estimated Year Three and Beyond Fiscal Year 2018
COUNTY				
Genesee	\$21,235,816	\$26,022,766	\$30,809,716	\$ 35,596,666
Livingston	\$12,838,431	\$15,732,454	\$18,626,477	\$21,520,499
Oakland	\$62,436,451	\$76,510,794	\$90,585,138	\$104,659,481
CITIES				
Fenton	\$831,608	\$1,014,584	\$1,197,560	\$1,380,536
Holly Village	\$359,791	\$438,954	\$518,118	\$597,282
Linden	\$241,697	\$294,877	\$348,057	\$401,236

fuel’s base value, whichever is greater.

It would also require revenue from the fuel tax to be allocated to the transportation fund, eliminate registration fee discounts, increase heavy commercial vehicle registration fees and create an electric vehicle surcharge.

Second, Proposal 1 would eliminate the sales and use tax on fuel for vehicles altogether. This would offset some of the increases in fuel prices caused by a higher fuel tax.

“I will be voting ‘no’ on May 5 and will continue working to make sure clear priorities are set to ensure existing tax dollars go to fix Michigan roads.”

State Rep. Joe Graves
District 51

Third, Proposal 1 would increase the sales and use tax on non-fuel items from 6 percent to 7 percent. Since the sales tax on fuel provides a significant portion of sales tax revenue, this increase would offset revenue losses to schools and municipalities, which depend on sales and use tax revenue.

Fourth, Proposal 1 would allow municipalities to finance road projects through competitive bidding, require performance-based evaluations for state projects, and require warranties for road construction projects costing more than \$1 million.

Fifth, Proposal 1 would increase the state’s Earned Income Tax Credit from 6 percent to 20 percent.

The House Fiscal Agency estimated that the sales tax increase would generate more than \$1.6 billion per year, with \$1.2 billion going toward roads, \$130 million to mass transit, \$300 million to the school aid fund and \$95 million to local governments.

According to information provided by Graves, those supporting the passage say the proposal raises, on a phased-in basis, \$1.2 billion of new revenues for roads and therefore provides a long-term solution to the state’s road construction and maintenance problem.

Those opposing passage of the proposal say the proposal is a net tax increase of \$1.8

billion. The revenue for road construction and maintenance are not sufficient to make up for the state’s past failures on road construction and maintenance.

People in favor of the proposal say tax revenues generated at the fuel pump should be used for transportation needs, not schools and local governments, that the proposal provides over \$300 million of new revenues for schools and local governments.

The opposition says tax revenues generated at the pump should remain dedicated to schools and local governments.

Finally, those supporting the passage of Proposal 1 say low- and middle-income taxpayers will get tax relief. Those opposing it say “All, not just some, taxpayers should get tax relief.”

Source: ballotpedia.com

ACTUAL PROPOSAL 15-1 BALLOT LANGUAGE

The following statewide ballot proposal will appear on the May 5 special election ballot

PROPOSAL 15-1

A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Eliminate sales/use taxes on gasoline/diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.
- Increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund (SAF).
- Expand use of SAF to community colleges and career/technical education, and prohibit use for 4-year colleges/universities.
- Give effect to laws, including those that:

-Increase sales/use tax to 7%, as authorized by constitutional amendment.

-Increase gasoline/diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.

-Expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects.

-Increase earned income tax credit.

Should this proposal be adopted? (Yes or No)

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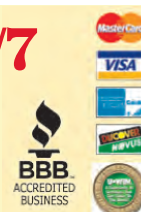
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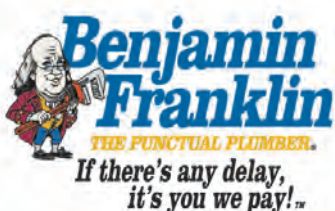
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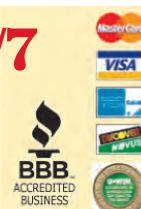
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Sleep center diagnoses and treats sleeping disorders

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Shannon Tischbin of Fenton Township is a 38-year-old woman of normal weight, making her a most unlikely candidate for sleep apnea.

The majority of the 22 million Americans diagnosed with this serious sleep disorder are overweight men over the age of 40.

"I was feeling so sluggish during the day that I had to nap," said Tischbin, the mother of three daughters. "My snoring had gotten so out of hand that my husband, Kurt, insisted I go in for a sleep study."

That was two years ago at the Mid-Michigan Sleep Center in Grand Blanc, and Tischbin said the experience has totally improved her quality of life. "It was scary, but I knew I had to do it. Everyone was very nice. It was awkward, but I did it."

Following one night at the sleep center,

What is sleep apnea?

The most common type of sleep apnea is obstructive sleep apnea. It is caused by a blockage of the airway, usually when the tongue collapses against the soft palate and the soft palate collapses against the back of the throat during sleep, closing the airway.

Why is sleep apnea such a health risk?

If left untreated, obstructive sleep apnea can lead to high blood pressure, chronic heart failure, atrial fibrillation, stroke and other cardiovascular problems. It is associated with type 2 diabetes and depression and is a factor in many traffic accidents with heavy machinery because of a person's persistent drowsiness before OSA is diagnosed and treated.

How common is sleep apnea in children?

It appears to affect between 1 and 4 percent of all children (including infants) and is especially prevalent among 2- to 8-year-olds. Untreated pediatric sleep apnea can lead to mood problems, cognitive dysfunction and behavior changes like hyperactivity and poor impulse control. "Many children diagnosed with ADHD have sleep issues," said George Zureikat, M.D., of the Mid-Michigan Sleep Center, which treats both pediatric and adult patients with sleep issues.

Eight risk factors for sleep apnea

1. Obesity
2. Neck circumference
3. Age
4. Family history
5. Alcoholism
6. Race
7. Smoking
8. Gender



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Melissa French sits with her 5-year-old daughter Sophie before technician Sherrie Maxwell switches the light off for the night. Sophie has sleep apnea, and was tested to decide which machine, CPAP or BIPAP would work best for her. She woke five times, upset and uncomfortable, said Melissa.

sleep technicians found that Tischbin stopped breathing 22 times per hour and moved her legs 77 times per hour, diagnosing her with severe sleep apnea. "I went back the next night so they could fit me with a CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure)," she said. "It was very hard to get used to, but my husband was my rock, encouraging me. Now I couldn't sleep without it. It makes you a different person."

Changes in many insurance guidelines in February have changed the way sleep centers handle most patients, who come to the center on a referral from their primary physician.

"Now 90 percent of our patients are required to do an At-Home Sleep Study rather than a Sleep Lab Study," said Colleen Williams, manager of the Mid-Michigan Sleep Lab. "They take a kit home that measures airflow, breathing effort, blood oxygen levels and snoring. Patients have to be able to handle the technology set-up. Then they bring it back the next day and we download the data and make a diagnosis."

George Zureikat, M.D., sleep specialist certified by the American Board of Sleep Medicine and founder/owner of Mid-Michigan Sleep Center, said that the At-Home Sleep Study is more like a screening.

"You don't get the detailed reports of R.E.M. (Rapid Eye Movement or "deep

sleep") sleep, etc., but for the majority of patients with mild sleep apnea, it does the job. It's more convenient for the patient but it has its pros and cons. There's always some degree of technical difficulty. Some people may still need to get tested in the Sleep Lab, including patients who fail the At-Home Study twice."

Mid-Michigan Sleep Center has four sleep rooms in their Sleep Lab, with two sleep technicians manning the lab seven nights per week.

The Sleep Lab monitors the amount of

“It (CPAP machine) was very hard to get used to, but my husband was my rock, encouraging me. Now I couldn't sleep without it. It makes you a different person.”

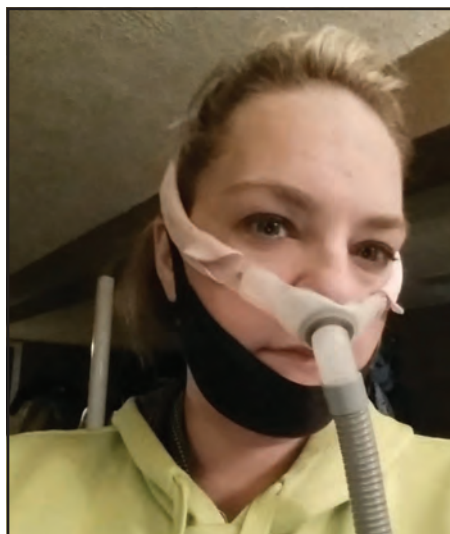
Shannon Tischbin
38-year-old mother of three

non-R.E.M. and R.E.M. sleep, number of arousals during sleep, breathing patterns, heart rhythms and limb movements, using a variety of electrodes all over the body.

Technicians also place a nasal-oral airflow sensor and belts around the chest and abdomen to measure breathing. An oximeter probe on the finger will measure the amount of oxygen in the blood. A snore microphone records snoring activity and a video recording is taken to correlate movements with electrical signals.

The lab sleep study requires a patient to sleep at least three hours in order to get a proper diagnosis of sleep apnea. A "split night" is conducted when severe sleep apnea has been discovered during the first part of the diagnostic testing. The second half of the night is used to fit the proper CPAP machine and mask.

"Compliant success comes from getting the right pressure on the machine and then finding the right mask to fit the patient," said Zureikat. "It's an art."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Shannon Tischbin, 38, shows the CPAP apparatus she wears every night, to open her airway for a good night's sleep.

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FENTON

Continued from Front Page

Fenton has been a volatile topic since before the early 1960s, even before the words "urban renewal" were first spoken.

Prior to 1964, there was talk among some downtown merchants to get the central business district owners to spruce up their buildings with some paint and general fixing up. Those attempts proved unsuccessful.

Then in April of 1964, the Fenton Planning Commission launched a movement to modernize the central business district. Commissioners invited a group of merchants and civic organizations to meet with them to investigate ways to finance such a program.

The following month, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce, the Fenton City Council approved the cost of a study for an urban renewal project to rejuvenate the central business district.

At the end of March of 1966, the Fenton Planning Commission approved a central business district renewal project, which called for three downtown blocks to be completely leveled and the area turned

over to private investors.

Fenton citizens may not have been paying too close attention to what was going on downtown. In 1967, the average citizen was said to be too busy with the new \$5 million high school on the west side of town, and the development of the new Silver Lake municipal park and beach to be too concerned about urban renewal.

See
PHOTOS
of
**URBAN
RENEWAL**
on Page 5B

By June of 1970, a group of downtown merchants had turned against the urban renewal. One told the Council that the buildings did not need to be torn down, that all that was needed was more parking and a new sidewalk.

Despite objections, the Fenton City Council approved an ordinance that would commit Fenton to the urban renewal project.

In a two-year period, Fenton voters went to the polls three times to decide issues related to urban renewal. In her book on Fenton history titled "A Time to Remember," Ruth Anne Silbar wrote, "On Dec. 12, 1972, they soundly defeated an attempt, instigated by urban renewal opponents, to recall the city council.

"Almost a year later, they swept into office a slate of anti-urban renewal candidates in a general city election.

"Finally, in February 1974, voters gave their approval to the urban renewal program itself by a slim vote in an advisory election."

Then, in the mid-1970s, the buildings started coming down. The result was a few of the original buildings remaining, and the creation of the Fenton Square, where Dancers Fashions and Rite-Aid cut off South LeRoy from North LeRoy Street. Some businesses remained steadfast, including The State Bank, which reinvested in the downtown with new buildings, even after the square was destroyed by the removal of the stores and the re-opening of LeRoy Street.

What to do with the downtown from

that point has been a point of contention ever since.

"In 1996, we updated the City of Fenton Master Plan and one of the key questions was what to do with downtown," said Carmine Avantini, who has served as the city's planning consultant for more than 20 years.

"Both Dancers and Rite-Aid were still located there, but as we found out, would soon close their operations," Avantini said. "As part of that master planning effort, we conducted a 'design charrette' on Oct. 19 (1996) with over 50 residents, city officials, business operators, and property owners in attendance.

"The overwhelming response was that

North LeRoy Street should be re-opened and a traditional downtown created with mixed-use, multi-story buildings," Avantini added. "This vision for downtown Fenton has remained intact over the years and been further refined and supported in the Master Plan updates of 2002 and 2008, as well as the Downtown Master Plan and Design Guidelines of 2007."

Avantini admits it seems like a long time, nearly 20 years, since the vision for downtown Fenton was created. He said there were many tasks and challenges leading up to the current successes.

"The buildings had to be acquired and torn down," Avantini said. "North LeRoy Street had to be re-established; a new fire station was constructed, leading to redevelopment of the old fire hall (restaurant), a detailed Master Plan for downtown was needed to ensure that 'suburban' development wouldn't

take place, and a zoning district had to be created to implement the Downtown Master Plan and Design Guidelines."

Additionally, Avantini said the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) needed to build up enough tax capture to pay for the projects needed to stimulate private investment, like the Fenton Fire Hall Restaurant and the new Cornerstone building.

"We also had to make our way through the 'Great Recession,' during which time little or no development activity was taking place nationally," said Avantini.

Over time, Fenton City officials have continued to back the planning and development vision created at the 1996 Design Charrette, and have not allowed inappropriate development to take place, such as the suburban CVS that wanted to locate where the Cornerstone building now stands.

"We have also benefited from private investment in businesses like The Laundry, Sweet Variations, The Fenton House, Crust, Fenton Hotel, etc.," said Avantini. "They have helped create a reason to go downtown and provide a base for new investment in the area."

(Source: "A Time to Remember")

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Fenton

HORSE RACE

Continued from Front Page

Woodford Reserve Turf Classic, the race immediately preceding The 141st Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs. If he wins, Wentworth has offered to buck up for drinks for patrons at the Rough Draught in Fenton, for 30 minutes following Chocolate Ride's race.

While most people know Wentworth as a successful local

Realtor, some may not be aware that he raced horses professionally for many years prior to changing professions.

"I raced horses 15 years before getting into real estate," Wentworth said.

He started out in Swartz Creek and ended up racing throughout the states and into Canada. "I raced in New Jersey, New York, Toronto, Montreal and ended up living in Ottawa, Ontario," he said. "It was too far from home and I wanted to do something closer to home and family."

Now a hobby, Wentworth says he owns a few horses. Besides Chocolate Ride and a couple others that he has claimed, he also helped put a group of friends together to buy horses.

"Five of us went in and bought some babies," he said. Those babies are more of a long-term project and will not be old enough to race until later in the year. The babies could be anything, the sky is the limit, and they could be nothing. The idea is to bring friends together and have fun."

Wentworth acquired Chocolate Ride in a claiming race at Churchill Downs in November. A claiming race is one in which all the horses are all for sale at a stipulated price.

Chocolate Ride has raced five times and has won the last three. Two were stakes races at a higher classification level. "He just seems to keep improving. He won The Fair Grounds Handicap G-3 (Grade 3) and moved up to G-2 at Mervin H. Muniz Memorial Handicap at Fair Grounds," Wentworth said. "This horse has been a blessing."

The Woodford Reserve Turf Classic is the toughest race yet, a G-1 before the

Summary

► Chocolate Ride, a 5-year-old gelding owned by local Realtor John Wentworth, will be running in the Woodford Reserve Turf Classic immediately prior to the 141st Kentucky Derby on May 2. If he wins, Wentworth will buy Rough Draught patrons drinks for 30 minutes following the race.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rider Joe Talamo poses atop Chocolate Ride. Next to him (from left) are John Wentworth's family members Patrick Rupp (brother-in-law), Rocco Wentworth (son on shoulders), Sally Rupp (mother-in-law), Jim Rupp (father-in-law), Jennifer Wentworth (wife), John Wentworth, Dahlia Wentworth (daughter, holding sign), Christian Wentworth (son), and trainers Ricky Gianni and Brad Cox.

Derby, he added. Chocolate Ride's trainer is Brad Cox, and Joe Talamo will ride him in the race.

For those who may wonder if Wentworth's gelding will ever run in the Kentucky Derby, the answer is no. "Chocolate Ride runs strictly on grass, not dirt like the Derby," he said. Thoroughbreds running in the Derby are only 3 years old.

On his offer to buy drinks for patrons at Rough Draught if Chocolate Ride wins, he said, "It's just something fun to do to get everyone involved and help out the great folks at the Draught. I hope they are packed all day and night."

Wentworth said his wife and three children will accompany him to the races at Churchill Downs on May 2.

According to Andrew Evans, who owns the Rough Draught with his wife, Stephanie, a payment

arrangement has been made with Wentworth, who will be in Kentucky.

WATCH IT
LIVE ON



John Wentworth's 5-year-old gelding "Chocolate Ride" will race in the \$500,000 Woodford Reserve Turf Classic on Sunday, May 2, just before the 141st running of The Kentucky Derby. The races and derby events will air live on NBC, from 4 to 7 p.m. The Woodford Reserve Turf Classic will run at about 4:44 p.m., followed by The Kentucky Derby at about 6:30 p.m.

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FENTON WOMAN ARRESTED FOR OWI, PASSENGER OUT ON BOND

At 1 a.m. on Wednesday, April 22, Fenton police responded to an apartment parking lot in the 16000 block of Silver Parkway. A caller said a vehicle had struck something in the lot and the driver was then seen staggering as he walked around. The man then entered a white Malibu, driven by a female. The responding officer conducted a traffic stop on the car. The driver, a 32-year-old Fenton resident, failed field sobriety tests and registered .15 percent blood alcohol content at the police station. She was issued a court appearance ticket for OWI and was lodged until sober. Police learned the man, a 24-year-old Fowlerville resident, was out on bond from Livingston County. He too had been drinking, a violation of his bond, and was turned over to Livingston County deputies.

THE PURSE

How much will the winners of the Woodford Reserve Turf Classic receive? "The purse is pre-determined at \$500,000," said John Wentworth. The winner receives 60 percent of that amount. Second-place gets 20 percent, third-place 10 percent, fourth place 5 percent and the owner of the horse coming in fifth receives 3 percent.

Wentworth said if other people have an interest in getting into racing, he and his crew are always forming partnerships. "It's fun and can be profitable, but there is always a financial risk."

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LAKES

Continued from Page 3A

the way they handle, and are versatile enough for a little skiing or tubing or wakeboarding. They're bigger and roomier, plus hold their resale value."

A traditional ski boat is inboard/outboard, so today's inland lake "surfers" can't surf behind it, and it's designed only to make a small wake, which is perfect for skiers.

"We're finding quite a few people now buy a wakeboard boat in place of a pontoon and ski boat, so they can do everything with one boat," said Nichols. "It's roomy enough for a large number of people and you can use it for multiple sports," said Nichols. "Boats from 22-23 feet are the most common sizes."

Wakesurfing is huge right now, and today's surf-specific boats are more popular than ever. "It's a niche market geared toward more extreme water sports," said Patti Smith of Silver Lake Sports, an exclusive Nautique dealer for more than 34 years.

Nautique's G-series holds massive pounds of water inside tanks in the boat so surfers and wakeboarders can hit the wave and get up in the air. "They're surfing, just like in the ocean," said Smith. "They're surfing that curl and throwing the rope into the boat."

Technology is one of the most attractive amenities of these specialty boats, compared to other sport boats on the lake. "Technology allows boaters to control the wake," said Smith. "With just a push of a button you can change the surf to the other side."

Underwater lights are another feature that allow for safe swimming off the swim platform, guiding swimmers easily back to the boat where they don't have to worry about an outboard motor or propellers.

At Skipper Bud's on Lake Fenton, their most popular sport boats are the Four Winns 190, a multi-purpose bow rider and the Tige R20, a wakesurfing boat. "Tige boats have a patented hull shape known for the ability to create a huge

“The trend today is definitely with ski boats, even if people aren’t big-time skiers.”

Jeff Nichols
Aqua Sports Marine



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Local marinas are busy prepping boats that have been stored all winter.

wave," said Ryan Flack, a salesman at Skipper Bud's. "Wakesurfing is growing in popularity every year."

How much will you pay for a new ski boat or top of the line wakesurf boat?

Average new boat prices for premium lines are about \$50,000 and up, with small runabouts or bow riders priced in the upper \$20,000s to mid-\$30,000s.

"Our most expensive boat has been a loaded Nautique G-25 for \$160,000," said Smith, from Silver Spray Sports.

Personal Water Craft, also known as jet skis and wave runners, continue to

have a strong presence on inland lakes with new improvements in fuel efficiency, noise levels and reliability. Freeway Sports Marina in Fenton Township is the area's largest PWC dealer, selling Yamaha models priced between \$8,500 and \$10,000. "With four-stroke fuel-injected motors, they're quieter, more fuel-efficient and reliable," said

Jim Adams of Freeway Sports. "They also come with a good warranty."

A typical PWC customer is between 25 and 45, and looking for another option of fun on the lake, according to Adams. "They come with aggressive financing, too," said Adams. "You can get terms all the way to 84 months, making a Jet Ski a very affordable purchase."

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- 4 Seasons Outdoors
- Alpine Marketplace
- Arby's
- Auto Value
- CVS Pharmacy
- Direct TV
- Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce Directory
- Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce Section
- Gerych's Distinctive Flowers
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ALCOHOL

Continued from Page 3A

People arrested for boating under the influence are guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon a third conviction within 10 years, a person will be guilty of a felony.

Pickell said that the Marine Division of the Sheriff's Department will be out on area lakes a few days before Memorial Day Weekend, in full force on Memorial Day and on weekends through Labor Day. "Our purpose isn't to ticket people," he said. "It's to keep them safe. I want my deputies to be instructive and give more warnings. But I have zero tolerance for driving while intoxicated."

Rules often violated on the lakes include:

- **Operating a boat in a reckless manner**, without regard to the safety or right of others or endangering the person or property of others. Examples include weaving through congested waterway traffic, swerving at the last minute to avoid a collision, jumping the wake of another boat unnecessarily close when visibility around the other vessel is restricted, chasing, harassing or disturbing wildlife with your vessel, causing damage from the wake of your vessel.
- **Not wearing proper life jackets** — all vessels must be equipped with U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets. The quality and type depend on the length of vessel, number of people on board and/or being towed.
- **Towing a water skier illegally** — every vessel towing someone on a device must have another person on board as a spotter. It is also illegal for person(s) being towed to come within 100 feet of



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Keith LaFee pilots his new pontoon with his wife, Sharon, on Lake Fenton last year. While the couple is very safe on the water, the Marine Patrol can be busy enforcing safety rules during the boating season.

a moored or anchored vessel, a dock or raft and swimmers. In water less than three feet deep, those being towed must be 100 feet from the shoreline. Anyone being towed by a personal watercraft must wear a Coast Guard-approved PFD.

- **Being too young to operate a Personal Water Craft** — those younger than age 14 may not legally operate a PWC. Those age 14 and 15 may do so only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and are accompanied on board by a parent/legal guardian or a person at least 21 years old who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian and is not more than 100 feet away from that person. Those 16 years of age may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.
- **Not registering your vehicle** — to operate a boat legally in Michigan, you must have a Michigan Certificate of

Number (registration) and validation decal, unless you have a privately owned rowboat 16 feet or less in length or privately owned non-motorized canoes or kayaks. These are obtainable by submitting the proper application and fee to any Secretary of State office.

- **Young persons not taking boater safety course** — young people under age 12 may operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 hp legally without restrictions. They may operate a boat with more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally if they have a boating safety certificate on board and are directly supervised on board by a person at least age 16.
- **Boat driver not paying attention** — operator inattention is one of the major causes of boating accidents. Boat operators should be alert, sober and have a good understanding of boating rules.

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Q Who was the first sitting President to attend a Final Four?

A Bill Clinton attended an April 2, 1994 Final Four contest between Arkansas and Arizona. Arkansas won 76-68.

FOURTH-ANNUAL TIGER TROT SLATED FOR MAY 16

The fourth-annual Tiger Trot is May 16 at Fenton High School. The 5K walk and run begins at 8:30 a.m. The children's race for ages 3 to 10 will be at 9:30 a.m. and be held exclusively on the Fenton High School track. Each child earns a medal. The 5K course begins at Fenton High School, runs through the City of Fenton and finishes at the high school track. The cost is \$25 with a shirt and \$20 without one. For more information or to register go to www.fenton.k12.mi.us.

LF GIRLS TRACK SWEEP IN GAC MEET

The Blue Devils lost to Corunna 118-11 and to Mt. Morris 85-46 in a conference meet held at Lake Fenton on Tuesday.

Lake Fenton earned three individual firsts against Mt. Morris. Reagan Goupil won the 400 (1:10.34) and the high jump (4-2), while Skyler Martin won the 800 (3:10.94). The 3,200 relay (11:28.11) and the 1,600 relay (5:09.60) also defeated Mt. Morris.

Linden-Fenton lacrosse squad having a blast

► First-year program is learning, having fun

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Linden — What was a civics project for two eighth-grade St. John students, has become a co-op varsity athletic program for Linden and Fenton schools.

And on Thursday, the varsity boys lacrosse program played their first home game near Linden Middle School.

The Wolves lost that contest 9-2 to a more experienced Davison squad, but the fact that there is a combined team between the two area schools proves, in many ways, the Wolves are winners, too.

The two St. John students who helped push the team's creation are Darren McDunough and Luke White.

"Darren and I started it together while we were in eighth-grade at St. Johns," White said. "Being able to play to play is great. Being able to play a varsity sport is extremely rewarding."

The squad has 24 players and about three-fourths haven't played lacrosse until this season. The program also had a



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden-Fenton Wolves player Derek DeLong battles among teammates and Davison players for control of the ball during Thursday's first-ever home varsity lacrosse game at Linden High School for the first-year co-op program. Linden-Fenton lost to Davison 9-2.

late start this spring, as it took time to find a coach. But the program was fortunate enough to find Stanley Orzel, who has ties to Fenton's past lacrosse

history. He also coached Lansing Waverly to a state title in 2001. And now, the youthful team is learning the game together.

Adam Glomb was probably the star in Thursday's game, making many outstanding saves against the Cardinals.

See **LACROSSE** on 19A

Hall is back on track, breaks school record

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

When Maddie Hall joined the Fenton varsity girls track and field team in 2014, she was expected to make an immediate impact.

That made sense considering during her eighth-grade season, she won her age group at the 2013 AAU National Track and Field Championships, capturing the title with a leap of 17-foot-7 3/4-inches. She also had a personal-best leap of 18-foot-7 a few months earlier during one

of her meets while competing in middle school. But that didn't happen after suffering a broken ankle.

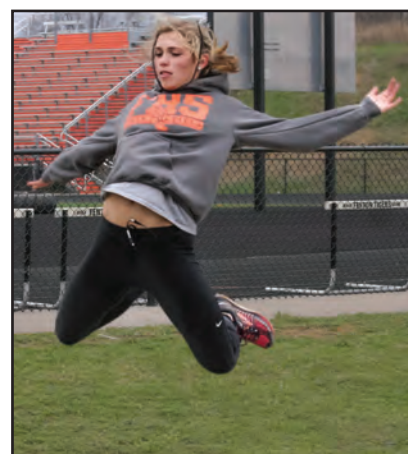
"It was really hard having to sit there, watching the long jump," Hall said. "I took it for granted and now I was sitting there not being able to do it. I was watching all these people do it. I was really jealous. I really wanted to compete."

Now, the sophomore is not only competing, but she's quickly getting back to her eighth-

grade season pace. Hall broke the Fenton varsity school record in the long jump by earning a leap of 17-9 at Lake Fenton's Blue Devils Relays held on April 18. Currently, Hall's leap represents the second-longest jump in Division 2 this season, according to the MITCA rankings.

"My goal was to break the record, obviously, but I still haven't achieved my main goal, which was to get over 18 feet,"

See **HOLLY** on 18A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Fenton's Maddie Hall practices the long jump on Wednesday.



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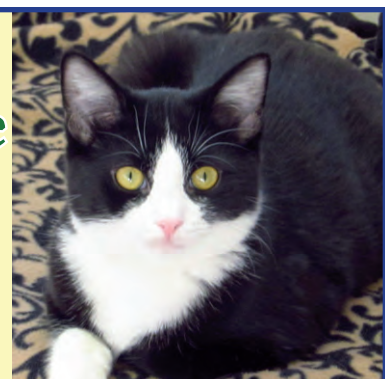


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Pitching, defense spark Linden's twinbill sweep

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The offense is still not exploding like Linden varsity baseball coach Steve Buerkel would like to see, but the Eagles did one important thing on Tuesday.

The Eagles won. Linden captured its first Metro League sweep of the season, defeating the Swartz Creek Dragons 5-1 and 4-0 in a twinbill played at Linden High School in cold and windy conditions.

The Eagles captured the victories primarily due to some strong pitching and defense. Linden hurlers limited Swartz Creek batters to just six hits in the two games. Meanwhile, the Eagles didn't commit an error in any of the 14 innings, enabling them to earn the sweep.

"Once again, pitching was the theme and we also had good defense," Buerkel said. "We had zero errors in the double-header. We only allowed an unearned run off a passed ball with two out (in the first game). Except for that, we didn't allow an unearned run. All in all I was really happy to see the defense play so well because we didn't play very good defense against Holly. We feel comfortable with our pitching, and when our defense plays that well, we are tough to beat."

In the opener, it was Marshael Ryan who

starred on the mound. He tossed a two-hitter, walking just two and striking out nine. He didn't allow any extra-base hits.

"Marshael attacked the hitters," Buerkel said. "He had nine strike outs and that's because he attacked the hitters. Marshael has more power so he comes at you when he needs to. He pitched with confidence."

The only inning Ryan was tagged for a run was in the top of the first. With one out, a walk and a single set up the first run. With two out, a passed ball plated the run, putting the Dragons up 1-0.

Linden (3-1, 7-3) has struggled offensively this season and did so in the first three innings, stranding four runners. However, the Eagles' bats did wake up in the fourth, scoring five runs. With one out, Chris Kitch reached on an error and Hunter Jacobson followed with a double an out later, putting runners on second and third. Bailey Davis responded with a two-run single, giving the Eagles a 2-1 lead. Davis' single was followed by consecutive two-out, one-bag hits by Austin Buerkel, Kevin Bates (RBI) and Jacob Marshall (two RBI). Linden led 5-1.

The run support from the Linden bats in the fifth ended up being more than

See **PITCHING** on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's Trevor Banasiak had a key double against Swartz Creek.

Blue Devils win battle of unbeaten GAC squads, defeat Montrose

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It was a battle of unbeaten Genesee Area Conference squads at Montrose on Tuesday night.

When the varsity girls soccer game was over, the defending GAC champs remained perfect in conference action.

But it didn't come easy. Lake Fenton's varsity girls soccer team got the game-winning goal with nine minutes left in the opening half from Kaitlyn Begley, earning the Blue Devils the 2-1 road victory.

Begley's shot was set up by a long pass from the right side by Kuristin Porritt to Begley. Begley beat the defender and put a well-placed shot into the corner of the net.

Lake Fenton (3-0, 4-2-1) scored the game's first goal on a pass from Mackenzie Kato to Melissa Williams for the goal. Lake Fenton led 1-0 with 29 minutes left in the contest. Montrose responded with the equalizer about five minutes later.

Linden 9, Carman-Ainsworth 0

It's becoming apparent the Linden Eagles (4-1) know how to score goals.

Linden scored eight goals in a pretty easy victory against Carman-Ainsworth on Monday. Maddie Zayan led Linden with three goals, while Gabby Freeman,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Mackenzie Rampy dribbles with the ball in a recent contest.

Alia Frederick and Jordan Holscher had a goal and an assist each. Emily Waltrip and Jessie Magalski had a goal each, while Katie Wilkowski recorded an assist. In net, Bridget Adams made three saves.

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Q: I just did the brake pads on my truck. It is a '99 Dodge Dakota Sport 251 2WD. I will sometimes get weird vibrations at around 30mph. Not shaking or pulsing, but just vibrating. It does it when I turn at around 15 mph as well, but if I apply the brakes a little it goes away until I release the brake pedal. - Cory

A: Cory, this sounds like something that you may want to look into before driving any further. The possibilities are loose lug nuts, loose or worn wheel bearing, loose brake pad, caliper mounting or caliper bracket mounting bolts. Also, not to be overlooked is possible wrong or improperly installed brake pads and or hardware. In cases like this, when dealing with brakes, steering or suspension it is sometimes best left to professionals. Unless the person performing the repairs is very comfortable with what they are doing and has some level of expertise in things that can go wrong, or has someone to supervise that will catch these things. As I always try to give the best advice possible when answering questions, sometimes that advice is to seek out a repair shop or professional when safety is a major factor such as this. An improperly torqued fastener or improperly installed component could have very severe consequences. Example: If a vehicle will not go, you may just need a tow truck, but if it will not steer or stop properly, it could cause an accident. Most do it yourselfers can get the job done well and I have seen some that I wished worked at my shop, but there are some tricks to the trade that are learned over time that can not be replaced with online videos books or quick answers. One such thing that comes to mind is not reusing cotter pins or self locking nuts because a failure before the next time it needs to be serviced could be costly and devastating. I hope this helps and you find your vibration and please do not think that I am saying anything was not done properly, but mistakes can happen and if you don't know 100 % for sure please have it checked.

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Linden loses second-game slugfest to Dragons, 13-12

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Anyone wanting to see a high-scoring varsity softball game, should go see the Linden Eagles play.

The Eagles have scored at least nine runs in five games this season. Unfortunately, Linden sometimes finds it tough to stop the opposition’s bats as well. That was the case against Swartz Creek on Tuesday.

Linden scored 12 runs on 18 hits in the second game but lost the contest 13-12 in eight innings. The Eagles also lost the opening contest, 11-1.

In the nightcap, Linden trailed 7-5 entering the bottom of the sixth, but tied the game up with two runs on a solo home run by Megan Klavitter and a steal of home plate by Rhiannon Morse. The game remained tied at 7 entering the eighth inning. That’s when the bats went crazy with the teams combining for 11 runs. Creek scored six runs in the top of the eighth, giving the Dragons a 13-7 lead. Linden (4-9), however, didn’t give up, scoring five in the bottom of the eighth. With one out, Sterling DeGayner singled and Morse followed with a double. Molly Churches followed with a two-run double and Liz Rakowski also hit a double. An out later, Christina Clemons hit an RBI-single, cutting the gap to 13-10. Emily Williams followed with a two-run single, cutting the gap to 13-12. However, the game ended on the next at bat.

Morse had four hits, including a double and a triple. Williams had three hits, while Cayla Wierenga, Rakowski,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden’s Sterling DeGayner swings at a hit during a recent Eagles’ game. The Linden varsity softball team lost two games against Swartz Creek on Tuesday.

Churches and Clemons had two hits each.

In the opening game, the Dragons scored two runs in the first inning and

never trailed. DeGayner tripled in Linden’s only run in the bottom of the fifth. Clemons, Rakowski and Kim Freitas had a hit each.

HOLLY

Continued from Page 16A

Hall said. “It’s getting close though. Hopefully I’ll get it in the next two meets.”

Unfortunately for Hall, she had to wait a little longer to get that next chance when Wednesday’s meet at Flushing was postponed due to cold weather. However, if Hall has learned to be anything lately, it is patience. She’s just happy to be back to being completely healthy.

“I am totally healed,” Hall said. “My injury isn’t holding me back at all. I probably started feeling 100 percent last fall. Really, it was a minor break. at least I wasn’t hurt worse than I really was.”

Hall’s next shot at breaking 18 feet is on Wednesday when the Linden Eagles travel to Fenton High School for a Metro League dual meet.

PREP REPORT

GIRLS SOCCER

► **Fenton 0, Bay City Western 0:**

In what was a tight defensive contest, Bay City Western outshot the Tigers 8-4. Abbey Quesnelle recorded the shutout in the net.

BASEBALL

► **Kearsley 11-10, Holly 1-4:**

The Bronchos were swept in a doubleheader against Kearsley, mainly due to their 14 fielding errors in the two contests.

In the opener, Kearsley scored four runs in the third and five more in the fourth, to spark the win. Holly had nine errors, making only two of the Kearsley runs earned. The Holly bats struggled, getting only two hits. Chet Wyant doubled and Noah Apfel singled.

In the second game, Kearsley scored three runs in the first inning and never trailed. However, it wasn’t until the Hornets’ seven-run fifth that the game was blown open. Gage Grondin, D.J. Tennis, Frankie Richmond, Apfel and Hernan Solis had a hit each for Holly.

SOFTBALL

► **Powers 11, Lake Fenton 3:**

The Blue Devils had 10 hits, but were unable to get enough safeties at the critical times, resulting in the loss. Sydney Sheyachich led the Blue Devils with two hits (a double) and an RBI while Alexis McMichael had two hits and an RBI. Melody Draeger also had two hits.

BOYS GOLF

► **Fenton 163, Brandon 194:**

Playing in extreme weather, John Lloyd led the Tigers with a 38 during Fenton’s nine-hole dual match with Brandon at the Captain’s Club. Austin Landis shot a 41, while Chris Gilbert, Nick Campbell and Mike Fabatz each shot 43s.

“Conditions were extremely tough,” Fenton golf coach Tyler Szczepanski said. “It was cold, windy and rainy. Even some snow flurries were flying, yet we managed to post our nine-hole dual match with a season low of 163.”

► **Fenton , Linden & Holly at Hartland Early Bird JV Tournament:**

The Tigers led area squads with a sixth-place finish of 375. Ed Farrell shot a 90, while Brandon Diener carded a 91. The other scorers were Patrick Conroy with a 95 and Mikko Huotari with a 99.

Linden placed 13th with a team score of 406. Gabe Piesko paced the Eagles with a 93, while Christian Colliga carded a 102. Linden’s other scorers were Ryan Montini with a 105 and Ian Mann with a 106.

Holly was 19th in the 24-team field with a 436. Hunter Wilson led the Bronchos with a 98, followed by Tristan Flores’ 110, Hunter Ruff’s 111 and Jason Allman’s 117.

 ENTON TIGER RUN & TIGER TROT MAY 16, 2015 Fenton Athletic Department's Fifth Annual Run/Walk	
START TIME	8:30 am 5K Run/Walk 9:30 am Tiger Trot
LOCATION	Fenton High School Track, 3200 W. Shiawassee Avenue, Fenton, MI 48430
USATF CERTIFIED COURSE	Flat route beginning at Fenton High School, running through the city of Fenton and finishing on the Fenton High School Track
REGISTRATION	MAIL ENTRIES TO: Fenton High School Athletic Office, Attn: 5K Run/Walk 3200 W. Shiawassee Avenue, Fenton, MI 48430 Mailed entries must be postmarked by Thursday, April 30, 2015 ONLINE REGISTRATION: www.runsignup.com/Race/MI/Fenton/FentonTigerRun
PACKET PICK UP	Packet Pick Up and Registration will be held on Friday, May 15, 2015 from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Fenton High School Cafeteria. Packet pick up/registration on race day will be from 7:00-8:00 am at the FHS Track
ENTRY FEES:	BEFORE APRIL 30, 2015 5K Run/Walk Entry Fee: WITHOUT T-Shirt: \$20.00 WITH T-Shirt: \$25.00 Tiger Trot (ages 3 to 10 Entry Fee): WITHOUT T-Shirt: \$10.00 WITH T-Shirt: \$15.00 AFTER MAY 1, 2015 (no T-Shirts included with entry fee): 5K Entry Fee: \$30.00 Tiger Trot Entry Fee: \$15.00
AWARDS	Awards to the overall male and female runners and walkers and top finisher in each age category.
AGE GROUPS	10 AND UNDER 11-15 16-19 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49 50-54 55-59 60-64 65-69 70 and up
RESULTS	Results will be posted on the Athletic Page of the Fenton Area Public School's website www.fenton.k12.mi.us
REFRESHMENTS	Complimentary refreshments will be provided to ALL participants after the race
REGISTRATION FORM	
RUNNER _____	WALKER _____
TIGER TROT _____	
First Name: _____	Last Name: _____
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____	Email Address: _____
Birthdate: _____	Age as of 5/16/2015: _____ Sex: _____
T-shirts are not guaranteed after April 30, 2015: Circle one: Youth: Xsmall Small Medium Large Adult: Small Medium Large Xlarge XXLlarge (add \$3.00)	
In consideration of my participation in this event, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release all rights and claims for damages that I may have against Fenton Area Public Schools, the sponsors of this event, their agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me at said event, or which may arise out of my traveling to, participation in, and returning from the event.	
I know that running/walking is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not walk/run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I assume all risks associated with participating in this event including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of weather, traffic and road conditions, all such risks being known and accepted by me.	
I hereby consent to the photography, video recording and the audio recording of myself and the use of these photographs and recordings singularly or in conjunction with other photographs and/or recordings for school use, district use, FAPS website use, 5K facebook use, local government/education access channel use, local media use, advertising, publicity, commercial or other school/district purposes. I further consent to the reproduction and use of said photographs and records and to use these in any and all media, now or hereafter known. I understand that there will be no financial or other remuneration for use of my image or recordings, either for initial or subsequent transmission or playback. Permission to use my image and recordings are for the duration of the media. I further consent that my name and identity may be revealed therein or by descriptive text or commentary. I hereby release Fenton Area Public Schools and any of its associates from all claims of every kind on account of such use.	
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LACROSSE

Continued from Page 16A

Usually a hockey goalie, he's learning the same role in lacrosse.

"It's obviously a lot different without a lot of pads on," Glomb said. "It's a little more scary (than hockey), but it's not as bad as I thought it would be."

"Our team has been working really hard to get better. We work for our playing time. There's room for improvement, but everybody is working really hard to get better."

"It looked really fun and I figured it would help me out for hockey, so I figured why not," Tyler Bourassa said. "This is a unique experience. It's really a fun time out there. We have a lot of fun together, we work hard and try our best during the games. That's all that matters."

"There is more synergy on this team and any other team I've been on," Jeff Stuhrberg said. "This is the best team I've been on hands down. Everyone cares about everyone. Once we get the game down, we'll be one of the best teams."

On Thursday, Davison led just 2-0 after one quarter, but eventually led by five before the Wolves scored. Those goals were provided by Mitch Koch



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden-Fenton's Tommy Kemp (left) chases down the ball in the Wolves' 9-2 loss to Davison on Thursday.

and Stuhrberg.

The squad plays its home games on the practice football field near Linden Middle School. The squad plays at Saginaw Heritage on Monday and play Swartz Creek at home Wednesday at 6 p.m.

PITCHING

Continued from Page 17A

enough for Ryan, setting the Dragons down in order in the sixth and seventh innings, striking out two batters in the seventh. In fact, Ryan got the final 13 batters out in order. He did so by throwing strikes. He tossed 52 strikes out of the 80 pitches he threw.

In the second game, it was Tim Sines who was the pitching star. Sines entered the game in the second inning, replacing Austin Buerkel, who was nursing a knee injury, and tossed four-hit ball the rest of the way. He walked three and struck out one, using the strong defense behind him. Buerkel tossed the first inning and struck out two.

"Timmy doesn't throw as hard as some of the other guys, but he's a competitor," Steve Buerkel said. "He's a bulldog out there. He competes. He's pitched a lot

and he has confidence to go with his ability. We wanted to attack the hitters and Tim did just that."

Linden gave itself a reasonably comfortable lead in the bottom of the second inning. Brady Sarkon and Ryan began the inning with back-to-back walks. Kitch followed with a single, loading the bases. The big blow was provided by Trevor Banasiak when he hit a two-out double, plating pinch runner Evan Quesnelle and Ryan. Kitch scored the third run on a sacrifice bunt by Davis.

Linden added another run in the fourth. With two out, Sines walked and stole second. He scored on Bates' RBI-single.

Sines and the Linden defense took care of the game from there, never allowing more than one runner on base at a time after the second inning. Forty-five of Sines' 73 pitches were strikes. He threw first-pitch strikes to 15 of the 23 batters he faced.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Isaac Golson jumped 5-foot-4 in the Blue Devils' double-dual against Corunna and Mt. Morris on Tuesday.

Blue Devils fall to Corunna, Mt. Morris

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

In a week that little activity took place concerning track programs, Lake Fenton can feel good that they were able to finish Tuesday's event at all.

While they may have faced cold and windy weather, the Blue Devils were able to get a GAC meet in. However, the Lake Fenton varsity boys track team probably wishes the results on the track were a tad better. The Blue Devils lost to Corunna 100-27, but more importantly, lost a tight dual against Mt. Morris 72-65 at the event held at Lake Fenton High School.

The Blue Devils did have some

solid performances. Two relays captured firsts. Isaac Golson, Remington Clements, Thomas Mueller and Jacob Fletcher combined to win the 3,200 relay (9:26.7), while Jason Baird, Jalen Miller, Parker Goupil and Han Yang took the top spot in the 400 relay (47.9 seconds).

The Blue Devils also earned a few other firsts. Jacob Fletcher won the 800 run (2:20) and also teamed with Golson, Remington Clements, and Andrew Scotwell to win the 1,600 relay (4:08.1). Golson also took the top spot in the high jump (5-4).

Lake Fenton returns to GAC action on Tuesday at Beecher at 4 p.m.

The Fenton Rotary Club part of this community for 30 YEARS!

Our club was started in 1985 and quickly became one of the areas most active service clubs. We take pride in working to improve the local parks, help those in need, and provide leadership opportunities for the youth in our communities. If you would like to become active in the Fenton area we would love to work with you. We meet every Tuesday morning at Spring Meadows Country Club at 7:15AM. Please join us for a weekly program on what's happening in your community with business, development, and giving back! Your community is great because of people like you... Get Involved Today!



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TEE UP

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Michigan among 'best places in U.S.' to golf

► Local courses cater to golfers of all ages, abilities and budgets

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

With Michigan's scenic beauty as a spectacular backdrop, more than 600 public golf courses in the state make Michigan a golfer's paradise.

Michigan is consistently named among the best places in the U.S. to play golf, according to Golf Digest. Top designers have created championship courses out of the woods and farmlands,

incorporating hills and valleys, natural water features and incredible views.

There is golf for every level of play and a course to suit every budget. For the best rates, interested golfers should visit the website of the course where they want to play, according to Chris White of Fenton Farms Golf Club in Fenton Township.

"That's where you're going to find the best rates, because prices in the industry are so variable." Typically, rates at local courses are about \$30 for 18 holes with a cart during weekdays and about \$40 for weekend play. Season passes and course memberships can substantially reduce

See COURSES on 22A



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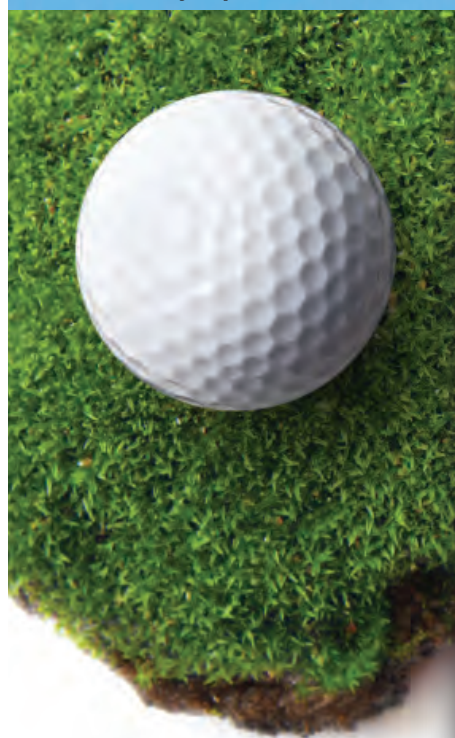
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COURSES

Continued from Page 21A

the rate per game of golf. Here is an overview of several local courses:

COYOTE PRESERVE GOLF COURSE, located in Tyrone Township at 9218 Preserve Dr., is an 18-hole Arnold Palmer Signature Course, offering an unparalleled standard of excellence in course design.

A public course with breathtaking elevation, it's like playing golf up north, without the drive, according to the course's motto. League play is busy, especially Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Jason Raney is the PGA Professional and director of golf, while Nick Gray is the PGA Apprentice. For tee times, call (810) 714-3206 or book online at coyotepreserve.com.

FENTON FARMS GOLF CLUB & DRIVING RANGE at 12312 Torrey Rd. in Fenton Township is a classic 18-hole public course with an interesting 84-year history as a local farm.

Owner Chris White, grandson of Jack Bott, one of the owners from the 1990s, continues the club's long-standing tradition as "The Friendly Place." "We are fun, affordable and friendly — that's our niche," said White. "I guarantee you won't have more fun playing golf than you will here at Fenton Farms."

The club's addition of "Driving Range" to its name is designed to encourage golfers to use the driving range, "a hidden gem," according to White.

Thirty-two leagues are active, and management continues to match golfers with appropriate league openings. Golfers can book tee times online, from their mobile phone or by calling the Pro Shop at (810) 629-1212.

HARTLAND GLEN GOLF COURSE, located at 12400 Highland Rd. in Hartland, is Livingston County's only 36-hole course, located in a rural setting with a North Course and South Course that can accommodate up to 300 golfers for league play and special events.

For tee times, book online to take advantage of "e-specials" or call the Pro Shop at (248) 887-3777.

TYRONE HILLS GOLF COURSE, located at 8449 Old U.S. 23, is an 18-hole, par 72, public golf course carved out of a single family farm with rolling hills, ponds and a natural setting. Designed in 1961 by W. Bruce Matthews III, ASGCA, he took advantage of the area's natural environment to create a unique golf experience. Denis Husse serves as the course's PGA Golf Professional.

“For the best rates, interested golfers should visit the website of the course where they want to play.”

Chris White
Owner of Fenton Farms Golf Club

Well known for its Junior Golf Program on Thursday mornings, Tyrone Hills is also home to leagues that play nearly every day of the week, from competitive play to "just for fun."

For tee times, call (810) 629-5011.

HUNTER'S RIDGE GOLF COURSE, at 8101 Byron Rd. in Hartland, is an 18-hole public course situated on 160 acres of rolling country-

side, still owned by the Miesle family as part of their centennial farm property. The golf course is family owned and operated by Joe Miesle, with his son, Mike Miesle, serving as superintendent.

Designed by Master Golf Architect Jerry Matthews, this course was built with the philosophy of conserving the land's natural beauty while creating a challenging, fair golf experience.

For tee times, call (517) 545-GOLF (4653).

DUNHAM HILLS GOLF CLUB, at 13561 Dunham Rd. in Hartland, has been established as one of the top premiere public facilities in the state. Rolling hills and tree-lined fairways make this 18-hole public course a challenging test of one's golfing skills, with yardage ranging from 6,715 to 5,310, making a "tough but pleasant" challenge.

Book your tee times online at dunhamhills.com or call (248) 887-9170.

HEATHER HIGHLANDS GOLF CLUB, at 11450 East Holly Rd., Holly, is an 18-hole public course visible and accessible from I-75. Heather Highlands is also known for its 20-year tradition of its annual Golfer Appreciation Days immediately after the golf season, when everyone plays for free to experience the best value in golf.

Tee times can be booked online at heatherhighlands.com or by calling (248) 634-6800.

WINDMILL RIDGE EXECUTIVE GOLF is a Par 3 golf course located at 12751 Big Lake Rd., Davisburg. For more information, call (248) 622-6604.

SPRING MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB, located at 1129 Ripley Rd. in Linden, is the area's only private country club, featuring an 18-hole golf course, putting green and driving range, with no reservations or tee times needed. Two PGA Professionals are available on-site, including Head Pro Jeffrey Zielinski.

Full banquet dining facilities and a swimming pool open from Memorial Day to Labor Day create a full-service country club atmosphere at reasonable membership prices. For more information, call (810) 735-7836.

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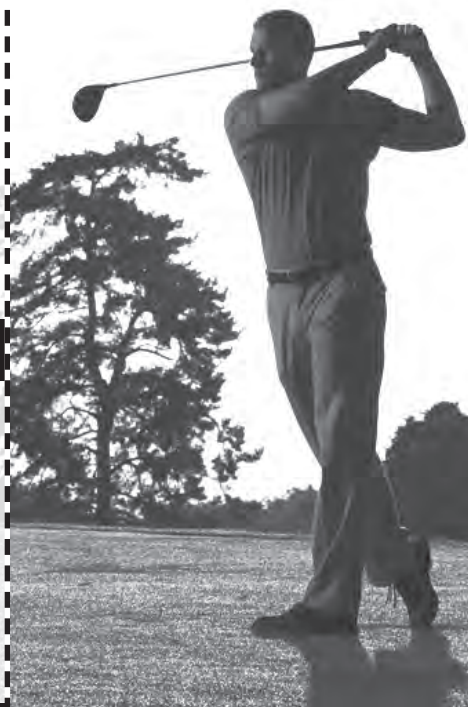


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SENIORS 50+ \$25 <small>Includes Cart</small> Monday - Friday <i>Call for Tee Time!</i> <small>Expires 5-11-15</small>	Directions to Hunters Ridge From Fenton: West on Silver Lake Road, thru Linden and Argentine, to edge of Byron. Left on Byron to Cohoctah Road. Right on Cohoctah Road thru the village, and continue west for 1 mile to Byron Road. Left (south) on Byron Road 3 miles.
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Fundraising fun at area golf charity outings

► Local golfers enjoy a day on the links while raising money for important causes

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Almost a million golf tournaments are held in the U.S. every year, with many of the funds raised from team fees and sponsorships earmarked for charitable causes.

Raising from an average of \$5,000 to more than \$300,000 for large, nationally sponsored events, charity golf tournaments can be very successful fundraisers, as well as a fun day for participating golfers.

UPCOMING LOCAL CHARITY EVENTS INCLUDE:

MAY 9

Bradley Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund, 9 a.m. at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

MAY 17

Zonta Club of Fenton 8th Annual Driving Against Domestic Violence, 1 p.m. at Majestic At Lake Walden in Howell.

MAY 30

Holly Educational Foundation, 2 p.m. at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

JUNE 5

"More than just Golf" Scramble, Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce, at Captain's Club at Woodfield, Grand Blanc.

JUNE 13

Lake Fenton Project Graduation, 1 p.m. at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

JUNE 20

The 15th annual Brad Stone Summer Classic (college scholarships for Lake Fenton graduates), 9 a.m., at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

costs incurred with infant mortality), 9 a.m., at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

AUG. 15

Shop with a Hero (Fenton Township Firefighters' Christmas Fundraiser), 9 a.m., at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

AUG. 23

Liam's Birdi Buddies (Buddy Walk for kids with Downs Syndrome), 9 a.m., at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

AUG. 8

Olivia Raine Foundation (help with

TIME FOR Golf

WEEKDAYS 18 holes with cart \$28 <small>Valid for up to 4 players. Not valid with leagues, outings or pre-booked events. Must present coupon. Exp. 5/22/15</small>	Seniors \$23
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WEEKENDS \$32 18 holes with cart (before 3pm) \$26 (after 3pm) <small>Valid for up to 4 players. Not valid with leagues, outings or pre-booked events. Must present coupon. Exp. 5/22/15</small>
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FAIRWAY FRIDAYS 18 holes with cart \$22 /person <small>Valid for up to 4 players. Not valid with leagues, outings or pre-booked events. Must present coupon. Exp. 5/22/15</small>
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9 ways to improve your game

Warmer weather sends scores of golfers to their favorite courses each and every day. Golf is a challenging pastime, but a few pointers can help golfers hone their short games, long games and everything in between.

■ CHOOSE THE RIGHT CLUBS.

There is more to selecting clubs than pulling any old iron out of your golf bag and whacking away. Wind, hazards and obstructions in landing areas should influence your decision of which club to use. Novice golfers may want to rely on their caddies to make club recommendations, and as they become more confident in their abilities they can start to make their own choices.

■ ANCHOR YOUR FEET.

Anchor your foot behind the ball to drive the ball further. Right-handed players will keep the right foot anchored, and lefties will do the opposite. Do not lift your foot prematurely; otherwise, you can lose power and distance.

■ IDENTIFY YOUR WEAKNESSES.

As with any hobby, identifying those areas that need the most work can help you become a better golfer. Keep track of each shot you take, and then look at the results to see which areas of your game need the most work.

■ FIX YOUR ALIGNMENT.

Align your shots by assessing the target from behind the ball. Then set the clubface behind the golf ball and align it with the target before you enter your stance.

■ USE YOUR TORSO FOR POWER.

The torso is essential to a solid swing. Practice rotating from your core to control your backswing and then maintain the same spine angle and posture on the downswing.

■ **USE THE WIND.** Not every golf game will be played in perfect weather. A good player knows how to make adjustments for the wind depending on the shot. Use the wind to your advantage when you can, and adjust your swing when hitting into the wind.

■ BECOME A BETTER CHIPPER.

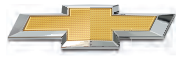
Many players put so much emphasis on their backswings and putt shots that they fail to devote any practice to chips. All shots are important for golfers trying to shed strokes off of their scores.

■ **KEEP FIT.** Maintaining or improving your physical strength and overall health can help your golf game. Exercise and eat right, and you will have more endurance on the links.

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