

“Nix the program, stop the bleeding and bring back AP.”

Lisa Ferguson
Fenton schools parent

IB, budget debate continues

■ Fenton Board of Education faced with possible cuts

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Tensions were high and frustration apparent at the Monday night meeting of the Fenton Board of Education. It was standing room only in the boardroom packed with teachers, parents

and administrators. After more than three hours of discussion, the only real decision rendered was to schedule another special meeting.

The discussions centered on the district's budget woes and whether the International Baccalaureate (IB) program should continue in the Fenton schools, a program that if continued would cost the district approximately \$528,000 in the coming school year. The proposed 2015-16 budget calls for the layoff of 12.5 teachers,

among other reductions.

Brad Wright, a 16-year teacher at Fenton High School, said, "There's been a lot of discussion about the merits of the IB program. Can we afford it at the cost of teacher layoffs, custodians and bus drivers ... What does the IB program offer that we can't do ourselves?"

Wright said the AP program used in previous years does the same thing for a fraction of the cost.

See IB on 8

PAGE 3
CONFUSED
ABOUT
BEES?

Midweek Times

\$1.00

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2015

2012 - 2013 - 2014 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Linden man faces federal charges

■ Fenton firm, National Diesel Engine, investigated due to repair complaints

By Sharon Stone

ssstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Carl Steven Spencer of Linden was arraigned on federal charges Monday afternoon at the federal courthouse in Flint. The charges were the result of a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) investigation of his Fenton business, National Diesel Engine, Inc.

Lt. Jason Slater of the Fenton Police Department said the department has received multiple complaints about the diesel engine repair

See CHARGES on 18



Carl Steven Spencer

Chemical leak at Webasto quickly contained

■ Emergency responders in protective HAZMAT gear clean up liquid nitrogen at Fenton Township business

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

A 911 caller reported a "loud noise" and "white cloud of smoke" coming from Webasto Thermo & Comfort North America Inc. on North Road off U.S. 23 in Fenton Township just after 9 p.m. Sunday night.

The Fenton Township Fire Department and Genesee County Sheriff's Department responded.

"Liquid nitrogen was seeping out," said Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz. A leak in one of their liquid nitrogen tanks was emitting a small cloud.

Volz said they had a crew in protection gear at the scene. The leak was "contained without incident" in about an hour and a half.

Liquid nitrogen, which is nitrogen cold enough to exist in liquid form, is used in cryogenic applications, freezing food, coolant, and other areas, according to chemistry.com. It dissipates the oxygen in the air and can cause severe frostbite with contact to

See CHEMICAL LEAK on 18



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton Township Fire Department handles traffic during a chemical leak at Webasto Sunday night. The Genesee County Sheriff's Department assisted.

For better learning, activities 'get the wiggles out'



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

To assist in focusing students after lunch, State Road Elementary kindergarten teacher Michelle Vultaggio takes her class through song and dance activities Monday afternoon. Parents can prep their soon-to-be kindergartners using helpful tips on page 13.

Times' Facebook page helps reunite dog, frantic owner

■ Wandering St. Bernard happy to be home after nine-mile trek to Fenton

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

A 9-year-old St. Bernard that was spotted wandering near U.S. 23 and Owen Road Monday was eventually reunited with his owner thanks in part to the Times' Facebook post.



Otzi

The post was eventually shared 28 times with more than 30 comments from the public posting updates. For a while, the dog stayed at

See DOG on 15



810-771-TEXT
(8398)

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE



“With all the recent rain it would be nice if businesses would take a moment to shut their sprinkling systems off for a week. It is discouraging to see them running day and night, wasting thousands of gallons of water, rather than push a simple on/off button. Thank you.”



“I will remember that Jim Ananinch chose to vote to saddle Michigan taxpayers with more taxes by endorsing Proposal 1. Evidently he feels that the current 55-60 percent tax rate isn't high enough.”



tctimes.com
COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“Love the Times 'Looking Back' column. The only problem with it is that it makes me realize how fast time flies as I get older. I swear that most of those events couldn't possibly have been that long ago.”

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Confused about bees?

■ **Bees and wasps may look alike, but some species are more worth a sting than others**

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

What's yellow and black and buzzing around your deck and backyard in the spring and summer?

These pesky flying insects may be one of 20,000 species of bees (typically fuzzy) or more likely a yellow-jacket (shiny and smooth), a type of ground-nesting wasp. Often confused with bees, yellow jackets are much more aggressive and more likely to sting you than a gentle honeybee, which is busy foraging around flowers for nectar and pollen.

Since the decline in the honeybee population has been making headlines in the news lately, you're not sure whether you should be happy they've

chosen your deck for nesting, or whether your "uninvited visitors" are actually another species of bees, hornets or wasps.

What's the difference between all of these yellow buzzing pests? Here's a run-down on a few of the most common ones in Michigan:

Honeybees

These busy pollinators are relatively gentle (with the exception of Africanized honeybees) and usually only sting if stepped on or swatted.

Honeybees are down about 30 percent in population again this year, endangering the future of our food supply because so many fruits and vegetables are dependent upon them for pollination.

If you approach a honeybee nest, they'll defend it, but only within an immediate area. Because they can sting only once and then die, it's usually a last resort for honeybees to make that sacrifice without being provoked first.

"You won't likely find honeybees on your deck," said Marshal Emmendorfer of Marshal's Pest Control who has many residential and commercial accounts in the Fenton area. "They usually nest in hollowed out trees or on chimneys."

See **BEES** on 16



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Bees are necessary for pollination among plants. Though there is no official reason, some beekeepers believe pesticides could contribute to this Colony Collapse Disorder.

If you do get stung . . .

- Get away from the area to prevent further stings.
- A honeybee will leave its barbed stinger in your skin; remove it by scraping the sting site with your fingernail, a butter knife or credit card. Don't try to pull it out or you'll squeeze the attached sac and inject more venom. Other bees and wasps don't leave their stingers behind, so this step isn't necessary.
- If you're stung by a yellow jacket, wasp or hornet — run! The insect may leave behind a chemical that marks you as the enemy, inciting other yellow jackets to attack. Don't swat, just get away quickly.

Seek medical help immediately if:

- You've been stung more than 10 times.
- You've been stung in the mouth or throat.
- You have any symptoms of a bee or wasp sting allergy, such as difficulty breathing or speaking, swelling in the mouth or throat, wheezing, hives or rash, or tightness in the chest.
- Anyone suspecting they are allergic should carry a bee sting kit, such as an EpiPen.

Easing the pain

Apply any of the following to the sting site:

- a commercial sting remedy
- a paste of baking soda and water
- a meat tenderizer containing papain, such as Adolph's
- a cut side of an onion
- a damp tea bag
- toothpaste
- Preparation H

Ice will help reduce swelling and ease pain, as will aspirin and ibuprofen. Antihistamines and cortisone cream may reduce swelling and itching.

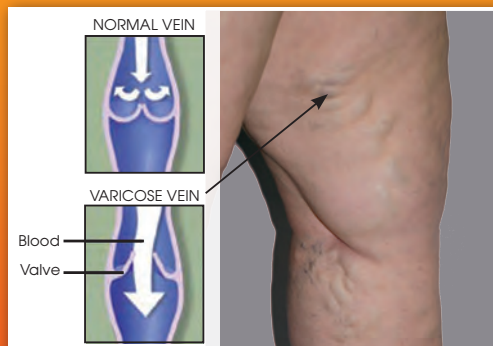
Source: gardeners.com

Think varicose veins are just a cosmetic issue?



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Symptoms may include pain, swelling, restlessness, burning, itching, fatigue of the legs as well as skin damage. Learn more about vein disease at www.flintveins.com

TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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FROM THE LEFT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED
Bill Press

Can a Huckabee change its spots?

Pastor Mike Huckabee knows his Scripture. So no doubt he's familiar with Jeremiah 13:23: 'Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?' Huckabee should think of that as he tries to sell himself as a conservative after governing as a moderate, if not a liberal.

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee recently announced he's running for president, becoming the sixth Republican to do so. Now here's what's funny: As a presidential candidate, he may talk a lot about his time as a Fox News talk show host, but he won't talk much about his time as governor. He can't.

The truth is that while serving as the 44th governor of Arkansas, from 1996 to 2007, Huckabee built up a record that Bill Clinton, another Arkansas governor, would have been proud of. Like Clinton, Huckabee is remembered as a pragmatic populist politician, not the doctrinaire conservative he parades around as today.

A couple of measures also earned Huckabee the reputation as a 'compassionate conservative.' In 1998, he ordered that Arkansas's share of a \$206 billion settlement against big tobacco companies be entirely dedicated to improving health care.

And later, in 2005, when 75,000 victims of Hurricane Katrina sought refuge in Arkansas, Huckabee arranged to shelter, house and feed them.

In a video announcing his candidacy, he says Washington 'has done enough lying and stealing. I'll never rob seniors of what our government promised them and even forced them to pay for.'

Equally surprising, perhaps, is that this outspoken opponent of immigration reform today was once a pro-immigration reformer. As governor, he supported in-state tuition and scholarships for students who were brought to this country illegally by their parents.

Of course, there's a reason why Mike Huckabee doesn't talk about any of those programs today. They would drive his base — the tea party, evangelical crowd — crazy. And he needs that crowd in order to win the primaries.

What a difference between Mike Huckabee then and now. As governor, he built a strong, progressive record. Too bad he can't, or won't, run on it.

PRESIDENT OBAMA INHERITED a bad economy and now it is getting better. He has helped unions and fed, housed and clothed the needy. He has raised the minimum wage. He has done everything a president should do.

YOU CAN LAUGH all you want at taxpayers who say they are targeted, harassed and bullied by the Michigan Treasury Department. But you won't be laughing when it is you.

HOPE THE FENTON City Council wakes up in time to change their minds about the garbage. Hopefully they will repeal their decision soon. Why? Because then they will be considered wise people if they say that after much thought they see this is not a good idea for all the people of Fenton.

IS THE GUY on the McCaslin Lake Road a licensed scrap dealer? I can't park a car in my yard, but he can have a junkyard in his? What's wrong with this?

BACK OFF. LEAVE Joe Graves alone. If he would run for president, I would probably vote for him.

IT IS IMPORTANT to remember that Obama and the Democrats rammed Obamacare down our throats and not one Republican voted for it. The president lied as millions lost their health care and are now paying much higher premiums to find alternative health measures. This is why 26 governors are suing Obama and his administration.

SURE, YOU GET to choose your trash

Hot lines

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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.

collector. You also have to deal with neighbors burning their garbage or taking large items out to rural roads and dumping them. Sounds like a great deal.

I'M SURPRISED AT the sudden uproar about new garbage cans? People think will make our town look trashy when there's so much junk sitting around drive-ways and yards already. Come on people, let's work together and keep

Fenton beautiful.

REPUBLICANS AT THE state level are working to exempt themselves and all energy producers (mainly frackers) from the Freedom of Information Act by law. That must be what you conservatives think democracy is all about.

CONSERVATIVE RADIO HOST convinced his listeners that the federal government had a plot to overthrow the state. So the Texas governor called up the Texas Guard to watch a U.S. military exercise and other states. Wow! Paranoia will destroy you.

EVERYONE AROUND HERE knows the Fenton DDA has, is and will continue to spend tax dollars for various projects. The DDA laws are used everywhere in the state. I would imagine that money could have been used to keep the roads in good shape for decades.

WHEN A LAW is passed to ban bars from marketing the products they sell, you know the insurance lobby is buying your congressperson.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



FROM THE RIGHT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED
Cal Thomas

The terrorists among us

The Obama administration says it is still trying to determine whether ISIS was behind the attack in Garland, Texas, in which two terrorists were shot dead after trying to kill people attending a 'draw the Prophet Muhammad' contest. ISIS is not only claiming responsibility, but promising new attacks.

A group that identified itself as ISIS posted its intentions online: 'The attack by the Islamic State in America is only the beginning of our efforts to establish a wilayah (governing province) in the heart of our enemy. Our aim was the khanzeer (swine) Pamela Geller and to show her that we will send all our Lions to achieve her slaughter. Our intention was to show how easy we give our lives for the Sake of Allah.'

That's pretty straightforward. In the post, ISIS claims to have '71 trained soldiers in 15 states,' naming five of them — Virginia, Maryland, Illinois, California and Michigan. It says, '23 have already signed up for missions.'

If we are serious about combating this virus, the government is going to have to do some things that may not be palatable to American sensibilities.

First, we must stop thinking that the extremists want our way of life — freedom, pluralism and tolerance. They don't.

Second, those mosques and Islamic schools that teach hate and preach the destruction of America must be closed and never reopened.

Third, we must not allow any more refugees or immigrants from countries populated by Islamic extremists.

The FBI says one of the terrorists killed in the shootout with security guards in Texas has been on their radar screens for years. Were they forced to wait until he acted before they could arrest him? If so, perhaps our laws need updating to allow law enforcement to take pre-emptive action against people who visit radical Islamic websites or engage in other behavior consistent with terrorist behavior.

Now would be a good time to hear from our elected officials — and the presidential candidates — about what they intend to do to fight and win this war, which is quickly moving to American soil.

Argentine Nazarene 2nd Annual Craft & Vendor Show

Saturday, May 16
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

FREE ADMISSION: Can Goods Donations for Food Pantry will be accepted

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For more information or to reserve a booth,
Contact Bonnie Coleman 517-546-1997

Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

Would you consider living in a Cornerstone condo?

streettalk



"I would have to see the inside first and I have to see if they accept animals."

— Dee Patton
Holly



"No, because we have kids and it is not big enough."

— Lara Affrica
Tyrone Township



"Yes, if I was younger because downtown is going to become a happening place."

— Jen Czop
Tyrone Township



"Sure, if the prices were a little lower."

— Sue Oles
Tyrone Township



"Yes, because there would be an easy access to downtown and the restaurants."

— John Sullivan
Linden



"Yes, because I think it is a very nice building and it adds to downtown."

— Patricia Semo
Fenton

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'Linden on Wheels' rolls out May 29

■ City of Linden welcomes new car show event on summertime Friday nights

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Friday nights in Linden will soon be filled with the sights and sounds of cars, cycles, bikes and tractors following the approval of a new summertime event, "Linden on Wheels Friday Nights," at Monday's Linden City Council meeting.

SUMMARY

■ Downtown Linden will be a Friday night destination beginning May 29 when the city rolls out "Linden on Wheels."

This car show "and more" event will debut on Friday, May 29 in the parking lot behind

Thimbleberry Antiques downtown, running every Friday night through Friday, Sept. 18, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The exception will be the holiday weekend dates of Friday, July 3 and Friday, Sept.

4 of Labor Day Weekend.

"Cars, motorcycles, bikes, tractors, 'anything on wheels' will be on display," said Scott Binkley, owner of Memories & More antique/vintage shop in Linden. He is spearheading the event with the help of Ed Koledo of the "Grow Linden" committee of the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce, and local resident Rich Howd.

"I basically got it started, then the Fenton Chamber helped us by being one of the sponsors and picking up the insurance," said Binkley, who owns his own classic cars and has organized car shows in other communities. "It's going to put Linden on the map."

He also credits local resident Terry Wright with supplying him with the names of 250 car owners who have displayed their cars at past events. "I called every single one of them, and then we organized a meeting. Forty people



showed up."

Organizers are hoping for up to about 49 cars or other "wheels" at each event.

"Best of Show" will be given out each week, along with a 50/50 drawing, Poker Run and Junk in Your Trunk sales. "Five businesses each week will give out playing cards to show visitors who stop in," said Binkley. "Whoever has the best poker hand and worst poker hand

from those five cards will win a price." For more information, call Binkley at Memories & More, (810) 406-5646.

"It's going to put Linden on the map."

Scott Binkley
"Linden on Wheels" organizer



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the
judge

Marketing and fraud scams

Although I must admit that I am not the most 'tech savvy' person around, I do know enough about modern technology to understand that the number and kinds of communications devices in this country and the world has literally skyrocketed to record figures.

With these devices it is truly amazing to see people able to literally have instant communications with each other using such channels as texting and tweeting, email, two-way video and much, much more.

Of course, more traditional communication methods are still with us such as regular mail, telephones, radio, and television.

Unfortunately, we have seen an increase in illegal behavior by people using these channels to try to take advantage of others, by trickery or subterfuge, and trying to steal their hard-earned money.

For example when I checked my email yesterday, I read a letter from a seemingly sincere woman from another country who offered to donate \$8,400,000 to charity if I would simply write back to her.

I have also recently been receiving telephone messages at home telling me that I can receive a device at no charge that I can use in case of an emergency.

Over the years, I have received almost countless similar entreaties for me to receive free money or merchandise. The one common denominator for all these offers is this — I have never responded to a single one.

The reason for this is found in a rather simple acronym — 'TANSTA-AFL.' My father told me this when I was growing up and the letters stand for the phrase 'There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch.'

From a legal standpoint, people who try to cheat or mislead others are committing a crime. The problem is that with today's technology they are sometimes hard to find when they've been caught.

The Federal Trade Commission has a website that I urge readers to visit that discusses many types of these schemes and what can be done to protect yourself.

Here is another saying that we all can live by — If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Cheryl Stewart and her sons Dalton, 16 (left) and Calvin, 17, are working together to help those in need through a nonprofit organization they started in February.

Balancing lives, ONE-BY-1

■ Single mother and teenage sons help struggling residents with necessities

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Calvin Stewart, 17, believes that something has to change with the way people treat each other. He is one member of a new, three-person organization called ONE-BY-1, a nonprofit group organized by his mother, Cheryl Stewart, himself and his brother, Dalton, 16. They aim to improve the world they live in — by balancing lives, one by one.

Calvin said he personally started thinking about this a year ago, after a particularly nasty snowstorm. “I was at a gas station and it was packed,” he said. “An old woman was trenching in the snow and fell. No one would take three seconds out of their life to help her.” The woman, he said, was at least 90 years old.

Cheryl said she’s given to many wonderful organizations over the years, but decided the best way she and her sons can help people is by starting in their very own community.

“We strengthen our communities when we give local,” Cheryl said. “We’ve all had problems at one time or another; we’re all just trying to make it. We give people strength by helping them.”

Having raised her sons as a single mother, Cheryl said she has been there.

“As I was growing up my mom was involved in numerous animal rescue groups and was a licensed wildlife rehabilitator,” Cheryl said. “I worked with her, rescuing and caring for these animals for years. I feel this contributed to who I am today.

“I feel ONE-BY-1 finally materialized due to years of seeing how unbalanced life is for families and individuals working hard to just keep things going,” she added. “I just felt impelled to do something rather than witness

people going under when I knew that by working together we could prevent this. Strength in numbers is real.”

Cheryl grew up in the Holly area. She is the daughter of retired Dr. Robert Stewart, the once Chief of Radiology at Hurley Medical Center in Flint. She and her sister attended Holly schools.

Area residents needing assistance with funding their basic needs are encouraged to contact ONE-BY-1. Types of assistance include help with rent, car payments, insurance payments, utility bills, food, prescriptions and other critical needs.

There is no application and there is no judgment. If someone needs help a few times, so be it, they can ask and if the need is authenticated, ONE-BY-1 will assist if they have the funds available.

What they don’t do is hand out cash. The money

is paid directly to whom it is owed. If it is rent, Cheryl will pay money directly to the landlord, for example. If it is a utility, that utility will receive the funds owed directly.

ONE-BY-1 is currently not in a position to pay entire bills. “I can’t pay all of it,” she said of requests for help with rent or other bills. “But I can help with some of it.”

In order to keep ONE-BY-1 going and to help as many people as possible, donations are always needed. Cheryl and her sons started

their effort in February with \$1,200 of their own money. People can donate via the website www.one-by-1.com, or at any State Bank location. ONE-BY-1 is a nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible.

For more information, call Cheryl at (810) 347-7732. The email address is ONE_BY_1@yahoo.com.

“We strengthen our communities when we give local.”

Cheryl Stewart
ONE-BY-1

SUMMARY

■ Helping with basic human needs and balancing lives is the goal of one Fenton mother and her two teenage sons.

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IB Continued from Front Page

Wright said the teaching staff was surveyed on the merits of the IB program, but had not yet seen results. “How the staff feels will be very telling,” he said, adding that some staff members did not participate in the survey for fear there would be no anonymity and possible retribution.

“We have one of the lowest staff morals that we’ve ever had in my time here,” Wright said.

Other teachers echoed Wright’s sentiments, worried about staff layoffs and the resulting higher class sizes. Joanne Purzycki, a teacher at Tomek-Eastern Elementary School said that with 30 students in a class, teachers can’t be highly effective.

“I don’t want to see layoffs happen,” she said. “Lower class sizes is more important.”

Purzycki said teaching at the district will continue to be great without the IB program. “When I was a student in the district, the first thing cut was busing — it was a frill — not the teaching staff,” she said.

Board President Drew Shapiro empathized with the teachers and said the board has some tough decisions to make. He reminded the audience, “It’s the job of the board to do what’s best for all in the district.”

During his budget presentation, Superintendent Tim Jalkanen said the IB program has been in place for six to seven years. There are 1,500 students participating in the IB program in kindergarten through fifth grade; and 1,300 in grades six through eight. There are currently four juniors enrolled in the high school’s IB Diploma Program.

Jalkanen reported that 29 percent of Fenton students are taking IB classes. Of the \$528,000 in IB costs, “roughly \$400,000 represents coordinator costs,” he said.

Jalkanen reported the results of parent surveys on the IB program. He said since 2008, about 60 to 80 families listed the IB program as the reason for coming to Fenton schools. The surveys Jalkanen reviewed with the board will be posted on the district’s website (www.fenton.k12.mi.us) Tuesday morning.

One of the things parents were asked is “Do you think IB is good for students?” District-wide, the results were 25 percent ‘yes,’ 32 percent neutral, and 43 percent ‘no.’

Board Treasurer Tamara Valley asked, “Even if we eliminate the entire IB program at the cost of \$500,000 plus, we will still have to make budget cuts reduce staff ...?”

Jalkanen said those cuts would still have to be made.

Michelle Ostrowski, a long-time teacher at State Road Elementary School,

said they are working on Fenton Forward, an alternative to IB teachers and administrators can do on their own.

Valley asked, “How do we ensure accountability down the road if IB is not in place?” Ostrowski said, “It’s great leadership that keeps us accountable.”

Board member Elizabeth Geib said, “We need to empower our staff if change is to happen. We need to trust them to make the best decisions.”

Board Vice President Rick Koester asked Jalkanen to verify his recommendations to the board (see sidebar), which he did.

“We should not be making decisions today,” Koester said. “We are still waiting for information and still have time. We can’t just rip the roots out without a viable alternative. If it is determined that things aren’t working out — get a plan — don’t just pull the plug.”

Koester said administration must get together with teachers and come up with alternative ideas.

Most board members agreed that the four juniors in the high school Diploma Program should be allowed to continue through their senior year.

Geib, clearly frustrated over the lack of information provided by administration, said, “Wouldn’t it be great to have three different options to look at.”

The district’s budget, by law, must be adopted by June 30.

Parent Lisa Ferguson said she has three children in the Fenton district and doesn’t see any real impact because of an IB education. “Nix the program, stop the bleeding and bring back AP,” she said.

In order to give Jalkanen and his administrators more time to provide requested information and alternative options to the IB program, another special meeting has been scheduled for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20.

SUPERINTENDENT’S 2015-2016 BUDGET SUMMARY The following represents Superintendent Timothy Jalkanen’s 2015-2016 budget summary, which he recommended to the Board of Education:

- 12.5 FTE Instructional staff reductions totaling \$1,006,400
- Restructure IB program (TBD) / Elementary World Language \$76,771
- Transportation route reduction / new buses added to fleet \$15,000
- Athletic revenue enhancements (pass policy and increase pay to participate) \$15,000
- Other areas \$121,000
- Total \$1,234,171

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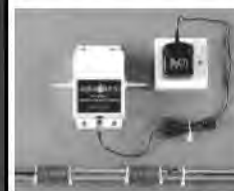


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News briefs

Streetscape alert

On Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13, Shiawassee Avenue between Adelaide and LeRoy streets will be closed. Streetscape contractor Champagne and Marx will be connecting the new water main to the properties in that area. LeRoy Street will still be one way northbound and Mill Street will also remain open to two-way traffic.

Village of Holly earns upgraded bond rating

Standard & Poor's Rating System has upgraded the bond rating for general obligation bonds in the village of Holly from an "A Stable" to an "A+," according to Village President Ryan Bladzick. General obligation bonds are secured through the Village's pledge and ability to legally use resources, including tax revenues, to repay bondholders. General obligation bonds are typically investment-grade securities, and a higher bond rating can result in lower interest costs for taxpayers and less risk for municipal bond investors.

Community is invited to an open house honoring retiring Fire Chief Jim Reid

Retiring Argentine Township Fire Chief Jim Reid will don his official uniform for the last time on Saturday, May 16. He will be guest of honor at a Community Open House set for 6 p.m. at the Argentine Fire & Rescue Department, located at 9048 Silver Lake Rd. in Argentine Township.

Police&Fire report

HOLLY WOMAN ARRESTED FOR OWI, TWO TEENS INJURED

At 10:38 p.m. on Friday, May 8, deputies with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office responded to a single vehicle crash that involved injuries on Dixie Highway near Bay Shore Court. A 33-year-old Holly woman was driving a Dodge Ram pickup truck southbound on Dixie Highway when she lost control and left the roadway. The truck rolled over and struck a tree and a utility pole. The woman had two unrelated 15-year-old female passengers in the truck, one of Holly, the other of Springfield Township. One of the girls was ejected during the crash and was transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township and later to Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital. She was listed in critical condition. The other girl was transported to Genesys and was listed in serious, but stable condition. The driver fled the scene, but was later apprehended by deputies at a nearby apartment complex. Alcohol was believed to be a factor. The driver was arrested for OWI and she consented to a blood draw. She was released on bond from the Oakland County Jail. The crash remains under investigation with the Crash Reconstruction Unit. Charges are pending.

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West Shore employees receive Civilian Service Award

■ Secretary and teacher use EpiPen to save 6-year-old boy with peanut allergy

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Lake Fenton — Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz presented two Civilian Service Awards for lifesaving services to two West Shore Elementary employees Monday, May 11 at the Lake Fenton Board of Education meeting. They were recognized for saving a 6-year-old male with a peanut allergy.

Dana Rickert, a secretary at West Shore Elementary, and Laura Yeaster, a first-grade teacher, saved a 6-year-old boy with a peanut allergy when he ate a snack that wasn't his.

Volz said the Fenton Township Fire Department responded to the call from West Shore Elementary at 1:51 p.m. on April 17. The boy was having an allergic reaction from ingesting peanut butter.

On his arrival to the school, Volz was directed to the main office where the boy was sitting with Rickert. "She told me that she used an EpiPen on him. By her side was teacher Mrs. Laura Yeaster," Volz said.

Volz checked the boy's vitals and oxygen was administered because he was having trouble breathing. "The young man was still shaken and upset but both assured him he was going to be OK and he calmed right down," Volz said. "This



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz presents Civilian Service Awards to West Shore Elementary employees, Dana Rickert and Laura Yeaster, Monday at the Lake Fenton Board of Education meeting.

type of anaphylaxis, if not treated quickly, can cause some life-threatening issues. These two women recognized and reacted to a situation that could have worsened very quickly."

At 2 p.m., the boy was transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township for observation.

Rickert said the situation wasn't frightening for her because she has allergies and carries an EpiPen on her own. "A student had ingested a snack that was another student's. When he came into the office I checked him over. He was having trouble breathing so I administered the EpiPen," Rickert said. "I get training for it every year."

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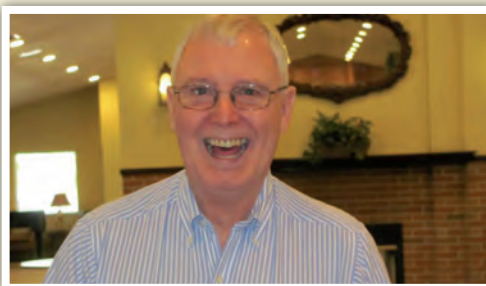


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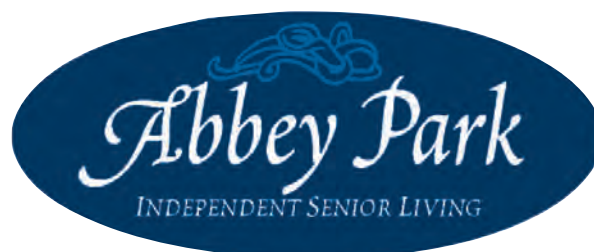
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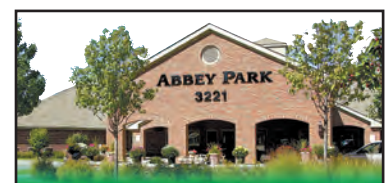


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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Caelyn Bono, 5, gets a high-five from kindergarten teacher Michelle Vultaggio Monday afternoon. They had just gone over a math test. Vultaggio said that to get students ready for kindergarten, parents can help them learn to identify numbers 0-20 before school starts in the fall.

Getting kids ready for kindergarten

■ What parents can do this summer to help children prepare for school days

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Entering kindergarten doesn't need to be a scary concept if your child is prepared for the event in advance. Some mothers remember their child clinging to her pant leg, dragging themselves along the floor, crying and begging not to go. Others were more fortunate in that their child marched into the front door of the school and never looked back.

The following tips are intended to help parents prepare their child in a variety of areas to make the transition into kindergarten as smooth as possible.

SUMMARY

■ Parents can take a few fun steps to help their child prepare for kindergarten in the fall.

- Just 15 to 20 minutes of playing and learning with your child can make a big difference. Encourage your child to persist in tasks when encountering a problem by giving him tasks slightly above his current ability level. When your child cannot find a solution on his own, encourage him to calmly ask for help.
- Play board games to practice taking turns.
- Set up several play dates with friends of various ages.
- Allow your child to stay with other trusted adults for a few hours at a time prior to kindergarten, especially if she has rarely been in the care of someone other than mom and dad.
- Tell your child you expect her to clean up after play.
- In order to help develop language skills, verbally give your child specific one- and two-step directions and encourage him to follow through.
- Read to your child for a combined total of at least 20 minutes each day.
- While reading, point out how to hold a book, right side up with the spine on the left, and the orientation in which we read the words and look at the pictures (left to right).
- After reading, ask your child what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- Give your child plenty of opportunities to draw (without coloring books). Ask her to draw the things she sees around her.
- Teach your child the uppercase and



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

State Road Elementary kindergartners line up to return to class after lunch on Monday.

lowercase letters and, most importantly, the sounds each letter makes through play and games.

- Teach your child how to properly grip a pencil.
- Play with play dough regularly. Roll, squish, stamp, and even cut it.
- Encourage your child to cut out various shapes using child-safe scissors.
- String large beads to make a necklace.
- Play with an interlocking puzzle together.
- Always encourage pretend play and occasionally join your child in his fantasy world.
- Teach your child to recognize the following colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, black, white, brown, and pink.
- Use a variety of materials to let your child paint, draw and explore.

Source: icanteachmychild.com

NEW KINDERGARTEN AGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering kindergarten starting with the 2015-2016 school year, must be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2015, the last date in a graduated system.

Michigan Act. 1998, adopted on June 26, 2012, called for students entering kindergarten to be 5 years old by Nov. 1, 2013 for the 2013-2014 school year. They had to be 5 years old by Oct. 1, 2014 to start kindergarten in the 2014-2015 school year.

In prior years, children had to be 5 years old by Dec. 1 of the year they were entering kindergarten.

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Two men fight in parking lot over woman

Fenton police arrested a 35-year-old Linden man and a 38-year-old Swartz Creek man after they reportedly got into a fight over a woman in a business parking lot on Owen Road on May 6.

Lt. Jason Slater said officers responded to the parking lot of Planet Fitness and Goodwill on Owen Road at about 12:30 p.m. on a report of an altercation.

From their investigation, Slater said police learned that the two men, one an estranged husband and the other a current boyfriend of a woman, had a phone conversation. Robert Williams, the estranged husband, traveled to the parking lot allegedly to confront the current boyfriend, Anthony Watkins.

Seeing Watkins seated in his vehicle, Williams allegedly drove his vehicle

into the driver's door of Watkins' vehicle as to prevent him from exiting. Watkins climbed through a window holding a baseball bat.

Williams then exited his vehicle holding a 4-foot-long crowbar, according to Slater. Watkins allegedly swung and struck Williams in the back twice with the bat. Fenton police arrested both men and presented their case to the prosecutor.

Williams was charged with two counts of felonious assault and one count of malicious destruction of property. He posted bond and was released Monday. Watkins was charged with one count of felonious assault. He posted bond last Friday and was released. Court hearings are pending.



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HOT LINE CONTINUED

MICHIGAN HAS VOTED pretty consistently Democrat on the national level. I think it would be better for the conservatives to move to Texas. Get your succession plans going fast. As it will be Democratic in another 10 years.

CHANGING LAWS TO promote homosexuality will indeed affect me and my kids. If I sell wedding cakes or my son reads to others from the Bible, we'll be affected. There's a big distinction between discrimination or intolerance, and freedom of choice and association, which activists just won't acknowledge.

IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE why I want regulation. People will do anything for money and power including wars and murder on a regular basis. People, left

unchecked, will destroy everything in their path like the plagues in the Bible. Only blind greed and control keeps one from seeing this truth.

TO THE PERSON opposed to head coaches. You forget that a team is not a team without their coach. If you do not believe they are doing a sufficient job, then try taking on their position. I know that you won't though, simply judging by your insistence at hiding in the Hot lines rather than confronting the issue.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pellett's Department Store shown here in downtown Fenton in the 1950s. The store burned to the ground in February 1968.

Remembering Pellett's Department Store

■ George D. Pellett, who built the store in 1929, has died at the age of 91

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

George Davis Pellett built his department store in downtown Fenton in 1929. It was there that many local residents purchased all their clothing, shoes and other dry goods until the store burned to the ground in February 1968.

Pellett died in Naples, Florida on March 16. He was 91 years old. Visitation will be held on Monday, May 18 at 10:30 a.m. until the time of service at 12 p.m., at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel. Interment is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

Barb Soyka of Fenton said she absolutely remembers Pellett's.

"I remember standing in the Fenton

drugstore across the street, along with half the town, watching it burn," Soyka said. "It was the worst feeling. Where would we buy our clothes?"

The daughter of the late Douglas and Nellie Gould, lifelong residents of Fenton, Soyko added, "Every Christmas I would go with my dad to shop for my mom. That's when the blouses were in plastic bags all folded neatly. They also had a pneumatic tube to pay your bill."

Soyko also fondly remembers how the wood floors at the store squeaked when walked upon. The store was destroyed by fire just a few short years before Urban Renewal resulted in the removal of many stores in the downtown Fenton area.

Pellett was born Dec. 23, 1923 in Flint. He was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. In addition to his store, he served on the Board of Directors of The State Bank for many years.

DOG

Continued from Front Page

Vic Canever Chevrolet on Owen Road, but got loose again.

The dog, Otzi, was let outside that morning and traveled nine miles from Rose Township to Fenton. Owner Laura Pensavecchia said he's 9 years old and never ran away before.

"If it wasn't for the Facebooking, I would never have found him," Pensavecchia said. "Everybody was great. There were people after him all day."

Pensavecchia said she and her girlfriend, Iveta Proskova, were following the Facebook posts throughout the day. People commented on the post about where he was sighted and they found Otzi at 8:30 p.m. Monday evening.

"By the time I found my dog I was in hysterics," Pensavecchia said. "He was so scared. He doesn't hear that well. When he saw me, he was running from me, too. I don't know what possessed him to go anywhere."

Otzi was first sighted at 1:29 p.m. on the lanes of U.S. 23 near Owen Road. The Fenton Police Department reported that the dog was sighted earlier on Hickory Ridge in Oakland

County, then at LeRoy Street and Silver Lake Road where the fire department unsuccessfully tried to detain the dog.

Vic Canever employees told police that the dog was sleeping in their manager's office and they would call animal control. They said the dog was very muddy, tired and appeared to have an eye injury.

Marilyn Clark, receptionist at Vic Canever said the dog came into the store between 1 and 2 p.m.

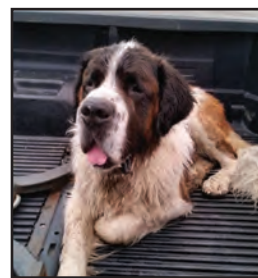
"He just wandered into our parts department and laid down in one of our offices," Clark said. "He was so dirty." They called Animal Control and Adopt-a-Pet to see if he was chipped. When animal control pulled in, "He took off like he

knew," Clark said.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said an employee at Vic Canever called the department when Otzi was at their dealership. Police has a book of pictures of lost dogs and owners, and they try to match them.

"It (social media) worked in this case," Aro said. "We've used it for other applications. We've identified suspects though social media. It's faster to do

it that way. If you use it properly it's a pretty good tool."



Tri-County Times' Facebook page helped reunite Otzi, a 9-year-old St. Bernard that wandered nine miles from his home with his frantic owner.

"If it wasn't for the Facebooking, I would never have found him."

Laura Pensavecchia
Dog owner

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According to honey.com, honeybees collect nectar and store it as honey in their hives. Nectar and honey provide the energy for the bees' flight muscles and for heating the hive during the winter period. Honeybees also collect pollen which supplies protein for bee brood to grow.

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BEES

Continued from Page 3

While there is no law against removing or killing honeybees, homeowners are advised by the Michigan Beekeepers Association to leave them alone, unless they are a nuisance. If you really want them removed, find a local beekeeper and pay him or her to do the removal, according to their website. Unless it is a swarm, few people will do it for free, because it requires extensive work to remove bees.

If there are honeybees inside your home's exterior siding, the only way to get rid of them is to take the siding off, expose the nest, then remove the bees by relocating them or using pesticide. An exterminator will use a dust-formulated insecticide, wait until the bees die, then open the walls to remove the nest.

Bumblebees

Bumblebees nest underground, but they are so large that they're easy to distinguish from other bees and yellow jackets. Bumblebees will chase invaders and pursue them further than honeybees, but they won't come out in droves like yellow jackets because their colonies are relatively small.

Like a yellow jacket, an individual bumblebee can sting multiple times.

"You'll usually find bumblebees out in a flowering area," said Emmendorfer. "They're the least aggressive of all bees."

Bumblebees are very effective pollinators of many fruits and vegetables, as well as native wildflowers. They are actually more efficient than honeybees as a pollinator, but because their colonies are smaller, they aren't as dominant.

Carpenter bees

Carpenter bees may look like the humble bumblebee, but their burrowing habit to protect their offspring can cause a lot of damage to a wood structure like



Honeybee



Bumblebee



Carpenter bee



Yellow Jacket

your home.

The most common carpenter bee in Michigan resembles many of the closely related large yellow and back bumblebees so common in this state. How to tell the difference? The top of the abdomen of the carpenter bee is bare and shiny, while the abdomen of bumblebees is covered with black and yellow hairs.

"They're just about identical to bumblebees," said Emmendorfer. "They fly high and eat fast. They do a lot of damage."

Also effective pollinators, the carpenter bee can be a serious wood-destroying insect, if they choose your home to build their nest. The tunnel created by the boring bee is so perfectly round it appears to have been drilled by a tool.

Homeowners can take care of carpenter bees, by spraying the hole with an ant and roach spray, then plugging the hole with steel wool.

Yellow jackets

Yellow jackets often nest underground in rodent burrows, so if you see lots of flying insects emerging from a hole in the ground, they are probably yellow jackets.

By late summer, a colony may contain thousands of individuals that will aggressively defend their nests from intruders.

They are easily provoked and will attack in force, chasing the threat for large distances. Sounds and vibrations, like those from a mower or trimmer, can trigger an attack, even from a distance.

Making it worse, each yellow jacket can sting multiple times.

"You'll usually find bumblebees out in a flowering area. They're the least aggressive of all bees."

Marshal Emmendorfer
Marshal's Pest Control

Yellow jackets do offer many benefits to gardens, however, keeping garden pests in check as they feed mostly on insects.

Numerous wasp control sprays are available, including organic ones with mint oil as the active ingredient. There are also sprays that freeze upon contact.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton Township Fire Department quickly contained a liquid nitrogen leak at Webasto Thermo & Comfort North America Inc.

CHEMICAL LEAK

Continued from Front Page

skin. Liquid nitrogen isn't volatile so it won't explode.

It was "cut and dry to get it contained," Volz said. The fire department quarantined the area and shut down the tank. North Road was closed in this area as a precaution.

The humidity made it look worse, Volz said, along with the cool outdoor temperatures.

Volz said it was the first time his department has responded to something like this because Webasto is one of the only companies in the area to have that kind of tank.

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said the department is trained at the operations level of HAZMAT response. There's one county HAZMAT team, compiled of 20-25 people from different departments. One Fenton City Firefighter is on the team. People on the team are certified technicians and have more independent training.

The team is used when there's a chemical spill too big for one department to handle, when they can't handle chemicals without the HAZMAT suits, when they can't identify a chemical, or if they just need more resources, Cairnduff said.

"It's not used that often," Cairnduff said. "Maybe once a year. It's low use, low need, but highly technical." The HAZMAT team is activated probably 20 times a year.

Mike Hennessey, vice president operations at Webasto, said it was the first time this happened. "Part of the normal process of the liquid nitrogen is it has an over pressure release valve that's designed to release pressure from the tank and let nitrogen escape as necessary," Hennessey said. "The valve was stuck."

A small amount of gas was released and compared to fog, Hennessey said, adding that liquid nitrogen is about minus 275 degrees.

CHARGES

Continued from Front Page

facility on South Alloy Drive and when complaints came from out of state and Canada, the FBI was contacted.

Many complaints were lodged alleging the company was not making repairs as claimed. Many unhappy customers even posted their complaints on ripoffreport.com. The Better Business Bureau reported 17 complaints filed against the company.

On Monday, Fenton police took Spencer up to the courthouse for his arraignment. He was released on an unsecured \$50,000 bond. His preliminary exam is scheduled for May 26. According to court records, local attorney Michael Manley is representing Spencer.

MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS
VOTED ON RECENTLY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. With one click citizens can approve or disapprove of key votes by their legislators using the VoteSpotter smart phone app. Visit votespotter.com and download VoteSpotter. This report was released on Friday, May 8.

Senate Bill 133: Adopt "Omni-bus" budget

The Senate version of the non-education portion of the state government budget for the fiscal year that begins on Oct. 1, 2015. This would appropriate \$38.0 billion, compared to \$37.4 billion originally appropriated the previous year. Of this, \$17.2 billion comes from state tax, fee and other revenue, compared to \$17.6 billion the previous year. The rest of this budget is federal money (\$20.8 billion, compared to \$19.8 billion the previous year). The education portion of the budget is in Senate Bill 134. Altogether, the Senate proposes to spend \$53.9 billion next year, vs. \$53.2 billion originally appropriated for the current year.

Passed 23 to 15 in the Senate
Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)

☐ YES ☒ NO

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)

☐ YES ☒ NO

Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Senate Bill 134: Adopt "Omni-bus" education budget

The Senate version of the K-12 school aid, community college and university budgets for the fiscal year that begins Oct 1, 2015. This would appropriate \$13.97 billion for K-12 public schools, compared to \$13.87 billion originally appropriated for the prior year. It also appropriates \$1.54 billion for state universities, compared to \$1.51 billion the prior year. Community colleges would get \$394 million, up from \$364 million.

Passed 25 to 13 in the Senate
Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)

☒ YES ☐ NO

House Bill 4467: Allow more dangerous prisoners at Baldwin private prison

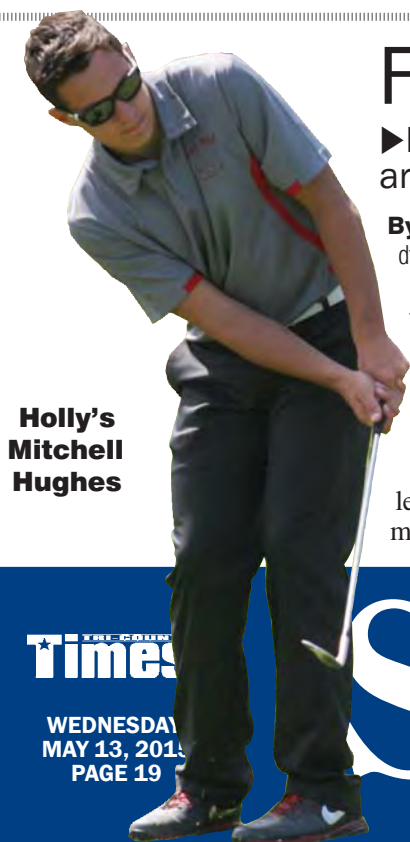
To allow more dangerous adult prisoners to be held at a privately owned and managed prison whose previous contract with the state to house juvenile prisoners was revoked by Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2005. Since then the prison has contracted with other states to house their prisoners, although it is closed now.

Passed 57 to 53 in the House
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

☒ YES ☐ NO

Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township)

☒ YES ☐ NO



Holly's Mitchell Hughes

Fenton golfers finish second in Metro race

►Holly's Hughes leads area golfers at meet

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Fenton varsity boys golf team entered the Metro League Championship Meet in second place.

The Tigers left Fenton Farms on Monday in the same position.

Flushing, who dominated league play during the preseason meet and during the dual portion

of the season, captured the top spot at the title meet as well, posting a team score of 305. The Raiders' score was 19 strokes better than Fenton's second-place team total of 324. Holly (4-3) placed third with a 326, while Linden (3-4) was fourth with a 334. In fact, not much changed at all based on Monday, as each of the top four teams maintained the position they held entering the meet.

Fenton (6-1) was paced by John

Lloyd's 37-41-78, while Austin Landis and Chris Gilbert each posted 80s. Lloyd was the medalist at the preseason meet, but finished nine strokes behind Flushing's Nick Winarski on Monday. Nick Campbell capped the Tigers' scoring with an 86.

The area's top individual performer was Holly's Mitchell Hughes. Hughes carded a 37-39-76, finishing seven strokes out of first. One stroke behind Hughes

was teammate Parker Rowse with a 77. Kyle Vanbommel shot an 84, while David Mathews carded an 89.

Linden's top performer was Tyler Ziccardi's 81. Not far behind Ziccardi were his three other scoring teammates. Devon Cota shot an 82, while Dylan Elmer carded an 84. Trevor Sundra followed with an 87.

The next major meet for all three teams will be the Division 2 district meet behind held at Spring Meadows Country Club on May 21.

Times

WEDNESDAY
MAY 13, 2014
PAGE 19

Sports

INSIDE SPORTS

JENNA PEPPER

Holly tennis defeats two ranked foes

See Page 20



ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

► Keep up on spring sports, visit tctimes.com

DAVID'S DABBLINGS

I am not a Tom Brady fan. I've never pulled for the New England Patriots in any football game. I am not a University of Michigan football fan.

I'm saying this first to show I am not displaying a bias here. But when I heard Tom Brady got a four-game suspension for having someone let a little bit of air out of some footballs, I thought that sounded pretty ridiculous. I thought they'd give him a love-tap, maybe a one-game suspension. However, the player who may be the greatest QB in the history of the NFL won't be around for a quarter of the season because of some air? Come on.

That seems to be a bit too much, especially when you consider the Patriots were penalized a first-round draft pick next year, and a fourth-round selection in 2017.

Brady is appealing the suspension and he should. I think a game, maybe two, would've be reasonable.

Wolves collecting some wins

►Co-op program beats St. Clair United 14-4

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

A first-year program usually takes its lumps and bruises.

And the Linden/Fenton co-op boys lacrosse program has done that for most of this spring season.

But as the season has continued, the Wolves (2-8-1) have improved. And now they are the ones getting the victories.

About a week after earning their first victory of the season, the Wolves earned their second in decisive fashion, defeating St. Clair United by a 14-4 score on Saturday.

Coach Stan Orzel credited two major reasons for the victory against United — the team's newfound uptempo and the squad's ability to win the battle on the ground.

"Who wins the ground balls wins the game," Orzel said. "We have been starting really slow so I worked them a little bit hard before the game so they kind of got their adrena-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden/Fenton Wolves player Joshua Powell (center) tries to get a ball on the ground during a recent game. The co-op boys lacrosse program defeated St. Clair United 14-4 on Saturday.

line going, and we went out and won the ground balls. They did everything right.

"We are playing a run-and-gun offense now. ... At first I thought we'd set it up, but as long as we are running and

their defense can't catch us, we're going to run-and-gun. You use a lot of people when you play that way, and it gets all of the kids involved."

The Wolves got just about

See **WOLVES** on 22

Tigers edge rivals in finals

►Defeat Linden 2-1 Hourigan Wooden Bat Classic

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Fenton Tigers and Linden Eagles better get used to seeing a lot of each other on the baseball diamonds over the next few weeks.

They are going to see each other for four games and every one will have significance toward the meeting.

The first of those meetings happened on Saturday as the Fenton Tigers edged Linden by a 2-1 score in the championship contest of the Jesse Hourigan Wooden Bat Classic.

"We have been playing well and when you play good teams, you want to play well," Fenton coach Shawn Lawrence said. "We will see them three more

See **FINALS** on 22

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Holly tennis defeats two ranked squads

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Life is getting tougher when it comes to being a strong girls tennis program in the Flint area.

But apparently the Holly varsity girls tennis team is prepared for the change.

The Bronchos posted victories against two state-ranked teams on Saturday.

Holly defeated Petoskey 6-2 and also beat Williamston 5-3. Petoskey is ranked 10th in Division 1 and Williamston is ranked eighth in Division 3. The Petoskey victory was a nice one considering the squad is in Holly's regional on Friday. In recent seasons, Fenton and Holly have made qualifying for the state meet almost a tradition. However, considering only two teams automatically qualify, making the state meet isn't as automatic as in recent years. However, Holly's victory against Petoskey should help some of their regional seedings, possibly making it a tad easier for the Bronchos to earn a top-two finish at regionals. Any third team scoring 18 points can also qualify, but getting to 18 points could be a challenge.

The Bronchos (5-0-1) have been somewhat of a surprise for Holly coach Will Sophiea, because of their youth. There are only two seniors in the starting lineup.

See **HOLLY** on 21

Holly boys edge Linden at Williamston

By David Troppens

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Consider it Holly vs. Linden, round one.

The two area track rivals were just two of the many squads at the Williamston Invitational on Saturday, but it was hard to deny how close the squads finished in the boys' event.

The Holly boys placed third with 90.5 points, while Linden took fifth with 71 points. And considering the event was held only about 72 hours before a key Metro League dual between the two squads at Holly High School on Tuesday, chances are both teams were keeping an eye on the other.

Both teams did well, but the Bronchos did a tad better, earning three firsts at Williamston.

Blake Staffne took part in two firsts. Individually, he won the 800 (2:01.52). He also teamed with Dino Vivanco, Zac Felx and Kurtis Cooley to win the 3,200 relay (8:02.36). The final first for an area boy was posted by Holly's Nate Frasier, taking the top spot in the 1,600 (4:26.54).

Holly had six other individuals earn top-five performances. They were Dillon Lemond, second in the 3,200 (10:02.10); Javon Barr, third in the 100 (11.45); Vivanco, third in the 800 (2:03.24); Michael Ponkey, fourth in the 3,200 (10:21.86); and Dakota Thorington, third in the discus (154-9) and third in the shot put (49-4).

The Linden boys had eight individual top-five performances, with two athletes earning a pair of them. Mikey Varacalli took second in the 1,600 (4:34.99) and

third in the 3,200 (10:07.99), while Kyle Korman took fourth in the discus (139-10) and fifth in the shot put (48-6). Finally, Jacob Cox placed fifth in the 100 (11.70) and the 200 (24.04).

The other two top individual performers were Andy Roberts taking fourth in the shot put (49.3) and Ryan Torok taking fifth in the 3,200 (10:25.86).

Linden, Holly girls at Williamston

The Linden and Holly girls also competed at Williamston, but the Linden girls were much stronger, earning a third-place team finish. Holly placed seventh.

There were no area champions, but there were plenty of participants who had strong days.

Linden's Alia Frederick leads that list. She took second in the 100 hurdles (16.76) and in the 300 hurdles (46.98). Meanwhile, Taylor Ganger and Madison Piet each posted two third-place efforts. Ganger took third in the 800 (2:31.94) and the 1,600 (5:30.30), while Piet earned thirds in the 100 hurdles (17.06) and the 300 hurdles (48.34). Linden's dominance in the hurdles continued with Breyanna Turnipseed taking fifth in the 100 hurdles (17.51) and in the 300 hurdles (50.22).

Three other Eagles earned individual top-five efforts. They were Savannah Ferrera, third in the 3,200 (12:18.78); Alexis Brandt, third in the pole vault (8-0); and Lauren Kotalik, fourth in the disc (96-3).

"The girls' performance at Williamston was impressive," co-Linden coach Benjamin Cox said. "They have been working hard all season and manage to surprise us



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Holly's Dino Vivanco was a member of the winning 3,200 relay squad at the Williamston Invitational.

each week."

The Bronchos had five individual top-five efforts. Emily Alvarado earned two of them, taking second in the discus (116-5) and fourth in the shot put (34-2 1/2). The other double-placer was Maggie Schneider, placing second in the 1,600 (5:27.84) and fourth in the 800 (2:33.93). Finally, Juliet Clark placed fourth in the 100 hurdles (17.34).

Eagles play solid, take second at Mt. Morris tournament

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden's varsity softball team has had a few issues with its offense this year.

However, finding consistency on defense has been a problem.

But the Eagles made some of their weaknesses into strengths at the Mt. Morris Tournament and came out with a second-place finish.

Linden defeated Mt. Morris 8-1 and Perry 13-3, before losing to Millington in the title game 4-3.

"We've hit fairly consistently all year," Linden coach Gordon Jamison said. "Even in some of the games we

were shut out, we hit the ball hard. We strung some together this weekend. And, minus one inning, we played good defense."

In the title game, Millington scored two runs in each of the first two innings with the aid of at least one Linden error. In the first game, Millington's opening batter reached base on an error, and the next batter walked. Both eventually scored, making it 2-0. The lead grew to 4-0 in the second on two errors, a walk and a hit. From there, the Eagles worked on trying to get back into the game.

In the fifth, Kim Freitas doubled and

See **EAGLES** on 21

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Blue Devils impress at Hemlock invite

►LF softball competing for outright GAC Red title on Thursday vs. Goodrich

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

When Lake Fenton's varsity softball team goes to the Hemlock Invitational every season, there's one thing the squad can expect — that's good competition.

The Blue Devils competed against some good teams again this season and ended up taking runner-up honors.

Lake Fenton ended up facing Saginaw Swan Valley in the finals, dropping a 10-3 contest. Earlier in the day, Lake Fenton defeated Clare 5-0 and Beckenridge 8-6. They ended the tourney falling to Hemlock 2-0 and Swan Valley.

In the title game, the Blue Devils managed just four hits against Swan Valley, while the eventual champions scored eight runs in the first three innings.

Lake Fenton scored two runs in the sixth. Alexis McMichael reached on an error and an out later Kalani Lau singled, putting two runners on base. Kim Roe responded with a two-run double, cutting the gap to 8-2 at the time. However, that's as close as Lake Fenton would get.

Roe had two of Lake Fenton's hits in the contest. Erin Ezell had one as well.

In the 5-0 victory against Clare, Roe was outstanding on the mound, tossing a two-hitter. She walked three and struck out eight. Offensively, Lake Fenton took the lead for good with one run in the second. Sydney Sheyachich singled and went to second on Allison Petts' single. Exell sac-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lake Fenton's varsity softball team celebrates taking second at the Hemlock Invitational on Saturday.

rificed the runners over, and Emily Angus hit an RBI-ground out. Lake Fenton led 1-0.

The Blue Devils added two more runs in the fourth. Sheyachich reached on an error, as did Ezell an out later. Angus plated Sheyachich after an outfield error allowed her to reach base, and Sidney Conn followed with an RBI-ground out. Lake Fenton led 3-0.

The final two runs were plated in the fifth. Roe hit a two-run home run, making it 5-0.

Clare managed two runners on base in the same inning just once against Roe. That happened in the seventh with two out, but a ground out ended the game during the next batter.

The Hemlock contest was a pitchers' duel Sheyachich allowing just two runs on nine hits and four strike outs.

"The tournament was comprised of three ranked teams and two that were honorable mention," Lake Fenton varsity softball coach Amos Rinks said. "Tournaments like these have ways of exposing weaknesses, which in turn develop our team and turns our strengths for the end of the season run for states."

Lake Fenton plays Goodrich at Goodrich on Thursday at 4 p.m. At least one win will assure the Blue Devils of the GAC Red crown.

HOLLY

Continued from Page 20

"I am very impressed with this group," Sophia said. "We had two seniors and a lot of unknowns going into the year. Where we currently are — and we still have more work to do — is impressive. I'm very impressed with their progress so far."

The Bronchos had four flights win both of their matches. In singles action, No. 2 singles player Nicole Johnson won both matches by 6-3, 6-2 scores. Meanwhile, Journee Kerner also was a double-winner, earning both wins by 6-2, 6-2 scores.

In doubles action, Makenna Rooker and Sydney Renehan (No. 1) earned two victories, including a three-setter against Williamston. Meanwhile, Abby Graff and Katie Beauregard (No. 3) earned two victories, including a come-from-behind 2-6, 6-3, 10-5 victory against Williamston.

"They had a great day," Sophia said about his No. 3 doubles team. "They beat a really good Petoskey team and then were down bad to Williamston. They turned it around and won the match."

Jenna Pepper (No. 3 singles) won a match against Petoskey in straight sets, while Lilly Kossak and Danielle Sink won a tough three-setter against Petoskey as well. Megan Lesperance and Michelle Major (No. 4 doubles) also earned a straight-set win against Williamston.

EAGLES

Continued from Page 21

scored on Cayla Weirenga's ground out. the lead was down to 4-1. Then, in the seventh, the Eagles (8-17) put together a serious run to win the game and the tourney title.

It all started with two out after a double-play grounder. Emily Williams singled and Weirenga reached base on an error. Megan Klavitter singled, loading the bases. Sterling DeGayner responded with a two-run single, cutting the gap to 4-3 with two runners still in scoring position. The game ended, however, on a ground out.

In the opener, Alexa Marsh scattered eight hits, walked none and struck out six in the 8-1 win against Mt. Morris. A seven-run fourth was the big inning of-

fensively. Rhiannon Morse had two hits (double) and two RBI. DeGayner also had a double.

In the second contest against Perry, the Eagles had 17 hits. Morse had four hits and scored three times. Molly Churches also had three hits (double), while Williams, Liz Rakowski and Weirenga had two hits each.

Christina Clemons was strong on the mound, tossing a four-hitter. She walked none and struck out nine.

Jamison expects the tourney to be a confidence-builder for the Eagles as they enter the home stretch of the season.

"I do think it can be a confidence builder," Jamison said.

"We hit well and our pitchers had a good weekend, too. Everything kind of came together."

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Fenton's Drew Garrison tossed a one-hitter in the Tigers' 10-0 victory against Montrose. Garrison also pitched the final two innings of Fenton's 2-1 victory against Linden in the title game of the Jesse Hourigan Wooden Bat Classic on Saturday.

FINALS

Continued from Page 19

times. They will be different circumstances because playing at the wooden bat tournament nobody throws their best (pitchers). Any time you can win something in a season, it always makes the season somewhat of a success."

Fenton and Linden found themselves in a pitchers' duel between Troy Smigielski and Tim Sines for the first four innings. However, Sines started getting wild in the top of the fifth and it sparked the Tigers' only two runs. Jon Gillman walked, chasing Sines out of the game. Aaron Sarkon relieved, but had control issues himself, walking Matt Acton. Two outs later, it looked like Linden may get out of the jam, but John Leaske, Chase Coselman and Casey McLaughlin-Smith followed with walks, plating two runs.

From there, Smigielski tossed a shutout fifth to earn the victory, while Drew Garrison tossed the final two innings for the save.

Linden did put together a nice threat in the seventh. Jake Marshall singled, and two outs later, an error on a ball hit by Chris Kitch, plated Marshall and put the game-winning run at the plate. However, a ground out ended the inning and the game.

Smigielski pitched five innings of three-hit, two-walk and two-strikeout ball, while Garrison allowed just one hit and struck out one. Sines allowed just one hit in four innings of pitching. He struck out four. Sarkon struck out two and allowed two hits. However, the eight walks they allowed ended up earning Fenton the win.

Catcher Jon Gillman also played a vi-

tal role, throwing out three Linden baserunners trying to steal, and picking off another runner at first.

Fenton and Linden will face each other on May 18 for a Metro twinbill which could determine the Metro champions. Linden is currently in first place, but Fenton remains in the Metro picture as well. Then, on Memorial Day, a week later, the two teams will play in the Greater Flint Baseball Tournament Division I championship game.

"The big thing is we keep focusing on is ourselves," Lawrence said. "We try not to worry about the team we are playing, but focus on what we need to do. I think when you look at the end of the year, and you are still in the running to play games that matter and still have a chance to play for something, that makes it outstanding. The kids have done a great job working and believing in what they are trying to do. And we are having some people having some outstanding seasons."

Fenton won its opening game against Montrose 10-0 in five innings. Chase Coselman had three hits and two RBI, while Acton (two RBI), Justin Norris and McLaughlin-Smith had two hits each. Garrison tossed a one-hitter and struck out seven, en route to the victory on the mound.

Linden played Powers in its opening contest, earning a 3-0 victory. Sines allowed a hit and a walk while striking out three in four innings of work to earn the win. Lucas Marshall tossed three innings of shutout ball while striking out six, and earned the save. Offensively, Hunter Jacobson had two sacrifice flies, while Ben Baker had an RBI-single. Austin Buerkel, Brady Sarkon and Baker had two hits each.

WOLVES

Continued from Page 19

everyone involved in their win against St. Clair United.

Derek DeLong was involved in more than half of the goals, scoring two and assisting seven others. Zack Walsh led the team with four goals, while Tommy Kemp and Mitch Koch had three each as well. Luke White had a goal and an assist, while Brian Hackney chipped in another goal.

"Derek does a good job finding people out on the field and delivering it to people," Orzel said.

"Zack played an extremely good game. He scores his goals with hard cuts to the cage. At first, Mitch Koch wasn't the most gifted kid, but he continues to work hard and that's the end result. He does everything I ask him to do and the end result is he's really good on the field."

But offense is only part of the story as the defense played well. Adam Glomb saved 13 of the 17 shots on net, and the defenders also helped make Glomb's job easier by being active.

"When you look at it, a lot of our defenders are tall, slender kids who can run and move," Orzel said. "Playing on defense you have to be able to move. If you stand in one place, you are like a statue and they can get around you, and that's not good. Our kids are able to move."

Some of the defenders Orzel noted were Jacob Kirn, Bailey Rudzienksy, Josh Powell, Nathan Rumbles, Wilson Personett and defensive mid Dan Giddings.

PREP REPORT

BASEBALL

► Lake Fenton 6-9, Imlay City

2-2: The Blue Devils used good pitching to earn the doubleheader sweep on Saturday.

In the opening game, Thomas Messenger and John Fernelius combined on the mound. Messenger tossed the first five innings, allowing two runs (one earned) and two hits, while striking out 10 to earn the win. Fernelius tossed two shutout innings the rest of the way to earn the save. He struck out four.

Offensively, Cameron Conover had two hits and an RBI, while Bobby Lynch, Tony Hathaway, Fernelius and Messenger had doubles.

In the nightcap, Cameron Conover (four innings) and Harper (three innings) combined keep Imlay City's bats settled down. Conover allowed one run and struck out five. Harper allowed the other run and struck out one. Offensively, Brandon Bacon and Chandler Fournier each hit home runs. Fournier had three hits and scored three runs. Bacon had two hits and drove in three runs. Harper and Jared Smith also had two hits each.

GIRLS SOCCER

► Lake Fenton at Freeland Tournament:

The Blue Devils (10-4-1) went 2-1, defeating Allegan 5-3 and Ovid-Elsie 1-0. Lake Fenton lost to sixth-ranked Freeland in the final 3-0.

Ashlyn Skidmore and Kuristin Porritt had two goals each against Allegan, while Kaitlyn Begley had the final one. Emily Moore made three saves in net. Against Ovid Elsie Moore made five saves and Porritt scored the goal.

Freeland was able to score against Lake Fenton, but Melissa Williams, Tyanna Brown, Julie Craig and Mackenzie Rumpy played well on defense to keep it close.

GIRLS LACROSSE

► Saginaw Heritage 18, FLA X

Heat 6: The Fenton/Linden co-op girls lacrosse program trailed 11-1 at the half.

The squad has its last game on Thursday on home against Waterford Kettering's JV squad at 6 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

► Fenton, Lake Fenton at Cardinal Twilight Classic:

The Fenton girls placed seventh, earning two relay firsts, an individual first and four other individual top-five efforts.

The relays taking first were the 800 team of Zeinab Torchi, Mad-die Hall, Hannah Sage and Emily Kinser (1:51.38) and the 3,200 relay of Jenna Keiser, Emma Lane, Kinser and Emily Battaglia (10:49.48). Hall earned the individual first in the long jump (17-3 1/2).

Others placing in the top five individually were: Hall, third in the 100 (13.18); Nina Lombardi, third in the 100 hurdles (17.74); Katherine Hiller, fifth in the 100 hurdles (18.70); and Tatyana Mitchell, third in the shot put (32-8).

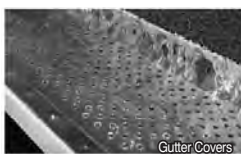
Lake Fenton had a winner and another individual top-five performer. Miranda Stephens won the pole vault (6-6), while Reagan Goupil placed fifth in the high jump (4-4).

Lake Fenton's boys had two individuals place in the top five. Mason Rinks placed second in the shot put (36-6), while Isaac Golson took fifth in the high jump (5-9).

Finally, Fenton's top male performer was Gregg Brennan placing fifth in the long jump (18-10).

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1920-2015

Beverly Lorraine Grantner - age 94, died May 9, 2015 at home, surrounded by



her family. Mass of Christian burial will be at St. Rita Catholic Church in Holly, MI on

Friday, May 15, 2015 at 11 AM with Father David Blazek celebrant. Visitation will be Thursday, May 14, 2015 from 2-5 PM and 7-9 PM with a Rosary at 7 PM. Cremation will follow the Mass. Our mom was born December 10, 1920 in Mt. Pleasant, MI the daughter of Dalton and Lida Rogers. She married Steve Grantner January 27, 1940 at St. Paul Catholic Church in Owosso. They lived in Flint and later Fenton for the past 50 years. She was a wonderful, loving and caring Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma, and Great-Great-Grandma. Her family was the center of her life. She was active in her church, the school, and held several part-time jobs but enjoyed working in the vineyard with our Dad the most. She was a great cook and homemaker. She bowled until she was 93 years old and was proud to have been a regular blood donor. Her favorite past time was playing cribbage (of which she held a perfect hand). She is pre-deceased by her husband Steve in 2008 and brother Walter Rathburn. Left to cherish her memory are children, Jerry (Joyce) Grantner, Diane (Jim) Ahearne, Marsha (Harry) Neminski, Mark (Sally) Grantner, Steve (Barb) Grantner, Patti (Craig) Rodgers, Susy (Tim) Alder, and Kathy (Ed) Fust; 26 grandchildren; a host of great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. She will be sadly missed by friends and family. Contributions can be made to St. Rita Catholic Church in her honor. www.dryerfuneral-homeholly.com.

Marilyn J. Fleischmann

1923-2015

Marilyn J. Fleischmann - age 91, of Fenton, died May 12, 2015 at Caretel



Inns of Linden. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM, Thursday, May 14, 2015 at

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton, MI. Fr. Dwight Ezop celebrant. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton Wednesday from 4-9 PM, where a vigil service will be held at 7 PM and at church Thursday from 10 AM until the time of Mass. In lieu of flowers, Marilyn wishes that contributions be made to St. John the Evangelist Outreach Program. Marilyn was born July 4, 1923 in Flint, the daughter of Orley and Alice (Blanchett) Hilsabeck. She graduated from Flint Northern High School in 1941. During WWII, she worked at AC Sparkplug in Flint. Marilyn became a cosmetologist, and after working in a friend's salon, eventually opened her own beauty shop. Her hobbies included dancing and reading. She married John E. Fleischmann on September 17, 1955. She is survived by her husband, John of Fenton; daughter, Joanna (James) Luce; grandsons, Jordan and Jonathan Luce of Houston, Texas; brother, Orley (Rosemary) Hilsabeck of Flushing; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Elwyn (Wanda) Hilsabeck of Flint and Lewis Hilsabeck of Flint. Marilyn and her family wish to give special thanks to Dr. Kazem Hak and his staff for the attentive care she has received over the years. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Pearl Anna Elston

1932-2015

Pearl Anna Elston - age 82, of Fenton, died Monday, May 11, 2015 at Henry



Ford Hospital. Services will be held 12:30 PM Thursday, May 14, 2015 at Trin-

ity Lutheran Church, 806 Main Street, Fenton with Reverend Dean Dumbille officiating. Interment will follow at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Visitation was held 6-9 PM Tuesday and will also be held 2-4 PM and 6-9 PM Wednesday at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Road, Fenton where a VFW Ladies Auxiliary Service will be held at 7 PM Wednesday evening. Visitation will also be held from 11:30-12:30 PM Thursday at the church. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to Trinity Lutheran Church Building Fund or the Fenton VFW Auxiliary Hospital Program. Mrs. Elston was born October 27, 1932 in Shell Lake, WI, the daughter of Louis and Martha (Belling) Jacobs. She married Lowell "Sam" Elston on February 26, 1953. She was a very involved member of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Fenton VFW Ladies Auxiliary. She was the past president and held all the chairs of both the Fenton VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the State of Michigan VFW Ladies Auxiliary. She also was active in Genesee County VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the National VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Pearl volunteered at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor and Fenton Healthcare. Surviving are: husband, Sam Elston; three sons, Daniel Elston of Holly, Dennis Elston of Flint and Keith (Jane) Elston of Fenton; three grandchildren, Trisha (Todd) Clough of West Bloomfield, Gregory (Melissa) Elston of Fenton, Louis Elston of Clarkston; four great-grandchildren, Isabella and Abigail Clough, Eva Douglas and Emery Elston; sister-in-law, Beth Brown; and her entire "family" at the VFW. She was preceded in death by: sister, Arlene Wright; four brothers, Melvin Jacobs, Merlin Jacobs, Eugene Jacobs, and Eldor Jacobs; sister-in-law, Sharon Jacobs. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituary page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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