

High liquor prices? Blame state, not store

■ Michigan one of 18 states that controls liquor

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

If you think you're paying too much for booze, it's not the store's fault — the state of Michigan sets the prices.

The signs seen at stores "State Minimum Price" means that Michigan is one of 18 states that controls or monopolizes the sale of spirits — meaning beer, wine and alcohol — and any business that sells these adult beverages is required to have a state liquor license and follow all of the Michi-

gan Liquor Control Commission's (MLCC) rules and regulations.

It is the mission of the MLCC to make alcoholic beverages available for consumption while protecting the consumer and the general public through regulation of those involved in the sale and

See **LIQUOR** on 6A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

FILE PHOTO

A selection of liquor bottles line the shelf at Locke's Party Shoppe in this 2013 file photo.



PAGE 5B
'IT'S A SELLER'S MARKET'
SPECIAL PAGES
GEARED TOWARD
REAL ESTATE

Weekend Times

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2012 - 2013 - 2014 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

Summer can start any time now

■ High lake levels have brought cooler temps, but warmer days are on their way

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

It's not just your imagination. The weather so far this summer has been a little chillier than normal, but not by much. That's the word from NBC-TV25 morning Meteorologist Ahmad Bajjey.

Average temperatures in late June are in the upper 70s and low 80s, while temperatures for the last few weeks have averaged in the low 70s. "We've actually been at normal temperatures until recently, give or take a few degrees," said Bajjey.

See **SUMMER** on 11A



Ahmad Bajjey
NBC-TV25
Meteorologist

Two mayors and a president

■ Area leaders provide overall assessment of their respective communities

As residents in the local communities prepare to celebrate Independence Day, the Tri-County Times decided this would be a great week for local leaders to address the residents of their communities.

The mayors of Fenton and Linden, and the Holly Village president have agreed to provide, in their own words, state of the community reports.

It is our hope that local municipal leaders will agree to provide their state of the community addresses annually, during the first week of July.

See **Fenton, Holly and Linden stories** on Page 9A.

Inaugural Shiawassee River Fest



See story and more photos on Page 12A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Brody Stack, 12, rides his Titanic-inspired cardboard boat during the box regatta at River Fest last Sunday. He was one of four who participated. There was also food, live music, crafts and kayaking.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Anna Tansey and niece Caroline, 2, look out over the east-facing view from a third-floor Cornerstone condo on Tuesday.

Three-quarters of Cornerstone condos sold

■ First resident has already moved into a two-bedroom unit

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Paul and Anna Tansey are a young professional couple who have most recently made their home in the heart of Manhattan in New York City. Having grown up in Milford, they were interested in moving back to Michigan when they heard

about the Cornerstone condominium development in Fenton on Monday night online.

They checked out a couple units on Tuesday, strolling through with mother Debbie Polkowski and sister Amelia Barrons. Her daughter Caroline, 2, ambled about the brand new spaces.

The Tanseys made an offer on a two-bedroom condo on Wednesday with Realtor

See **CONDOS** on 18A

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TEXT YOUR HOT LINE



“The individual who complained about the opinions expressed in the Hot lines is so wrong. We need the Times and the forum it provides us to express ourselves. Where else can we voice an opinion that is heard by tens of thousands of people? Thank you, Times.”



“Liberals paint anyone who does not agree with their agenda as being intolerant and full of hate. The truth is that they are hateful and intolerant of anyone who is not totally in agreement with their warped view of the world.”



“Donald Trump is the left's worst nightmare because he has no agenda other than saving America. He tells it like it is and shrugs off the lies and distortion of the corrupt media. He is spending his own money and is beholden to no one. Listen to him before judging.”



tctimes.com
COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“The Supreme Court is a joke. Its decisions are pre-determined due to appointments made over the last six years. Further, three of them are clearly exhibiting Alzheimers-like symptoms. Yeah, that's a good gang to have making complex decisions that affect all Americans.”



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Dangers of nighttime construction

■ Worker has seen it all — drunk drivers, crashes, angry motorists

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Giant excavators plunged into the ground at the I-75 interchange at University Drive in Auburn Hills, and Dan's Excavating has been working nights to complete the project. The bridge traffic is detoured, and the I-75 ramp will have intermittent closures.

Last week's goal: demolish the bridge.

Many people are angry when they're detoured and slowed because of the big, orange barrels alerting drivers of a construction zone. However, many people don't realize the danger of working that job, especially at night.

Dave Walt, 46, of Dan's Excavating, is the project superintendent for construction on this bridge. He's worked in construction for 28 years and has seen "just about everything," he said.

"Multiple fatalities, cars crashing and burning. Sometimes we find them in the morning driving the wrong way, running into a piece of equipment," Walt said. "I would say about 95 percent are alcohol-related."

Their personal protection gear consists of a helmet, safety vest, safety glasses, boots, jeans, and 6-inch sleeves. They wear a class-three safety vest at night, which has added sleeves, compared to a class-two safety vest worn during the day.

Lights are all around the construction site, which are hard on their eyes because they have to adjust.

Walt said the job is "absolutely" dangerous.

"We definitely want to be as safe as possible. You always have those unknowns," he said. "Say after the bars closing and we're demolishing. You get the bar traffic and they're not the smartest people on the road."

“Sometimes we find them in the morning driving the wrong way, running into a piece of equipment.”

Dave Walt
Dan's Excavating

See more
**NIGHTTIME
CONSTRUCTION
PHOTOS**
on 16A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

On Tuesday, June 23, crews with Dan's Excavating worked through the night demolishing the University Drive bridge at I-75 in Auburn Hills. Just 48 hours later, the bridge was gone. It's being replaced due to its deteriorating condition.

"You get more drunk drivers going the wrong way up ramps. I've seen quite a few accidents. It seems like during the night you get a lot more," Walt said. "Definitely a high-risk business."

This bridge is being constructed at night for longevity and for highway closures.

"Because they're looking out for longevity, a bridge deck can only be forged at night," Walt explained. The concrete and rebar lasts longer if it's poured in colder temperatures.

"An hour after sunset is when we can start pouring the bridge deck," Walt said. "Before the sun comes up, we've got to be done."

Walt said construction usually goes slower at night because of lane closures. They're closing parts of a highway at night for convenience. Since this current project requires demolishing a bridge, they need to close the highway.

No one wants to work nights, but Walt said there's a small incentive. "I think there's a 13-cent premium. It's real small," Walt said, adding that

they sometimes get free lunch.

"We don't like it. You have to go back between days and nights. It's hard to get acclimated," he said. "Your first couple days, everybody is a little groggy. It's hard to get your body to adjust."

"Nobody particularly chooses to work at night," he said. "So many unique things happen, you don't really get surprised. You just roll with the punches. So many fatalities, so many crashes. It just kind of comes with the territory."

Work Zone Fatalities

2014.....	Not available
2013.....	105 workers killed
2012.....	133 workers killed
2011.....	122 workers killed
2010.....	106 workers killed

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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CONTACT INFORMATION

General Office 810-629-8282	Hot Line 810-629-9221
Advertising 810-629-8281	Fax 810-629-9227
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Welcome to the New America

Well, in case you missed it, we are now officially living in the New America. An America much like Superman's Bizarro World where everything is backwards from what it historically was. Where good is evil and evil is good.

■ **In the New America**, government is taking the place of God, especially with young people. The new Lord's Prayer begins with 'Our father who art in Washington...'

■ **In the New America**, over 40 percent of all births are to unmarried women. An astonishing 72 percent of black births are to single mothers. This means that half of our future citizens will be career welfare recipients who will be permanently suckling on the government's teat, not their mother's — from the cradle to the grave.

■ **In the New America**, leaders are not

elected based on their experience or past accomplishments; leaders are elected based on their popularity to college students, immigrants, welfare recipients, Hollywood celebrities, late-night comedians and college professors.

■ **In the New America**, our leaders recognize that the best way to stay elected is to purchase votes by creating more and more entitlements. Politicians routinely promise free things to certain citizens in exchange for their vote — all subsidized by our tax dollars.

■ **In the New America**, the old values and tenets do not exist. Everyone is entitled to do whatever they wish with little or no accountability. One may well define a pound as 12 or 20 ounces, depending upon whether you are the buyer or the seller.

By Foster Childs



“In the New America, our ignorant youth don't know who the Vice President is, but can tell you every detail of a dancing kitten video on youtube.”

youth don't know who the Vice President is, but can tell you every detail of a dancing kitten video on YouTube.

■ **In the New America**, greed and envy of the successful are fostered by the media and politicians. ■ **In the New America**, the media, in all forms, have completely abandoned any pretense of integrity. They have become pawns of the liberal left, corrupting their coverage through outright lies, deceit and omission.

I personally don't like the New America as much as I liked the Old America. In my opinion, it signals the end of the American dream, and more importantly, the end of America.

Celebrate our freedom? Hell, we're not free. We are being enslaved by our own government.

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.

MOST CONSERVATIVES SIMPLY go about their lives. Why do liberals feel they have to flaunt, screech and scream about their private matters? Most of America has zero interest in your personal preferences, the same as you should have for ours. Thank you.

■ **ONLY ONE THING** to say about Friday's Supreme Court decision, 'Woe to those who call evil good and good evil.' Also, it's still not a marriage — no matter what any court says.

■ **IN OUR CIVILIZED** society, I think it's time we do away with the NAACP, the congressional black caucus, black history month, black universities and schools, and Black Entertainment Television. I find all of these offensive and racist.

■ **IF YOU WANT** to know what the future holds for the USA, just read the book "Atlas Shrugged." It's interesting, entertaining and dead-on accurate.

■ **FOUR TENTS SELLING** fireworks on Silver Parkway, and nearly every night it sounds like mortars going off near Silver Lake Road and Lake Ponemah. What about the three-day usage law?

■ **THE UNION WORKER** who was upset because Obama signed the trade agreements should also remember that Clinton signed NAFTA. Republicans should also remember that their representatives provided the votes for passage. These are not free-trade agreements. They are the foundation for global government.

■ **YES, YOU ARE** right. For me, it is so irritating when someone is coming onto U.S. 23 from an entrance, just to go a few feet and get back off again. Then, we are waiting for them to make up their mind so we don't hit them. Unsafe.

■ **I'M STARTING TO** think the saying and signs that say 'Black Lives Matter' are racist. I mean, shouldn't they read 'All Lives Matter' including black lives? Don't we all matter?

■ **SOMEONE RECENTLY ASKED** why they had to show their credit card when renting something from a store. It has to do with the fact that if someone is not honest and fails to return the item, they have recourse to get the rental fee from your credit card company.

■ **SCOTUS-CARE, YOUR** health insurance is now guaranteed to become even more expensive and limited. SCOTUS-marriage

— churches will soon lose tax exemption, muzzle pastors and blackout Bible passages. Like our 'fundamental transformation' so far?

■ **SCOUT BOOK — WOULD** the kind person who found my son's Boy Scout book on Silver Lake Road on June 15 please contact me so we can recover it? Thank you. Email dcusson@ingham.org.

■ **DON'T WANT MOSQUITO** spraying at your home? Call APM at (877) 276-4714. City of Fenton will not notify them. You have to call. The city needs to quit wasting money. It doesn't work anyway, only harms.

■ **REPUBLIC AND FENTON** Township, take back your ugly eyesore blue trash cans. Black or brown would have been nice, they're not so noticeable. People store cans at the side of a house, or in front of their garages instead of inside them.

■ **GOOD RIDDANCE, IB.** The majority of parents, teachers, and students are solidly against it. I'm glad a few weren't able to influence the school board.

■ **TO THE PERSON/persons** building the beautiful home, please reconsider your color choice. The color you chose is not the best choice. Sorry.

■ **HAPPY IN FENTON** Township to finally have the trash/recycle bins. See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

What are your thoughts on Donald Trump as presidential candidate?

streettalk



"Yes, because he must know what he is doing, he made millions and he would be good for the country."

Bobby Bidwell
Fenton Township



"He is candid, intelligent, and I don't believe he hides his opinion and what we have now isn't working so who knows."

Mary McAuliffe
Fenton Township



"I don't think he has enough knowledge and he is arrogant and that turns people away."

Elaine Roberts
Linden



"He has the same opportunities as everyone else and if he has the credentials then I don't mind seeing him run."

Elias Ybarra
Davison



"As of right now I feel like he is a good option because he is a business man and America is a business."

Holly Wilt
Fenton



"He is not in touch with the majority of the American people and he doesn't have enough experience working in partnership instead of being the boss."

Kristin Wolf, Genoa Twp.

Ongoing land feud continues

■ Battle between Holly Township and Smiths rages on

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The land battle between Holly Township and Timm and Maria Smith, which has been ongoing for several years, has taken another turn.

On May 6, Holly Township filed a complaint with the Oakland County Circuit Court, asking the court to order that the Smiths bring the property at 1031 South Holly Rd. into compliance. Alleged blight on the property and the Smiths continuing to live inside a travel trailer on their wooded 10 acres of property between South Holly Road and the Shiawassee River, are among the township's complaints.

For three years, County Commissioner Bob Hoffman has advocated for the Smiths. Hoffman and the Smiths have said numerous times that they believe that the township is illegally trying to take the Smiths' property that has frontage on the Shiawassee River.

Five years after the Smiths filed their original lawsuit with Holly Township regarding the ownership of a 10-acre portion of the 20-acre S. Holly Road property the Smiths once entirely owned is currently under re-appeal. A legal land split of the parcel was never performed, and the Smiths still maintain that the mortgage on the 10-acre parcel on which they defaulted in 2008 was unperfected. Additionally, the entire 20-acre parcel is landlocked, and is unable to be legally split, the Smiths argue.

On June 3, for reasons not specified in her request, the judge who has been presiding over the Holly Township v. Smiths cases, Colleen O'Brien, disqualified herself.

On June 12, the Smiths filed a counter complaint in the Oakland County Circuit Court in response to the township's complaint. The case has been reassigned to Circuit Court Michael Warren, but a new court date has not yet been scheduled.

The Smiths want this to end, and have a chance to live on their property peacefully and eventually build another home.

Over the past couple of years, the Smiths have been accused of being drug



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Timm and Maria Smith explain the situation with their property back in November. At the time, they were blocking the township from cutting off power to the property.

dealers, a claim dismissed by the Michigan State Police. They were also turned in to Child Protective Services for neglect and abuse of their children, a claim also dismissed by CPS.

“They will never ever be able to put a park there.”

Bob Hoffman
Oakland County
commissioner

Because of his past real estate title company experience, George Kullis, who has previously served on the Holly Village Council, was asked by Hoffman last year to accompany him when documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act were obtained.

“It amazes me that this thing keeps going on and on,” said Kullis.

Kullis said he can't get away from a note he read among those documents, written by Code Enforcement Officer Roger Welch to then-Supervisor Jesse Lambert. In it, Welch tells Lambert that the township can “finally realize its dream” of a park. That statement is in the complaint filed by the Smiths.

“That shows intent,” said Kullis. “The township accepted property via a quit claim that never went before the Board of Trustees. They never voted to accept that property. The township never needed to get involved.”

Hoffman said the property owned by the township is landlocked and can never be split. “They will never ever be able to put a park there,” he said last week. “They (Smiths) have the truth and the law on their side,” Hoffman said.

See **LAND FEUD** on 7A

Former trustee speaks out

Janet Leslie served on the Holly Township Board of Trustees in November 2008, and was re-elected to that position four years later in November 2012. She resigned in February 2013 to relocate to the Lansing area.

“I first heard of the Smith case when it was presented in a closed session special meeting of the Holly Township Board of Trustees. At that time, the 10 acres in question had already been signed over to the township. While I can't talk about what was discussed at that meeting, I can say what ‘wasn't’ discussed.

See **SPEAKS** on 7A



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: I have a 2009 Chevy Impala. When I turn the A/C on and then turn it off, I hear a flapping noise right where the A/C vents are. Can you tell me what it might be?

- Marie

A: Marie, this sounds like a loose or disconnected blend door. I have looked for any service bulletins or related issues in our information system and found none. This may be something you have to have looked at by a repair shop with a bore scope or something similar to find the cause.

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12793 (11-12)

“Why all the household dust?”

For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been improving the community’s health one household at a time. “Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than the air outdoors,” explained Keith Meadows, Power Vac Owner and Operator. “More than 90% of the phone calls I receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes. They tell me they will dust the house Friday, but by Sunday it needs to be done again, and they’re not sure where these dust piles are coming from. Let me tell you, you’re not a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household. The reason for the dust is your cold air returns. You see, cold air returns suck in dirty air. Over time it builds up in your ducts until the debris resembles what you would find in your vacuum bag.”

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

“Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners experience excessive dust. While work was being done in the home, your cold air returns sucked all the dust through the system. It settled on the bottom of the duct lines and little by little, that debris is being blown back into your home,” Keith continued. “Here’s a test. Take a walk down into your basement, and look up at the ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional.

“This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would vacuum your car with. Then there are

companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck.”

Want to see the difference between our equipment and portable or truck-mounted equipment? Visit our website at www.callpowervac.com

“The Power Vac truck is the most powerful equipment in the industry,” Keith explained. “Simply put, the entire truck is the vacuum, and the truck motor powers the equipment. You’ll know it’s a Power Vac truck because it’s the size of an ambulance and when engaged, 12 large air bags come out of the roof.

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

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

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

Changes made for trash, recyclables

■ Fenton Township residents using new wheeled carts, now recycle every other week

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Some Fenton Township residents might have noticed that their new recycling cart was not emptied this week. This is because the collection of recycling materials is being done every other week. Based on the color-coded map, which was attached to each new recycling cart, recyclables will be picked up on either the odd or even garbage collection dates.

Republic Services and Fenton Township made these changes in the trash and recycling system for the township. Beginning on June 15, residents started receiving their new 95-gallon trash and recycling bins. The recycling carts have a light blue lid, while the trash cart has a dark blue lid.

Collection days will stay the same, however, recycling materials are being picked up every other week. Yard waste collection will not change.

Fenton Township went with these new, wheeled carts as a way for residents to conveniently recycle more items. With the attached lids, it is believed that there would be less litter falling from garbage bags and trash cans with no lids.

An informational packet was attached to each container. Residents are advised to read the entire list of items acceptable, and not acceptable for recycling. They are also advised to find their neighborhood on the color-coded map to determine which week to place their recycling cart at the curb.

If anyone has further questions, they can call Republic Services at 1-888-872-7455. To view the map and other information, go to www.fentontownship.org.



SUMMARY

■ Fenton Township residents have begun using their new 95-gallon carts for trash and recyclables.

LIQUOR

Continued from Front Page

distribution of these alcohol beverage products.

All businesses licensed to sell spirits must order all of their liquor online from the state of Michigan.

There are only three authorized distribution agents (ADAs) in the state.

All licensees are prohibited from purchasing beer, wine or spirits from unauthorized sources, and all retail licensees must buy beer and wine from their designated licensed wholesalers.

Hard liquor must be purchased from the state and delivered by an ADA, with one exception. An on-premise licensee, one where alcohol is consumed in the establishment like a bar or restaurant, can buy up to 9 liters of liquor from a retail licensee per month.

Licensees also must comply with state and federal tax requirements on the retail sale of alcoholic beverages. The federal tax is \$13.50 for each proof gallon.

In Michigan, the sales tax is computed on top of the shelf price for liquor shown in the MLCC price list for off-premises licensees, or retailer. The sales tax cannot be included in the shelf price or the advertised price, but is collected from the consumer at the time of the retail sale.

The Michigan tax on liquor includes 4 percent distributed to the School Aid Fund, 4 percent to the General Fund and 4 percent to

the Conventional Facility Development Fund.

According to michigan.gov, in 1985, the Michigan Legislature passed two laws to help promote tourism and economic development in Michigan. Specifically, a statewide 4-percent liquor excise tax, and a Detroit tri-county accommodations (hotel/motel) tax to be distributed to qualified local governments for convention facility development.

The liquor and accommodations taxes became effective Oct. 1, 1985. Both the 4-percent liquor excise and accommodations taxes sunset on Dec. 31, 2015, meaning it will cease to have effect unless further legislative action is taken to extend the law.

Sample from Liquor Control Price List

Brand Name	SMIRNOFF 100
Type	VODKA
Proof	100
Bottle Size	1750 ML
Pack Size	006
Base Price	\$26.78
Less Licensee Discount	\$4.55
Plus Specific Taxes	\$3.21
On Premise Price	\$25.44
Plus Off Premise Tax	\$0.00
Off Premise Price	\$25.44
Plus Licensee Profit	\$4.55
Minimum Shelf Price	\$29.99

Source: http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/lcc_code/sr_lcc.asp

Liquor control around the U.S.

The 18 states that control or monopolize beer, wine and/or liquor sales as of February 2015 are: Alabama, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. Michigan, West Virginia and Wyoming are the only three of these states that do not operate retail outlets, but maintain a monopoly over wholesaling of distilled spirits only.

Source: amazon.com

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LOOKING BACK at this week IN LOCAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

5 years ...

Sunday, July 11, 2010

Roundabouts – the positive side. The modern roundabout along Main Street in Brighton has prompted local interest. The Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is working with consultants, who are studying downtown Fenton to see if a similar design would be feasible here.

10 years ...

Sunday, July 11, 2005

Consumers Energy land deal remains undecided. Safety of nearby residents is the primary reason the sale of some city land to Consumers Energy for a new substation is still on hold. Consumers Energy Area Manager Kevin Keane spoke to council members at great length about the safety of electromagnetic transmission fields. But several council members, including Mayor Sue Osborn, were not convinced and wanted more time to review the situation.

15 years ...

Sunday, July 9, 2000

Voters will decide 'home rule' issue. The Michigan Municipal League has successfully spearheaded an effort to get the Home Rule issue on the November ballot. Those in favor of the proposal believe that local cities, villages, townships, counties and municipal authorities have the right to make their own laws, rather than apply statewide legislation enacted without regard for local needs or resources.

20 years ...

Sunday, July 9, 1995

Rose Twp. mobile home park hearing still on. A public hearing to consider a proposed development, which includes a 240-acre mobile home subdivision in Rose Township, is still set to go. During the hearing, residents will be able to comment on the request by Country Homes, Inc. of Grand Blanc. Some area residents oppose the plan and petitions have been circulating in the Rose Township area.

25 years ...

Sunday, July 5, 1990

Conduct problem in campground. Several residents around Lake Ponemah attended the Fenton Township board meeting Monday to express their concerns of the expansion and operation of a lakeside campground. Residents are upset over the noise from the campground, uncontrolled and open burning, wetlands being filled in along with other problems. They asked the township board to take action to either eliminate or control the growth of the campground.

30 years ...

Sunday, July 7, 1985

City faces suit. Parents of deaf youth claim injustice. The parents of a deaf youth have announced plans to file a civil lawsuit against the city of Fenton. The suit stems from last Sunday's arrest of the 17-year-old boy for possession of marijuana. His parents contend he was never read his rights or granted his request for an interpreter to explain the charges to him before being arrested, fingerprinted, booked and detained.

Police&Fire

report

DON'T LEAVE CARS IN ROAD AFTER PARADE

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro is reminding residents and visitors that following the Fourth of July Parade on Saturday, residents and visitors who have parked their vehicles along the parade route must remove them. He said the police department is doing this as a safety/security precaution. Vehicles left behind following the parade will be towed at the owner's expense.

LAND FEUD

Continued from Page 5A

As far as blight, Kullis said there is blight everywhere and asks why Holly Township is focused on that particular piece of property. "You can't see it from the road," Kullis said. "Why is blight on this property what Roger Welch is focused on? There are dozens of properties in the township right now that are blighted and you can see them from the road.

Since December of last year, the Smiths maintain that they have diligently cleaned up the property. "The only thing remaining on the property now is building materials and necessary farming equipment," Maria Smith said. "I wish the people of the township would show up at township meetings to see what the officials are trying to get away with," Timm Smith added. "There needs to be more community awareness – this stuff shouldn't be happening."

Another thing that bothers Kullis, he said, is the title insurance policy FOIA'd from the township, the fact that it's "all blacked out."

"Why is it blacked out? What do they have to hide?" he asked.

Timm Smith said, "The township has affected my health and the wellbeing of my family mentally, physically, emotionally, financially, spiritually and all but destroyed my belief in American government.

"In all that has happened, our children got the short end of the stick," he added. "They were robbed of their childhood and the devoted time of their parents. Their future has been stolen, too."

"Everyone knows that it is inappropriate to comment on pending litigation and the township will not try the case in the media or at township board meetings," said Clerk Karin Winchester. "However, it is important to note Mr. and Mrs. Smith had been asked several times to re-mediate their zoning and building violations and they refused. The township had no other choice but to file court action just as we would do with any resident with violations of a significant magnitude. The court divided the property to properly resolve the property issues as ordered by the court of appeals

"The Smiths counter-sued the township's violations complaint on the same counts that have already been litigated through the Circuit Court and the Court of Appeals," Winchester added. "The courts have ruled in favor of Holly Township on all counts to date. We are 100-percent confident that the court will rule on behalf of the township again. The truth always prevails."

SPEAKS

Continued from Page 5A

How the property landed in the hands of the township was not fully explained. It was not until County Commissioner Bob Hoffman made a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request months later revealing the contents of emails between code enforcer Roger Welch and three of the five members of the Holly Township Board of Trustees, (Treasurer) Mark Freeman, (Clerk) Karin Winchester, and (Supervisor) Jesse Lambert. It was revealed that the township had been actively involved with the bank that previously owned it.

These emails revealed a back story of Code Enforcer Roger Welch charging the bank large fees for code infractions while Treasurer Mark Freeman had at least one conversation with the bank indicating that the township may have interest in obtaining the property.

"This is where I take exception with the township's actions. The treasurer did not have permission from the Board of Trustees to make such a suggestion to the bank, nor am I aware of any other case where the township has made such a suggestion to any other property owner.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE STATE HAS (had) an interest in marriage because traditional natural heterosexual unions are the only ones which can biologically produce tomorrow's citizenry. The argument 'people who love each other should be able to marry' is troubling. If that's the case, bigamy and incest are knocking on the door.

THE SUPREME COURT decision on same sex marriage disavowed thousands of years of beliefs by Christians and Jews about marriage. Now this gets Americans to choose between God and their government. This decision will mark the end of civilization as we know it.

WHAT DID YOU expect? When you make a constitutional law major, the President may interpret the constitution differently. In fact, he may want to rewrite it with the help of Justice Roberts of the Supreme Court. The Roman Empire will fall before we can elect someone to save us.



IT'S A GOOD thing that religion is a personal relationship between an individual and whomever they believe in. America cannot go to hell as a country, only the individuals within.

WOW, FIRST MACY'S bends to the whiny left just because a presidential candidate gave his honest opinion. This country needs that. Now Happyland cancels Dukes of Hazard. What is wrong with you people?

"I believe that Freeman was at this time aware that the 10 acres in question was only part of the larger 20-acre parcel, which means that Treasurer Freeman willingly involved the township in a case of an improperly divided parcel.

"Based on the content of the emails, it seems likely that Welch, Winchester, and Lambert were also aware that the 10 acres was not a whole parcel. They must have known prior to expressing an interest to the bank that, in order to derive any value for the township from the property, they would have to obtain the other 10 acres.

"The only way to do this would be to spend taxpayer money, either by purchasing the other 10 acres and/or through legal action. This seems like a huge risk to take with the taxpayers' money, especially for a purpose that was never approved by their elected representatives."

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STARTING FRI JULY 9

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***@3D MINIONS: REALD 3D (PG)**
 THUR 6:05 10:35
***SELF/LESS (PG13)**
 THUR 7:00 9:45 12:05
***THE GALLOWES (R)**
 THUR 7:00 9:15 12:05

CONTINUING

***@TERMINATOR: GENISYS:
AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG13)**
***MAGIC MIKE XXL (R)**
***FAITH OF OUR FATHERS (PG13)**
***@3D TERMINATOR: GENISYS:
REALD 3D (PG13)**
***2D TERMINATOR: GENISYS (PG13)**
***TED 2 (R)**
***MAX (PG)**
DOPE (R)
***@3D INSIDE OUT: REALD 3D (PG)**
2D INSIDE OUT (PG)
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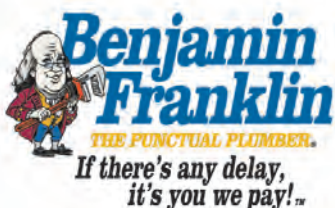
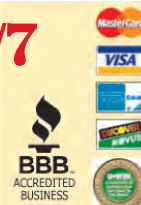
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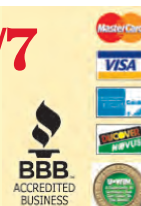
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STATE OF THE...



City of Fenton

By Mayor Sue Osborn
Fenton City Council

The city of Fenton continues to be a bright spot in the Michigan economy. We are not without problems and challenges but we are blessed with a beautiful community in a great location that is a place where people desire to live, work and do business.



City of Fenton
Mayor
Sue Osborn

Add to that excellent schools, great neighbors, dedicated city employees, active businesses, and wonderful recreation opportunities and we have the makings for a really bright future.

The city of Fenton finances are stable. We adopted a balanced budget for 2015-16. City revenues have declined over \$1 million since the recent economic downturn. Though we have experienced an increase in economic activity, our revenues have not returned to pre-recession levels. This is due in a large part to the Headlee Amendment and the implementation of Proposal A.

The loss of revenue has forced us to make reductions so spending was in line with our revenues. The city manager and the city council carefully reviewed every aspect of our budget to eliminate things we could not continue to fund. Employees took a pay freeze and retirees were not replaced. Our workforce is still about 20 percent below the 2007 level. We re-evaluated health insurance and switched to different plans. Employees stepped up to the plate to help the city with the various problems and they made needed concessions.

Taking these measures saved the city from a financial crisis, helped stabilize city finances and placed the city in a position to take advantage of the economic recovery.

We are very fortunate to have the employees we have here in the city of Fenton. Their hearts are in the city, too, so if you have the opportunity, please tell them how much they are appreciated.

The city has enjoyed several achievements over the past year, that total more than \$50 million in projects.

See FENTON on 17A



City of Linden

By Mayor David Lossing
Linden City Council

We are proud of our city and are looking forward to a bright future full of exciting events, beneficial improvements, and productive collaborations. Whether you are visiting our community, opening a business, or looking for a place to call home, Linden remains a great place to live, learn, work, and play.



City of Linden
Mayor
David Lossing

The city of Linden was recently pronounced in good financial shape after completing its fiscal year 2013-2014 audit and the fiscal year 2015-2016 annual budgetary process.

The city's fund balance is more than 40 percent of general expenditures. The Government Finance Officers Association recommends a minimum ratio of between 25 and 30 percent, which Linden has been able to exceed.

Additionally, the city predicts an increase in revenues for the upcoming fiscal year, partially stemming from an increase in area property values.

We are confident the city of Linden will remain fiscally stable, while continually providing the highest quality services to our residents and business owners.

These accomplishments can be attributed to the mayor, city council, and the city administration consciously working together to maintain a healthy fund balance through proper fiscal planning and proactive decision-making.

Maintaining fiscal health and developing fiscal priorities can be a challenging process and that sometimes involves making difficult choices. We look forward to continually rising to this challenge.

Over the past year, Linden has been successful in implementing its infrastructure improvement plans and preparing for the future. This included conducting a Road Assessment Survey to prepare for our multi-year Road Improvement Plan, which provides for routine maintenance, paving, repaving, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of our roads.

See LINDEN on 17A



Village of Holly

By President Ryan Bladzick
Holly Village Council

There has never been a greater time to be in the village of Holly. It has been an honor to serve the community as village president since 2013, and I say with confidence and pride that things are not only looking up for Holly, they are moving up.



Village of Holly
President
Ryan Bladzick

From our booming historical Main Street to new growth all over town, it's little wonder that Holly has been rated one of the best small towns in Michigan to raise a family.

Our energy, progress and prosperity is not just the result of one or a few people. Holly is fortunate to have a leadership team that shares the vision of achieving our potential

by encouraging engagement and proactively addressing problems. Our Village Council has a fantastic relationship with Village Manager Jerry Walker and Clerk/Treasurer Cathy Behrens, as well as the administration and staff. Moreover, we have dozens of passionate, dedicated volunteers serving on boards, committees, and civic groups that are really making things happen in the village.

Our financial position is continuing to grow strong after surviving through the recent recession. Again, in 2015, we have been able to not only approve a budget that restored some cut services and resources, but we did it with a modest decrease in our tax rate.

Our bond ratings have increased, indicating confidence in our fiscal management. More significantly, we have worked with our financial partners over the past several years to refinance our bonds, yielding a savings of more than \$1 million to our water customers over the next 10 years.

Throughout Holly, business is booming. Our historic downtown district has had been at nearly full capacity for the past year with very little turnover, and our Planning Commission has had no shortage of work with reviews of plans for additions, renovations and new projects throughout town.

See HOLLY on 17A



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HOT LINE CONTINUED

I DO NOT mind the large trash bins. What I don't like is you can't recycle everything that we used to. I always had more recyclables than trash. Thanks Fenton Township for adding even more to our landfills.

ALL OVER THE world, regardless of race or religion, discrimination exists and leads to fear, hate, violence and war. It's time for some of you to evolve and join the human race.

WHY SHOULD WE get excited with our stock market because Greece is going into bankruptcy? We're \$17 trillion in debt, so we're going to be next. Most of us can't write \$17 trillion on a piece of paper. Bet money on it.

THE LIBERAL FOOLS who are destroying America are winning simply because conservatives are letting them. Who knows what their next perverted agenda is going to be? Wake up patriots, before 239 years of work is all gone.

MOTORCYCLISTS, PLEASE BE careful. We are doing our best to watch out for you but many of you are not looking out for yourselves. A group of bikes passed me on the right while I was waiting to make a left. Being on a bike does not give you added privileges, folks.

THE SACRAMENT OF marriage is just that, a sacrament. Created by God and his church, not by the U.S. government. The Supreme Court should not be deciding on something that wasn't created in the government.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Art Walk isn't just art for sale — there is also music, and live art being produced on the street.

Fenton Art Walk is July 11

■ Event-goers will decorate donated fishing poles along Shiawassee River

The already scenic view of the Shiawassee River in the Fenton Community & Cultural Center's backyard will be even more eye-catching during the Fenton Art Walk, July 11. Fishing poles will be vertically mounted along the riverbank for event-goers to decorate, creating an avant garde art installation

in celebration of the river.

This unique attraction is the brainchild of Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation Director Vince Paris, whose goal for his organization's contribution to the event is to engage the community with the Shiawassee River through art. "The fishing poles are going to become an interactive art project along the meander of the river, and each pole will take on an artistic personality that each participant puts into it," Paris said.

Southern Lakes is asking that community members donate old, broken, and unwanted fishing poles in order to make this activity a success. Poles can be dropped off in SLPR's office in the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

A variety of other interactive art activities will line the Shiawassee riverbank from LeRoy Street to the bridge behind the community tennis courts, including a clay sculpture station, river species illustration, sidewalk chalk drawing, and two additional community art concepts.

Participants will get to throw balloons full of paint at a wooden canvas to contribute to an abstract piece of art. This activity was a success at the 2014 Fenton Art Walk. Event-goers will also be able to paint a three-dimensional abstract sculpture with long paintbrushes.

The Fenton Art Walk will take place Saturday, July 11 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and feature fine art displayed inside local businesses and the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The juried art show will include prizes for fine art and the Artzy Hat Prize Competition. An opening reception will be held Friday, July 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

Paris hopes that the Fenton Art Walk will help to highlight the Fenton Community & Cultural Center, including its river walk, as an arts and cultural destination. "The river is part of the Cultural Center. A center is not a building," Paris said. "A center is a place, an environment, a feeling you get."

The Fenton Art Walk is funded by the city of Fenton Downtown District Authority and organized by the Lakes Area Arts Council, with the Fenton Community & Cultural Center and Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation as collaborators. For more information, visit www.FentonBeCloser.com.

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, you can approve or disapprove of key votes by your legislators using the VoteSpotter smart phone app. This report was released Friday, June 26.

Senate Bill 305: Preempt local knife regulations

To preempt local government ordinances or rules on the transportation, possession, carrying, sale, purchase, manufacturing, etc. of a knife or knife-making components. A similar preemption restricts local gun regulations.

Passed 27 to 10 in the Senate

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Dist. 14):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES

Senate Bill 351: Ban divorce lawyer "ambulance chasing"

To prohibit a lawyer from soliciting business from a party to a divorce action within 21 days of its initiation, punishable by fines of \$1,000, and \$5,000 for subsequent violations.

Passed 36 to 2 in the Senate

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Dist. 14):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES

House Bill 4470: Increase food business license fees

To increase various state license fees imposed on food establishments including grocery stores, warehouses, processors, etc. This is projected to extract an additional \$2.5 million annually from food-related businesses.

Passed 21 to 17 in the Senate

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Dist. 14):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES

Passed 79 to 30 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES

Senate Bill 69: Extend business job training subsidy program

To extend until 2023 the sunset on a 2008 law that authorized state job training subsidies for particular employers, provided through community colleges. Also, to revise details of a minimum wage condition on the subsidies. The House removed a provision prohibiting the beneficiary companies from also collecting certain other state subsidies and tax breaks. A Senate-passed bill would eliminate an \$50 million annual debt cap on the program.

Passed 104 to 5 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES

Correction

In the Sunday, June 28 story, "Can't get to the Fenton post office?" the Times inadvertently left Goin' Postal off the list of USPS drop-off locations. Goin' Postal, owned by Mike Clabuesch and Lucia Valeriano, is located at 1421 North LeRoy St., in Fenton.

RUNNERS AND WALKERS WELCOME TO FENTON

Bastille Day 15K Run and 5K Run/Walk

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Saturday, July 11, 2015



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dave Bard of Fenton paddles his cardboard boat, named "Charon" successfully down the river, traveling the furthest. The 250 yards of duct tape helped keep it afloat.

Fun afloat at inaugural River Fest

■ Shiawassee River Fest brings fun, awareness to river with activities, crafts, food, classic rock

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton — Frederick Smith of Fenton made it all the way around the first two bends of the river. He passed under willow trees and around logs in his cardboard box before he finally gave in, the box filling with water, tossing him slowly backward into the Shiawassee River.

He got to his feet to the applause of a small audience on shore. He was one of four who slapped together their best dubious floating box of cardboard and made it as far as they could before the water finally won. To be fair, in two cases the boxes reached the end of the course, and were actually thorough in their designs.

The Cardboard Box Regatta was just one part of the inaugural Shiawassee River Fest, held all day at Bush Park in Fenton on Sunday. It wasn't really about winning, it was clearly about fun, and also about raising awareness for the river.

The Shiawassee River and its watershed touch five counties, traveling from Holly in Oakland County all the way up to Saginaw in a northwest arc. It connects Fenton, Linden and Holly literally, and as The Keepers of the Shiawassee wanted to illustrate — the river is a recreational



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Aiden Dunker, 11, roughhouses in the river with Mikayla Kurmas, 12, and her brother Tristan, 11, (right) on Sunday during the Shiawassee River Fest.

gem in the tri-county area.

The festival, attended by around 1,100 all day, is planned to be an annual event. Which is a good thing because after watching the four cardboard boxes make it down the river, other kids wanted in on the action.

Recreation was demonstrated in the form of kayaks making a short circuit around the part, and a group from Silver Spray Sports demonstrating stand up paddleboards.

Classic rock music floated across the crowds enjoying the perfect summer weather on lawn chairs, and others perused the craft tents or grabbed a bite to eat. Kids played on the nearby playground. While there were many options, Sunday afternoon at Bush Park was really all about the river.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Kayaks were available to try out during Shiawassee River Fest on Sunday.

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TRIVIA BASEBALL

Q Who was Pete Gray?

Pete Gray became the first, and only to this date, MLB position player to compete with just one arm. He played for the St. Louis Browns in 1945, batting .218.

A

Lloyd captures HM All-State honors

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

John Lloyd's prep golf career ranks among the best in school history.

And now it's going to end with a deserving exclamation mark. The 2015 Fenton graduate recently captured Division 2 All-State Honorable Mention honors.

"It was a career that I can definitely look back and be proud of," Lloyd said. "You can't win them all and

every day is different. That's where consistency comes into play and I'm very proud of my consistency."

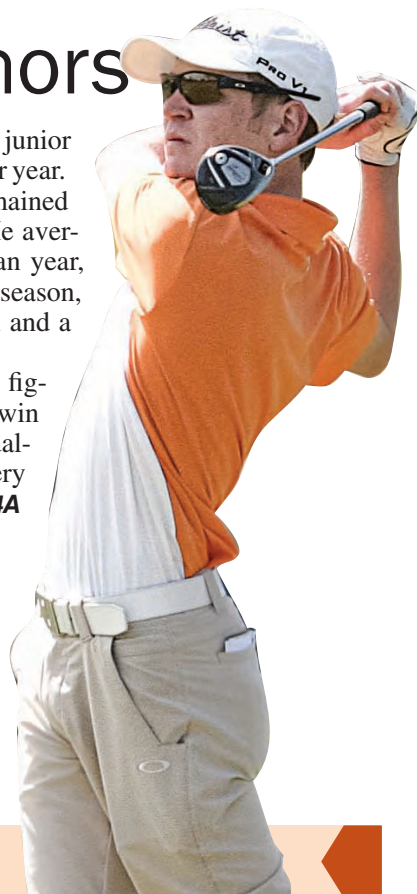
Lloyd was remarkably consistent during his prep career. He held a career 38.35 nine-hole average and a career 76.86 18-hole average during his Tigers' career. Lloyd got better with each golf season.

He started his career with a 40.1 nine-hole average and gradually got better, averaging a 38.0 his sopho-

more season, a 38.25 his junior year and a 37.0 his senior year. His 18-hole average remained downright consistent. He averaged a 77.7 his freshman year, a 77.75 his sophomore season, a 74.7 his junior season and a 77.4 this season.

During his career he figured out a way to either win or be in the hunt for medalist honors just about every

See LLOYD on 14A



JOHN LLOYD

Honorable Mention All-State golfer from Fenton

Times

SUNDAY,
JULY 5, 2015
PAGE 13A

Sports

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Did you miss a story. Go to tctimes.com and find it.

FENTON & LINDEN LACROSSE CAMP SCHEDULED IN JULY

The Fenton/Linden lacrosse team will run a lacrosse camp at Fenton High School starting on every Monday and Thursday beginning on July 13th and ending on July 30th. It will be held from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on each day. The camp is open to all students from the seventh-grade to high school players. The camp requires players to bring all necessary equipment. The camp will be run by Fenton/Linden High School coaches Stan Orzel and Aaron Kersten. The cost of the camp is \$30 for the pinnie. Contact Orzel at (810) 750-0772 or Kersten at (810) 845-5996 for more information or to register.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACES RETURN JULY 8

The Wednesday Night Races return to Linden County Park on July 8 and will continue every Wednesday through July 22.

There are races ranging from one-half mile to three miles. They are open to runners of any age. The half-mile race starts at 6:30 p.m. The two- and three-mile races begin at 7 p.m. The cost is \$2 a person.

Some teams have never left Top 16

■ We honor our three most consistent squads while continuing our poll

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

With each installment of our 2014-15 Tri-County Top 16 Poll, we like to start with a couple neat trivia tidbits or comments.

This installment isn't any exception.

This time we thought we'd honor the three programs that have earned a spot in the top 16 in each of the seven polls we've created.

Those teams are the Holly boys tennis team, the Fenton varsity volleyball squad and the Linden boys cross country team.

Out of the three, the Linden boys cross country team is the only squad to truly compete for the top spot. In fact, the Eagles have earned it three of first six years. Where they'll finish this year still hasn't been revealed. Meanwhile, the highest the Fenton volleyball team has reached is sixth, and the highest the Holly boys have gotten is ninth.

On the other side of the spectrum, all three programs have come dangerously close to not



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
FILE PHOTOS

(Top) The Linden varsity girls soccer team captured a Metro League championship and finished No. 12 in our 2014-15 Tri-County Top 16 Poll. (Left) Trent Hillger and the rest of the Lake Fenton wrestling team placed 10th.

making the top 16, with all three having at least one season they finished 16th. Fenton volleyball has placed 16th in each of the past two seasons, while the

Holly boys tennis squad was 16th in the 2012-13 poll. Finally, the Linden boys cross country team has only finished lower than

See TOP 16 on 15A

Broncho duo headed to Alma College

■ Hot scorer Simms and perimeter shooter Maki making trip to Alma together

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Joshua Simms and Scott Maki both had to make their own individual choices when it came to selecting a college to continue their playing careers.

But as they chose their paths, the Holly 2015 graduates found themselves walking down the same trail.

Both Simms and Maki will continue their basketball careers at Alma College during the 2015-16 school years.

"It's a dream come true," Simms said. "I don't know any basketball player who doesn't dream of playing collegiate basketball. I can't wait to get there."

"I'm excited," Maki said.
See BRONCHO on 14A

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BRONCHO

Continued from Page 13A

"They started watching me in AAU and talked to me after a couple of games. I went to their team camp, toured campus and I loved it."

Both players knew their teammate had Alma College on their list of possible schools, but neither made their selection due to the other being there.

"I told coach I was going before Josh was going," Maki said. "I made my decision and during spring break Josh texted me and asked if I needed a roommate next year. I didn't think he'd end up going there. I was surprised, but I was glad."

Simms also looked at Lake Forest College, the school ex-Holly player Jordan Fowler went to.

"When I went (to Alma) the guys and the coaches supported me and invited me to open gyms. They did everything they could. I'm not saying Lake College didn't (do the same things), but I felt more love from Alma."

Both Holly graduates were on the team during one of the most successful periods in recent Holly basketball history. They were members of this season's team which finished the Metro League season with a perfect championship season and also capped the year with the school's first-ever boys Class A district title and first-ever Class A trip to the regional title game. The squad finished 22-3 overall.

Simms started some this year, but has spent most of his Holly career as a dangerous scoring option off the bench, frequently scoring double-digits as a sixth man. He scored 203 points in just 17 games this season. He also had 40 rebounds and 19 assists. He's very adept at attacking the basket.

Maki also came off the bench, providing a strong perimeter shot. Maki scored 102 points, including netting 42 points from three-point range. He also grabbed 27 rebounds and dished off 12 assists.

Alma College is a Division III school in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association. The squad had a 12-14

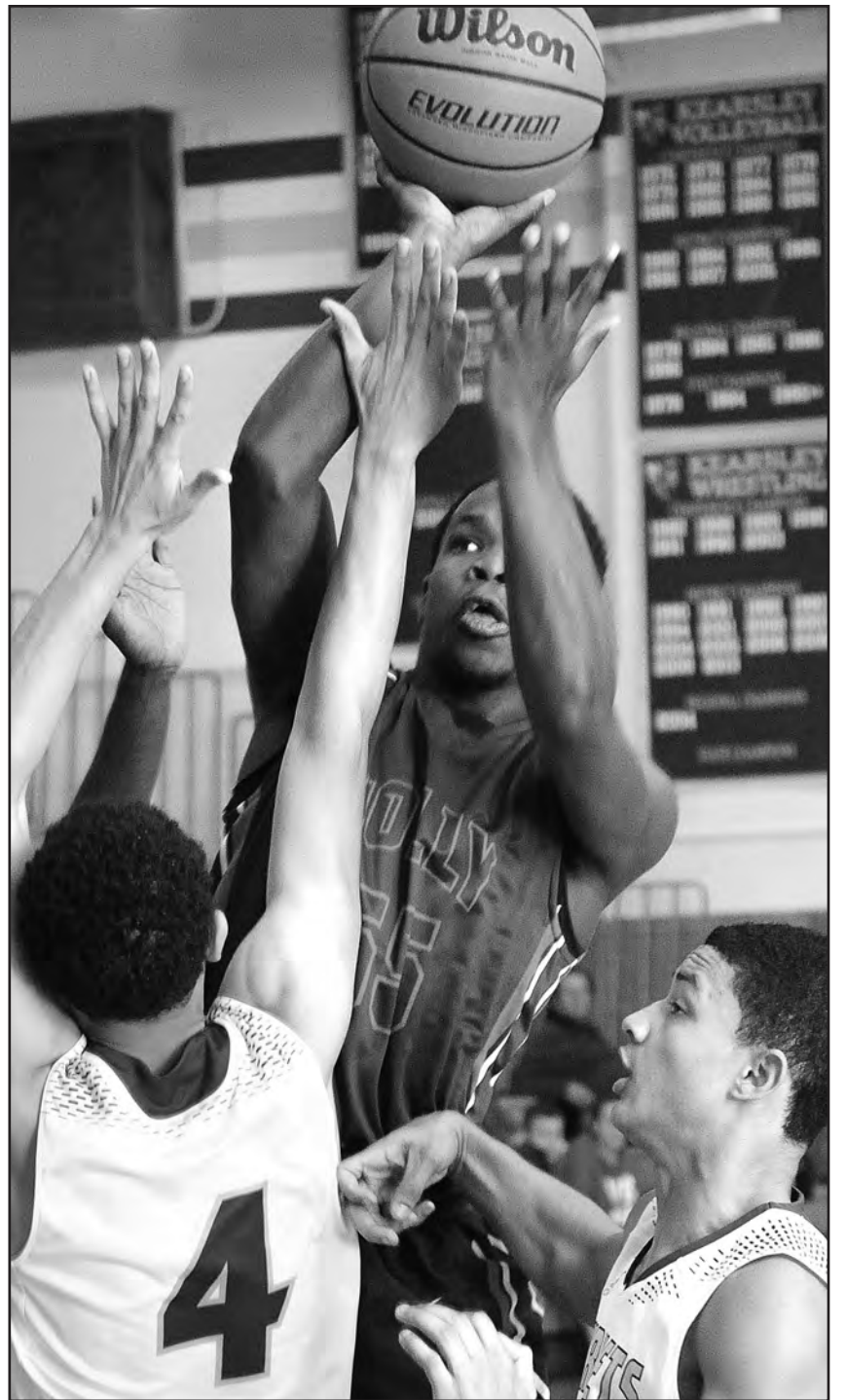
overall record last year, but was successful in the MIAA, posting a 9-5 league mark. The players are excited to be playing at Alma together.

"Scott going there is a huge bonus," Simms said. "I've played with him since the sixth grade, and to think I'll be playing college ball with him is amazing."

Both players enjoyed their time with the Holly boys basketball program. The team remains close. In fact, Simms was at teammate's Mogran Baylis' home during this phone interview.

"I was surrounded by great individuals," Maki said. "My team was like a family. Coach (Lance) Baylis is more than a coach to me."

"I'm really happy I got to play for Lance Baylis," Simms said. "There is not another group of guys I wanted to finish my career with. I'll never forget those guys. They are my brothers for life."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

(Above) Joshua Simms attempts a shot during a past Holly varsity boys basketball game. (Left) Scott Maki drives down the lane during a different contest. Both Holly 2015 graduates will continue their basketball careers at Alma College this fall.

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE 105 - 105c OFFERED IN LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES K-5 - LIMITED

The Linden Community School District is accepting applications for enrollment for the 2015-16 school year for K-5 students who do not reside within the district's boundaries pursuant to Sections 105 and 105c of the State Aid Act. This applies to students who reside in an intermediate school district that is contiguous to, or borders, Genesee County. These applications will be accepted July 10, 2015 – August 7, 2015. **Offer is for students in grades K-5.**

The District will use a random draw system (Subsection 14 of the State School Aid Act 1979) to determine the order in which applicants will be able to enroll.

- Transportation will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
- There is no tuition charge for students accepted for enrollment under this program.
- To apply, complete the application and return to Jennifer Bentley, Schools of Choice Coordinator, Linden Community Schools, between July 10, 2015 and August 7, 2015, no later than 3:00 p.m.
- Applications may be obtained in person, at www.lindenschools.org, by mail or by calling:

Jennifer Bentley
Linden Community Schools
7205 W. Silver Lake Road
Linden, Michigan 48451
(810) 591-0986

- Notification of acceptance by choice district will be made by August 14, 2015.

LLOYD

Continued from Page 13A

time he hit the links.

In 28 career tournament starts, he finished in the top 10 in 18 of those events. Of those 18 events, he was in the top five 12 times, finished runner-up twice and was the medalist six times. He won district medalist honors in 2013 and 2015.

During this season, he was the Metro League's overall medalist and the Metro League runner-up. He was a regional finalist. He averaged hitting 5.96 greens in regulation, helping make his low average possible.

"Last year I would've liked to make it to the state finals, but it didn't go as planned," Lloyd said. "Definitely the amount of wins I was able to have (was a highlight). I was able to win Metro League three of my four years, county once and a state tournament (two district meets)."

Ty Nunn was the last Fenton golfer to receive All-State honors, earning honorable mention accolades in 2009 and 2010. Fenton golf coach Tyler Szczepanski was impressed with Lloyd's career.

"John's four-year career as a varsity starter and the accolades he was able to achieve during his time are extremely difficult to match," Szczepanski said.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPEMS

Fenton's John Lloyd capped his career with a nine-hole average of 37.0 during his senior season.

"His numbers speak for themselves. Ultimately, he clearly has cemented himself as one of the great golfers in Fenton school history, along with names like Dave Hanson, T. J. Rice and Ty Nunn. That's a great legacy to have. He definitely made his mark on our program."

Wednesday Night
**CROSS COUNTRY
RACES**

Week #2 results

HALF-MILE RACE

GIRLS 6 & UNDER

- 1. Madelyn Behnke4:49
- 2. Kaitlyn Bowles.....4:52
- 3. Jillian Bowles.....5:05
- 4. Lila Nester5:22
- 5. Melody Meckstroth5:33
- 6. Olivia Behnke6:57
- 7. Addison Siegwald7:53

GIRLS 7-9

- 1. Olivia Nester4:20
- 2. Samantha Craine6:15
- 3. Addison Craine6:34

BOYS 6 & UNDER

- 1. Brady Cook3:47
- 2. Gavin Katic4:05
- 3. William Hamilton5:29
- 4. Abram Larsen.....7:29

BOYS 7-9

- 1. Mike Johnson.....5:01
- 2. Josiah Smigielski5:26

BOYS 10-12

- 1. Jack Smigielski4:27
- 2. Benjamin Smigielski6:21

MILE RACE

GIRLS 6 & UNDER

- 1. Courtney Lawhorne.....10:12
- 2. Madelyn Behnke11:43
- 3. Olivia Behnke13:23

GIRLS 7-9

- 1. Ava Fahrenkopf.....7:17

GIRLS 10-12

- 1. Lily Majestic.....7:02
- 2. Lauren Gadola7:11
- 3. Korryn Moore9:22

BOYS 6 & UNDER

- 1. Lily Majestic.....7:56

BOYS 7 - 9

- 1. Devin Nowak7:04
- 2. Davin Meckstroth8:36
- 3. Dylan Katzenberger8:59
- 4. Dominic Sepanak.....11:41

BOYS 10-12

- 1. Chris LaFave6:44
- 2. Nolan Fahrenkopf7:05
- 3. Elijah Schmandt.....7:30
- 4. Sean Bowles7:31
- 5. Evan Katzenberger9:15
- 6. Samuel Gatza.....9:23
- 7. Lukas Bergeld-Wylie10:33
- 8. Jack Migielski.....10:55

BOYS 13-15

- 1. Nathan Katzenberger.....8:42

2 MILE RACE

GIRLS 7-9

- 1. Ava Sigewald.....27:36
- 2. Shawna Schmandt.....27:39

GIRLS 10-12

- 1. Natalie Allen20:40

GIRLS 13-15

- 1. Meghan Hitt.....16:21

BOYS 10-12

- 1. River Meckstroth16:25
- 2. Nolan Fahrenkopf18:13

2 MILE RACE

WOMEN'S OVERALL

- 1. Anna Troppens.....30:42

BOYS 10-12

- 1. Nathan Katic.....23:57
- 2. Elijah Schmandt.....27:02

BOYS 13-15

- 1. Nick McDonald.....19:33

MEN 16-18

- 1. Mike Varacalli18:27

MEN'S 40 - OVER

- 1. Clint Lawhorne18:47
- 2. Eric Larsen18:59
- 3. Tony Micallef27:03

TOP 16

Continued from Page 13A

second once in any of the first six polls, placing 16th in 2010-11.

The sports staff would like to honor these three programs. To make our list seven straight years is impressive and speaks volumes for the quality players and coaches those programs have had during that time span.

No. 12 - Linden girls soccer: It was an outstanding regular season for the Lady Eagles. Linden spent a decent portion of the spring ranked in the top 10 in Division 2 and ended up winning the Metro League championship outright by defeating the Fenton Tigers 5-0 in the final league contest of the regular season. Ask a Linden player, and it's hard to expect more than that.

However, the squad the Eagles defeated to complete their league championship haunted them later in the post-season. Linden entered the D2 district at Brandon High School as the favorites and started its run with an impressive 5-0 victory against the tourney hosts. The Eagles followed up that win with an 8-0 dousing of Fowlerville in the semifinals. However, in the district title game the Tigers bounced back from their regular-season loss to Linden to earn a 3-1 win against Linden.

One could argue Linden should be higher than 12th based on the fact the Eagles ended up losing to an eventual D2 state finalist, but from this spot on, the competition gets a bit tougher to advance. Actually, the Eagles moved up a notch. They finished last year's poll at No. 13.

No. 11 - Fenton girls swimming and diving: This was another team that was supposed to be experiencing a semi-rebuilding season. It was one of those rare seasons that squads in the Metro League thought they had a chance to catch the Tigers and break their string of 10 straight Metro championships. However, that never came close to happening.

Fenton dominated the Metro dual season and also dominated the league meet, capturing its 11th straight Metro League title.

The Tigers also took an impressive nine swimmers to the state meet. However, what is keeping the Tigers from moving up is the fact they didn't capture any team points while at the D2 state meet.

No. 10 - Lake Fenton wrestling: Last year the Blue Devils placed third in the Tri-County Top 16, but that was sort of expected with a strong veteran squad. This season was supposed to be sort of a rebuilding season. And in some ways it was. However, that didn't mean it wasn't a successful season.

The Blue Devils captured a team district title despite its youthful roster. The squad also advanced to the regional championship match before losing to Birch Run.

However, the squad had many more accolades than that. Lake Fenton had seven wrestlers advance to the individual state meet at the Palace of Auburn Hills, and one of them, Trent Hillger, captured a state championship at 215 pounds. Hillger was only a sophomore, so it'll be exciting to see what he accomplishes his next two seasons. The same can be said about the rest of the Blue Devils.

No. 9 - Holly boys tennis: Boys tennis was one of the sports where add-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Evan Vergith and the Holly varsity boys tennis team placed seventh in our 2014-15 Tri-County Top 16 poll.

ing Flushing could potentially hurt the chances of one of the tri-county Metro squads from winning a league crown. However, that didn't happen.

While Flushing helped elevate the caliber of play in the Metro, the Bronchos remained the league's dominant team, defending its Metro League

crown. The Bronchos also captured a regional championship and competed at the D2 state meet. While there, the Bronchos scored just two points, placing them 14th in the state.

This is seven straight years in the poll. Congratulations, Holly boys tennis.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

THANK YOU LINDEN for hosting the Gus Macker. It was a great tournament and we hope it can come back next year.

AMAZING HOW MANY are still not recycling even with the new large cans provided by the township. For all of you so concerned about global warming and the planet, here's your chance to back up the rhetoric. All it takes is a little effort.

THIS WEEKEND, ALL that's going to matter is fireworks, barbecues, and getting drunk. People will have forgotten what it's really for.

IF YOU'RE THINKING about (cable company), don't. I ported my phone number that I've had since 1986 to another carrier and they wouldn't release it until my \$83 credit was used up. Then they had the nerve to send me a 3-cent check.

TIME FOR CHANGE in Fenton Township. Let's elect a new board in the next election. I'm tired of a sewer bill, being charged \$62 for new street lights only to have them burn out a week later and everything is a civil matter — just ask their lawyer.

LET'S MAKE THE persons responsible for placing the large boulders on Shore Acres homesites park remove them.

THE SUPREME COURT ruled that a law, Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), was unconstitutional. They are not creating laws. It was simply based on equal rights provided by the Constitution. The decision was neither radical nor activist. Get a grip.

BOYCOTT MACY'S, THEY are spineless jellyfish.

NIGHTTIME CONSTRUCTION

Continued from Page 3A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Construction projects like these are conducted at night for the safety of the workers and to minimize traffic disruption.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

The project started this past March and will be completed in December. According to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the project will reconstruct University Drive from Cross Creek to Opdyke Road, reconstruct all interchange ramps, construct the Chrysler Drive ramp to northbound I-75, and construct new traffic signs and signals, streetscape enhancements, decorative lighting, landscaping, and a multi-use path. Next week, they'll do foundation piling for the bridge.

Watch the video



online at tctimes.com

CONSTRUCTION ZONE FINES

- In accordance with Public Act 149 of 2002, a driver will get three points for speeding 10 mph over the limit in a work zone, four points for speeding between 10 and 15 mph over the limit, and 5 points for speeding more than 15 mph over the limit.
- "Andy's Law," Public Act 103, dictates a year in prison for injuring and up to 15 years in prison for killing a highway construction worker, as well as a maximum fine of \$7,500. Andrew Lefko, a 19-year-old worker, was hit and left paralyzed while working on I-275 in Metro Detroit.
- Careless driving and speeding in a work zone is considered a civil offense, and reckless or drunken driving are criminal offenses.

Source: Michigan.gov

WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Wednesday, July 1, 2015 edition



- Fenton Streetscape to halt July 2-7
- Downtown eyesore demolished - finally
- Police to be on the lookout for drunks, dangerous situations
- Fenton Freedom Festival will be biggest and best ever
- 'Framework' — will it replace IB?
- Fenton cop injured during arrest
- Argentine police address fishing complaints
- Gus Macker takes over Linden
- Columnists Bill Press and Cal Thomas
- Swim without strain
- Street Talk "What are your thoughts on last week's Supreme Court decisions on marriage equality and Obamacare?"
- "Ask the Judge" with Genesee County District Court Judge Mark McCabe
- Michigan Votes
- Fireworks by land or by lake
- Meet the longest running tri-county group
- Expect holiday spike on gas prices
- Destination Michigan – Bay City and Traverse City
- Rain or shine – Linden's Gus Macker thrives
- Obituaries

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Area s



Thursday morning goodbye to the Linden schools

off for summer vacat



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

Students sign yearbooks, notebooks and scraps of paper. 169 eighth-graders will move to the high school. Thursday, while Holly schools began their summer break. See more photos at tctimes.com

News briefs

MONTHLY WARNING SIREN TESTING DELAYED ONE WEEK

In light of the Fourth of July week-end festivities, and the holiday falling on the first Saturday of the month, Genesee County will be holding the monthly siren test on Saturday, July 11, instead of Saturday, July 4. The Genesee County Sheriff's Department believes that conducting testing on July 4 would be disruptive and may cause issues given the many out-of-town visitors to area parks and beaches during the holiday weekend.

HOLLY**Continued from Page 9A**

This summer, our Downtown Development Authority will be focusing on renewal of our Lake District to build a strong commercial corridor along Saginaw Street. And we look forward to more future growth, as plans are already in the works for several of our vacated or blighted commercial properties throughout town.

Our ability to make progress in the village could not happen without support from our community's partners and friends. The safety and walkability of our community increased with the completion of the sidewalk along west Grange Hall Road, a project that brought together resources from the village, Holly Township, the Road Commission for Oakland County, and U.S. Housing and Urban Development.

If residents and guests see a new shine at Crapo Park or on Alley Street, be sure to thank our partners at the Holly Area

Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Holly for leading these volunteer beautification efforts.

Even with all of our progress, we have not lost sight of our challenges and where we still need to go. We continue to be budget-conscious to strengthen our fund balances while continuing to improve or increase desired services. Blight is a constant concern for our residents and a stain on our community. Our parks and play areas for our children need increased attention, and there are many more challenges. The approach to solving all of these is the same we've taken since 2010 — identify the goal, engage the community, and work together to solve it.

As the village of Holly celebrates its Sesquicentennial this year, I hope everyone will join us in celebrating our beginnings as a frontier settlement in the midst of the Civil War, our growth as a railroad and auto industry work center, and our future as the ultimate American small town: modern, historical and prosperous.

LINDEN**Continued from Page 9A**

Additionally, a Water Reliability Study was conducted to review water pressure and supply-related issues, as well as examine the state of our water system framework. Additionally, our SAW (Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater) Grant funds are being used to evaluate our Waste Water and Storm Water System.

Also, a structural evaluation was performed on our Linden Mills building that will help us lay the framework for improving and maintaining this iconic structure for years to come.

Looking to the future, the greatest challenge our city will face is attending to the improvement of our roads.

Leveraging state funds and grant

monies will be key to maintaining the momentum of our Road Improvement Plan as we continue to prioritize and invest in infrastructure improvements. The city will also tap into alternative funding resources and local contributions.

The city of Linden, in partnership with the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Grow Linden and the Linden Community Schools hosted the first Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball tournament (June 27-28). We are looking forward to continuing events such as: Linden on Wheels, Friday nights through September 18; Linden Farmers Market on Wednesdays, July through September; Back to the Bricks car show on August 5; Forward 4 West on September 12; and Music by the Mill, Wednesday evenings, from July 29 through August 26.

FENTON**Continued from Page 9A**

The first was the completion of the Cornerstone building. The second was the completion of the Fenton Community Center addition. The third was the completion of the Fenton Library remodeling project.

Our fourth achievement was starting the downtown Streetscape project. The fifth was starting the downtown sewer and water reconstruction project. Sixth was sale of the Michigan Bean Building to Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman.

Seventh was the sale of the old Action Auto Property (Fenton Collision) to the Hagermans. The eighth was starting the Wellbridge of Fenton project. The ninth

was the start of the Trinity Lutheran Church project, and 10th was starting the Lasco Ford addition.

The projects at Bon Vivant, The Silver Hills Apartments and The Barn were also completed. Finally and most recently, the sale of Topps Fruit Market and its planned redevelopment by La-Joice Enterprises.

The speedy completion of the projects just mentioned and maintaining our financial stability are among the biggest challenges we face going forward.

The city will cooperate and assist the developers in every way possible. The administration and council will continue to monitor our finances and make necessary adjustments.

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By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

HALITOSIS (BAD BREATH)

Halitosis (bad breath) can have several different causes. Many medical conditions such as sinusitis (sinus infection), digestive conditions such as ulcers or acid reflux, and diabetes can all cause bad breath. Certain foods such as onions and garlic can cause halitosis. Alcohol and cigarette smoking will also cause bad breath. A main cause of malodor is often times due to the poor condition of the teeth and gums. Probably the most common cause of bad breath is dehydration or dry mouth which allows for the proliferation of sulfur producing bacteria. This is why most people awake with nasty "morning breath". It's difficult to determine whether your own breath is bad. This is because your own sense of smell acclimates to its oral nasal environment and doesn't detect anything different even if it smells bad. So breathing into your cupped hand and smelling rarely works to detect halitosis. A better way to determine if your breath is bad is to lick and then smell the back of your hand or scrape your tongue with a spoon and then smell the spoon.

Tips for good breath:

1. Visit your dentist every 6 months to ensure the good health of your teeth and gums.
2. Brush and floss every day.
3. Brush your tongue every day. (Your tongue has more surface area than the rest of the mouth combined)
4. Keep well hydrated by drinking plenty of water.
5. After a meal of onions and garlic be sure to brush and floss.
6. If you drink alcohol, do so in moderation.
7. Don't smoke.

If you have concerns about halitosis, ask your dentist. He or she will be able to determine its cause and if there is an issue that needs further attention.

**I welcome your questions and comments.
Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net**



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Notice to Rose Township Residents

The Township Office Parking lot will be resurfaced and will not be accessible on the following dates:

Friday, July 10, 2015

Saturday, July 11, 2015

Sunday, July 12, 2015

The Recycling Bin will temporarily be relocated to the Old Township Hall – 204 Franklin Street, Holly, MI during this time.

Thank you for your cooperation as we complete the resurfacing of the township offices parking lot.

Debbie Miller, CMC, CMMC
Rose Township Clerk

Emile Bair
Rose Township Constable

CONDOS

Continued from Front Page

John Wentworth, making the Cornerstone condos three-quarters sold. The John Wentworth Group is part of RE/MAX Platinum in Fenton.

"They're selling like dominoes, one right after another," said Wentworth, who now has the exclusive listings of the 23 condos. "We had our first resident move into one of the two-bedroom condos at the beginning of this week."

Of the remaining condos, equal numbers are left of the penthouses (2 bedrooms with larger living area, large picture window and balcony), two-bedroom and one-bedroom. "We've been selling about equal numbers of one-bedroom and two-bedroom con-

dos," said Wentworth.

They've all sold at list price in several different price ranges, depending on square footage and other features: one-bedrooms start at \$100,000; two-bedrooms start at \$160,000 and penthouses start at \$200,000. Approximately half of the condo sales have been cash deals, with the other half financed through The State Bank, according to Wentworth.

Residents are also members of a homeowners association, which handles general maintenance of the building and the elevator. "Monthly fees range from \$130 to \$250, depending on the unit," said Wentworth.

Each condo comes with one assigned parking spot, with other parking available in public city parking spaces. "Parking was an issue until the city granted us one parking space per condo," said Wentworth.

While the Cornerstone condos have attracted a number of young professionals, Wentworth says that residents are a mix of young couples, investors who are renting out their units and older couples who are downsizing.

"Within a week or two, they'll all be sold," said Wentworth.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Realtor John Wentworth chats with members of the Tansey family Tuesday afternoon while showing them a condo, which they later made an offer on to purchase.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

The swimming pool at the Holly KOA has been totally re-done for the enjoyment of its summer campers.

Holly KOA adds features and fun

■ Campground continues to improve its offerings and attractions in time for summer

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The Fourth of July holiday weekend is one of the busiest camping weekends of the year, and visitors to the Holly KOA Fun Park will find more things to do than ever before.

This local campground, conveniently located near the I-75 Grange Hall/Holly exit, has added new features and attractions for this year's camping season.

"We completely re-did our swimming pool, the exterior of our store and deck, and added a new rock wall and monkey

jumper," said Holly KOA General Manager Shelly Patterson. "We also added a 'jumping pillow' that's 40 feet by 70 feet, and a sand lagoon. Our campers will also enjoy a whole new fleet of bikes."

These new features came on the heels of last year's additions, which included outdoor bowling and a zip line. "Kids also have a full schedule of camp activities," said Patterson.

The Holly KOA is part of a nationwide network of campgrounds, numbering 485 throughout North America. The campground boasts 200 camping sites for RV and tent camping, plus rustic and modern cabins.

Holly KOA

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

STAY THE HELL out of your bedroom? I can assure you that the last place in the world most people would ever want to be is in your bedroom. Conversely, I don't want you in mine either.

RIGHT WING, HOW about you just stay out of my bedroom?

■■■■ **HOT LINES - HOW** can so many people be completely ignorant of the basics of a political economy? The average Hot lines submitter appears to have an eighth-grade education. You are all exactly what is wrong with America.

■■■■ **I WOULD LIKE** to thank the individual(s) who found my car keys last night and took them to the lost and found at the fire hall. It renews, once again, what a great community we have here in Fenton. Bless you for your kindness.

■■■■ **ISIS IS NOTHING** more than conservative Muslims. Read the Koran and see for yourself. By the way, when they overrun this country, we will be begging for the Bible. And they handle sodomy by extermination. This ought to be interesting.

Business briefs

40 Under 40

The team at Shard Financial is excited to announce Margie Shard, CFP, has been awarded one of the nation's 40 Under 40 by the prestigious Investment News. One of the top publications for financial advisors, Investment News searched across the nation for advisors under 40 years of age who are revolutionizing the field of advising to better their communities and their clients. The editorial staff of Investment News selected Shard. Nominees were selected for the honor based on their accomplishment to date, contribution to the industry, leadership, and promise. To find out more details on Shard and other Honorees, got to the Investment News 40 Under 40 web page at www.investmentnews.com.

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

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- Rite Aid**
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- Target**
- VG's**

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Meet Dennis Inhulsen

- Retired principal
- Chief Learning Officer for MAEA
- Avid cyclist

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Dennis Inhulsen, 57, walked out of Patterson Elementary School in Holly for the last time on Friday, June 12, after spending 35 years in education, the last 28 of those years in Holly. He and his wife, Jane, live in Grand Blanc. They are the parents of daughter Nissa, 32, who lives in California with her husband, Andrew, and their daughter, Sadie, 8 months, and son, Carey, 28, who lives in Ann Arbor.

What was it like to end your career as an elementary principal? It's been amazing how kind everyone has been. I've had a month or more of lunches, "roasts" and an assembly when the whole student body sang songs to me. I'm not sure how I got so lucky.

The kids also had a bike ride for me on May 21. They rode a mile with me, gave me a gift certificate, read poems and had a bench made out of wooden pallets with the inscription, "Be Safe Out There." That's always my motto.

The night before my last day, I went out and did a lot of rigorous yard work at home, then relaxed on the deck with Jane and we talked about all the changes for us as a family. After working in Holly for 28 years and being rooted here, all of a sudden there's a whole new world out there.

What will you miss most about being principal at Patterson Elementary? Definitely the kids and a great staff. My goal was to monitor every class, every day, just by stopping in to visit and say good morning. I couldn't always do it, but I tried.



"I didn't go looking for any of this. It just sort of happened. I'm a lucky guy."

Dennis Inhulsen
Retired principal

Who's going to follow in your footsteps? Zac Strickler is coming in from the Bath school district. He's a Holly High School graduate, so it'll be "coming home" for him.

Now that you're officially retired as the principal of Patterson Elementary, what's next? July 1 was my first day as chief learning officer for the National Art Education Association, supporting art teachers across the nation through workshops, virtual learning, webinars and collaboration with colleges and universities, plus face-to-face teaching.

I'll be managing and creating professional development for art, design and media teachers. It's my dream job. I'm able to return back to my core, which is teaching. It's a great privilege. It's a new position, very entrepreneurial, but it's not totally new to me. I'm a past president of NAEA.

Where will this new job take you? It's a home-based job, but I'll be doing a lot of traveling, especially in the summer when teachers are most available. The NAEA is actually based in Reston, Virginia.

This summer, I'll be in Long Beach, California; Kansas City; Bentonville, Arkansas; the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and Vermont. I'll also be spending two weeks in China, taking several NAEA board members with me as guests of a university there.

I'll be starting a Facebook page so people can keep track of what I'm doing.

What else do you plan to do while

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Newly retired Patterson Elementary Principal Dennis Inhulsen relaxes for a moment on his last day of school, sitting on a bench made for him by parents of students as a parting gift.

"retired?" I love to bicycle. In fact, I just finished my first Pedal Across Lower Michigan (P.A.L.M.) in June. I also like working out in the yard. I'll probably go back to doing art as a hobby, but it has been so long, I'm not sure where I'll start. My iPhone's always fun, too.

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