Security top priority at area schools

LAThat's something we're ■ New entry security, always enhancing every year, to improve safety for our students. 77

Dave Nuss Holly Area Schools superintendent

cameras for Fenton; liaison officers at Holly and Linden

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Keeping students safe is always a topic of discussion and area schools have numerous safety measures implemented.

Fenton schools recently renovated the entry vestibules and added new locks, said Doug Busch, interim superintendent for Fenton Area Public Schools.

"There's going to be a computerized entry system," he previously told the Times. Starting this school year, staff members will have swipe-card access. Schools can electronically lock or unlock the doors, and See SECURITY on 8A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Security entry at Karl Richter Campus.

Village of Holly Celebrating 150 Years tured pages 5-12B



Accused wife-killer attempts jail break

Erich Wilfinger facing weapons charges; remains jailed without bond

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 It appears Erich Wilfinger has not been a model prisoner.

According to the Montmorency County District Court Criminal Division clerk, the 66-year-old accused of killing his wife on June 20, now faces

Erich Wilfinger

charges of trying to escape from jail, where he remains without bond.

See WIFE-KILLER on 6A

4-year-old Holly boy drowns

Despite immediate CPR at pool, boy removed from life support at hospital

Elijah Ayres, 4, of Holly Township died Thursday from injuries he sustained after being pulled from a pool at a residence in Independence Township on



Downtown Fenton will be ablaze with color year-round

Trees. shrubs and flowers will be planted later this fall as part of the Streetscape to beautify downtown Fenton. Page 11A



TEXT YOUR HOT LINE 810-771-TEXT



we go to are owned by local families.



der of 3.000 babies daily. NOW What are we Americans becoming? Our priorities are warped, the rest of the world is laughing at us.

L If you're in a relationship with a man who has to take a pill to get aroused and you're a C

woman who has to take a pill to get interested, maybe 100 mg you should just watch TV instead."



Annual St. John festival offers fun. food and festivities for 43 years

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 What started out as a small parish festival has evolved into one of Fenton's largest annual events. This year, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church is celebrating its 43rd annual Applefest, Sept. 17-20. The Applefest is the off-

shoot of what was originally See APPLEFEST on 10A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO St. John Applefest will take place Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 17-20 on the parish grounds, 600 North Adelaide St., Fenton. Midway hours are Thursday, 3 to 10 p.m.; Friday, 3 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Sunday, 12 to 6 p.m.



Whether you agree with it or not, the law is the law. If the woman clerk didn't agree with two homosexuals getting a marriage license, she should have simply resigned. She deserves to go to jail for trying to force her religious beliefs on others. 77











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CHA

Times

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2015



Streetscape begins, late March 2015

WWW.TCTIMES.COM



Water service in Dibbleville, April 2015



Downtown sidewalks, June 2015

Fenton Streetscape, transforming downtown

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO Streetscape is the \$4.7-million project changing the landscape of downtown Fenton. After years of delays, it began in late March and will include new streets, curbs, sidewalks, benches, trees and more. Next week, concrete will continue to be poured on LeRoy Street between Ellen Street and Silver Lake Road. The project will shift north of Silver Lake Road, and be completed spring 2016.





Streetscape moves closer to Silver Lake Road, September 2015







The Tri-County Times is published semi-weekly by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. We serve the communities of: Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton, Holly, Hartland, Byron, Gaines, Davisburg, Swartz Creek and Grand Blanc and the townships of: Fenton, Holly, Rose, Tyrone and Argentine. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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Mom and Dad, are you there?

It's that time of year again. All across America, parents are packing lunches, kissing cheeks, and sending

their kids off to school. In many households, there will be a mom in tears, staring out the kitchen window over a sink full of forgotten dishes, wondering if her child will ever be safe again once they leave the confines of their home.

Some will be sending their first off to kindergarten. Others will be sending their last off to college. All will be

waging the same battle that generations before them have always fought --- the fight against a world determined to corrupt our kids' hearts and minds. But never have there been so many fronts, so many battles, so many threats to our children's

ssions, if approved for publication, must be 50 word d do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-Coun e reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

AMERICA IS NOW imprisoning citizens who won't bow to the religious beliefs of the left. Think about what that means. It is counter to everything this country was founded on. Wake up America before it's too late.

WHY DO LAWN maintenance companies and delivery trucks park in the lane going up a hill on a double yellow line? Don't they realize cars can't see what's coming over that hill when they're forced to drive around the truck? Park in the people's driveways.

THE SUPREME COURT ruling allowing same-sex marriage oversteps its bounds. Marriage is religious in nature, being instituted by God in the beginning, one man and one woman. Any secular laws concerning this union should be decided by 'we the people,' not government courts.

WHAT KIND OF leadership do you prefer? The kind that got us into Iraq or the kind that let us out? The kind that opposed government assistance to General Motors and Chrysler or the kind that saved both and led them to profitably? The kind that ran up \$1.4 trillion deficit or the kind that has reduced it to \$459 billion?

welfare as there are today:

• School violence — Even elementary schools are experiencing vio-

lent schoolyard behavior as the **By Foster Childs** spawn of increasingly dysfunctional families enter our school If I Were systems. • The Internet — From grade schools to college dorm

rooms, our children are viewing the vilest of pornography that's just a quick click away. • Video games — Passive

parents allow unimaginably violent video games to become a staple of their kids' afterschool entertainment diet.

• Dysfunctional families — Unwed mothers, rampant divorce, absent fathers, alcoholism and drug use are fostering an entire generation of kids with no fundamental family values to guide and direct them.

THANK GOD FOR President Obama. He has cleaned up the mess made by Republicans, kept us out of many wars, created jobs, reduced the deficit, saved General Motors and Chrysler, helped with 401K and IRA losses, and lowered unemployment. Keep up the good work, Mr. President.

HARD TO BELIEVE that with all the technology available today that they can't make a tire that doesn't wear out. Obviously they can, but simply choose not to for obvious reasons. Does anyone have any information regarding this? I just paid over \$800 for new tires, ridiculous.

• **Television** — The normalization of these dysfunctional lifestyles on TV is confusing our kids regarding the true definition of family.

• Culture — Our sexually dominated media distort and mock our traditional value system, **Who was** resulting in sexually active

on watch

when the

innocence of

was stolen?77

our children

children at ever younger ages. Who is responsible for this mess? Who could possibly have allowed this to happen? Who was on watch when the innocence of our children was stolen?

The answer is easy — you

and me. And, every other parent.

Because it wasn't at school that our kids spent hours looking at hard-core pornography. It wasn't at school that they spent hours texting F-bomb acronyms and cyber-bullying others. It wasn't at school that countless hours were wasted watching the demented crud of MTV. It wasn't at school that kids played incred-

SPEND \$80,000-PLUS to shut down an old boat launch on Lobdell Lake used by local residents for years and years then spend more taxpayers' money to build a launch for whomever from wherever to use on Mc-Caslin Lake. Something smells in Argentine Township.

I AM A liberal who pays taxes. If part of my tax money goes to corporate welfare, special privileges for the elite, Streetscapes in affluent cities, subsidizing bankruptcies for billionaires that could pay their debts then you could be tolerable of paying for some



birth control.

ibly realistic and violent video games that encourage killing parents, cops and peers. It wasn't at school that they watched Miley Cyrus and other young women being glorified for behaving like super-sluts.

It was at home. All this destructive behavior took place in our homes, right under our noses. When we said nothing, our children interpreted this as approval.

tctimes.com

Parents, it's time to respond to that tiny voice that's telling us something is wrong. It's time for a 'take no prisoners' attitude toward what our

kids are looking at on the Internet and on television. It's time to take back our home and our kids.

The day we decide to do this is the day we stop being a pimp and start being a parent.

Mom and dad, are you there?

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

I'M DISAPPOINTED THAT the judge in the Janelle Durk case who left Robert Whitney on the road is not sharing a jail cell with Robert Whitney right now.

I WISH I could hear more from the person who called to Wednesday Hot lines with the statement regarding the new Republic system. And I quote To city council members, make sure Republic gives it to you in cash.' What is the implication here?

IN THESE DIFFICULT times, roll up to every police, military and fire personnel that you can and say 'thank you for your service.' It will make you both feel good. Thank you.

PUT ME IN a room with any nine liberals and let us have a calm and factual conversation regarding our current leadership and I guarantee you 10 conservatives will walk out of the room.

DON'T YOU THINK it's time we face reality? It's time we eliminated the Supreme Court in a 'death do us part' appointment. Let them be elected every four years just like every other public office. We're ending up with some senile old people.

IF ANYONE HAS any comparisons that indicate Bush was a better president than Obama, you should submit Hot lines with measurable data and facts.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

streettalk

How will your life/routine change after Labor Day?



Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

"I get to spend more time with my husband now that my kids are in college and in the military."



"It will ease up, because they are leaving and my house will be cleaner."



work with the students returning to U of M -Flint."



"It will be more hectic, because everyone will be doing everything at the same time."



"I have to start getting up earlier for work to get ready, otherwise my daughter and wife will take ownership of the bathroom and I would be late."

"The mornings are going to change, because everyone is going to be trying to get out of the house at the same time."

"I end up going back to

Area couple faces more drug charges

Husband released on \$50,000 bond; wife remains in jail

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 A Rose Township couple charged with multiple drug offenses last month will be back in court next week for their pre-trial hearings.

Lewis Lee Smith, 61, and his wife, Keshia Maria Smith, 34, were arrested Aug. 20 after the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) Crew 2 executed a search warrant at their North Hill Drive home. They were arraigned on multiple felonies,

including manufacturing and delivering marijuana and possession of controlled substances.

Lewis was initially arraigned on Aug. 22 on a five-count felony warrant, however, two more felony counts of possessing controlled substances were added. Keshia was initially arraigned on one four-year felony of manufacturing and delivering marijuana, however, four more felony counts of possession of controlled substances were added.

During the search of their home, detectives discovered and seized a number of items as evidence, including 520 grams of marijuana, 800 OxyContin, Hydrocodone and Xanax pills, a digital scale, drug packaging and documents.

Lewis was released from jail on

YEAH, WELL MAYBE as you mention, no

one is going 60 in Linden, but seems like every time I am heading to Linden, there

is someone on my tail, chomping at the

abused the system by buying politicians

his entire career and has admitted doing

so. The rationale that, because he made

bit for me to go faster, and I am pretty

sure they know the speed limit.

YOU DO REALIZE that Trump has

HOT LINE CONTINUED



Lewis Smith, 61, and his wife Keshia Smith, 34, are facing numerous drug charges after 520 grams of marijuana, 800 pills and other items were recovered during a search of their Rose Township home.

\$50,000 cash surety bond. Keshia remains in the Oakland County Jail in lieu of posting a \$20,000 cash surety bond.

Keshia has another court case pending as she awaits a Sept. 8 sentencing on a drunk driving charge that included fleeing the scene of a crash and injuries to two passengers in her truck. She pleaded no contest on July 31, according to court records.

> As reported by the Times in May, deputies with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office responded to a single vehicle crash, with injuries. The driver, later identified as Keshia Smith, was driving a pickup truck on Dixie Highway when she lost control of it. The truck left the

roadway and struck a tree and utility pole. Keshia had two unrelated 15-year-old female passengers, one from Holly, the other from Springfield Township. One girl was ejected and transported in critical condition to Genesys Health Park and then later to Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital. The other girl was transported to Genesys in serious but stable condition.

The sheriff's office reported that Keshia fled the scene on foot, but was later apprehended at a nearby apartment complex. She was arrested and later charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing injury, driving with a suspended license and causing injury, failing to stop at the scene of a crash, OWI with passengers under 16 years of age, and furnishing alcohol to a minor.

billions with this process and now says he has so much he can't be bought, is insane. So now, he has morals?

I WISH THE Linden police would come and patrol Hickory Ridge Road in Rose Township. I don't know how many times I've been passed on double yellow lines by people doing well over 60 mph. I'm driving 50 mph and that's not fast enough for them. Come on, Linden cops. Come out here, you'll make a bundle doing tickets.











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Registered sex offender gets 10-20 years on new case

Michael Jeffrey

Guinn

Marsha Wilfinger

Holly man pleads guilty to second-degree CSC involving child under 10 years old

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 Judge Wendy Potts of Oak-

land County's Sixth Circuit Court sentenced Michael Jeffrey Guinn, 50, of Holly Wednesday to 10 to 20 years in state prison on one count of forcible second-degree criminal sexual conduct (CSC) of a minor under 10 years old. He was given 29 days credit for time already served.

Following its investigation,

the Holly Police Department sought an arrest warrant from the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office in May. An arrest warrant was authorized on May 14 and

WIFE-KILLER Continued from Front Page

Details about the escape attempt were

not provided. He also faces two new charges, two counts of possession of weap-

ons and firearms by a felon.

According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, Wilfinger took a plea deal in 2007 on charges of drug possession and fleeing from a police officer in Livingston County. He received an 18-month sentence and was discharged in August 2008.

In 2011, he was arrested in Oakland County for being a felon in possession of weapons-firearms. He took another plea deal in that case, received a oneyear sentence, and was discharged in September of 2012. On Wednesday, Sept. 2, Wilfinger was bound over to Circuit Court on one count of homicide-open murder in the death of his wife, Marsha (Sargent) Wilfinger, formerly of ArgenGuinn was arraigned on CSC charges on May 15 in Oakland County 52-2 district court.

Guinn was initially charged with one count of second-degree CSC and one count of first-degree CSC. This

was amended to one count of second-degree CSC, of which he pleaded guilty to on Aug. 10.

Guinn has been on the Michigan Sex Offender Registry since a CSC conviction in April 2006. This case originated in Waterford Township in May 2005. He was placed on probation for five years and he was ordered to have no contact with individuals under 10 years of age without a responsible adult

in attendance. He will remain on the sex offender registry for the remainder of his life.

tine Township.

Marsha was found in the back seat of a burning car on June 20. Shortly before midnight, Michigan State Police troopers responded to calls of a vehicle fire at the

intersection of Sheridan Valley Road and Scenic Rte. 3 in Montmorency County's Briley Township, east of Gaylord.

When troopers arrived, they found the car burning in a ditch. When the fire was put out, investigators discovered Marsha Wilfinger's burned remains in the back seat.

Detectives were led several miles from the scene to a house in Briley Township. They made contact with Erich Wilfinger, who was sleeping inside the home and determined the body from the vehicle was his wife. Troopers observed signs that a domestic assault had recently taken place in the home.

Wilfinger's next court appearance is expected to take place at 1:15 p.m. on Sept. 14.



Detectives seek leads on Lake Ponemah hit and run

Speeding pontoon drives over slow-cruising boat

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 The Genesee County Sheriff's Department is investigating a hit and run that occurred on Lake Ponemah at about 12:50 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29.

The crash took place between the sandbar near Ponemah Drive and the closed Spoonz tavern.

According to a Lake Ponemah resident, she and her sister-in-law were cruising in a boat at a very slow speed along the shoreline. They had all of the boat lights on and were almost to their dock when they saw a pontoon heading toward them at a fast speed. They instinctively began screaming and waving their arms to get the pontoon driver's attention.

Hearing the commotion, the woman's husband quickly rushed to her aid on another boat.

"He drove onto my boat," said the victim about the pontoon driver. "He said, 'are you OK?' and then drove off very fast after I asked him to stay with me.

"It just happened so fast. I asked him to stay with us until I could call for help because so much damage was done to my boat and he took off so fast."

The women, who sustained some bumps and bruises, said there appeared to be just one person on the pontoon, the driver, who they described as a white male in his late 30s or mid 40s, with a full head of dark hair.

The pontoon was described as newer and white, with a dark-colored bimini top. The

DROWNS

Continued from Front Page

arrived on scene and found that CPR was already being administered to the child.

According to witnesses, the adult participants had just finished their water aerobics class at the residence and the children were swimming in the shallow end of the pool. Elijah had reportedly left the pool, removed his life jacket and said that he was done swimming for the day, according to the sheriff's office.

Minutes later, he was found by his mother floating in the deep end of the pool. His mother jumped into the pool and pulled him from the water. The homeowner, who is also an Emergency Room nurse, began administering CPR and a bystander called 9-1-1 for help.

Elijah was taken from the scene without a pulse to St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Pontiac by the Independence Township Fire Department with an escort from deputies. Once at the hospital, his pulse was restored and he was airlifted to Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital, where he was eventually removed from life support and died.

Per the Medical Examiner's office, a visual inspection of Elijah was performed and the manner of death was ruled accidental and the cause of death is neardrowning with complications.

News briefs

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS ON NEW WASTE/RECYCLING PROGRAM SCHEDULED

Two public information meetings on the city of Fenton's new waste/recycling program will be held on Sept. 9 and 30, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Fenton Cultural & Community Center, 150 S. LeRoy Street in Fenton.

LINDEN MILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY **INVITES PUBLIC TO TOUR OF FAIR-VIEW CEMETERY**

The community is invited to stroll historic Fairview Cemetery on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1 to 4 p.m. and experience Linden's rich, exciting history in a very unique and interesting setting. Speakers dressed in vintage clothing will be telling the stories of many of Linden's prominent residents from the past, at their

gravesites. Visitors will learn about the fascinating lives of Perry Lamb, Dr. Sleeman, and James Ball, the first person to be buried in the Fairview Cemetery, just to name a few. Admission is \$5 per person, or \$10 per family. There will be no advance ticket sales. Parking will be allowed on side streets near cemetery. Fairview Cemetery is located at the curve where East Broad meets Silver Lake Road. All proceeds benefit the Linden Mills Historical Society.

ART IN THE PARK

Art in the Park will be held at Rackham Park on Saturday, Sept. 12. The Art in the Park events were held at various parks in Fenton over the summer. This last event of the season will take place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

LOVE THE NEW streetscape changes but my goodness, the streets that we will be driving on sure do seem narrow. Are there going to be left hand turn lanes?

I'M GOING TO share my pet peeve. Feel free to do the same. People, when giving a phone number, 'oh' is not a number, it is a letter. The proper and intelligent way to vocalize a zero is to say, 'zero,' not 'oh.' Thank you.

WAY TO GO city council on the garbage deal, by increasing my cost on a fixed income. Went from one can every five weeks to \$134, where's the incentive to recycle? You'll not get my vote, none of you.

WHY IS THE fact that a drug dealer from Detroit named White Boy Rick is getting out of prison now headline news on TV? I'm confused.

ALL OTHER FACTS aside, Joe Biden is a shameless groper. I can still see the images of him wrapping himself around the wife of Defense Secretary Ashton Carter and nearly nibbling off her ear while he massaged her shoulders. Poor Mrs. Carter stood rigidly in front of the cameras as her husband spoke just inches away.

FROM AUG. 12 to Sept. 2, major networks ABC, NBC and CBS spent 28 minutes and 59 seconds on the continuing story of a baby panda struggling to stay alive. Meanwhile, from July 14 to Sept. 2, they spent less than 24 minutes on the story of human babies torn apart and parts sold in the Planned Parenthood videos.

THE CRIES OF the whiny conservatives that refuse to accept the evolution of American society to build a better country are becoming annoying. Accept the changes that all reflect a better and more tolerant society. Take from the rich, give to the poor. How can that be a bad thing?



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lake Ponemah residents are hoping

someone will provide information about

a hit and run crash. Around 1 a.m. last

Saturday morning, a speeding pontoon

ran over their boat and sped away. There

were no serious injuries, however, the

bow and navigational lights were not the

typical red and green - one was almost a purple, rose-colored light. The pontoon

was quiet, possibly a 4-stroke engine, the

victim said, since it was quieter than her

boat engine. The pontoon also had a very

After the crash, witnesses said the pon-

toon headed toward Tupper Lake and the

driver turned off the pontoon lights. The

victim and several lakefront residents have

been keeping their eyes open for a damaged

pontoon matching the description above.

Det. Sgt. Mark Holland said they have

not located the pontoon and it is unclear

how much damage, if any, there was to the

pontoon. The hit-and-run crash remains

under investigation.

small swim platform at the front.

victims' boat was severely damaged.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE SAME PEOPLE who complain about birth control are the first to complain about abortion. Having access to birth control and education are the best and most important steps to preventing unplanned and unwanted pregnancies. That helps all of society in so many ways.

SAW THE NEW Streetscape down-town, what a circus, try to get around that mess with a trailer. Counted seven to nine parking spots lost on the south end. What a waste of money.

SO, GOD TOLD men what to write and they did because they can? That is your argument? The point is every religion is different and they all claim to be right. They can't all be right. Inspired by is not written by.

FOR ALL OF you loving Trump because he speaks his mind and doesn't take money from the lobbyists, try listening to Bernie Sanders. He is anti super PACS, speaks his mind and it actually makes sense. He's no bigot that's for sure. 'Feel the Bern.'

SECURITY Continued from Front Page

WEEKEND TIMES

put them on a timer. Visitors will need

to be "buzzed in" during school hours. "It just gives us a lot more flexibility in terms of security," Busch said.

The district will have 200 security cameras throughout the schools, which electronically link with the entry system. The number of cameras per school varies based on the school size and layout of the building.

"Our principals and assistant principals were heavily involved in the process of placing the security cameras in areas of high traffic or where there is a need in

their buildings," Busch said. Money for the security systems came from an \$11 million bond initiative in May 2014, which also paid for new buses, computers, and other technology.

"We are continuing to work on creating a culture where if something seems amiss or something is not right, our staff, students and parents know to report it to the office and it will be investigated," Busch said.

Linden schools participate in the School Resource Officer program, where an Argentine Township police officer



"We already had a strong relationship with both of our local police departments (Linden and Argentine), and having the

SUMMARY Area schools use a variety of security methods, from Sonitrol to security cameras and buzzing visitors in.

opportunity to have a committed police officer for our district was a decision we were all in favor of," said Interim Superintendent Russ Ciesielski.

Linden paid \$23,000 in 2014-15

for the officer, in an agreement with Argentine Township, which helps contribute. The program started two years ago and continues this school year.

"It does help to create a safer school environment for all of our students," he said.

Linden elementary and middle school have a buzzer system, where visitors are buzzed in during school hours. The high school and middle school have security cameras inside and out of the building.

All of Linden school buildings are monitored by Sonitrol, an electric alarm system.

At Lake Fenton Community Schools, Superintendent Wayne Wright said they use Sonitrol for night security to monitor all the buildings.

Visitors are monitored by the front office.

"During the day all doors are locked, and anyone wanting to enter the building must buzz the offices with the push button at the door," he said.

Holly schools also lock the doors and buzz visitors in.

Holly Area Schools Superintendent Dave Nuss said cameras are placed at every door for each building. Some buildings have cameras throughout the school and the board of education has discussed adding more.

"That's something we're always enhancing every year, to improve safety for our students," he said.

Holly schools also have a full-time school liaison officer from the Holly Police Department to patrol the buildings. The district has had one for more than 20 years.

"We were one of the first districts to have an officer," Nuss said. "We've never had very many problems here in Holly. It's always about prevention and creating positive relations between students and law enforcement. There's a certain sense of security students feel knowing they can approach the officers."



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That's entertainment

The entertainment at this year's St. John Applefest will be a big hit among music lovers. Three popular bands will take the stage in the Entertainment Tent (there is a cover charge) on Thursday, Sept. 17, Friday, Sept. 18, and Saturday, Sept. 19.

WestFall will be on stage from 8 to 11 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17. WestFall, a Flint band, has played venues across Michigan since 2007. The rock band's drummer, Jarrod Montague, was the one-time drummer for the popular band, Taproot.

Lookin' Back, Tribute to Bob Seger is comprised of six noteworthy Detroit-area musicians. They have united to keep the music of Bob Seger performed on stages for the many fans who identify with the Seger's poetry, energy and vast catalog of hits that span five decades. They will take the stage from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 18.

ROOK will perform from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 19. This rock band has been described as the perfect storm of great fun, great talent. Their playlist includes classic rock, some hard rock, new music, mix it up with a few mainstream songs and southern rock. The group is based in Genesee County, and rehearses in Fenton.

APPLEFEST **Continued from Front Page**

called St. John's Barbecue. This annual event was held in August during the 1940s and 1950s, when the Rev. Fr. Dennis Patrick Tighe, an Irish priest, was pastor.

Sides of beef were barbecued outside over an open pit. Games, bingo, bake sales, roast beef dinners and other events, including a car raffle, were held.

It was during these years that the parish also held its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on a date close to the saint's day, March 17.

Looking for a church fundraiser 43 years ago, members of the St. John Parish Commission visited

During a 2001 interview, the late Jack Gallagher, a member of the Applefest founding committee, "Fr. McCloskey suggested that a group of us go down to St. John's on M-59 at Hartland and check out their steak fry. Maurie Constantini, Jack Kean

> and Stephany Podolan chaired the festival with me. None of us knew what we were doing. I remember Stephany telling the men that if they couldn't get it done, the women would have to put it on. That motivated us."

Over the course

we have more than

1,000 volunteers

helping us. 77

of the weekend,

For the first few years of the festival, apples were not emphasized. It was simply called St. John Festival. All types of ethnic foods were prepared with various types of German, Hungarian, Irish, Czech, Swiss, Polish, Ukrainian and Russian dishes.

Parishioners used recipes handed down through generations, creating dishes like German Potato Salad, sauerkraut, glumpkies, strudels and kuchens, and even egg rolls.

This activity eventually evolved into specific dinners and a food court featuring various foods.

Because of the abundance of apples and apple orchards in the Fenton area, apples gradually became a part of and then the focus of the festival - eventually becoming the St. John Applefest.

Apple pie sales (about 2,400 sold annually), a pie-baking contest and other related apple treats and activities remain the major focus of the festival.

The festival has grown every year, with new activities and items being added to create a family friendly event of interest to all ages.

New this year is a raffle for a chance to win a four-day, Caribbean cruise for four people aboard Disney Cruise Lines, or a seven-day, Alaskan cruise for two people aboard Princess Cruise Lines. Tickets may be purchased for \$5 each, or \$20 for five tickets.

According to Dave McDermott, who has chaired the Applefest with his wife, Sara, for that past four years, festivalgoers will have a chance to win one of five, two-year lease vehicles, a pontoon boat from White's Landing or \$10,000 in cash. The cars include a Cadillac, a Jeep Cherokee, a Chevy Impala, a Ford Fusion and a Buick Encore.

Most of the same activities will be in place as in previous years, such as Midway features, Attic Treasures, Food Tent sales, Bingo (which will be back in the Knights of Columbus Hall), Nite-N-Reno, dinners and more.

McDermott said the only thing that won't be happening this year is the Texas Hold 'Em tournament.

Fr. David Harvey will favor the St. John Applefest with his famed chili again this year, according to McDermott.

Registration is being accepted for the



tctimes.com

Skerbeck Family Carnival is back

The Skerbeck Family Carnival has been providing thrill rides to the St. John Applefest visitors since 1996, according to owner Bill Skerbeck.

For more than 150 years, starting as a circus in Europe and evolving into a carnival in the United States, the Skerbeck family has been recognized via the prestigious Circle of Excellence Award by the Outdoor Amusement Business Association.

The Skerbecks have added four new attractions and according to Bill, all will be new to Fenton's Applefest this year.

First is the Air Raid, a spectacular new twisting attraction that gives riders the sensation of flying a fighter jet. Riders are secured in open air seats and as the ride rotates, the seats rotate 360 degrees. The Air Raid was built in Italy and is one of only two rides of its type traveling in the United States, according to Skerbeck.

The second new attraction is one aimed at pleasing the kids. On the Motorcycle Jump, kids will get the chance to ride on their own motorcycle. The motorcycles are equipped with horns and as they round the circular track, they go over a jump and "pop a wheelie.

Skerbeck said another new children's ride sure to please is the Mini-Tropical Swinging Boat.

A new LED lighting package has been added to the Skerbeck's iconic Century Wheel. The new LED package can be seen for miles, has an infinite number of patterns, and draws much less electricity than traditional incandescent lighting.

The LED package also has been added to the popular Gravitron ride and the Ring of Fire.

The Applefest uses a ticket system for rides. Generally, the bigger the ride, the more tickets it takes. Rides range from one to four tickets. Most kiddie rides are one ticket. Tickets are \$1 each, or \$20 for 25 tickets. They do not use the wristband system.

— Vera Hogan

Saturday 10K and 5K run, 5K walk, Apple Core (1 mile) and Apple Core-ter (1/4 mile) races, which will take place Saturday morning, Sept. 19. After Sept. 13, the prices to participate in these races go up.

For a schedule of events and activities, race registration and more information, visit the St. John Applefest Facebook page, or go to www.stjohnapplefest.org.

"Over the course of the weekend, we have more than 1,000 volunteers helping us," said McDermott. Many of those volunteers begin their work in January and go all the way until festival time.

The funds raised from the festival go back into the Fenton community through parish activities including support for the St. John Outreach program, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. John School, and other numerous parish ministries.

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In consideration of my participation in this event, I for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release all rights and claims for damages I may have against Riverbend Striders, the sponsors of this event, their agents, representatives, successors, and assignees for any and all injuries suffered by me at said event, or which may arise out of my traveling to, participating in, and returning from these events. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to compete in this event.

St. John Applefest

ATHLETE OR PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _ DATE _

Dave McDermott parish events at Catholic churches Co-chair St. John Applefest around the area and came up with St. John Festival. That was in 1972, when the Rev. Fr. John Hayes was pastor and the Rev. Fr. Tom McCloskey was associate.

— Vera Hogan 36th ANNUAL ST. JOHN APPLEFEST ROAD RACE

Downtown Fenton will be ablaze with color year-round

Incoming plant life designed to withstand cold temperatures

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

With sidewalks nearing completion in downtown Fenton's Streetscape project, patches of dirt are left untouched. Those patches will be filled with trees, shrubs, and flowers to add beauty and put the finishing touches on Fenton's new look.

These plants are commonly used in other streetscape projects, according to Mike Burns, assistant city manager of Fenton. "However, the palate that was designed was done so be best sustain cold weather and endure the effects of road salt," Burns said. These trees, grass, and flowers will be

planted starting later this fall. The ones not planted this fall will be planted as soon as weather permits in the spring.

HERE'S WHAT'S GOING TO BE PLANTED:

TREES



Princeton sentry ginko These green trees bloom in April and grow up to 40 to 50 feet high. It has green fan-shaped leaves that turn

bright yellow in fall and stay for several weeks. When the leaves fall, they fall rapidly, creating a golden carpet around the trunk. These trees are often used as shade, street, or lawn trees.



Autumn gold ginko

Autumn gold trees have fan-shaped leaves that usually bloom in April. They turn from green to yellow and drop fast from the tree

during fall. They grow up to 40- to 50feet high and symmetrically spread 25 to 30 feet.



lvory silk lilac tree

Ivory silk lilac trees grow up to 20- to 25-feet high and spread out anywhere from 15 to 20 feet. With dark green leaves, the

creamy white, fragrant single flowers are arranged in dense clusters. They bloom later than most species of lilacs — in late May to early June.



Celebration maple

These trees are easily spotted because they grow up to 50-feet high and spread up to 35 feet

when mature. The green, deeply cut leaves change from yellow to orange in the fall. With open branch angles and strong wood, these trees are very durable in the winter.



Columnar cherry tree These graceful flowering

cherry trees grow up to 20- to 30-feet high, and spread out from 15 to

20 feet. Known for the attractive pink flowers that bloom in April, the dark purple-black cherries ripen in early summer. However, the fruit is bitter and inedible fresh off the tree. The flowers may turn different shades of red and yellow.

> Source for plant information: missouribotanicalgarden.org and itrees.com

Autumn blaze pear tree

These trees grow up to 40- to 55-feet high, and spread 30 to 40 feet on average. They grow fast

with ascending branches and green leaves that turn from orange-red to scarlet-red in the fall.

Chanticleer pear tree

This upright-branched ornamental tree grows 25- to 35-feet high and spreads anywhere from 13 to 16

feet. Its flowers bloom in April, and it produces small, inedible yellow-greenish fruits.

GRASS

Dwarf zebra grass



a wine-purple color, keep their coloration throughout the growing season.

Oriental fountain grass



flowers bloom from the green foliage and arch up and out. The foliage clumps in late summer, and spreads out like a fountain, hence the name.

FLOWERS =

Stella D'oro daylily

These flowers grow slightly less than a foot tall. Yellow flowers bloom from May to August with

a 2.75-inch diameter.

English lavender



spikes from June to August. They're commonly seen in herb gardens.

Stonecrop (sedium)



to May. They often grow around stoney ledges.

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Alpine Marketplace Red •
 - **CVS** Pharmacy
 - Direct TV
- Holly Foods READ •
 - Kmart
 - **Rite Aid**
 - Sears Hometown Stores
- Target
- Read VG's

To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.

These cherry red flowers bloom from June until the frost. They're lightly fragrant with a 3.5-inch

Little princess apirea

This shrub has pink flowers

in flat-topped clusters. They

bloom May to July, and are

Red knockout rose

diameter, thorns, and are commonly seen in hedges.



known to attract butterflies. The mint green leaves have red hues in autumn.



Endless summer hydrangea

Also called big leaf hydrangea, this shrub grows about 3-feet tall with large

clusters of pink and white summer blooming flowers. They're commonly planted in hedges and usually survive the winter.

Speedwell

These spiky white perennials grow up to 2-feet tall from May to July. The upright white spikes rise 18-24 inches tall.



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, Aug. 28.

The House and Senate are not in session until Sept. 9 and Sept. 1, respectively. Therefore, this report contains several recently introduced bills of interest.

Senate Bill 371: Ban intent to sell ivory and rhinoceros horn products

Introduced by Sen. Steve Bieda (D), to ban the importation, sale, purchase, barter, or possession with intent to sell of ivory or rhinoceros horns and products, subject to fines of \$5,000 or double the value of the products for second offenses. Referred to committee, no further action at this time. See VOTES on 20A

THE STORY

BEHIND OUR BUSINESS







TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Delta Land Surveying & Engineering in Mundy Township is celebrating 50 years in business. From (left) are Fred Shaltz, III, company founder Fred Shaltz PS, Gil Bono PS and Jim Saule, architect. Other employees include Brent Shaltz, Joe Wizynajitys, engineer, Steve Marv, Brad Shaltz and Brad Shaltz, Jr.

Delta Land Surveying has 'stakes' in local community

company continues to be family-owned

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Back 100 years ago in Genesee County,

lot lines were often measured by the location of trees, fences or other objects situated on a person's property. Fifty years, ago, Fred Shaltz saw the

need for a more professional way to establish property lines and used his skills as a licensed surveyor to change all that. After all, his father had been a surveyor in the Upper Peninsula, passing down to his son a love of the land.

Shaltz founded Delta Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc. in 1965 with Herm Bateman. Together, their goal was to survey residential lots and create site plans for commercial, municipal and

Founded in 1965 by Fred Shaltz, the residential development. Fred Shaltz became sole owner in 1975.

"We had an office in the city of Fenton for 29 years," said Shaltz. In 2007, the company moved its location to 6060 Torrey Rd., Suite A in Flint Township, where the company also works on a number of county projects and a ten-county range outside of Genesee County, Today, Shaltz works professionally out of his home in the city of Fenton.

In the last 50 years, Shaltz has had his hand in a number of residential projects, from Lake Fenton waterfront property and Case's Island to Whisperwood Condos, and commercial projects that include Fenton Galleria, Skipper Bud's, Sears, Moy Kong, Subway, McDonald's, Silver Parkway and Halo Burger. "I'd like to thank all the people for their support," said Shaltz.



WEEKEND TIMES







Lake Fenton - \$699,999 80' Frontage, 4 Beds, 5 Baths & 4,200 Sq. Ft. with Finished Walkout



Silver Lake - \$2,300,000 150' Frontage, 5 Beds, 4.5 Baths & 8.000+ Sq. Ft. w/ Walkout



Lake Fenton - \$449,999 40' Frontage, 3 Beds, 2 Baths & 1,920 Sq. Ft.



Lake Fenton - \$299,999 56' Frontage, 2 Beds, 1 Bath & 1,044 Sq. Ft.



Lake Fenton - \$419,999 61' Frontage, 3 Beds, 3 Baths & 3,750 Sq. Ft. with Walkout



Lake Fenton - \$624,999 97' Frontage, 4 Bedrooms, 2.5

Bathrooms & 2,281 Sq. Ft.



Lake Fenton - \$369,000 40' Frontage, 2 Bedrooms, 1.5 Bathrooms & 1,040 Sq. Ft.

393 Davis Road

Lake Fenton - \$699,999

72' Frontage, 4 Beds, 3.5 Baths &

4,700+ Sq. Ft. with Walkout



Lake Ponemah - \$289,900 42' Frontage, 4 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom & 1,320 Sq. Ft.





Fenton Schools - \$135,000 3 Bedrooms, 1.5 Bathrooms & 1,104 Sq. Ft.





80 Chateaux - Vacant Land Silver Lake - \$399,999 | 370' Frontage with 180 degree Views, Gated Chateaux Du Lac, Private Peninsula on Sand Bar! Build your Dream Home!



Barnum Lake - \$99,999 3 Lots in 1 | .724 Acres, Well & Electricity ready!



Lake Fenton - \$749,999 60' Frontage, 4 Beds, 2.5 Baths & 3,400 Sq. Ft.



Crooked Lake - \$450,000 75' Frontage, 6 Beds, 5 Baths & 4,972 Sq. Ft.



Lake Ponemah - \$274,999 40' Frontage, 3 Beds, 1 Bath & 2,754 Sq. Ft.



Eden Gardens Dr

Dollar Lake - \$449,999

Lobdell Lake - \$271,999 82' Frontage, 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom & 1,100 Sq. Ft.







Lake Fenton Canal - \$299,999 80' Frontage, 4 Beds, 3 Baths & 3,000+ Sq. Ft. w/ Walkout



Corner of Linden & Lobdell Rd Sept. 19 & 20 10-5pm

_____ Food Concessions · Music · Youth Activities · Raffles · Arts & Crafts · Apples, Cider & Donuts









Grand Blanc - \$650,000 5 Beds, 3.5 Baths & 6,300+ Sq. Ft. w/ Finished Walkout



Fenton Schools - \$299,999 Warwick Hills, 4 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths & 3,476 Sq. Ft.



Fenton Schools - \$625,000 10 Acres, 3 Beds, 4 Baths, 5,987 Sq. Ft w/ Finished Basement & Wine Cellar



Linden Schools - \$234,900 3 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms & 2,219 Sq. Ft.



Swartz Creek - \$599,999 27 Acres, 6 Beds, 4.5 Baths & 5,086 Sq. Ft. w/ Finished Walkout



Fenton Schools - \$224,999 3 Acres, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms & 1,704 Sq. Ft.

WentworthWaterfront.com



Holly Schools - \$589,000 10 Acres, 5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths & 2,285 Sq. Ft. + Guest House



Grand Blanc - \$219,999 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths & 2,216 Sq. Ft.





Grand Blanc - \$97,500 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom & 1,132 Sq. Ft.

JohnWentworthGroup.com













imber Creek Holly Schools - \$31,500 1.64 Acres to Build Your

Dream Home!

Timber Creek Holly Schools - \$69,999 8 Acres to Build Your Dream Home!

central M

Lake Fenton - \$950,000

Lake Fenton Schools - \$149,999

Lobdell Lake - \$900/mth Perfect for Retail/Studio, 1,600 sqft For Lease



Forward 4 West

Family Fun Run/Walk with Fireworks

Sept. 12th | 8pm

Download your Registration Form at

www.JohnWentworthGroup.com

8393 Silver Lake Rd Lobdell Lake - \$115,000 Percet for Retail or Doctor Office, Land Contract



Fenton Schools - \$199,999

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Lake Fenton Schools - \$199,999

3145 Copper Ave Fenton - \$900,000 Industrial Opportunity! 10 Offices & 22,104 Sq. Ft.



ONE 2 BEDROOM UNIT FOR SALE

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CORNERSTONE CONDOS

WEEKEND TIMES



5180 Lahring Road, Linden • \$419,900 SP



1522 Bone Road, Fenton • \$190,000SP

751 Eagle Drive, Fenton • \$98,500 SP

11323 Bay of Firth, Fenton • \$164,000 SP

455 Timber Hill, Brandon • \$231,500 SP





Which reigning boxing champion died as a result of an infected tooth?

On July 14, 1925, world flyweight boxing champion Pancho Villa died, 23, died from an infection that spread to his throat.

return to top of Metro **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Last year the Flushing Raiders joined the Flint Metro League and ended the Fenton Tigers' six-year run atop the standings.

■ Tigers hoping to

However, the Tigers did continue another impressive streak, capturing their

third straight Class A district crown. And this season it looks like the Tigers should have a decent shot at making it four straight districts, and maybe even returning back to the top of the Metro League standings. Fenton has nine players returning this year,



including seven seniors, so expectations are high.

"Our number one goal is to win the Metro League." Fenton varsity volleyball coach Jerry Eisinger said. "It is a competitive league and we want that as our primary goal. The next is to advance in the state tournament beyond the first round of regionals. Then, see where it takes us from there.

"We have a lot of returning players, so we have experience. Team chemistry seems to be very good and we are starting to gel."

The Linden Eagles are off to a strong start, already earning 12 victories before the players actually begin the academic school year. Six players return from a squad that should see great progress this year. The See VOLLEYBALL on 19A

* TMAS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2015 PAGE 16A

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Fall sports season is hitting its stride, visit totimes.com to follow the action.

Volleyball squads have reason to feel good about 2015

Eagles soar by Fowlerville, 57-14

Sports

Strong fourth quarter helps Linden capture its first victory of the season By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Linden co-head varsity football coach Denny Hopkins saw something that he really liked during Linden's 57-14 football victory against Fowlerville on Thursday night.

"We had a couple of kids step up and play really well for us. That was probably the biggest surprise," Hopkins said. "A couple of kids who did not play a whole lot in game one, came out and had a really good game two. The biggest thing is we had different kids getting playing time and they played well. ... We are getting to the point where if someone doesn't have a good week of practice, they may lose their job, and that type of competition will make us better in the long run."

Leading just 21-7 entering the half, Linden scored five second-half touchdowns to earn the dominant victory. The second half started with a 12yard TD run by Aaron Sarkon. Bailey Davis made one of his

seven extra-point kicks during the contest, raising the gap to 28-7. Fowlerville tried to stick close, scoring on a 32-yard TD pass, but Davis responded with a 36-yard TD run, raising the gap back to 35-14. The fourth quarter was all Linden (1-1). Kevin Bates scored his second TD of the game on a six-yard run, and Nolan Hill scored on a nine-yard interception return for a score. Brandon Versola capped the scoring with a oneyard run. Davis scored on a two-point conversion run to cap the scoring.

In the opening half, Aaron Steedman broke a 7-7 tie with a 38-yard TD run, giving Linden a 14-7 lead. The Eagles would never trail again. The only score in the second quarter came on Sakron's six-yard TD pass to Ryan Young, making it a 21-7 halftime lead.

Sarkon completed 10-of-11 passes for 103 yards, and also ran for 43 yards. Steedman rambled for 108 rushing yards on just 14 carries. Linden had



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Linden lineman Skyler Stites (left) gets a rare chance to run with

the ball in the Eagles' 57-14 victory against Fowlerville. 255 yards rushing total. Defensively, Trent Strang and Hill had interceptions,

while Steedman recorded a

fumble recovery. Three players impressed Hopkins specifically. See EAGLES on 17A

Holly's offense grounded vs. Williamston, 7-6 **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Holly — To those who attended Holly's first home game of the 2015 football season, there's no doubt the Bronchos are a better football team than a year ago.

But while the Bronchos affirmed that notion with a second straight competitive performance against a squad that made the playoffs a year ago, Holly was not able to earn a victory during Thursday night's rainy 7-6 loss to the Williamston Hornets at Holly High School.

Holly had only one scoring drive all night and didn't advance the ball beyond the 50 in the second half until its final two possessions of the game, resulting in the tough defensive-minded loss.

"We competed until the end," Holly senior Adam Tooley said. "It was a really weird game (due to the game being delayed twice due to thunder and lightning). It See HOLLY'S on 18A







summer. She's an up and coming

strong runner. And I can see good

There are some solid returners

within that group of freshmen.

Senior Jordan Holscher finished

fourth overall (21:18.71), while

fellow senior Taylor Ganger

placed fifth (21:27.91). The oth-

er two runners making up Lin-

den's top seven were sophomore

Meghan Hitt who placed 25th

(24:19.39) and senior Madison

Wabel who took 27th (24:30.36).

Wright said. "I'm pretty proud

of the girls, that they were able to

run like that in the heat."

"It was a good start for us,"

12779 (7-12)

things happening for Marissa."

Linden XC off to strong start at Corunna Early Bird

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 There's a little bit of a youth movement going on with the Linden varsity boys cross country team.

With a large chunk of sophomores making up the top 10 runners on the squad, it's easy to see where one would think that the Eagles may be going through a rebuilding mode.

However, that's certainly not the case if the Corunna Early Bird Invitational is any indication. The Linden boys had its team finish second, sixth and ninth at the Tuesday event.

The Linden girls were equally impressive, finishing second at the event, and having its second unit finish 10th.

"I thought the kids ran remarkably well, especially when the factor of varsity experience is considered," Linden boys cross country coach Clint Lawhorne said. "Five of our top seven in the race are 10th graders. Additionally, four of the seven had no previous varsity experience."

Clio's boys also showed the Mustangs are going to be a serious force not only in the Metro League, but in Division 2 competition throughout the season, earning first with just 28 points. Clio's Ethan Tadjonick won the race with a time of 17:05.11. He was followed by Linden's second-place performer, senior Kagen Griffith, finishing with a time of 17:05.11.

Eight of Linden's next nine performers were sophomores. Those runners were Nick Mc-Donald in fifth (17:32.20), Ryan Crutchfield in 17th (18:21.04), Skyler Zieske in 21st (18:52.88), Sebastian Lubahn in 24th (19:14.42), Tanner Blaney in 25th (19:23.17), William Bale in 29th (19:46.05) and Jack Whitman in 31st (19:51.60). Also finishing within Linden's top 10 runners was senior Chase Morse in 18th (18:22.88) and junior Trent Schrader in 33rd (19:56.17).

The Linden girls have a few younger runners on its varsity team as well, and still posted a strong second behind Chelsea.

Freshman Audrey Steiert opened her varsity career, placing third with a time of 20:50.73. Two other freshmen were within Linden's top 10 runners at the meet. They were Kristina Lachowicz who placed 18th (23:58.51) and Marissa Ziccardi in 28th (24:40.52).

"We had some strong performances from our freshmen," Linden girls varsity cross country coach Teresa Wright said. "Audrey is hungry and very strong. She's competitive. I'm excited to see what Kristina can do. She's worked hard over the



Linden runners Chase Morse (right), Kagen Griffith (center) and Nick McDonald (far left) begin their Corunna Early Bird runs.

Lake Fenton at Mustang Invitational

The Lake Fenton cross country teams not only started their seasons on a very hot Tuesday afternoon.

The Blue Devils also started the season on what coach Chris Sobczak thinks may be the toughest course they'll run on this year. Lake Fenton's boys finished

14th in the 21-team varsity event, while the girls placed 15th.

Alexis Cash was the top runner for either team, finishing 17th in the varsity girls race with a time of 21:31.4. Adranda Jabiro was See XC on 18A



It's fair to say the Lake Fenton varsity football team ran an efficient offense in the Blue Devils' 44-6 victory at Durand on Thursday night.

"It was 41-0 seven minutes into the second quarter," Lake Fenton coach Eric Doyle said. "A lot of kids played and that was good. We were able to work on some things and work on us a bit. That was the plan."

In the first quarter alone, three Lake Fenton players had TD runs of 35 yards or longer. Trent Hillger had TD runs of 35 yards and 67 yards in the opening quarter, while Trevor Wright and Jake Zielinkski each had one of 48 yards. Lake Fenton led 29-0 after one quarter.

In the second quarter, Wright caught a 70-yard TD pass and had a 70-yard TD run, raising the Blue Devils' lead to 41-0. A Dylan Hillget 31-yard field goal in the third quarter capped Lake Fenton's scoring.

Wright finished with 118 yards rushing on two carries, while Hillger had 102 on two carries.



Linden lineman Aaron Steedman ran 108 yards and a touchdown in the Eagles' 57-14 victory against the Fowlerville Gladiators on Thursday night.

EAGLES

Continued from Page 16A

"Nolan Hill did a nice job, a really nice job," Hopkins said. "Aaron Steedman did a really fine job running the ball. Those two kids stuck out. And Sawyer Benge, our center, did a really nice job making the calls at the line of scrimmages, solidifying the offensive line. He did a really nice job."

Linden opens Flint Metro League action with a home game against the Holly Bronchos on Friday. Kickoff



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XC

Continued from Page 17A

the next female varsity performer to finish, taking 103rd in 27:03.7.

In the freshman-sophomore girls race, sophomore Rachel Learman posted a 57th-place time of 26:24.6.

The boys had two runners finish with times below 20 minutes. Thomas Mueller led the Blue Devils with a 32nd-place time of 18:52.3 in the varsity boys event. Jacob Fletcher followed in 53rd place in 19:32.7. Eric Niestroy had a strong showing in the freshman-sophomore boys race, placing 22nd in 19:39.1.

"Given the heat and the toughness of the course, I am happy with how they did," Sobczak said.

"They fought. Cass-Benton is easily the hardest course they'll run all season."

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*90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN (PG13) THUR 7:00 9:45 12:05 *THE VISIT (PG13) THURS 7:00 9:25 12:05

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HOLLY'S Continued from Page 16A

was hard to stay focused, but they did a good job for the most part. We just didn't move the ball much on offense today. Defense is our strength. We play well on defense. We have to play better on offense. It'll come."

Holly's ground game was pretty potent during the first half. The Bronchos were able to control the ball during the first 24 minutes, running 33 plays from scrimmage versus Williamston's 13, but were only able to make that advantage work for points once. Those points came on Holly's first possession of the second quarter. Getting the ball back with 11:58 left in the half, the Bronchos' Paris Partee rushed for 55 yards during the drive, helping move the ball to the Williamston 10. That's when the second weather delay happened (the first happened before the opening kickoff). When the teams came back on the field, Javon Barr ran left for a 10-yard TD. Holly missed the extra point and led 6-0 with 9:09 left in the half.

Holly's defense was strong all night long, and forced Williamston to a punt during its next possession. That set up what looked like may become another Holly scoring drive. Holly drove from its own 46 to the Williamston 15 before two plays for losses forced a fourthand-14 from the Williamston 14 with just four seconds left in the half. Garrett Stapleton completed a 23-yard pass to Tooley, who tried to get in the end zone, but fell one yard short as the half ended. Missing that score ended up being critical.

The Hornets had their only scoring drive on their first drive of the second half. A 51-yard screen pass to Jacob Curtis scored the points. Curtis broke a tackle near the line of scrimmage and rambled on for the score. The extra point put Williamston up 7-6. From there, Holly's offense couldn't get much going. The Bronchos' best chance to retake the lead came on Holly's final two drives of the contest. Holly got to Williamston's 38, but an interception by Dan Ostrander ended that threat. Holly had one more last desperate drive with 1:56 left and no time outs. Holly did get to the Williamston 30, but consecutive plays for losses and a penalty set up a fourth-and-25 from Williamston's 45 with 14 seconds left. That's when Williamston collected its third pick of the game. This one was to Blair Johnson, ending the contest.

"If we punch that one in before half-





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

(Top) Holly's Adam Tooley runs downfield during the Bronchos' 7-6 loss to Williamston on Thursday night. The game experienced plenty of rain and two delays — one prior to the start of the game and another one early in the second quarter. (Immediately above) Javon Barr (center) gains some yards.

time, it's a different game," Holly coach Ryan Culloty said. "We didn't. We moved the ball and then we sputtered a little bit when they made adjustments and when the field got a little worse. But we have to punch it in when we have the opportunity. We didn't do that tonight."



Holly's defense was strong, allowing just 136 yards total offense, with 51 coming on the TD reception.

Offensively, Partee had 72 of Holly's 200 rushing yards. Collin Dallwitz added 69.

Holly travels to Linden for both teams' Metro League openers on Friday.

"I think they are a close-knit group," Culloty said. "They are a group that works extremely hard and they want to get better at every opportunity. ... The kids ran hard and played really well. We'll get better when we are getting ready for Linden."

PREP REPORT

GIRLS GOLF

Flushing 176, Holly 218 : Flushing's top two golfers flirted with evenpar scores, helping the Raiders earn the victory.

Kerri Parks was even par through seven holes and tied for match medalist honors with Flushing teammate Brooke Thomas, each shooting a 38 for nine holes.

Holly was led by Jenna Pepper, who shot a 46. Megan McReynolds carded a 49, while Megan Bush shot a 61. Madison Brack had a 62.



VOLLEYBALL Continued from Page 16A

squad should move up in the Metro.

"We want to be better than we were the day before," said Linden coach Cori Mason. "We had some exciting moments and wins (already this season), but there is plenty of room for improvement. This team has a ton of potential, and we are just taking it one day at a time."

Another team looking poised to turn things around a little bit are the Lake Fenton Blue Devils. Winners of just eight matches a year ago, Lake Fenton appears to have enough experience coming back that surpassing last year's win total shouldn't be tough.

We have been performing well in practice, keeping it very competi-Angie DelMorone said.

"I should have several

lineups depending on whom we play. Scrimmages have been going well. We've beaten several Class A schools, but they are only in scrimmages.

"Right now our goal is to work hard in practice, control the ball, learn plays, learn defenses and become stronger physically and mentally.'

At Holly there's a new coaching era about to start. Ex-player Hannah Timm is coming back to coach. The Bronchos have struggled in recent years, so it may take



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Taylor Mowery (front) is one of many Fenton players tive," Lake Fenton coach returning from last season's 38-win effort. The Tigers are expected to be Metro League contenders this fall.

> some time before Holly can think in terms of titles.

"Ultimately this year is going to be all about growth," Timm said.

"There are so many opportunities for these girls to shape this program into what they want Holly volleyball to be viewed as. So far, I am so incredibly proud of the way they are representing the program."

Here are some boxes detailing all four tri-county's volleyball squads entering the 2015 season.

FENTON TIGERS

Coach: Jerry Eisinger 2014 Record: 38-17-4 overall,

6-1 second in the Metro, Class A district champions, lost in Class A regional semis. **Graduated All-TCT players:**

Player of the Year Carly Granger, Kelsie Fischer.

Returning All-TCT players: Jess Warford, Jessie Eastman.

Team summary: The Tigers return nine players, including seven seniors to their squad which won a third straight Class A district crown last year. Offensively, Jess Warford and Jessie Eastman should star, but look for Cassidy Curtis and Shealyn Mandle to provide some kills. Setting them will be setters Nina Lombardi and Kiley Aldred. Defensively, Taylor Mowery and Ali Gundry are strong players.

Coach Eisinger says: "I'm looking forward to an exciting season of volleyball and I'm anxious to see how good this team can be. We lost some key players from last year, but in many ways I see how this team can be better. Now we have to go make that happen."

Prediction: The Tigers saw their Metro League match streak and league championship streak end last year due to the addition of Flushing to the league. This year the Tigers are out for revenge. Fenton has the experience to compete for a Metro crown, and should do just that again this year. But, probably more important is the growing Class A district run. The Tigers should have a shot at making it four straight district titles.

LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS

Coach: Angie DelMarone 2014 Record: 8-33-2 overall, lost

in Class B district opener to Goodrich. **Graduated All-TCT players:** Melody Draeger.

Team summary: The Blue Devils were mighty young last year and struggled. This year, Lake Fenton has a bit more experience, yet they remain a junior-dominated squad with eight juniors on the 14-person team. Allison Petts returns at setter and will be joined by fellow junior Reilly Conn. There are some experienced players to set to. They include four-year player Autumn Beardsley and three-year players Reagan Goupil and Rhiley Cole. Sophomore Hannah Garty also returns. Others who should help the offense are Allison vonDaggenhausen, Logan Larson, Alanna Smiddy and Autumn

Fedewa. Defensively, the Blue Devils will rely on fourth-year player Alyssa Rodgers, second-year player Natalie Osborne, Zoey Howieson and Megan Lynch.

Coach DelMarone says: "The team, as a whole has come in with much higher expectations of themselves. They are more mature, more competitive and have a work ethic that is second to none. Looks like our leadership may be developing into something very positive and exciting. Players are working together for the team. That's always a good thing."

Prediction: The Blue Devils should be a stronger squad this year. How much stronger is the question. Pushing for a double-digit win total and maybe finishing closer to .500 is a realistic goal.

LINDEN EAGLES

Coach: Cori Mason

2014 Record: 20-18-3 overall, 2-5 in Metro, lost to Grand Blanc in district semifinal.

Returning All-TCT players: Megan Klavitter, Breyanna Turnipseed.

Team summary: The Eagles struggled in the Metro League a season ago, but they were young. This season the Eagles have six players back including two very strong ones in defensive player Megan Klavitter and hitter Breyanna Turnipseed. Klavitter is a four-year varsity player while Turnipseed is a three-year varsity performer. Hitter Bridget Adams also is back for her third year as is setter Miranda Fowler. Katie

HOLLY BRONCHOS

Coach: Hannah Timm 2014 Record: 1-6 seventh in Met-

ro, lost in opening round of districts. **Team summary:** The Bronchos'

biggest change is with coach Hannah Timm. Timm played at Holly and is excited to improve upon the program she played. Offensively, Shannon Torpey and Julite Clark will be the key hitters, while Isabelle Brown and Maddie Meszler should handle the setting chores. Defensively, Katie LaClair returns as the team's libero. The Bronchos are a young team. They only have two seniors — Katie Bartholomew and Courtney Acorsi.

Coach Timm says: "I am extremely excited about starting this journey Guilliat and Morgan Fitch also return. But there are eight new players on the team as well. Emma O'Keefe has already added to the attack.

Coach Mason says: "This team just works hard. I think that is my favorite part. Despite the experience we have, we are overall a young team. We are still working on that chemistry and communication."

Prediction: Linden is off to a solid start and appears to be a team that should improve upon its record from a year ago. It will be hard to contend with the Metro's elite for a league crown, but expecting an upperdivision finish is certainly a goal the Eagles should be able to accomplish.

as the varsity coach. Being that I was a Broncho myself, this program is very close to my heart, and I am so excited about the opportunity to bring my style in to the program, and really see how far we can push the girls this season."

Prediction: Holly has suffered through some tough seasons of late, so expecting the squad to become an overnight contender isn't likely. Probably a fair firstseason goal for Timm's young group is to learn her system and build a strong base for the future. Trying to make last year's one-win Metro season into two or three this year would be a solid start on the win-loss ledger.





VOTES

Continued from Page 11A

2015 Senate Bill 383: Impose licensure on midwives

Introduced by Sen. Michael Green (R), to impose a state licensure mandate on midwives (as distinct from "nurse midwives"), including regulations and license fees. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 387: Restrict injection well placement

Introduced by Sen. Dale W. Zorn (R), to prohibit locating an "injection" well for disposing of hazardous material, or for storing other material (potentially including carbon dioxide), in a region determined to have "Karst geology." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 398: Create government sickle cell awareness campaign

Introduced by Sen. Jim Ananich (D), to require the Department of Community Health to create a sickle cell disease public awareness campaign and to "coordinate services available" from state, federal, and voluntary sickle cell disease programs. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 409: Expand meth-related pseudoephedrine restrictions

Introduced by Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R), to authorize up to one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine for attempting to persuade a person to purchase ephedrine or pseudoephedrine while knowing that it will be used to manufacture methamphetamine. Current penalties apply only if the attempt succeeds in persuading someone. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 431: Establish process for removing elected official for mismanagement

Introduced by Sen. Rick Jones (R), to establish a process by which the governing body of a city, village, or county can file a petition in circuit court to remove from office an elected official for misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance related to the custody and accounting of public money, or for failing to obtain or maintain a performance bond that is statutorily required for the office. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4567: Let public schools engage in commercial business

Introduced by Rep. Bradford Jacobsen (R), to establish that property owned or leased by a public school is considered "exempt and immune" from local zoning ordinances, and establish very broad definitions of "school building" and "school purpose." "School purpose" would be defined as "any purpose that may provide a benefit to a public school or its governing board, including...a benefit of a commercial or financial nature." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4578: Authorize school recreation millages

Introduced by Rep. Phil Potvin (R), to revise the law, which authorizes recreational authorities to be created by several local governments, so that the districts could be organized by a school district. The authorities have the power to levy up to 1-mill of property tax for swimming pools, recreation centers, public auditoriums, public conference centers, and parks, upon the approval of voters in each municipality in which the school district is located. The law itself is silent on whether the recreational facilities of an authority may be located at a school, or may be school facilities themselves, but it does require them to be open to the public. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

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News briefs

Generous donations will fund new Patterson Elementary School playground

Children at Patterson Elementary School in Holly may be seeing new play equipment on the playground next spring, thanks to a major gift of \$10,000 from The State Bank of Fenton, and \$12,500 in capital improvement funds from TEAM Patterson, Patterson Elementary's parent-teacher organization. The gifts were announced as part of the "Partnership for Play" campaign kick-off announcement that was hosted in conjunction with Patterson's open house and "meet the principal" event on Wednesday, Sept. 2.Most of the playground equipment at Patterson is more than 20 years old, and is deteriorating. More than 400 students use the playground daily during school periods, and development projections in the area could triple the amount of neighborhood children who use the park to play on evenings and weekends. The goal for the campaign is \$50,000, with \$25,000 toward the goal pledged since launching the campaign's "silent phase" on July 1. The hope is to meet or exceed its goal by spring, 2016, so that the playground can be built as soon as the ground thaws. To help, call (248) 328-3700 or email hollyteampatterson@ gmail.com.

Fenton School of Dance & Academy earns national awards

Local dance team wins No. 2 spot out of 763 acts in Savannah, Georgia

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Fenton School of Dance & Academy has made a name for itself in the local community since it was founded in 1981 by dancer/instructor Susan Carter.

Now the studio has a national reputation follow-

ing the Encore SUMMARY Dance Compe-Fenton School of tition in Savan-Dance & Academy is nah, Georgia on proud of the awards June 25-July 3. they won in national Seventy danccompetition at Encore in Savannah,

ers in the com-Georgia. petitive academy division and their

families spent eight days in Savannah, preparing for competition. Their hard work was rewarded with a First-Place Runner-up Award, out of 763 acts.

"Our jazz production of 'Pretty Hurts' by Beyonce was one of 12 selected out of 763 acts to compete against each other in the Final Showcase Competition," said Carter. "We took First-Place Runner-up and also a number of 'firsts' in overall competition."

Co-directors of the academy, Chelsea Carter and Crystyl Mitchell-Fritz were especially proud of this award. "They (the judges) picked dances that really caught their attention," said Chelsea. "This dance with a message was choreographed by Crystyl."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

A total of 35 students, ages 10 and up, from the Fenton School of Dance & Academy are pictured here in their performance at Encore Dance Competition.

Crystyl also earned a choreography award for "The Most Entertaining" with her choreography of the act, "Video Killed the Radio Star.'

In addition to these awards, the Fenton School of Dance & Academy also earned the Spirit Award.

"It's exciting for me," said Susan. "I started taking students to competition 20 years ago to give my students more performance opportunities. We encourage our dancers to encourage other dancers in a positive environment."

Dance classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 8 for prospective students ages 3 and up at the studio located at 112 East Ellen St. in Fenton. To register, call (810) 629-3551 or email: fentonschooldanz@aol.com.



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"Why all the household dust?"

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

April and Keith Meadows help keep

indoor air clean with their local

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

business, Power Vac. 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.'

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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

come out of the roof. minute, which is what you

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

It took only two weeks for Jim Smith (right) to craft this surprise tribute to longtime friend and business collaborator, Roger Sharp of Sharp Funeral Homes. Smith is a founder of Smith-Peabody Insurance (now Peabody Insurance). "I've got a lot of respect for him," said Smith of Sharp. Sharp said the painting of the Sharp Funeral Homes building in Fenton will hang in his office forever.



5 years ... Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010 No drugs found in Linden High

School drug sweep. A drug sweep conducted by the Argentine Township Police Department and several K-9 teams were unable to find any drugs at Linden High School on Tuesday, the first day of school. At 8:30 a.m. the school announced a lockdown to allow officers and canines to check the school building, lockers and parking lot. "It will send a message. We will not tolerate drugs in the schools," said Russ Ciesielski, Linden High School principal.



10 years ...

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2005

Locals reach out to Katrina victims. A caring community is stepping up to the cause, reaching out to the victims of Hurricane Katrina with donations, collections and fundraisers. From a Red Cross table set up at the Michigan Renaissance Festival to local firefighters adding an extra boot this year during the annual Fill the Boot campaign, local businesses, school and municipal leaders search for ways to help the victims of this devastating storm.

15 years ... Sunday, Sept. 10, 2000

Park Street residents want road closed. Park Street residents in

Fenton are tired of the slipping, sliding, rock flinging and scary moments, watching as vehicles fly up and down the hill to and from South Holly Road, Some, whose homes are closest to the south end of Park Street, worry that one day a car or big truck will lose control and land on their rooftops.

20 years ... Sunday, Sept. 10, 1995

Kandahar sale raises concerns. Some Kandahar Ski Club members are expressing concern about the sale of their 96-acre facility, located on Foley Road in Tyrone Township. Some members of the nonprofit corporation say they heard about the business transaction for the first time after it was a 'done deal.' One area resident said there were about 480 members in the club since 1978. Most members had paid approximately \$500 to become full-fledged members and were charged as much as \$200 a year in fees.

25 years ... Sunday, Sept. 9, 1990

Wires pulled on Fenton buses. The Michigan State Police pulled the wires on Fenton school buses. The district spent \$3,300 to attach flashing stop signs to its fleet of buses. Now State Police officials have told the district to de-activate the devices by clipping the wires until further notice. The signs are considered standard safety equipment for schools in 47 states, but not in Michigan. Fenton is the first district in the state to attach the device.

30 years ...

Sunday, Sept. 8, 1985 Light culprit, historically speaking. The lights in downtown Dibbleville have been installed backward and officers of the Fenton Historical Society are looking the situation over. "I can't understand why the city would put them up facing the sidewalk if they're supposed to look and be of some historical value," said Bob Barnes, president of the Fenton Historical Society. The lights should face the street to provide the historical value intended, other officers said.

Hoover school reunion

A Hoover school reunion for all former students, teachers and neighborhood residents, will be held Sunday, Sept. 13 beginning at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Memorial Home Lounge, 4314 West Carpenter Rd. in Mt Morris Township. For more information, call Jack Steco at (810) 732-8857 or Doris Ballge at (810) 742-4715.



Meet Bonnie Wentz

- Bus driver for 32 years
- Harley-Davidson enthusiast
- Wife, mother, grandmother

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 Bonnie Wentz has been a bus driver for Fenton Area Public Schools for 32 years. She resides in Fenton and has lived in the same house for 37 years. She moved to Fenton from Detroit (Redford), and is a 1969 graduate of Redford High School. 'When I moved to Fenton from Detroit I thought I was moving way up

north. Now up north to me is Oscoda.'

Tell us about your family: My husband's name is Bill and we have been married for 40 years this December. Our children are Dawn Small of Byron, who also drives for Fenton schools, and Billy Wentz of Fenton. We have four grandchildren.

What made you choose this profession? I started to drive the bus when my husband was laid off from General Motors. What many people don't know is that my husband drove the bus before I did. When he was called back to GM, he taught me to drive a bus. The buses back then were stick shifts. Not only did I have to learn to maneuver that big yellow bus, but it was my husband that had to teach me how to drive a stick shift. It wasn't pretty. That was back in 1983 and I am still at it.

What is the best thing about being a school bus driver? The best thing about my job is the kids, I love them, every one of them. And I don't have to work nights, weekends or during the summer if that's what I choose. But I do choose to do field trips and athletic trips sometimes after school and during the summer. I have had children of students that I drove. One of my past students is a teacher at Tomek-Eastern Elementary School, another is a local police officer and another is a doctor. I drove students in pre-school all the way through high school and have attended their weddings. I also have attended funerals for my students. They have all affected my life in one way or another. I love it when I am out in the public and someone comes up to me with their child and introduces me as their old bus driver. I hope they mean that I once was their bus driver not that I was an 'old' bus driver.

What is your pet peeve? My pet peeve is when people don't have the patience while we are loading or unloading our students. I have some wheelchair kids and it takes a little longer getting them on and off the bus. We are not trying to hold up traffic any longer than necessary, but the children's safety always comes first. My heart is now with my special needs children. I wouldn't

trade them for the world. Every one of them has their own story to tell and not until I drove them did I take the time to listen to them and understand what they go through every day. Sometimes it breaks my heart to see their struggles but for the most part, they make me smile.

If not working as a school bus driver, what would you be doing? The truth

"The best thing about my job is the kids, I love them, every one of them."

Bonnie Wentz

TRI-COUNTY TIMES TIM JAGIELO

Bonnie Wentz has driven a Fenton school bus for 32 years, the last eight for special needs students. She said she can't see herself doing anything else.

is I don't know. That is why I'm still driving that big yellow bus. I work with a great bunch of people and we do our best to make sure every child makes it to and from school safely. I try to treat every child on my bus the way I would want another driver to treat my grandchildren, with kindness and respect. I love my job.

What do you like to do in your spare time? When I'm not driving the bus, my husband and I take road trips on our Harleys. I own and ride my own motorcycle.





Thousands attend funeral for fallen trooper

Michigan State Police, as well as more than 3,000 law enforcement personnel from across the country, attended the funeral of MSP Trooper Chad Wolf, who was killed in a motorcycle crash on Friday, Aug. 28.

Summer's not over – yet

Labor Day weekend is only the "unofficial" end of the season. There's still three weeks until fall.

New entrance on Torrey Road to ease school traffic

Construction is nearing completion on a new entrance from Torrey Road to Torrey Hill Intermediate School and West Shore Elementary School in the Lake Fenton school district.

Drowsy driving turned deadly

Part three of a five-part series tells the story of how Rob and Sherry Durk continue their fight to change laws about the length of time truckers can legally drive. Their daughter, Janelle, was killed in a 2006 car crash, caused by a truck driver who had fallen asleep at the wheel after driving for 39 straight hours.



Sharp Funeral Homes would like to thank the surrounding communities, Michigan State Police, City of Fenton Police and Fire and City of Linden Police and Fire for their support at the service for Trooper Chad Wolf.

We also send a special 'thank you' to Pastor Tigg Vanaman and his congregation from the Great Lakes Baptist Church of Holly, The Freedom Center, The Rock Church, Gov. Rick Snyder and the Fenton Area Schools and their students for making this day memorable.

The Sharp Family truly appreciates everyone's support.



WEEKEND TIMES

