More people died from drug overdoses in the United States in 2014 than during any previous year on record, according to a Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report released in January.

From 2000 to 2014, nearly half a million people in the United States died from drug overdoses. In 2014, there were approximately one and a half times more drug overdose deaths in the United States than deaths from motor vehicle crashes.

See HEROIN on 6A

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**Confections for affections**

At Sweet Variations in Fenton, Theodora Shelley of Flint laughs with employee Kate Lefever, as owner Carol Schuler walks behind her. Lefever is packing candy for a sweetheart dance at Shelley’s church on Saturday.

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**Fenton, Holly and Linden water quality reports show low levels of lead in municipal water**

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Residents in the cities of Fenton and Linden, and the village of Holly, have little to fear when it comes to the water coming into their homes.

According to the most recent Water Quality Reports, the city of Linden shows zero lead in its water (tested in 2012). The village of Holly shows .003 parts per million.

See WATER on 11A

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**The city of Fenton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components...**

2014 Water Quality Report
City of Fenton

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**Popular columnist joins the Times**

**King column moves to the midweek edition**

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Today’s weekend edition of the Tri-County Times marks the debut of columnist Andrew Heller on our editorial page.

Heller is best known for his “Come Heller high water” column, which appeared in The Flint Journal from 1989 to 1994.

See COLUMNIST on 15A

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‘I feel totally helpless’

Father of Chris Canup speaks out on his son’s troubled life that ended with a heroin overdose

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Chris Canup was a happy little boy — funny, charming and outgoing. As he got older, teachers loved his energy and intelligence, but his emotional immaturity easily distracted himself and other kids around him.

He smoked pot for the first time at age 7, Chris told the late Times reporter Jan Rynearson in a 2006 story about his teen years, and by the time he was in junior high school.

As a teenager, his behavior got really out of hand at home and at school, according to his father, Phil Canup. He became belligerent and difficult to handle. “We were at our wit’s end,” said Phil. He and his wife, Linda, sent Chris at age 16 to Cross Creek Ranch in Utah, a residential facility that specialized in troubled teens. His age 16 to Cross Creek Ranch in Utah.

Chris became a mentor to other kids in the Cross Creek program, helping them to acclimate in a new environment away from home. When he came home 18 months later, he graduated from Fenton High School in the class of 2007. That’s when the Canups really began to notice addictive behavior in their son. “He was being secretive, dishonest and manipulative,” said Phil. “No matter how much we tried to do for him, he always wanted more, and it all went for drugs.”

The following decade found Chris in a whirlwind of drug use, followed by stints in rehab, then returning to a very prevalent drug culture in Flint. It all ended on Wednesday, Jan. 27, when he was found dead of an apparent heroin overdose in a hotel where he was living on Dort Highway.

“I wake up in the morning and wonder what could I have done differently,” said Phil. “I know it’s not my fault. Chris was very personable and had a huge heart. I felt like he was making progress. But then, there was this really dark side. I feel totally helpless. I’m just going to have to come to grips with this. It’s never going to go away. He kept reaching out. He didn’t give up on life, he gave in to the drugs.”

He didn’t give up on life, he gave in to the drugs.

Phil Canup

Father of son who died of apparent heroin overdose

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Super Bowl halftime, was it politically (in)correct?

Who chooses the artists? How much are they paid? Is performance approved?

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

There hasn’t been this much controversy over a Super Bowl halftime show since 2004, when a little something extra fell out of the “booby” hatch during Janet Jackson’s performance.

Audiences were shocked when Justin Timberlake, who was performing with Jackson, ripped away a part of her garment and voilà, “Nipplegate” was born.

That Super Bowl, coincidentally, was the last time the Carolina Panthers played in the big game and lost to the New England Patriots.

See SUPERBOWL on 8A

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Think varicose veins are just a cosmetic issue?

Think again!

Varicose veins are a sign of vein (venous) disease.

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How do you know when you're in love?

By Andrew Heller
aheller@tctimes.com

Harvey Oswald acted alone.
You thought I was going to include the "long, slow, deep, soft, wet kisses that last three days' part, didn’t you? Well, I thought about it but didn’t want to gross anyone out, much less my 17-year-old son, who might read this and throw up.

I believe Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster and UFOs exist just because it’s more fun to believe than to not.

I think you can and should walk your troubles away.

I think all of you are terrible drivers. I carry the burden of being ‘The World’s Only Good Driver. Do not argue with me about this.

I think there’s a ‘Sindfeld’ quote for every life situation.

I love the Internet but think it’s destroyed three things I love — newspapers, music and books.

If you don’t love Huy Fong Sriracha sauce I don’t think we can be friends.

I think you should only be allowed to own one of those gigantic pick-up trucks or SUVs if you prove you can park it without taking up more than one space.

I suspect we’ve reached a tipping point with TV shows where there are more ads than show.

Lots and lots of stuff bugs me, which is why I ended up as a newspaper columnist.

Anyway, that’s me. I look forward to learning about you. See you next Sunday.
New Fenton Museum Board has big plans for upgrades, activities

Want building repairs and upgrades done before Fenton family reunion

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

After a few years of dormancy, the Fenton Museum Board is alive and well now that the City Council has filled all the vacancies on the seven-member panel.

In addition to Councilman Brad Jacob, who will serve as the council’s liaison member, those appointed to Museum Board spots are Kim Wheeler, Donna Seger, Ken Seger, Les Bland, Matthew Adair and Leo Doan.

Wheeler works as a volunteer at the museum, researching various documents for people. She also is working toward updating records and digitizing them.

Ken Seger, curator of the Museum since 1979 and his wife, Donna, also volunteered to serve on the board. Bland served as the director of the Department of Public Works for 41 years before retiring. He also served in recent years as a member of the Fenton City Council.

Matthew Adair has been heavily involved with both Oakwood Cemetery activities and the museum. Described by his father, Doug Tebo, chairman of the Oakwood Cemetery Board as an “IT guy,” Adair also will be working on digitizing museum records.

Leo Doan, who retired from the Fenton Water Department, after 36 years, now serves as the chairman of the Museum Board.

While the city of Fenton, through its Museum Board, is responsible for the A.J. Phillips Museum building, which is 115 years old, the Fenton Historical Society, of which Doan and Tebo are members, is responsible for the priceless historic documents and artifacts inside.

With the new board in place, the museum will be getting a new lease on life.

“We are very happy that it’s moving forward,” said Ken Seger during a December 2015 interview.

Now that the city has completed its multi-million dollar Streetscape project, members of the Museum Board are happy that the A.J. Phillips Museum will get the attention it deserves.

The building, located at 310 South LeRoy St. is across from the Fenton Police Department and City Hall.

In 1987 when the library needed a bigger building, they moved over to the old Post Office building on Caroline Street, and the museum then moved in and was renamed the A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum.

The work to update begins

Today, the building needs a new paint job. Because it bears the original, lead-based paint, it can’t be scraped off, but rather needs to be removed in accordance with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality regulations. The building also needs a new furnace. The current furnace is 30 years old and went out twice last year.

See MUSEUM on 14A

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HEROIN
Continued from Front Page

Opioids, primarily prescription pain relievers and heroin, are the main drugs associated with overdose deaths. In 2014, opioids were involved in 28,647 deaths, or 61 percent of all drug overdose deaths; the rate of opioid overdoses has tripled since 2000.

Drug overdoses, whether they are accidental overdoses of prescription medicine or overdoses of illegal drugs such as heroin, the effects can be the same death. The Fenton area is not immune to this epidemic.

Briona Jawhari died on Valentine’s Day 2011 from a heroin overdose. She was 17 years old. Briona’s friend Erika Schlosser, 19, of Fenton died two days later from a heroin overdose.

Since her death, Briona’s father, Sam Jawhari of Fenton Township, has been very vocal as he travels to schools to share his daughter’s tragic story. He has been involved with the county’s “Chasing the Dragon” program, which delivers realistic and dramatic presentations at schools.

Jawhari also established Briona’s Legacy. Watch his heartfelt videos about addiction on YouTube by searching for “Briona’s Legacy Slaying the Dragon.”

On Thursday, Jawhari said, “This epidemic is still very bad. All of the politicians, even the president, are talking about this. They are calling addiction a sickness and are talking more of treatment and no jail.”

Jawhari and his family are holding doctors responsible on the prescriptions they write. “And if we can get our borders taken care of, that will stop the heroin from coming in,” he said.

“There’s so much money with the drugs and a lot of corruption that follows it unfortunately. “

In addition to the radio show, Jawhari continues to visit and speak at schools with his Slaying the Dragon presentation. More than 52,000 high school students have seen the presentation.

The following anonymous person’s family has been deeply affected by heroin addiction. Read his straightforward opinion.

“How do you know if you or someone you love is addicted to heroin?
• Scabs and scars around the body
• Constant itching or picking at the skin
• Strange or uneven behavior
• Criminal behavior such as stealing, to support one’s habit
• Drowsiness or lethargic behavior
• Strong drug cravings
• Long, unexplained absences
• Poor performance at work or school

the prescription drugs that lead up to it. The people I blame are those who make vicodin, oxycontin and other opiates so available. When you run out of those prescription drugs, you’re already addicted and it’s a downward spiral. You have no insurance, which leaves you with heroin and that’s the same thing. I know 20-plus people who’ve died from heroin, three of them close friends of mine from high school. It’s heart-breaking if you let it be. At the end of the day, they still choose drugs over you.”

There’s been a significant increase in the use of heroin and other opiates in recent months, according to Joe Karlicheck, chief of operations at STAT EMS, which operates 20 to 22 ambulances a day throughout Genesee County, including the Fenton and Linden areas.

“We average three to four overdoses a week in Genesee County, including several that have taken place in the south end of the county, in Fenton and Linden,” he said.

All ambulances and paramedics are supplied with Narcan, which reverses opioid overdoses. “It’s quite remarkable,” said Karlicheck. “I’ve used it dozens and dozens of times in my career as a paramedic.”

If the heroin is a potent mix or laced with Fentanyl, a user’s respiratory and circulatory systems may collapse and many go into cardiac arrest. “That’s when we give them a low dose of Narcan and the patient literally awakens and is coherent,” said Karlicheck.

After giving a patient Narcan, they are usually transported to the hospital. “It’s in the best interest of the patient,” said Karlicheck. “That way, the hospital can direct them toward rehab. That’s what we all want to have happen.”

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HOT LINE CONTINUED
INTERESTING STORY ON Powers High School. I’m sure it is a wonderful school. However, with more parental involvement and with more expected of our kids, any of our local schools could be just as good.

THE PEOPLE COMPLAINING about the socialist programs we have now are the ones who have to pay for them with their hard-earned money.

HIGH TAXES, HIGH spending, big borrowing. It will be impossible to pay off our $19 trillion debt for years and years to come.

MICHELLE OBAMA ENDORSED Beyonce and Jay-Z donating $1.5 million to the Black Panthers during the Super Bowl halftime show. Cam Newton will probably be next.
Non-profit animal shelters might require background checks

Local shelter directors question pending legislation

By Hannah Ball
hb@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Two of four bills aimed at protecting animals from abuse passed in the Michigan House on Tuesday, but local animal shelter directors question whether the legislation will actually be effective.

House Bills 4353 and 4355 passed in an 87-17 vote and the other two anti-animal abuse bills, Senate Bills 219 and 220, passed late last month.

The package of bills is referred to as Logan’s Law and they would require non-profit animal shelters to run a criminal background check on anyone trying to adopt an animal.

It would be illegal for non-profit animal shelters to adopt out an animal to someone who was convicted of animal abuse. It would also not allow anyone convicted of animal abuse to own an animal for five years.

However, these laws do not apply to for-profit animal shelters.

The Michigan State Police’s Internet Criminal History Access Tool database will be used to run the background checks, and the usual $10 fee will be waived for local- or county-run animal shelters, nonprofit human societies or animal rescue.

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Flushing) said the bill is a good idea, but she has concerns.

“My initial thought is that’s great,” she said. “It depends on what’s included in that. We want to make sure we’re fair. It sounds like it would be a really good safety net for animals.”

Maddock expressed concern over breeders and rescue groups not being included in the bill.

“If they’re going to do it, they need to do it across the board,” Maddock said. She said if someone can’t adopt from an animal shelter because of their criminal history, they could still go to a breeder.

Senate Bills 219 and 220 are currently in the House. House Bills 4353 and 4355 will go to the Senate.

“I just don’t think this will do much for the animals. It will sincerely slow down our process if we have to run everyone who comes in to adopt, who — we eyeball pretty closely anyway — on bulky computers and a website that’s slow to load and will probably crash as soon as this becomes law, and every shelter in the state tries to use it at the same time,” he said.

In a previous Times article, Jody Maddock, director of Adopt-A-Pet in Fenton, said the bill is a good idea, but she feels concerns.

“The legislation seems like it will benefit animal shelters, Paul Wallace, director of Genesee County Animal Control, said it looks like “feel-good legislation without much of a tooth.”

Only Michigan convictions are recorded in the ICHAT system, Wallace said, and if an offender is from another state, or charged but not convicted, “an all too common occurrence,” their name won’t appear in the system as an abuser.

If someone is charged but pleaded out to a lesser charge, which is more common, Wallace said, their name also wouldn’t be listed as an offender.

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Someone with mental health issues could also avoid being listed as an abuser because those records are protected under Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) laws.

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SUPERBOWL
Continued from Page 3A

The Super Bowl 50 halftime controversy involves a performance by Beyoncé, who many believe upstaged the headliner band Coldplay, and singer Bruno Mars with a politically charged message.

Beyoncé and her dancers were decked out in “Black Panther-type” outfits complete with black berets. Their jackets closely resembled the look Michael Jackson sported (only he wore pants) during his 1993 Super Bowl performance.

Her message, during all the “singing, dancing and twerking” didn’t set well with some viewers, including former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who slammed Beyoncé for her “black power” salute during the halftime show.

“I think it was outrageous,” Giuliani told Fox News on Monday. “This is football, not Hollywood, and I thought it was really outrageous that she used it as a platform to attack police officers who are the people who protect us and keep us alive.”

Since her performance, Beyoncé has received considerable backlash and positive support for her show via social media. One man wrote on her Facebook page, “Hope you enjoyed the police escort on the way in and out of the stadium, as well as the police support that was given to continuously keep and protect the venue from a large scale terrorist attack while you were performing. Think about that next time you advocate an anti-police movement.”

WHO SELECTS SUPER BOWL HALFTIME PERFORMERS?
Sarah Moll, director of media events for the National Football League (NFL), and her team compile a list of hot performers who are, in her words, “at the top of their game and who will put on the coolest 12 minutes in music, because that’s kind of what the halftime show boils down to.”

Artists do not campaign to perform the halftime show. Moll says it is safe to say that no musician would turn down the opportunity to perform and promote themselves in front of more than 100 million viewers.

Months of planning go into each halftime show.
ARE ORGANIZERS AWARE OF PERFORMANCE CONTENT?
Once the performers are selected and they accept, the show’s producer and director sit down with the artists to discuss everything from the lighting and stage design to the set list and the guests who will accompany them on stage.

Several weeks before the show, a crew of about 300 workers are hired and trained to assemble and break down the stage in a matter of minutes. In the days leading up to the game, the artists and the crew rehearse the show to ensure a smooth execution on game day.

The show is the work of the same team, which consists of a half dozen people in Moll’s department who approve all the creative decisions, the NFL’s production company, Touchdown Entertainment, as well as a producer and director.

HOW MUCH DO THE PERFORMERS GET PAID?
Zero. They do not get paid, but their expenses and production costs are covered. Those production costs can range anywhere from a few hundred thousand dollars up to $10 million. Because the Super Bowl reaches more than 100 million viewers, the opportunity to perform at the halftime show serves as a free commercial for headlining acts.

In the past, the NFL has tried to make celebrities pay in order to be in the halftime show. According to Billboard, the NFL asked Katy Perry to pay them in order to perform at the Super Bowl. Perry refused and said, “Look guys, here’s where I draw a line in the sand.”

Sources: newyork.com; heavy.com; billboard.com

BEYONCÉ ANNOUNCES FORD FIELD SHOW TO BENEFIT FLINT

Beyoncé’s representatives announced Sunday night that she will perform at Ford Field in Detroit on May 29.

The show is part of a stadium tour the superstar announced at the tailend of her Super Bowl appearance, which consists of a half dozen people in Moll’s department who approve all the creative decisions, the NFL’s production company, Touchdown Entertainment, as well as a producer and director.

GET READY FOR MORE OF THE SAME AT ACADEMY AWARDS

The annual Academy Awards, which typically attracts anywhere between 40 to 45 million viewers worldwide, provides another venue for superstars to share their views on social issues.

The Academy Awards will take place on Feb. 28 and will be aired on ABC.

Since the Oscars have already been fraught with controversy over lack of diversity in nominations, with some actors refusing to attend, viewers can likely expect more of the same at the Super Bowl during the Academy Awards ceremony.

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We’re here 24/7! We Make House Calls!
Couples often give gifts of chocolate as a symbol of love

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

Chocolate has always been cast as the symbol of seduction in movies, visually sharing its history as a love food. Passion for chocolate truly is rooted in history, when cocoa beans were as valuable a commodity as gold, according to the Smithsonian Institute.

That love affair between chocolate and consumers remains today, as Americans are expected to buy more than $345 million in chocolate candy during Valentine’s Day week.

It’s one of the top three days for chocolate confections at Fun With Frosting in Fenton Township, third only to Easter and Christmas. “We’ll sell a lot of heart-shaped cakes and ‘love bugs,’ ” said owner Lindsay Block. “These are cupcake bodies with cookie feet and antennas.”

She’ll also be baking heart-shaped cookies that look like conversation hearts, as well as cashew caramel clusters and pecan turtles.

“This is our first year in the shop, so I’m not exactly sure what to expect,” said Block.

This year, Lent also happens to hit right around the same time as Valentine’s Day. Carol Schuler, owner of Sweet Variations in downtown Fenton, suggests maybe helping others during the Lenten season, as opposed to giving something up, such as sweets.

On Wednesday, mostly men were in the shop, hand-picking pieces for heart-shaped gift boxes, something that Schuler said has recently come back in style. Bulk candy is also up, and Schuler has just released a new 75-percent dark chocolate item.

Chocolate and Valentine’s Day are lifelong lovers

Interesting facts about chocolate and Valentine’s Day:
• Richard Cadbury began selling chocolates in heart-shaped boxes in 1861.
• Americans will purchase about 58 million pounds of chocolate leading up to Feb. 14.
• 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolates are sold each Valentine’s Day.
• Eight billion conversation hearts are sold between Feb. 1 and 14.

View stories at tctimes.com

**VALENTINE’S GIFT GUIDE**

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MISSING PERSON
Timothy Ward was last seen on Sunday, Jan. 31, according to an alert issued by the Michigan State Police. Ward resides at the Rose Hill Residential Treatment Center in Holly Township. He suffers from schizophrenia and has been off his medication since approximately Jan. 20. He previously resided with family in the Canton area and may be attempting to travel home. A search of the Rose Hill grounds by MSP and canine units did not locate Ward. The MSP requests that anyone who may have information or came upon Ward to contact the Metro Post at (248) 584-5740.

TAXES WERE ALREADY FILED?
On Feb. 10, a 44-year-old Fenton man filed a fraud complaint with Fenton police. Lt. Jason Slater said the man filed his taxes online on Feb. 9. On Feb. 10, the man received an email from the online tax company informing him that someone else had already filed taxes with his Social Security number. The man filed a complaint with the IRS and the case remains under investigation.

ROAD RAGE, CHARGES PENDING
At 6:27 p.m. on Feb. 7, Fenton police responded to the area of LeRoy and Main for two men fighting in the street. Lt. Jason Slater said it was a case of road rage involving a 39-year-old Fenton man and a 22-year-old Plymouth man. The Fenton man was a passenger in a car being driven by his girlfriend. They were traveling southbound on LeRoy. The Plymouth man apparently did not like how slowly the Fenton car was traveling and yelled profanities to them as he passed their vehicle. The two vehicles were stopped by a passing train and the two men eventually exited their cars, shouting profanities and exchanging physical blows. Police observed minor injuries on both men. Statements given by the men and witnesses indicated discrepancies in their stories. The case will be turned over to the prosecutor’s office for determination of charges.

What happened to kids like ‘Chunk’ and ‘Ralphie’
Young actors in popular movies look surprisingly different today
By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Bruce Bogtrotter
Actor Jimmy Karz, who is now 31 years old, played the part of Bruce Bogtrotter in the 1996 movie, “Matilda.” The film tells the story of Matilda Wormwood, a gifted girl forced to put up with a crude, distant parents, and an evil principal at school. During one scene during a school assembly, the principal demands to know if Bruce ate a piece of a chocolate cake made especially for her. His famous line, “Well, it’s hard for me to remember a specific cake.”

Ralphie Parker
Peter Billingsley, 44, is an actor, director and producer. He played the part of Ralphie Parker in the 1983 movie, “A Christmas Story.” Ralphie always wanted an official Red Ryder, carbine action, 200-shot range model air rifle. His mother refused, saying, “No, you’ll shoot your eye out.”

Lawrence ‘Chunk’ Cohen
Jeff Cohen, 41, an entertainment attorney in Los Angeles, played the part of “Chunk” in the 1985 movie, “The Goonies.” His famous words were, “Hey, mister (to Sloth, a big-headed, droopy eyed, monster-like character)? Are you hungry? I got a Baby Ruth.”

Vern Tessio
Jerry O’Connell, who will be 42 on Feb. 17, played the part of chubby Vern Tessio in the 1986 movie, “Stand By Me.” Vern is known for dogging like a prairie dog in search of his pot of pennies and loved cherry-flavored Pez. Today, he is still an actor, and has recently enrolled in law school in Los Angeles.

Kevin McCallister
Macaulay Culkin played the part of Kevin McCallister in two Home Alone movies; “Home Alone” (1990), and “Home Alone 2 Lost in New York City (1992). Today, at 35, Culkin is an actor and musician. Kevin is remembered for lines like “A lovely cheese pizza, just for me,” and “Nice night for a neck injury.”

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Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate
were paying for contaminated water.
To appropriate $30 million from state
water bills.
Senate Bill 136: Flint water con-
tamination response — rebate
water bills.
To appropriate $30 million from state
water bills.
Senate Bill 673: Extend tax breaks
for local developers program
To extend through 2026 the authority
for local governments to grant
"Obsolete Property Rehabilitation" property
tax breaks to particular developers they select. Under current
law, this expires at the end of 2016.
Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate
Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) YES
Senate Bill 501: Require alien
drivers to have visa or passport
while driving
To require resident aliens who drive
a vehicle in Michigan to have both a
valid driver’s license issued by their
native land and a passport or valid
visa. Current law only requires a valid
driver’s license. (A legal alien can also
get a Michigan drivers license.)
Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate
Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) YES
House Bill 4583: Authorize
interstate medical licensure
compact
To authorize Michigan’s participation in an interstate medical licensure
compact that would establish “a streamlined process that allows
physicians to become licensed in multiple states.” Among other things,
this would make it easier for residents to access innovative "telemedicine"
health care delivery services.
Passed 103 to 3 in the House
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) YES
House Bill 5023: Establish more
"dark sky preserves"
To designate the Rockport State
Recreation Area, Negwegon State
Park, and Thompson’s Harbor State
Park as “dark sky preserves,” which
means state authorities must restrict
outdoor lighting to only that needed
to ensure safety, security or reasonable use and enjoyment.
Passed 88 to 18 in the House
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) YES
WATER
Continued from Front Page
billion of lead (tested in 2013), and the city
of Fenton shows 1.4 parts per billion of lead
(tested in 2014).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers 15 parts per billion
the level when action to remove lead is
required.
The highest level of lead found in a city
of Flint home registered at about 13,000
parts per billion. The EPA considers 5,000
parts per billion “toxic waste.”

According to Dan Czarnecki, director
of Fenton’s Department of Public Works,
a water quality report is sent to residents
each year in July.

“You can see that 90 percent of the homes
we tested for lead were equal to or under 1.4
ppb, well below the 15 ppb action level,”
he said. “We had no homes tested that were
above the lead action level.

According to the city of Fenton’s 2014
Water Quality Report, “… Lead in drinking
water is primarily from materials and
components associated with service lines
and home plumbing.

“The city of Fenton is responsible for
providing high quality drinking water, but
cannot control the variety of materials used
in plumbing components.

“When your water has been sitting
for several hours, you can minimize the
potential for lead exposure by flushing your
taps for 30 seconds to two minutes before
using water for drinking or cooking. If you
are concerned about lead in your water, you
may wish to have your water tested.”

For more information on safe drinking
water, testing methods and steps you can
take to minimize exposure, visit epa.gov/
safe/water/lead.

(Source: washingtonpost.com)
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**IN GENESSEE COUNTY**
MUSEUM
Continued from Page 5A

The roof is good, but some of the windows have issues. There is also a leak in the plumbing. Doan said they are working toward identifying the source of the leak, which ultimately will result in a repair and lower water/sewer bills.

The electrical system in the building also needs work. “We are going to have Consumers Energy come out and conduct an energy review to determine where money can be saved,” said Doan.

Museum Board members are currently getting estimates on the needed repairs. Once they know what kind of money they will need, they will compare that to a budget and possibly seek alternate funding sources. Plans for the future

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- Sears Hometown Stores
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Additionally, the board members are brainstorming ways to attract more attention and bring more people to the museum.

One activity they are working toward is choosing a theme for each month. According to Doan, the theme could be local military memorabilia, school sports or notable Fenton founders, for example.

Each month, all of the documents, artifacts and other memorabilia related to that theme would be displayed at the front of the museum. The displays will be very attractive thanks to the generosity of Chip Bellinck, owner of Sawyer Jewelers, who donated two 7-foot-tall, 6-foot-wide display cases, from the jewelry store formerly located on Adelaide Street.

Although the museum is open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays, it can be opened at any time by appointment. Several local school classes and Scouts tour the museum during field trips.

The Fentons are coming!

One of Fenton’s founding fathers, William Fenton, for whom the town is named, still has many descendents living in different areas. This summer, the Fenton family will hold its family reunion in the city of Fenton. There are about 16 or 17 of them so far, said Cemetery Board Chairman Doug Tebo. The family plans on being in town for the Fourth of July parade and all of the festivities. More ideas are being bounced around for their visit, Tebo said. More details will be coming as plans are confirmed.

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

Continued from Front Page

The alleged incident occurred on Oct. 27, 2015, over a series of Instagram posts, direct messages and text messages, which suggested there might be a shooting at the school perpetrated by the three teens.

At the time, Argentine Township Police handled the case and called in the FBI for assistance.

Wednesday was the first time details of what was said that constituted a threat, were made public. Neither Brewer nor Dukes could be photographed, as they are still minors.

The facts of the case were revealed as Genesee County Assistant Prosecutor David Guinn presented witnesses, starting with the alleged victim of violent threats, which she said were made by Dukes and also Stevens and Brewer.

The entire incident stemmed from an insulting Instagram post made by Stevens about the 17-year-old witness, who also could not be photographed. When she heard about the post, she retaliated against Stevens online, not be photographed. When she heard about the 17-year-old witness, who also could be photographed, as they are still minors.

and the alleged victim ensued.

The fight escalated to the point where the witness said that Dukes threatened her in a way that made her feel unsafe and afraid to go home after school. It was the physical threats from Dukes that made her report the incident to the Linden High School liaison officer, who works with the Argentine Township Police Department.

The witness said that she first felt threatened by Dukes. She testified that he allegedly asked her to “call him out” instead of calling out Stevens — “Please say some silly s--- so I can explain to the police why your decapitated head is sitting on my dresser.”

She said the threats continued. The witness testified that Dukes said he would “rape me and make my boyfriend watch,” and hopes that she overdoes, kills herself and other more graphic threats that she read during school. Brewer hinted that he could “hit a woman.” The witness said, “I felt threatened, I was scared to go home.”

Brewer, during the feud, allegedly asked the witness where she was. The witness said she was in school, which is when the school threats began, from Stevens and Brewer on Instagram.

Steven allegedly said in a message, “school shooting in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1,” while Brewer posted a stock image of children around a fire with the caption, “summoning the demon of a school shooter.”

The witness took all of this information to the school liaison officer. In court, she said she didn’t think the school threat was real.

On redirect, Dukes’ attorney raised the point that the witness didn’t know Dukes directly, and that his Instagram handle, “thug-nasty_666” didn’t directly link to the teen. Messages related to a school shooting allegedly came around 1 p.m. that day.

FBI Special Agent Henrik Impola was a witness for the prosecution. He described texts between the three suspects that made investigators take the plot very seriously, including photos sent by phone, of Brewer and Dukes with guns.

The three teens were located and questioned about the texts, photos and Instagram posts on Oct. 29, 2015. Stevens, Brewer and Dukes were eventually read their Miranda Rights and arrested. Since then, they've been lodged at the Regional Detention Center.

The preliminary exam ran from 11 a.m. to nearly 5 p.m. on Wednesday. All three defense attorneys requested a reduction in bail, and/or that the three teens be re-manded to custody at home with a tether, which Judge Goggins denied.

The next court hearing is set for Feb. 24 at 10 a.m.

Dukes have been lodged at the Genesee County Jail, and Brewer and Stevens have been lodged at the Regional Detention Center.

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FBI Special Agent Henrik Impola helped coordinate the initial investigation of the alleged shooting plot.

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Blue Devils sweep two road games

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team’s offense was struggling.

The Blue Devils had scored just 18 first-half points. They needed to find their offense in the second half.

They found it. The Blue Devils scored 37 second-half points, including 24 in the third quarter, leading the Blue Devils to a 55-52 victory against Clio on Tuesday. The squad made it a sweep for the week, defeating Genesee Christian 51-43 on Thursday as well.

Against Clio, Lake Fenton (12-2) trailed 32-18 entering halftime, but cut
See DEVILS on 19A

Tri-County Times | David Troppens

Lake Fenton’s Saben Spangler (left) works on trying to take down a foe during the Blue Devils’ team district championship match Thursday night.

Squad travels to Ithaca regional on Wednesday

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Perry — It was complete domination, but there wasn’t too much celebrating going on.

Sure there was the obligatory team trophy shot, but that was more for the excited parents, not the wrestlers themselves.

Yes, the Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team won its sixth straight D3 team district title at Perry High School on Thursday. Yes, it was nice to advance. But, the second-ranked Blue Devils have much higher goals than a district crown, and their attitudes reflected that on Thursday night.

However, it was the first step. Lake Fenton earned a spot in the D3 Ithaca Team Regional on Wednesday by defeating Perry, 56-16 and Williamston, 56-13, by convincing margins, proving why the Blue Devils are the second-ranked team in D3.

The Blue Devils were pleased with their performance.

“We are getting there. We want to see how far we can go and want to keep on rolling,” Hunter Corcoran said. “Everyone needs to keep up this pace. We have a great chance to win it this year. It’s already been a fun year. These kids are so committed and pumped. We want to go to states and win it this year. That’s our goal.”

“I thought we wrestled well,” Trent Hillger said. “Obviously, we need to improve to do well at team states and all of that. We just have to keep on improving. We’ll have tougher teams with Lakewood and Corunna (at regionals) but we just have to keep improving because we’ll have the powerhouses like Richmond and Dundee eventually. I thought we wrestled well for our first postseason match.”

The Blue Devils opened with an easy victory against Perry. Ryan Franks (215) opened the match with a pinfall win in 28 seconds and Lake
See SIXTH on 20A
Bronsco fall out of first, loses to Flushing

Holly will need help in order to capture league crown

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Flushing — The Holly varsity boys basketball team picked the wrong moment to have an off night.

In a game between the two teams tied for first place in the Metro League, the Bronchos fouled out two key starters, netted just 50 percent of its free throws (11-for-22), scored just one field goal in the second quarter and also turned the ball over seven times in the first quarter resulting in what was a 56-54 loss to first-place Flushing at Flushing High School on Tuesday night.

Tied at 54-all, Flushing’s Logan Plude hit a putback shot with four seconds left, giving the Raiders a 56-54 lead. The Bronchos’ Kyle Woodruff had a desperation three-point shot from about half court at the buzzer, but his show didn’t go in, giving the Raiders the pivotal home victory.

The loss means Holly (9-2, 11-3) will need help if the Bronchos want to win their third straight Metro League crown. Flushing (10-1, 12-2) leads the Bronchos by a game with both teams having just three league contests remaining and none between each other.

“We had one of our worst offensive games of the year,” Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis said. “We had the shots. We had the looks. At the free-throw line there is no one guarding you ... and we missed 11 free throws. You can’t do that.”

The missed free throws, which also included two misses on the front ends of one-and-the-bonus chances, was the biggest thought on the Bronchos’ minds after the loss.

“There probably were a couple of jitters. It was a big game and a few guys are not used to the spotlight,” senior Adam Tooley said.

“But we have to knock them down. That’s what we have to do. We just didn’t hit them.”

The loss was a bit more surprising considering what the Bronchos did to Flushing on Jan. 22 at Holly’s home gym. The Bronchos crushed the Raiders 72-42 in a game that wasn’t even as close as the distant 30-point margin would suggest.

In that contest the Bronchos were patient in their halfcourt against Flushing’s zone defense, usually resulting in a great open look offensively.

Flushing still played that zone, but seemed to push it closer to the three-point arc and seemed to get out to the perimeter quicker than they did about three weeks ago. The results were Holly turning the ball over 15 times, including seven times in the first quarter and not hitting their shots as efficiently as they can.

Pluta said. “Goodrich is tough. We were outmatched.”

Holly had four double-winners during the night. They were Mitch Nelson (125), Cade Dallwitz (171), Collin Dallwitz (215) and Jimmy Gray (285).

Holly finished 22-9. The Bronchos won just five matches last year.

Holly had many key injuries impact its chances of winning a district crown.

Four Eagles won their matches. They were Mitchell Kerr (145), Cade Dickson (189), Aaron Steedman (215) and Jaylin Steedman (285). Kerr won by pinfall. Luke Zimmerman, Patrick Kerr, Stojan Prusac and Skyler Stites were out with injuries.

Linden capped its season with a healthy 25-7 record, the third-best team record in Linden history.

Fenton had four wrestlers win matches against the Bronchos. They were Mario Ramirez (112), Jake Church (140), Jacob Kinser (145) and Will Galvin (160).

Eagles, Bronchos fall to Goodrich in team district meet

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Goodrich proved pretty tough for two area Division 2 wrestling squads in Holly to try to win a district championship on Saturday.

The Martians defeated Linden 52-19 and then beat the Holly Bronchos 50-16 in the finals. Holly defeated the Fenton Tigers 44-28 in the Bronchos’ opening round match.

“I was a tough night for the Flint Metro League,” Holly wrestling coach Don Hoving said.

Pluta said. “Goodrich is tough. We were outmatched.”

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Lady Tigers fall to Carman-Ainsworth, 53-33

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

One thing can be said about the Fenton varsity girls basketball team’s losses this season.

All of them have come against very good teams.

The Tigers lost only their fifth game of the season, and did so against another tough competitor on Tuesday. Fenton lost a 53-33 verdict on the road to Flint Carman-Ainsworth (11-4).

How tough has Fenton’s foes been in this season? The Cavaliers’ 11-4 record marks the second-worst slate of the year for Fenton. All of the teams that have beaten Fenton on the road have been Virginia, If this noise and vibration continues it will not only affect your ride, but could also affect the structural integrity of your vehicle.

Chris Wilkinson, Certified Mechanic

ASK THE MECHANIC

Q: We have a Ford Windstar. We had a flat tire in the rear and put on a full-size spare. The spare has deeper tread than the other three tires. There is a large bounce and a bad vibration at about 50 mph. Could this be caused by the spare? childbirth.

A: Yes, especially after plugging the spare on, then it is most likely the cause. You need to check for mud build up in the rim if the spare tire was kept under the vehicle, as this will cause a lot of vibration at that speed. Also, you should check the lug nuts right away to make sure they are tightened properly. Other things I would look at is to see if the rim is making contact with any part of the brake or suspension. This should show some signs of rubbing like a skinny spot on it.

Last but not least, I would check the air pressure and balance of the tire.

If it is a spare it may not have been properly balanced. Also depending on how old it is, tires can go bad over time without having ever been on the road. If this is an all wheel drive van or has anti lock brakes, the difference in the tread wear can certainly cause a problem as well.

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ASK THE MECHANIC

Q: We have a Ford Windstar. We had a flat tire in the rear and put on a full-size spare. The spare has deeper tread than the other three tires. There is a large bounce and a bad vibration at about 50 mph. Could this be caused by the spare? childbirth.

A: Yes, especially after plugging the spare on, then it is most likely the cause. You need to check for mud build up in the rim if the spare tire was kept under the vehicle, as this will cause a lot of vibration at that speed. Also, you should check the lug nuts right away to make sure they are tightened properly. Other things I would look at is to see if the rim is making contact with any part of the brake or suspension. This should show some signs of rubbing like a skinny spot on it.

Last but not least, I would check the air pressure and balance of the tire.

If it is a spare it may not have been properly balanced. Also depending on how old it is, tires can go bad over time without having ever been on the road. If this is an all wheel drive van or has anti lock brakes, the difference in the tread wear can certainly cause a problem as well.

Do you have a question that you would like to have answered? Email it to me at: askthemechanic@wilkinsonautorepair.com

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Holly’s Smith headed to Lawrence Tech

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com, 810-433-6789

Holly — Kaitlyn Smith has had the goal of playing college basketball ever since she first put on her Holly varsity girls basketball uniform as a freshman. Now, almost four years later, the No. 1 scorer in Holly girls basketball history completed her goal Feb 4, signing with Lawrence Tech as a new member of the Blue Devils’ nationally ranked women’s basketball program.

“It means a lot,” Smith said. “It’s a big relief to make the decision. During my freshman year I got pretty serious about it.”

Lawrence Tech’s fourth-year head coach Mary Pinkowski is excited to be getting Smith as well.

“I’m excited about her personality,” Pinkowski said. “I think she will be a great asset to our program. Obviously, her playing ability is important but with our program we think it takes a unique person who can take the mental and physical regiment of our academic and athletic programs. They are going to be challenged … and it’s going to take an incredibly strong-minded individual to succeed.”

The Blue Devils are only in their fourth season, yet Pinkowski has the program at 18-2 overall, in first place in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and ranked in the nation in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Smith said it was between Lawrence Tech and Alma College.

“I loved Lawrence Tech and the atmosphere going there,” Smith said. “There is a lot of great students and they get along with their coaches really well, so it was an easy decision for me.”

Smith will likely play in a shooting guard position, but could move anywhere from a point guard to a small forward position. Holly varsity girls basketball coach David Hall thinks Lawrence Tech is a great fit for Smith.

“Holly’s statistically whatever you do,” Hall said. “You can put her at any position and she can do it. She is the student-athlete you dream of.”

“I think it’s a job well done,” Smith said. “I put it up,” Harless said about his tying bucket. “It means a lot,” Smith said. “It’s a much needed lift.”

They are one of the best teams in their league. They are only in the fourth year of their program but they already have made steps to be in the top third of their league and now they are at the top,” Hall said. “She gets to be a part of that, be a contributor and help get her education supplemented.”

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On Buick, 0% for 60 available in lieu of some rebates. All vehicles are plus tax, title and doc fees. GM Employee pricing required. Other rebates may apply. Discounts are off of MSRP.

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Lake Fenton celebrates its Division 3 team district trophy moments after earning it at Perry High School on Thursday.

SIXTH
Continued from Page 17A
Fenton never trailed. The Blue Devils did lead just 12-7 after four matches, but Jarrett Trombly’s (119) forfeit victory started a run of six straight Lake Fenton wins. Saben Spangler (130) was the only other Lake Fenton wrestler to win a pinfall match. The others who won matches on the mat were Corcoran (125) and Jared Hatherill (160). Hillger (285), Devan Melick (135), Jackson Nevedowski (140), Brendan Carr (145) and Kyle Sanders (171) won matches by forfeit.

Against Williamson, Hillger (285) opened the match in a battle of defending individual state champions by crashing Maddox Maki by pinfall in just 1:17. From there, the Blue Devils never slowed down, winning all but three of the 14 matches.

“I just had to be super-aggressive,” Hillger said about his victory against Maki. “Most heavyweights want to keep it at a one-point match. I don’t like wrestling like that. I like getting it over as soon as possible, moving around, and that’s what I did. That’s how I ended up beating him.”

Melick (135), Nevedowski (140), Hatherill (160) and Leo Shustock (189) also had pin victories, while Corcoran (125) recorded a technical fall win. Hunter Hypio (112), Keinan Hagenstein (152) and Kyle Sanders (171) had decision victories, while Trombly (119) had a forfeit victory.

Lake Fenton varsity coach Vance Corcoran has never lost a team district in his career with the Blue Devils.

“We don’t look to just win districts, so this is kind of like just another meet for us,” Corcoran said. “We are expected to win it and we expect to win it every single year. We have the same expectations for the regional title next week. It’s just a special team where everywhere we go we expect to do well and expect to win.”

BOYS BASKETBALL
Linden freshmen 52, Brandon 50: Travis Kloczek and Max James scored 14 points each for the Eagles. All 10 Linden players scored in the victory.

COMPETITIVE CHEER
Metro League Meet: The Metro League’s regular season was completed with the final meet held at Clio on Wednesday. The Fenton Tigers finished fifth, while Linden was sixth and Holly was seventh. Brandon won the meet with 759.86 points during the three rounds. Fenton finished with a 720.28 score, while Linden and Holly recorded team scores of 708.28 and 696.96, respectively.

Fenton finished in fifth in the overall standings, while Linden was sixth and Holly was seventh.

GIRLS BOWLING
Fenton def. Brandon: Angela Hanners bowled a 209-148-357 series, helping lead the Tigers to the victory. Molly Beck also had a 160-146-306 series.

Holly def. Linden: Madisyn Fultz bowled a 156-163-319 series, leading the Bronchos to the victory against Linden. The squad also combined to bowl a 162 baker game. Linden was led by Molly Churches who had the best series in the match — a 187-164-351 performance.

222 baker game. Linden was led by Trevor Sundría’s 189-204-389 series.

Brandon def. Fenton: John Cryderman had a 161-231-392 series, and the squad teamed for a 212 baker game, but the Tigers lost a tough meet against the Bapahawks. Alex Keith had a 226 game for Fenton.

SWIMMING
AGS Middle School 82, Carman-Ainsworth 58: Logan Harrison, Abigail Dolliver and Joel Diccion won two individual events each, leading AGS to the win.

Diccion won the 100 individual medley (1:14.76) and the 50 backstroke (32.59) while Harrison won the 200 freestyle (2:39.33) and the 50 butterfly (33.51). Dolliver’s individual wins came in the 100 freestyle (1:09.14) and the 50 breaststroke (38.10). Fenton’s other individual win was recorded by Kaitlin Grubin (90.85). Two relays took firsts. The 200 medley relay of Catherine Ayerhayes, Dolliver, Malloried Johnson and Diccion won (2:13.39) as did the 200 freestyle relay team of Lauren Andrada, Taylor Addison, Anthony Barnett and Harrison (2:40.76).

GYMNASTICS
Port Huron 140.775, LFLF 138.125: The LFLF gymnastics team lost its first meet of the season, but still had some highlights. Blake Hutchings had her best beam performance (9.45), while Sabra Robinson had a personal best on the beam as well (9.05). Megan Losey had a 8.725 on the vault and Carly Koloszowski recorded a 8.625 on the vault, both personal-bests.

PREP REPORT
St. Mary’s welcomes new priest

New Father aims to spread the ‘hidden gem’ of Orthodox Christian faith

By Hannah Ball
hbail@tctimes.com, 810-433-6792

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church in Fenton will have a new priest starting in March, and he hopes to share the Orthodox Christian faith with the Fenton community.

Father Gabriel Bilas, who recently graduated from St. Tikhon Orthodox Theology Post Seminary in Ohio, had never been to Fenton before he was assigned this position.

“It looks like a wonderful town to raise a family in,” he said. “One of the things I am looking forward to is the chance to show a young and vibrant community the peace, beauty, and grace that the Orthodox Church has to offer them.”

Rebecca Lazar, church president of St. Mary’s, said the parish is very excited for Father Bilas to soon move to Linden with his wife, Laura, and two children, Lucy and Noah.

“One of the attractions for me is the amount of children and young people that make up the parish population,” he said, adding that he is excited for Lucy and Noah to find playmates.

Hot line continued

If you want

Obama for a third term, vote for Hillary. She promises to carry on with his ineffective policies and even expand them. The 5-percent unemployment rate doesn’t include those who have stopped looking for work, which would make the number much higher.

If kids aren’t being taught cursive writing in school or at home, how will they be able to read historical documents written in cursive? Something to think about.

Kudos to the Street Talk restaurateurs who chose to stay local in their picks.

When you pull out of the Linden post office, remember there is one heck of a deep crater in the road. Be very careful.

When ISIS hits the United States it’ll be within the next 10 to 11 months when President Obama’s in office because they know he won’t do anything about it.

It’s seems like when all these lead pipes were put in 100 years ago you would have had a mass poisoning of households before that coating corroded off from Flint water. Why couldn’t that coating be reapplied again?

I’d like to dedicate a song to Hillary Clinton. It’s “You Can’t Hide Those Lying Eyes” and a song for Bernie Sanders: ‘Back in the USSR’.

Keep an eye on your small pets.

Tuesday morning, near the Linden Airport, I saw a huge coyote.

Your smile matters!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

Dental sealants (also termed pit and fissure sealants, or simply fissure sealants)

Dental sealants are preventative and protective composite resins that are applied to posterior teeth. Sealants are usually placed on children’s teeth but I’ve placed them on adult teeth as well. Some teeth develop in such a way that they have very deep and prominent pits and fissures on the occlusal (biting) surface. These are good candidates for sealants. The deep pits and fissures can trap plaque and food debris and sometimes so deep that they are virtually impossible to keep clean. This accumulated plaque and debris can lead to decay of the teeth in those areas. Once decayed, the teeth need to be filled. As a preventive measure, dental sealants are placed. The sealant material is a fluid and readily flows into these deep pit and fissure areas. This literally seals out plaque and food debris preventing it’s accumulation in the pit and fissures and subsequent decay formation. The process is very easy for a child. There’s no drilling or anesthesia required. The surface of the tooth is prepared for bonding and then the sealant material “painted on” then hardened with use of a curing light. Once in place, a dental sealant should last for years. The sealant will protect against decay formation as the child passes through the cavity prone years and into adulthood.

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

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Joel Gibbons, CPA

When was the last time you thought, “my accountant is my hero?”

Some believe we have superpowers. When it comes to helping our clients, it all comes down to technical knowledge and determination. Our clients value our entrepreneurial spirit and look to us to help them achieve the next level of financial success. We aim to save our clients time and money and provide a one-stop solution.

Contact one of Lewis & Knopf’s very own heroes, Joel Gibbons, to see how we can assist our particular financial situation.

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Brown and Brown’s professional advisors are your neighbors, friends and community members with the resources of the industry’s premier regional and national carriers behind them. Whether for personal, commercial or life insurance, we strive to provide the highest level of service and seek the most effective insurance solutions at a competitive price.

“I take pride in making sure clients are properly covered with the best products to meet their individual needs.”

Stephanie Natzke
Personal Lines Sales

After 45 years, Fenton township attorney retires

Search for the new legal counsel begins

By Hannah Ball
hbali@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The longtime Fenton Township attorney announced his plans to retire from law and serving the township at the Feb. 8 board meeting.

Richard Cooley, 80, who’s been the Fenton Township attorney for 45 years, announced his plans for retirement in a letter to Supervisor Bonnie Mathis, which was presented at the meeting.

Cooley said, “I have decided to retire from practicing law, and this requires that I retire as Fenton Township attorney. “As you know, I have very much enjoyed doing the township’s legal work and thank you and the board for the privilege of serving the township for these many years.”

“Fenton Township has quality residents. As a result, the quality of the board members is very high, really top quality people,” he said. "I enjoy very much my interactions with those folks. I was never treated as an outsider. I was always treated as one of the team.”

He said he will miss practicing law and it has never felt like work to him.

“I have loved being a lawyer and practicing law but my wife says it’s just time. Eighty years old is time enough,” he said. “I’ve enjoyed it so much.”

Cooley has also served as the assistant prosecuting attorney, special assistant to the attorney general and president of the Genesee County Bar Association. After practicing law in Genesee County for 55 years, Cooley will finish serving as attorney when a new one is appointed.

He is a graduate of Fenton High School, Albion College and Duke University Law School. “I have always been grateful to my Fenton High School classmates and teachers who became my clients, as well as my friends at Fenton Township,” Cooley said. “My wife and I have no special plans for the future except to do more skiing in the winter, sailing in the summer, travel, and spend more time with our children and grandchildren.”

Fenton Township has started the search for a new attorney, and Cooley said he will most likely assist in the process.

HOT LINE

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR
Lossing on the retirement from public office. Thank you for all that you have done.

IN REGARD TO the comment regarding the VA, I totally disagree. My PC doctor is very good. The service I receive for tests and procedures in Ann Arbor is great, friendly and professional. Prescriptions are $6 for three months.

THERE IS NO such thing as a real estate transaction tax. I checked four-facts checking sites, some of which claim it is false. Stop making things up to promote your agenda.

NOW THAT the administrators have been trained in an active-shooter situation, are they going to pass down their knowledge to the rest of the employees, including support staff?

I’M SURE HILLARY Clinton is a liar. All politicians are. If you think your favorite is not, you’re naive. In fact sites like politifact are politicians are. If you think your favorite is not, you’re naive. In fact sites like politifact show when they are lying, which for Trump and Cruz, seems to be whenever their mouth is open.

WHEN MY OLDEST went to AGS, they always had the doors open long before 7 a.m.

THE SOCIALISTS WHO believe that government should provide everything should remember what government gave the people of Flint. In the last century, socialist governments killed millions of their own citizens. George Washington warned, ‘government is like fire, a dangerous servant and a fearful master.”

TO THE COMPLETE idiot who wished for an Obama third term, please leave this country immediately. He has done more harm than all others combined, lied about everything and the 5-percent unemployment rate is his biggest lie yet. Keep your head buried and, if you stay here, please do not vote.

EVENTS AT MT. HOLLY

RACE THE GATES RACING
A program for all ages. Race the Gates is a recreational ski & snowboard handicap & medal racing program. This is a great way to get some timed runs & racing experience.

Every Saturday & Sunday | Registration at 11am | Racing at 1pm

ADULT SKI RACING LEAGUE
In collaboration with New Belgium Brewing
Begun Monday, January 11th (There’s still time to join)

MUSIC
Katelyn on Guitar | Fridays | 6 - 8pm
Bill on Guitar | Saturdays | 2 - 6pm
Sickler Brothers | Sundays | 2 - 6pm

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FEBRUARY 14
276 A.D.: Valentine, a holy priest in Rome in the days of Emperor Claudius II, was executed. Under the rule of Claudius the Cruel, Rome was involved in many unpopular and bloody campaigns. Claudius believed that Roman men were unwilling to join the army because of their strong attachment to their wives and families. To get rid of the problem, Claudius banned all marriages and engagements in Rome. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine’s actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

FEBRUARY 15
1903: Toy store owner and inventor Morris Michtom places two stuffed bears in his shop window, advertising them as Teddy bears. Michtom had earlier petitioned President Theodore Roosevelt for permission to use his nickname, Teddy. The president agreed and, before long, stuffed bears soon became a national childhood institution.

FEBRUARY 16
1923: In Thebes, Egypt, English archeologist Howard Carter enters the sealed burial chamber of the ancient Egyptian ruler King Tutankhamen. When Carter arrived in Egypt in 1891, he became convinced there was at least one unknown tomb that of the little known Tutankhamen, or King Tut, who lived around 1400 B.C. and died when he was still a teenager. In November 1922, Carter’s team found steps hidden in the debris near the entrance of another tomb. The steps led to an ancient sealed doorway, bearing the name Tutankhamen. When Carter and others entered the tomb’s interior chambers, they were thrilled to find it virtually intact, with its treasures untouched for more than 3,000 years.

FEBRUARY 17
1972: The 15,007.0344th Volkswagen Beetle comes off the assembly line, breaking a world car production record held for more than four decades by the Ford Motor Company’s iconic Model T, which was in production from 1908 and 1927. In 1938, work began on the Volkswagen factory in present-day Wolfsburg, Germany, however, full-scale vehicle production didn’t begin until after World War II. In the 1950s, the Volkswagen arrived in the U.S., where the initial reception was tepid, due in part to the car’s historic Nazi connection as well as its small size and unusual rounded shape, which later led to it being dubbed the “Beetle.”

FEBRUARY 18
1885: Mark Twain publishes his famous, controversial novel. “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.” Twain (whose pen name was Samuel Clemens) first introduced Huck Finn as the best friend of Tom Sawyer, hero of his tremendously successful novel “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (1876).” Though Twain saw Huck’s story as a kind of sequel to his earlier book, the new novel was far more serious, focusing on the institution of slavery and other aspects of life in the antebellum South.

FEBRUARY 19
1934: On this day in 1934, the legendary comic actor and entertainer Bob Hope marries Dolores Reade in Erie, Pennsylvania. Their marriage would last until Hope’s death 69 years later, making it by far one of Hollywood’s most enduring unions. In 1933, Hope landed his first substantial role in a Broadway production, Jerome Kern’s musical “Roberta.” During its run, Hope met Dolores when she was performing at the Vogue Club. As they later told interviewers, it was love at first sight, and the couple married in February 1934.

FEBRUARY 20
1998: Tara Lipinski, 15, wins the gold medal in women’s figure skating at the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan, and becomes the youngest gold medalist in her sport.

LOOKING BACK
at this week IN NATIONAL HISTORY
COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

What Part of I Love You Want to HEAR?

How well will you hear your loved one during a Valentine’s dinner date? Will you be able to hear Dorothy tell Jerry “You had me at Hello” during movie night with your girlfriends?

Save on one of our smallest custom digital hearing aids!

$1,000 OFF
ME 1 or ME 2 Solutions
HURRY OFFER ENDS
2/29/16
Valid at participating Miracle-Ear locations only. Limit one coupon per purchase. May not be combined with other offers and does not apply to prior sales. Cash value $1/20 cent. Expires 2/29/16

Home Again. Independent Again.

Our Home Again rehabilitation program combines innovative therapy approaches with expert therapists and hotel-like amenities. Our goal is to get you back home and back to maximum independence as quickly as possible. But, once you experience our homelike environment, chef-prepared meals and beautiful private suites, you may just want to stay! For more information or to schedule a private tour, please call or stop by today!

Follow us on your favorite social networks

Free showing of ‘Meet the Patels’
The Fenton Film Series announces the free film for February. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, Feb. 17 to attend the showing of the hilariously funny, award winning, free film at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center. Free refreshments start at 6 p.m. and the movie will begin at 7 p.m. “Meet the Patels” is a laugh-out-loud real life romantic comedy about Ravi Patel, an almost 30-year-old Indian-American who enters a love triangle.

Tyrone Historical Society
Tyrone Historical Society is hosting its next meeting on Monday, March 21. A potluck dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. The program will be “Stained Glass Windows of Hartland.” The event will be held at 10408 Center Rd., Fenton. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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