

Historical Fenton building facing demolition

■ **Controversial decision by DDA irks many residents**

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

“We hope this is not the beginning of the end of Dibbleville.”

as we know it,” said Ken and Donna Seger of the Fenton Historical Society.

They are referring to news released this week about 106 West Shiawassee Ave., the oldest building in Fenton, and the Downtown Development Authority’s (DDA) plans to tear it down.

The DDA has budgeted \$20,000 for the demolition. Bids for the demolition are due by May 2.

“We are very disappointed that the old hotel is being demolished,” the Segers. “We never thought it would touch

See **DEMOLITION on 10A**

“After that I decided to move my business out of town, and I did.”

Brad Hawks

Hicks Photography Studio owner



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

On Friday, Teresa Doan of the Fenton Historical Society, protests the planned razing of 106 W. Shiawassee in Fenton.

PAGE 16A

LAKE FENTON'S HILLGER IS WRESTLER OF THE YEAR, AGAIN

Weekend Times

SUNDAY EDITION

\$1.00

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016

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

VOL. 23 NO. XV

Paper or plastic?

■ **Senior baggers ask that question hundreds of times daily as vital part of VG's workforce**

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Don't be surprised if the person who helps you out to your car with your groceries is older than you are.

“At least 35 percent of our 200 employers are over 50,” said Chris Palmer, assistant store manager at VG's Grocery in on Silver Parkway in Fenton. “We've got older workers across the board, from baggers to deli workers and produce.”

More and more seniors are extending their working lives, or going back to work after the thrill of retirement wears off.

See **BAGGERS on 20A**

“I got tired of TV, the couch and books. I'm a personable guy, so this job works for me.”

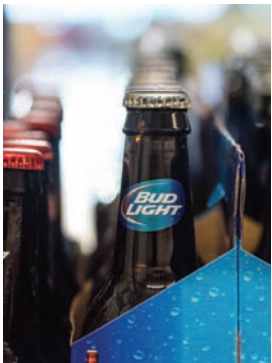
Bob Roberts

71-year-old bagger at VG's Grocery



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Al Zadony, 74, bags groceries at VG's Grocery on Silver Parkway in Fenton Wednesday. Zadony has great rapport with associates and customers, infusing humor into his job, which includes bagging and taking groceries out for customers. “I really like it,” he said. He enjoys working with people, which he wasn't able to do as much in his career in the building business.



Michigan residents **taxed to the max**

We pay \$1,500 more each year in taxes than the average U.S. household.

Page 11A



The plight of the **honey bee**

Local beekeepers are hoping their bees will survive next winter, after losing all of the pollinators this past winter due to harsh weather conditions.

Page 8A



IMPORTANT INFORMATION! Two Social Security options phasing out on April 29

Difference could be up to \$60,000 in your benefits if you do not act before April 30.

Page 6A

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE
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“Another coyote sighting near downtown Linden by Tickner Street. Just an FYI. Watch your little pets.”

“I was just reading the article ‘Do you lie to save money.’ Of course you do. If you're honest with the government, they're going to screw, blue and tattoo you. You have to lie. That's what our government does.”



“Please stop freaking out about trash bins. There are many people in the world who go to bed hungry, are dying from illness, or can't pay their bills. Put things in perspective. We are already blessed just by living in an affluent, safe, wonderful community like Fenton.”



“How can the government have any say whatsoever regarding a private business and how much it offers to pay an employee for doing a particular job? Everyone knows that nearly all government employees are underworked and overpaid. Are we now living in Russia?”

COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“Here is something the King left out of his article. If our corrupt, greedy, power-hungry government has the power to mandate minimum wages, it also has the power to mandate maximum wages. Think about that.”

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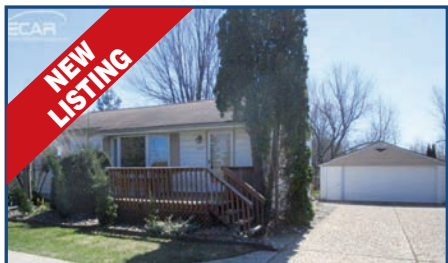
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THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOUSES!



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1124 Grand Blanc Road

Cute 3 bedroom ranch in demand Grand Blanc school district. Beautiful hardwood floors, family room and living room plus 2 full baths. Home is conveniently located to US 23, retail and restaurants as well as family friendly parks. Fenced yard and 2 car detached garage round out the lovely home.

\$97,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



NEW LISTING

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM

HOLLY

121 Clarence

Village Beauty within walking distance to downtown Holly! Victorian charm with an open floor plan. 2110 sq ft affords you spacious rooms. Living room opens to dining room. Kitchen opens to family room and Florida room. 3 Bedrooms & 2 Full Bathrooms. Convenient 1st floor laundry.

\$148,950

Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272.



NEW LISTING

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM

LINDEN

305 E. Rolston

This executive brick ranch sits on ¾ of an acre with beautiful views of Spring Meadows golf course. Updates abound with new carpet and hardwood floors, newer roof, furnace, and water heater. 2400 sq ft plus finished basement makes this home ideal for large families and entertaining. Truly a "must see."

\$249,900

Call Lynn Rositano 810-625-7399



NEW LISTING

DIBBLEVILLE

702 S. Leroy

Cute 2 story home in historic Dibbleville. Home features 1336 sq ft, 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Hardwood floors, Central air, first floor laundry and 2 car garage. Walking distances to parks, restaurants, and shopping. New windows and hot water heater within the last year.

\$129,900

Call Mark Goldsworthy 810-955-3736.



NEW LISTING

PENDING IN 2 DAYS

HOLLY

3374 Valley Rise

Lovely Contemporary Colonial floor plan with Split Master Bedroom Suite. Sunny fire-lit 2 Story Great Room with custom Trimwork & Mantlepiece. Living Room has a bay and lovely custom bookcase. Granite kitchen is spacious. Full Finished Daylight Lower Level.

\$185,000

Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272



ADORABLE

FLINT TOWNSHIP

4283 Carmanwood

Same owner since the 1960s shows great pride of ownership. An extensive list of updates is include the roof in 2012, furnace and AC in 2010 as well as full update of the home's electrical system and whole house generator. 4 bedroom 2 bath. Gorgeous wooden covered back deck.

\$89,900

Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



BRICK RANCH

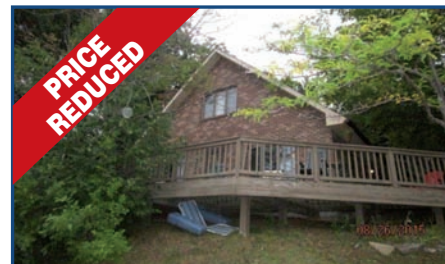
GENESEE TOWNSHIP

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\$75,000

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\$217,000

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9123 Allen

Beautiful family home backing up to woods & creek! 3-5 bedrooms. Second floor Master suite with an office and a bonus area. Finished walk out basement with 2 bedrooms, full kitchen and bath could be used as in-law suite or a rental. First floor laundry. New 16x25 deck. 24x50 Pole barn.

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Call Alicia Faille 810-247-2293



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1108 Eastoak

Great location, walking distance to downtown Fenton. Neat and clean 2 bedroom condo in downtown Fenton. First floor laundry, formal dining room, 2 full baths and a family room in the finished basement. All appliances included. Don't let this one slip thru your fingers.

\$113,900

Call Shelia Rhoades 810-348-7357



MURPHY LAKE

MILLINGTON

3150 Huston

Great home on all-sports Murphy Lake! Around 1400 sf with amazing lake views! Home can be used for year round living or winterize and use for summer getaway! Two kitchens for entertaining, two wood burning stoves. Seller has put 30k into the boathouse which contains a sauna!

\$175,000

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PRICE REDUCED

FENTON

9169 Mabley Hill

Fabulous 4 bed/3 bath home on 4+ acres. Great location less than 2 miles to US-23 for easy commuting. Finished walk-out that opens to the in-ground pool & pool house. 2 story Great Rm flows into Dining Area & kitchen. 2nd floor Master Suite offers privacy & space. Big dressing room, walk-in closet plus 2 additional large closets.

\$271,900

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1590 Rolston

Affordable 3 bedroom ranch in demand Linden school district. Home sits on almost 3 acres where you have beautiful views of nature and wildlife. Feels like you are in the country yet you are just a hop, skip, and a jump from the quaint city of Linden with its antique shops, restaurants, parks and the Mill Pond.

\$95,500

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PRICE REDUCED

LAPEER

160 S. Elba

Great home for a large family on a tight budget. Spacious with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths, plus second kitchen allowing for the home to be used as an income property. Large family room/recreation area, great patio and deck great for entertaining. All this for under 100k.

\$82,900

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COMMERCIAL

FENTON

859 W. Silver Lake

2 acres of commercially zoned property with excellent access to US 23. Structure currently has 2 residential rentals and one commercial rental. Lots of possibilities with some work.

\$144,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



PRICE REDUCED

CLIO

615 N. Mill

Fabulous opportunity to renovate this huge historic home!! Enclosed porch, hardwood floors, huge kitchen, attached wooden garage and additional outbuilding plus a very large almost half acre city lot with an almost fully fenced back yard! House needs TLC but roof is new in the last 2 years!

\$64,900

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Great Lakes history, GREAT LAKES LORE

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | PHOTOS BY TIM JAGIELO

Educational storyteller Genot Picor leads Hyatt Elementary students through a story about how the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and Manitou Islands were formed. The students mirrored Picor as he told the story through native sign language. Picor taught the students about early jobs created by the trade route through the Great Lakes. He also injected his stories with some French because of the stories' connection to Quebec. (Right) Picor shows a student how to sing like a beaver, for a song about Michigan's waterways.



Michigan history — anything but boring

■ State boasts some interesting facts and places

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Michigan is one of the few states in the union where its citizens travel to stay home — home meaning within the state.

While there are the usual popular vacation and weekend getaway spots, there are some out-of-the-way places with some interesting stuff to brag about.

For example, one of the world's largest registered Holstein (that's a cow) herds can be found at Green Meadow Farms in the appropriately-named village of Elsie.

Colon, despite its unfortunate name, is nevertheless quite the magical place. Located close to the southwest corner of the state, it's the former hometown and, unless he's pulled a Houdini and managed a posthumous escape, the final resting place of Harry Blackstone, Sr.

The Michigan Dogman, a kind of werewolfish-type beast, was first spotted in Wexford County in 1887 and several times thereafter. More recent sightings have mostly been linked to a 1987 radio station hoax, as well as to a related 2007 video which was later debunked on "MonsterQuest."

The melon heads of Ottawa County are a whole other breed of Michigan cryptid. They were said to have originated as children with hydrocephalus who lived at an insane asylum near Holland's Felt Mansion, but they somehow mutated, went feral and escaped into the surrounding woods where they still lurk, waiting to leap out and attack.

See MICHIGAN on 15A



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General Office 810-629-8282	Hot Line 810-629-9221
Advertising 810-629-8281	Fax 810-629-9227
Classifieds 810-629-8194	Email news@tctimes.com
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Come *Heller* high water

andrewheller@tctimes.com

When you gotta go, you gotta go, wherever!

North Carolina has earned itself a lot of bad publicity by passing a law requiring transgender people to use restrooms corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate.

Businesses are threatening to avoid or leave the state. New York has banned state employees from making nonessential work trips there. Even the NBA is thinking of moving an upcoming All-Star game out of the state.

Nobody, seemingly, likes the law except the people who passed it.

So why'd they do it? Were there swarms of transgender people invading the restrooms at the state Capitol or something and finally some prissy senator got annoyed?

Probably not. I'll bet those senators and representatives have used a stall or urinal next to transgender people for decades and not realized it because — amazingly enough — they don't wear nametags saying "I'm transgender, how about you?"

Maybe that's North Carolina's next step, though.

I suspect what North Carolina has done is pass a law in search of a problem, which is always bad governance. I've used public restrooms my whole life and I've never noticed a transgender person, and if I did I wouldn't care. I'd assume they were there for the same reason I am, so let's all just take care of business and get out of there, shall we?

That, in the fact, is one of the implied arguments for the North Carolina law that bugs me the most — the assumption that transgender people are in the bathroom for some reason other than answering nature's call.

Get over yourself, people. Transgender people are there for the same reason you are, and I presume follow standard etiquette.

I don't know what that is in the ladies' room, but in the men's room it's customary to follow the same procedure one would follow while lining up a putt in golf, which is "Keep your head down, focus on what you're doing and try to aim straight."

Honestly, I think we could dispense with all of this bathroom nonsense if we got rid of gender-specific restrooms altogether and just had restrooms — come one, come all.

Why not? No one has separate bathrooms at home and we manage to survive.

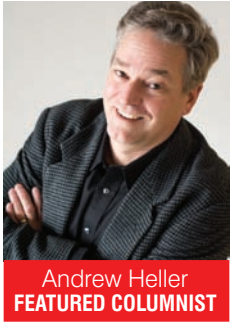
As a guy, I'd love it because — and I'm just guessing here — that women aren't nearly the slobs that guys are. The only disadvantage is it'd be more crowded and I might have to wait for a stall since women take forever in the bathroom, for reasons I can't fathom.

Gender-free restrooms would solve North Carolina's potty problem, but I doubt they'll happen. They make too much sense.

Maybe the next best solution would be, like I said earlier, for some folks to realize that transgender people are people, too, and they just wanna go to the bathroom.

Just like you. Go figure, huh?

“As a guy, I’d love it because — and I’m just guessing here — that women aren’t nearly the slobs that guys are.”



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

Hotlines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

THE RECENT POST that the sidewalks were widened and paid for by the city, as a place for teenagers to hang out outside — how is that a bad thing? It sure beats them staying inside.

HILLARY FINALLY TOLD the truth, thinking it was going to help her when she said that foreign leaders are calling her and saying they don't want Trump president. Duh, they like it just the way it is, the Obama way.

I'M FINALLY GETTING around to thanking the kind lady who paid for my maple candy at Family Farm & Home around the middle of March.

REGARDING DR. ROACH'S column, rarely do doctors' offices hire nurses anymore. The person seeing the patient first is probably a medical assistant. No one wears any I.D. to display their qualifications. Even American Red Cross does not hire only nurses and in some instances hire people to do on-the-job training.

IT NEVER CEASES to amaze me how Fenton considers the destruction of the past as the only path forward. This town has been ruined by these narrow-minded ideas. We have only to look around us to the beautifully preserved towns of Holly, Howell, Milford, etc., to see where we could have, should have, been. Really sad.

IN CASE YOU people have not noticed, there has not been a draft for more than 40 years. And, yes, people should be 21

to vote. They have no concept of what is going on at 18 years old. Proof is in the rising of Bernie Sanders among young people.

BOY OH BOY, you Democrats don't have much to choose from. You have a liar and a commie. Better come back over to the right side.

DIDN'T THINK IT was going to take the city of Fenton too long to get after people about their blue garbage cans at the end of their drives.

DIDN'T YOU FOLKS read the papers that came with your garbage containers? Recycling is every other week, not 'leave it at the road until it is picked up.'

WHY CAN'T SOME of you crush cardboard boxes for recycling? Flattened boxes will take up much less space.

HILLARY CLINTON HAS no accomplishments as Secretary of State. She defended Obamacare and the dangerous Iran nuclear deal. She also failed with Benghazi, with Syria, Russia and with ISIS. She is dishonest and is not qualified to be president.

I'M CALLING ABOUT the article on the front page about learning to play the music. A few people learn to play by ear. My family does. I can't remember when I couldn't play the piano. I learned to play the organ in the early '30s.

IF YOU WANT to save America you need to vote for Trump. He's a businessman, not a politician. He's made billions for himself. He can bring all the jobs home from China, Japan, and other places, and if he does that, we will have jobs for people in poverty who want to work.

DO YOU BERNIE Sanders supporters have any idea what he really stands for? Sanders wants 90 percent of every dollar you make for government handouts.

OBAMA'S INNER CIRCLE of friends are terrorists, Cuban dictators, Black Lives Matter, bankrupt energy companies, and don't forget the illegal aliens running from Mexico, who are running guns and drugs.

HERE WE GO again, tearing down the oldest building in Fenton. Dibleville is a beautiful historic area and the DDA wants another new stinking Cornerstone building in the middle of it. Who thinks that is aesthetically pleasing?

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What's been the most memorable day of your life so far?

street talk



"Growing up, I played every sport I could get my hands on. I was the first girl to become a member of the YMCA and I became a physical director. I did raise foster kids, eight boys."

Sandra Davies
Argentine Township



"When my kids and grandkids were born. I have five grandkids, two boys and three girls. I moved here from New York in '01."

Barb Reynolds
Tyrone Township



"When I got married in 1968. I got married at St. Rose Church in Detroit. It was August but it was hot out. It was pretty nice. What wasn't too good about it was I had to pay for everything."

Walter Smith
Linden



"The most memorable day of my life was Dec. 31, 1980. I got married. That way you can start a new life on a new year."

Michael MacMillan
Fenton



"My granddaughter lost her tooth yesterday and we played the Tooth Fairy at our age. You get another chance to play at our age. She was so excited."

Frank Decaire
Linden



"When my son was born. 1994. It was spring. My wife went into her regular exam and when she got there, the doctor said he was coming right then. He was a week early."

Michael Zeeman
Flint

Debris and yard waste pickup starts this month

■ Will be collected on regular trash day, not Mondays

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Mother Nature hasn't really cooperated yet, but the days are coming soon when yards and gardens get cleaned in time for planting.

Now that the majority of local communities in the Tri-County Times reader area are getting used to the new trash and recycling waste collection program through Republic Services, April is a good time to remind folks of the rules regarding yard waste pickup.

According to cityof-fenton.org, yard waste is collected on a weekly basis, starting in April and going through November on the household's regular trash collection day. It is no longer collected on Mondays only.

All yard waste must be placed in biodegradable Kraft paper bags, or placed in

30-gallon cans clearly marked as yard waste.

Plastic bags of any kind will not be accepted.

Branches and twigs smaller than 2 inches in diameter must be placed in bundles no larger than 2-feet by 4-feet-long, or 50 pounds per bag or bundle.

Tree trunks, stumps, construction and construction or demolition debris will never be accepted.

Regardless of disposal needs, whether it's trash, recycling or yard waste, there are items that are prohibited and will never be accepted.

Dirt, sod, rock and hot ashes are not yard waste and will not be accepted. Yard waste should never be placed in the blue bins used for trash and recycling.

For more information about your specific community, visit www.republicservices.com.

City of Linden: Trash and recycling pickup is on its regularly scheduled day and yard waste pickup began Friday, April 1.

News brief

HOLLY TOWNSHIP LIBRARY CHILDREN'S EVENTS

On **Tuesday, April 19**, children ages 5-12 are encouraged to drop by the Holly Township Library any time between 4 and 6 p.m. for a Make It Take It Activity. They will be making bird feeders out of reusable/recyclable materials. Children will be able to take their creations home that night. Thanks to McKay's Hardware for donating the bird seed for this project.

On **Monday, April 25**, the library will be hosting a Money Smart Kids Read Story Time for children between the ages of 4-7. This event will take place from 4:30-5:30 p.m. The first 15 families to register will receive a free book, Bunny Money. There will be money activities and crafts. Call the library at (248) 634-1754 to register. Thanks to the Michigan Credit Union League for sponsoring the book giveaway.

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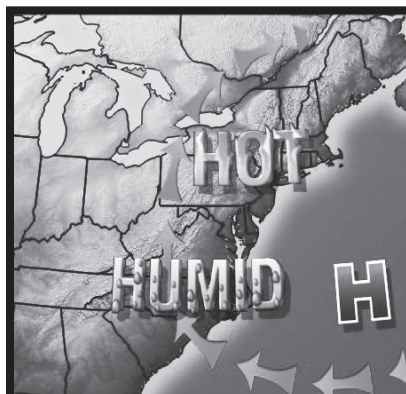


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A WEEK

Two Social Security options phasing out April 29

■ Quick action required for those 66 years old

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you are 62 or older you've probably either started collecting your Social Security benefits or are very confused about the entire issue.

About 73 percent of workers begin to collect their Social Security benefits as soon as they are able to, at age 62, but that may or may not be the best financial decision.

“It's the most important choice you'll make — you've got to get it right.”

Jim Kruzan
Kaydan Wealth Management

The issue has gotten more complicated as two Social Security strategies that have been in place since 2000 are being phased out effective April 30 — so you'll have to act fast (on or before April 29) in order to take advantage of them.

If you're between the ages of 62 and 66, the phasing out of “file and suspend” and “restricted application” options by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 may affect your decision-making process.

“When to file is a major decision,” said Jim Kruzan, president of Kaydan Wealth Management in Fenton. “Some of the more flexible options just won't be available anymore.”

Here are the two options being phased out:

1) File-and-suspend

The Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act of 2000 gave Social Security beneficiaries the option to “suspend” their Social Security claims at full retirement age (66), allowing them to file for benefits and immediately suspend them.

Instead of receiving Social Security checks between the ages of 66 and 70, they would instead earn an 8 percent delayed retirement credit for each year of suspension. “In those four years, your benefits increase at a minimum of 32 percent, really more than that, accounting for cost-of-living adjustments,” said Kruzan.

Suspension is still possible after April 29, but spouses will not be able to receive spousal benefits based on their record. This may be appropriate for those who took early benefits and now post 66 would like to suspend and accrue delayed credits. These stricter rules do not affect divorced-spouse benefits, according to Kruzan.

2) Filing a restricted application

A restricted application allowed an individual who was at least of full retirement age to file for only the spousal benefit based on the spouse's record — provided he or she had not previously filed for any benefits and whose spouse had established a filing date (and may have suspended).

The “restricted” terminology indicates that the filing is not for their own benefit but for spousal benefits, which allows their own account to continue to grow.

Restricted application isn't disappearing all at once, according to Kruzan. “Some clients will be able to do it, and others will not. Between now and the end of 2019, an individual of full retirement age (66) may file a restricted application to receive spousal benefits if that spouse is over 62 and receiving his/her benefits. If

you're 62 by Jan. 1, 2016, you can apply for the restricted application strategy on or before April 29.

Different views on when to file

If you're even more confused now that you've read this, you're not alone. Even financial professionals admit that the subject of when to begin taking your Social Security benefits is a complex issue.

“Today, I look at it as longevity protection,” said Kruzan. “Look at what you'll get if you wait 'til age 70. See what that looks like at age 85. The biggest risk most people face is running out of money .

As people live longer , it makes sense to defer their benefits to let them grow.”

Fred Hensler of Sapphire Blue Investment Partners in Fenton Township said that Social Security is just like any insurance policy, it ends when you die.

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** on 22A

Learn more about Social Security options at:

Lunch & Learn “Social Security”
Fenton Chamber of Commerce office
Monday, April 11, from 12 to 1 p.m.
RSVP required to Kaydan Wealth Management: 810-593-1624 or Chamber office: 810-629-5447

THE EXPERTS SPEAK OUT:

When should you take your Social Security benefits?



“As people live longer, it makes sense to defer their benefits to let them grow.”

Jim Kruzan
Kaydan Wealth Management



“What would happen if you took Social Security benefits at 62 and socked it into an investment account? Then you potentially would have something to pass on to your heirs.”

Fred Hensler
Sapphire Blue Investment Partners

Stopping those annoying 'robocalls' and texts

Simple ways exist to end unwanted communications

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

At one time, all people had to worry about was unwanted telemarketing calls on their home phones.

Today, cell phone users are being barraged with unwanted calls and texts from telemarketers.

According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), there are ways to stop these calls from coming through once and for all.

Under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), the FCC provides clarity on the law, sets rules, takes enforcement actions, and provides resources for consumers.

Telemarketing calls can be stopped by consumers through the Do Not Call registry (www.donotcall.gov), which protects both landline and wireless phones.

According to the FCC, all non-emergency "robocalls," both telemarketing and informational, require a consumer's permission to be made to a wireless phone.

These calls can include political, polling, and other non-telemarketing robocalls.

Robocalls either use a technology with the capacity to autodial or utilize a pre-recorded or artificial voice.

Calls and text messages have the same protection under FCC rules.

Phone companies face no legal barriers to offering consumers the use of technologies that block robocalls to any phone.

Even if consumers had given permission to be called or texted at one time, they can take back their permission to be called or texted in any reasonable way.

A calling company cannot require some one to fill out a form and mail it in as the only way to revoke consent.

Contrary to popular opinion, an existing commercial relationship does not constitute permission to be robocalled or texted.

Consent to be called or texted cannot be a condition of a sale or other commercial transaction.

Callers are allowed to call a wrong number only once before updating their list. This most commonly comes up when one person consented to be called or texted but then they gave up that number and it was reassigned to someone else.

Urgent calls or texts specifically for health or fraud alerts may be allowed without prior consent. They must be free, and consumers can say "stop" at any time.

People are encouraged to ask their phone company to offer robocall-blocking technology for which the FCC has now given the legal approval.

If robocall-blocking technology is already being used, it often helps to let that phone company know which numbers are producing unwanted calls so they can help block those calls for you and others.

People should tell unwanted callers that they do not consent to the call, make a record of the number in case a complaint is warranted.

Consumers can file complaints with the FCC, which are used as an important resource in its analysis of trends, in possible investigations, and in guiding enforcement efforts.

To file a complaint by phone, call (888)225-5322. Written complaints should be mailed to: Federal Communications

Commission Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division, 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, DC 20554.

VERIZON

Verizon Wireless offers options for blocking robocalls.

According to Verizon.com, "We monitor our networks to detect spikes in suspicious calls, and then work with law enforcement and with other communications companies to shut down illegal robocallers."

"We are working with our industry to develop new technologies to stop robocalls, and consumers have a number of third-party applications and services to choose from to block such calls."

Verizon Wireless customers have options that include "anonymous call block" and others that stop unwanted calls.

A quick search of Google Play and the App Store shows dozens of free call-blocking apps from a wide variety of developers.

Verizon Wireless has long offered spam controls for free to customers that want to sign up, and has worked with others in the industry on spam reporting and other tools to stop unwanted calls.

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Tri-county fundraisers

MEMORIAL AND HEADSTONE BENEFIT

The community is invited to attend Kyle Dean's one-year memorial and headstone benefit from **1 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 7** at Lakeside Memorial Park on Bush Drive in Holly. Starla Dean, Kyle's mother, is hoping to bring awareness and education about heroin and opiate addiction. Bryan's Hope from Waterford and Families Against Narcotics (F.A.N.) will be there. F.A.N. holds monthly meetings in Holly on the third Thursday each month at 7 p.m. at the Karl Richter building. These organizations can be found on Facebook. Family members hope to celebrate Kyle's life and ask that attendees bring pictures of anyone they know who has lost their fight with addiction in order for them to be remembered. Lemonade and a grill will be available. Family members plan to walk to Kyle's grave to release balloons. Live music will be provided by longtime friend Jeffrey "Turtle" Beckley's band Choice Meats. Donations will be accepted to help pay for Kyle's headstone. Family has also set up a gofundme page at www.gofundme.com/5rpkm76s.

The plight of the honey bee

■ If bees become extinct, humans would be starving in four years

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

One Mundy Township company picked up their order of bees from Anthony Bee Farms in Swartz Creek Monday morning.

Richard and Carole Beauchamp ordered two packages of Italian bees. Each package holds approximately 10,000 to 12,000 bees.

They're hoping they won't need to buy anymore for the foreseeable future. For the past few years, all of their bees, as well as the bees of many beekeepers in Michigan, have died during winter because of the harsh conditions.

"I don't think they're going into the winter very strong. I just think there weren't enough of them to keep warm," said Richard.

There are three types of bees: Russian, Italian and Carniolan.

They bought Italian, the most docile type of bee, but they don't produce as much honey.

Last fall their queen wasn't reproducing very well. The Beauchamps lost all their bees by January.

"They don't hibernate," he said. Instead, bees form a protective wall in the hive that protects them from the cold weather. "They keep it just around 83 degrees. If there isn't enough warmth, they end up freezing to death."

Their bees didn't start the winter very



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Carole Beauchamp of Mundy Township purchases one package of bees from California in 2014, after losing three hives in 2013. She purchased bees from Anthony Bee Farm in Swartz Creek again this month.

strong, he said, and there wasn't enough to keep the hive warm.

"We had some cold days," he said.

He said even people with bigger hives are experiencing bee population loss. Most hives run at a 40-percent loss throughout the winter.

After winter around April, beekeepers take the remaining hives and split them up. They pick a new queen and create a different hive.

Beauchamp said the numbers should double in size and get back to the population size they had prior to winter.

"As soon as they have something to eat, they'll start laying eggs and building up the population," he said.

The Beauchamps were also hoping to catch swarms of bees and add to their hives, but they didn't receive any calls about hives that worked out.

This has been a trend, though. The number of bee swarms has been declining in the past two years, he said, and the entire bug population has been decreasing.

"Bees aren't the only pollinators," he said. However, they are an important one.

Bees pollinate crops, making it possible for farmers to produce more yields.

However, with the rising use of pesticides, bees haven't been able to do their job.

Beauchamp said when bees are pollinating a field of crops without pesticides, they fly around in a circle, harvest the crops, and fly back home.

When the plants contain pesticides, the bees lose their navigation system — and the ability to fly back home.

"They can't find their way back because of the pesticides," he said.

Beauchamp said farmers use seeds with pesticides already in them to ward off harmful bugs as opposed to applying pesticides topically because of the cost.

"It makes it a lot cheaper for farmers,

“...if we lost all the bees it would break the human food chain. We'd start starving to death.”

David Anthony
Anthony Bee
Farms owner

Declining bee population

David Anthony, who owns Anthony Bee Farms and provides bees to people in four different states, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, said April through mid-May is prime bee-buying season.

He brings in two to three semi-truck loads of bees a year, depending on the season.

"People are losing bees at a very alarming rate but we're also replenishing bees at an alarming rate," he said.

Anthony said El Niño has had a big effect on the bees because beekeepers can't raise bees when the weather is too cold.

"With perfect weather, they bounce right back," Anthony said. Heat doesn't adversely affect them as much as the cold does.

He said if the bees have moisture, they could stay cool as long as it doesn't get above 135 or below negative 20 degrees.

"Without the bees, and the population of the world right now, if we lost all the bees it would break the human food chain. We'd start starving to death," he said, adding that it would take four years for the human population to start starving.

However, Anthony said the U.S. Department of Agriculture is working with beekeepers to solve the problem.

"Everyone is trying to solve the problem," he said.

but at the same time, what price are we paying for that? We end up shooting ourselves in the foot because we killed all of our pollinators," he said.

Beauchamp also pointed out that if the bees are eating the pesticides, humans are too.

The Beauchamps use their bees for honey, but he hasn't been able to collect any in the past two years.

"If they don't make enough for themselves it doesn't leave anything for me," he said.

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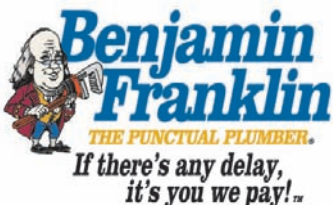
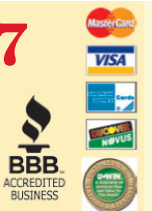
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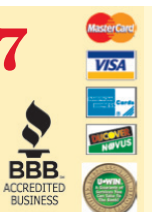
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DEMOLITION

Continued from Front Page

Dibbleville. We thought we were safe.” Rex Todd Rogers, owner of Rex Todd Rogers Design Studio, was the most recent occupant of the building.

“My heart is broken,” Rogers said this week.

Although completely deaf since birth, Rogers is able to communicate by other means.

Rogers said the building was in very bad shape when he leased it from the DDA for \$1. Rogers also paid the bi-annual taxes on the building and remodeled it completely by himself, at his own expense. Those costs totaled more than \$80,000, he said.

“I had a vision,” he said.

Rogers moved out of the building on Dec. 31, 2015 for two reasons. First, business was slow, due in part to the months of Streetscape construction downtown, he said.

Secondly, “Mike Burns (assistant city manager and DDA director) asked if I would be interested in re-leasing it for approximately \$1,600 per month,” Rogers said.

Since business was slow, he could not afford that lease rate.

Burns said previously that Rogers was aware of the DDAs plans to demolish the building some day and said, “We had this clause in our agreement so that we could end the agreement at any time during the lease for that,” Burns said. “So, when he made the investment he made, he was fully aware that the building was going to be demolished at some point.”

Rogers confirmed that it was in the lease agreement, but added, “I was hoping.”

He said he was hoping the DDA would see all the work that he did and agree to allow him to stay. Rogers said he also offered to provide consultation services to the DDA for free. His offer, he said, was rejected.

“My cousin, Brad Hawks, owner of Hick’s (photography) offered to buy the building since he loved what I had done,” Rogers said. “He wanted to save it, but Mike said ‘no.’”

Hawks said once he looked at the building he knew it would have been a perfect location for his studio.

“Two years ago, the DDA told me they would pay me for certain things if I moved my business downtown,” said Hawks.

The first thing Hawks said he did was talk with Burns. “He said it’s going to be torn down, they’re not renting or selling. It’s going to be torn down,” said Hawks.

“I just so happened to cross paths with a friend on the DDA and told him how awesome it would be to have my studio there,” he added.

Hawks said he photographs hundreds of high school seniors each year, and people from out of town. Most people like getting some of their photographs taken by the gazebo or the millpond downtown, so the Shiawassee location would have been perfect, in walking distance.

“I always tell my out-of-town customers all the good places to shop and eat,”



PHOTO BY BRAD HAWKS

About 106 W. Shiawassee

The Shiawassee house, located on a .16-acre parcel, according to city records, is believed to be the oldest existing building in Fenton. Built in 1837, the structure was a hotel, tavern and stage coach stop, owned by Judge Daniel LeRoy and William Fenton, where travelers on the trail between Pontiac and Flint, could stop and rest. The LeRoy Hotel existed before the city’s oldest business district, Dibbleville, which was completed in the 1860s. The DDA now wants to demolish it to make way for redevelopment.

said Hawks.

Hawks said his DDA contact told him he needed to get on a DDA agenda and tell them exactly what he told him.

“I said OK, so I set up a time and before I got there asked if I had to tell them at the meeting what I have to offer,” Hawks said.

His DDA contact said, no, just state your case.

Hawks was able to state his case before the DDA. “Afterwards three people on the DDAsaid they really thought they should look into Brad, having been in business in Fenton for 31 years,” he said.

After the meeting, his DDA contact said everything went well, that some papers would be sent out and Hawks could come back to make my offer.

Several months came and went, said Hawks. He called his friend again, who told him he would let him know as soon as the DDA could get something set up for him to make his presentation and offer.

“A month later, I got an email that said the building

is slated for demolition,” Hawks said. “I never got to make my presentation like I was told. That was that. They weren’t going to take any offers.

“I was disappointed that I couldn’t even do what they said I could do, which was to make a presentation before the DDA with my offer,” he added. “After that I decided to move my business out of town and I did. I wanted to be in downtown Fenton. I was praying but it wasn’t in the cards. Everything happens for a reason.”

Hawks moved his Hick’s Studio south to the Hartland area. “Where I am is working out nice, but I’m outside of Fenton for the first time in 50 years.”

Rogers has plans to move to the state of New York sometime this spring.

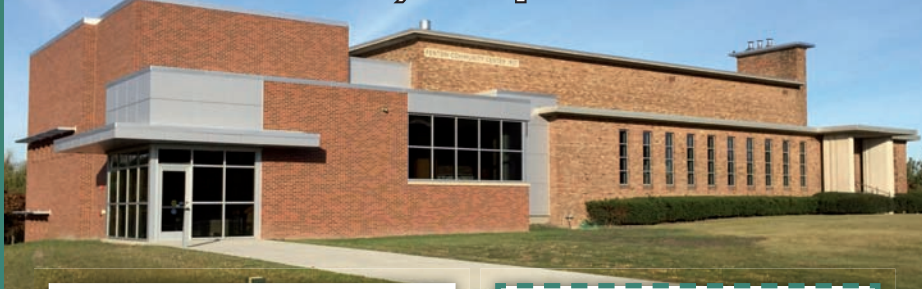


The original article about 106 W. Shiawassee was published in the April 6 Midweek edition. It also was posted on the Tri-County Times website (tctimes.com), and shared on Facebook.

As of 11 a.m. Friday, April 8, the story received **24,046 page views, 111 comments and 90 shares.** This follow-up article was posted online on April 7. As of Friday morning, April 8, there have been **9,193 page views, 72 shares and 46 comments.**

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Michigan residents taxed to the max

■ We pay \$1,500 more each year than average U.S. household

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

A married couple making an average of \$60,000 a year can expect to pay 15 percent of their income, or \$9,000, in federal taxes if they submit their tax returns as married joint filers.

That's not the only tax they pay.

Wallethub ranked Michigan at 45 out of 50 states and the District of Columbia for annual state and local taxes on median U.S. households. Michigan residents pay 22.28 percent, or approximately \$1,500, more in state and local taxes than the average household across the country.

Michigan residents pay approximately \$4,000 more in taxes than Alaska, the state ranked number one.

Michigan residents pay the following in taxes:

Individual income tax

In Michigan, residents pay a flat rate amount of 4.25 percent on individual income tax, which is the 12th lowest among states with an individual income tax, according to taxfoundation.org.

Sales tax

Residents pay 6 percent sales tax, which is just above the national median at 5.95 percent.

This is the 16th lowest sales and excise tax in the nation.

This tax applies to most items, such as clothes, food made ready to eat like in restaurants, household items like clean-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Most people are subject to a variety of taxes beyond what they pay for income tax, including Michigan sales tax.

ing supplies and toilet paper, and most consumer goods.

Exempt from this sales tax is prescription drugs, produce food, periodicals, along with utilities such as water, electric, gas and oil, and other services.

Michigan imposes sales tax on the final user, not the intended sellers. A buyer intending to resell something need not pay taxes on that item, and they can claim an exemption, according to people.opposingviews.com.

Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law last year a bill that would also tax online sales at the general rate. Not all states apply sales tax to online purchases.

See TAX on 14A

I paid how much in taxes?

• **Forbes estimates** that the average American household spends approximately \$1,700 on clothes annually. With a 6 percent sales tax, the average American family pays \$102 a year in taxes for clothes.

• **If you buy** a \$25,000 vehicle with an excise tax of 6 percent, you'll pay \$150 in taxes.

• **The average** American household goes out to eat an average of 4.2 times a week, according to thesimplesdollar.com. If each family spends approximately \$45 when they go out to eat, in a year that family will pay \$140.40 in taxes.

• **If you buy** a 740 ml bottle of \$15 liquor every week, like America's most popular liquor Smirnoff vodka, you'll pay approximately \$124 in excise taxes in one year.

• **If you smoke** a pack of cigarettes every day, you'll pay \$730 in excise taxes in one year.

• **The average American** driver buys about 441 gallons of gasoline year, according to visualeconomics.com. That means the average driver pays \$83.79 in gasoline tax, as well as \$26.46 in sales tax, which adds up to \$110.25 in taxes a year.

• **If the taxable** value of your Fenton Township home is \$40,000, you pay approximately \$1,200 in property taxes.

• **If the taxable** value of your Linden home is \$40,000, you pay approximately \$1,600 in property taxes.



YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

IMPLANT RETAINED LOWER DENTURE

Dentures restore the smile and aid in chewing of food when the natural teeth are lost because of dental disease and/or trauma. The biggest challenge for most denture wearers is the lower denture. Unlike the upper denture which usually has retention and is stable; the lower denture has no retention and is often unstable. Lower dentures float. Most people get along pretty well with their complete upper denture but tolerate, at best, their lower denture. Since lower dentures are less stable and lack retention; eating is often a challenge. Those of us with our own teeth take for granted the fact that we can go to any restaurant and order anything we want from the menu. Denture wearers are often limited on what they can eat because of their lower denture. Now, I am happy to report that there is hope. With the help of dental implants it is now possible to give a denture wearer a lower denture that is stable and **HAS** retention. With dental implants it is possible to have a lower denture that **DOES NOT FLOAT**. Dental implants give a precision, snap fit to a once loose and floating lower denture. An implant retained lower denture can be life changing. Now, with their lower denture firmly and snugly in place, they can eat and enjoy essentially anything they want. If you or someone you know and love is suffering with their dentures simply phone my office 248-634-4671 for a free consultation to see if dental implant are right for you.

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



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Why virtual bariatric surgery is better

This is the best long term weight loss option

Bariatric surgery seems like the perfect solution. And it might be, if it weren't for the failure rate. Importantly, according to an NIH study, lap-band surgery only has a 65 percent success rate.

Side effects are the problem. According to Pharmacy Times, approximately 40 percent of bariatric patients develop "Dumping Syndrome." During or immediately after a meal, patients report nausea, bloating, cramping, diarrhea, dizziness and then vomiting.

Other problems include fecal incontinence.



More than a third develop gallstones. Alarming, according to the New York Times, one study calculated suicide rates for patients at five times more than normal.

Virtual Bariatric Surgery, is different. Clients go into hypnotic trance and have imaginary bariatric surgery. Once out of trance, they eat like they've had the surgery, but with zero side effects. And the cost is tiny by comparison to the real surgery. But insurance does not cover it. The great news is this: It has a 74 percent success rate.

Dr. Tomlinson, certified in the procedure, believes hypnosis allows clients to do more. Weight problems are psychological. As such, his eight-week program helps clients with the deep-seated issues that keep clients from losing weight.

Diets fail due to defiance. If we're told we have to - we don't want to. If told we can't, we want it more. Tomlinson Medical Hypnotherapy does it differently: Biochemically, bodies make extra fat four ways. When clients stop, they can easily lose 1-2 pounds per week.

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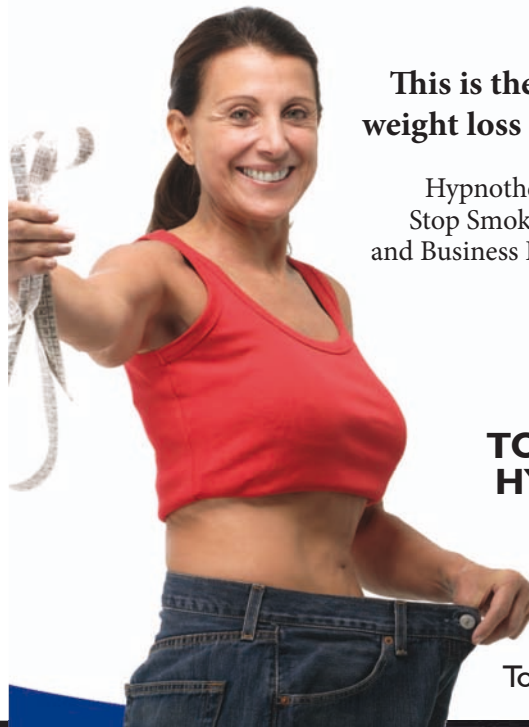


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TAX**Continued from Page 11A**

Non-profit organizations like churches, schools, and certain charities can also file for tax exemptions.

Excise taxes

Excise taxes, which are taxes that apply to certain goods determined by state and federal governments, apply to alcohol, gasoline, and cigarettes in Michigan.

Michigan's gasoline tax is 19 cents per gallon, but that amount will increase 7.3 cents per gallon beginning in 2017 due to a bill Gov. Snyder signed into law last year in an attempt to raise more funds to fix the roads.

Gasoline taxes

Michigan motorists, however, usually pay more at the pump because the 6 percent sales tax also applies to fuel.

'Sin tax'

Smokers pay more in taxes as the cigarette tax is \$2 per pack, the 11th highest in the nation.

Alcohol tax

According to tax-rates.org, Michigan's tax on beer is 20 cents per gallon, which is ranked 28 out of the 50 states.

Wine is taxed at 51 cents per gallon, lower than most states.

Michigan's liquor tax comes in at \$11.90 per gallon, the ninth highest in the country

Property tax

The property tax in Michigan is determined by each municipality through the use of mil levy and the assessed property value. According to smartasset.com, Michigan has one of the highest property tax rates in the country with an average rate of 1.83 percent, the seventh highest in the country.

Genesee County has an average property tax rate of 2.103 percent, higher than both the state and national average.

Disabled veterans are exempt from paying property taxes, according to michigan.gov.

Use tax

Michigan's 6-percent Use Tax is used when sales tax is not involved and applies to items purchased overseas and in the state, according to Michigan.gov.

Residents must pay a 6-percent use tax on vehicles, mobile homes, aircraft, snowmobiles, and watercraft purchased by an individual or business from anyone not a licensed dealer or a retailer.

Michigan does not collect inheritance or estate taxes.

Guest viewpoint

By
Russ Ciesielski

**Sinking Fund renewal**

The Linden Board of Education is seeking support for the sinking fund renewal in the upcoming May 3 election. The actual ballot language will ask district voters to renew the current sinking fund at a rate of 1.3107 mills for an additional 10 years. For all property owners in our district, this millage request will maintain current tax levels, not increase them.

In November of 2006, Linden Community Schools' voters approved a renewal of the original sinking fund, which was 1.318 mills at that time. In order to preserve the ability to maintain our facilities, grounds, and athletic complexes, renewing the sinking fund is critical in keeping Linden's schools on a solid financial footing.

Linden Community Schools' Board of Education is asking voters to approve a 10-year millage for a renewal of the existing sinking fund. There are two planned

events for evening informational sessions. One on Thursday, April 14, and one on Monday, April 18. Both sessions will take place at Linden High School at 6:30 p.m. If you have questions and cannot attend one of these nights, please visit the district website, www.lindenschools.org, or contact me by email, rciesiel@lindenschools.org, or telephone, (810) 591-0983. It is our hope to gain your support for the continuation of the sinking fund for an additional ten-year period.

Over the past few years, our Board has had to reduce district operational costs. Financially, the State of Michigan has put the district in a position where every penny counts, and every penny should be spent on the education of our students. Without the renewal of the sinking fund we would be forced to use general operating dollars to invest in our facilities, taking that money out of the classroom. As the interim superintendent for Linden Community Schools, I encourage you to learn more about the sinking fund at one of our two informational sessions and help support the education of our students.

*Thank you for your consideration,
Russ Ciesielski*

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL
Portions of Ripley Road between Silver Lake and Rolston roads are dirt. Since the roadway borders Linden City and Fenton Township, officials in both communities are in discussions to have the entire road paved.

Could Ripley Road be completely paved?

■ Linden and Fenton Township officials are discussing the approximate \$1 million project

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

Residents and frequent drivers of Ripley Road between Silver Lake and Rolston roads could have a much less bumpy drive.

The Linden City Council and Fenton Township Board of Trustees have been discussing paving Ripley Road, one of the few public dirt roads left in the area. Oftentimes it is like driving a cross a washboard, especially after heavy rains.

“We have had conversations with Fenton Township, because the road services the city of Linden and Fenton Township residents,” said Paul Zelenak, Linden city manager.

The city of Linden is responsible for Ripley Road from Silver Lake Road to Rolston Road, even though north of the railroad tracks, the east side of the road is in Fenton Township, according to Tom Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk of Fenton Township.

Fenton Township is responsible for Ripley Road from Rolston to Lahring Road, even though the west half is in the city of Linden.

The estimated cost to pave the road would be \$1 million, according to Zelenak.

“If we were to receive funds to pay for that road through the county the residents would be responsible for approximately 20 percent of those costs,” he said.

The Linden City Council attempted to secure federal funding through Genesee County, but Ripley Road did not qualify for the money.

“We have also had conversations with the Genesee County Road Commission about the county potentially taking over the grading and maintenance of the road,” he said. “We were told that we would have to bring the road up to their standards before they would take over the road.”

They haven’t received any information yet on what the city needs to meet the country standards.

Not all of Ripley Road is dirt, portions of the road surface between Silver Lake Road and Rolston are paved.

In 2010, Fenton Township resurfaced Ripley Road between Rolston to Lahring.

“The township is definitely not opposed to having Ripley Road from Silver Lake to Rolston Road paved, however that is completely up to the city of Linden,” Broecker said.

Broecker said they have had discussions with Linden city officials about the possibility of creating a special assessment district for Fenton Township residents to pay a portion of the costs.

“That would be dependent on those residents petitioning for a special assessment district,” he said.

MICHIGAN

Continued from Page 3A

If you straightened out Lake Superior’s shoreline alone, it would reach from Duluth to the Bahamas.

The J.W. Westcott II, which operates out of Detroit, is the world’s only floating post office, as it delivers mail to ships as they pass under the Ambassador Bridge.

Detroit residents were the first in the nation to have phone numbers. It seems that by 1879, the city had grown so large that operators were no longer able to route the calls by name alone.

French-Canadian lumberjack Fabian Fournier, who worked for a lumber company in the Grayling area in the late 1800s, was said to be an inspiration for the legendary Paul Bunyan.

Oscoda claims to be the official hometown of the literary Paul Bunyan, as the first published story about him appeared in the Oscoda Press in 1906.

The Detroit metro area sits atop a gigantic salt mine. According to some estimates, there’s enough salt down there to last for 70 million years at the world’s current rate of consumption.

The original name of the University of Michigan, which was founded in 1817, was Catholopistemiad. Try chanting that at a football game.

Grand Haven is famous for its “singing sand” beaches, which make a whistling sound when you walk on them.

Source: movoto.com

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*DEMOLITION (R)

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6:45 8:35 9:25 11:50

SUN-WED 10:05 11:20 am 01:50 4:20
6:45 8:35 9:25

THUR 10:05 11:20 am 01:50 4:20
6:45 9:25 11:50

*HARDCORE HENRY (R)

FRI-SAT 10:00 12:15 2:40 5:00 7:15
9:40 11:55

SUN-WED 10:00 12:15 2:40 5:00
7:15 9:40

THUR 10:00 12:15 2:40 5:00
7:15 9:40 11:55

*THE BOSS (R)

FRI-SAT 10:25 12:40 3:00 5:15 6:20
7:30 9:55 11:00

SUN-WED 10:25 12:40 3:00 5:15 6:20
7:30 9:55

THUR 10:25 12:40 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:55

STARTING THUR APR 14

*BARBERSHOP: THE NEXT CUT
(PG13) THUR 07:00 9:30 12:05

*CRIMINAL (R)

THUR NIGHT/FRI MORNING 12:05

*@THE JUNGLE BOOK: AN IMAX
3D EXPERIENCE (PG)

THUR 7:00 9:30 12:05

CONTINUING

*MEET THE BLACKS (R)

*HELLO, MY NAME IS DORIS (R)

*GODS NOT DEAD 2 (PG)

MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2
(PG13)

*@BATMAN V. SUPERMAN: DAWN
OF JUSTICE: AN IMAX EXPERIENCE
(PG13)

*@BATMAN V. SUPERMAN: DAWN OF
JUSTICE: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE
(PG13)

*@3D BATMAN V. SUPERMAN: DAWN
OF JUSTICE: REALD 3D (PG13)
2D BATMAN V. SUPERMAN: DAWN
OF JUSTICE (PG13)

THE DIVERGENT SERIES:

ALLEGiant (PG13)

*MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN (PG)

10 CLOVERFIELD LANE (PG13)

LONDON HAS FALLEN (R)

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Hillger leads our wrestlers, again

■ Perfect season places LF junior atop our strong all-area team

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Trent Hillger is one busy student-athlete.

During the fall he's been the unquestioned top star of Lake Fenton's football team for three seasons at a variety of positions. Once football ends, it's all about wrestling season where he's not only the top wrestler in the state in his weight class but is also ranked nationally.

When the prep wrestling season ends, he may take a week off, but quickly returns to activities preparing him for both sports.

It's worked for Hillger. He captured his second consecutive Division 3 state individual wrestling championship this March and also recorded his second straight undefeated season on the wrestling mat. In football, he helped lead the Blue Devils to the state playoffs and in wrestling he helped lead Lake Fenton to the Division 3 state semifinals.

His interest in both sports has also earned the junior

another honor. He's become the first-ever two-time Tri-County player of the year for two different sports during the same academic season.

During the 2015 football season, the First-Team All-State performer was the Tri-County's Football Player of the Year. Now, about four months later Hillger is our 2016 Wrestler of the Year. It's the second straight season he's earned the honor.

"I love it," Hillger said about his busy schedule between the two sports. "I need them to keep me out of trouble."

"It's nice. I love both sports. It's nice to have a break from each, and the other sport is my next break from the other sport. It's nice to switch. Every six months I have something new and I'm always in shape, which is nice."

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM



TRENT HILLGER

The Lake Fenton junior capped his season with his second straight D3 individual state title (this one at 285 pounds) and a perfect 65-0 record.

Linden track posts strong efforts at Michigan State meet

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Linden varsity track program has yet to compete in its first outdoor meet this year, but that didn't keep the squads from posting some solid performances at the Michigan State University True Team Invitational.

No one had a better day than Jacob Cox. Cox recorded the Eagles' only first-place performance, taking the top spot in the 60 meter dash with a time of 7.28 seconds. He also teamed with Nolan McDonald, Zach Piet and Dante Minatel to place fourth in the 800 relay (1:38.66).

The Linden girls also competed at the meet and had a handful of top-10 performers. Maddie Nelson placed second in the high jump (4-6).

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
KLARI FREDERICK

Linden's Jacob Cox (front) won the 60-meter dash at the MSU Invitational.

All area baseball teams have reason to feel a bit optimistic

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Predicting favorites in prep baseball circles is a tricky thing.

Trying to figure out what the tri-county area baseball teams will do this spring will be just as tricky to figure out.

Lake Fenton returns three all-league players from a squad that competed for the Genesee Area Conference Red Division title a year ago — that's the good news. However, the squad only returns four starters overall. So what that means is anyone's guess.

To some, the Fenton Tigers may have been a tiny bit of a surprise squad a year ago. Fenton finished at 9-5 in Metro play and have eight returning players from that team. However, among those who did graduate were three of the team's top four hitters from last season.

The Linden Eagles seem to always be in the conversation, and were last year

as well. Linden finished 9-5 in Metro action last spring. However, the Eagles graduated a lot of the players that have made the last couple of seasons such a huge success and now need to rely on some new faces to maintain the recent strong baseball tradition.

Finally, the Holly Bronchos won just three league games in 2015. But Holly does return four starters and three more veteran players, so there's reason to think the Bronchos should be better.

So who is the team to look out for in the tri-county area?

"That is for you to decide," Linden varsity baseball coach Steve Buerkel joked when asked about the Metro League race.

Our response — don't ask the sports staff. We'll just watch it play itself out. Until that happens, we have included some quick previews at tctimes.com.

TEAM PREVIEWS AT TCTIMES.COM

MEET Issac

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sports **briefs**

STORY CORRECTION

► In a weekend edition article about area prep baseball coach's views about the Detroit Tigers' home opener Holly varsity baseball coach Benny Jackson was quoted as saying "I am all about the game and then all of the partying. He was misquoted. What he said was "I am all about the game (rather) than all of the partying." The sports staff regrets the error.

FENTON SOFTBALL OPENS WITH WIN

► Fenton hurler Meaghan McArdle tossed a seven-inning complete game, leading the Tigers to the 5-4 victory against Goodrich. Logan Carter provided the game-winning hit with a solo home run in the seventh inning.

5K COLOR RUN SLATED

► There will be a 5K color run/walk through the streets of Fenton on April 22. The event begins at The Freedom Center at 9:15 p.m. and the cost is \$45 from April 11 until April 21. Same-day registration is \$50.

Linden/Fenton boys lacrosse team wins thriller

■ Open season with OT victory vs. Whitmore Lake

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

Just one contest into its season the Linden/Fenton co-op lacrosse team may have already played what may end up as their most exciting game of the season.

The second-year program edged out Whitmore Lake 9-8 in overtime. The Linden/Fenton Wolves trailed by as many as 8-5 late in the fourth quarter, but finished the period with three straight goals, creating an 8-8 tie as regulation ended.

In overtime, Jacob Newblatt pushed

the face of f to midfielder Dan Pudduck who picked up the ground ball, moved around several Whitmore Lake defenders and got the ball in the offensive zone. After calling a time out, the Wolves ran an overload offensive play where Tyler Bourassa passed the ball to midfielder Brian Hackney, resulting in the game-winning shot and goal for Linden/Fenton.

Bourassa, who led the team with five goals and two assists, scored the squad's seventh goal off an assist by Jake Newblatt. Then, with about 40 seconds to go, Bourassa tied it up off an assist from Derek DeLong.

Hackney had two goals and an assist, while DeLong had one goal and three assists. Dylan Meisch had a goal and two assists.

The Wolves enjoyed a 38-28 shot edge and also enjoyed a 32-14 edge on ground balls won. Adam Glomb made 10 saves in net for the Wolves.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO
Linden/Fenton Wolves boys lacrosse player Derek DeLong (left) is one of the returning players to this year's squad. He scored one goal and had three assists in the Wolves' 9-8 victory against Whitmore Lake.

Times *2016 Wrestling Team*

Most Valuable Wrestler	Team	Rec	Postseason
285) Trent Hillger	Lake Fenton	65-0	State champion

Comment: Trent Hillger not only became a two-time state champion during his career this winter, but he did so by pinning all of his state foes in the first period - that's how dominating the Lake Fenton junior is. He hasn't lost a match since losing the third-place match at 171 pounds during his freshman season. Since then He's won 125 straight prep matches. And he still has another year to go, wow!

The rest of the first team			
Wrestler	Team	Record	Postseason
103) A. J. Geyer	Lake Fenton	53-9	Second at state
112) Justin Cygnar	Linden	33-15	Regional qualifier
119) Jarrett Trombley	Lake Fenton	33-0	State champion
125) Hunter Corcoran	Lake Fenton	55-11	Fourth at state
125) Mitch Nelson	Holly	27-12	Eighth at state
130) Carsen Cuthbert	Lake Fenton	23-14	Win at district
135) Devan Melick	Lake Fenton	57-3	Third at state
135) Sean Trombley	Lake Fenton	49-17	Fifth at state
140) Jackson Nevadomski	Lake Fenton	55-11	Fifth at state
145) Dawson Blank	Linden	50-3	Third at state
152) Colton Cleaver	Holly	41-9	Seventh at state
160) William Greer	Holly	17-22	Two wins at district
171) Cade Dallwitz	Holly	39-11	State qualifier
189) Aaron Steedman	Linden	26-10	State qualifier
215) Jimmy Gray	Holly	45-4	Fifth at state

Note: This team is selected based on the wrestler that had the best performance in the individual state series.

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Police&Fire report

VEHICLE FOR SALE ON CRAIGSLIST WAS REPORTED STOLEN

On April 2, a 25-year-old Swartz Creek resident asked Fenton police to run a check on the VIN of a 2008 Chevrolet Trailblazer he had just bought for \$3,400 in Dearborn through a Craigslist ad. He had just had the vehicle serviced at an auto dealership in Fenton and some of the paperwork did not match the title he was given. After checking, Fenton police learned that the vehicle had been reported stolen by the Eastpoint Police Department. The stolen vehicle was then turned over to Eastpoint police. Information about the seller was provided to police. The Swartz Creek man might be able to get his \$3,400 back after a conviction if restitution is ordered.

ANOTHER CATALYTIC CONVERTER STOLEN

On April 3, Fenton police received a report of a stolen catalytic converter from a Chevrolet Cavalier, which was parked at an apartment complex in the 1000 block of North Road. The car owner told police she parked her car in the lot in the afternoon of March 31 and when she returned to it the next morning, she knew something was wrong when the exhaust system was very loud. Last week, Fenton police learned of four other stolen catalytic converters.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT DAMAGED

On April 1, Fenton police received a malicious destruction of property complaint. An employee of the construction crew working on the Silver Lake Road bridge reported that someone had damaged their equipment. Someone hammered off a hydraulic fitting and someone drilled a hole into a hose to the drive system of an excavator. As of March 25, the equipment was in working order.

LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

APRIL 10

1866: The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) is founded in New York City by philanthropist and diplomat Henry Bergh, 54.

APRIL 11

1888: On this day in 1888, 24-year-old Henry Ford marries Clara Jane Bryant on her 22nd birthday at her parent's home in Greenfield Township, Michigan. Clara Ford would prove to be a big supporter of her husband's business ideas. Fifty years later, Ford was quoted in a 1938 New York Times Magazine article as saying, "The greatest day of my life is when I married Mrs. Ford."

APRIL 12

1861: The bloodiest four years in American history begin when Confederate shore batteries under General P.G.T. Beauregard open fire on Union-held Fort Sumter in South Carolina's Charleston Bay. During the next 34 hours, 50 Confederate guns and mortars launched more than 4,000 rounds at the poorly supplied fort. On April 13, U.S. Major Robert Anderson surrendered the fort. Two days later, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteer soldiers to quell the Southern "insurrection."

APRIL 13

2009: On this day in 2009, former Major League Baseball all-star pitcher Mark "The Bird" Fidrych is found dead at the age of 54, following an accident at his Massachusetts farm involving a Mack truck he was working on.

Fidrych, the 1976 American League Rookie of the Year, suffocated when his clothes got tangled in the truck's power takeoff shaft.

APRIL 14

1865: On this day in 1865, John Wilkes Booth, an actor and Confederate sympathizer, fatally shoots President Abraham Lincoln at a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

1912: Just before midnight in the North Atlantic, the RMS Titanic fails to divert its course from an iceberg, ruptures its hull, and begins to sink.

APRIL 15

1947: On this day in 1947, Jackie Robinson, age 28, becomes the first African-American player in Major League Baseball when he steps onto Ebbets Field in Brooklyn to compete for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Robinson broke the color barrier in a sport that had been segregated for more than 50 years.

APRIL 16

1943: In Basel, Switzerland, Albert Hoffman, a Swiss chemist working at the Sandoz pharmaceutical research laboratory, accidentally consumes LSD-25, a synthetic drug he had created in 1938 as part of his research into the medicinal value of lysergic acid compounds. After taking the drug, Hoffman was disturbed by unusual sensations and hallucinations. In his notes, he related the experience:

"Last Friday, April 16, 1943, I was forced to interrupt my work in the laboratory in the middle of the afternoon and proceed home, being affected by a remarkable restlessness, combined with a slight dizziness. At home I lay down and sank into a not unpleasant, intoxicated-like condition characterized by an extremely stimulated imagination. In a dreamlike state, with eyes closed, I perceived an uninterrupted stream of fantastic pictures, extraordinary shapes with intense, kaleidoscopic play of colors. After some two hours this condition faded away."

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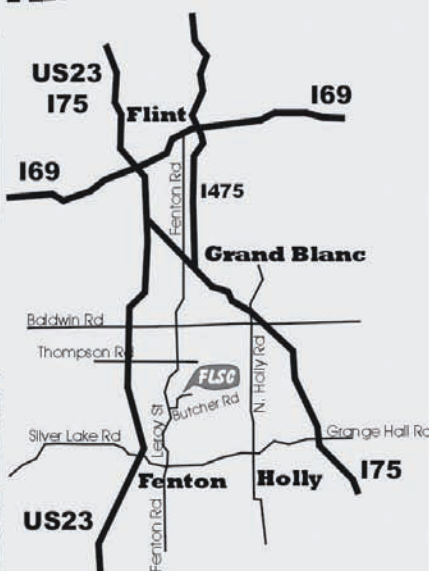
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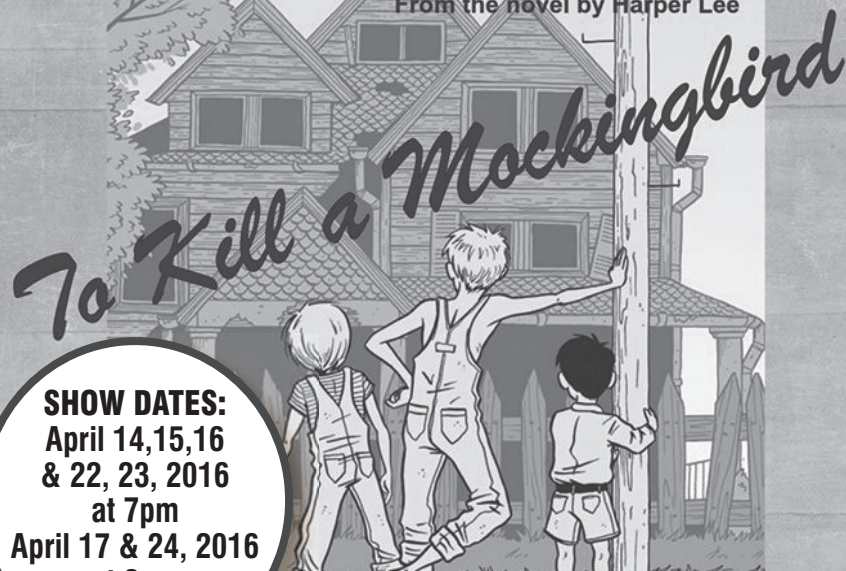
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PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13

More than 1,000 expected at 5K Color Rave Run

■ Still time to sign up for 'healthy' evening activity

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

JD Wiegand, co-founder of Fenton Challenge, is excited about a new event coming to the The Freedom Center in Fenton on April 22.

The "5K Color Rave Run" will be held April 22, from 9:15 to 11 p.m.

The race will be run through some Fenton streets in the neighborhood of The Freedom Center and the high school and middle school (see sidebar), and will have colored powder thrown at the runners on property owned by the church.

At the finish line, in The Freedom Center parking lot, there will be a dance-rave to celebrate the end of the race.

"The idea for a rave started two years ago when The Freedom Center staff decided that they wanted to hold a safe and fun event for people after home football games," said Wiegand.

"The idea for the color run portion came about close to a year ago, when I was researching cool things that larger cities such as New York, Miami and Chicago were doing," he added.

The whole idea came together last November when the youth group came up with the idea of "Fenton Challenge," and finding out what people in the city of Fenton would want as far as involvement in activities. "The top result was health," Wiegand said.

"Then little by little the pieces fell in place and now the city will get the 5K Color Rave Run," he added.

The purpose of the run is to give Fenton people a safe, fun and healthy late night activity, and create a culture only found in larger cities and bringing it to a small town environment, Wiegand said.

"We hope to have close to 1,000 people show up for the run and 1,500 show up for the health conference between Friday and Saturday," said Wiegand.

The health conference will be taking

place at The Freedom Center, from 6 to 9 p.m. April 22, and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. April 23.

"If you're interested in anything from learning how to run a marathon, to hearing how someone lost about 100 pounds, from dietary habits, to the benefits of getting off the couch, this conference is the conference for you," Wiegand said.

Everything is free and participants and Fenton Challenge members can partner participants with businesses, regardless of their fitness goal.

Eighteen local businesses have already signed on to participate.

The 5K Color Run is being held in the evening to close the health conference.

"It's also because so many big cities are starting to do runs at night, with colored lighting and great music," said Wiegand. "We're trying to take Fenton into the future along with these big cities."

The cost to participate in the run is \$35 through Sunday, April 10. After that, it goes up to \$45 per participant.

The Fenton City Council considered Wiegand's request to allow the 5K Color

Rave Run on some city streets at the March 28 regular meeting. Because some council members had questions regarding lighting and other safety issues, the matter was postponed until the April 4 work session.

Wiegand said their concerns included falling hazards, the people in the subdivision not being able to have a second exit, and access to and from the schools for athletic events.

Those concerns were addressed and the council approved the event at the work session.

To participate in the run and/or health conference, visit fentonchallenge.com/events or [facebook.com/fentonchallenge](https://www.facebook.com/fentonchallenge).

“It's also because so many big cities are starting to do runs at night, with colored lighting and great music.”

JD Wiegand
Fenton Challenge co-founder

SUMMARY

■ The Fenton Challenge "5K Color Rave Run" will be held from 9:15 to 11 p.m. on Friday, April 22. A health conference will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. that day, and continue on Saturday, April 23, from 9 to 12 p.m. To participate in the run, cost is \$35 through Sunday, April 10. It goes up to \$45 Monday, April 11. The health conference is free.

5K Color Rave Run route

The 5K Color Rave Run will begin and end at The Freedom Center parking lot. From The Freedom Center, runners will take the Old Truck Road (private gravel pit road) to E. Shiawassee Avenue. They will go west to Donaldson Drive and turn north. They will run to the end of Donaldson Drive to Owen Road (never crossing Owen), do a U-turn on Donaldson and run back to Shiawassee Avenue, then back to the Old Truck Road. The run takes participants halfway up the Old Truck Road back to The Freedom Center.

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Disasters in the air, such as the doomed Malaysia Air Flight 370 crash in March 2014, and most recently the Germanwings Airbus A320 crash on March 24 in the French Alps, may have

PAGES 6-7B
FIND YOUR PERFECT PET AT ADOPT-A-PET

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com

According to Niche.com, a website started in 2002 as collegeprowler.com by Carnegie Mellon University students, Holly has been ranked the 11th best town in Michigan to raise children.

U.S. Census Bureau shows that Holly had a population of 6,192 in 2013.

Considered for the 2015 ranking for crime and safety and the location's safety, education, access to libraries, involvement, the ability to purchase goods and services, residents 9 and under, access to day care centers and grocery stores.

One resident Nancy Hanks, who with her husband raised three children in Holly, agrees more.

"Holly," said Hanks. "It's still a small town community yet offers so much. Historic homes, a happening place with several businesses and one-of-a-kind gift boutiques."

See HOLLY on 9A

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES

Students sign yearbooks, notebooks and scraps of paper. In Fenton, 169 eighth-graders will move to the high school. Thursday, while Holly schools began their summer break.

See more photos at tctimes.com

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

It's been just over six months since the ground-floor business tenants moved into their new digs in the Cornerstone building, 134 North LeRoy St. in Fenton.

The Rough Draught Coffee & Bar, owned by Andrew and Stephanie, is one of them.

"Everything is going great," said Stephanie. "Our business is probably more than doubled since we moved here."

Stephanie describes their customers as an eclectic mix representing all ages. They also have special even-

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BAGGERS

Continued from Front Page

"My wife and I retired at the same time and did a lot of traveling for five years," said Bob Roberts, 71, who has worked at VG's for more than 10 years. "I got tired of TV, the couch and books. I'm a personable guy, so this job works for me. It also helps me pay for my tee times."

Roberts works about 20 hours per week, during the early morning shift from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. He starts his day with the more mundane tasks of gathering the shopping carts, putting down fresh rugs and re-shelving returned items. His day really starts when he gets to interact with customers, bagging groceries and helping people out to their cars.

He brings a strong work ethic to the job, after a 38-year career at General Motors. "I'd rather be busy than standing around trying to look busy," he said. "I've only missed one day in 10 years. I'm dependable."

Laura Bishoff, VG's store manager, says that their older workers are definitely a positive influence on their younger co-workers. "They show them how to do a job and get it done thoroughly," she said.

One challenge older workers sometimes have initially is learning how to apply for the job on the computer. "We help them through that," said Bishoff. "Once they get past the technology, it's a really good fit. They're usually pretty persistent, very reliable and dependable."

After the economic turndown in 2008, local builder Al Zadony now 74, found himself on the hired end, instead of the hiring end. "I used to be a builder for 30 years," said Zadony, "After the downturn, I just wanted to get out of the house."

After seven years on the job at VG's, Zadony admits he's a changed man. "I wasn't as much a people person as I am now. They can count on me."

Now distinguishing himself as the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Bob Roberts, 71, gathers carts at the end of his shift at VG's on Silver Parkway in Fenton Wednesday morning. He guesses he sees 100 to 150 people each day. His job includes carts, bagging and compacting trash.

most senior employee at VG's, Harry Nelson, 77, has had a number of jobs since retiring from the Ford Wixom plant in 1991. "I worked at several Kmart's, moved to North Carolina, came back and took a little time off," said Nelson. "Bob, the storage manager, said to me, 'You're here 90 percent of time anyway, so why don't you just get a job here?'"

He's been at VG's nine years now, and has just recently cut his weekly work days to one or two, so he can spend more time with his grandson. "I just love to be around people," he said.

Women don't only grocery shop at VG's, many of them work there. Mina Ashley, 56, is a part-time cashier and part-time STAT EMS paramedic. She says her life experience helps her in her role at VG's. "I know how to treat people," she said.

Annette Corcoran, 51, is in her sixth year as a cashier. Educated in hotel and restaurant management, her flexible hours at VG's allow her to take care of her 23-year-old disabled daughter at home. "I can leave here at 3 p.m. and get her off the bus," she said. "I get along with the older and younger workers here, too. Most of the people who work here are very nice."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Bob Keller, 72, bags groceries at the VG's on Silver Parkway in Fenton on Wednesday.

More places are allowing people to travel, dine and shop with pets

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Dog lovers are happier these days now that their best friends can accompany them to more places, and partake in fun family activities away from home.

Outdoor enthusiasts are getting more comfortable, too, making their pets part of their outdoor adventures.

Linden Mayor David Lossing and his wife, Suzanne, are among them.

"We take our dogs kayaking on the Shiawassee River and other locations," Lossing said. "We suit 'em up with their own vests and goggles."

Sharon Paulin of Linden, who is very involved with the Fenton VFW said, "While I understand that exceptions need to be made for service dogs, in most instances dogs do not belong in most stores or restaurants, I get aggravated with people who bring their pets to patriotic parades and cemeteries."

Fenton City Councilwoman Cherie Smith often takes her Scottish Terrier out for an adventure.

"Sometimes I take Maisy into Family Farm and Home, Pet Supplies Plus, Tractor Supply Co. in a cart only and with a special mat in the bottom so she doesn't have to stand on the wire," said Smith. "I know these are pet friendly stores. I'd never take her in if she wasn't in a cart."

Maygen Sementilli said, "Our dog loves the Tim Horton's drive through, and he loves Uncle Ray's."

Those who enjoy travel will be pleased to know that Amtrak is one of the latest to allow people to travel on trains with their pets, taking its first reservations March 7.

There are several rules, however. According to Amtrak.com, the maximum length of travel on the train will be seven hours.

Pets are only permitted in coach cars and only one pet per passenger will be allowed. No more than five pets are reserved per train. The pet fare is \$25 for each travel segment. Pets must be at least 8 weeks old, and must be odorless and harmless, not disruptive, and require no attention during travel. Maximum weight of pet with carrier is 20 pounds.

Onboard crews will work to accommodate any travelers with allergies or other pet concerns.

Airlines also allow small pets and have similar rules. Check out the website of the carrier you wish to fly for detailed information and regulations.

The fee to allow a pet to accompany the passenger ranges from \$100 to \$125, depending on the carrier.

More establishments on the ground are allowing dogs than ever before as well. National retailers such as Bed, Bath & Beyond, Michael's, The Home Depot, Lowe's, Barnes & Noble are among a few that welcome dogs on a leash, or in a cart. But not all of them permit this.



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Bed, Bath & Beyond is one of many national retailers that welcomes pets on a leash or in a cart.

Check with your local store to see if it is OK before Fido hops in the car.

Retailers that deal in pet foods and supplies usually allow dogs inside

the store — stores like Petco and Pet Supplies Plus.

Unless it is a service dog, it is unlikely that dogs will be allowed in grocery stores, inside restaurants, at outdoor events serving food, or other retailers that sell food items.

Some restaurants, with outdoor seating areas, do allow dogs. Again, it is always wise to call ahead to make sure.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sophia Louise Brushaber said, "My little snugs love Uncle Ray's!" Uncle Ray's Dairyland in Fenton has long been known to share their tasty delights with furry customers.

Even if you can, should you?

While pet owners adore their furry little friends, not everyone does — especially people with health concerns such as allergies.

Others still are afraid of dogs, especially large dogs that are known to be aggressive breeds.

Traveling, dining out and shopping is now more dangerous for people with dog allergies, for example.

Businesses who allow dogs into their establishments need to consider the health and safety of all their customers. Dog owners should use common sense as it relates to places they should not take their pet, even if they are allowed to do so.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

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■■■■
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS ARE like Christmas lights; they all hang together, half of them don't work and most are not very bright.

■■■■
REGARDING HILLARY CLINTON'S untruthfulness, it's very simple. If people would stop asking her questions, then she would stop lying.

■■■■
CITY OF FENTON tears down a viable building for use for redevelopment. No, it's not 1975 again, it's just urban renewal, part two.

■■■■
THE DETROIT WATER department created and operated the Flint water plant for decades as the backup to the primary pipeline for Flint water. For those many years, Detroit approved the water produced by the Flint water plant for emergency use. In all those decades, are we now saying the Detroit water department never fully approved that backup source because it was not potable for use?

■■■■
OBAMACARE IS A plan of a despot. George Washington warned us about such plans, plans of despot leaders that wanted total control over everything. This plan is killing thousands across the nation and demoralizing doctors, punishing them. Taking control from doctors treating their own patients. Something needs to be done.

our town

Meet Deborah Duncan

- Air Force veteran, wife, mother, doctor
- Owner of dogs, cats and a horse
- Almost a veterinarian

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Dr. Deborah Duncan originally wanted to be a veterinarian, but now she's been helping people around the community as a family doctor at Fenton Medical Center. Along with being board certified in family practice and preventative medicine, Duncan also has her masters in aerospace medicine after she served as a flight surgeon in the Air Force for 10 years.

Why did you get into the medical field?

Probably because my dad was a doctor. I was originally going to be a vet but somehow I ended up in medical school instead. It was always in my mind.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dr. Deborah Duncan has been practicing for 37 years. Her patients are both the best part, and most challenging part of the job.

Did you like medical school?

It was medical school. It wasn't there to like. It was very busy. I graduated 39 years ago. I went to Ohio State University. Columbus is a great town.

What's the most memorable thing you've seen as a doctor?

Birthing babies, that's pretty memorable. Being with people when they die, that's an amazing thing. It's very moving, just to be there. It's not about doing anything, generally. It's hard to describe. It's a very religious experience. But I haven't been involved in any big disasters, just usual doctor stuff.

How long have you worked at Fenton Medical Center?

Since 1990, 26 years. I love it here. It's wonderful.

How do you like Fenton?

I love it. I've lived here for 30 years. We moved up here because he (my husband) got a job as an aeronautical engineer. I got my residency here at Providence and I turned to family practice.

I got my job at Fenton Medical Center and we lived in Fenton the whole time.

Why did you join the Air Force?

I was dating my husband and he was a graduate of the Air Force Academy. He talked me into looking at being a flight surgeon. They paid my way through medical school and so I had a three-year commitment. I liked the job so I stayed in for a while, 10 years total.

I was a flight surgeon. Flight surgeons do whatever is necessary to keep the flight crew healthy. We do occupational medicine for the base. We keep the whole environment healthy for the pilots. We both got out of active duty in 1987.

What was the hardest part of being in the Air Force?

Just the normal military stuff. Doctors aren't generally made for military.

Tell me about your family.

My husband is retired from the Air Force and from Williams. My son is 23 years old and is a apprentice to a gunsmith. We have four dogs, four cats, and I have a horse. I used to show and do some three-day events but it's been a couple years. Having traveled a lot when we were younger, we kind of more just hang out when we're home.

That's a lot of animals.

Like I said, I was originally going to be a vet. It took us a while to have Christopher so our animals are like our surrogate children.

What do you like to do around the community?

I work. I work about 70 to 75 hours a week. We love to go out to eat, go to movies, but we've been real home bodies. I love The Laundry and Eduardo's in Grand Blanc.

Last year I was president of Genesee County Medical Society. I'm on the board of the accountable care organization, part of our physicians medical group.

What's the hardest part of being a doctor?

Getting people to change. Change is very hard for people. That's most of what we do is try to assist them with that. It's easy to use drugs, it's harder to create change. Most of the health problems we see, heart disease, diabetes, acid reflux, those are all behavioral issues far more than they are medical issues. Those are things people wouldn't have if they could make healthier choices.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Continued from Page 6A

"The money stops," he said. "You may look at it and say 'wait 'til age 70,' but what happens if you don't make it to age 70? What would happen if you took Social Security benefits at 62 and socked it into an investment account? Then you potentially would have something to pass on to your heirs. If your health or family's longevity history isn't good,

maybe take it sooner rather than later."

One thing is for sure, it's important to make informed decisions based on your own family's unique situation.

"Make sure all your systems are working together, from your financial planner and CPA, to your insurance professional and estate planner," said Hensler. "Meet with a Social Security representative and find out what your options are."

MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTED ON RECENTLY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate.

The House and Senate are on a two-week spring break, so rather than votes, this report contains some recently proposed constitutional amendments of interest. To become law these require a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate and approval by voters. This report was released Friday, April 1.

Senate Joint Resolution H: Ban welfare for illegal aliens

Introduced by Sen. Joe Hune (R), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to prohibit the state from giving any kind of public assistance to illegal aliens. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Joint Resolution I: Repeal same-sex marriage ban

Introduced by Sen. Rebekah Warren (D), to place before voters in the next general election an amendment to repeal Section 25 of the Michigan constitution, which currently states, "To secure and preserve the benefits of marriage for our society and for future generations of children, the union of one man and one woman in marriage shall be the only agreement recognized as a marriage or similar union for any purpose." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Joint Resolution M: Replace gas tax increase with 1 percent sales tax increase

Introduced by Sen. Kenneth Horn (R), to place before voters a constitutional amendment that would increase the state sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent and use the revenue for roads, while repealing the gas tax and vehicle registration tax increases enacted by the Legislature in 2015. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Joint Resolution O: Legalize marijuana

Introduced by Sen. Coleman Young II (D), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to prohibit the Legislature from adopting a law that makes adult possession or use of marijuana a criminal or civil offense. Laws regulating production and sales could be enacted, as well as laws regulating the time, place

and manner of use for public health and safety purposes. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Joint Resolution BB: Call for "Article V" U.S. constitutional amendment convention

Introduced by Rep. Lee Chatfield (R), to submit an application to Congress calling for a "convention to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution," limited to the issues of fiscal restraints, federal powers and congressional term limits. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Joint Resolution DD: Lower minimum age for lawmakers

Introduced by Rep. Aaron Miller (R), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to lower the minimum age requirement for legislators from 21 to 18, and for governors from 30 to 21. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Joint Resolution FF, Senate Joint Resolutions H and N: Limit referendum on appropriations ban

Introduced by Rep. Jim Townsend (D), Sen. Rebekah Warren (D) and Sen. Curtis Hertel (D), plus many cosponsors, to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to revise the current prohibition on citizen referendums challenging bills that contain an appropriation. The measure would establish that the ban only applies to bills that substantially fund one or more state departments, or which are needed to close state budget shortfalls. A 2001 Supreme Court ruling interpreted the provision as prohibiting referendums on any bill containing an appropriation, even a small or incidental one. In several instances since then, the Legislature has deliberately added modest appropriations to controversial bills that would likely have been challenged by a referendum. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

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\$17,900



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Stk# 1140074A
\$16,500



2014 JEEP CHEROKEE
TRAIL HAWK Stk# 1234823A
\$22,300



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COUNTRY Stk# 6141027B
\$10,399



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Stk# 1109205B
\$4,702



2006 DODGE RAM 2500
Stk# 125533
\$16,900



2014 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE
Stk# 125541
\$31,900