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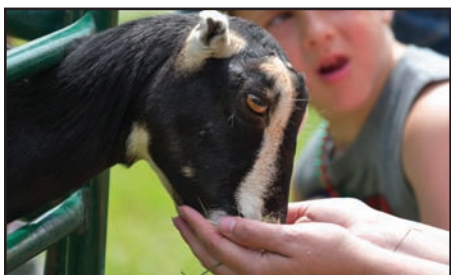
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Fenton Freedom Festival 2016

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton Freedom Festival brought thousands to downtown Fenton on Monday, July 4. Following the Firecracker Run and parade, visitors gathered around the Fenton Community and Cultural Center for grilled chicken, a petting zoo, arts and crafts and many more activities. This was the first festival held since the Streetscape was completed.



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The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699 and other post offices. Subscription Rate: 47.00 per year. No non-member subscribers. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tri-County Times, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.

HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday Closed



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Advertising 810-629-8281	Fax 810-629-9227
Classifieds 810-629-8194	Email news@tctimes.com
Circulation 810-433-6797	Website tctimes.com

If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

The power of choice

This past weekend, while attending a Fourth of July gathering of friends and associates, I happened to overhear someone refer to a close friend of mine as “leading a charmed life.” I got to thinking about this statement on the drive home.

The conclusion I drew after considerable thought was that this person couldn’t have been more wrong. The individual they referred to was no more “charmed” than anyone else in the world. This person had merely learned a long time ago that the secret to happiness — no matter what your personal definition — is simply the power of choice.

How many times in your life have you heard homeless people referred to as “less fortunate.” If you accept the premise that one individual is a filthy, homeless, destitute, drunken bum because he is “less fortunate,” then you must also accept the premise that successful people who have a home, are clean and sober and have an income, are “more fortunate.”

That, royal readers, is simply ridiculous.

The unshaven, disgusting, filthy drunk sleeping in an alley is there by choice. He is lying there, passed out in his cardboard box, because of the sum total of every choice he has ever made in his life.

He is lying there by choice — his choice.

It’s no coincidence that most losers in life don’t buy into the premise of accepting responsibility for their choices. Their lack of success in life is always due to some outside factor such as the government, race, gender, luck, whatever — but never their own choices.

These are the same people who spend much of their time demanding their “rights.” You know the spiel — they have a “right” to a good-paying job, they have a “right” to a nice home, they have a “right” to an education, they have a

“right” to have society pay for the food, clothing, housing and medical care of children they brought into the world because of their choices. Basically, they feel they have the “right” to have the rest of us pay for the bad choices they made.

The lesson here is that we need to teach our kids that the “secret” to success in life is simply the power of choice. We need to make them aware that getting pregnant is a choice, that getting good grades is a choice, that using drugs or alcohol is a choice — and that each of these choices will be a factor in the ultimate determination of success or failure in their life.

It is naive to think that my friend leads a “charmed life.” He is blessed with happiness and prosperity simply because of the choices he made — and, more importantly, accepting total responsibility for those choices and their resulting consequences.

Preach it, teach it, practice it — we each control our own life through the power of choice.

Destiny is choice, not chance — always has been, always will be.

“It’s no coincidence that most losers in life don’t buy into the premise of accepting responsibility for their choices.”



FOSTER CHILDS

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.

MOST OF OUR politicians are part of a good old boys club. They talk big but don’t change anything. All are beholden to big money donors, like unions, big environmental organizations, big pharmacies, big oil companies, foreign companies, foreign governments. They are puppets.

IN THE ‘40s and ‘50s it was the M-1 rifle that defended the U.S. and our allies. Only eight rounds per clip, but in a firefight, easily over a hundred rounds per minute.

WHY HASN’T OBAMA been impeached for malfeasance of office? It would be easy to prove.

IT IS TIME for this country to take the troublesome abortion issue out of the competitive political arena and put it back into the word of thoughtful, personal decisions where it belongs.

SO WILLY CLINTON got his hand caught in the cookie jar again.

ACCORDING TO THESE Hot lines, we have always had a liar in the White House. It must be a qualification for the job.

COLLEGE EDUCATION IS meant to expand your mind, not close it. If you run around looking for a university that only

agrees with you, that’s not really educating you. You could stay home and know just what you know now.

SEPT. 11, 2001, 3,000 plus people died. Gorge Bush lived. Why wasn’t there an investigation on 9/11 like there was for Benghazi?

CAN YOU IMAGINE Trump and Gingrich? Six wives. Yeah, Hillary’s in.

OBAMA AND HILLARY Clinton’s incompetence have allowed ISIS to grow and cause unrest and instability throughout the world. Bush’s wars at least were aimed at stopping terrorism at its sources.

SO YOU THINK the second amendment, based on a weapon that could put at one fairly inaccurate shot every minute to two minutes on a good day, should be applicable to an AR-15, which can go through a 100-round clip in a matter of a minute?

ISRAEL HAS EVERY right to protect its airports every way it sees fit. They’re the only airport in the world that hasn’t been shamed to death by terrorists. They don’t let them on the airplane. If America would take a hint from Israel we wouldn’t have the problem we’re having.

VERY FEW PEOPLE are actually killed by guns. Considering how many are killed by drunk drivers I think we ought to have mandatory background checks and a three-day wait to buy alcohol. Works for me.

NOW THAT BOB Evans has closed on Owen Road, what are the chances of getting an Olive Garden in that location?

THIS IS FOR the high school senior at Fenton who’s looking for a conservative university. I strongly suggest that he check on Hillsdale College, about 50 miles southwest of Ann Arbor. I’m sure they would meet all of his requirements.

I WAS WONDERING if the bridge on Silver Lake Road is completely finished. The side facing the river looks fantastic, but the side facing the road looks unfinished. Is it finished or not?

IN DOING YOUR article ‘Standing the test of time,’ how could you forget Gerych’s Flowers or John’s Pizzeria?

I JUST WANT to say what a fabulous job that they did with the fireworks at Lake Ponemah on Saturday night. They were absolutely gorgeous.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Grant Cislo, intern

Where are your ancestors from?



“England and French-Canadian. I would say the only things we really pass down are certain dishes.”

— Valerie Angus
Fenton



“Germany and Ireland and my grandfather came from Canada.”

— Matthias Smith
Lake Fenton



“According to DNA, my ancestors were from Germany, Finland, England, and believe it or not, we are also one percent Native American. My family came to this country at Jamestown and that’s how long we have been here.”

— Sallie Hargreaves
Fenton



“Texas. I grew up in Texas and moved here when I was seven.”

— Travis Howell
Linden



“European, Ireland, Wales, Germany, and England. Our family came over here for work, they were potato farmers. They migrated to Ohio and Michigan.”

— Dan & Evelyn Harrell
Argentine

street talk

The logic behind your credit score

■ Your score could decrease 100 points by missing just one mortgage payment

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

One of the most important numbers in your life is your credit score.

It determines if you'll be approved to buy a house or car, and can affect major life decisions.

Lori Barton, vice president of The State Bank in Fenton said, "It's very easy for a credit score to go down quickly, but they don't rise quickly. One late payment on a mortgage could have a 100-point decrease in your credit score."

A credit score is a three-digit number that lenders use to determine someone's reliability for loans and credit cards. Credit scores range from 300 to 830, according to Credit Karma.

Anything above 700 is considered good. Your credit score can decrease for a number of reasons.

"Your payment history will affect your score, the types of credit you have," she said. Consumers have Visa cards, or American Express cards, and more recently, credit cards from department stores, like Kohl's.

Your payment history plays a big role. Being late on a mortgage bill greatly affects your score because they're priced at a higher value.

"If you're 15 days late, it's not going to show. If you're 30 days late, that will show," she said.

Bankruptcies, judgments, or tax liens will show on a credit score, and cause a decrease.

How long you've established credit is also a factor.

"If I've only had credit for two years compared to someone who's had credit for 30 years, that will make a difference," she said.

Your balance-to-limit ratio, which is calculated by dividing the total amount of balances on your cards by the total of the limits on your cards, according to experian.com, is also an important factor.

A high balance-to-limit ratio can be a red flag and can adversely affect your score.

"Your limits play a key role in your



Checking your own credit score online at free sites like creditkarma.com and freecreditscore.com won't lower your score.

credit score. If you owed more than 50 percent of outstanding limits, then it will have a downward effect on credit scores," she said. Experian recommends not exceeding 30 percent of your credit limits.

A few components can cause your score to increase. Barton said paying your bills on time, keeping your balances low, and removing negative items on your credit report if possible can all cause your score to increase.

Barton explained that if you only have car loans, getting a mortgage could cause your credit score to increase.

One myth is that the more you check your credit score, the more it decreases.

For example, Barton said the more

times a bank requests inquiries, the more the score could potentially decrease.

"If I had inquiries from four different credit card companies that implies that I'm going to get more cards. It could have a downward effect," she said. "The more times inquiries are pulled, it could lower your score. I don't believe you personally checking your own at freecreditscore.com would lower it. Those don't show up as inquiries."

Another common belief is that someone's credit score will decrease when they finish paying off a car or a house.

"I have not heard of that," Barton said.

Approximately 38.1 percent of all American households have some type of credit card debt, according to the Survey of Consumer Finances by the U.S. Federal Reserve. The average amount of credit card debt is \$5,700.

See **CREDIT SCORES** on 12

“Your limits play a key role in your credit score. If you owed more than 50 percent of outstanding limits, then it will have a downward effect on credit scores.”

Lori Barton

The State Bank vice president

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Mark McCabe
67th District Court
Ask the judge

A second chance setting aside a conviction in Michigan

In this life everyone makes mistakes. Fortunately, for most people their mistakes do not involve a violation of the criminal law.

However, there are times when what some may call a type of mistake rises to a much more serious level and what has been done turns out to be a violation of the criminal law with the consequences that follow including punishment and a criminal record.

A criminal record can follow a person for the rest of their lives and the consequences invariably include difficulty in finding employment.

In 1965, the Michigan state legislature recognized that for those deserving it, an opportunity for a so called “second chance” should be a possibility under the law.

As a result, the legislature passed Public Act 213 of 1965 allowing eligible defendants to apply to the court in which they were convicted to have

their convictions set aside or “ex-punged.”

This law requires proof that the defendant has led a crime free and positive life and setting it aside is consistent with the general welfare.

The law has been amended several times as to the types of crimes that are eligible and other substantive requirements, with the latest of these amendments becoming effective Jan. 12, 2015.

An application may be filed to set aside one or more convictions if the procedural rules are followed and a sufficient showing is made.

Generally, there is a minimum five-year waiting period after the sentence was imposed or since the defendant was discharged from imprisonment, probation, or parole whichever is later.

If a person has been convicted of not more than one felony offense and two misdemeanor offenses the felony can be set aside. Alternatively, if a person has had not more than two misdemeanor convictions one or both convictions can be set aside.

There is a list of offenses that can't be set aside including traffic offenses, life felonies, and most criminal sexual conduct convictions.

If an applicant is granted relief, the statute provides that they are considered not to have been convicted. A non-public record is still kept for law enforcement, court, and other purposes.

More information on this, including court forms and some special rules, is available on the Michigan Supreme Court website.

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Popularity of drones is taking off

■ First used only for military, devices now becoming mainstream for business and recreation

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

What do real estate, the U.S. military, sports and aerial photography, law enforcement, delivery companies and farmers have in common?

They are all businesses or groups that either use drones now or will be in the foreseeable future.

Simply put, a drone is an unpowered aircraft or spacecraft often used for military purposes. However, their application for many other industries is quickly becoming apparent as drones become more commonplace.

According to the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), the drone industry will have nearly a \$100 billion economic impact in the next 10 years, as they begin to be integrated into the public and private sector.

The Michigan State Police is the first group in the state of Michigan to get approval for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

"We don't call them drones," said First Lt. Michael Shaw, public information director for the MSP-Metro Post. "They're unmanned aerial vehicles or systems. We've had two now for a year. It's a huge process to get them."

Priced at about \$100,000 each, the two UAVs are stationed out of Lansing, and are used primarily for crime scene photographs, search and rescue and arson investigation. "Ours are operated by pilots in the aviation division, the same ones who fly our helicopters and fixed wing aircraft," said Shaw.

They're also available to local, county and federal partners who also use the state police's K-9 units, dive teams, etc. "They don't have to invest money in having their own equipment," said Shaw.

He believes that the UAVs save the department money. "We don't always have to use helicopters, they can get into tighter spots and they're a lot more quiet. There's a lot of good in using UAVs," he said.

While Shaw is very positive about the use of UAVs in law enforcement, other people are nervous about UAVs taking away jobs. The AUVSI report states that the drone industry will actually create about 100,000 jobs between now and 2025, as the industry requires manufacturers, monitors, maintenance and controllers.

Others are concerned about privacy, which has kept the FAA on top of guidelines regarding commercial drones. They can't fly above 400 feet or travel faster than 100 mph. They also can't fly above pedestrians and must remain in sight of the operator. Drones also are restricted from flying near populated areas, airports or stadiums.

While we think of drones as a recent

technological invention, they've actually been around for decades, and in more rudimentary form, for centuries.

One of the first recorded usages of drones was by Austrians on Aug. 22, 1849, when they launched 200 pilotless balloons against the city of Venice. Even in the Civil War, Confederate and Union forces both flew balloons for reconnaissance missions.

A forerunner of today's drone was even a presence in World War II, when radio controlled B-24s were sent on bombing missions over Germany. In Vietnam, remotely controlled aircraft carried still cameras over battlefields.

In 1995, the U.S. military deployed a small squadron of Predators with video cameras for the first time in Yugoslavia during the war on Bosnia.

Since that time, drones have become popular as their possibilities for commercial, agricultural and other uses just begin to scratch the surface.

Drones with cameras are being purchased "just for fun," priced at about




TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FRED MOSES

Fred Moses used his Unmanned Aircraft System to capture footage, photos, and live stream local events over the weekend.


\$1,000 and up. Even if your drone is for recreation, it must be registered with the FAA if it weighs more than .55 pounds. Anything lighter is considered a toy.

You can register your drone on faa.gov and the \$5 fee is much cheaper than a possible \$27,500 fine for operating a drone without registration.



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FENTON

Continued from Front Page

The family held its 2016 reunion in the city and were welcomed with open arms and hearts by the thousands of citizens who call themselves "Fentonites."

Their first taste of Fenton hospitality came Friday night during the Fourth of July Parade Grand Marshal reception at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

The next morning, they visited the A.J. Phillips Museum, where a wealth of Fenton history is housed through documents and artifacts.

During their visit, the Fentons showed they are a friendly, close-knit family with a great sense of humor.

Elizabeth Fenton (see sidebar for lineage), is from Plainwell, Illinois and works as an IT Systems Analyst for Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Customs and Border Patrol.

This was Elizabeth's first visit to Fenton and said, "I love it, it's beautiful. It's decorated so nicely, it's just wonderful."

"I really like seeing the names of all the businesses here that start with 'Fenton,'" she said, then joked, "I want my share."

Peter Fenton of Sumner, Washington was also present with his wife, Lynn. "We came in last night and were so impressed," said Peter "This is such a beautiful town."

Pauline (Fenton) Kiltinen of Marquette traveled to Fenton with her husband, John.

"We came here last year on a scouting

mission and the possibility of a reunion here," said Pauline. "We were so well received."

That was in April of 2015. Pauline said it was somewhat startling that the roads in the downtown were down to dirt. She was referring to the Streetscape construction, which she said appears to have been well worth the effort judging by how beautiful the downtown is today.

Gus Fenton, a retired bio-medical engineer from Minneapolis, Minnesota, was there with his wife, Pat. He has been spending his time writing his second book called, "The writings of Horace Fenton, 1804-1876." He is currently working on the third. A copy, autographed by members of the family who were in town over the holiday weekend, can be viewed

at the museum.

Larry Fenton transcribed the writings of Horace Fenton. The writings were first typed by Elizabeth in 1973.

"It was very special to be able to type it on my IBM Selectric typewriter," she said.

Larry, who with his wife Kathy, came in from their home in Columbia, Maryland, put it all on the computer. The family lauded Larry and Kathy for serving as the family genealogists and doing "a lot of the legwork."

Larry is a retired electrical engineer from the NSA (National Security Agency).

"We don't ask him what he did there," said Elizabeth.

Gus explained their schedule while in

Michigan, which included a trip to Oakwood Cemetery in Fenton, and Glendale Cemetery in Flint, where Col. William Fenton is buried.

SUMMARY

Descendants of Horace Fenton and Col. William Fenton were in town over the Fourth of July Freedom Festival. They enjoyed a number of local activities, including being special guests in the Freedom Festival parade.

The family members were also special guests, riding in the Freedom Festival Parade, and viewed the fireworks from the comfort of their hotel property Monday night. A trip to Ann Arbor was planned for

Tuesday, to present a copy of Gus' book on Horace Fenton to the Bentley Historical Library. They also traveled to Hudson to tour the environs of Horace' houses and farm.

All of the family members said they will definitely come back to Fenton. If they didn't get a chance over the weekend, they would like to someday see the bas relief (silhouette) of Col. William Fenton at Red Fox Outfitters, said Gus. While in town, the family learned of the annual poker game at the Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille. The game put on by the Fenton Education Foundation as a fundraiser commemorates the legendary game played by William Fenton and Robert LeRoy. The winner of that original game won the rights to name the town. During the FEF games, the winner gets his or her name on signs along a short distance of LeRoy Street for a year.

Pauline and Elizabeth said

Fenton family lineage

In town for the Fenton Freedom Festival Fourth of July festivities were direct descendants of Horace Fenton, siblings – Larry, Pauline, Elizabeth and Gus Fenton. Their great great grandfather was Horace Fenton, second cousin to Col. William Fenton.

Also present were their cousins Naomi Gettler and her husband, Ray; Pete Fenton and his wife, Lynn; Jim Fenton and his wife, Lesa.

Ed Davison and his daughter, Ashley Davison were also in attendance. Ed's great great grandparents are Col. William and Adelaide Fenton.

Other family members in Fenton for the reunion were Eric Kiltinen, Charlie Heimerdinger and Chris Chambers, as well as Christina Augusta Fenton Heimerdinger.

they think this is a wonderful, creative way to keep William Fenton's name and the legend alive while raising money for a worthy cause.

"They (Fenton City) did such a great job of preserving its history while at the same time making it look so pleasant," said Gus.

Fenton residents and visitors were able to easily spot the family members, who sported colorful ball caps that say, "I am a Fenton" and T-shirts bearing the same message.



To see the story about the bas relief of Col. William Fenton at Red Fox Outfitters, view this story online at tctimes.com.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Artist and author Vera Thornton (right) shares photos with fellow artists Karan Pinkston and Nancy Olds (left) at the central ArtWalk tents last summer.

Fenton ArtWalk coming this Saturday

■ Downtown Fenton will host a variety of art events

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Art will be coming to the streets of downtown Fenton this weekend with the Fenton ArtWalk on Saturday July 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m..

Local and regional artists will showcase their work in area retail stores. The event also will feature family friendly activities, music, strolling performers and more.

The community is invited to an evening reception on Friday, July 8 at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center.

The public can preview the 2nd Annual LAAC (Lakes Area Arts Council) Fine Art Exhibit Competition and the 3rd Annual LAAC Artzy Prize Competition, featuring “masks.” They can also cast their vote for the Peoples’ Choice Award for their favorite Artzy Mask and 2D or 3D Fine Art.

The LAAC, DDA (Downtown Development Authority) and the city of Fenton are sponsoring this sixth annual event. It’s a fun-filled Saturday in downtown Fenton as Bastille Day kicks off activities with a 5K Run/Walk and 15K Run.

For more information, visit lake-sareaartscouncil.org.

ENDORSEMENT

Continued from Front Page

“It’s important that people do realize that the cycle endorsement is important and if they don’t have that endorsement, law enforcement is going to impound their cycle right there,” said Michigan State Police First

Lt. Michael Shaw. “You’re looking at additional impound fees. That’s even before you go to court.”

Driving a motorcycle without an endorsement in the state of Michigan is a misdemeanor.

“We do come across people all the time who don’t have their endorsement,” he said.

Shaw said most people go through motorcycle safety courses provided by the Secretary of State, which includes courses on driving and the safety gear.

Then drivers must pass a road test to get their endorsement. After they pass, a small “CY” will be put on their license, similar to where the symbol for glasses is located.

This push for endorsed motorcyclists came in the fall of 2012, after an analysis revealed that unendorsed operators made up more than half of all crashes and fatalities involving motorcycles, according to the Michigan Secretary of State Office. The

“We are finding that most times when you show up at a motorcycle crash or there’s a police chase, those are riders who don’t have an endorsement.”

Michael Shaw
 Michigan State Police first lieutenant

analysis also revealed that approximately 20 percent of the nearly 250,000 registered motorcycles in Michigan were being operated by unendorsed drivers.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning sent out two rounds of postcards to unendorsed riders in 2013 and 2014 about the benefits of being an endorsed rider.

In late 2014, more drivers had got ten endorsements and the unendorsed population was approximately 16 percent.

Every year since, the OHSP has sent out these postcards to unendorsed motorcyclists.

Now, almost 25 percent of fatal motorcycle crashes involve an unendorsed operator, according to the MSP, compared to over 50 percent in 2012.

To get a motorcycle endorsement, drivers must pass a rider skills test from a rider skills testing organization, such as Mott Community College, or complete a motorcycle safety-training course, which can be done through the Secretary of State office.

Drivers must submit their completion card or skills test certificate within one year to an SOS branch. The endorsement fee is \$13.50.

“We are finding that most times when you show up at a motorcycle crash or there’s a police chase, those are riders who don’t have an endorsement,” Shaw said.

SUMMARY

■ Driving a motorcycle without a cycle endorsement is a misdemeanor in Michigan.

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MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTED ON RECENTLY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. With one click, you can approve or disapprove of key votes by your legislators using the VoteSpotter smart phone app. This report was released Friday, July 1.

The House and Senate are on a summer and Primary Election season break. Therefore, this report contains several recently introduced bills of interest.

Senate Bill 563: Ban "sky lanterns"
 Introduced by Sen. Dale W. Zorn (R), to ban the use or sale of "sky lanterns," which are miniature, candle-fired hot air balloons made of paper and sold as a novelty item. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 574: Mandate specified nurse-patient ratios
 Introduced by Sen. Rebekah Warren

(D), to mandate that hospitals maintain detailed staff-to-patient ratios specified in the bill. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 584: Let assisted living facilities sell drinks to residents
 Introduced by Sen. Peter MacGregor (R), to allow up to 20 "homes for the aged" (assisted living facilities for seniors) around the state to get a liquor license that lets them sell drinks to residents and "bona fide guests." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 611: Repeal 2006 "stand your ground" law
 Introduced by Sen. Rebekah Warren (D), to repeal the 2006 law signed into law by Gov. Jennifer Granholm establishing a "home is my castle" and "stand your ground" self defense doctrine, under which an individual need not first flee from a threatening attacker before resorting to deadly force. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 634: Exempt police body camera recordings from disclosure
 Introduced by Sen. Rick Jones (R), to exempt police body camera recordings from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Note: House Bill 4229 would mandate these cameras for Michigan police. Referred to committee,

no further action at this time.

House Bill 5101: Assert "right" to drinking water
 Introduced by Rep. Julie Plawecki (D), to assert in statute that each person has a right to "safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water" for cleaning, cooking and drinking. The bill does not specify upon whom would fall the duty to pay the water bills of a person can't or won't do so. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5103: Prohibit and define "aggressive solicitation" (begging)
 Introduced by Rep. Michael McCready (R), to prohibit various actions and behaviors by people who are begging for money or other things of value, as specified in the bill, subject to a \$100 civil fine. This would replace the current criminal sanctions, which House Bill 5104 would repeal. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5114: Make election days a government holiday
 Introduced by Rep. Adam Zemke (D), to establish that the three regular state dates for all elections in May, August, and November are state holidays, which among other things would probably result in most government employees getting the day off. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5154: Require schools provide suicide warning sign training
 Introduced by Rep. Peter Lucido (R), to require that public schools provide student instruction and staff training in warning signs for suicide and depression. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 5160: Require high schools to provide CPR and defibrillation classes
 Introduced by Rep. Thomas Hooker (R), to mandate that public and private middle and high schools provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and awareness of automated external defibrillation, and prohibit a student from graduating unless he or she has successfully completed this instruction. Reported from committee, pending before the full House.

CREDIT SCORES

Continued from Page 5

Michigan residents have an average of \$5,079 in credit card debt.

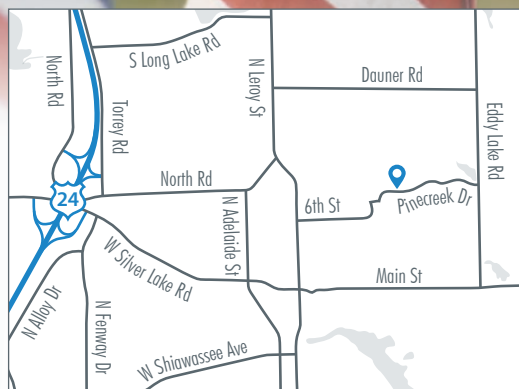
If people come in and ask for help with credit card debt, Barton said they recommend working with Green Pass Solutions.

"They help you budget. They will also contact creditors and work out a payment plan," she said.

One way to avoid credit card debt is having a written budget. "We recommend everyone have a written budget and know where you're spending your money. If you don't know where you're spending, it's difficult to get on a budget," she said.

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Ridding your garden of those pesky critters

When it comes to determining what critter is munching on your spring garden, homeowners may feel like their partnership with Mother Nature is as contentious as any that ever graced the big, or small screen. According to an article at RISMedia.com, how are you supposed to fight the "crime" of a decimated garden if you can't identify the suspect who's been devouring your daylilies?

Hungry critters of all sizes can destroy your garden and landscaping quickly.

Once you've identified the critters that are eating your flowers, bulbs and decorative grasses, you can choose animal repellents that will persuade pests to leave your garden alone.

Here are some facts to get your detective work under way, according to RISMedia.com:

• **Deer** — Ragged bites, typically a foot or more above the ground indicate deer damage. Deer are known for devouring gardens and landscapes. You'll see them, and their offspring, every year, making dinner of your daisies, daylilies and other ornamental plants.

• **Rabbits** — If plant damage is low to the ground — a few inches above the soil and includes stems clipped cleanly at an angle, you're probably dealing with rabbits. Rabbits will eat just about any kind of vegetation, including your flowers, bushes and other woody plants. Remove all brush and other debris that could provide them with shelter.

• **Voles** — When flower bulbs disappear from the ground or plant roots go missing, chances are you have voles — mouse-like creatures that burrow underground and that are highly destructive to gardens. Exit holes are further indications that voles are tunneling under your garden. Teeth marks around the base of trees, droppings or trails in the grass can also indicate the presence of voles.

• **Groundhogs** — Mounds of dirt beside burrow entrances are a sure sign of ground hogs, a garden pest that eats just about every type of green plant. Groundhogs can destroy a garden. These solitary herbivores live in burrows underground.

• **Chipmunks** — The presence of chipmunks in your garden is nothing but bad

news. Damage to flower bulbs, plant shoots and leaves, uprooted plants and dug-up roots are all signs you have chipmunks. Their underground burrows may be a challenge to spot since the entrances are usually only about 2 inches in diameter and not surrounded by noticeable dirt mounds. You can curtail their activity by removing yard debris where chipmunks hide.

• **Squirrels** — Squirrels live in colonies, digging underground tunnels and mounds in grassy areas and around trees that can lay waste to gardens and landscapes.

Once you've identified the critters eating your garden, you'll need the right tools to take care of them. Most traditional pest-control measures — row covers, netting,

noise deterrents, predator urine or even human hair strewn around the yard — might not be enough. Fences can do the job, but they can be expensive and you may live in a community that restricts the type and height of fences you can erect.

Some small animal repellents, however, do work. Bobbex-R is all-natural, environmentally friendly and proven effective at protecting ornamental plantings from small, four-legged garden critters. In testing by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, the product, which works through smell and taste aversion, received a 100-percent efficacy rating at repelling rabbits.

Usable in any weather, it won't burn plants or wash off. Use it as a bulb dip to deter underground damage, or spray it at the mouth of burrows to prevent animals from re-entering. Safe for humans, pets, birds and aquatic life, Bobbex-R contains no petrochemicals.

To thwart deer damage, try Bobbex Deer, an all-natural repellent made from a combination of ingredients, including putrescent eggs, garlic, fish, clove oil and vinegar. By mimicking predator scents, this fear repellent also tastes unpleasant to deer. The product is more effective than nine other commercial repellents (including coyote urine), according to independent testing by the Connecticut AG Station. Testers gave it a 93-percent protection index, second only to a fence at 100-percent.

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Summer Garden Tour to be held July 10

■ Open Gate Garden Club tour features seven gardens

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The Fenton Open Gate Garden Club's 19th annual Summer Garden Tour will take place on Sunday, July 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seven different gardens will be featured this year, showcasing gardens along the Shiawassee River, garden structures, water features, stonework, potting, island gardens, vegetable gardens, fairy gardens, and many other features.

The press release states that "This is a wonderful opportunity for gardeners of all ages and experience to spend a day wandering through lovely area gardens, appreciating their beauty and inspired by each garden's unique personality."

Admission the day of is \$10 and children under the age of 10 get in for



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Open Gate Garden Club's 19th Annual Summer Garden Tour will feature seven different gardens.

free. These tickets can be bought at the A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum, at 310 S. LeRoy Street in Fenton.

Advance tickets for \$8 can be purchased at the following places: Bordine's Nursery, Gerych's Distinctive Flowers and Gifts, Heavenly Scent Herb Farm, Holly Township Library, Sweet Variations, Yard 'N' Garden and The Weed Lady in Grand Blanc.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
ALL THOSE ANTIQUE tractors at the Fourth of July parade years ago was a great parade. I was always hoping they'd do it again and I can't wait 'til Mr. Clark does it again. Wonderful parade that year.

■■■
THE TRAIN DEATH count article was interesting but you failed to put in the total

count. It was hard to decipher. The count was 15 plus one for the suicide. Also, you didn't include the Louisiana man that was run over by a train in your prior paper.

■■■
ANOTHER HOLIDAY WITHOUT a certain family member. I can't believe how greed can tear a family apart. I'm glad my Mom and Dad aren't here. They would not be happy.

■■■

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News briefs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

David Shinn presents a plaque to Anna Dean, 95, a lifelong resident of Holly, as being the oldest attendee at the alumni homecoming.

ADELPHIAN ACADEMY ALUMNI HOSTS ANNUAL HOMECOMING

More than 125 Adelpian Academy Alumni attended the annual homecoming in Holly last weekend. The Honor Classes were the 40-year, 1976, and the 60-year, 1956. Services were held at the Holly Seventh-day Adventist Church. Alumni President Peggy Dean Hoffmeyer, Class of 1960, of Holly, said, "The purpose of the Alumni Homecoming is both to maintain school-day friendships and support Christian Education."

INCIDENTS

Continued from Front Page

According to Argentine Township Police Chief Dan Allen, however "Nothing notable occurred — I was surprised."

The village of Holly also banned outdoor burning and fireworks.

Holly Police Chief Mike Story said from Friday, July 1 through Tuesday morning, the police responded to 14 fireworks calls.

"No one was issued a citation or arrested, and no fireworks were confiscated," Story said.

Neither a burning or fireworks ban was imposed in the city of Linden.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fenton's trap shooting team capped its first season by winning its first state championship.

Tigers' trap shooting team is aiming high

■ Fenton High School team more than successful in its first season

By Grant Cislo

intgarn@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton High School added a new sport to its high school athletics program this past school year. The school now has a trapshooting team. It is currently recognized as a club sport by the high school.

Senior Spencer Bundy, 17, sparked an interest in the sport and brought it to the attention of Athletic Director Mike Bakker.

Bundy wrote a proposal for Bakker in order to get approval for the team. Once the team was approved, Bundy had to find a faculty advisor to give Bakker updates on how the team was doing. Deanna Baker agreed to sponsor the team.

"She was all for it, she really enjoys trap shooting," said Bundy.

Baker is a fan of trap shooting and shot competitively in college.

For anyone who is not familiar with trap shooting, here is how it works.

Participants take turns shooting from their assigned station at flying clay disks that are 16 yards away. There are five stations, and each participant will take a turn shooting five times at each station. Once they are done shooting at one station, they move onto the next until they have completed all five stations.

Once Bundy had everything together to get the team started, they began holding meetings to get the word out to students at the high school. Spencer's younger brother, Parker Bundy helped throughout the whole process. Parker is a sophomore at Fenton High School.

Around 45 students showed interest

at first and by the time the season started in the spring, they had 13 shooters on the team.

The team is coached by Dr. Tom "Doc" Abraham. The entire team calls Abraham "Doc" because he is a podiatrist. Abraham is in charge of the Linden Sportsman's Club, where the team practiced for the entire season.

The team participated in the Michigan State High School Clay Target League during the 2015-2016 school year and saw nothing but success for its first season finishing the five-week season with an undefeated record.

The team competed in the state championship on June 18 where they defeated Richmond High School with an overall score of 1852.5 to 1696 to give the Tigers its first trap shooting state championship.

"The greatest thing about this whole thing has been the coaches, the parents, the other kids coming in. It's just an amazing group of people," said Ed Negley parent of sophomore team member, Cameron Negley.

The students on the team also showed their excitement about the sport.

Junior Trevor Johnson was new to the sport and decided to join the team because he was into hunting and thought it would be a good fit for him.

"It's just coming out and shooting, it doesn't matter if you have a bad day or good day, it's just fun to come out and shoot," said Johnson.

Four of the boys on the team finished in the 2016 spring league's "top five male" members with Tommy Kemp being first overall, Spencer Bundy placed third and both Parker Bundy and Trevor Johnson tied for fifth place. Freshmen Hannah Doyle, finished in the league's "top five female" shooters at first place.

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Sargents preparing for athletic college careers

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Nikole Sargent had the dream ending for her prep athletic career earlier this spring.

The Powers graduate and Fenton resident capped her career by winning her second straight Division 2 state championship shot put title and her first-ever discus state championship.

This fall she gets to experience another dream — going to Michigan State University. Sargent will follow the same path her father took as a football player and continue her track and field career as a Spartan.

Nikole's twin brother, Noah, also had a dream ending to his career, ending his prep football career in a state championship football contest. He'll pursue other dreams playing on Saginaw Valley State University's football squad.

"Michigan State was in the running from the very beginning," Nikole said. "My dad played football there, was on the winning 1988 Rose Bowl team. ... We go to football games and volleyball games there. That's what we do and what our family does."

Nikole said Indiana University, the University of Louisville and Michigan State were her final schools in the running.

"When I went there I loved the atmosphere of the team," Nikole said. "I loved the people and the coach and that was a big factor for me since they are who I will be spending most of my time with for the next four to five years. Athletically and academically it was everything I was looking for."

Noah capped his football career in the D4 championship game with Powers, with the Chargers losing a 40-14 verdict. Just a couple of weeks ago he also played in an all-star game hosted by his new school, Saginaw Valley State University. He was also looking at Northwood, Wayne State and Eastern Michigan. Noah is doing summer work outs on campus.

"I liked the coaches and they seemed to be interested in me. It fit well," Noah said. "The facilities are top-notch. They have a brand new indoor turf field. That was an eye-opener. I liked it."

Sargent was the Flint area's offensive player of the year after completing 60 percent of his passes for 1,300 yards and 17 touchdowns. He also ran for 12 TDs and

859 yards while playing quarterback.

"Coach talked to me about going in as an athlete," Noah said. "I'll start out with the quarterback group and if that doesn't work out, I'll switch to receiver and see how that goes."

STORY CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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Nikole Sargent (above) will continue her athletic career at Michigan State University. Her twin brother Noah Sargent will play at Saginaw Valley State University.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Julie Craig (middle) and Teyana Brown (right) charge a ball near the opponent's keeper in a recent game. Lake Fenton girls soccer is No. 12 in our Tri-County Top 16 Teams of the 2015-16 school year.

TC's Top 16 of 2015-16 starts with a fall flavor

■ Linden boys XC,
Fenton volleyball in poll
for eighth straight year

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

We've been rating the top 16 teams of the tri-county sports school year for eight years. In those eight seasons, only three teams have found a spot on our list in each of those polls.

When we start our three-part installation of the 2015-16 Tri-County Top 16 Poll, two of those three squads (Linden boys cross country and Fenton volleyball) will be represented. Eventually all three (we won't list the other squad, yet) will make it.

Quite often sports fans will ask what makes a team a strong program? To me, consistency is a major component to any answer to that question. Today, we'll discuss No. 11 to No. 16 on our list. Future editions will include our middle five teams and then the top five programs. Is your favorite team among our top 16? Six will find out today.

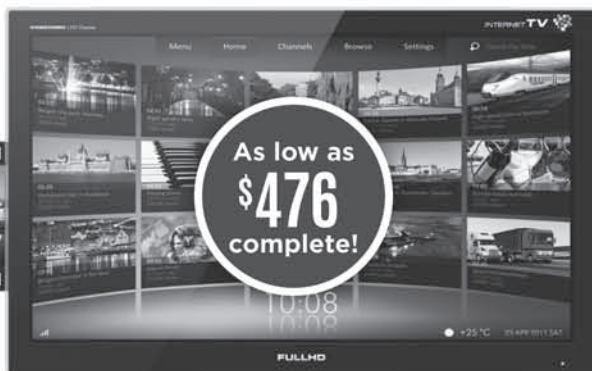
No. 16 – Linden boys cross country: The Eagles have earned the honor of being our No. 1 squad during three of the seasons. This represents the second time they've just held on to the No. 16 spot, continuing their eight-year run on our lists. The fall didn't start out that great for the Eagles. Used to competing for a Metro League crown, Linden finished fourth in the Metro.

However, Linden rebounded during the postseason, proving why the Metro League's most talented sport is clearly boys cross country. Linden placed third in regionals and qualified for the state meet for the 10th straight season. Once there, the Eagles placed 16th at Michigan International Speedway. Who was Linden's top competition for the No. 16 spot? It was Fenton girls track, who is the first team out.

No. 15 – Fenton volleyball: Much like the Linden boys cross country team, the Tigers started the 2015 fall non-league season a bit slow, but as the season went on they got better and better. The Tigers ended the season with a strong 40-12-7 record and captured the Metro League

See TOP 16 on 19

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Holly's summer tennis program emphasizes fun, program's future

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Holly — Activity and smiles are abundant at the William McDaniel Holly Tennis Complex on what was a beautiful sunny Wednesday morning.

There are about 100 kids ranging from ages from 4 to teenagers on the 12 courts doing all sorts of activities. The older players are competing against each other, while the younger members are having fun playing other games, but they are contests that represent tennis in some fashion.

Today, the game of choice for the younger players seems to be "Champs and Challengers." During it, the players cut the courts into about half the size and play out a point. One person on one side is the champ, while the other is the challenger. If you beat the champ, you go to the other side of the court and keep battling other challengers until they earn a point.

Quite often the champion is replaced by the challenger. And when they pass each other as they go on to other sides of the court, typically you hear some good sportsmanship as well. The students proclaim "Good game," giving each other a high-five.

This is a pretty typical summer morning at the Holly varsity tennis courts during the summer months. The Holly Summer Ten-

nis Program may be the biggest reason why the Bronchos' boys and girls varsity tennis programs are among the most successful in the tri-county area over the last three decades.

It's likely the same girls who competed for a state championship on their own home tennis courts in early June may have been the girls who attended the camp a decade ago as "tot tennis" campers. And when they came to the month-long camp (this year's camp runs until July 25) they were not only taught by the current varsity coaches, but the varsity students in the program, creating that family pipeline that the Bronchos' two tennis programs are so well known for. They are already a part of the Holly tennis family. There's a good chance they will be the players winning Metro League championships and regional titles for the program in the future.

"I have been a part of the program since I was six years old," Holly graduate and past Holly varsity tennis player Evan Vergith said. "I've been here since I was very young, me and my brother both. (Ex-Holly varsity tennis coach) Brennan (Brown) taught it and he was a great influence for us. Every day I looked forward to getting up here and playing every morning."

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS

Here are some sites from the Holly Summer Tennis Camp. Drake Setera (top left) returns a ball. Kierstyn Rutley (above) retrieves as many balls as she can on her tennis racket. The camp (immediate left) concludes the day with a Holly tennis cheer. More photos can be found at tctimes.com.

TOP 16

Continued from Page 18

championship with an undefeated conference record. Fenton began the post-season by capturing a Class A district championship. They eventually lost in the regional semifinals in a five-set defeat against Eisenhower. Fenton volleyball was No. 16 each of the last two years. They've snuck up one spot this year.

No. 14 – Fenton girls swimming and diving: The fall sports season eventually will make up seven of the 16 teams in the poll. So far, they've made up all three squads in this story. The Lady Tigers had another strong season, dominating the Metro League with an undefeated conference record and an overwhelming victory at the Metro League meet. The Tigers also had five competitors qualify for the state meet with all five making it to the second day. Diver Taylor Shegos earned All-State honors, placing fifth. Fenton finished 22nd overall at the state meet.

No. 13 – Fenton football: Look, another fall sports team. The Tigers began the season with a loss to Davison, but then went on to capture eight straight victories to finish the regular season with an 8-1 mark and a perfect Metro League championship season. The Tigers continued their winning ways with an opening playoff victory against Holly, but then lost to Midland Dow in the district championship game. The Tigers are the only football team to make our top 16. Fenton football placed 15th last year.

No. 12 – Lake Fenton girls soccer: Finally, a non-fall sports team! The



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's varsity softball players celebrate getting out of a jam in a contest this year. The Blue Devils are No. 11 on our Tri-County Top 16 Teams of the 2015-16 school year.

Lake Fenton girls soccer team struggled early but rebounded during the second half of the season by capturing a couple of nice tournament titles, including the Genesee Area Conference's postseason tourney championship. The Blue Devils continued their second-half strong portion of the season by capturing a district title for the second straight season. However, their run ended when the Blue Devils lost to Macomb Lutheran North 1-0 in the regional semifinals. Lake Fenton girls soccer was sixth in our poll last year.

No. 11 – Lake Fenton softball: The Blue Devils continued their fine tradition by earning another Genesee Area Conference title, this time sharing the honor. The Blue Devils also continued their strong season during the postseason tourney, capturing a district crown at home. However, the team's run ended in the regional semifinal.

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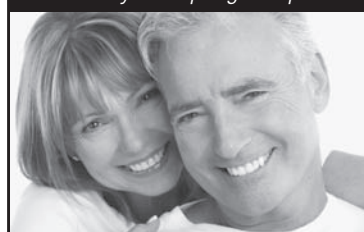
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2016

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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8am-12pm, 5 days a week. All elements of horse care, feeding, cleaning of barns and troughs, heading horses. Pay: \$34/day with raise potential.

Position 2) Horse Care Position
3pm-6pm, 5 days a week. All elements of horse care, feeding, possibly some cleaning and topping off water troughs, heading horses. Pay: \$25.50/day with raise potential.

Background Requirements for Position 1 and Position 2:

1. Basic equine first aid knowledge.
2. Blanket/unblanketing.
3. Clean barns, run-in sheds (only Position 1), and water troughs.
4. Feed, water, body check horses for injuries.
5. Hold for vet and farrier.
6. 5+ Years of experience in all of the above. (Ideal if you grew up with cows as well as horses.)

Position 3) Heavy Equipment and Horse Care Position
5 hours a day, two days a week. Care of pastures and farm (including drag, brush hog, spreader), hay, clean water troughs and run-in sheds.

Background Requirements for Position 3:

1. Ability to operate equipment (tractor, spreader, brush hog, drag pastures).
2. Clean run in sheds and water troughs.
3. Ability to make repairs.
4. 5+ Years of experience in all of the above (ideally with horses but if not other livestock).

Pay: \$75/day with raise potential.
Please respond to hlevin267@gmail.com.
In your response, please

1. Indicate which position or positions (1,2, and/or 3) you are applying for.
2. Describe your qualifications in relation to each background requirement listed for the position.
3. Include professional horse job references (not friends or family).
4. Provide the town where you live and your phone number.

Please note: We will review relocation candidates, but these applications present a number of challenges.
Thank you for your interest.

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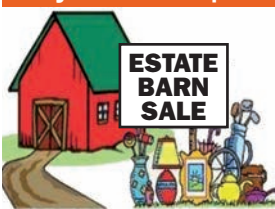
**JULY 9TH, SATURDAY
9-4PM**
Fenton Free Methodist
Church,
800 North Rd.
All proceeds to
benefit outreach
and mission works.
Adult and childrens
clothing, furniture, golf
equipment, household
goods, books, craft
items, bake sale.
Can and bottle drive,
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Gaines



JULY 7-9TH
9-4PM
13008 Seymour Rd.
MULTI-FAMILY.
Garage door opener,
truck bed tool box,
snowblower, dryer,
gun cabinet, furniture,
household and
much more!

Tyrone Twp.



**JULY 7-10TH AND
JULY 14-17TH
10-5PM**
13240 Old Oaks Dr.
off Denton Hill.
ESTATE BARN SALE
Toys, tools, trains,
household and
much more.

★Times

7 THINGS NOT TO WRITE IN A SYMPATHY MESSAGE

Save the funny quotes and quips for later, after the person has enough time to grieve.

Never write anything negative about the person who has passed, or you'll appear cold and unfeeling.

This is not the time to discuss what the deceased left to his or her heirs.

Source: etiquette.about.com

view
OBITUARIES
online

Obituaries updated daily online!

tctimes.com

Mr. Julius P. "Paul" Sobonya - age 76, died suddenly July 2, 2016 at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc. He is the loving husband of Penelope "Penny" Sobonya. Also surviving are his children, Patti (Gary) Forst, Paul (Patti) Sobonya, Jeffrey (Lindy) Sobonya, and Jennifer (Jonathan) Creswell; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister, Mary (George) Patterson; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Julius and Ella Sobonya; and brother, Walter Sobonya. Mr. Sobonya was a retired Battalion Chief in the City of Detroit Fire Department. A Memorial Mass will be held Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 11 AM, at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 6841 Faussett Rd., Howell, MI. Friends may gather from 10 AM until the time of his Memorial Mass. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Right to Life of Livingston County or St. Augustine Catholic Church St. Vincent de Paul Society. Share memories at www.temrowskifamilyfuneral-home.com.

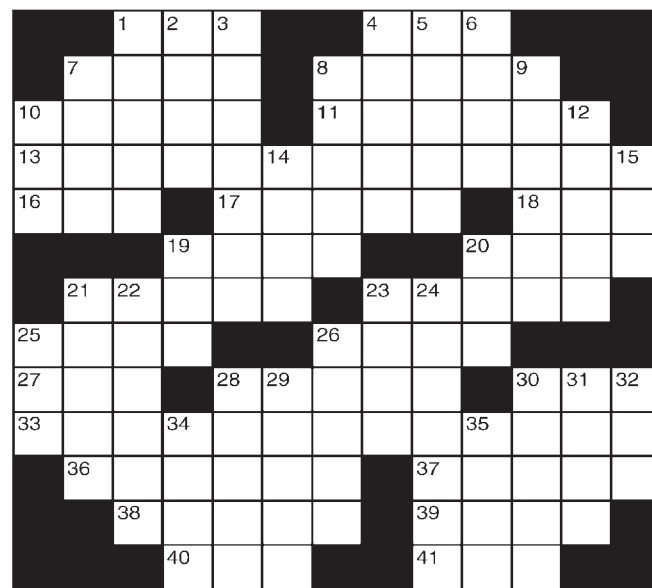


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

KING FEATURES

ACROSS

- 1 Integers (Abbr.)
 4 Journey segment
 7 Mr. Crockett
 8 Baby's ailment
 10 Roof edges
 11 Parka
 13 Square one
 16 Chum
 17 Jagged
 18 Cattle call?
 19 Portent
 20 Show boredom
 21 Accumulate
 23 Carriages
 25 Coagulate
 26 "Peter Pan" pooch
 27 Existed
 28 Oddballs
 30 Extinct bird
 33 1996 movie title that's an anagram of 13-Across
 36 Champagne + OJ
 37 Two under par
 38 Ship of the desert
 39 Sore
 40 Tex- -- cuisine
 41 Speck

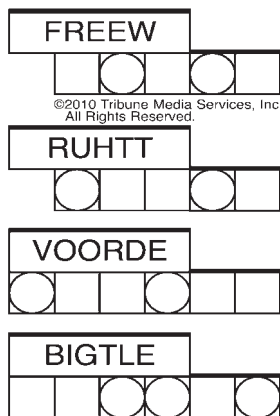


DOWN

- | | | | |
|----|----------------|----|--------------|
| 1 | Fleet-related | 14 | Angers |
| 2 | Finished | 15 | Heavy weight |
| 3 | Methods | 19 | Cheerios |
| 4 | Yearns (for) | | grain |
| 5 | Run off to | 20 | Nay canceler |
| | wed | 21 | Antitheft |
| 6 | Early helicop- | | device |
| | ter | 22 | Tile art |
| 7 | Information | 23 | Variety of |
| 8 | Church law | | shark |
| 9 | Alligator's | 24 | As a substi- |
| | cousin | | tute |
| 10 | Kreskin's | 25 | 5 percent of |

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|---------------|
| | claim | | a ton (Abbr.) |
| 12 | Recognizes | 26 | Kathmandu's |
| 14 | Angers | | land |
| 15 | Heavy weight | 28 | Travelocity |
| 19 | Cheerios | | mascot |
| | grain | 29 | Newark's |
| 20 | Nay canceler | | county |
| 21 | Antitheft | 30 | Strength |
| | device | 31 | Siblingless |
| 22 | Tile art | 32 | Candle |
| 23 | Variety of | | count? |
| | shark | 34 | Mosque |
| 24 | As a substi-
tute | | bigwig |
| | | 35 | Snack in a |
| 25 | 5 percent of | | shell |

WEDNESDAY JUMBLE



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

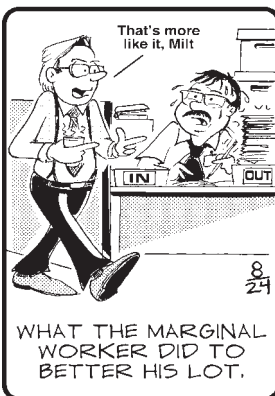
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A 

Answer in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times



WHAT THE MARGINAL
WORKER DID TO
BETTER HIS LOT.

(Answers tomorrow)

Answer in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times ©2016 King Features Synd., Inc.



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gallon



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Ice Cream
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2/\$6

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with yes

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