Water levels high, flood watch ended Tuesday

Many area lakes and rivers feeling effects of wet and stormy spring

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

The fish currently have more room to swim and the water is rising higher and higher on seawalls due to the increasing water levels in local lakes.

Jim Gerth, surface water director for the Genesee County Drain Commission, said this is because of the wet, rainy season and it’s usual for the time of year. “They’re always high in the spring,” he said.

Due to rain, the National Weather Service issued a flood watch for numerous counties, including Genesee County, starting Monday at 7 p.m. until Tuesday morning. The weather service predicted showers and thunderstorms developing overnight, Tuesday morning. The weather service predicted showers and thunderstorms developing overnight.

See FLOOD WATCH on 8

The small peninsula known as “The Point” at the south end of Lake Fenton, is now a narrow ribbon of land due to increased lake levels. It’s possible that local waters are up 6 inches over last year.

Rain wreaking havoc on 394 miles of gravel roads

Genesee County Road Commission fields thousands of complaints

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

With 394 miles of county gravel roads in Genesee County and the abundance of rain that local municipalities have received, residents who live on these gravel roads are not happy with all the potholes.

Anthony Branch, director of maintenance at the Genesee County Road Commission, said they receive approximately 1,500 calls a week from people inquiring about their road.

“We get a dozen in five minutes. We’ve got one person that tries to deal with it (the calls). It is an impossible feat,” he said. See GRAVEL ROADS on 10

Rain is the primary culprit for eroding gravel roads.

Holly DDA votes against Bladzik appointment

Majority of DDA against ‘assistant village manager’ being part of job title

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

It doesn’t look like former Holly Village President Ryan Bladzik is going to serve as the new DDA director after all — at least not for now.

The DDA voted 6 to 3 against Bladzik’s appointment on Monday, April 10. According to Village Manager Jerry Walker, the chief complaint among the dissenting voters was the “assistant village manager” part of the job title. The appointment was to be for the DDA Director/Assistant Village Manager.

See BLADZIK on 10

If it’s got a lot of deep potholes, it could take them two hours to do a mile.

Anthony Branch
Genesee County Road Commission director of maintenance

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

If you haven’t filed your 2016 tax returns, don’t panic yet — you have a few extra days this year beyond the traditional April 15 deadline.

This year’s deadline is Tuesday, April 18 at 12 a.m. (midnight). Because April 15 falls on Saturday, the filing deadline would usually move to the following Monday, April 17, according to IRS.com.

However, Emancipation Day, a legal holiday in the District of Columbia, is observed on Monday, April 17, pushing the filing deadline to the next day.

See TAX DEADLINE on 7

The U.S. income tax structure has created more criminals than any other single act of government. Our taxation level is criminally abusive to the citizenry and needs to be completely overhauled.

Holly DDA votes against Bladzik appointment

Majority of DDA against ‘assistant village manager’ being part of job title

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Late ’50s and early ’60s music gave birth to Rock and Roll

We twisted, mashed potatoes and rocked around the clock

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

The decade of the ’50s gave birth to Rock and Roll. When Bill Haley’s “Rock Around the Clock” became popular in 1955, the nation learned to swing to a whole new sound. Prior to that, the Big Band Era from the ’40s was still the driving force in music, according to fiftiesfab.com

Rock wasn’t the only music of the ’50s. Other artists had folks singing along for much of the decade. Artists like Pat Boone, Perry Como and Patti Page.

The feel-good innocence of much of the ’50s music reflects on the post World War II optimism in America. The young people of the time, an emerging force called teenagers, hadn’t struggled through the war years. They were looking for something more exciting. They discovered that vitality in Rock and Roll.

During the ’50s, both styles of music co-existed quite nicely. Some of the music you associate with the ’50s was actually recorded in the ’60s. “Blue Moon,” by the Marcels, for example. And all of the “girl groups” are from the ’60’s. When you look at the dates, musically the styles tend to break off mid-decade.

One of the styles that was fairly short-lived was “Bubblegum Rock.” But there aren’t too many people that don’t remember favorites like “Sugar Sugar,” by the Archies in 1962. And “Yummy Yummy Yummy” by the Ohio Express in the same year.

American Bandstand was a popular TV show among teens starting in the early ’50s. American Bandstand was a music-performance show that aired in various versions from 1952 to 1989. It was hosted from 1956 until its final season by Dick Clark, who also served as producer.

Many talented artists’ careers were launched when they appeared on American Bandstand.

Some unforgettable performances include “The Twist,” a song popularized by Chubby Checker in 1960. It’s popularity was no doubt enhanced by the hugely successful dance.

Other artists with popular dance songs were Dee Dee Sharp and James Brown who each had their own version of “Mashed Potato.” Bobby “Boris” Pickett did “The Monster Mash.”

While the dance craze contributed a significant number of chart toppers, ballads were still ruling the day. Connie Francis was perpetually on top with songs like “Where the Boys Are,” and the Everly Brothers held top spots with “Cathy’s Clown” and “Wake Up Little Susie.”

Ask anyone about “the day the music died” and you will hear a tragic account of the plane crash that killed Buddy Holly (“Peggy Sue,” “That’ll Be the Day”), Ritchie Valens (“LaBamba,” “Donna”) and the Big Bopper (“Chantilly Lace”) on Feb. 3, 1959 in Clear Lake, Iowa.

Something new was having to compete with girl groups for air time. Groups like the Shirelles, the Ronettes, the Marvelettes and the Chiffons became a force of nature that although short lived contributed many hits.

By 1963, Bobby Vinton was still belting out covers and the Beach Boys were the new and upcoming group. Then everything started to change. In response to a very well coordinated marketing campaign, teenagers began paying attention to some new sounds coming out of Liverpool, U.K.

In late 1963, “I Want To Hold Your Hand” had sold one million copies before it was released and was the first song the Beatles wrote entirely for America. It was released to coincide with their arriving in the United States Feb. 07, 1964.

Read more about the “British Invasion” and folk anthems that were all about discontent with the war in Vietnam, the establishment, and the status quo in general, in part three of this series, which will be published Wednesday, April 19.

Source: Fiftiesfab.com
Sandra Skene of Fenton spent one year tracking surviving family members of Purple Heart recipient John Hall, who died in 1952. His medal was unclaimed by family, so Skene conducted extensive research to find a surviving nephew in Florida. Soon, she’ll send him the medal and the binder chronicling her research.

She wrote to state libraries and the National Archives for Military Records in St. Louis, Missouri. However, his World War II record was lost in a fire there in 1973.

Skene learned that Hall, born in 1924, was the fifth child of Reverend Edmund Hall and Hilda Nelson-Hall. He was raised in the Flint area and married a woman named Violet in 1949. They had no children.

While he served in the Army, Hall was a prisoner of war (POW) in World War II. He died in 1952 at age 28. Skene found the order for his military headstone with his date of birth and death. She wrote to state libraries and the National Archives for Military Records in St. Louis, Missouri. However, his World War II record was lost in a fire there in 1973.

Skene wrote to the National Personnel Records Center, searched through lineage sites, such as ancestry.com and familysearch.org, looking through marriage licenses, death certificates, obituaries, census reports, and many other records in search of a living relative.

Skene learned that Hall, born in 1924, was the fifth child of Reverend Edmund Hall and Hilda Nelson-Hall. He was raised in the Flint area and married a woman named Violet in 1949. They had no children.

While he served in the Army, Hall was a prisoner of war (POW) in World War II. He died in 1952 at age 28. Skene said she learned that he was in a vehicle accident and died due to complications from war injuries. Since Skene couldn’t give the medal to one of his children, she searched for the families of his four siblings. None of John’s four siblings were living, and Skene had trouble finding the daughters of his siblings because they changed their names when they married.

Sandra Skene of Fenton spent one year tracking surviving family members of Purple Heart recipient John Hall, who died in 1952. His medal was unclaimed by family, so Skene conducted extensive research to find a surviving nephew in Florida. Soon, she’ll send him the medal and the binder chronicling her research.

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Welfare — it’s more addictive than drugs

Addiction, whether in the form of drugs, liquor, gambling, pot, sex or even cigarettes, is difficult to quit.

The most difficult addiction of all, and the one — addiction to welfare — that never shed, is welfare. And it costs Americans more than all other addictions combined.

As overtaxed and underserved citizens face the predatory April 18 tax deadline in just a few days, I am astonished at the timidity of Americans and the politicians to cavalierly confiscate our hard-earned income year after year in order to give it away to other citizens who flat out refuse to work, choosing instead to live a life of leisure at your, and my, expense.

Clearly, we are the stupidest citizenry in the history of the world. In FY 2016, total U.S. government spending on welfare — federal, state, and local — was estimated at $1.127 billion, including $646 billion for Medicaid and $481 billion in various other forms of welfare. Every dime of this money was confiscated from you and me through taxation. The people confiscating this money are the politicians whose only job, allegedly, is to look out for our best interests. Yet, they are doing just the opposite — stealing our money and giving it to career welfare recipients.

Think about that as you write a check for your 2016 taxes.

Don’t we all know someone who never works but always seems to have cash available for a golf round, a couple of beers or even a pack of smokes? It never works but always seems to have perks of welfare will never cross your mind. I visited the Flint SSA office last year. Naively I assumed that 95 percent of the patrons would be retirees and widows with questions about their Social Security benefits. I was shocked to see that the vast majority of individuals there had two things in common: 1) they were young and healthy, and 2) they had a lawyer with them. That’s not to say that there most certainly are citizens who are legitimately and permanently disabled and deserving of assistance through welfare. But they are vastly outnumbered by the liars, cheaters and scammers.

Politicians know all this, which is why it will be impossible to ever reduce entitlements. Every American who is the beneficiary of an entitlement votes for the party that provides them with this benefit — the Democrats. Aside from ideology, this is why the left constantly seeks to increase entitlements. The more people receiving government benefits, the more people vote for the left.

And, just like the carnival Barker says, “everyone is a winnah!”

Everyone except you and me.

Request for information: If you would like information on welfare, go to www.irs.gov. You can also call 1-877-777-4778.
April 15th is 105th anniversary of Titanic sinking

Fenton man’s mother, uncle, and grandmother amongst the 705 survivors

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

One hundred and five years have sailed by since the luxury steamship RMS Titanic met its catastrophic end in the North Atlantic, plunging two miles to the ocean floor after sideswiping an iceberg during its maiden voyage on April 15, 1912.

Rather than the intended Port of New York, a deep-sea grave became the pride of the White Star Line’s final destination during those fateful morning hours. More than 1,500 people lost their lives in the disaster.

In the century-plus since her demise, Titanic has inspired countless books and several notable films while continuing to make headlines, particularly since the 1985 discovery of her resting place off the coast of Newfoundland. According to history.com, the Titanic was doomed from the start by the design so many lauded as state-of-the-art. The Olympic-class ships featured a double bottom and 15 watertight bulkheads equipped with electric watertight doors which could be operated individually or simultaneously by a switch on the bridge.

It was these watertight bulkheads that inspired Shipbuilder magazine, in a special issue devoted to the Olympic liners, to deem them “practically unsinkable.” While the individual bulkheads were indeed watertight, however, water could spill from one compartment into another. Several of Titanic’s Cunard-owned contemporaries, by contrast, had individual bulkheads which could be operated separately or simultaneously by a switch on the bridge.

The second critical safety lapse that contributed to the loss of so many lives was the number of lifeboats carried on Titanic. Those 16 boats, along with four Engelhardt “collapsible,” could accommodate 1,178 people. Titanic when full could carry 2,435 passengers, and a crew of approximately 900 brought her capacity to more than 3,300 people.

As a result, even if the lifeboats were loaded to full capacity during an emergency evacuation, there were available seats for only one-third of those on board.

The largest passenger steamship ever built, Titanic created quite a stir when it departed for its maiden voyage from Southampton, England, on April 10, 1912.

One unsettling event took place when Titanic left the Southampton dock. As she got underway, she narrowly escaped a collision with the America Line’s S.S. New York. Superstitious Titanic buffs often point to this as the worst kind of omen for a ship departing on her maiden voyage. Ironically, had Titanic collided with the ship named for her port of destination, the delay might have spared the ship from being in the precise position for her encounter with the iceberg.

At about 11:50 p.m. on April 14 there had been sporadic reports of ice from other ships, but the Titanic was sailing on calm seas under a moonless, clear sky. A lookout saw the iceberg dead ahead coming out of a slight haze, rang the warning bell and telephoned the bridge. The engines were quickly reversed and the ship was turned sharply, and instead of making direct impact the berg seemed to graze along the side of the ship, sprinkling ice fragments on the forward deck.

Sensing no collision, the lookouts were relieved. They had no idea that the iceberg’s jagged underwater spur had slashed a 300-foot gash well below the ship’s waterline, and that Titanic was doomed.

A little more than an hour later, a largely disorganized and haphazard evacuation process began with the lowering of the first lifeboat.

The ship’s most illustrious passengers each responded to the circumstances with conduct that has become an integral part of the Titanic legend.

SINKING OF THE TITANIC HAS LOCAL CONNECTION

During a 2006 Times interview, Jerry Haddad of Fenton, said if his mother, Mary Thomas Haddad, had not survived the shipwreck, he would not be here. She was 12, and her brother, George 8, when they traveled on the ill-fated Titanic with their mother, Anna Thomas.

The family was enroute to Dowagiac to join their husband and father, Darwin, who had come to the States seven years before. The woman and two children traveled by camel train from Tibnin, Lebanon, north to Beirut, where they boarded a freighter bound for France and a train for Cherbourg.

Although the RMS Titanic sunk to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean during the early morning hours of April 15, 1912, Anna Thomas could not read, write or speak English. A piece of paper with the destination, “Dowagiac, Michigan U.S.A.,” was her only means of communication.

“When the ship hit the iceberg, my grandmother and Uncle George were in the cabin and Grandma went to look for my mother, who had earlier been watching the people dancing,” said Jerry Haddad in 2006.

The jolt from the ship hitting the iceberg made the cabin door slam, cutting her hand along the index finger and she went to the infirmary to get it bandaged.

“When she heard the ship had hit an iceberg and saw people putting on life jackets, she knew it was time to take action,” said Haddad. “She found my mother and left the steerage below decks just before the gates were closed and locked. She got three life jackets and looked for a lifeboat.”

They were put on Boat Number 2, the seventh boat lowered from the port side of the Titanic at 1:45 a.m. The descent was terrifying to Anna and her children as the sea was 70 feet below. Anna Thomas covered her children with her cloak so they wouldn’t see the boat break and sink. It was freezing cold and a view she would never forget.

After the cries of the people in the water stopped, it became very quiet and dark.

Something to Smile about

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JOIN US FOR A SUMMER CAMP PREVIEW

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 • 2–5 PM

Don’t miss this opportunity to tour the facility, meet the staff, sample some of camp’s favorite activities such as the Creek Freak zip line, archery, rock wall and reptile house, and finish the day building a s’more!

Reserve your spot online at campcopneconic.org

PHOTO: DEVIANT ART
TRI-COUNTY TIMES  |  TIM JAGIELO

Sandra Skene flips through her research binder on Monday, looking for some information on the family of John Hall.

**PURPLE HEART**

**Continued from Page 3**

“Obituaries will tell you if they have any surviving children. I was looking for a surviving niece or nephew,” she said. “I just had to keep looking until I could find somebody.”

One friend, Dianne Dailey, said she was shocked when she learned the extent of Skene’s search.

“She kept running into obstacles and she kept on going. I don’t know how many people would do that. She persisted. That’s patriotism and that’s really being a good person. She’s just an amazing person,” Dailey said.

**SUMMARY**

- One Fenton woman spent a year searching for family of a Purple Heart recipient who had died years prior.
- Skene followed many people would do that. She persisted. That’s patriotism and that’s really being a good person. She’s just an amazing person,” Dailey said.
- Skene eventually found the address of Hall’s nephew, who lives in Florida. Skene mailed William Harold Crouter, 73, formerly of Flint, in February of 2017 and explained her search. He called a few days later and was astonished that she did all this work.

“He was absolutely overwhelmed. He had no knowledge of this at all. He saw his uncle when he was 10. John died that same year. He knew his uncle but he had no knowledge of this medal or that he’d been a POW,” she said. “He said ’I can’t believe you went to all this work, it’s not even your family.’ I said it was important to me.”

Skene is mailing Crouter a scrapbook of all her research, along with the medal. The binder has a large American flag on the cover.

“I was absolutely elated when I found him. I was just so relieved that I found someone to pass this treasure on to somebody,” she said. Skene’s efforts are culminated into her binder, which contains all the documents pertaining to her search. The red, white and blue binder has Purple Heart commemorative stamps and John Hall’s name on the front.

It feels substantial, at nearly an inch thick containing hundreds of painstakingly assembled pages detailing Hall’s life and his family’s life, all pulled together to reunite the important medal with his next of kin.

Inside are official military documents, ancestry.com timelines, letters, emails, photos, marriage certificates, all of which will be sent to Hall’s nephew, William Crouter.

**MEDIA EDITOR TIM JAGIELO contributed to this story.**
TAX DEADLINE
Continued from Front Page
Are you getting a windfall this year from the IRS? If so, you’re among the 70 percent of U.S. taxpayers who are receiving a refund this year.
This year’s estimated average refund for an individual, based on data from the 2015 filing return average refund of $2,860, is 10 percent higher, for a total of $2,860,000.
A Google search for “ways to lose weight for women” garners 51,200,000 results. For men, it’s 48,600,000.
A Google search for “antiaging products for women” generates about 1.5 million results. For men, it’s 0.
If you spend five minutes watching TV, you’ll see commercials for dozens of these products, which don’t live up to their hype. For example, Garcinia cambogia, a small, green fruit shaped like a pumpkin has been known as a popular diet supplement and was featured on the Dr. Oz show in 2012. Even though animal studies were promising, one study conducted by Columbia University showed no effectiveness and 12 others found that increase the supplement can help people lose about 2 pounds over several weeks.
The fruit didn’t measure up to its hype. So why do these many products work?

WEIGHT LOSS
Authoritynutrition.com ranked 12 different weight loss supplements. Two of their winners are glucomannan and Orlistat (Alli). Glucomannan is a fiber found in roots of elephant yam. It absorbs water and sits in your gut, which makes you feel full and helps you eat fewer calories. Three studies have shown that this supplement, along with a healthy diet, can help someone lose 8-10 pounds in five weeks. It can also lower blood pressure, cholesterol and is effective against constipation.
Orlistat works by inhibiting the breakdown of fat, making a person take in fewer calories from fat. According to authoritynutrition.com, 11 studies have shown that this supplement reduces weight loss by 6 pounds compared to dummy pills. Other studies have shown that it slightly reduces blood pressure and the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

Hydroxycut is one of the most advertised and most popular weight loss supplements in the world. It contains several ingredients that claim to help with weight loss, including caffeine and various plant extracts.
While it’s wildly popular, only one study has shown that it helps people lose weight and there’s no data on long-term effectiveness.

Do weight loss and anti-aging products work?
Many products advertised on medical talk show pitches cost more than the hype.

By Hannah Ball
hbali1@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

A Google search for “ways to lose weight for women” garners 51,200,000 results. For men, it’s 48,600,000.

While it’s (Hydroxycut) wildly popular, only one study has shown that it helps people lose weight and there’s no data on long-term effectiveness.

WEATHER SIREN ACCIDENTALLY ACTIVATED SATURDAY MORNING
If anyone in Fenton heard the emergency siren at approximately 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, it was activated in error. Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said the police dispatcher had accidentally hit the wrong tone on the touch screen computer on the dispatch console. They apologize for any confusion it may have caused residents.
HOT LINE continued

GOOD LORD. ‘FIFTY Shades of Grey’ is a fictional book. Donald Trump is the president of the United States. Are we really making that comparison? You people will do anything to defend Trump.

TO THE VERY tasteful female runner on April 10 in the downtown area. My three young children and husband saw your very transparent top and lack of undergarments. Thanks.

HAPPY ‘NATIONAL PUBLIC Safety Telecommunicators Week’ to all of our local 911 heroes. You are all the first, first responders and are, unfortunately, first to get in trouble and last to get thanked. From a thankful citizen who knows how hard you work, thank you.

THANKS FOR the article on health inspections at our restaurants. I checked out the link you gave. I was so happy to see that my favorite place had no violations but I was grossed out that another place we like to go to had several violations.

WOW, THERE ARE so many haters out there. It made me sick to read so many negative Facebook comments with your stories. For example, a local business woman, being brave to use her own money, wants to develop something good in Linden. With no risk to themselves, people bash her intentions. Give her a chance.

FOR REAL, THOUGH, would it really be that hard to pave the rest of Ripley Road between Rolston and Silver Lake roads in Linden? Where are my tax dollars going?

IF EVERY WHITE person started yelling ‘because I’m white, because I’m white’ how long do you think it would take the black community to tell us to shut up?

ANOTHER REPUBLICAN PRESIDENT? We’re heading for another war.

FLOOD WATCH
Continued from Front Page

with rainfall up to 2 inches. This could cause rises in water levels for rivers and streams considering wet soils and the already high water levels, according to the NWS.

Geth said there’s more concern with high water levels this year.

“As with the warmest winter we’ve just had, (there’s) high water levels and saturated ground all over the county,” he said. “It happens periodically, it’s nothing unusual. It’s just been a few years since it’s been this soggy.”

The GCDC monitors water levels for the Linden millpond and other area lakes. A computer system, with sensors at the dam and at North Road where the river runs into Lake Ponemah, measures the water levels every three hours and makes adjustments as needed.

The millpond is a couple tenths below the expected level, but overall, it’s where “it’s supposed to be at this time of year,” he said. However, water levels for the Shiawassee River directly affect many lakes in the tri-county area, Lake Ponemah included.

“Ponemah might be a little higher just due to the wet spring and rain and runoff we’ve had,” he said.

As of April 10, the Shiawassee River, where it flows into Lake Ponemah, was 3 feet higher than the Linden millpond.

“For reference, in August when everything is dry, there’s no water and it’s been dry for months, the millpond and Lake Ponemah will be essentially the same level,” he said.

To measure the water levels of other area lakes, the GCDC uses weirs, which are concrete walls with a surrounding steel plate placed across an opening. They do not move.

“As water gets over the top, the water will flow over it,” Gerth said. The water flows into natural water courses, county drains, or adjoining wetlands.

In order to measure the water levels, someone will use a tape measure to determine the distance from the top of the weir to the water level.

“We can tell they’re higher because we get a lot more calls from residents,” he said.

One problem the GCDC encounters when dealing with high water levels is beavers.

“We’ve had some active beavers trying to build dams all over the county,” he said. “There’s too many of them. There’s thousands of them in this county.”

The GCDC has to remove the dam and then hire trappers to capture the beavers.
Holy Week at the First Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday
April 9th
9:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Requiem
by John Rutter

Maundy Thursday
Tenebrae/Communion
April 13th – 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 16th
9:00 a.m. Communion Service
11:00 a.m. Worship
featuring Choirs & Brass
503 S. Leroy, Fenton
810-629-7801

Join Us In Celebration
Trinity Lutheran Church
1025 Main St., Fenton
(810) 629-7861 ~ TrinityLCMSFenton.com
Pastor Dean Dumbrille

Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 13, 2017 • 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Services
April 14, 2017 • 12 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services
April 16, 2017 • 7 a.m., 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

You Are Invited!

Easter Sunday | Lake Fenton High | 9a & 11a

Easter Worship
Traditional Gatherings
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Casual Gathering at 11:05 a.m. in the Family Life Center

Nursery Care at all gatherings

Easter Egg Hunt
at the Family Life Center on Saturday, April 15th at 11:00 a.m.

Fenton United Methodist Church
119 S. Leroy Street, Fenton MI 48430 • 810-629-2132
www.fentonumc.com • fentonumc.office@gmail.com

Celebrate the Joy of Easter at Tyrone

“and by His wounds we are healed…” Isaiah 53:5

• Thursday, April 13th - Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7:00 PM
• Saturday, April 15th - Egg Hunt for 0-10 years of age at 10:00 AM

Easter Sunday
Hot Breakfast at 9:00 AM
Easter Worship Service at 10:15 AM

Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church
10235 White Lake Rd., Fenton
810-629-1261
www.tyronepca.org

You Are Invited!

Easter Sunday | Lake Fenton High | 9a & 11a

The Rock Church
**Summary**

The Genesee County Road Commission is responsible for grading 394 miles of county-owned gravel roads.

**Bladzik Continued from Front Page**

The position has been vacant since Andy Potter left in late October 2016 to become the city manager for Lathrup Village.

Bladzik, 39, was the leading contender for that position. He served as the Holly Village president until 2016, when he ran for state representative for the 51st district and lost to incumbent Joe Graves.

Walker said the position was advertised in the Michigan Municipal League classifieds, with the Michigan Downtown Association, the Tri-County Times and the village website.

“Twenty seven resumes were received for the position,” Walker said. Six were selected for interviews. Because the interviews were not conducted by a public body, they were not subject to the Open Meetings Act and did not have to take place in public.

Bladzik was the interview panel’s recommendation and presented to the DDA for a vote at a special meeting on March 20. Approximately 28 residents were in attendance, some of whom spoke negatively about their past encounters with Bladzik.

The issue was tabled to the April 10 meeting as none of the board members, with the exception of two, who were on the hiring committee, have seen Bladzik’s resume, have a copy of the job description or a copy of the contract to review. Board members asked for those items so they could make an informed decision.

The big point of contention with the Bladzik recommendation is he is not able to serve as the assistant village manager. According to the village charter, an elected official must be out of office for two years before they can be appointed to a village manager position.

Walker said Tuesday that the matter of Bladzik’s appointment to the job, had it been approved by the DDA Monday night, was slated to go on the Holly Village Council’s Tuesday, April 11 agenda for consideration and a vote.

“I’ll ask to have it removed from the agenda and we’ll go back to the drawing board,” said Walker.

The Holly Village Council may choose to take action on changing the title of the position Tuesday night, or they may want “to ponder it for a while,” Walker said.

**Hotline Continued**

**NOT ONE** to complain much, or write into the Hot lines, but the high water on Lake Fenton is ridiculous. The Genesee County Drain Commission totally dropped the ball on this. Should have had the beavers tramped a month ago on this. Looks like recall time for Jeff Wright.

**Finally, We** have a president who’s going to talk tough to the Russians, the Chinese, the Middle Eastern countries like Syria. President Trump means business protecting American interests and he’s not going to allow the violence they are perpetrating.
Fenton's Jared Ryan hit a home run with this swing during the Tigers' doubleheader sweep against Corunna on Monday.

**Fenton baseball remains perfect, sweeps Corunna**

**By David Troppens**

dhtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — The season is only four games long, but it's been a case of so-far, so-good for the Fenton varsity baseball squad.

Prior to spring break, the Tigers crushed Grand Blanc by scores of 10-0 and 10-1. Being off for nearly two weeks hasn't slowed the team down. The Tigers won another game against Corunna in a twinbill on Monday 11-0 at Fenton High School. The Tigers led 7-2 in the second game through four innings when the game was called due to darkness.

"We have a lot of energy," Fenton sophomore Brock Henson said. "We are all so close. We all hit the ball and know how to play baseball. We knew how to get the job done."

Fenton got it done pretty quickly in the opening game, scoring six runs in the second inning. The big shot during that inning was a two-run double by Toby Smigielski, raising Fenton's lead to 3-0. Later in the contest, Henson hit a two-run home run in the third inning and Jared Ryan hit a two-run shot as well in the fourth inning, setting up the possible 10-run mercy rule.

See **Fenton** on 12

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**Hillger leads our wrestlers again**

**LF senior completes dominating career with third straight TC Most valuable Wrestler award**

**By David Troppens**

dhtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

If one looks in a sports-term dictionary under the word stud, chances are there is a photo of Trent Hillger next to the definition.

The term is used in many sports, but it probably is most used in wrestling, where a stud is defined as someone who is a champion, not only seemingly never loses but usually records dominating pinfall victories in the process.

That defines Lake Fenton’s senior wrestler perfectly.

Hillger is completing his prep wrestling career with a 241-8 overall record with his last loss coming during the state meet during his freshman season. He’s a four-time All-State wrestler, capturing three straight state championships (215 his sophomore season and 285 his final two years) and owns the record for the fastest pin in Michigan prep history, when he pinned Walled Lake Western’s Justin Collier in three seconds. It made when he pinned Walled Lake Western’s Justin Collier in three seconds. It made

It’s kind of cool. I hope we paved the way for other wrestlers to follow our way. It’s nice because we have two guys at the opposite side of the spectrum. (For the smaller guys) they want to be like Jarrett (Trombley, himself a three-time state champion) and the others they want to be like me. It’s cool what we are doing with the program. It’s been a great experience.

Hillger is more than a wrestler for Lake Fenton wrestling coach Vance Corcoran.

"Trent has been like an assistant coach to me over the last four seasons," Corcoran said. "He was my go-to guy for team strategy since day one. You could watch us working on lineups from his fresh-

See HILLGER on 12

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**2017 Wrestler of the Year**

**Most Valuable Wrestler**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wrestler</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>Postseason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>285) Trent Hillger</td>
<td>Fenton</td>
<td>59-0</td>
<td>State champion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments** Trent Hillger has won this honor three times and our Tri-County Football Player of the Year award twice. Wow, what a career. He finished his wrestling career with a perfect 59-0 mark and a third straight state championship. He's headed to the University of Wisconsin.

See **Times** on 12

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**FLaX Heat lose tight contest vs. Grand Blanc, 13-10**

**By David Troppens**

dhtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — In lacrosse, winning control of the draw circle is huge.

The draw circle is lacrosse’s version of hockey’s face off. Whoever wins it, is going to have a higher chance of scoring a goal.

The Fenton/Linden girls co-op lacrosse team, named the FLaX Heat, lost a goal.

The Fenton/Linden girls co-op lacrosse player Ellie Reushlein (right) plays defense during the FLaX Heat’s 13-10 loss to Grand Blanc on Monday.

19 of 25 battles, resulting in a 13-10 loss to Grand Blanc on Monday.

The Heat’s final lead of the contest came at 2-1 with 19:01 left in the first half on Alexandra Premo’s first goal of the contest. However, Grand Blanc scored the next three goals and never trailed again. The Bobcats took a 6-4 lead into halftime.

The game hit a critical point when a FLaX player drew a second yellow card, meaning the squad had to play short a player for the final 17 minutes. The Heat remained competitive, but were unable to regain the lead.

See FLAX on 12

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**TRENT HILLGER**

The Lake Fenton senior is our three-time Tri-County Wrestler of the Year. He finished his career with a 241-8 record and three state titles.

See **Tri-County Times** on 12

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See FLAX on 12
FENTON
Continued from Page 11
“It’s windy today, so I got a fastball and it was up a little bit,” Henson said about the home run swing. “I got it in the wind and it went out.”

“Last year I was coming in as a freshman and I never really felt comfortable, but this year I came in more confident. We have a great group of guys and we are pretty confident going forward.”

The Tigers ended up earning that mercy rule shortened victory but it didn’t come easy. Three walks loaded the bases for Corunna in the top of the fifth inning. However, David Pietryga induced a double play ground ball to himself on the mound, ending the contest.

The Tigers needed just eight hits to collect their 11 runs. Smigielski finished 2-for-2 with two doubles, three RBI and two runs scored while Ryan finished with two hits and three RBI as well. Henson walked twice, hit the two-run shot and scored twice. Brandon Weaver tossed two innings of shutout ball, striking out three batters. Blake Garrison tossed 1 2/3 innings of shutout ball.

Fenton had just four hits in the second game, but did take advantage of eight walks. The Tigers took a 1-0 lead in the first when Chance Cosse’s also walked and eventually stole second, went to third on a passed ball and then stole home.

The Tigers blew it open with five runs in the second. Three straight walks loaded the bases with one out. An error off a batted ball by Smigielski scored the first run. It was followed by back-to-back two-run singles by Henson and Nolan Lawrence, giving the Tigers a 6-0 lead.

Corunna cut the gap to 6-2 by scoring two runs in the fourth on two walks, a double and a single, but could get no closer. Ryan capped the scoring when he plated Jake Henard with a single. Henard reached base when Matt Sullivan walked and he was placed in as a pinch runner.

Brandon Weaver tossed two innings of shutout ball, striking out three. Sullivan was the team’s final pitcher, striking out the only two batters he faced.

Henson said the team has high goals.

“Our goals are to keep playing baseball the way we are playing, the way we started,” Henson said. “We want to keep our hot start going, and hopefully win the Metro. We’ll see what happens from there.”

PAINFUL VARICOSE VEINS?
Varicose veins are MORE than just a cosmetic problem.
Integrated Vascular Vein Center has successfully treated thousands of patients with our minimally invasive, non-surgical technique.

- Varicose Veins
- Spider Veins
- Itching & Burning
- Leg Pain & Cramps
- Heaviness & Swelling
- Skin Discoloration
- Ulcers & Blood Clots
- Difficulty Walking
- Long Distances

Thomas Shuster, DO
810-606-1660
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Integrated Vascular Vein Center of Michigan
600 Health Park Blvd. Suite G • Grand Blanc, MI 48439
FLINTVEINS.COM

HILLGER
Continued from Page 11
man year all the way to team states this season. He knows everyone in the sport and he has helped me out a great deal over the years. What 14- or 15-year-old kid can do that? At team states we had a big decision to make who we were putting out at 125 and the ref was waiting on me. I was yelling across the bench to Trent about who we should put out there. That’s how much of an asset he was to this team, not only his wrestling but in every aspect of the sport. He will truly be missed.”

Hillger has not only been one of the greatest wrestlers to ever come out of Lake Fenton history (Trombley could become a four-time state champion next winter, which would enhance his argument for the position) but it can be argued he’s also been a part of the best senior class in school history. During his four seasons with the program, the Blue Devils have qualified for the team state wrestling meet three times, advancing to the state semifinal match twice.
The City of Fenton’s Draft Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan will be made available for public review and input at the Fenton City Hall, 301 South Leroy Street and the Fenton Branch of the Genesee District Library located at 200 East Caroline Street for one month. This format is designed to give residents an opportunity to review and provide comments on the Plan prior to Board and Council approval. Please call 810-629-2261 if you have any questions.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON**

You are hereby notified of a regular public hearing to be held Tuesday April 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM by the Charter Township of Fenton Zoning Board of Appeals at 12060 Mantawauka. This hearing will be held to consider the following.

ZBA17-015 Robert McCombs, 7535 Stonevalley Bluff, Clarkston: Requesting 4 ft. sight line, 9% lot coverage, 13 ft. front, 1 ft. side and 1 ft. total two sides variances to build a new house and garage at 13151 Lakeshore, parcel 06-14-501-033.

This notice is published in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Fenton Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days notice to Fenton Township.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Fenton Township by writing or calling the following: Robert Krug, Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430, (810) 629-1537.

Ordinances, meeting schedules and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT KRUG, FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

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**Job Openings**

**Help Wanted**

**DELIVERY DRIVER**

Warehouse worker needed. Apply at 1480 N Leroy, 810-714-5865. Background and driving record checked.

**DRIVERS**

Looking for CDL - A, B and C. Apply in person at Fenton Hospital sitter program or Fenton Union Station. Please call 810-921-0358.

**FENTON FENCE COMPANY**

Looking for experienced fence installers. Spring and Summer work guaranteed. Pay is determined on experience level. Leave message at 810-735-7967.

** FULL-TIME COOK NEEDED**

For first shift. Experience preferred but willing to train. Call or apply in person at Argentino Care Center, 810-735-9487.

**GENERAL LABORERS**

Looking for general laborers for the Flint area. Immediate openings, please call 989-921-0358.

**HOMECARE GIVER**


**LANDSCAPE HELP WANTED**

Only reliable and dependable people need apply. Call 810-735-5769.

**MACHINIST WANTED**

5 years minimum experience - Bridgeport Mill, Pro-Trak, Haas CNC, Master Cam Programmers, Lathe, Boring Mill. Email wanda@spentechusa.com.

**MASSAGE CHAIR**

Like new, paid $1,400 willing to sell for $400 or best offer. Call 248-634-3847.

**SPORTS CENTER**

Looking for a full time employee. Experience preferred. Call 810-629-5405.

**HELP WANTED**

For a local landscaping business. This is a full-time position. Apply in person at 111 Trealout Dr., Fenton, 48430 or email kim@renovoparts.com.

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ROBERT KRUG, FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
WEDNESDAY SUDOKU

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.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★★

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

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Avoid having someone else take credit for the project you started by finishing it yourself. Then it will be you, lovely Lambs who will be wearing those well-deserved laurels.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
The facts about a new opportunity are still emerging. Wait until they're all out in the open, and then use your keen business sense to help make the right decision.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
You might feel confused, even hurt by a friend who suddenly puts distance between you. If she or he won't discuss it, don't push it. An explanation should come in time.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Your willingness to be part of the team opens doors that had been shut to you. Keep them open by keeping your promises even when your commitment seems to be wavering.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
Congratulations. You’re really getting things done to purrfection. And don’t forget to take a catnap now and again to keep those energy levels up and bristling for action.

VIRGO (August 23 to Sept. 22)
Your “plain-talking” honesty is admissible. But sometimes sharp words can leave painful scars. Be careful that what you say doesn’t come back to hurt you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
A stress-filled period takes a positive turn as you deal with the underlying problem. Act now to avoid a recurrence by changing some basic rules in your relationship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Your rising energy levels make it easier for you to achieve some important objectives. This could lead to a big boost in how you’re perceived, both at home and on the job.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
A changing picture begins to emerge as you learn more about an offer that seemed so right but could be so wrong. Look to a trusted adviser for guidance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Spiritual aspects are strong. Take time to reflect on the path you’re on and where you hope it will lead you. It’s also a good time to reach out to loved ones.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
You could be assuming far too many responsibilities, whether it’s at work or in personal matters. Be careful that you’re not weighed down by them.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)
You’re getting closer to your goals. And since nothing succeeds like success (or the promise thereof), don’t be surprised to find new supporters swimming alongside you.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Choir
2. Tackle
3. Mediocre
4. Promised
5. Moray
6. Helper
7. Chris Matthews’ show
17. Shakespearean king
18. “Delicious”
19. Rock band’s need
20. Vertical
21. Saute
22. Peter Pan rival
23. Stereo setups
26. Resident
30. Lotion additive
31. Spicy
32. Green land
33. Kadidle-hopartner
35. Aquatic plant life
36. Female deer
37. Bouquets-to-order co.
38. High
41. Sticky stuff
42. Tier
45. Culture medium
46. Concealed trigger
48. Sandwich

DOWN
1. Sore
2. Hawaiian feast
3. Expression
4. Peculiar
5. Sordid
6. Edible seaweed
7. Under the

Across in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

DVD RELEASES

HIDDEN FIGURES
Hidden Figures is the incredible untold story of Katherine G. Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe)—brilliant African-American women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation’s confidence, turned around the Space Race, and galvanized the world. The visionary trio crossed all gender and race lines to inspire generations to dream big.

PG, 2 hr. 7 min.
Drama
93% liked it
(Audience score on Rotten Tomatoes.com)

TONI ERDMANN
Practical joker Winfried loves to annoy his daughter with corny pranks. Enter flashy “Toni Erdmann”: Winfried’s smooth-talking alter ego. Disguised in a tacky suit, weird wig and even weirder fake teeth, Toni barges into Ines’ professional life, claiming to be her CEO’s life coach. As Toni, Winfried is bolder and doesn’t hold back, but Ines meets the challenge. The harder they push, the closer they become. In all the madness, Ines begins to understand that her eccentric father might deserve some place in her life after all.

R, 2 hr. 42 min.
Comedy, Drama
78% liked it
(Audience score on Rotten Tomatoes.com)
**Smoked Shank Portion Ham**
Bone-In Water Added
79¢ lb.
Limit 2
With Additional $20 Purchase

**Spiral Sliced Half Ham**
Bone-In
98¢ lb.
Limit 2
With Additional $20 Purchase

**California Strawberries**
1 lb. pkg.
BUY 2, GET 3 FREE

**Lay’s Family Size Potato Chips**
(9.75 - 10.25 oz.) or Kettle Chips (6.75 - 8 oz.)
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

**Coca-Cola or Pepsi-Cola Products**
12 pk., 12 oz. cans or 8 pk., 12 oz. bottles or 8 pk., 16.9 oz. bottles (plus deposit)
3/$9

**Tropicana Pure Premium Orange Juice**
(59 oz. or 6 pk., 8 oz.) or Essentials Probiotics (32 oz.)
2/$6

**Birds Eye Frozen Vegetables**
Selected Varieties (13 - 16 oz.) or Steamfresh (10 - 10.8 oz.)
(excludes pure & simple, protein blends, chef blends and flavor full)
97¢

**Kraft Shredded or Chunk Cheese**
or Cracker Barrel Chunk 6.67 - 8 oz.
$1.79

**Kraft Salad Dressing**
14 - 16 oz.
$1.49

**Ore-I-Da Hash Browns**
22.5 - 32 oz.
$1.99

---

**Happy Easter**

**Beech-Nut Baby Food**
$1.79

**Campbell’s Cream of Chicken or Cream of Mushroom Soup**
Original Only 10.5 oz.
4/$3

**Tropicana Pure Premium Orange Juice**
or Trop50 (59 oz. or 6 pk., 8 oz.)
2/$6

**Birds Eye Frozen Vegetables**
Selected Varieties (13 - 16 oz.) or Steamfresh (10 - 10.8 oz.)
(excludes pure & simple, protein blends, chef blends and flavor full)
97¢

**Nabisco Ritz or Snack Crackers or Good Thins**
3.5 - 13.7 oz.
$1.99

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**Potato Products**

**Kettle Chips**
(6.75 - 8 oz.)

**Lay’s Family Size Potato Chips**
(9.75 - 10.25 oz.)

---

**Pork Loin Fresh, All-Natural Boneless, Center Cut New York Chops**
BUY 1 PKG. GET 1 PKG. FREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

**Beef Rib Fresh, All-Natural Semi-Boneless Rib Roast**
$6.99 lb.

**Pork Loin Fresh, All-Natural Boneless, Center Cut New York Chops**
BUY 1 PKG. GET 1 PKG. FREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

**Pork Loin Fresh, All-Natural Boneless, Center Cut New York Chops**
BUY 1 PKG. GET 1 PKG. FREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

**Pork Loin Fresh, All-Natural Boneless, Center Cut New York Chops**
BUY 1 PKG. GET 1 PKG. FREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

**Pork Loin Fresh, All-Natural Boneless, Center Cut New York Chops**
BUY 1 PKG. GET 1 PKG. FREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE

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**Kraft Shredded or Chunk Cheese**
or Cracker Barrel Chunk 6.67 - 8 oz.
$1.79

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**Silk Almond Milk**
1qt. carton

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**Prices effective through Saturday, April 15, 2017**