

# Slater named new Fenton police chief

■ 22-year veteran earns Fenton department's top job

By Vera Hogan

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Jason Slater, a 22-year veteran of the Fenton Police Department, was appointed by the City Council Monday night to serve as the city's next chief of police.

He has been serving as the interim chief since Rick Aro left the department in February. Aro, who now lives and works in the Grand

Rapids area, was present for the swearing-in ceremony Monday.

Slater, 45, graduated from Fenton High School in 1990 and attended Ferris State University, graduating in 1995 with a degree in criminal justice. He joined the Fenton department on July 3, 1995.

He and his wife Lorrie have been married for 20 years and have a 13-year-old son, Eric.

From 1998 to 2000, Slater was a member of the Fenton Police Department Detective

See **CHIEF** on 9

“My dad told me after he retired that Jason will be a police chief someday and he hoped when that happened it would be in the city of Fenton.”

Tracy (Cattaneo) Bundy  
Daughter of the late-former Fenton  
Police Chief Jerry Cattaneo



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jason Slater is sworn in as the city of Fenton's new chief of police on Monday, July 10.

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**SUMMER  
THEATRE GOES  
LIVE IN FENTON  
AND HOLLY**

VOL. 24 NO. XXVIII

**Midweek Times**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017

2016 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

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## Linden likely to reject medical marijuana facilities

■ Police chief recommends opting out

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com

**Linden** — From the discussion at the Linden City Council work session Monday, July 10, it's likely the council will reject allowing medical marijuana facilities in the city.

Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak said the council needs to decide whether it wants to allow medical marijuana facilities, which are permitted by state law.

The Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act allows the state of Michigan to license five types of medical marijuana facilities including growers, processors, transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities.

See **MARIJUANA** on 9

## MTA's 'Your Ride' marks 10th year in Fenton



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

MTA Your Ride driver Steve Kunkle assists Lillian Bolanski onto the bus on Thursday, June 29. Bolanski is one of 250 people who use Fenton's Your Ride Service Center every day. The Fenton branch has provided 380,000 rides since being established August 2007.

See **story** on page 3.

## Family returns from vacation to find home destroyed by fire

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

**Argentine Twp.** — A fire destroyed a garage, truck and home in Argentine Township on Seymour Road Monday, July 10 at approximately 3 p.m.

See **HOUSE FIRE** on 5



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

## Fenton road millage may have to wait

■ City Charter needs to be revised first to allow for 10-year levy

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com

There is only one way to get the streets in the city of Fenton fixed, and that is if voters approve a citywide millage.

There is a slight wrinkle in that plan, however, as City Manager Lynn Markland wants a 10-year levy but the City Charter only allows increases for a maximum period of three years.

At their July 5 work session, council members discussed

See **MILLAGE** on 8

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“Our founding fathers could not have possibly foreseen that ‘freedom of the press’ might eventually — through dishonesty, favoritism and bias — be the vehicle that ultimately destroys America. We are living it now.”



“What's this whole issue about dogs and restaurants? I'm really confused. What menu do the dogs order off of? How do they order what they want?”



**COMMENT  
OF THE WEEK**

“How far will the left go to divide the United States? The ridiculous behavior exhibited by the liberals has been that of irrational, disturbed individuals. They just couldn't understand the election of Donald Trump as President-Elect so they have resorted to some of the most childish actions ever seen.”



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# Life as a rodeo announcer

## ■ Gaines Community Rodeo comes back to town this weekend

By Hannah Ball

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On Tuesday, rodeo announcer Aaron Platt was in West Virginia with the Flying Star Rodeo, announcing the riders and getting the crowd energized. On Friday, he will be in Gaines emceeing one of the biggest summer events in this area.

The Gaines Community Rodeo will host the Flying Star Rodeo July 14-16 at the Lions "Pine Hill" Community Park in Gaines. After this stop, the rodeo will travel to Goodell and Hale. While attendees will come for a day and watch as cowboys and rodeo athletes compete in various events, life for the rodeo employees continues on the road.

Platt, who's from Roanoke, Indiana, said they travel everywhere from "Kalamazoo to Timbuktu, from Canada to southern Louisiana. I'll go wherever they pay me to go."

Platt started competing in rodeos when he was 15, and started announcing in his early 20s. Now, at age 40, he has nearly two decades worth of experience. He works as an announcer for a few different contractors who host rodeos.

He's worked on and off for the Flying Star Rodeo since 2002. He said the season technically never ends, but most shows take place between late May and mid-September. Flying Star will put on 45 events a year, and Platt is announcing all of them.

His wife travels everywhere with him. They drive cross-country in a trailer with comfortable living quarters. They haul three or four horses at a time, along with their dogs.

"It's just my home away from home on wheels," he said.

Platt is also a general contractor. "It still continues when I'm gone. I enjoy the break in my work, when I can get away to do this," he said.

The hardest part of the situation is working two jobs at one time. During a typical day, Platt said his ear is constantly pressed to his phone. He and his wife go over his "homework," which Platt said is the statistics and information on riders who are in the rodeo. This is a busy time because the numbers



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

At the July 2016 event, "Slack" team roping performers take to the arena. Hundreds of people traveled to Gaines that weekend to see the annual Gaines Community Rodeo. The 2017 event is this weekend.

change every day as riders compete in other competitions.

He takes care of the animals and his wife sets up the sound equipment.

"She makes it easy on me. We're a pretty good team," he said.

It takes about 12 to 15 people to put on a show, from the truck drivers to the people taking care of livestock to the rodeo clowns. His favorite part of the job is using his gift of gab to entertain people without being repetitious.

"It's a rewarding job," he said. "I enjoy meeting people. When you get hired back year to year, you build relationships with those types of people."

Platt said things "absolutely" go wrong. "Rain is probably the worst thing in the world of a rodeo announcer. You have to cover your equipment, plus doing everything on horseback. We rodeo right through the rain," he said.

They only shut down or delay events for lightning, which doesn't happen often.

Animals don't get spooked, he said. They're tough. "They've got the best deal. They get to eat all week, all day, and the best hay you can imagine. Then they only have to work for eight seconds a show," he said.

Injuries are common.

"It's the roughest sport on dirt. You don't want to see it happen, but it happens," he said. Performers commonly get bruises and scrapes, but emergency-trained personnel is on site.

**“We rodeo right through the rain.”**  
Aaron Platt  
Rodeo announcer

One of the weirdest things he encounters while traveling is animal rights activists. Platt said many are misled on how the animals are treated.

"Trying to explain yourself to those people can be difficult while still trying to be professional," he said.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

## Dates and times

The pro rodeo competition is on Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15 starting at 6:30 p.m. Little Britches Youth Rodeo takes place Saturday and Sunday starting at 11 a.m. Kids can enjoy interacting with clowns, balloons, get their face painted, and go on pony rides.

Admission is \$10 for adults 13 and up on Friday and Saturday, and \$5 on Sunday. Children ages 5-12 will be admitted for \$5. Children under 5 get in for free.

## Fenton's 'Your Ride' invaluable to those who need it

■ Seniors, college students, disabled, benefit from millage-financed service

By Tim Jagielo

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**Fenton** — At 7:45 a.m., driver Steven Kunkle departs from the bus garage at the Fenton Your Ride Service Center in the industrial park.

He'll pick up a few local seniors, taking them to stops like shopping at Walmart, and dialysis treatments. Kunkle said he knows 99 percent of his fares.

"It's a very needed service in Genesee County," said Kunkle. "A lot of people depend on MTA Your Ride. We appreciate them, and they are appreciative of us."

He'll see 12 to 15 riders on Thursday, and he said their ages range from college students, to seniors and everyone in between.

In 2016, the Fenton service center transported 34,879 passengers in Fenton alone, driving 430,300 miles.

**See YOUR RIDE on 8**

WATCH THE VIDEO



AT TCTIMES.COM WITH THIS STORY



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Carol Creaan of Fenton takes the Your Ride bus three times a week for her groceries. She uses the lift assist to walk onto the bus.

## MEET King

I'm a young, energetic Patterdale terrier.



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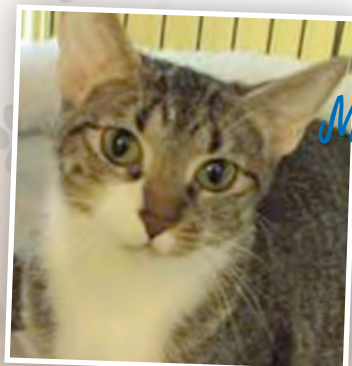
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# If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

## Time to start acting like Americans

From a purely military view, terrorism seems pointless. Randomly slaughtering innocent little girls at a concert does not help promote any group's religious or political agenda.

The true goal of terrorism has an entirely different objective — publicity! The point of terrorism is to get noticed. The intent of attacks on soft targets is to kill or injure as many innocents as possible while creating chaos, fear and intimidation. Bombings, hijackings, and the massacre of innocent bystanders are heinous acts designed to attract attention to individuals, groups or causes that are otherwise insignificant. History has made it clear that the only vehicle that can make someone truly famous for eternity is the media. It's the reason that nearly every American over the age of 40 knows the names John Wilkes Booth, Lee Harvey Oswald, Sirhan Sirhan, Timothy McVeigh, John Hinckley and James Earl Ray. The problem is, the more notoriety we give these monsters, the more we encourage the perpetuation of more violence, including terrorism.

The biggest factor contributing to the chronic upsurge of attacks on America and other countries is the absolute stupidity displayed by both the government and the media in the aftermath of each incident. If the media and our government would follow these five simple rules, terrorism attacks in America would cease to exist within a short time:

1. Stop referring to the perpetrators as terrorists. The definition of terrorism is: 'the unlawful use of violence and intimidation in the pursuit of political goals.' Slaughtering unarmed, men, women and children is not a political goal, it is a religious goal. If you must 'ist' them, call them 'bullyists.'

2. Never, ever release their names — whether dead or alive. You can't become a celebrity for killing defenseless men, women and children if the world does

not know your name. The press makes celebrities out of them, thereby providing a free recruiting service to attract more single-digit IQ candidates.

3. Make them disappear. Once arrested, the perpetrator should disappear from the face of the earth. They should be quickly and aggressively 'debriefed' and then never heard from again. Commit an act of terrorism and all rights go out the window.

4. Round up every relative they have and send them back to where they came from, no matter their age, status or how long they've been here. Their families should bear some of the responsibility for their actions.

5. Arm every adult citizen, men and women alike. Make weapon training a mandatory class in schools. Terror attacks, and most crime for that matter, would disappear overnight. It's time to fight fire with fire.

Implementing the above measures will effectively replace the current terrorist 'recruiting' program with a terrorist 'decruiting' program. No longer should we allow political correctness to take priority over the safety of our families. America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, imagination and the will and determination to do whatever it takes to protect our families and our country.

It's time we started acting like it.

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



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.

**IN LAST SUNDAY'S** edition of the Times, a very important point was made when purchasing lake frontage. Lot lines never change. While lakefront owners never tire of seeing people use the lake, this hospitality ends at our property line.

**I AM SO** fed up with people driving through my yard to miss the bumps because Genesee County Road Commission will not maintain our gravel road.

**THERE'S A REASON** marriage was never illegal between a man and a woman and no religion condemns it.

**ALL THIS STUFF** sold at dollar stores and hobby stores are made in China. They already own us.

**PLEASE — A SOLAR** panel wall that Mexico will pay for? Wanna buy a great bridge in Brooklyn?

**I THINK A** great headline says it all. 'How the DDA spends your tax dollars.' The DDA is an appointed board. Public money for elected officials to spend. It's past time to dismiss the DDA.

**A WEEKEND MORNING** in early July, 60 degrees out. Global warming? What a gorgeous day.

**STANDING TALL, SPEAKING** clear about life, family and country. Can we get more guys like that?

**A VIBRANT, SUCCESSFUL,** foodie downtown is now your benchmark for a successful city? You mean Detroit?

**A PART-TIME** legislative branch means a stronger governor, bureaucrats, and lobbyists. Be careful what you're asking for.

**REAGAN SUPPLIED WEAPONS** to Saddam, laid the groundwork for the creation of Al-Qaeda, created a massive deficit, ramped up the 'War on Drugs,' and his economic policies were disastrous for the middle class. This is all very well documented. He was not a good president.

**I BELIEVE THE** state law that allows people to buy and fire off fireworks any bigger than sparklers should be rescinded. Having to listen to bombs until midnight night after night should not be allowed.

**MY SON PUT** a smile on my face today when he pointed out that the obituaries I was reading were listed in the 'Local Living' section of the TCT. Happy memories of the departed, may they rest in peace.

**STUPID IS AS** stupid does. What is the point of blowing off fireworks late into the night? It is such a mindless pastime and inconsiderate when your neighbors are in bed or need to work in the morning.

**HARD TO BELIEVE** that those who have 'canned food' owe a debt of thanks to Napoleon Bonaparte and 'Napoleonic warfare.' That is what war is good for as he wanted to feed his Army.

**I HEARD A** rumor in Linden the owner is possibly selling his land next to the wooden park. Why should Linden have the only chance to buy the land?

**THANKS TRI-COUNTY** Times. I was so excited about goat yoga until I realized the place was so far away. Please keep us updated if a goat yoga opens in Fenton. I will be first in line.

**OK TCT, YOU** win. If you won't publish my stinging Hot line comments, I won't send any more. It is curious, though, that for the past seven or eight years there has been no shortage of comments about President Obama being the 'worst president ever.' I think we have a new leader in that category.

**I PERSONALLY THINK** Linden ought to rehire Skinner with a pay raise for being so innovative.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Crystal Schupbach, intern

## How would you feel about a medical marijuana facility coming to your community? | streettalk



"I think it's a foregone conclusion. It seems like they are already everywhere. I'm surprised they aren't here already."

—Alan Kitto  
Linden



"I would go along with both medical and recreational actually. It will be here sooner or later. Why not make it somewhat legal if you can already buy it everywhere?"

—Dave Senter  
Fenton



"I would not really care. I'm in Lansing all the time and they are on every corner. I don't think it should bother anyone."

—Jenna Henderson  
Linden



"I wouldn't really be bothered because a lot of people really need it. The police will be able to focus on different crimes."

—Sabrina Kinney  
Fenton Township



"If one moved here, I would not be offended. I think it would really help those with illnesses and it could be beneficial for them."

—Eamonn McNulty  
Argentine Township



# Long-time businessman loses battle with cancer

■ Dennis Schaefer remembered for big smile, big heart, and expert craftsmanship

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-629-6823

Family, friends and the entire Fenton area community are mourning the loss of Dennis Schaefer, who died of cancer Friday, July 7.

Schaefer, 56, was the founder and owner of Creative Wood Products, one of the area's big success stories. He was also a well-known community activist, having been involved with various area civic groups. He also was a long-time member of the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce and until the time of his death was on the Board of Directors.

Good friend and fellow Chamber Board member Will Stiverson said, "Dennis had one hell of a mic voice, and I also heard he could sing. "He had a contagious laugh and I think everyone who knew him felt better that day for being in his presence," Stiverson added.

In 2016, Schaefer was honored with the Chamber's Community Service Award.

It was more than 30 years ago in 1986 that Schaefer started Creative Wood Products.

Under Schaefer's leadership, the company, over the next 23 years, grew into one of the premier deck building and outdoor living specialists in Michigan.

In August 2009, Schaefer moved onto to other business endeavors and passed on the construction and installation side

of the company to Steve Darby, a trusted 20-year employee.

At the time of his death, Schaefer was the CEO and founder of Visiblebuilder.com, a company that provides expert online advice to those in the building industry.

One of the many shining moments in Schaefer's long, successful career was being featured in the July-August 2005 issue of "Replacement Contractor" magazine.

"It was an honor," said Schaefer at the time. "This is a national trade magazine published by Hanley-Wood."



Dennis Schaefer

The article called "Outdoor Life" featured a full-page photo of Schaefer perched on the railing of one of his gazebos.

In the article, Schaefer said he is not just selling structures, he is selling an outdoor lifestyle.

Schaefer's leadership did not go unnoticed later that year, when his entire team of talented employees were awarded a trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The trip was won by the firm for their work in renovating an area at Hollygrove, the site of the Michigan Renaissance Festival.

He leaves behind his wife of nearly 36 years, Gail, children, Nicole (Mike) Notter of Linden, Kelly (Andrew) Chiatlas of Clarkston, Thomas (Nikki) Schaefer of Linden, Jennifer (Kyle) Maddock of Fenton; grandchildren, Gavin and Lilah Notter, Jaxon and Adalynn Schaefer, Elizabeth Chiatlas; and many other loving family members.

Schaefer's funeral is being held at 2 p.m. today, Wednesday, July 12, at Sharp Funeral Homes, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton.

the fire. Firefighters had to wait until tanker trucks could bring enough water to extinguish the fire. Lafferty said the nearest fire hydrant was just over five miles away, at Linden High School.

The cause of the fire is unknown at this time.

According to a GoFundMe account, which has been set up at [www.gofundme.com/terry-and-amy-brown-fire-relief](http://www.gofundme.com/terry-and-amy-brown-fire-relief), the family returned home from vacation to find their home destroyed by fire. All they have are the possessions they took on vacation.

## HOUSE FIRE

Continued from Front Page

Fire departments from Argentine Township, Gaines Township, the city of Linden, and Fenton Township responded.

The fire is believed to have started in an attached garage, which sustained heavy damage. The fire spread outside to a nearby truck. At one point, the fire engulfed the entire truck and spread to nearby grass.

The fire spread along the roof of the house, destroying most of it.

Argentine Township Fire Chief Matt Lafferty said no one was home at the time of

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## News briefs

### Keepers of the Shiawassee River meeting on Thursday, river cleanup on July 16

Join the Keepers of the Shiawassee River group's monthly meeting this Thursday, July 13, at 7 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at Red Fox Outfitters in Fenton. Shiawassee River Cleanup is Sunday, July 16 at 9 a.m. Volunteers are to meet at Hogan Road and Shiawassee River. The goal is to get to McCaslin Lake Road. Reports indicate five trees from Hogan to Cole Road need cutting. They also need people to pick up trash. They have to reach into the bushes and around logs in the river to fish out the trash that has been thrown in the river. Grabbing tongs are useful for that, and trash bags. It is best to bring a rowboat or canoe if you have one. Sturdy shoes or boots are recommended for the river. For more information, go to [www.keepersoftheshiawassee.com](http://www.keepersoftheshiawassee.com) or [www.headwaterstrailsinc.org](http://www.headwaterstrailsinc.org).

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### SHOW TIMES

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Adults: \$20 • Seniors & Students: \$17 • Children under 12: \$12



# Summer theatre goes live in Fenton and Holly

■ 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' and 'Wizard of Oz' hit local stages this week and next

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

"Follow the yellow brick road" to some of the best summer theatre events the tri-county has to offer.

Two local theatre companies will present popular musicals this month, providing local residents with another leisure opportunity during the summer.

The Fenton Village Players will present "Thoroughly Modern Millie," beginning Thursday, July 13, while the Holly High School Theatre Department will stage the musical, "The Wizard of Oz," beginning July 20. This Royal Shakespeare company version is based on the 1939 movie starring Judy

Garland.

**Fenton Village Players**

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" opens this Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Fenton Village Playhouse at 14197 Torrey Rd.

Show times will continue on Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15, 21 and 22 and 28 and 29 at 7 p.m., Sunday matinees on July 16, 23 and 30 at 2 p.m.

This Tony Award-winning musical won six awards, including "Best Musical." Based on the 1967 Academy Award-winning film, this musical takes you back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City in the 1920s, when "moderns," including a flapper named Millie Dillmount, were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and re-writing the rules of romance.

Millie Dillmount is played by Sophia Rizzo and Jimmy Smith by Gage Webster.

**“There are many similarities to the movie and you’ll recognize all the songs. Everything you love from the movie will be there, plus a few surprises.”**

**Laura Legant**

Producer of "The Wizard of Oz" in Holly



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Sophia Rizzo rehearses as Millie Dillmount, the lead character in the Fenton Village Players' production, "Thoroughly Modern Millie," which opens July 13.

Producer of this musical is Holly Hodgkin, and artistic director is Mary Collins. Frank Pitts is musical director and Karen Whitaker is choreographer.

Tickets are available online at Fenton-theatre.org, at box offices at Fenton's Open Book and The UPS Store in Fenton or one

hour before show time at the playhouse.

**Holly High School Theatre Department**

Opening night for "The Wizard of Oz" is Thursday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school, followed by performances on Friday and Saturday, July 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 23 at 2:30 p.m. Performances will continue the next week on Friday and Saturday, July 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. and a final Sunday, July 30 matinee at 2:30 p.m.

In "The Wizard of Oz," Dorothy Gale is swept away by a tornado from a Kansas farm to a magical land of Oz, and embarks on a journey with new friends to return to Kansas.

Laura Legant, who is director of the Holly High School Theatre Department, also has dual roles as producer and actor playing the Wicked Witch.

"There are many similarities to the movie and you'll recognize all the songs," said Legant. "Everything you love from the movie will be there, plus a few surprises."

This musical includes a cast of 35 on stage, including kids, adults and alumni, plus a huge production staff and a live professional orchestra. The cast includes a number of students from kindergarten through eighth grade, who also attended Holly High School Theatre Camp.

Directing the play is Jonathan Smith of Grand Blanc. Musical director is Rafeal McDaniel.

Tickets are available on ShowTix4U.com. For more information and for group rates, contact Laura Legant at Laura.Legant@hask12.org.

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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**AT AROUND 2 a.m.**, this morning July 9, I heard a number of firecrackers that sounded like bombs. It's the 10th day in a row for fireworks beginning at dark. Please support our state of Michigan congressmen who want to ban the sale of fireworks in Michigan.

**FINALLY, DREW SHAPIRO'S** true colors have been revealed. Spoken like a true politician he will not accept the blame for his poor actions and instead blame it on 'obvious bias motivations.'

**I CAN'T BELIEVE** no one called and thanked Fratz consignment for putting on a beautiful birthday party. Sixteen years serving us. Thank you for a beautiful meal.

**I THINK THEY** should change 'Democrat' and 'Republican' to 'greedy' and 'greedier.' They certainly don't do anything for us.





**Mark McCabe**  
67th District Court  
Ask the  
**judge**

#### Polling

Nowadays, we all seem to be constantly hearing or reading about the latest public opinion polls as to what people think about a particular issue.

For example, the well-known Gallup poll has a daily approval rating for President Trump. Other recent Gallup polls tell us that 57 percent of Americans believe that confidence in the police is back at historic levels and 73 percent of Americans say that divorce is morally acceptable.

I'm only scratching the surface here and the number of polls on various topics is seemingly at a record high.

Historically, public opinion polls have been found to be politically important with the first recorded polls being conducted by newspaper reporters interviewing voters as they left the polling places in the 1824 presidential election. This was commonly called "straw polling" and reportedly got its name from people throwing stacks of straws in the air to see which way they blew.

The problem with the straw polling method is that it doesn't use what is called a "representative sample," which is a more scientific sampling of people from all walks of life.

The weakness of straw polling was demonstrated in 1936 when the then popular publication Literary Digest mailed out 10 million poll ballots to its readers and then predicted, based upon the returns, that Republican Alf Landon would win that year's presidential election.

The new George Gallup Poll used the smaller representative (or scientific) sampling method and predicted Franklin D. Roosevelt would prevail.

The rest is history and scientific polling has continued to evolve as the standard of the industry.

No matter how carefully polls are conducted sometimes they are wrong.

A famous example of this was seen when the Gallup poll and all other major polls predicted that in the 1948 Presidential election Thomas E. Dewey would defeat Harry Truman.

On the whole, polling has been shown to be a good indicator of what we think and polls are widely used by not only politicians but businesses and other entities as well.

Abraham Lincoln once said that "What I want to get done is what the people desire to have done, and the question for me is how to find that out exactly."

Polling has been shown to be one of the answers to President Lincoln's question.

## Long-time curator leaves museum in good hands

■ Ken Seger was the keeper of Fenton's priceless historical collection for 38 years

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-629-6823

**Fenton** — After 38 years as the curator of Fenton's A.J. Phillips Museum, Ken Seger has stepped down, leaving the job in the capable hands of his hand-picked replacement, Leo Doan.

Seger grew up in Fenton but moved to Flint for a time, when he was a die maker for General Motors. He retired after 30 years. Before retiring, however, the Seger family moved back to Fenton. He and his wife, Donna, bought their historic, Rockwell Street home for less than what it would cost to buy a car today.

In 1979, Seger said he was 43 years old. He saw a newspaper article by Georgia McKinley that the Fenton Historical Society was going to have a meeting at the then-Fenton Community Center and Seger decided to go.

McKinley was the daughter of Charlie Damon, who owned the massive peach orchard business on East Street. Damon was also known as "Left-handed Charlie," traveling in Wild West shows from 1888 to 1895.

"My dad was about 16 years old when he used to be Charlie Damon's driver," said Ken.

Ken called McKinley and she encouraged him to come to the Fenton Historical Society meeting.

"At the very first meeting, I was elected president of the historical society and named the curator," Ken said. "That's how I got involved and titled."

The society started meeting regularly once a month and got the word out about their group through the newspaper.

Acquisitions came in steadily. The only requirement is that the item must have something to do with Fenton, and be able to be authenticated. They accept most World War I and World War II items but these items, according to Ken, are of general interest.

"One woman called once and said she wanted to donate some statues, but just for the winter," said Ken.

"It turns out she just wanted to use us for storage," said Donna, who serves as the Fenton Historical Society president today.

Urban Renewal, when the majority of the city of Fenton's downtown was knocked down in the name of progress, was one of the reasons the need to house Fenton's historical items increased.

The first museum in Fenton came in 1979, when then-Mayor Lucy Brabon helped to acquire a small office building, once occupied by a dentist, in the area where the Fenton Police Department is now located.

"It was her that got us into that building," said Ken.

Until that time, acquisitions by the Fenton Historical Society were stored under the steps in the basement of the Fenton Community and Cultural Center. The historical items had been stored there since the city's centennial in 1934.

Once the small office building was acquired, the task of moving all of the acquisitions from the community center to the new museum began. Four people assisted in the job — Ryan Strom and Herb Watts, who were in their 80s and

Ken and Bob Barnes, who were in their 40s. They physically moved everything.

A little remodeling took place and they were on their way. At the time there was no formal city Museum Board.

In 1987, they acquired the building where the museum is currently located, across the street from the police station.

"The city manager (Ed Koryzno) and I made all of the decisions about the museum," said Ken. "We had no budget then but do now. Today, the city is responsible for maintenance on the outside of the museum and the historical society is responsible for the inside."

There is a museum board now, with one member of the Fenton City Council serving as a liaison member.

"I was there every day," said Ken. "I had a full-time job, a wife and three daughters but went there every day after work."

Through Ken and Donna's efforts, along with some much-appreciated volunteers, everything in the museum has been documented and cataloged with a number. Volunteers are currently in the process of computerizing it all.

"People always ask me, how do you know where everything is," said Ken. "I tell them because I put it there."

The Segers are grateful to the late Jack Winegarden, former Fenton mayor and namesake for Fenton's Jack R. Winegarden Library.

"Jack came by one day and said if we buy the carpet (for the museum), I'll do a fundraiser," said Ken. "He raised \$35,000."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Ken Seger, curator of the Fenton Museum, has stepped down and is turning the reins over to Leo Doan. Seger's wife, Donna, will continue to be the president of the Historical Society.

Donna added that the balance after the carpet was reimbursed went to the museum.

"We became very good friends," said the Segers.

"The Dibbleville Questers also helped us out a lot," said Donna of the group that no longer exists.

Today, the Segers are very happy to leave the museum in Doan's good hands. "It's easy to step aside knowing the museum is in good hands," said Ken.

What does this job pay? Nothing.

In 38 years, Ken never asked or received a dime for his work. "It was all volunteer."

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## MILLAGE

Continued from Front Page

Markland's recommendation to place a dedicated 10-year street millage on the November ballot for voter consideration.

In his June 30 memo to council, Markland said he would like the City Council to place the millage request on the ballot for November and then consider amending the Charter at a later date.

The council didn't warm up to the suggestion that both the Charter revision and road millage be on the November ballot together.

It appears now, however, that the Charter will need to be amended before the city can ask for a 10-year millage. "That will have to be addressed first before the street millage is placed on the ballot," said Clerk Renee Wilson.

According to Attorney Chris Patterson, the Charter revision process could be lengthy and said the road millage would have to be postponed until all Charter revisions are submitted to the state.

It is therefore possible that the Charter revision to increase the allowable length of a levy from three to 10 years would go before the voters in November, and the actual road millage would go on the May 2018 ballot.

The Fenton City Council held a special meeting on Monday, April 17 to review the results of a street study and consider funding options for street and infrastructure improvements and repairs.

Tim Juidici with OHM Advisors, the city's engineering firm, provided council members with a five-year plan for road projects. The plan details Fenton roads in need of repairs and rated their condition from 1 to 10, with 1 being the worst

condition.

"A 4 rating means the road is at a critical distress point," said Juidici. "Below 4 means the road needs heavy heavy rehabilitation."

He said today city of Fenton roads, on a scale of 1 to 10, have an overall rating of 3.5.

"If we spent \$2 million over a 10-year period, we would see an average rating of about 5.5," Juidici said.

It isn't just the roads that need repair. Several have drainage and storm sewers to consider. Council members agreed with engineers and the Public Works Department (DPW) that addressing drainage and storm sewer issues before putting down a new road will need to be done.

This could mean that one road could get fixed that doesn't look as bad as another because the other has infrastructure repairs that need to be addressed first.

"The majority of our roadwork is beyond the point of maintenance," said Markland in April. "This is a long-term problem that happened over several years. It's not that we didn't want to do it (road fixes) it's because we didn't have the funds."

Markland said the council needs to consider a referendum to pay for city roadwork. "To do something less ... I don't think it serves the public very well," he said.

At first the council considered Markland's recommendation of asking for 5 mills. However, after learning that this millage, if passed, would be subject to Headlee rollbacks, they decided by an informal consensus vote to ask for 6 mills instead.

"The only way we are ever going to

get this done is through a millage," said Markland in April. "No one is coming to our rescue. We're not going to get the money anywhere else. The roads are not going to get better. Doing nothing is not an option."

### What will it cost

If city of Fenton voters eventually pass a 6 mill roads referendum, homeowners can calculate what they will pay by multiplying the taxable value of their home by .006. Six mills is \$6 for every \$1,000 of taxable value, or \$300 for every \$50,000. If the taxable value of a home is \$150,000 for example, the cost of the road millage will be \$900 per year. It will be collected with the annual July 1 tax bill.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

### PERHAPS THE LARGEST

disappointment of public education is the lack of appreciation by some of the public using it. Teachers are imparting knowledge and in turn get a wage and a pension.

THE PRICE OF medical insurance can never come down until the price of medical care does the same. The only way to lower the price of medical care is through competition.

BLATANT DISCRIMINATION, THAT'S what it is. Allowing dogs to dine at restaurants and refusing cats. That's feline discrimination. — Felix the cat



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Owen Meier heads to dialysis after a Your Ride trip with driver Steve Kunkle on June 29.

## YOUR RIDE

Continued from Page 3

The Fenton location is one of 11 in the county, including Flushing, Burton and Grand Blanc.

Aug. 22 is the 10-year anniversary for the Fenton branch. The location was chosen because it filled a need for southern Genesee County residents.

As a whole, Your Ride has approximately 150,000 riders each year. Daily operations are supported by a millage. The current millage rate is 1.225, or \$122.50 per year on a home with a taxable value of \$100,000.

Facilities, such as the Fenton location, are sometimes financed by federal grants.

As a countywide service, Your Ride will transport people from a specific coverage area, to anywhere in the county.

Their clients can be anyone from college students who need a ride to school or work, to seniors needing to make it to an appointment, or those with mobility challenges. Trucks are outfitted with wheel chair lifts.

"We provide service in the local area," said Mike Messer, who managed the Fenton location for three years.

The Fenton Service Center will pick up residents inside a square, with Ray Road in Grand Blanc Township to the north, Lovejoy Road in Argentine Township to the south, Fenton Road in Fenton to the east, and Sheridan Road in Gaines to the west.

The Fenton Service Branch has eight vehicles, 12 employees, 10 full-time drivers with three substitutes.

"We don't run fixed routes like the city busses do," said Messer. There are technically no set "routes." There

are 10 routes on the road every day fulfilling the requested pick-ups and drop offs.

Requests for a ride are placed the day before, and up to seven days in advance. The schedule for the following day is set the afternoon and evening before.

"Our drivers have to be pretty well versed in where things are in the county," he said. Drivers get their routes in the morning and plan their day then.

Daily ridership is about 250. Drivers like Thomas Jones, for example, may have 15 clients, meaning he could have 30 stops in a day, and drive about 200 miles.

While service centers closer to Flint will handle more riders, Fenton riders have much longer ride routes. Fenton riders have a 10-mile, and 29-minute average.

There is a one-hour window from the requested home pick-up time. The rider can expect to be dropped off and picked up within a 15-minute window.

To stay on time, the rider needs to be in the Your Ride vehicle five minutes after it arrives. "It helps the people we're picking up afterwards," he said.

"We provide a means of transportation that is easy for them to get on and off," he said. "If they can no longer drive, we drive them."

He said that if someone is disabled, it saves them from having to buy a lift-equipped vehicle of their own.

While Your Ride can try to accommodate last minute rides, they're not a taxi. "We provide scheduled service," he said, emphasizing the "scheduled."

There is a same day service available, but that's through specific Genesee county agencies, for which one must qualify to use.

# LOCAL NEWS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

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## CHIEF

### Continued from Front Page

Bureau. In August 2000, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and in January 2009, he was appointed to lieutenant.

Slater said that for as long as he can remember he wanted to be a police officer. "I always respected what police officers stand for and the role they contribute to society," he said.

"My goal is to work together with the men and women of the Fenton Police Department to remain progressive in our pursuit to assure that the residents are provided with a community that is a great place to live and raise a family," said Slater.

He said the greatest challenge facing so many communities, as well as Fenton, is to find a way to stop drug abuse, albeit prescription or illegal substances.

"Drug and alcohol addiction ruins so many lives in our country, we need to find a way to give our kids the tools to resist the temptations that so often result in their, as well as their families, destruction," said Slater. "Another issue that we so often face is dealing with persons who have mental health issues that lack sufficient resources to address and treat their illness. We, as a society, need to improve the way we are providing care for our mentally ill."

Slater counts the ability to pursue technology advancements for the efficiency of the department and personnel in all areas as one of his most rewarding accomplishments over the years.

"I am honored that I was chosen to serve the citizens of Fenton as the chief of police. I was raised and educated in the Fenton community and have made it my home. My goal, which hasn't changed since I was hired 22 years ago, is to keep the city of Fenton a safe place for all and to treat everyone with fairness and the respect that they deserve."

Tracy (Cattaneo) Bundy, the daughter of the late-former Police Chief Jerry Cattaneo, said, "My father, Jerry Cattaneo, was always impressed with Jason Slater. My dad told me after he retired that Jason will be a police chief

someday and he hoped when that happened it would be in the city of Fenton. My father would be proud to see Jason sworn in as the chief."

Cattaneo retired in January 2003, after 16 years as Fenton's top cop. He died in May 2013.

### Fenton City Council members are unanimous in support for Slater

Mayor Sue Osborn said Slater's promotion is a credit to him and the Fenton Police Department.

"Promotion from within has tremendous advantages that are exemplified by Chief Slater," she said. "Chief Slater knows the community and the community knows him. He knows our officers and they know him. We look forward to great things in Fenton under his leadership of our police department."

Councilwoman Cherie Smith said, "I couldn't be more delighted in the choice to appoint Jason as our new chief of police. He's calm in tense situations, our officers respect him, residents are complimentary about how he handles himself in public, citing his fairness and friendly demeanor. I am confident he's the best choice for our community."

City Councilwoman Pat Lockwood said, "I have worked with Chief Slater on several Fenton events over the years and found him to be professional, dedicated and all around committed to this community. I am very proud of the Fenton Police Department and look forward to great leadership under Chief Slater."

Councilman Scott Grossmeyer said, "I think we are very fortunate to have Jason, a local guy with great leadership qualities. As acting chief he has worked well with everyone and shown a love for Fenton."

Councilman Dave McDermott said, "I'm happy that City Manager Markland has recommended the appointment of Jason Slater to the chief of police position. Growing up in Fenton gives Chief Slater a unique perspective on how to approach public safety in our community. I can't think of a better choice, and I'm excited to see how he will make the role his own."

## MARIJUANA

### Continued from Front Page

The new law took effect December 2016, but has a built-in delay of implementation until December 2017.

The current medical marijuana ordinance, ordinance 375, regulates someone growing medical marijuana as a caregiver in residential facilities and certain limited industrial areas.

"People just can't go out there and sell marijuana in the city. You can cultivate it within your own house. You can have a certain number of plants based upon how many individuals you're actually supplying it for," Zelenak said.

Zelenak said if they allowed the facilities, a 3-percent tax on those facilities would be distributed between municipalities across the state based on number of operations in the community. Part of the tax dollars goes to police. The council can also levy up to \$5,000 for one of these operations.

"That's additional tax dollars. I'm not trying to sell this here, I just want you to be aware," he said.

Communities must choose to opt in to allow these facilities. If they opt out or do nothing, these facilities will not be allowed. The city of Fenton and Fenton Township do not allow these facilities.

Linden Police Chief Scott Sutter spoke during the meeting and presented the council with information from Flint Area Narcotics Group (FANG) and crime information from Colorado.

"It's shocking just to see the traffic fatali-

**“With them comes crime because they are broken into. Even as a homeowner who’s a caregiver, there are a lot of home invasions.”**

**Danielle Cusson**  
*Linden mayor*

ties go up, injury accidents have gone up... hospitalizations have gone up. It shows that with adolescents, how it's affecting IQ," he said.

Sutter said the active ingredient in marijuana that makes you high, THC or tetrahydrocannabinol, has increased substantially in the plants. He recommended they do not opt in to allow the facilities.

Linden Mayor Danielle Cusson said as a prosecutor, she sees all the problems that come with having these facilities in a community.

"With them comes crime because they are broken into. Even as a homeowner who's a caregiver, there are a lot of home invasions," she said. "My guess is everyone in the room could

get a (medical marijuana) card."

She said she's seen people get medical marijuana cards for any type of ailment.

One resident asked about the CBDs, cannabidiol, which is not hallucinogenic. He uses the CBD on his back for pain management.

"I use the sap to rub on my back and my neck and I feel good for two days and that's part of medical marijuana," he said.

Sutter told the resident that the current ordinance allows that.

Numerous councilors said they would vote against allowing the facilities. The Planning Commission suggested the council opt out.

At this time, it's unclear whether the council will choose to have a vote. If the council doesn't have a vote, these facilities are not allowed, according to Zelenak.

## News briefs

### WOMEN'S EXPO AT FENTON CHURCH

On **Saturday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, there will be a community women's expo hosted by The Potter's Wheel Church. This is a free event. Women in the Fenton, Linden, and Holly area will enjoy a fun-filled time where registrants can win many items such as free local restaurant gift cards, massages, \$100 Visa gift cards, etc. Local vendors and direct sellers from the area will be displaying and demonstrating their products. There will be hands-on learning sessions on sewing, makeup correction applications, as well as information on Medicare processes and insurance. Some local businesses have chosen to sponsor this event. Visit [head2toexpo.wordpress.com](http://head2toexpo.wordpress.com) for details.


## Police&Fire report

### LAWN DAMAGED

On June 25, the Genesee County Sheriff's Office received a malicious destruction of property complaint in the 3000 block of East Bay Drive in Fenton Township. A 58-year-old Fenton Township woman reported damage done to her lawn and items on her lawn by a motor vehicle sometime overnight. This complaint is under investigation.

### BONFIRE DAMAGES HOUSE

A malicious destruction of property complaint from a resident in the 12000 block of Fenton Road was filed on June 14 with the Genesee County Sheriff's Office. A 56-year-old Fenton Township man reported damage to his vehicle during a bonfire at his house.



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Times

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## HOLLY TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ANNUAL JULY BOARD OF REVIEW

The Holly Township Board of Review will hold its annual July meeting as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, July 18, 2017

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: Holly Township Hall  
102 Civic Drive  
Holly, Michigan 48442  
248-634-9331 Ext. 304

PURPOSE: To correct any of the following errors in assessments, and tax rates:

- A clerical error, such as an erroneous posting of an assessment as \$250,000 when it should have been \$25,000
- A mutual mistake, such as a building being assessed to the wrong description
- A mistake in the millage rates, such as levying 32 mills instead of 30.2 mills
- A mistake in mathematical calculation, such as 40 acres multiplied by \$750 equaling \$22,800 instead of \$30,000
- To review claims of qualified homestead on properties
- To review hardship/poverty claims

Karin S. Winchester, MMC  
Holly Township Clerk

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - PAVING PROJECT FOR THE LIBERTY SHORES CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON, GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that as a result of Petitions of property owners within the township signed by the record owners of land whose frontage constitutes more than 50% of the total frontage of the streets in the Liberty Shores Condominium Subdivision, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Fenton proposes to construct improvements to the streets in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Liberty Shores Condominium Subdivision, including repairs to the existing asphalt base and adding the top layer of asphalt to said streets, and to create a special assessment district for the recovery of the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited therein.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed to be assessed is more particularly described as follows:

#### All units in the Liberty Shores Condominium Subdivision

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has received preliminary plans showing the improvements and an estimate of the costs of such construction in the approximate amount of \$250,000, has placed the same on file with the Township Clerk, and has passed a Resolution tentatively declaring its intention to make such improvement and to create the special assessment district. The Township Board has also tentatively found the petitions for the improvement to be in compliance with statutory requirements.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that said plans, estimates of cost, proposed special assessment district and petitions may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk from the date of this Notice through the date of the public hearing and may be examined at such public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing upon such petitions, plans, district and estimate of costs will be held at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan, commencing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday July 24, 2017.

At the hearing, the board will consider any written objections to any of the foregoing matters filed with the board at or before the hearing as well as any revisions, corrections, amendments or changes to said plans, estimates, costs or special assessment district.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the hearing and to submit any comments they may have.

**ROBERT E. KRUG**  
**FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK**  
**12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE**  
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## Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process: Public Participation

Mobilite proposes the construction of five utility style telecommunications poles within existing road right-of-way at 3734 Beecher Rd, 426 Sixth Ave, 701-799 E Taylor St, Root St, 3907-4099 Hammerberg Rd, Flint, Genesee County, MI. Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects of the proposed projects on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Andrew Smith, RESCOM Environmental Corp., PO Box 361 Petoskey, MI 49770 or call 260-385-6999.

## CITY OF FENTON

### NOTICE REGARDING PETITIONS FOR MAYOR OR CITY COUNCIL FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 CITY GENERAL ELECTION

DUE TO A CHANGE IN MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW, THE DEADLINE PRESCRIBED IN THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FENTON FOR PETITIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR CITY COUNCIL NO LONGER APPLIES.

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED PETITIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR CITY COUNCIL IN THE CITY OF FENTON IS **TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017 AT 4:00 PM.** PETITIONS ARE DELIVERABLE TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 301 SOUTH LEROY STREET, FENTON, MICHIGAN 48430.

ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO WISH TO SEEK CONSIDERATION ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT AS A CANDIDATE WILL NEED TO SUBMIT PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTATION BEFORE THE DEADLINE OF TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017 AT 4:00 PM.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | submitted photo

The Lake Fenton eighth-grade softball team finished a perfect 18-0 record last spring.

## LF eighth-graders post perfect season

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It's said pitching wins championships.

The Lake Fenton eighth-grade softball team may have proven that theory correct during the spring.

Lake Fenton pitchers pitched 11 no-hitters during the season, which helped the team to a perfect 18-0 record.

"I knew we had a couple of good pitchers, which turned out to be the case," eighth-grade softball coach Hewitt Judson said. "Between our pitchers

they pitched 11 no-hitters and struck out over 70 percent of the batters they faced. All the fielders got their fielding practice at during practice because they struck out so many batters."

Ally Postal and Christina Lamb led the hurlers. Postal allowed just one run all season long, recording a whopping 0.20 earned run average and an 8-0 record. She struck out 91 of the 124 batters she faced, allowing just seven hits and 11 walks. Lamb had the better record, recording a 9-0 mark.

She had a 1.19 earned run average, striking out 86 of the 137 batters she faced. She allowed just 11 hits while walking 16.

The pitching was outstanding, but the offense was pretty good itself. Eight players batted at least .400 during the season.

Kaylie TerBurgh posted a .707 batting average, hitting four doubles, four triples and four home runs among her 29 hits. She scored 37 runs despite coming to the plate just 48 times.

Continued at tCtiMeS.CoM

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 | page 12 | WWW.tctimes.com/sports

# Sports

## Hoops teams make up a good chunk of top 16 poll

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

When we started doing these Tri-County Top 16s at the end of every school year, I didn't know how they would be received.

After all, this poll is just basically the opinion of one person and who would care what I thought?

Well, every year about this time I get stopped at stores, stopped at late spring sporting events and even get asked by some coaches asking when the poll will be.

I've had a couple of coaches debate their team's status for about a half-hour, and had some parents come up to me and do the same. Amazingly, I don't think I've ever actually had one of the athletes on the teams ask me about the poll. If I have, I've forgotten about it.

One thing I'll argue is I'm willing to bet there isn't a person who has seen the diversity of var-

sity sporting events in the tri-county area as I have over the last 15 years. From football to gymnastics meets, I've been to my share of events. Sometimes I wish I kept count of all the events I covered over my career, not only here but at a few other publications I worked. I figure if I've covered 100 high school events a year, I'm nearing 1,500 varsity events at the paper. And without a doubt, saying 100 is probably low considering the number of basketball games I cover each year. I keep count of that sport and it usually average out to about 35 basketball games a year. Since the varsity boys/girls doubleheaders became the norm in winter seasons. Throw in about 13 football games a year and I'm almost already at 50 games with just those two sports. So, I wouldn't be shocked

See top 16 on 13



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

File photos

Two of the teams on our 2016-17 Tri-County Top 16 Poll are the Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team (left) and the Fenton varsity girls basketball team. The Lake Fenton boys team placed eighth while the Fenton girls are ranked 10th.



## David's Dabblings

Some thoughts about sports and others not dealing with sports at all



### My favorite MeMor ies over the last 15 years

In my 15 years as sports editor at the Tri-County Times, I have seen my share of outstanding team performances.

Some were expected and others weren't. Many were championship performances.

I thought today would be a fine time to highlight some of the events that I remember greatest during my 15 years at the Tri-County Times.

### The 2004 & 2016 Linden varsity baseball team tournament runs to the state championship game:

I remember a conversation former assistant sports editor Jason Alexander and I had in the office when baseball districts were about to begin in the spring of 2004. Fenton was going to play Linden in the tournament and we asked each other who we thought was going to win. We both came up with it being a true coin toss. Both teams were OK squads, but we figured whoever won wasn't going to go very far in the state tournament.

That Eagles squad shocked us. The Eagles' pitching staff played to contact, and Linden's defense took over from there leading Linden to the most unthinkable state championship game run of my career.

See Dabblings on 13

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# Quadtown squad gets its sweet revenge

## ■Linden 3 wins Minor League tournament

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It was a decent season for Linden's 3 Minor League Quadtown softball squad.

The team finished the regular season with a 10-3-1 mark and just snuck into the post-season tournament. However, the tourney wasn't looking too rosy for the squad, considering all of their losses came against the other three teams in the brackets.

Once in the tourney, the Linden 3 squad defeated a Fenton team they had lost to in the regular season twice and then avenged a past loss to a Holly team, capturing the Quadtown's Minor League softball tournament title.

"We were able to avenge our losses," Coach Lance Siegwald said.

"Fenton beat us twice, but we beat them with a walk-off hit to win the game 12-11. Holly beat us during the regular season but we beat them 9-8. We were able to avenge all of our losses.

"We got progressively better through the year. We lost three of our first five games, but then we won out."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I submitted photo

The Linden 3 Quadtown softball team avenged regular season losses to capture the Minor League softball title in the Quadtown League.

In the semifinal game, Linden 3 scored a walk-off hit that won the contest. Mia Brown walked and Ava Blackstock hit an RBI-single to clinch the victory for Linden 3.

Ava Siegwald had a huge game at the plate, driving in five runs. She had a home run and a double. Alida Smith was the winning pitcher.

In the tournament championship game, Lydia Klemich provided the big bat. She drove in five runs, leading

the squad to victory. Smith was the winning pitcher. Holly entered the contest undefeated.

"They were a group of girls that gelled together," Lance Siegwald said. "Everyone on the team contributed."

Others on the team (12-3-1 overall record) included Addison Siegwald, Julia Wagner, Myleigh Rohner, Sophia Keenan, Mia Brown, Morgan Piotrovsky, Emilie Cartwright, Kendra Kuch and Paige Burnett.

## Dabblings

Continued from Page 12

I can't say a single game sticks out over the others, but the theme of that team being true underdogs did resonate.

About a year ago, the 2016 Linden baseball team repeated the feat, but this time with games I clearly remember. It seemed every game was decided by a run in the seventh inning or extra innings. The play that sticks out was in the state quarterfinal game in which the Eagles gunned out the game-winning run at the plate on a bang-bang play.

In basketball one game sticks out over every other one. The Fenton boys basketball's 2012 district championship victory against Clarkston was it. Clarkston had won 18 straight district titles until Fenton captured their first district championship since 1990 when Eric Readman hit the game-winning shot in a 68-66 double-overtime victory. Since that win, the entire Metro League started winning district championships again, including Linden last year.

Lake Fenton's varsity boys basketball team had many memorable contests over the last two years, but Fenton's district title contest probably is my No. 3 most

memorable moment in my time here.

Wrestling has had many outstanding memories, including many individual state championships, but the one that sticks out over all others was Holly's team regional championship in 2005.

The actual moment I remember most came in the 30-25 regional semifinal victory against Anchor Bay. Holly led by just two points going into the final match, meaning John Aikens needed a victory to assure the team win. Aikens was tied 3-3 in the waning seconds, but was holding on to his opponent's ankle, hoping an escape wouldn't occur. A momentary escape did happen, but before an escape was called, Aikens jumped on his foe and earned two near-fall points, earning Holly the win.

Finally, the biggest moment I experienced without a doubt was the Linden boys cross country team's 2008 D2 team state title effort.

Linden did more than win the title, they crushed the field. Linden's top five runners all finished within the top 29 places at the Eagles scored just 59 team points at the state meet. Vicksburg finished in second place with 174 points. I was in complete awe of their domination.

## top 16

Continued from Page 12

if the number was well over 2,000 events. Enough of tooting my own horn. It's time to list teams 12 to 7.

### No. 12 - Fenton girls swim:

In the nine years we've done these polls, the Fenton girls swim team has been on the Top 16 during eight seasons. Fenton dominated the Metro League once again, scoring more than double the amount of points the second place league squad scored at the league meet. At the state meet, Taylor Shegos was a state champion diver, recently capturing All-American status. The team ended 21st at the state meet overall.

No. 11 - Linden girls cross country: Linden girls cross country has been on every Top 16 poll since the 2012-13 school year, when the Eagles ended the year No. 1. Last fall the team placed only third in the Metro League, but then put together an outstanding postseason, earning a regional championship and then finishing 12th at the state meet.

No. 10 - Fenton girls basketball: The Tigers finished second in the league but that's not put against them considering the league champions were the eventual Class A state champions. The Tigers had their own impressive tournament run, earning a Class A district title and then winning a regional semifinal contest. The squad finished with a 17-7 record overall.

No. 9 - Holly boys tennis: The Bronchos crushed their Metro League foes, winning all six duals by a combined 46-2 score. Holly also won a regional championship. What kept them from finishing higher was placing



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I submitted photo

The Fenton girls swim team placed 12th in our 2016-17 Tri-County Top 16 Poll.

just 17th at the state meet. The Holly boys tennis team is just one of two squads to have made all nine of our Top 16 lists. Now that's impressive.

No. 8 - Lake Fenton boys basketball: It was a historical season for the Blue Devils, as they advanced all the way to the Division 2 state quarterfinals for the first time in school history. Prior to getting to that state quarterfinal contest, the Blue Devils played a tough regular season schedule and posted a 15-5 record. That schedule prepared the team for the state tournament, where they won a district title and then a regional title.

No. 7 - Fenton girls golf: Anyone sensing a strong fall sports season theme in today's poll? Fenton won both Metro League meets and also placed third at regionals, earning a state tournament trip. While there, the Tigers placed ninth at the state meet. Wow! The Fenton girls finished ninth at the state meet and are only eighth on our poll? I guess that's a pretty good indication of how good the 2016-17 school year was for area teams. Our Top six squads are dynamite.



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# Obituaries

Times

## James Daniel Roan

1924-2017

James Daniel Roan - age 92, of Fenton, died July 9, 2017. Funeral services will be held 10 AM Thursday, July 13, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton.

Fr. David Blazek will officiate. Burial will follow in Great Lakes National Cemetery. Visitation will be held 2-8 PM Wednesday, July 12, 2017. Those desiring may make a contribution to the charity of one's choice. Jim was born July 15, 1924 in Detroit, the son of Michael Joseph and Helen E. (Kelly) Roan. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in WWII and was active in the Michigan Chapter of the 4th Infantry Division Association. Following his time in the service, he earned an Associates Degree in Advertising from Detroit Institute of Technology. Jim held a variety of jobs in the insurance industry before starting his own company investigating insurance claims fraud. Jim enjoyed writing his memoirs. He also delighted in scanning and printing old photos to share with friends and family. Jim was a life-long card player and passed on his enjoyment of playing cards to his grandchildren. Surviving are his wife, Irene; children, Daniel J. Roan, Mary Ann (George) Barbour, James M. (Mary) Roan, Carol Lynn (Jim) Shewe; daughter-in-law, Britta Roan; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Mary Ann Gallagher. Tributes may be shared at [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Sue Ann Marshbanks

1953-2017

Sue Ann Marshbanks - age 64, of Byron, died Friday, July 7, 2017. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Friday, July 14, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad Street, Linden. Rev. Don Neuville officiating. Visitation will be held 2-4 and 5-7 PM Thursday, July 13, 2017. Sue was born June 17, 1953 in Pontiac. She married Richard Marshbanks on July 23, 1990. She retired from General Motors. Sue was a member of the Fenton VFW Auxiliary. She was a great cook and loved being around people and her dog, Jack. Sue is survived by her husband, Richard; children, Jennifer McCollum, Vaughn Boilore, Gerald (Stephanie) Marshbanks, Rick Marshbanks; four grandchildren, Caleb McCollum, Brittany Boilore, Allie Marshbanks and Tyler Marshbanks; mother, Frances Simpson-Rose; siblings, Joni Rispo, Stephanie Brewer, Lori Albright, Chuck Simpson, Mike Simpson, Greg Simpson; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Charles Simpson and mother-in-law, Sara Marshbanks on June 19, 2017. Tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Robert "Bob" Allen Schmuck

1924-2017

Robert "Bob" Allen Schmuck - age 92, of Fenton, died Thursday, July 6, 2017. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Friday, July 14, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Pastor Russ Greenfield officiating. Interment at Colwell Cemetery, Tyrone Township. Visitation will be held from 2-8 PM Thursday, July 13, 2017 with a VFW memorial service being held at 7 PM. Visitation will also be from 10 AM until time of service on Friday at the funeral home. Those desiring may make contributions to the Wounded Warrior Project. Bob was born September 9, 1924, the son of Harry and Lillian (Quay) Schmuck. He married Erma "Ruth" Symons in Grand Blanc on December 30, 1966; she preceded him in death on May 23, 2015. Bob was a WWII Veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in India and China. He worked for General Motors for over 30 years as an accountant, did taxes and also kept books for local businesses until very recently. Bob, along with his best friend and wife of almost 50 years, Ruth, were avid world travelers. He had many adventures to share from sleeping in hammocks in Africa, to riding on the roof of a car, on a couch, down a mountain top. Bob and Ruth generously took their children and spouses on several of their world traveling adventures. He was born and died at the place he loved; his father's place on Foley Rd. He loved to watch and feed the deer, used to talk to all the birds, knew every kind there was, and even had them sitting in his hand. Bob loved collecting rocks, making jewelry, taking lots of pictures and videos. He was always kind and loving to all he met. He is survived by: children, Robert "Stan" (Mary) Lee, Michael "Mick" (Kelley) Lee, Daniel "Dan" (Fran) Schmuck, Becky Harrington; daughter-in-law, Diana Lee; grandchildren, Daniel Lee, Tracy Smith, Randy Lee, Tina Lee, Tammy Brimacombe, Dana Weiland, Tara Lee, Steven Kondel, Kimberly (Glenn) Olinger; numerous great-grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by his parents; son, Jeffrey Lee; brother, Bernard Schmuck; sister-in-law, Lura Schmuck. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page at [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).



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