Happy ending for Harvey Dent

Blind puppy, who suffered severe burns, finds new home

By Hannah Ball
hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792
Fenton Twp. — Harvey Dent, the approximately 9-month-old blind puppy whose previous owner burned, tortured and abandoned him, found his “furever” home and his compelling story now has a happy ending.

Fenton residents Megan and Jacob Pawloski officially adopted Harvey on Tuesday, July 18, at Adopt-A-Pet, three months after he came to the shelter with severe burns on the left side of his body and face, and a wound on his hip.

See HARVEY DENT on 14A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
Megan Pawloski of Fenton stands with her newly adopted puppy, Harvey Dent, just before a Thursday afternoon news conference at Adopt-A-Pet in Fenton.

‘Not my first rodeo...’

A young cowgirl attempts to wrangle a calf at the Gaines Community Rodeo on July 16, which hosted the Flying Star Rodeo. The Little Britches competition took place Saturday and Sunday, and attendees watched the young competitors barrel race, rope calves and participate in other events. According to Gaines Community Rodeo Rodeo Committee Chairman Brian Wendt, Friday night brought in approximately 900 people and the Saturday rodeo drew an audience of approximately 1,600. See story and more photos on Page 16A

‘Not my first rodeo...’

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL
Megan Pawloski of Fenton stands with her newly adopted puppy, Harvey Dent, just before a Thursday afternoon news conference at Adopt-A-Pet in Fenton.

Do you know what you’re actually paying in taxes?

Fenton City property owners are taxed for 21 different line items

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

Does anyone really know what their property taxes pay for?

When the summer and winter tax bills arrive in the mail, there will be a total amount due, but in the city of Fenton for example, that amount does not include a complete itemized breakdown of how much pays for what. Taxpayers in the city of Fenton pay for 21 different millages and special assessments. The actual language on a July 1 tax bill, for example reads, “Amounts with no millage are either special assessments or other charges added to this bill.”

Taxes are calculated based on the

See TAXES on 19A

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE
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COMMMENT OF THE WEEK

The latest scam by thieves is to call the elderly and tell them their granddaughter or grandson is in the hospital from an accident and must have money wired to them right away to get treatment. Everyone should make their parents and grandparents aware of this heinous scheme.

How can you not want to adopt Harvey?

Megan Pawloski
Fenton resident

The King’s lottery article was right on. I had a scratch-off ticket that said “you win all 12 prizes.” When I scratched them off each prize was for $2. Every other ticket has thousands of dollars on them. Total ripoff. I will never buy another lottery ticket.

Fireworks and marijuana are pretty much two of the same things. People are going to buy them regardless of whether they are legal or illegal. Why not make the money off it?

The State Bank is making drive up banking PERSONAL again!

CONNECT! Tellers coming soon!
#comingsoon #banklocal

In the city of Fenton, taxes are paid in the summer (July 1 bill) and in the winter (Dec. 1 bill).
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Fenton
227 Industrial Way
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Monday-Friday: 7:00am-5:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am-2:00pm Sunday: Closed

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www.VicBondSupply.com
Aug. 24 marks 10 years since tornado

Times will take you back to when F2 tornado roared through Fenton area

By Sharon Stone
sstone@cttimes.com; 810-433-6786

Do you remember what you were doing at 5:34 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 24, 2007? To refresh your memory, think about the tornado that plowed its way through the tri-county area, causing a path of destruction in its wake.

Now think back. You’ll probably remember what you were doing, where you were and who you were with. Aug. 24 will mark the 10th anniversary of an F2 tornado. Downtown Fenton and a large area south of Silver Lake Road sustained heavy damage. Numerous houses, commercial and public building received some level of damage. Only minor injuries were reported as a result of the tornado itself.

Much of the area was without power throughout the weekend and numerous power lines were down. I remember where I was. I was at my home, which has large windows overlooking Squaw Lake in Fenton Township. We were eating a snack and getting ready to go to the Lake Fenton football game while watching the Weather Channel. Then we watched as a terrible storm crossed over the lake.

See TORNADO on 7A

Ridesharing companies like Lyft and Uber are changing the way people get rides

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

Whether you need a ride to the airport, transportation to your hotel or a designated driver to get you safely home from a night on the town, all you need is a smartphone app for Uber or Lyft, and a driver can be at your doorstep in a matter of minutes.

Your driver won’t be a taxi cab driver or a bus driver — he or she will be a person just like you, using their own vehicle, who is likely working for Uber or Lyft as a secondary job.

Mike Martin, 40, of Grand Blanc, spends his days working as a driver for a domestic uniform company, and his evenings and weekends driving for Uber. Most of his runs are in Flint or Detroit, bringing people home from the bar. “I made $600 on St. Pat’s Day,” said Martin. He uses his extra earnings, about $8,000 a year, to help with the expenses of his two sons’ travel sports leagues. “You can work as often as you want by turning the app on and off, and you can make good money.”

See RIDES on 7A
This 'n that

- I sure hope the naysayers in Vernon Township don’t end up squashing Project Tim, the secret million-square-foot manufacturing project allegedly being planned there. Sure, it would alter the ‘quality of life.’ That’s inevitable. But how do people know it wouldn’t be an improvement to the quality of life? Last I checked, more jobs and more tax revenue was a good thing in most communities. That’s why most communities bribe companies to locate there.

- I’m not saying there couldn’t be negative consequences to a plant that large suddenly plunked down in the middle of farm fields. But residents ought to at least reserve judgment until they hear more, right? Then again that’s easy for me to say since I don’t live there. But all pro-plant folks face this question or this trade-off at some point. The important thing, I think, is to remove the fear from the process and talk.

- Love the cheek and dagger of trying to figure out what Tim is and why it’s named that. I figure it’s not a manufacturing plant at all. I think it’s an Amazon distribution center. And Tim is the name of Jeff Bezos’s dog or something.

- Sure, the Tigers might have gotten more for J.D. Martinez if they’d waiting until the trade deadline. But they also might have gotten nothing. As much as I love the guy, his contract is up at the end of the season and there is no way – given the gobs of money owed to Verlander, Cabrera and Upton – they could give him a new one. What fans ought to be upset about is the Tigers giving Verlander a super-long deal. You don’t give pitchers long-term deals because they are the aorhds of the baseball world.

- CNN is an awful, awful news network. Their switch to a model of covering three stories, tops, followed by hour after hour of ‘experts’ debating those stories is destroying the line between news and comment. Increasingly, I think people can’t tell the difference. They tell me they heard something on ‘the news’ but what they really heard was someone’s opinion about the news. Whole different animals, people.

- I sure am glad ‘Game of Thrones’ is back on HBO. But I’m warnin’ ya, if it starts getting too grim and too sadistic, I’m outta here. I hid it before and missed a season or two, and I’ll do it again.

- I was a major comic fan as a kid. We had thousands of them. So many, in fact that my older brother opened a comic book shop with them as an adult. So I love superheroes. And yet I haven’t gone to see ‘Wonder Woman,’ which is supposed to be wonderful. And I won’t go see ‘Spider Man. ’ I’m kinda superherooed out, y’know? If Republican President Trump (that’s what I’m calling him from now on – Republicans elected him, so they get to take credit) wanted to make sure Bob Mueller investigates his finances, he couldn’t have done anything better than telling him not to investigate his finances. • If you spend too much time thinking about a thing, you’ll never get it done. - Bruce Lee.

- The guy who tortured that poor puppy is far more of an animal than the poor little dog. Was I praying that someone will come forward and adopt the little fella and show him what love truly is.

- Donald Trump has a 36 percent approval rating. If you were in school and your teacher gave you a 36 percent on an exam, that would be an F.

- Why is court for our criminal cases so crooked? They wasted our money by giving him no punishment and no justice for the dog.

- Mr. Heller, if Kid Rock wins, I guess we’ll just have to roll with it.

- Remember when we sent an inexperienced, incompetent, community organizer to the Senate and the White House? Kid Rock is a very successful musician and smart man. I’ll take Kid Rock over our previous president any day.

- The Reagan Revolution restored America’s patriotism, self-confidence, and economy. Reagan disliked the Democrats and high debt, high regulation, and high spending. Speak the truth for once.

HAVE YOU USED UBER OR LYFT, AND WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE SYSTEM?

“ ‘No, I haven’t, but I think it’s a cool system. It allows people who normally can’t get where they need to be able to get places.”

“ ‘I haven’t. I think there’s a lot of employment opportunities through it. I have all positive thoughts.”

“ ‘I have. I had a good experience. It’s convenient because of the app. It seems like the driver is always in a nice car—they picked me up in a brand new Chrysler.”

“ ‘I have only once. The concept is great, but paying with a credit card was hard because of safety. I feel more comfortable personally with cash instead of a stranger having my card information.”

“ ‘I have never used one, but I have read on it. I don’t like it. The way they pay their drivers is not tax exempt. They have to save all the money from using their vehicles until the IRS comes, and then they have to give them money from their own wages.”

JACOB ANGELOVSKI  
Fenton

JESSI OPPERTHAUSER  
Linden

PAIGE HAWLEY  
Byron

EMILY TWU  
Holly

JOSHUA WILSON  
Grand Blanc
Detroit race riots were 50 years ago today

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

The Detroit Race Riot in Detroit on July 23, 1967 was one of the most violent urban revolts in 100 years. It came in response to police brutality and discriminating conditions that included segregated housing and schools, and rising black unemployment.

Ron and (Fenton City Councilwoman) Pat Lockwood of Fenton are originally from Detroit.

“Ron and I were married in Detroit in January of 1967 and the Detroit riots took place in July of that year,” said Pat.

“My father, grandfather and uncle owned an auto repair, bumps and paint shop business on Warren and 25th, 13 blocks from the location of the start of the riot on 12th Street,” she said. “They spent three days and nights protecting their property with the help of many of the local neighbors and nearby businesses who had grown to respect and befriended them over the years.

“My dad kept in contact with my mom by telephone and described the numerous attempts by looters to break into their business, the constant sound of firearms and fire and smoke and the kindness of locals who brought them food over the three days.

“When the smoke settled after three days, my dad’s business was the only one left untouched, thanks to the protection of their neighbors.”

According to history.com, here is what happened:

In the early morning hours of July 23, 1967, one of the worst riots in U.S. history broke out on 12th Street in the heart of Detroit’s predominantly African-American inner city. By the time it was brought under control four days later by 7,000 National Guard and U.S. Army troops, 43 people were dead, 342 injured, and nearly 1,400 buildings had been burned.

By the summer of 1967, the predominantly African-American neighborhood of Virginia Park was ready to explode. Some 60,000 poor people were crammed into the neighborhood’s 460 acres, living in squalor in divided and subdivided apartments. The Detroit Police Department, which had only about 50 African Americans at the time, was viewed as a white occupying army. The only other whites seen in the neighborhood commuted from the suburbs to run their stores on 12th Street.

At night, 12th Street was a center of Detroit inner-city nightlife, both legal and illegal. At the corner of 12th and Clairmount, William Scott operated an illegal after-hours club on weekends out of the office of the United Community League for Civic Action, a civil rights group. The police vice squad often raided establishments like this on 12th Street, and at 3:35 a.m. on Sunday morning, July 23, they moved against Scott’s club.

See RACE RIOTS on 17A

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FLINT
TORNADO
Continued from Page 3A

It wasn’t too long before we heard that the Lake Fenton game was going to start with just a short delay because of the storm. We never lost power at our home, so we were unaware just how bad things were.

The weather turned beautiful and we watched the entire football game. I don’t recall one game at the game even mentioning a tornado. Naturally, we were hungry after the game and decided to take our kids to Fenton to get some wings. As we drove and got closer to the Owen Road exit from U.S. 23, we realized that there was no power anywhere. This was the time when we realized something really had happened. We came upon roadblocks at every turn and watched in horror as we drove past the damage.

While Fenton, Linden and Holly are not officially Uber- or Lyft-designed cities, residents here can still use the services of nearby drivers in its closest service area of Flint, but the drivers aren’t always as readily available as in larger cities.

“The time of day makes a difference locally,” said Martin. “It’s harder during the day because there aren’t as many drivers available here. It’s a chance you take.”

Both Uber and Lyft are more readily available in Michigan’s larger cities, including Detroit, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Jackson, Lansing, Flint and the tri-city areas of Bay City, Saginaw and Midland.

Martin says he makes several runs to Detroit Metro (Airport), which typically costs a passenger about $75. “I can also accept riders on my way back home,” he said. “The app knows where I am and can find the passengers in need of a ride.”

Ridesharing is typically more affordable than hailing a taxi, but not always. Several apps and websites can help you figure out your best financial advantage, including RideGuru and WhaTheFare, according to Consumer Reports.

One of the huge benefits of ridesharing is that you can pay upfront with PayPal or a credit card, so you don’t have to fumble around finding cash at the last minute.

Tipping is always a big question for ridesharing passengers.

Lyft allows riders to tip either on their app or after the ride, with cash. One percent of tips go to the driver. A tip can be added up to 72 hours after the ride is complete, according to its website.

Uber has always touted itself as a more affordable alternative to hailing a taxi, but not always. Several apps and websites can help you figure out your best financial advantage, including RideGuru and WhaTheFare, according to Consumer Reports.

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Local township ‘hotbed’ for dangerous, invasive plant

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

Rose Township has been dubbed “the hotbed” for a dangerous, invasive plant called pale swallow-wort.

According to Supervisor Diane Scheib-Snider, it first started showing up about 10 years ago. People have been trying to treat it for the past five years. “But this year it is out of control,” said Scheib-Snider.

The supervisor recently visited some Rose Township properties and took some photographs. “It blew my mind looking at it,” she said.

According to the state of Michigan, pale swallow-wort is an herbaceous, twining perennial vine growing up to 7 feet in length. The leaves are shiny medium-green to yellow and oval to heart-shaped with a pointed tip. Also known as a dog-strangling vine, it is an invasive weed that has overcome Rose Township this year.

Pale swallow-wort grows up to 7 feet in length. The leaves are shiny medium-green to yellow and oval to heart-shaped with a pointed tip. Also known as a dog-strangling vine, it is an invasive weed that has overcome Rose Township this year.

The seeds are carried on wind, (like milkweed and cottonwood), or transported by water. The roots are toxic to mammals, including livestock. The plants are toxic to many insect larvae, including monarch caterpillars.

See SWALLOW-WORT on 9A

What you need to know about test driving a vehicle

By Laura Cipielewski
Director of Marketing, Dort Federal

One of the most important parts of buying a vehicle is the test drive. Be sure to follow these tips to help make an informed buying decision.

Your next vehicle should meet the needs you require for your work commute, number of passengers and cargo needs. Think about the number of years you will need to drive the vehicle. Will you need to drive it for three to six years, maybe longer? A proper test drive is the only way to ensure you get the right vehicle.

Complete these tests and ask yourself these questions to evaluate the vehicle before you buy. Take it out on the road:

• Can I feel comfortable in the vehicle? Is there enough leg room? How about headroom?
• Can I move the seat into a position where I can see the road? Can I tilt the wheel for a better fit?
• Can I properly set the rearview and exterior mirrors so I can eliminate blind spots?
• Does the heat, defrost and air-conditioning work properly? How about the windshield wipers? Are the tires in good shape?
• Are the car locks, audio, and alarm systems working properly? Is it easy to preset radio stations?
• Does the vehicle have smartphone or Bluetooth capabilities that I need to test?

Consider the comfort of your passengers. Sit in the passenger and back seats. Is there enough space? This will give you an idea of how easy it is for you or your passengers to get in and out of the vehicle. Are there climate controls and audio systems that you need to test? If you use a child’s car seat, bring it with you to see how easy it is to install and make sure it fits.

Think about the cargo needs you may require. If you want your new vehicle to store your golf clubs bring them with you to the test drive. Do they fit inside the trunk or hatch area? Whatever your storage requirements are, you need to be able to easily load the items.

When you have completed this evaluation, you may discover a problem or service concern that will make you decide the actual test drive might not be worth your while! However, if you had a great pre-road evaluation, then here are tips and items to consider while you are on the road.

• Does the car accelerate as quickly as I would like or expect?
• How do the brakes feel when stopping?
• Is there too much road noise?
• Does the steering feel too tight or lose? How does it handle on turns?
• Is the ride bumpy?
• On a manual transmission, is the clutch take-up light or heavy?
• On an automatic transmission, does it shift through the gears smoothly? Does it allow me to shift on my own or have multiple gear modes?
• Near the end of the test drive, try some of the car’s controls, like the audio system, to see how distracting they are while driving.

Finally, a proper test-drive will take longer than the typical drive around the block. Give yourself adequate time to feel comfortable and confident that you are getting the best-suited vehicle possible for the long term.

The seed pods are milkweed-like and full of flat, brown seeds covered in fine, white hairs, and they are toxic.

of them growing into each other. A child could get hurt, too.”

According to Scheib-Snider, if the swallow-wort invasion in Rose Township isn’t attacked as a whole, it will only get worse and spread more.

“If you treat yours and your neighbor doesn’t, treating yours will have done no good,” said Scheib-Snider.

The seeds are carried on wind, (like milkweed and cottonwood), or transported by water. The roots are toxic to many insect larvae, including monarch caterpillars.

See SWALLOW-WORT on 9A
Linden daycare shut down for multiple violations

Owner can’t operate family childcare facility without hearing

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

A Linden daycare license was summarily suspended on July 13 after investigato-
s found that it violated the Childcare Organizations Act and administrative rules regarding family and group child-
care homes.

The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems is-
üed an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the childcare certificate of registration from the daycare located on Murphy Street. A summary suspension means the operation is shut-
down without a hearing.

Until any charges are filed and an arraignment takes place, the daycare owner’s name is being withheld.

On July 13, the department investigated complaints at the daycare and found mul-
tiple violations. According to LARA, the depart-
ment took emergency action to protect the health, welfare, and safety of children.

The owner is prohibited from operat-
ing a family childcare home at any other address, and may not accept children for care. The owner must inform all the parents of children currently in her care that her certificate of registration has been suspended and that she can no longer provide childcare.

Jason Moon, media contact for LARA, said they cannot share any more details or information at this time.

The owner’s certificate of registration, held since March 1, 1994, was for six children.

According to LARA, Michigan law de-
ﬁnes a group childcare home as a private home in which more than six but not more than 12 minor children are given care and supervision for periods of less than 24 hours a day, unattended by a parent or legal guardian, except children related to an adult member of the family by blood, marriage, or adoption. Group childcare home is defined as a home that gives care to an unrelated minor child for more than four weeks during a calendar year.

The owner has the right to appeal the suspension and revocation.

Construction on Thompson begins Monday

Fenton Township will pay $240,000, for $1.3 million project

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

Part of Thompson Road, from U.S. 23 to Torrey Road, will be closed starting Monday, July 24 as the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) begins con-
struction.

The road will be widened to add a center turn lane. Construction also will include drainage improvements, road construc-
tion and resurfacing.

Eastbound traffic will be able to use the road, meaning drivers can still exit the highway and travel east on Thompson Road.

Westbound traffic will be directed to Torrey Road and Grand Blanc Road for U.S. 23 access, and Torrey Road, Baldwin Road, and Linden Road for Thompson Road access, according to the GCRC.

The commission expects construction to be complete by Oct. 31, 2017, and advises drivers to proceed with caution.

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees approved funding for the project in No-
ember 2016. The township voted to enter into a cost participation agreement with the GCRC. The projected cost is a little over $1.3 million, and the township will not spend over $240,000 on the project.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

— THERE ARE ROBOCALLS being made lo-
cally for a medical alarm. It is a scam. File a complaint at www.michigan.gov/oag. On the website’s left side, under the photo.

☑️ AS THE OWNERS of a Dibbleville store, I have had to clean up vomit on the toilet seat and disgusting splatters in the bowl. I am trying to run a business, not be a jan-
itor. Our restroom will remain closed to the public.

☑️ HAVE A GOOD high? That’s not the point of a medical marijuana facility.

☑️ MY PROBLEM with the whole legal marijuana thing are the growers. Having lived by one, that constant odor is disgust-

ing even with the filters. I have no desire to have that near my backyard again.

☑️ SO, OBAMA USES the UN, diplomacy and multi-national sanctions to get a verifiable halt to Iran’s nuclear program, and that’s bad. Trump uses and alien-
ates friend and foe with puff and puff fake bravado and North Korea does test after test, even larger than the one before and that’s good?

☑️ THE SHOULDERS AND medians of our highways are looking cluttered, overgrown and a little weedy. They could use some attention.

☑️ I THINK SINCe most people disregard stop signs at the ends of their roads, we should put up a sign that says, “turn at your own risk,” and when a person causes an accident because they don’t look, they are at fault and are hauled off to jail.

☑️ WHO’S KIDDING WHO? Obama was involved in the Iran, Brexit, Israeli, Egyptian, French elections, the overthrow of the Libyan government and the overthrow of the elected Ukraine government. The Democrats are concerned about Russian involvement in our election? What a joke.

☑️ I DON’T CARE if you believe in climate change or not, I still don’t want to breathe polluted air. I know too many non-smokers who grew up in the ‘50s, ‘60s and ‘70s with lung cancer, many died, also COPD, and other pulmonary issues.

☑️ Visit Caretel Inns of Linden for a tour.

810.735.9400
202 S. Bridge St • Linden
www.caretelinns.com
We all know that “The D” is slang for Detroit, but there are many words that start with the letter “D” that explain what life in the tri-county area is all about.

From “dogs” (the Koegel breed!) to doughnuts and dancing to disc golfing, we have a variety of foods and fun activities that we can identify with here in our communities.

But let’s look at some “D” words that really exemplify what we’re all about here in our special region of mid-Michigan.

Dibbleville/
downtowns
Fenton’s Dibbleville has come a long way from its earliest years in the mid-1830s when it was named after Clark Dibble, who settled here from New York in 1834. It was Fenton’s original business district and remains adjacent to Fenton’s oldest residential area.

Today, Dibbleville remains the city’s downtown business district, filled with historic buildings from the past with a new vibe of restaurants, boutiques, service businesses and retailers. The Streetscape Project in 2015 created an award-winning area to walk, park, shop and dine.

One of the village of Holly’s economic strengths is its vibrant downtown, 100 percent full of retailers, antique shops and restaurants. It’s a mecca for weekend getaways and weekday business.

Linden’s downtown is filled with retailers and restaurants, and the promise of a newly-built Union Block to be resurrected soon. The original Union Block was destroyed by fire in 2007.

Dog days of summer
The ancient Romans called the hottest, most humid days of summer “dog days,” because they associated these days with the star Sirius. Known as the “Dog Star,” it was the brightest star in the constellation and the Romans thought it radiated extra heat toward Earth.

While these ancient notions are no longer believed, the expression “dog days of summer” remains and usually means the hottest days of summer. They may start anywhere from early July to mid-August and last anywhere from 30 to 61 days.

Dauner-
Martin Nature Preserve
You’ll find this unique Fenton nature preserve at the “intersection” of city and country on Dauner Road, just east of LeRoy Street.

This 155-acre parcel of land for originally purchased in 1863 by Philip Dauner to grow hops for his local brewery. The property was passed down to his great-grandchildren, Robert and Marion Martin, who donated it to the Michigan Nature Association in 1998 to ensure it would remain protected.

Today, this sanctuary offers nearly 4½ miles of trails, diamond-marked for easy navigation, and is open to walkers and hikers. Bring your mosquito spray and appropriate walking shoes for a memorable experience within the city of Fenton.

Drive-in theaters
Double features, talking popcorn and watching a movie with your kids in their pajamas are just a few of the reasons to visit the US 23 Drive-in on Fenton Road in Flint, just 15 minutes north of Fenton. It’s one of the last few remaining drive-in theaters in Michigan, decades after their heyday in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Open seven days a week from Memorial Day through Labor Day, drive-in movies are reminiscent of a simpler time when family members jumped in the station wagon and fell asleep while watching movies and eating popcorn.
Black bear sightings now common in Lower Peninsula

Most often seen getting into garbage cans and bird feeders

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

If you’re planning to travel to the northern area of the Lower Peninsula, you could see a black bear.

According to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the black bear population in that area has increased 29 percent since 2012 and almost 50 percent since 2000.

Holly Vaughn, DNR wildlife communications coordinator, said, “Black bears are usually found a little north of Saginaw County, but not by much. If you draw a line across the state under Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin and Arenac/Bay counties, north of that line is where bears regularly occur. South of that line, bears are not as common, but they do occur.”

Approximately 15,000 to 19,000 black bears, including cubs, roam northern Michigan. Currently, 90 percent live in the Upper Peninsula and the other 10 percent live in the Lower Peninsula, although the population in the Lower Peninsula is increasing.

Because of the population increase, the status of the black bear was elevated from the Lower Peninsula is increasing.

SIGHTINGS IN 2017:
The DNR is the governing body in charge of protecting the species as well as cataloging it.

“Often it is young male bears, about 2 years old, that are looking for hunting and breeding territories of their own. These youngsters usually are just wandering through and then they generally make their way back up to Northern Michigan,” Vaughn said.

A black bear was spotted in Pentwater, which is located in west Michigan, in early June. Another black bear was spotted in Merrill in early June as well.

Both were spotted getting into bird feeders in backyards.

“These young bears are generally nothing to worry about, but it is important to remember not to provide easy food sources for them — put garbage out in bear-safe containers, or put it out the morning of trash pickup, don’t leave pet food outdoors, bring in bird feeders when bears are near,” she said. “When bears get used to easy food sources, they often become nuisances.”

How to deter black bears:
In order to ensure you and your pets won’t be bothered by black bears, you can take these precautions suggested by the DNR.

• Take down all of your bird feeders. Bears constantly roam for food, and will revisit a place if they find food there. If they don’t find any food, they will move on.
• If you see a black bear, never feed it or approach it.
• Keep your garbage in a secure location. Bears will pick through trash to find food, and will return to the same spots if they find any.
• Keep your dog on a leash when letting them outside. Avoid interactions between your dogs and bears as much as possible.
• If you see a bear in your yard, make as much noise as possible. Most bears don’t like being around humans and will move on if they hear loud noises.
• Store grills inside or keep them clean. Bears can smell the remains of whatever meat was cooked on the grill, and it will attract them.
• If you keep honeybees, keep the hive in a secure location.

“Often it is young male bears, about 2 years old, that are looking for hunting and breeding territories of their own.”

Holly Vaughn
Department of Natural Resources wildlife communications coordinator
**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**7489 DENTON HILL RD, FENTON**

**ACREAGE**

**$374,999**

**TODD WARDA**

Beautiful home on over 3 acres, 3843 SF, 3 BDR & 3.5 BA. Spacious kitchen features hardwood floors, great natural light, breakfast nook, lots of cabinet and counter space. Living room offers soaring ceilings and fireplace. Finished walkout basement, 3 car attached garage, large deck, pole barn and more.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**9394 SEYMOUR RD, SWARTZ CREEK**

**ACREAGE**

**$299,900**

**ZACH BOROS**

Beautiful ranch home nestled on 10 acres with pole barn. 9300 SF, 3 BDR & 1.5 BA. Gorgeous kitchen, stunning wood floors continue into formal dining room, living room with exposed beams and floor to ceiling stone fireplace. Large bedrooms, first floor laundry, full basement and more.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**2393 DAVIS ST, FENTON**

**LAKE FENTON**

**$729,000**

**ANDY SELSON**

72 frontage on All Sports Lake Fenton, 5400 SF, 4BDR & 3.5BA. Open floor plan with fantastic views. Kitchen features breakfast nook, granite counters, snack bar, lots of cabinet and counter space. Crown molding, exposed beams, finished walkout and so much more.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**9430 HIGHLAND CT, DAVISON**

**WARWICK HILLS**

**$479,999**

**JL LACHMAN**

Stunning Davison home scoops high end luxury, 2340 SF, 3 BDR & 2.5 BA. Exclusive gourmet kitchen with Italian marble backsplash, custom leather finish granite countertops, high end stainless steel appliances and so much more.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**9337 BRISTOL RD, SWARTZ CREEK**

**SWARTZ CREEK SCHOOLS**

**$139,999**

**RACHEL SIMPSONS**

Cute ranch home on over 1/2 acre, 1361 SF, 3 BDR & 1.5 BA. Spacious living room with great natural light. Large kitchen with dining area, lots of cabinet and counter space. Beautiful sunroom, large bedrooms with hardwood floors. Full basement ready to be finished, 2 car attached garage, storage shed, privacy and more.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**704 CHERRY ST, CLIO**

**CLIO SCHOOLS**

**$119,999**

**JUSTIN HARDY**

1806 SF, 3 BDR & 1.5 BA. Spacious kitchen with lots of cabinet and counter space, formal dining room and living room features fireplace and crown ceilings. Partially finished basement, fenced yard and 2 car attached garage.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**10414 LAKE SHORE, FENTON**

**LAKE FENTON**

**$674,999**

**MINERVA FAHOURY**

JUST LISTED!!!

67’ of frontage on All Sports Lake Fenton. 2086 SF, 4 BDR & 3.5BA. Open floor plan with beautiful flooring throughout the main floor. Great kitchen with granite countertops and island. Great room offers fireplace and spectacular views of the lake. First floor bedroom with private bath. Second floor master suite with stunning views of the lake. Large deck perfect for entertaining, additional lot across the street for parking and 2 car garage.

---

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**21001 MASON ST, FENTON**

**FENTON SCHOOLS**

**$99,999**

**DON BREZNIAU**

646 SF, 2 BDR & 1 BA. This home is cute as can be, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and lots of cabinet and counter space. Living room has great natural light. Remodeled bathroom, freshly painted, new carpet throughout, fenced yard with lots of privacy, great location.
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SALE TIMES

WATCH THE VIDEO AT TCTIMES.COM WITH THIS STORY

USED VEHICLES

YUKON BLOWOUT SALE!!!

HUGE STOCK OF PREOWNED YUKON & YUKON XL'S

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Harvey Dent joined his new home with Megan Pawloski, her husband Jacob, and dog Bailey. Jody Maddock, Adopt-A-Pet executive director (left) was part of the entire process of interviewing candidates and making a selection.

She said they’ve received a few donations to pay for Harvey’s medical expenses, including a $1,000 donation on July 14, the day the Times broke the story.

Harvey’s previous owner, Predrick Derrell Hurt, 44, of Flint, burned him on April 5 and abandoned him. Maddock joked.

He had burns on his head and on the left side of his body. His eyes were so damaged they had to be removed, along with parts of his ears. When found, Harvey had an open gash on his left hip. Maddock previously said it looked like someone sprayed him with lighter fluid and set him on fire.

Harvey no longer needs pain medication or any future medical attention He is as energetic as any other puppy.

Hurt was charged with animal cruelty. He received two years probation and was ordered to pay for Harvey’s medical bills along with over $2,000 for restoration and court fees.
Spotlight on:

CARING TRANSITIONS
OF NORTH OAKLAND COUNTY

• New franchise business in Holly specializes in relocation, moving, downsizing and more

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

Debra Bordeau has spent her entire career as a Doctor of Optometry, with her own private practice, helping people in various stages of vision loss. She has opened her own franchise business, Caring Transitions of North Oakland County, with a desire to help others, while operating a business with integrity and high standards. She resides in Rose Township with her husband, son and five pets.

What are your main products and services?

Caring Transitions offers services including downsizing, organizing, relocation/moving management, clean outs, and liquidation of assets via an estate sale or online auction. We work with people of all ages, specializing in senior relocation and downsizing, and with small businesses.

As a Doctor of Optometry, how do you fit these two careers together?

I’ve enjoyed a rewarding career as the doctor/owner of my private practice, but became very disillusioned with insurance issues and the denial of proper patient care. During my Fellowship in Low Vision at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, I worked extensively with patients in various stages of losing their vision. I learned about the loss and trauma of losing one’s sight, much like the loss many seniors experience as they face the reality of leaving a home they have loved and lived in for many years.

Through Caring Transitions, I can help them through this process with a compassionate approach.

How does Caring Transitions help seniors make life changes?

Today’s seniors are aware of the need to have their finances in order, but rarely have their home and physical assets in order. Unfortunately, this means while a family is grieving, they are also dealing with clearing out a home. This process is often overwhelming, time-consuming, and often leads to resentment and frustration. You can save your family time, money, and frustration by downsizing, decluttering, and organizing in advance. The client can pick and choose what services they need, and when they need it.

Debra Bordeau of Rose Township is the owner of Caring Transitions, which assists individuals experiencing changes in their lives such as downsizing, moving, organizing and liquidating estates.

JULY 24
2005. American cyclist Lance Armstrong wins a record-setting seventh consecutive Tour de France and retires from the sport. After Armstrong survived testicular cancer, his rise to cycling greatness inspired cancer patients and fans around the world. In 2012, he was stripped of his seven Tour titles after being charged with the systematic use of performance-enhancing drugs.

JULY 25
1978. Louise Joy Brown, the world’s first baby to be conceived via in vitro fertilization (IVF) is born at Oldham and District General Hospital in Manchester, England, to parents Lesley and Peter Brown. The healthy baby was delivered shortly before midnight by caesarean section. She weighed in at 5 pounds, 12 ounces.

See LOOKING BACK on 21A

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Choosing the right DENTIST

■ You and your dentist will have a long-term health partnership, so you’ll want to pick wisely

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

Your teeth are meant to last a lifetime, and a partnership with a dentist you trust will help you accomplish that goal. Regular exams and cleanings will also maximize your overall health as your dentist and doctor work with you as health partners.

Everyone has his or her own criteria when it comes to choosing a dentist. Some may seek a family oriented practice while others might look for a hi-tech office with all the latest equipment. Still others might look for a particular specialty, from gentle dentistry to a niche in the cosmetic dentistry field.

Here are several questions to ask as a starting point on the search for a new dentist:

QUESTION #1 – Does the dentist participate in your dental health plan?

QUESTION #2 – What is the dentist’s approach to preventive dentistry?

QUESTION #3 – Where was the dentist educated and trained?

QUESTION #4 – What type of anesthesia does the dentist use for pain management and relaxation during dental treatments?

QUESTION #5 – How are after-hour emergencies handled? Is there another dentist on call?

QUESTION #6 – What are the fees for common procedures like X-rays, oral exams and cleanings, filling a cavity, etc.? What payment plans are available?

QUESTION #7 – What is the office policy on missed appointments?

QUESTION #8 – How often does the dentist attend conferences and continuing education workshops?

QUESTION #9 – Are office hours and location convenient for your schedule?

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Youngest cowboys and cowgirls take the stage

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

Gaines — From July 14 to 16, the Gaines Community Rodeo hosted the Flying Star Rodeo for the third year with a mix of professional rodeo athletes, cowboys and cowgirls.

The annual Gaines rodeo is hosted by the Knight of Columbus Council 12186 of Gaines a not-for profit organization that donates proceeds back to the community and to different community charities.

The professional rodeo featured adults trying to hold on as a horse tried to buck them off, barrel racing, chasing steers, bareback riding, and more. In the Little Britches competition, younger competitors took to the field and did the same events, sometimes at an easier level.

The kids tied goats, raced around barrels and roped calves. Instead of a bull, the youngest competitors rode sheep for as long as they could. The older kids rode steers.

Stephen Maciborski, 11, competed in five different events with his horse, John. He said his favorite is “dally ribbon.” It’s when you have a runner and you have a roper. The roper ropes the calf and dallies, and holds the calf there. There’s a ribbon on the tail of the calf so the runner gets the tail and runs it back.”

He’s been competing in rodeos for six years.

According to Committee Chairman Brian Wendt, Friday night brought in approximately 900 people and the Saturday rodeo drew an audience of approximately 1,600.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

A young cowboy falls off a sheep after trying to hold on as long as possible.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

This is the third year the Gaines Community Rodeo has hosted The Flying Star Rodeo.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

A cowboy gets the rope around the calf’s neck, successfully completely the event. Roping calves is a popular event at rodeos.
Continued from Page 6A

Northern Oak Brewery in Holly opened its doors almost two years ago, and has already established itself as a serious competitor in the world of craft beers.

“We expect our beer production to double in 2017, over 2016,” said Ed Krupa, president.

This weekend, the brewery is participating in the Summer Beer Festival in Ypsilanti, and they’ll be rounding out their summer and fall with events in Ludington, Bay City, the Eastern Market in Detroit, among others.

The goal of the owners of this brewery/eatery is to earn a name for themselves across the state and beyond.

“We’re trying to get our name out there,” said Krupa. “We won a gold medal for our Moustache Stout at the Frankenmuth World Expo of Beer in May.”

Since opening in September, 2015, Northern Oak Brewery has grown and expanded under its current ownership. Three are daily operations managers, including Krupa, Jeff Coon, who is also the brew master and Andrew Stark, vice president and treasurer. Also involved in the business are Richard and Kathy Opatic and Bill and Margo McDaniels.

“Our business is expanding,” said Krupa. “We just picked up our third distributor, Hubert Distributors, which is getting us throughout Oakland County, plus J.P. O’ Sullivan Distributors, who are covering us up to Bay City and Alpena Beverage, from Bay City to Mackinac. We’ve got the eastern side covered.”

248-634-7515
806 N. Saginaw St., Holly

‘DETROIT,’ THE MOVIE

“Detroit” is an upcoming film based on incidents during Detroit’s 1967 12th Street Riot. It is being released on Friday, Aug. 4 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the event.

The so-called 12th Street Riot was reportedly the worst U.S. riot in 100 years.

RACE RIOTS
Continued from Page 6A

That night, the establishment was hosting a party for several veterans, including two servicemen recently returned from Vietnam, and the bar’s patrons were reluctant to leave. Out in the street, a crowd began to gather as police waited for paddy wagons to take the 85 patrons away.

Tensions between area blacks and police were high at the time, partly because of a rumor (later proved to be untrue) that police had shot and killed a black prostitute two days before. Then a rumor began to circulate that the police were being arrested.

An hour passed before the last prisoner was taken away, and by then about 200 onlookers lined the street. A battle crashed into the street. The remaining police ignored it, but more bottles were thrown, including one through the window of a patrol car. The police fled as a riot erupted.

Within an hour, thousands of people had poured out onto the street. Looting began on 12th Street, and some whites had arrived to join in. Around 6:30 a.m., the first fire broke out, and soon much of the street was set ablaze. By midmorning, every police officer and firefighter in Detroit was called to duty. On 12th Street, officers fought to control the mob. Firemen were attacked as they tried to battle the flames.

Detroit Mayor Jerome P. Cavanaugh ordered the National Guard to send in U.S. troops. Nearly 2,000 army paratroopers arrived on Tuesday and began patrolling the street in tanks and armored carriers. Ten more people died that day, and 12 more on Wednesday.

On Thursday, July 27, order was finally restored. More than 7,000 people were arrested during the four days of rioting. A total of 43 were killed. Some 1,700 stores were looted and nearly 1,400 buildings burned, causing $50 million in property damage. Some 5,000 people were left homeless.

What You Missed in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the Wednesday, July 19, Midweek Times. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Chicken shooting plot defendant gets last chance

Judge Joseph Farah lays into parents for ‘having done nothing good’ for their son

Tuber injured in boat accident on Marl Lake

Father of Davison boy ticketed for allowing minor to drive personal watercraft that resulted in a young girl’s injury.
Why victims don’t report sexual assault

YWCA counselor says pressure and legal system are deterrents

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

With the recent buzz surrounding the Bill Cosby sexual assault scandal, one question seems to arise often — why didn’t these women come forward about Cosby assaulting them earlier?

Ann Kita, counseling and outreach coordinator at the YWCA of Greater Flint, said there are a few reasons why someone might not come forward after they’ve been sexually assaulted.

“A lot of victims feel that they are to blame, that they did something wrong,” she said. “They start asking ‘why’ questions to themselves.” These are questions like “why did I go to the party?” or “why did I drink that much?” This way, the blame is placed on them, Kita said.

“It’s that shameful feeling that comes across, like they made that mistake,” she said.

Sexual assault and rape also occurs between people who are together or married. Kita said in this situation, it’s considered domestic violence and the question asked is “who’s going to believe me anyway?”

She said if a woman tells her friends and family that her husband assaulted her, it becomes a battle of “he said, she said.” If that guy is charming and nice around other people, their friends and family might not believe the woman.

Kita said simply telling the story of the assault can be a deterrent to reporting it. “Would you feel comfortable telling a complete stranger and living that over again?” Usuallly, the answer is no,” she said.

It can get even more stressful with the criminal justice system. Only six out of every 1,000 rapists will be incarcerated, according to the Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network (RAINN). Kita said the survivor first has to tell the officer that they were assaulted. Then that officer asks questions and has to obtain detailed information.

“If the criminal justice system is going to prosecute, that complaint goes to a detective. Then the detective has to again ask and they go through an interview,” she said. “That’s retelling the story again to a stranger.”

If the prosecutor decides to take the case, then the prosecutor has to hear the story. Kita said from the time the incident occurs to the time it’s on the prosecutor’s desk, it’s already been maybe five or six months.

“You’re talking half of someone’s year and we’re not even to prosecution yet, we’re not even to trial,” she said. Then during the trial, the survivor has to tell a jury of 12 people that they don’t know a very intimate and private trauma.

“You then get to the defense attorney who is going to do their job minimizing everything,” she said. “It’s humiliating, it’s extremely humiliating.”

The likelihood of not getting a conviction is also a deterrent.

“If you get a good prosecutor, you’re going to get a conviction, but there’s no guarantee. It’s extremely stressful,” she said.

If a victim decides they don’t want to go through all that and testify on the stand, Kita said they have to be respectful as a society and not force them. Kita said it’s not the victim’s job to get their attacker off the street.

It can be even harder to report an assault if the attacker is well known, like Bill Cosby. Kita said when people like basketball players, football players or other celebrities are accused of sexual assault, are accused of rape, there’s a lot of disbelief.

“Society says there’s no way somebody like that could do something like that. But it’s the complete opposite,” she said.

Kita said Cosby was the favorite TV dad and people defended him because of his notoriety.

“It’s those people who have some sort of power or prestige and they are going to utilize that tool to get society on their side,” she said. “Sexual assault, it knows no boundaries.”

Out of every 1,000 rapes...

- Approximately 994 perpetrators will walk free.
- 310 are reported to police.
- 57 reports of rape lead to arrests.
- 11 cases get referred to prosecutors.
- Seven will lead to a felony conviction.
- Six rapists will be incarcerated.

Source: rainn.org
TAXES
Continued from Front Page

The taxable value of your property. The taxable value is approximately 50 percent of the market value. So, if your home is worth about $100,000 on the market, the taxable value would be approximately $50,000. Likewise, if your home is worth $200,000 on the market, the taxable value would be about $100,000.

In the city of Fenton, taxes are paid in the summer (July 1 bill) and in the winter (Dec. 1 bill). The summer bill includes school and other city taxes. According to Fenton’s charter, tax dollars for use by the city cannot be taken from the winter taxes. Properties with a taxable value of $50,000 are levied a total (summer and winter) of $2,074.68 per year. Those with a taxable value of $100,000 are levied a total of $4,149.88 in taxes per year.

That’s on a property owner’s principal residence. If someone owns additional properties, such as vacation homes, rental homes, commercial and industrial properties, that property owner pays not only the taxes on their principal residence, but an additional 18 mills for each additional property. That 18 mills is called the SO tax (school operating tax) and goes directly to the schools.

Eighteen mills represents $900 per year for additional properties with a taxable value of $50,000, and $1,800 for additional properties with a taxable value of $100,000.

The county millages that property owners pay are voter approved. The Genesee District Library millage is among those.

The Genesee District Library (GDL) is a public library system serving the residents of Genesee County, Michigan. The GDL service area covers all communities within the county with the exception of the city of Flint, which is served by the Flint Public Library.

The GDL system consists of 19 locations and includes services such as: Robert T. Bolo Business Center (Grand Blanc-McFarlen) and Talking Book Center Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (Headquarters).

More than one million visits are made annually to the GDL for books, movies, music, technology, and programs. Residents within the service area also have online access to books and music.

Funds are provided through a .99770 mill countywide millage (excluding the city of Flint). The remaining revenue comes from fees and fines, state aid, grants and gifts.

Genesee County seniors also benefit from a countywide millage. The Genesee County Office of Senior Services oversees the senior millage dollars to area senior centers and contracted service providers to ensure quality services and programming for the senior citizens of Genesee County.

There are 15 senior citizen centers located throughout Genesee County. Operations are partially or fully funded with senior millage funds. The annual millage rate for senior services is .70, or $35 per year for a home with a taxable value of $50,000, or $70 for a home with a taxable value of $100,000.

The remaining charges are as follows:

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TAX BREAKDOWN
(1 mill equals $1 for every $1,000 of taxable value.)

- State Education Tax (6 mills)
- School Debt (5.78 mills)
- School Building and Site (.917 mills)
- Genesee Intermediate Operating (4134 mills)
- Genesee Intermediate Vocational Ed (9624 mills)
- Genesee Intermediate Special Ed (2.4068 mills)
- Mott Community College Operating (1.4996 mills)
- Mott Community College Debt (82 mills)
- Genesee County Operating (5.6072 mills)
- City of Fenton Operating (10.3593 mills)
- Genesee County Senior Services (70 mills)
- Genesee County Health Service (1 mill)
- Genesee County Parks and Rec (.75 mills)
- Genesee County Paramedics (.4847 mills)
- Genesee County Veterans (.10 mill)
- MSU Extension (.04 mill)
- Genesee County Animal Control (.20 mills)
- Genesee District Library (.99770)
- Bishop Airport (.4847 mills)
- Southern Lakes Parks and Rec (.3678 mills)
- MTA (1.225 mills)

Source: Data provided by the city of Fenton

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

I WOULD LIKE to say thank you to the kind person who stopped to move the baby deer that was killed and laying in the middle of the road in Linden. It was so heartbreaking to see and I am sure it bothered some children. City of Linden owes you a thank you for doing this job for them.

KID ROCK IS yet another joke candidate who Stabenow will crush like a bug, just like she did to Mike Bouchard and Pete Hoekstra.

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Mike Jarembo, Hearing Care Practitioner, BC-HIS

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**Kids using technology — it comes with a price**

- Too much during early years can harm social skills, hearing, health, eyesight and more

**By Hannah Ball**

hbali@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Technology is a convenient method of keeping your kids entertained, but it comes with a cost.

Smartphones have only been around for approximately a decade and doctors have seen the effects of this technology on children.

Paul Chrenka, M.D. and physician at The Children’s Office in Fenton and Flint, said staring at a screen too much could certainly cause problems in the future.

“Kids used to go out and play, moving around, burning energy using their muscles, and develop hand-eye coordination. Now they’re inside all day, just staring at their phone,” he said.

This causes problems with development. Too much screen time can cause strain, which will cause more eye problems in the future. Listening to too loud of music, usually using headphones, can cause hearing loss.

Chrenka said the American Academy of Pediatrics found that one in six adolescents have high frequency hearing loss because of long exposure to high volumes. Any kind of headphones will make it worse, as will going to concerts too frequently.

“We’re not developing the social skills they should be... It’s more isolating. That’s never happened before in the history of humankind,” he said.

Too much technology causes social and development problems for children because they aren’t getting face-to-face interaction with their friends.

“They’re not developing the social skills they should be,” he said. “It’s more isolating. That’s never happened before in the history of humankind.”

The isolation is a big concern because humans are very social creatures. Chrenka also said there haven’t been enough studies done of how technology has caused an increase in social development disorders, like autism.

Too much technology can also hurt creativity.

“We always say ‘when I was a kid, I didn’t have those devices,’ but when things got boring in summertime, that’s when we got creative,” he said. Being bored forces you to entertain yourself.

Chrenka said it’s not good for development when kids don’t have to entertain themselves.

He said getting less exercise is having a huge impact on children.

“When I was a kid, there was nothing interesting to do in the house. We would go outside and play in the snow and have a snowball fight. We could stay outdoors for hours,” he said. “Instead, kids are playing video games.”

Because kids are spending more time with electronics, childhood obesity rates have risen.

“Too many wrong calories are going in and not enough calories are going out, meaning not enough exercise,” he said.

He said for the first time ever, the lifespan for children is shorter than their parents and that’s because of obesity. “We need to move things in the right direction,” he said.

Using their hands to text and operate their phones a lot throughout the day can also cause issues like carpal tunnel later in life.

“We don’t diagnose a lot of problems with that, but I imagine as they get older, chronically holding their fingers in certain positions is not going to be good for them either,” he said.

At his office, he recommends children have only an hour of screen time a day.

“Certainly you want to be under two hours a day,” he said. “It’s going to be much healthier for them.”

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Meet ‘BONNIE SUE’

• Eggs-traordinary laying hen
• ‘Friends of the Fowl’ member, Fenton chapter

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

Bonnie Sue is a Rhode Island Red laying hen. She lives in a lovely coop in the big backyard of a home in the city of Fenton. She has a hardy temperament and lays about 250 delicious brown eggs every year.

How did you get the name Bonnie Sue?

I am proud to have been named after two of the coolest chicks in the 48430 zip code. They know how to get things done and they don’t care if they ruffle a few feathers.

What came first, the chicken or the egg?

Are you serious? I can’t believe people are still asking, but OK, this age-old question really has a simple answer. If you consult with the Institute for Creation Research (icr.org) you will learn that according to the Creator of chickens (which would be God), and the author of the Record of their origins (which would be the Bible), chickens came first. It was on the Fifth Day of Creation Week that He created “every winged fowl after (their) kind” (Genesis 1:21) complete with the DNA to reproduce that kind. Then He “blessed them, saying, be fruitful, and multiply” (v.22) using that DNA. For the chickens this meant lay chicken eggs. Problem solved. Good grief!

Don’t you need a rooster to lay eggs?

Here we go again! No, we do not. This is a common misconception. A rooster is needed to fertilize the eggs to hatch them into baby chicks. Hens will lay just as many eggs whether there is a rooster around or not. It’s not unlike humans. You need your human “roost-er” to fertilize the eggs that eventually become human babies. I think roosters in general are pretty useless. They’re always crowing about something, they are noisy and always complaining about being hen-pecked. No, thank you.

How do you know which laying hens lay white, brown or other color eggs?

The answer is very simple. White-feathered chickens with white ear lobes tend to lay white eggs, or brown and red-feathered ones with red ear lobes lay brown eggs. This may not apply to all breeds, however.

LOOKING BACK

Continued from Page 15A

JULY 26

1956: Ed Gein, a serial killer famous for skinning human corpses, dies of complications from cancer in a Wisconsin prison at age 77. Gein served as the inspiration for writer Robert Bloch’s character Norman Bates in the 1959 novel “Psycho,” which in 1960 was turned into a film directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

JULY 27

1814: Poet Percy Bysshe Shelley elopes with 17-year-old Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin on this day, despite the fact that he was already married. Shelley and Godwin fled to Europe, marrying after Shelley’s wife committed suicide in 1816. While living in Geneva, the Shelleys and their dear friend Lord Byron challenged each other to write a compelling ghost story. Only Mary Shelley finished hers, later publishing the story as “Frankenstein.”

JULY 28

1976: The so-called “Son of Sam” pulls a gun from a paper bag and fires five shots at Donna Lauria and Jody Valenti of the Bronx while they are sitting in a car, talking. Lauria died and Valenti was seriously wounded in the first in a series of shootings by the serial killer, who terrorized New York City over the course of the next year.

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WEEKEND TIMES

Sunday, July 23, 2017

21A
Mitch is ‘the man’ for Fenton athletics

School’s athletic trainer of 20 years honored at recent awards ceremony

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

Mitch Smelis has been Fenton High School’s athletic trainer for 20 years. He was recently won the Michigan Athletic Training Society’s Secondary Schools Athletic Trainer of the Year award.

Smelis is the first to admit when he came to Fenton he didn’t think he’d be here for 20 years. That’s mainly due to his colleagues and the kids. There were visions of state championship titles and great football playoff victories. That was true for the British Open.

‘Thi—There will be some changes this year when the Lake Fenton varsity football team takes the field in late August.

Lake Fenton — There will be some changes this year when the Lake Fenton varsity football team takes the field in late August.

Led by players like Trent Hillger and Andrew Foerster, the Blue Devils had a strong and experienced squad a season ago. This year, that will change, at least a little bit as a new cycle of Blue Devils get their chance to prove their abilities. And their first chances to do that come during the summer.

The Blue Devils ran a second straight 7-on-7 session with Flushing High School on Tuesday. During it, some of those new faces got a chance to work themselves into a varsity mindset.

Lake Fenton's Ethan Dunkel

Fenton varsity football coach Eric Doyle is not a rookie to the summer scene. He’s been head coach at Lake Fenton for eight years and is in his 13th season overall with the program, so he knows how much the summer sessions truly mean.

“This is a necessary evil,” Doyle said. “It’s fun to get out here and get some things done but to put any stock into it — I don’t.


Times

Sports

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Lake Fenton's Ethan Dunkel

Dave’s Dabblishings

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

Sorry U.K., it’s still the British Open to me

When I was a kid, I was a true sports junkie.

My wife would probably say I still am, but I can honestly say I’m not as bad today as I was when I was in my school years and early 20s. At that time, I would watch just about every single game that was on television for the “big four” sports — baseball, football, basketball and hockey.

I certainly tried to never miss a Detroit sports game for those sports. When the playoffs came for those sports, it was never-ending.

Just like most sports nuts, my enthusiasm didn’t stop there. When it came to the majors for most of the other sports, that was must-watch TV as well. In tennis, that meant all the grand slams. In racing, I would watch the Indy 500 and the Daytona 500 at the very least during the season.

Another one of those sports I loved watching was golf, particularly the majors. Back in the day, we didn’t have a Golf Channel like we do now. Back in 1980 (an example), if I wanted to watch the Bob Hope Desert Classic, it meant watching about two hours of coverage on Saturday and watching the final groups play about six holes on Sunday. I remember hoping for bad weather, so that when the coverage would start, maybe the leaders would be just at the turn or something like that — it meant more coverage.

“I’m appreciative of the support and recognition, but at the same time, I want to support and recognize the people that have helped me along the way,” Smelis said. “It takes a team to do it and I’ve had great support.”

“He’s such an invaluable resource for our kids and for our coaches,” Fenton’s athletic director Mike Bakker said. “He brings flexibility to our program from a sports medicine standpoint. The kids have built a level of trust in him and a confidence in his abilities, and with our coaches as well. It helps make us a complete program because they know that Mitch has his best interest involved, and he’s going to do everything he can to get them back on the field to play. … He’s built that rapport with the kids and coaches, so he can be trusted.”

Smelis at Fenton

Smelis will be the first to admit when he came to Fenton he didn’t think he’d be at his position for 20 years. In fact, the athletic director at that time, Scott Thurlow, thought that would be the case as well.

“When I took the position in 1997 they had gone through three athletic trainers with each being one year (and) done,” Smelis said. “I thought I’d be one and done. Thurlow said he wasn’t going to get to know me because he said I was only going to be here for a year and then be gone. I said I was going to come back and see MITCH on 23A

See MITCH on 23A

Tri-COUNTY TIMES | David Troppens

Mitch Smelis at Fenton

See DABBLINGS on 23A

When I was a kid, I was a true sports junkie.

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One time I really enjoyed golf was during the majors. That’s because when they came, some actually had increased coverage. That was particularly true with the U.S. Open which seemingly allowed you to watch about five hours of coverage on Saturday and Sunday. I loved watching most of the key contenders play most of their round on TV. And to a certain extent that was true for the British Open.

I remember watching the British Open because of the time it was played. Obviously, being held in the UK, that meant the day’s events ended relatively early in the day here in the good ol’ US. I loved the different weather conditions and seeing the links style courses. But more than anything, I probably enjoyed that my favorite golfer, Tom Watson, was pretty
Sarkon, 13 other Linden graduates preparing for college athletics careers

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

Aaron Sarkon is excited about advancing his academic career at Albion College this fall.

The fact he gets to advance his athletic career as a member of the Albion College Britons’ football team is just a huge bonus.

Sarkon was one of 14 Linden athletes who declared their college decisions during a college signing day at the end of the 2016-17 academic school season.

The others were Sterling DeGayner (Cornerstone University), Morgan Fitch (St. Clair Community College), Alia Frederick (Eastern Michigan University), Kim Freitas (Albion College), Jaylen Matney (Calvin College), Emma O’Keefe (Alma College), Maidsion Paige (Anderson University), Emily Pearce (Mott Community College), Danny Pudduck (Cleary University), Ryker River (Mott Community College), Aaron Steedman (Davenport University), Jaylin Steedman (Davenport University) and Maddie Zayan (Davenport University). Half of the athletes were detailed in a previous story. The other seven will be discussed in some detail in today’s story.

Sarkon is one of the many strong starting quarterbacks the Eagles have had since going to a spread offense over the last 15 seasons. Sarkon completed 150-of-242 passes for 2,397 yards and 21 touchdowns during his senior season. He also rushed for 469 yards and 12 TDs.

“It means a lot,” Sarkon said. “I am using Albion as the foundation for my academics, but I’m really happy to go there to play football and continue my passion.”

Sarkon was looking at a lot of Great Lakes Athletic Conference state schools, along with Albion College and Olivet College.

“Albion gave me the best combination of athletics and academics,” Sarkon said. “It was the right choice for me.”

One other Linden graduate is headed to Albion College. Kim Freitas was a four-year varsity performer, playing several positions during her time with the softball team. However, she was best known as a catcher. Freitas batted .306 during her senior year, collecting 11 doubles and a triple among her 59 hits. She helped the Eagles break many school offensive records this spring.

The Fenton/Linden co-op boys lacrosse team is still a young squad, but the program is producing college-bound athletes. This season Jaylen Matney headed to Calvin University and Danny Pudduck is headed to Cleary University to play men’s lacrosse.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

MITCH
Continued from Page 22A
for a year and a day just to prove him wrong. But one year turned into two years and it kept going. The community grew on me. That’s when I met my wife, who is a teacher in the district. Now we live here and our kids are in (Fenton) schools.”

During his time at Fenton, Smelis became the first one to bring concussion testing and monitoring to Genesee County. He also was chosen to be part of a pilot study on concussion management with the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

He’s also certified CPR, First Aid and Basic Life Support instructor with the American Heart Association. And he’s apparently a great mentor as well. The same year Smelis was honored, an ex-student as-sistant, Emilee (Anderson) VanHoven was awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

Smelis continues to enjoy his time at Fenton.

“I’m getting kids from the parents I initially trained as athletes,” Smelis said.

“The trust is there and it helps things move forward. If someone has an injury now we do what it takes to get them back on the field, but we also look at the big picture. We want to make them productive members of the community down the line. There are the old people who are out there that talk about their ‘trick’ knee from an ACL they suffered on a game-winning touchdown. We try to make sure we are not setting them up for future problems by just looking at short-term goals, but the long-term goals as well.”

DABBINGS
Continued from Page 22A
... darn good on links courses, meaning if he didn’t win the British Open (he won five of them), he usually was in contention.

But, to me, the British Open was just that, in back in the day, the British Open. We all called it that. Now, over the last 10 or 15 years, there seems to be this push to call it The Open, particularly from our friends on the other side of the pond.

Okay, I get it. It is the oldest tournament in golf history and at the time it was called ‘The Open’ since there was no other national tournament it had to distinguish itself from. But even as early as 1900 there are references as it being the ‘English’ open, and eventually the British Open. For about 40 years of my life I was able to call it that without feeling the shivers of UK golf enthusiasts too worried about it. But now, calling it the British Open to the wrong crowd probably could result in worse arguments than those between Democrats and Republicans discussing the 2016 presidential election.

And now we are seeing the same thing with Wimbledon with it being called simply, ‘The Championships.’ It seems the United Kingdom, and specifically England, is suffering from an inferiority complex.

We appreciate the history of the British Open. We appreciate it and recognize it is one of golf’s greatest treasures to win. That in itself makes it special. So relax if you read in a message board some stupid Yankee calling it the British Open. You will survive.