## Injured bald eagle takes flight again

Young bird rescued by resident, rehabilitated over the summer

## **By Tim Jagielo**

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 **Fenton Twp.** — It took less than three seconds, and she was out like a rocket. A small crowd gathered on the property of

Tom and Janet Day on Saturday, Aug. 5, to watch a young bald eagle take flight again. The bald eagle had undergone two months of rehabilitation following an injury. See BALD EAGLE on 9



2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

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# Midweek Times WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017

/OL. 24 NO. XXXI

IMAGE COURTESY O BECKY WILLIAMS

## **Hypnotherapist** facing two more accusers

Preliminary exams on criminal sexual conduct cases set for Aug. 22

## **By Sharon Stone**

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 Probable cause hearings were held on Thursday, Aug. 3 for a local hypnotherapist charged with criminal sexual conduct toward patients under his care.

In May, Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton charged John Tomlinson, 65, of Flint with three felony counts related to an alleged sexual assault of a 48-yearold patient under his care.

He was arraigned May 3 on one count of firstdegree criminal sexual conduct, one count of unlawful imprisonment, and one count of assault by strangulation related to an See ACCUSERS on 10



John Tomlinson

## National Night Out strengthens police, community partnerships



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Sawyer Tafoya, 7, climbs onto Lt. Richard Cronkright's motorcycle at the inaugural National Night Out in Linden on Tuesday, Aug. 1. His brother, Maverik, 5, covers his ears as the siren blares. Cronkright is with the Genesee County Sheriff's Office and joined 50 other police and emergency personnel in meeting 1,500 members of the community to teach them about what police, fire and paramedics do. See story on Page 8

## 16-year-old murder suspect to appear in court

hearing on the results of

his competency exam.

Ahmed Akl of Fenton

Township will appear

Abdurrahman (Abdu)

## Competency evaluation results to be reviewed

**By Hannah Ball** hball@tctimes.com

The 16-year-old accused of fatally shooting his 18-year-old friend in the back of the head will be in court Wednesday, Aug. 9 for a review



**C** To the individual complaining about the gravel pit. Why are you home all day long watching the trucks?



Why complain about a business owner who is out working at 6 a.m. to make a living? He's

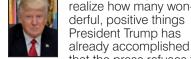
paying into Social Security, which is fair to say you collect since you're home all day long."

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** 

FILE PHOTO Abdurrahman Akl of Fenton Township stands in court on March 23 with his attorney Frank Manley (left). He has been charged with ooting an 18-year-old in the back of the head.



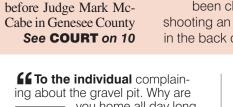
networks and you will realize how many won-



that the press refuses to acknowledge. Believing what you hear on biased TV news is an insult to your intelligence."



**L** President Obama, the best president we ever had, was dissed, trashed and lied about for eight long years, so I don't want to hear any whining about Trump not getting a fair shake."



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# **Building an island life**

■ Mackinac Island is yearround vacation home for one Fenton family

## **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Gail Strayer of Fenton found an ad in a newspaper in 1992, advertising a house for rent on Mackinac Island.

Both her family and her husband John's family decided to try a summer vacation on the island, and one week turned in to two and pretty soon, both families were sharing a month's time, letting "island time" soak in with each visit.

"There's not another summer resort like it," said John, 60. "It's one of the premiere ones in the world. You don't get the full sense of it if you just come for the day. It can be busy, confusing, crowded and congested. But if you stay overnight, the place is just magical."

When their landlord could no longer rent out his place, John's dad, Harold, bought a lot on the island in 2000, so his family could continue their Mackinac tradition.

Behind Grand Hotel's "back nine" on the bluffs overlooking the Straits of Mackinac, the hilly lot was transformed into a picturesque Victorian home named Mary's Way, after John's mother, Mary. She had designed the entire four-bedroom house, looking forward to family gatherings in a large dining room, with covered porches to the front, back and side.

"They have to be built Victorian style," said John. "The heat also has to be electric. There's no A/C, just open the windows. Basements can be made of wood. A company in Holly made ours."

While Mary lived through the laborious yearlong island building process, she died unexpectedly in 2001, before ever having a chance to stay there. Now her final resting place is on Mackinac Island, where she cherished so much family time.

Building a home on Mackinac Island is a challenge, especially when you think about the logistics of building a house on a vehicle-less island.

"It's not an easy thing to do," said John, recalling the process of building the home in sections, with all the materials being lugged up the hill that leads to the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

John and Gail Strayer is one Fenton couple living out their vacation dream by sharing a family home on Mackinac Island.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO John and Gail Strayer's family spends long weekends enjoying life on Mackinac Island.

**4** You don't get the full sense of it if you just come for the day...But if you stay overnight, the place is just magical. 77 **John Strayer** 

Co-owner of vacation home on Mackinac Island

Grand Hotel and beyond, on the back of a horse-drawn wagon.

"First, the materials have to be driven by truck to the mainland, then loaded onto a barge to get to the island," said John. "Every section has to be unloaded, then loaded onto a horse-drawn wagon and driven 2.3 miles up to the bluffs by horse."

John and Gail now share vacation time on the island with John's siblings, Doug and Carol, plus many nieces and nephews. Harold Strayer is now 90, and uses an electric scooter to get around. Electric scooters are allowed on the island, with a doctor's prescription.

John and Gail's family includes adult children, Allison, 22 and Noah, 24. They've grown up going to Mackinac Island throughout the year, not just in the summer. "We go up for long weekends up to a couple of weeks at a time," said John.

If you're not staying at the Grand Hotel, which provides a carriage taxi from the docks to the hotel, just how do you navigate the 2.3-miles mostly uphill to a private residence like Mary's Way?

See MACKINAC on 7

Have you tried Mexican

Fans rave about taste, believe it to be healthier

### **By Vera Hogan**

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 Diehard Coca-Cola drinkers may find it curious that there is actually a beverage called Mexican Coke, and that a big sector of the population actually prefers it over regular Coke.

According to smithsonianmag. com, Mexican Coke looks like the same brown frizzy beverage in the classic Coca-Cola bottle, but with one difference. It is also sold in smaller bottles and has been said to be more "natural tasting."

Coca-Cola that is made in Mexico contains cane sugar rather than high-fructose corn syrup, which has been linked to many major health problems, including diabetes.

Those who keep up on the latest trends and restaurants they patronize See COKE on 9



HTTP://BAKEANDDESTROY.NET/ "Hecho en Mexico" means "Made In Mexico." This sparkling beverage is said to be more natural tasting. The only difference is that Mexican Coke is made with cane sugar instead of fructose.





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### 4 Wednesday, August 9, 2017

**MIDWEEK TIMES** 

## If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

## 'It's summertime and the livin' is easy'

here are 323 hit songs that contain the word 'summer' in the title.

And why not? Is there any better time in Michigan than 'summertime, when the livin' is easy?'

When I was a kid, we vacationed for two glorious weeks each year at a resort on Lake Huron in northern Michigan. The last two weeks of July that we spent up there each summer for

20 years were the basis for the most cherished memories of my childhood.

A dozen families from all over the Midwest would converge on the resort the same two weeks each year, with



FOSTER CHILDS

station wagons disgorging dozens of kids who all knew each other from past years. We luxuriated in the joy of those two weeks, with adults and children alike leaving the urgencies of work and school behind to bask daily in the resort atmosphere of swimming, playing euchre, cribbage and shuffleboard or just lying on the beach with a good book.

But today such idealistic sojourns are rarely enjoyed by either kids or adults due to the curse of the worst invention in the history of mankind — the cell phone.

Beach volleyball, building castles in the sand and even swimming are now secondary to these addictive digital devices. Mothers who used to lay quietly, resting in the sun while their offspring played, now compulsively check their phones for texts and/or Facebook alerts, while taking selfies to assure friends and strangers, as well as themselves, that they are having a great time.

Brooding teens that in years past would become children again for two weeks now sit sullenly and alone, on the sidelines, obsessively checking their 'device' every 20-30 seconds to ensure they are not missing an LOL, OMG or WTF.

Cell phones, social media and technological advances are ruining our

Compiled by Crystal Schupbach, intern

children's face-to-face communication skills and are creating a generation of 'cell phone zombies.' It is accepted practice today to be looking at your cell phone obsessively under any circumstances. It wouldn't surprise me to one day see a photo of a wedding with a bride looking at her cell while saying, "I do" to her about-to-be husband.

So, what can society do about this issue? Well, actually nothing. The 1985 book "Amusing Ourselves to Death," foresaw this phenomenon when the author, Neil Postman, wrote that in the future "facts will push other facts into, and then out of, our consciousness at speeds that neither permit nor require evaluation."

He feared the future described in Aldous Huxley's brilliant and predictive book Brave New World, where people would come to "adore the technologies that undo their capacities to think."

With every new technological innovation, there comes a hope that it will make the world a better place. Can't say that about the cell phone yet. I believe it's done far more harm than it has good.

But hey, who cares — 'it's 'summertime, and the livin' is easy.' WGAS.

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.

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

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

**DOES TRUMP EVER** work? He spends half the night watching TV so he can Twitter. Just about every weekend, he is playing golf. Now he is about to leave on a 17-day vacation.

**COMPARING THINGS PROVEN** to be wrong, such as a flat earth and the sun revolving around it, to something unproven, like evolution, is comparing apples to oranges.

**THE FENTON KIWANIS** 'Safety Town,' was super, the guest presenters from several community essential service organizations presented material that the young people attending enjoyed immensely.

A SCIENTIFIC THEORY isn't the same as the non-scientific definition of a theory. Please, enlighten us all as to what that's supposed to mean? Gravity happens to be a theory proven true, while evolution is a theory, which has not. Where is the missing link?

I FOUND THE article written by The King on transgender military service very true and to the point. For anyone not in the service and not having to have dealt with any of this, their comments mean nothing. If you haven't served, you don't know anything about the service and what it entails.

RICK SNYDER IS the worst governor Michigan has ever had. Jennifer Gran-

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holm never got anyone killed.

LET'S SEE, NORTH Korea has a nuke pointed at us, China won't help, Japan doesn't trust us. Syria is in Russia's pocket. Iran is in bed with Russia. We are the most hated country now.

## **SO TELL ME** does that 2-year-old

niece of yours have any duties or pressures on her? Or is she coddled and loved upon by everyone? The comparison to President Trump was absolutely incomprehensible. You should be ashamed of yourself.

THERE ARE TOO many people who think they can drive and talk on their phones who cannot. There are too many who are too stupid to realize texting and driving is deadly. I will never understand the obsession with the cell phone. Turn it off.

**FENTON DPW, AMAZING** that you would put a picture of your workers in an excavation in the paper without any appropriate safety and health practices in place.

ALL DEMOCRATS AND liberals who voted for Hillary and are invested in the stock market should be rejoicing that Trump won as we have had nine continuous months of the Trump bump in the stock market and the lowest unemployment numbers in five years.

## I JUST LAUGH at the evolution

denier Hot lines. I bet the writers still believe the earth is flat too.

how astronomers were still trying to measure the size of the sun. Without accurate measurements of the sun's size and fluctuations, it is impossible to understand earth's climate.

## WHEN DISCUSSING SCIENTIFIC

facts, such as evolution, it is important to remember the limitations of science. Science can only tell us what happened, not why it happened.

A LONG TIME ago, we learned in grade school there were several ice ages during which Michigan was covered by glaciers. I would like to know what the climate was like during the warm periods between the glaciers. The earth's climate seems to have cycles thousands of years long.

## **NEWS FLASH! THE** stock market at

record highs, unemployment lowest in years, record company profits, millions of illegals deported — year 2016. Obama started the good news, hopefully Trump will let it continue.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

## Do you prefer Coke or Pepsi? Why?



"Coke, because Pepsi tastes like soap. The best Coke is from the fountain in McDonald's."

> **Terrie Fisher** *Fenton*



"Coke, because it pays my bills and because Pepsi tastes flat, of course."

> Marie Pratt Flushing



"Coke. The main reason is that my mom works for Coke so we get good deals."



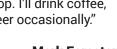
"Neither one. I eat only healthy foods."

Chuck Mason Holly

# streettalk



"Neither. I just don't prefer to drink pop. I'll drink coffee, wine or beer occasionally."



Mark Forester Fenton

## - FENTON RESIDENTS -**City wants samples of water** from 20 qualifying homes

## Will give \$30 Visa card as incentive

## By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 The city of Fenton will be looking for 20 residents willing to help the city with phase 12 of the lead and copper testing program — and will provide a small compensation by way of a \$30 Visa gift card.

At its Monday, Aug. 7 work session, the Fenton City Council voted 4 to 3 to approve the gift card incentive. Council members Dave McDermott, Pat Lockwood and Cherie Smith voted against it, claiming doing so would set a precedent of paying people to do things like this.

The 20 homes must be deemed Tier 1 sites, meaning with the most potential to leach lead or copper into the tap water of the homes.

Water Department Supervisor Stephen Guy addressed the Fenton City Council telling officials that volunteers for the testing program are coming up short.

Guy said the program requires participating residents to take the samples from a kitchen or bathroom faucet that is commonly used for drinking water that does not run through a home treatment device like a water softener.

"The samples must be a first draw sample after six hours of inactivity," said Guy.

For this phase of texting, Guy said the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is requiring communities to meet with residents prior to sampling and train them on sampling techniques, verify the materials in their home plumbing and fill out a survey after the testing is complete.

Since phase one of the program in 1992, Guy said there have been approximately 60 different homeowners that have assisted the city with the monitoring.

"Letters were sent out in June of this year to the residents that were used for phase 11 testing," he said. "We have received limited responses back at this time and the deadline of Sept. 30 is fast approaching."

So far, there are only three confirmed testing sites for phase 12.

"Since the inception of the lead and copper rule in the early 1990s, it has always been challenging for communities to gather samples due to the inconvenience to homeowners who do the sampling," said Guy.

"The residents that Fenton has used have been gracious enough to help the city in meeting its monitoring requirements. At the end of the monitoring period, the residents receive the test results in a letter from the city thanking them for their cooperation," he said.

Because of the current difficulty getting residents to volunteer their homes for the testing, Guy suggested offering a small compensation for those who are chosen to participate.

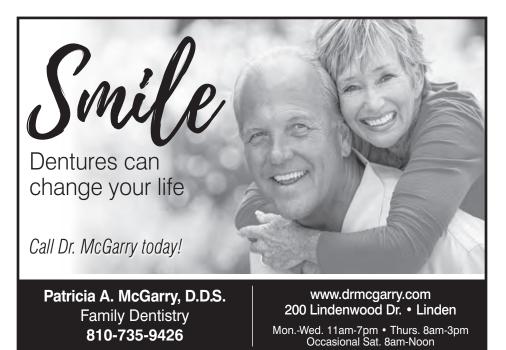
"I would request to offer a \$30 Visa gift card to the 20 residents that are willing to help the city with monitoring for the lead and copper program each monitoring period," said Guy.

For sampling to be effective, the same sites should be used every period so that a history of the site is built, he added.

## News briefs

### 324 W. CAROLINE ST. IN **FENTON IS COMING DOWN**

At its Monday, Aug. 7 work session, the Fenton City Council voted unanimously to demolish 324 W. Caroline St. According to City Manager Lynn Markland, issues with the property are completed and the city took title to the property on Aug. 2. With this demolition project, there is a substantial amount of asbestos abatement work, the basement will need to be pumped out, and after the basement is excavated, the area will need to be backfilled. Milford Salvage Iron & Metal Company, Inc. will do the work for \$19,910. Recent options submitted to the city through the Genesee County Treasurer's Office and Land Bank Authority were considered. Markland said these options create either substantial delays in time or do not provide substantive benefit in cost reduction with demolishing the blighted property.



Chemicals in lake cause debate

The last five

years of water

treatment has

improved my area

of the lake 100

percent. 77

**Sharon Schafer** 

Crane Lake property owner

## By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton Twp. — The Fenton Township Board of Trustees heard from impassioned residents with homes on Crane Lake about continuing a special assessment district to pay for weed control in the lake.

The residents in attendance were divided on whether they wanted chemicals put in the lake to kill the weeds. A special assessment district was created five years ago and the lake has been treated every year since.

Sharon Schafer, past president of the Crane Lake Association, submitted an informal petition supporting

the renewal of the existing program with 15 of the 42 properties in the district. She brought four other signatures in support.

"The last five years of water treatment has improved my area of the lake 100 percent. Lily pads and milfoil were choking my waterfront. Today it is open and navigable. I ask you to renew the lake improvement special as-

sessment for another five years," she said. Charles Davis has lived on the lake for

53 years. "Five years ago it was almost impossible to get in and out of my dock because of the milfoil," he said. He added that the treatment corrected the problem. Kathleen Lage, who's lived on the lake

since 1988, spoke against the special assessment district.

"My thought was it would come up to be discussed as a lake association. Instead what I discovered was that on July 17 a peti-

tion was circulated and it was not shown to or given to perhaps any of the people who raised a question," she said. "We have families who don't play together anymore because of what happened five years ago. That's not how a lake association should operate."

Other residents said they haven't seen any improvements in the past five years, and they expressed concerns over using their taxes to pay for it. One resident spoke in favor of the chemical treatments, partly because he lost a family member who drowned because they got tangled in weeds. According to the township, the cost of the

assessment is estimated to total \$32,893.98 spread over five years. Each resident would pay approximately \$160 per year.

After listening to the residents speak for and against weed control, Treasurer John Tucker said he would prefer that the board wait to see if the residents still want a special assessment district.

Attorney Jack Belzer said if 20 percent of the residents oppose it, then 50 percent of residents must sign a petition or express to the township that they support it.

"I think we should probably figure out what the rules are here," Tucker said. "My view is to do what the property owners want done."

Tucker made a motion to continue the public hearing during the next meeting on Monday, Aug. 21. Belzer suggested the residents submit another formal petition with the correct number of signatures.

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## **'Kidney camp'** hits its mark

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO (Top) Camp Copneconic counselor Olivia Manganello assists Kasima Marrell, 11, of Port Huron with archery on Wednesday July 26. (At right) Sadie Sarters, 11, of Linden (right) and Rayne Piechowski, 12, of Flint make crafts. These campers were part of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan Camp, which sponsored 24 children with kidney disease to attend camp for a week.



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## **Rev up for Back to the Bricks tune-up parties**

Downtown Linden and Fenton host cruisin' classic cars, live music and more this week

## **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 You won't want to miss the fun and excitement in Linden and Fenton as they rev up their engines for Back to the Bricks tune-up parties this week on Aug.

9 and 10. Classic cars will be cruising through downtown Linden on Wednesday, from 4 to 8 p.m., sponsored by the Linden DDA. Street closures

downtown will begin at 1 p.m. Downtown Fenton will come alive with classic cars on Thursday, Aug. 10, from 4 to 8 p.m., sponsored by the Fenton DDA. Street closures downtown will start at 12 p.m. (see sidebar for

Watch for the ex-

details).

SUMMARY Linden and Fenton will host tune-up parties this week on Aug. 9 and 10, respectively, in preparation for Back to the Bricks Car Show and events taking place Aug. 15-19 in Flint

citement of classic cars, a 1950s-'60s-'70s theme, live music and dancing in the streets, concessions, vendors and more. Farmers markets and outdoor concerts will also be taking place as regularly scheduled in Linden and Fenton.

Linden and Fenton join Clio, Davison, Swartz Creek, Mt. Morris/Beecher in hosting tune-up events. Both Linden and Fenton events are being coordinated by Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation.

Both of these tune-up events are in preparation for Flint's popular Back to the Bricks Car Show, Aug. 15-19, with a kick-off "Bricks Flicks" event on Tuesday, Aug. 15 at the US23 Drive-in on Fenton Road with the showing of the 1981 movie, "The Cannonball Run."

Rolling cruises through the week and other events will be highlighted by the huge car show in Flint on Saturday, Aug. 19 at the University of Michigan-Flint parking lot, opening to parked classic cars at 6 a.m.

For more information, visit Backtothebricks.org.

## **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

CHALLENGE. PLEASE REFER me to any science source that has ever said that evolution means that man has evolved from ape. For those who reject evolution, may I suggest that the world is flat.

FENTON ORCHARD RESIDENTS really need to re-evaluate their speed.

THE COMMENT OF the week in Wednesday's edition was a great observation. I think both the Democratic and Republican parties are self-serving outdated entities that are in need of replacement by fresh thinking about today's issues. It just about 'the party' anymore. We need to toss out 'politics as usual' and work together.

### 

THANK YOU, LINDEN flower lady. You put so much effort into the beautification of our city. Thanks for tending the flowers, the weeds and the litter. We are blessed by you.

## 

THERE APPEARS TO be confusion with the Thompson Road construction. I've seen multiple people going the wrong way or driving in the dirt construction zone attempting to go westbound to get to U.S.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Jim Mindhoff of Mundy Township had 200 to 300 vintage license plates for sale at Linden's Tune-up Car Cruise in 2016. Downtown Linden drew approximately 3,000 visitors to look at the 420 cars.

## **FENTON ROAD CLOSURES** THIS THURSDAY, EVENT PARKING **PASSES REQUIRED**

• On Thursday, Aug. 10, from 12 to 8 p.m., several streets in downtown Fenton will be closed for the Back to the Bricks event. The closures will include LeRoy Street from Elizabeth to Silver Lake Road, W. Shiawassee Avenue from Adelaide to LeRoy and Caroline Street from LeRoy to the Shiawassee River.

• An event (parking) pass is required for vehicles within the venue area. Event passes are being distributed at the Fenton High School north parking lot beginning this Thursday at 12 p.m. All vehicles parked curbside in the closure area need to be removed Thursday prior to 12 p.m. Since a parking pass is required for this event, Fenton police are requesting that no one park their classic car in the venue area prior to the official start time of 2 p.m.

23. It's like there needs to be a sign that says closed to thru traffic or something. 

IF YOU DON'T like the prices at the gas station at I-75, open one up with lower prices.

DITCH HEALTH INSURANCE? Absolutely. Watch costs drop. No more middleman.

THIS MORNING, WEST Virginia's gov-ernor is switching from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party. He said the Republican Party has more to offer the people of West Virginia. This now brings the tally to 34 states with Republicans as gον

SO GOOD HEALTH care will come from corporate America? Scary.

ALL THE ECONOMIC improvement? How many is it really reaching and helping? Trump has no legislative anything. 

IF YOU WONDER why there are still apes, maybe if you picked up a book and read every once in a while besides watching Limbaugh and reading the King, you wouldn't be as stupid and you would evolve.

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## MACKINAC

Continued from Page 3

One thing is for sure — you pack lightly. "If we bring our bikes, we can ride them and carry a back pack, or if we have a lot of stuff, we can contact Mackinac Island Service Company, or rent a horsedrawn taxi," said John. "Sometimes, we just walk it. It's one of the most beautiful walks in the world."

For groceries, island residents usually shop at the downtown market, Doud's, or order from grocery stores on the mainland and have it shipped over by ferry.

Even if your summer vacation plans are dwindling, fall also is a beautiful time of year to visit Mackinac Island.

"In the late fall/early winter it's a bit like an abandoned movie set," said John. "Doud's stays open all year, along with one or two hotels and bars, otherwise the shops are closed. Christmas is nice, too. A lot of the shops will re-open for a couple of weeks during the holidays."

## Building a home on Mackinac Island has its challenges

While Mackinac Island is at the height of its tourist season in the summer, home construction doesn't even begin to take place until the first of November, according to Dennis Dombrowski, city engineer/building inspector for Mackinac Island.

This practice avoids construction disruptions while visitors are enjoying the summer season on the island.

"The majority of construction takes place between Nov. 1 and May 1," he said. "That means contractors have to learn to tent and heat their building site, another factor adding to the cost of building on the island."

The other challenges include the limited time available for building.

"That's especially true where the Strayers live," said Dombrowski. "Their property is a site condo association with strict rules for building, because the property is located right next to the Grand Hotel Golf Course."

It's also very expensive to bring heavy cement blocks over from the mainland to the island. "On the mainland, the price of the blocks includes delivery to the building site," said Dombrowski. "On the island, it's only to the boat dock, then they have to be hauled across by ferry, then taken by dray (horse carriage) to the site."

For these reasons, building a home on Mackinac Island costs about two and a half to three times the amount as building on the mainland.

"The building codes are the same, but the costs are much higher," he added. "The lumberyard is 'across the pond,' not on the island. A contractor working on the island has to know how to plan very well."

## Mackinac Island...at a glance

• Year 'round population: 500

• Most residents live in Harrisonville in the center of the island. Others live downtown, at Stonecliffe, Woodbluff and British Landing.

- Horse population: 500
- Number of tourists: 15,000 per day at peak season
- Median home value: \$440,022
- 18 percent of the total are worth

\$1.5 million to \$2 million and another 18 percent are valued at \$2 million or more.



### GENESEE COUNTY'S SPECIALTY COURTS — PART I

For those who are in our court and justice system it is a wellknown fact that the law is always evolving. Indeed, in certain areas what was the law yesterday may not be the law today.

From a pragmatic standpoint, changes in the law are normally good because one of the goals of the law is to make society a better place to live and things can always be improved.

One example of this that I have seen since I first became a lawyer is the advent of what are generically called "Specialty Courts." These are courts cover a wide spectrum of various problems and issues that both criminal defendants and their families experience. They are designed, as former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly once said, to address an individual's underlying social, medical and psychological problems that land them in court over and over again in a neverending cycle.

As the name implies, a judge and lawyers are involved in these courts and actual court sessions are held to address the specific cases of the individual defendants.

These courts are a fairly recent development with the first one getting its start in 1989 as a "Drug Court" in Miami, Florida. Since then, the number of specialty courts has increased almost exponentially.

Genesee County is a leader in the State of Michigan with the implementation of a wide variety of these courts.

Not all defendants are eligible for participation. Some of the courts are designed to help the families (especially the children) of those who find themselves in trouble with the law.

I would dare say that most people aren't aware of the breadth and scope of our Genesee County Specialty Courts. As to the legal areas we presently have the following: (1) Adult Felony Drug Court

(1) Adult Feloliy Diu

(2) Juvenile Drug Court(3) Family Dependency Drug

Court

- (4) Urban Initiative Drug Court
- (5) Mental Health Court(6) Juvenile Mental Health Court

(7) Veterans Treatment Court(8) Infant and Toddler Treatment

- Court (9) Girls Court
- (10) Truancy Court
- (11) Sobriety Court

These courts require a great deal of dedication and hard work by the judges, lawyers and court staffs involved.

In next week's column I will provide more detail as to what each of these courts do.

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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

THERE SHOULD BE no conflict between evolution and religion. If God created us through evolution, that is even more remarkable than the seven-day biblical version.

YOU KNOW WHAT they called the time when the churches ruled the sciences and all knowledge? They were called the Dark Ages.

IT'S AMAZING HOW many people in this town profess to be as ignorant as Foster Childs.

I HAVE LIVED on Loon Lake for over 40 years and I have never seen the lake so low. Last fall when the water was high, if everyone had let nature take its course the water would be a lot higher right now. It's down two feet. Put the drain back where it was and let nature do its job.

**I WOULD TELL** you to get off your science journal and read your Bible, but obviously you don't possess one. You're in for a rude awakening, my friend.

I DON'T CARE if Donald Trump tweets, I don't care if he swears, I don't care if he talks bad sometimes. He's doing a good job, he's getting the economy going, he's getting fair trade deals, he's stopping illegal immigrants. His party behind him is not helping him very much. They'll face it in the next election. They should.

I LOOKED AT the oaths of office for local state and federal positions and nowhere does it say allegiance to the Democratic or Republican Party.

JUST A LITTLE bit of spice makes it nice.

I DIDN'T THINK we were the only ones to hold a Hot line party for all the friends to get together and come up with other Hot lines. It's particularly interesting based on the choice of beverage.



### Leftover CDBG funds going toward sidewalk ramps The sidewalk ramps on W.

Shiawassee Avenue at George Street, S. West Street, Davis Street and Colfax Street in Fenton could be improved, according to ADA (American Disabilities Act) standards, using CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds. The cost to do so just dot a little boost from CDBG funds leftover from the 206 E. Caroline St. demolition project. According to City Manager Lynn Markland, the total CDBG grant to tear down the E. Caroline Street house was for \$31,475. However. the bid came in at \$27,425. With the project now completed, there is a remainder of \$4,050 to use on another approved CDBG project. Genesee County is recommending that the city transfer the money left over from the demolition project to the ADA sidewalk ramps. With the transfer, the additional \$4,050 would add to the existing total amount of \$31,474, for a new grand total of \$35,524. This will help the city's budget for completion of this project utilizing the existing grant money combined with the leftover demolition grant money. The Fenton City Council voted unanimously on Monday, Aug. 7 to proceed with the \$4,050 transfer.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Doug Chilson, community coordinator for STAT EMS, shows visitors the inside of an ambulance at National Night Out in Linden on Aug. 1.

## More than 1,500 attend inaugural police event

WATCH THE

AT TCTIMES.COM

WITH THIS STORY

■National Night Out seeks to strengthen police, community partnerships

## By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com, 810-433-6795 Linden — On Tuesday, Aug. 1, police sirens blared and lights flashed. Smoke poured out of a structure, surrounded by police and fire personnel.

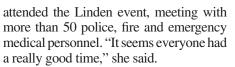
Fortunately, the sirens were flipped on to entertain visiting children, and the smoke was just a safety demonstration by the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA).

National Night Out (NNO), as the name suggests, is a national event, to be held on the first Tuesday in August. This was Linden's first time participating.

The point of the event is to build stronger bonds between law enforcement and communities.

Linden joined 16,000 other communities that hosted their own events. According to the organization's website, NNO events have taken place for 34 years.

According to Linden City Treasurer Beverly Vondra, approximately 1,500 visitors



Vondra said she wanted to host the event in Linden after she saw TV coverage of an event in Flint last year.

This event was not sponsored by the city, and no taxpayer dollars were used. It was made possible by volunteers and sponsors. If anyone is interested in sponsoring or volunteering, they can contact Vondra at nnolinden@gmail.com. The 2018 National Night Out

is slated for Aug. 7, 2018, from 5 to 8 p.m.

### THE PURPOSE OF NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, and more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.

www.natw.org



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Jordan Smotherman of Linden took her three young children to the event. "You get to see that police and public service members are members of the community as well," she said.

## COKE

Continued from Page 3

have known about Mexican Coke for some time now, and small grocery stores in Los Angeles have stocked it to appeal to their Mexican-American customers.

In recent years, however, Mexican Coke has been appearing in the wide aisles of Costco, signaling a broader interest.

There appears to be more to the story of Mexican Coke than a simple preference for one kind of sweetener over another.

Mexico and the United States have long been engaged in a trade war over sugar. Sugar is big business in Mexico. In an effort to protect its sugar industry, Mexico has repeatedly tried to inhibit imports of high-fructose corn syrup, which the U.S. had been exporting to Mexico and was being used in place of Mexican sugar to make Coke as well as other products.

Mexican Coke can be purchased at most local retailers at about the same price as regular Coca-Cola in glass bottles.

## MORE SUGAR REJECTION

In late July, the Coca-Cola company announced that Coke Zero is getting revamped and will soon become Coke Zero Sugar.

The new name is intended to make it clearer that the drink has no sugar, and a new recipe is intended to make the drink taste more like regular Coke. The company isn't specifying what it's changing aside from saying it tweaked the "blend of flavors." It says the drink will use the same artificial sweeteners. The level of caffeine is expected to be about the same.

Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Co. says the new cans and bottles, which will incorporate more red like regular Coke, will start hitting shelves in August.

The push behind Coke Zero comes as Americans continue moving away from Diet Coke, which was introduced in the 1980s and has its own taste that's different from Coke. Coke Zero was introduced in 2005 and is intended to more closely taste like regular cola.

### **HISTORY OF COCA-COLA**

Coca-Cola began in 1886 when the curiosity of an Atlanta pharmacist, Dr. John S. Pemberton, led him to create a distinctive tasting soft drink that could be sold at soda fountains. He created a flavored syrup, took it to his neighborhood pharmacy, where it was mixed with carbonated water and deemed "excellent" by those who sampled it, according to worldofcoca-cola.com

Pemberton's formula used coca leaves and kola nuts as the sources of his ingredients.

Pemberton's partner and bookkeeper, Frank M. Robinson, is credited with naming the beverage "Coca-Cola" as well as designing the trademarked, distinct script, still used today.

Prior to his death in 1888, just two years after creating what was to become the world's top-selling sparkling beverage, Pemberton sold portions of his business to various parties, with the majority of the interest sold to Atlanta businessman, Asa G. Candler.

Under Candler's leadership, distribution of Coca-Cola expanded to soda fountains beyond Atlanta. In 1894, impressed by the growing demand for



HTTP://WWW.FDBUSINESS.COM The new Coke Zero Sugar is expected to hit store shelves this month. The new coke is said to contain the same level of caffeine.

Coca-Cola and the desire to make the beverage portable, Joseph Biedenharn installed bottling machinery in the rear of his Mississippi soda fountain, becoming the first to put Coca-Cola in bottles.

Large scale bottling was made possible just five years later, when in 1899, three enterprising businessmen in Chattanooga, Tennessee secured exclusive rights to bottle and sell Coca-Cola. The three entrepreneurs purchased the bottling rights from Asa Candler for just \$1. Benjamin Thomas, Joseph Whitehead and John Lupton developed what became the Coca-Cola worldwide bottling system.

Among the biggest challenges for early bottlers, were imitations of the beverage by competitors coupled with a lack of packaging consistency among the 1,000 bottling plants at the time. The bottlers agreed that a distinctive beverage needed a standard and distinctive bottle, and in 1916, the bottlers approved the unique contour bottle.

The new Coca-Cola bottle was so distinctive it could be recognized in the dark and it effectively set the brand apart from competition. Fast forward to the 1970s when Coca-Cola's advertising started to reflect a brand connected with fun, friends and good times. Many fondly remember the 1971 Hilltop Singers performing "I'd Like to Buy the World a Coke," or the 1979 "Have a Coke and a Smile" commercial featuring a young fan giving Pittsburgh Steeler, "Mean Joe Greene," a refreshing bottle of Coca-Cola.

Sources: Worldofcoca-cola.com; Smithsonianmag.com; Nytimes.com/aponline



HTTPS://S-MEDIA-CACHE-AK0.PINIMG.COM Coca-Cola began in 1886 when the curiosity of an Atlanta pharmacist, Dr. John S. Pemberton, led him to create a distinctive tasting soft drink that could be sold at soda fountains.

### BALD EAGLE Continued from Front Page

"I was so excited to see that she made it, and she was healthy, and she took off," said a grinning Becky Williams, moments after watching the young bald eagle fly off toward Linden.

The young eagle won't develop her iconic white head and tail feathers for another three years or more.

Williams lives across the street from the Days' property. In early June, she was driving along Hogan Road near her home, when she spotted a large bird on the side of the road. She knew when she got close enough for a photo, that it was an injured juvenile bald eagle.

Williams said there is a nest near her property, so she's used to seeing eagles — but not this up close. She called the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which facilitated a pick up in six hours.

Dave Hogan of Raisinville Township near Monroe rehabilitated the eagle, feeding her quail and fish. He said she likely hatched in April.

"She had just fledged, flew for the first time, took a spill on her first flight. It's kind of like people learning how to walk; there's a lot of fall downs and a lot of crashing into stuff,"

he said. Hogan said she had a soft tissue injury, likely caused by a mistake in flight.

Hogan said this actually happens a few times a year in southeast Michigan, and he's the one who takes care of the birds. He applies

his falconry techniques to make sure they're ready to fly when released.



**4**So right now,

she's soaring

over downtown

Linden. 77

**Becky Williams** 

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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** I TIM JAGIELO Jeff Alkire (left) of New Lothrop and Dave Hogan of Raisinville Township carry the cage containing the young bald eagle to be freed on Saturday, Aug. 5. The eagle, rehabilitated over the summer, was released at a Fenton Township farm, owned by Tom and Janet Day.

After two months, with the assistance of fellow raptor rehabilitator Jeff Alkire, they carried the large covered cage from Hogan's truck, brought it to the edge of the yard and opened the cage. Several friends and family took photos and video as the bird climbed out of the cage and took flight.

"I was so excited to see her come out of that cage and fly and head straight to Linden," said Williams. "Soright now, she's soaring over downtown Linden."

In Michigan, there are approximately 800 nesting pairs of eagles, according

to Alkire. This is up from 69 eagle nests in 1969.

### Continued from Front Page

67<sup>th</sup> District Court. He is charged with open murder in the March 4 shooting death of Brady Alan Morris, as well as receiving and concealing a stolen firearm, and two counts of felony firearm. The alleged crimes took place at Akl's family home on Lake Fenton in Fenton Township.

Attorney Frank Manley is representing Akl.

On March 23, Manley requested Akl undergo a competency evaluation to determine if he is competent to stand trial. The court will hear the results of the exam on Wednesday.

Akl has remained in the custody of the Genesee Valley Regional Center. Bond was denied.

On March 4 at approximately 11 p.m., the Genesee County Sheriff's Office and Fenton Police Department responded to a 911 call about a male with a gunshot wound to the head at a home at 14170 Moffett Dr. in Fenton Township.

Akl was taken into custody and a semi-automatic pistol was found on the front porch. The weapon was secured by police.

The two teens, who were reportedly friends, were alone on the first floor of the residence when the shooting occurred and other members of Akl's family and one other guest were on the second and third floors.

According to the autopsy report, Morris was shot from behind at point blank range on the top left side of his head.

The two teens, who were reportedly friends, were alone on the first floor of the residence when the shooting occurred...

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CONTACT KATHLEEN SMITH • 810-433-6787 • ksmith@tctimes.com News briefs

## LIBERTY SHORES TO SEE IMPROVED ROADS

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees held a public hearing on Monday, Aug. 7 for the Liberty Shores street improvement special assessment district. Residents in the Liberty Shores condominium subdivision will see their roads improved thanks to creating a special assessment district to pay for asphalt surfacing. The project is estimated to cost \$261,624. There are approximately 125 parcels, and each will pay a total of \$2,180.20. The assessments will be divided into 10 installments paid over a 10-year period. According to a proposal from Ace-Saginaw Paving Company, the project entails removing and recycling deteriorated asphalt pavement, applying herbicide to vegetation along the curb and gutter, cleaning existing pavement, and applying new asphalt.



## ACCUSERS Continued from Front Page

incident that occurred at his office in Grand Blanc Township on April 17 of this year.

According to investigative reports, Grand Blanc Township police officers were called to Tomlinson's hypnotherapy office on Holly Road in April after a patient Tomlinson was treating reported that he had sexually assaulted her while she was undergoing her fourth hypnotherapy session.

Tomlinson also was arraigned on June 8 in two other cases.

According to Deputy Chief Assistant Prosecutor John Potbury, the additional charges filed included three counts of CSC second-degree, involving two new alleged female victims who came forward after news broke of the latest incident. Those incidents were alleged to have occurred between March 2013 and August 2015.

Tomlinson posted bond and his office can remain open. He is expected back in court on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 9 a.m. for his preliminary exams. Local attorney Michael Manley is representing Tomlinson.



MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, July 28.

The Legislature is on a summer break with no sessions scheduled until Aug. 16. Rather than votes, this report contains some interesting or noteworthy legislative proposals to amend the constitution. To become law these require a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate and approval by voters.

### Senate Joint Resolution J: Ban elected official pay hikes until after the next election

Introduced by Sen. Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D), to place before voters, in the next general election, a constitutional amendment to prohibit elected officials from taking a pay increase until after the next election. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

## Senate Joint Resolution K: Lower minimum age for governor

Introduced by Sen. Ian Conyers (D), to place before voters, in the next general election, a constitutional amendment to eliminate the current minimum age requirement for governor and lieutenant governor, which is age 30. The bill would leave in place a requirement that a candidate have been a registered voter in the state for at least four years, which implies a minimum age of 22 to be governor. Referred to committee; no further action at this time.

## House Joint Resolution Q: Propose a part-time legislature

Introduced by Rep. Tom Barrett (R), to place before voters, in the next general election, a constitutional amendment that would limit annual legislative sessions to 90 days. Since 2001, more than 20 part-time legislature proposals have been introduced. This one would establish weekend sessions once a month plus two-week legislative sessions twice a year. Referred to committee; no further action at this time.

### House Joint Resolution O: Place Democrat election law proposals in constitution

Introduced by Rep. Jon Hoadley (D), to place before voters in the next general election an amendment that would place in the constitution a number of election law changes that Democratic lawmakers have pursued with bills amending state statutes. This includes streamlined voter registration and absentee ballot procedures, automatic voter registration when getting a driver's license and, early voting by means of no-reason absentee ballots and more.





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all roads so I may attain my goals. Who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me. In all instances of my life you are with me. I want, in this short prayer, to thank you for all things and confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. This person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the favor will be granted, even if it appears difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor. Only vour initials should appear at the bottom. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, thank you. ST

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## Miscellaneous for Sale

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**RUMMAGE SALE** FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 9-3PM SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 9-2PM

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH** 

PAGE 11

## Trinity Lutheran Church 1025 Main St., Fenton Household items, clothing, books, toys, misc. Sponsored by the Women's Guild.

### Garage Sales t imes YARD SALE | GARAGE SALE | MOVING SALE | ESTATE SALE | SUB SALE Private Party Only Fenton Fenton Fenton -enton Multi-Family RUMMAGE $\bigcirc$ ESTATE Garage Sale GARAGE SALE AUGUST 10TH-12TH AUGUST 10TH-12TH AUGUST 11TH-12TH AUGUST 10TH-12TH 8-6PM 9-6PM 9-5PM 9-6PM 12079 Jeffers Lane off 1316 Thompson Rd. 12179 Rohn Rd. 12265 St. Andrews Way. State/Hartland Rd. Rummage/Estate Sale. Estate Sale. Mens/womens Tools, miscellaneous Alert! Alert! Alert! Vintage farm furniture, name brand clothing, household, office Multifamily Sale! cedar chests, redwood girls size 6-10. trunk table, grain furniture, children's Glen Devon Condos scrapbooking, Lularoe bedroom set, at Lahring and scales, tools, heaters, leggings (OS tween), outdoor furniture, Torrey Rds. grill, household. children's books, garden items. Pottery Barn bedding (girls twin), toys, Lake Fenton Fenton Fenton miscellaneous. ALSO at ESTATE **GARAGESALE** 12000 Jeffers Lane, 28 years of fabulous elementary teacher items. AUGUST 11TH-13TH AUGUST 12TH 9-5PM AUGUST 10TH-11TH 9-4PM 9-4PM 13440 Enid Blvd. **SIGN UP** Estate/Moving Sale! 824 Sinclair St. 11296 Tyrone Trail. for Text blasts to Hills of Tyrone Subdivision Sale. Some antiques, receive local Garage Subdivision. Kids items, 2 vintage gliders, sale listings. clothes, household, Clothing, jewelery, dining room set, Text GARAGESALE to silverware set, designer purses, miscellaneous, 810-475-2030. furniture and collectibles more. lamps, chairs, household items. Hot dogs and chips. palm tree, lake pump.

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## Dallwitz, Bronchos excited to get first 'real' practices under their belts

### **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Holly** — Cade Dallwitz is excited to get

the season going. Yes, it is correct that it seems football season never truly ends these days. There's always weight training and then camps and 7-on-7s

over the summer. But nothing really symbolizes the start of the new football season like the Michigan High

> Holly's **Cade Dallwitz**

WEDNESDAY

School Athletic Association's first official is looking for weather that will enhance the day of practice every season. That was on Monday.

"It just feels like everyone is excited now," Dallwitz said about the first day. "(The first game) is close and everyone wants to get going for real." The Bronchos couldn't have asked for better weather. Temperatures were in the low 60s during the morning session and the skies were overcast. If a team

chances of a productive practice, it's hard to ask for a scenario better than that.

"It's beautiful weather," Dallwitz said. "When it's hotter, you feel like you are dragging more. Right now everyone's energy is up because it isn't hot and we haven't had to take a lot of breaks."

"Someone was in church yesterday (asking for good weather)," Holly varsity football coach Ryan Culloty said. "This is the best we could hope for at this time of year. See HOLLY on 13

017 | **PAGE 12** | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

1 imes orts

## Area teams getting ready for some football

Hundreds of fans prepare for LF's first practice over an hour before midnight event begins

## **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Lake Fenton — When it comes to the first prep football practice of the regular season, Lake Fenton's program apparently has perfected the midnight football session.

Teams were allowed to practice for the first time for the 2017 fall season on Monday at 12:01 a.m., and starting in 2011, the Blue Devils have decided to become one of many Michigan schools to host a midnight madness football practice at that time. Since then, the Blue Devils have continued the tradition. And through the years, something else has happened. It apparently gets bigger and better with every year.

This season there were hundreds of students and parents tailgating in Lake Fenton's parking lot over a half-hour prior to the start of the practice. Some were playing music. Some were actually making food. Others were anticipating the moment when every player involved with the Lake Fenton football program walked through the path of people toward the football field in anticipation of that first practice session. And when it began about 250 fans stayed to watch the

practice.

"It's late at night but none of us are tired," Lake Fenton senior Jarrett Trombley said about 20 minutes before the practice began. "We are excited to get on the field for the first time of the year. We are ready. The fans are ready. We are excited to play some football and to get ready for our first game against New Lothrop.

"It's a great feeling to know that this fan base is getting bigger and bigger every year. We know we are something special when you have fans like this. The more fans you have, the better you feel as a football team and as a community."

Lake Fenton varsity football coach Eric Doyle began the midnight tradition during his second year, but is a little surprised how it has snowballed over the years.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM** 





### **TRI-COUNTY TIMES** DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton hosted its annual midnight practice to start the football season on Monday. About 250 fans watched the practice among all players within the program.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS Linden players do an agility drill during Monday's opening practice.

## Linden Eagles are impressively efficient during first practice

### **By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Linden** — It was nearly impossible to tell that Monday's practice was the

first official session for the Linden varsity football team. There were multiple quarterbacks ef-

ficiently throwing to receivers during the same plays from scrimmage. There were quick transitions to blocking stations. And when one co-head coach, Denny Hopkins, wasn't running the show, then the other co-head coach, Nick Douglass, did without even a sense of a studder between the two.

But that's what happens when coaching staffs remain consistent. Hopkins has been the head coach at Linden since 1998, and was a longtime assistant coach prior to taking over the head coaching position. And, of course, co-head coach Douglass has been on the staff almost since the day Hopkins took over the head coaching position. So, if there is any team that can make a first practice look like one from midseason, it's the Linden Eagles.

"I love it. I love this time of year," Hopkins said. "We have a great staff, we have a great group of kids and I have fun. As long as I'm having fun, I might as well keep doing it. I've never been one just to sit around. I can't just sit around. I know I'd drive my wife nuts."

The Eagles hosted the latest first-day practice of any of the tri-county area teams, beginning at 4 p.m. Unlike many See EAGLES on 13



## **Tigers pumped for Midnight Madness opener to practice season**

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Fenton — When it comes to midnight practices, nobody in the tri-county area has been doing them longer than

Fenton's varsity football program. In fact, the Tigers began hosting "Midnight Madness" practice, the first practice of the prep football season, on 2006 and have hosted it every year since 2008. The practice begins at 12:01 a.m. on the Monday of first day, and did once again this season.

This year had a little different twist.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS Fenton's Logan Prater prepares to do a blocking drill during midnight practice at about 1 a.m. Monday.

A tailgate was established by the Fenton Football Booster Club at 10:30 p.m. and lasted until about 11:30 p.m. At that time, players and coaches prepared themselves to get on Ivan Williams Field for the first session that was about to start in 31 minutes.

"I love the midnight practice," Fenton senior Grady Sondgeroth said. "It's so fun. I most enjoy running back on the field because we haven't done it in a year. It's getting back to everything. It's exciting."

"One-hundred percent I was looking forward to it because it kicks off the whole football season," Fenton senior Trevor Edgar said. "You finally get a live look at things."

The session couldn't have asked for better weather. Temperatures were in the low 60s, making the special teams practice session, which lasted for about 90 minutes, a more effective outing.

"We love coaching football so we love that it is finally here," Fenton varsity football coach Jeff Setzke said. "We get right into the grind tomorrow, so we don't have a lot of time. ... We have been prepping all summer, so you hope you don't forget anything. That's where my mind goes."

As a six-time defending Metro League champion returning with many quality pieces again this fall, the Tigers have every reason to be excited See TIGERS on 13

HOLLY

ally good."

those down."

**Continued from Page 12** 

I've been out here before when

the grass was all yellow and it's

90 degrees without a hint of a

cloud in the sky. Those days can

test the body, so this is good, re-

with their first session.

The Bronchos were pleased

"It felt really good," Dallwitz

said. "Everyone was getting it on

and asking questions when we

needed to. We were making some

mistakes too, so we have to get

The Bronchos have posted

back-to-back 5-4 regular season

records. In 2015 it was good

## EAGLES

**Continued from Page 12** prep football teams, the Eagles don't split their practices apart like many two-a-day sessions this time of year. Instead, they stay together, focus on getting the work done in a shorter time period that most squads do.

Apparently the method works pretty well. The Eagles have one of the longest current playoff streaks in the state of Michigan, qualifying for the playoffs every year since 2002. And despite being one of the smallest enrollment schools in the Flint Metro League, the Eagles remain one of the teams that are always on a list of quality league contenders. So, basically, the Eagles aren't a program you worry too much about when it comes to graduation.

.

They've been reloading basically since the turn of the century, this year should be no different. But wins are never the talk around Linden, improving is. So the theme of the first day of camp was the same as every day until the end of this season — just being better than the day before.

"I thought we had a great first day," Linden senior Noah Giacomantonio said.

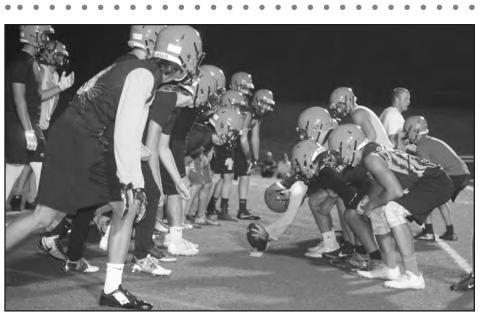
## CONTINUED AT **TCTIMES.COM**

football team had its first practice a bit later than the other tri-county

DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's varsity

area teams, starting at 4 p.m. on Monday. (Above) The Eagles finish a run around one of their practice football fields. (Left) Linden's Andrew Armstong (left) and Ryan Wilbrink (right) compete in a drill during the Monday session.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

enough to make the playoffs.

However, last season it kept the

Bronchos out of the postseason

hunt. The goal, once again, will

be to make the playoffs and pos-

sibly contend for a Metro League

crown. One bonus the team has

going for it is Dallwitz returning

"I feel like I am a lot better

leader and mentally stronger than

last year," Dallwitz said. "I feel

like I've improved a lot over the

years. I've gotten taller and I'm

of the season will be at Swartz

The Bronchos' first contest

more confident in myself."

Creek on Aug. 24.

at quarterback.

Holly's varsity football team does some sprints to start the second

session of Monday morning's first official day of football practice.

The Fenton Tigers practice their field goal kicking during its Midnight Madness practice held early Monday.

## TIGERS

**Continued from Page 12** 

about the upcoming season. However, there is a little more excitement for the opener than most years for one reason. The Tigers will be playing it at Michigan Stadium against Ortonville-Brandon on Aug. 26 at 4 p.m. Last season the Tigers competed at another college venue for the season-opening contest, losing to Caledonia 55-52 at Grand Valley State University, but Michigan Stadium is a bit bigger than Grand Valley.

"It's definitely an honor," Edgar said. "It's going to be a lot of fun. We've never done anything like it. Grand Valley is one thing but this is a 100,000-seat stadium. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You can talk to anybody and tell them you

played at Grand Valley and they have to think about it and not get the big field. But when you say you played at Michigan Stadium, everyone knows."

"I'm excited. I've never been to Michigan Stadium, so I went to the spring game to experience what it is like," Sondgeroth said. "It's huge and crazy. It's going to be exciting."

Setzke is excited about the Michigan Stadium opportunity as well, but he doesn't want a repeat of last year's opening-season loss. He mentioned that to the team at the end of the practice.

"A week from Thursday we'll (be scrimmaging Midland) and in about two weeks is Michigan. You want to send a message to the world," Setzke said to his squad.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM** 





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

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Times

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## **Obituaries**

## Times



### **Kimberly Wheeler** 1957-2017

Kimberly Wheeler - age 59, was born to Martha and David Simpson on October 12, 1957. That day the world was gifted an incredible woman, who was always ready for an adventure and would forever impact countless lives. On Friday August 4, 2017, with family near, she passed away. Kim loved being a wife, mother, teacher, aunt, sister, and friend. She gave everything she was to helping guide others the best way she knew how, and many of us will never forget the lessons she imparted. Monday, August 7, 2017 and Tuesday, August 8, 2017 visitation was held from 3-8 PM at Dryer Funeral Home in Holly, MI. Then on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 we will gather at St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Fenton at 11 AM to celebrate Kim and remember the moments we shared with her. Memorial donations may be made to Paterson School, P.O. Box 189, Paterson, WA 99345 www.dryerfuneralhome holly.com.

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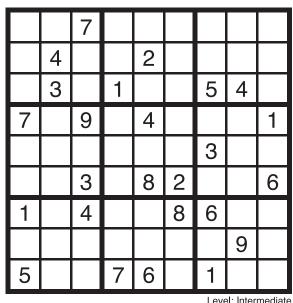


1926-2017 Mr. Duane R. Theisen age 91, died peacefully August 7, 2017 at Fenton Assisted Living. He is the loving husband of the late Katie Theisen. Surviving are his beloved children, Pam (Joe) Pineda, Jeanne Dode, and Shelly (Vic) Peters; grandchildren, Michael, David, Casey, Randy, Amy, Chris, Aaron, and Michael; 15 great-grandchildren; brother, Jack Theisen; sister-in-law, Audrey Koschmeider; brotherin-law, Dick Fisher; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. Mr. Theisen will lie in state Saturday, August 12, 2017, 10 AM, at Št. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton, until the time of his Funeral Mass at 11 AM. Visitation will be held Friday, August 11, 2017 from 4-8 PM with a 7 PM vigil service at the Temrowski Family Funeral Home, 500 Main Street, Fenton, Contributions may be made to Grace Hospice or the American Cancer Society. Share memories at



Obituaries updated daily online! www.tctimes.com

## WEDNESDAY SUDOKU

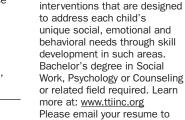


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times



## Mr. Duane R. Theisen

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## **HOROSCOPES**

For the week of August 7, 2017

### ARIES Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, help out around the house or the office this week

and the effort will benefit both you and the people with whom you interact. Reinforce close relationships. TAURUS

### Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, when you set your mind to something, the results are often spectacular. Stick with what you have been doing of late and keep enjoying the great results. **GEMINI** 

### May 22/Jun 21

Change may be all around you this week, Gemini. You may not be overly excited about all the things that are unfolding, but realize this change of pace is essential to vour career.

### CANCER Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, if you are willing to put in extra effort this week, the results will be well worth it. Hunker down and commit to going the extra mile in the days ahead.

## LEO Jul 23/Aug 23 Leo, romance is on your mind, so you have to make sure you get together with

SAGITTARIUS

Focus on the bigger picture,

in mind, you can better map

out the steps that need to be

taken to get to the finish line.

Serve as a sounding board

frustration without interrupt-

ing, Capricorn. Your patience

and willingness to listen will

Many people need your help,

good energy toward assisting

Pisces, you need to figure out

how to turn great ideas into

workable projects that will

earn you some money. Start

Aquarius. Direct all of your

others for the time being.

This help will eventually be

be noted and appreciated.

and let a friend vent his or her

Sagittarius. With the end goal

Nov 23/Dec 21

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

AQUARIUS

reciprocated.

Feb 19/Mar 20

drafting that plan.

PISCES

Jan 21/Feb 18

that special person in the next few days. Otherwise, the mood may pass. VIRGO Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, a surprise visit from a friend or family member lifts vour spirits in the comina days. Enjoy this chance to catch up and share a few laughs with a loved one. LIBRA

### Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, unless someone helps vou corral vour focus. vour energy is bound to spread all over the place. Find a friend who can keep you on the right track. **SCORPIO** 

## Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, expect to expend a lot of energy this week if you want the job to get done correctly. You're not one for slacking, so this shouldn't be a problem.

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

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