Eclipse day could see problems from coast to coast

Traffic gridlock, both on the highways and the internet, predicted

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

Americans across the U.S. will see the country’s first coast-to-coast solar eclipse in 99 years on Monday. While tens of millions of people get ready to watch the Aug. 21 phenomenon, authorities throughout states in the path of the eclipse are treating the event more like a natural disaster and are preparing for the worst.

According to CBS Local, the disaster prep work stems from the massive tourist attraction the solar eclipse has become. The eclipse’s path of totality, where the moon will almost completely block the sun, covers a 70-mile-wide lane that will cut across 12 states.

The real reason college now costs so much

Cuts in state funding dramatically reducing aid

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

The cost of college is rising every year, and students and families are wondering how to pay the bills to better their future.

Florida couple arrested for attempted check fraud

By Sharon Stone
stone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Two Florida residents were arrested Tuesday, Aug. 15 on multiple charges after they allegedly attempted to gain funds fraudulently from a credit union in Brandon Township.

The Oakland County Sheriff’s Office Center received a call at 3:41 p.m. from an employee of

Police chase ends at Mt. Holly

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At the Lynchpin Beer Company Battle of the Brews, Allan Hoffman of Clarkston (center) laughs with his brother, Brian Stein (right) and sister-in-law, Michelle Stadler of Waterford Township, while Jason Pratt of Tyrone Township steps up for another pour of Stein’s Imperial Stout. Stein’s homebrew took second place of 17 beers on Thursday, Aug. 17 at The Laundry Room in Fenton.

A 10-year millage to fix the roads while the DDA keeps giving taxpayer dollars to local for-profit businesses? The DDA shouldn’t give another dollar to any for-profit business until all roads in the city are repaired.”

“Call me crazy, but wouldn’t it make a lot more sense to keep the traffic light at Poplar Street and Silver Lake Road green all the time during the three-month construction period in order to keep traffic flowing?”

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I wish to thank the staff at the Times for keeping the populace educated, informed and, most of all, entertained week after week with the best damn newspaper in the state of Michigan. It’s the best buy in town.”

New zoning would prevent lake access for non-lakefront sites

Subject to final approval by Fenton Township

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

Fewer riparian units would be allowed at the new development on the old Lang’s Marina site under a zoning change.

At the Fenton Township Planning Commission meeting on Aug. 10, a public hearing was held to discuss the rezoning of the property that used to be Lang’s Marina, at 2294 and 2300 Sonora Dr.

Owner of the property, Ghasan Saab, requested the commission rezone the property from a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to R-3 and R-5, Single Family Residential.

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$117,900
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FENTON
63114 Silver Lake
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Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351
Real estate broker John Tremaine said that there are two markets in this area — lakefront and non-lakefront. Lakefront homes sell for an average of $600,000. Non-lakefront properties sell for an average of $200,000.

### Area home prices back up to 2005 values

Fenton is one of hottest markets in Genesee County

By Sally Rummel

“Where are we going to go?” is a common question asked by tri-county area homeowners who may be interested in selling their homes, but aren’t sure where they would move to.

Low, low inventory and high sale prices characterize today’s local real estate market.

“An average market is usually 14 homes per couple looking for a home,” said Todd Warda, Realtor and director of operations for The John Wentworth Group at Re/MAX Platinum in Fenton. “Now it’s 2.5 homes. That’s really low.

The number of residential homes for sale nationally is at a 20-year low, according to Realtor.com. Many of the people holding onto their homes are Baby Boomers who are content in their homes, according to Realtor.com. Many of the people holding onto their homes are Baby Boomers who are content in their homes and face the same inventory shortages and price increases that plague young, first-time homebuyers.

This low inventory is driving up sale prices and the fast pace of home sales, especially in the Fenton, Fenton Township and Linden areas.

“Home prices are back at their 2005 values,” said John Tremaine, owner/broker of Modest one-story homes like these in Fenton still fetch more than $100,000. (Left) This 1,100-square-foot ranch on High Street is listed for $119,900. (Right) This home on Caroline Street is listed at $138,000.

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See HOME VALUES on 16A

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SPECIAL TORNADO SECTION INCLUDED WITH THIS EDITION

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SUNDAY EDITION

TORNADO

5 YEARS OF EXTENDED WARRANTY COVERAGE

ON 2015 AND PRIOR YEARS

TORNADO ON 15A

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | PAGE 3A
‘That stupid, stupid school bus’

Eighteen years ago, Sam, our oldest, stepped onto a school bus for the first time. I remember getting misty about it then, for I’m a great, big, giant sap about that sort of thing. I wrote a column at the time talking about how this was it, the first step toward him, the first half-day of kindergarten. I get dramatic at times. But I wasn’t wrong. It was indeed the beginning of the end of him as a daily, huggable part of our lives. We wouldn’t have it any other way, naturally. Birds gotta fly. We raised him to soar. But it still smarts.

Sam is 22 now and a second-year law student at Vanderbilt in Nashville. He’s doing great. He just won a scholarship for second years — that’s what they call them, second years. He just finished a summer internship with a federal judge, which blows my mind. (My kid? Helping a judge?) And he’s interested in big law firms for where he’s going to be next summer. He’s hoping for Seattle or Washington, D.C., and I tell him I hope he gets the one he wants most. But secretly I think — as every parent always has — “But that’s a long way from us.”

And it all started with that damn school bus. That stupid, stupid school bus.

Annie was next. She stepped onto the bus for the first time 15 years ago. And now she, too, is grown up and living her life away from us. It goes without saying that she, too, is the smartest, most beautiful person ever placed on this earth. She’s starting her third year at CMU, my alma mater. We just helped her set up her first-ever apartment after two years in the dorm. She’s thrilled. But for a dad who viewed the dorm as somehow safer, it was a difficult thing. While Annie and her mom unpacked boxes, I walked around doing a dad security check on all the doors and windows, and stumbling mightily about the lack of a front porch light and how, by God, I was going to install wireless security cameras. Her response: an eye roll.

I love her eye rolls. I’ll miss her rolls, which she’d fling my way five to 10 times a day throughout her长大 years. Now I’ll have to settle for her eye rolls when we chat on FaceTime or Skype, which isn’t quite the same.

And it all started with that stupid, stupid school bus. We’re down to one last child at home now. Henry, my God, he’s simply the best. Smart as a whip, a top athlete, and he has the kind of dry wit and wicked grin that makes people instantly love him. He’s starting his last year in the public schools. Next year he’s off to college and his future. He’s going to do great. He’s just that sort of kid. Us? Well, the empty nest is in our near future.

Stupid, stupid, stupid school bus.

Opinions offered in Come Heller High Water are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the author at andrewheller@tctimes.com.
Michigan commissioners invited to The White House

First-ever invitation extended to county-level officials

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

It was a whirlwind one-day trip, but Genesee County Commissioner Drew Shapiro said it was well worth accepting an invitation to The White House last Tuesday, Aug. 8.

Twenty-six of 83 counties in Michigan chose to send commissioners. “I was thrilled to have the opportunity,” said Shapiro, noting, too, that he personally funded his entire trip, including the airfare.

In addition to Shapiro, who represents constituents in the cities of Fenton and Linden, and townships of Argentine and Fenton in southern Genesee County, Commissioners Ellen Ellenburg and David Martin were there as well.

Ellenburg represents District 3 citizens on the east side of the city of Flint and the city of Burton. Martin represents District 9 citizens in the city of Davison and Davison Township.

“This type of meeting has never been done in any administration before,” said Ellenburg. “It was very informative with department staff there to answer questions from area county commissioners. I will be able to use the contact information from the various departments to share with my fellow commissioners and municipalities that I represent.

“As a commissioner, it gave me another branch to have questions answered. I’m a believer that you need to have a variety of contacts to answer some of the questions you are asked as a commissioner. I hope they continue in the future with this plan,” Ellenburg added.

Shapiro echoed some of his colleague’s sentiments.

“This is the first administration to ever invite county commissioners to The White House,” said Shapiro. “The main purpose was to provide people at the local level more points of contact in the federal government.”

Shapiro said the county commissioners are visiting The White House state by state. Michigan was the third so far, having been preceded by Florida and Pennsylvania.

Commissioners heard from Billy Kirkland, President Donald Trump’s intergovernmental affairs official.

“He briefs the president,” said Shapiro. “Billy Kirkland told us ‘with all the layers of bureaucracy in Washington, you guys are where the rubber meets the road.’”

Shapiro said commissioners heard from every department in the federal government except two, the Department of Defense and Department of Justice.

A NASA official gave a great presentation, Shapiro said, “You may wonder why it’s important for Michiganders to hear about anything from NASA, but 67 businesses in Michigan receive $46 million in funding from NASA, including some of the funding for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) currently under construction in East Lansing.”

Martin said, “Right off, in The White House invitation, it was clear that the Executive Branch wanted and needed feedback from the local perspective. The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs clearly has a mandate to create relationships with local government.

“Speaking directly with the director of Intergovernmental Affairs for Health and Human Services, I asked her to keep them focused on Flint’s water issues now that water tests are well within standards and crisis is turning to recovery — confidence must be restored in our residents and businesses,” Martin said.

“I also addressed the opioid epidemic and two days later the president issued a formal national emergency. Coincidence? I think all commissioners, from the three states to visit D.C., had a direct impact in that declaration.

“I believe input from all the counties, those already attended and more to follow, will show many similarities. We shall see if local concerns are addressed or if the agencies continue to pass unfunded edicts from their ivory towers and grow their bloated bureaucracies. I doubt The White House intends to waste our time or their resources,” said Martin.

Shapiro also said discussions also took place on tax matters, such as tax exemptions on municipal bonds, the skill shortage of skilled workers in this country, the auto and technology industries in the Midwest, and the opioid epidemic to name a few.

Commissioners also had the opportunity to hear from Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos regarding education matters.
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Old NOCFA built sold to Nebraska company

**Dawson Tire & Wheel to begin construction on addition in September**

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

After sitting vacant for nearly eight years, the old NOCFA (North Oakland County Fire Authority) fire hall on Grange Hall Road, east of Saginaw Street, has been sold. According to Holly Township Treasurer Mark Freeman, the building sold for $394,000 to Dawson Tire & Wheel, which is headquartered in Gothenburg, Nebraska.

“This is very beneficial for us (township),” Freeman said. “We had been marketing this building for a number of years. We’re pleased to finally be able to sell it and put back on the tax rolls.”

Chuck Truan, co-owner of Dawson Tire & Wheel, said they are very happy to be coming to Holly. Dawson Tire & Wheel has a store in Gothenburg, Nebraska, one in Rosetown, Saskatchewan, Canada, and they have a service truck in Illinois, working almost exclusively for Jenner AG in Decatur, Illinois. Other service vehicles are located throughout the Midwest and Great Lakes area.

“My goal is to establish brick-and-mortar facilities across the country,” said Truan.

“In Holly, we are putting on a fairly grand addition starting in September,” said Truan. “We are adding a warehouse and shipping docks, and 3,000 square foot of offices for sales.”

**NOCFA moved to new digs down Grange Hall Road**

The fire hall became vacant when NOCFA moved into its new digs up the road — Grange Hall Road — in October 2009. Construction on the $1.8-million building began in September 2008 and took three months longer than expected due to poor weather that began in the spring, according to NOCFA Fire Chief Jeremy Lintz.

Nevertheless, the project still finished $10,000 under budget. Of the $1.8-million budget, $1.1 million is from a 15-year loan, financed through The State Bank.

Money to pay the loan came from NOCFA’s budget, without increase for residents, Lintz said. The fire authority had been placing money in its capital outlay projects fund each year for the station, and Holly Township supplied $550,000 for the new station.

The 15,000-square-foot building includes an 8,000-square-foot apparatus bay for vehicles. A three-story training tower provides an area for agility training, physical therapy and rooftop exercises. A large training room and the administration area feature donated tables, chairs, cubicles and filing cabinets.

NOCFA is funded by Holly and Rose townships, which have an agreement between them. The village of Holly has its own fire department.

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**Michigan Votes**

- **LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY**
  - House Joint Resolution S: Limit referendum on appropriations ban
    - Introduced by Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D), to place before voters in the next general election, a constitutional amendment to revise the current prohibition on citizen referendums challenging bills that contain an appropriation. The measure would establish that the ban only applies to bills that substantially fund one or more state departments, or which are needed to close current state budget shortfalls. A 2001 Supreme Court ruling interpreted the provision to prohibit referendums on any bill containing an appropriation. In several instances since then, the legislature has deliberately added modest appropriations to controversial bills, which without the appropriation, would likely have been challenged by a referendum. Referred to committee; no further action at this time.
  - House Joint Resolution P: Define legislature’s authority to rein in state university speech restrictions
    - Introduced by Rep. Jim Runestad (R), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment establishing that the legislature may provide by law for the protection of free speech, expression, and assembly rights at state colleges and universities, which shall supersede any inconsistent restriction prescribed by one of these institutions. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.
  - House Joint Resolution R: Replace House and Senate with unicameral legislature
    - Introduced by Rep. Jeff Yaroch (R), to place before voters, in the next general election, a Constitutional amendment to establish a nonpartisan unicameral legislature (instead of a separate House and Senate) with 110 districts apportioned on the basis of formulas specified in the resolution. Legislators would have four-year terms and term limits would be repealed. Voters would no longer see a party designation after legislative candidates’ names on ballots. Referred to committee; no further action at this time.

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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.

**Nonpartisan unicameral legislature (instead of a separate House and Senate) with 110 districts apportioned on the basis of formulas specified in the resolution. Legislators would have four-year terms and term limits would be repealed. Voters would no longer see a party designation after legislative candidates’ names on ballots. Referred to committee; no further action at this time.**
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HALLELUJAH! With fall just around the corner, we will soon be making plans for HAYRIDES, HALLOWEEN, HAUNTED HOUSES and HUNTING SEASON.

In the meantime, we can still take advantage of HORSEBACK RIDING, HIKING TRAILS and HOT AIR BALLOON rides.

Getting ready for the upcoming fall and winter months may involve a makeover for yourself and/or your home. HOME IMPROVEMENTS go much easier when it isn’t so HOT and HUMID outside. Perhaps now is a good time to experiment with a new HAIRDO and one of our many local HAIR SALONS.

With school starting in a couple of weeks, area parents and athletes are looking forward to HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS and an endless supply of HOT DOGS to feed those HUNGRY people at football games.

Take care of your HEART and your HEALTH before the HEAVY duty eating days of the HOLIDAYS arrive. A walk through the HOLLY RECREATION AREA is one way to do that. It is especially beautiful in the fall with the changing leaves. Soak in a nice HOT TUB when you get back home.

HISTORY is alive and well in the tri-county area no matter what time of year. We have HISTORIC HOTELS to explore and museums like the HADLEY HOUSE in HOLLY. Call your local HISTORICAL SOCIETY for more information about your town’s HISTORY.

HOCKEY season is fast approaching, too. So what the HELL are you waiting for — whether you’re ready to shop ‘til you drop or take advantage of our community’s many other events, activities and amenities, get out there and have a good time.

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TYRONE PARTY STORE

Mike Wood added convenience store 25 years ago, now open 24 hours a day

By Sally Rummel

Mike Wood opened Tyrone Party Store in Tyrone Township 25 years ago, following a long family history of business ownership and customer service.

His dad, Gaylord “Woody” Wood, owned the Sunoco station on Owen Road for many years and his brother, Bill, opened Woody’s Auto and Truck Repairs and Towing Services in the same business location as the party store, 9485 Center Rd.

“We started out as a convenience store, we didn’t even have a beer license,” said Mike. “Now we do a little bit of everything. We’re probably best known for our pizza, and we also sell beer, wine, liquor and convenience store items.”

Five years ago, Mike added Marathon gas to his business. “It has turned into a huge success,” he said.

Tyrone Party Store has been in the Wood family for 25 years, and has sold gas for five years. Rebecca Wood is manager and father Mike Wood is owner.

The Tyrone Party Store has been in the Wood family for 25 years, and has sold gas for five years. Rebecca Wood is manager and father Mike Wood is owner. Mike said handmade pizza and a selection of beer, wine and liquor make the business unique.

HARTLAND MAN INJURED IN MOTORCYCLE CRASH

On Sunday, Aug. 13, at approximately 7:24 p.m., deputies with the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to Fenton Road south of Read Road in Hartland Township for single motorcycle injury crash. The preliminary investigation has revealed that a 45-year-old Hartland resident was traveling south on Fenton Road, driving a 2007 Harley-Davidson XL1200 motorcycle. The motorcyclist lost control and the motorcycle left the roadway. He was ejected from the motorcycle. The motorcyclist was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. Livingston County EMS transported the man to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township. He was reported to be in critical condition. The road was closed for approximately three hours during the investigation.

Neither alcohol nor speed appear to be a factors in the crash and the incident remains under investigation. Deputies were assisted at the scene by personnel from the Hartland Fire Department and Livingston County EMS.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES  •  TIM JAGIELO

Gigantic plant sale – all plants must find a good home

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- FULL, FINISHED BASEMENT

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**Hartland Schools**

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- 4 BATHROOMS
- WALKOUT BASEMENT

---

**Linden Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $204,999 • 2426 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 1.5 BATHROOMS
- PARTIALLY FINISHED BASEMENT

---

**Holly Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $234,900 • 2402 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 2 FULL BATHROOMS

---

**All Sports Byram Lake**

- **NEW LISTING** $285,000 • 1670 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 1.5 BATHROOMS
- 1/2 ACRE

---

**All Sports Runyan Lake**

- **NEW LISTING** $449,900 • 1974 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 2.5 BATHROOMS
- OPEN FLOOR PLAN

---

**Hartland Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $234,900 • 2402 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 2 FULL BATHROOMS

---

**Linden Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $179,999 • 1791 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 2.5 BATHROOMS
- OPEN FLOOR PLAN

---

**All Sports Holly Lake**

- **NEW LISTING** $285,000 • 1670 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 1.5 BATHROOMS
- 10 ACRES

---

**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $649,999 • 3945 SF
- 4 BEDROOMS
- 3.5 BATHROOMS
- OPEN FLOOR PLAN

---

**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $599,999 • 4060 SF
- 4 BEDROOMS
- 4 BATHROOMS
- 2 CAR GARAGE

---

**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $545,000 • 3081 SF
- 3 BEDROOMS
- 3.5 BATHROOMS
- OPEN FLOOR PLAN

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**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $599,999 • 4060 SF
- 4 BEDROOMS
- 4 BATHROOMS
- 2 CAR GARAGE

---

**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $599,999 • 4060 SF
- 4 BEDROOMS
- 4 BATHROOMS
- 2 CAR GARAGE

---

**Fenton Schools**

- **NEW LISTING** $599,999 • 4060 SF
- 4 BEDROOMS
- 4 BATHROOMS
- 2 CAR GARAGE
**FALLEN WARNING:**

Staring at eclipse likely to cause permanent damage.

Once eye cells are destroyed, they cannot regenerate.

*By Hannah Ball
 hal@tctimes.com, 810-432-6792*

With the solar eclipse occurring on Monday, one local optometrist is warning people not to look directly at the sun.

Dr. Gerianne Mulanix, optometrist/president at Linden Family Eye Care, said, “Usually after an eclipse, there’s this uptick in cases and problems.”

The eclipse, which is when the moon blocks the sun’s rays, will happen Aug. 21. In Fenton, the eclipse will start at approximately 1 p.m., and peak viewing time will be at 2:26 p.m. The moon will move past the sun by 3:46 p.m.

Staring directly at the sun can permanently damage the eyes. Mulanix said when she was training to be a doctor in Chicago, she treated a young boy who had central vision loss. His mom said their family believed that staring at the sun strengthens the eyes.

“She told him to stare at the sun for two hours every day,” she said. “All that sun gazing for extended periods of time did permanent damage to his vision.”

He now has a blind spot in the middle of his vision, and his best acuity vision is ruined.

“Some people think it burns like thermal damage like a hot laser. It’s not the heat. It causes a chemical reaction called photo-oxidative reaction,” she said.

This destroys cells, and once they’re destroyed, they do not regenerate.

“There’s no treatment,” she said. “The only way is prevention. It might get a little sooner, but usually there’s some permanent damage.”

After an eclipse, Mulanix said she sees more cases of solar retinopathy, which is a chemical toxicity and injury to retinal tissues, commonly associated with sun-gazing and eclipse viewings.

During an eclipse, Mulanix said the sun isn’t more powerful, but there’s a greater chance people will be looking at the sun. Kids are more at risk for retinal damage because their retinas aren’t fully developed, so more light comes in their eyes.

She said even looking at the sun for a minute has been shown to cause permanent damage.

Symptoms of solar retinopathy include blurred vision, a central blind spot, light sensitivity, and distorted vision, like if a straight line looks curved.

How to watch eclipse

**Eclipse glasses**

For these glasses to protect your eyes, they must be compliant with the ISO 12312-2 safety standard. They are darker than normal sunglasses and filter out more sun. It’s safe to look at a partial eclipse with these.

If they get scratched, punctured, or torn, do not use them. Instead, buy new ones. Packs of eclipse glasses are available at Walmart, eBay, and Amazon for under $20. Ask your local eye doctor’s office if they carry these glasses.

**Pinhole projection**

Another way to view the partial eclipse is the hand method. NASA suggests stretching out your fingers on both hands and overlapping them, creating a waffle pattern. Stand with your back to the eclipse and look at your hands’ shadow on the ground.

The little spaces between your fingers will project a small grid of the partial eclipse on the ground.

**Box method**

This involves taking a large box and cutting out a hole for your head. The longer the box, the larger the projection. Then you tape a small square of aluminum foil near the top on one end of the box, and poke a small hole in it. Tape a sheet of paper on the inside of the box, on the opposite side of the hole. Stick your head through the hole and stand with your back to the sun. The light will come in and you will see a small projection, a negative image, of the eclipse.

There have been reports of counterfeit eclipse glasses. Amazon is issuing full refunds to those who believe they may have purchased the fake ones. The news comes after the American Astronomical Society issued a warning on its website about potentially unsafe glasses for sale ahead of the Aug. 21 solar eclipse. Even glasses stamped with an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) could be fake, the AAS said. Glasses should have the verification code ISO-12312-2 printed on the side.
Experts think the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21 will be the moment in which the moon passes between the Earth and the sun and blocks all but a insignificant amount of sunlight. It is unlikely that the internet will stop working on eclipse day. A vast majority of the country shouldn’t experience any hiccups as providers build their networks to handle traffic far beyond what is considered normal.

At home
For those who wish to skip the whole thing and stay home, many TV and cable networks plan to broadcast the eclipse live. Check your local TV listings for more exact information.

While you’re sitting on the couch with your family dog or cat, don’t be surprised if they fall asleep during the eclipse. It will, after all, get dark.

Sources: CBS Local and time.com
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Community mourns loss of long-time banker

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

Robert “Bob” Cole of Fenton, former bank president, real estate agent, civic leader and community volunteer died on Tuesday, Aug. 15. He was 75 years old.

Cole’s first banking job was with the Genesee Bank, in their college training program. He worked as a teller for about a month and later became the branch manager.

Three years later, the director of the First National Bank of Fenton offered him a job and he worked as the director of operations. Five years later, he was made an offer to work at The State Bank. He started out there in banking operations and eventually became president. He was there for 15 years. His last banking position was at People’s State Bank in Hamtramck, from where he retired.

After he retired, Cole obtained his real estate license, starting out with Coldwell Banker in Fenton, and later with Legacy Realty Associates. He retired again a couple of years later.

Cole said he used to love to play golf and spent a lot of time at Spring Meadows Country Club.

Cole was a member of Fenton Kiwanis, the Fenton XX Club, Fenton Rotary and Fenton Jaycees. He served on the Fenton Downtown Development Authority and was past president of Michigan Community Bankers. He served again on the Fenton Community Center Board of Directors and Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for six years.

He and his wife, Christine, have been married for 37 years. They have five adult children, and 15 grandchildren.

During a 2015 “Our Town” interview, Cole said he grew up on a farm in the Hickory Ridge and Clyde Road area. He said he had a driver’s license when he was 14 years old, something not uncommon among young people who worked on farms back then.

“In addition to raising cows, pigs and chickens, we grew wheat and potatoes for a short time. We didn’t have a lot of money, but our freezer was always full,” he said in 2015.

Funeral Mass was celebrated 11 a.m., Friday, Aug. 18, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton. Visitation was held from 1 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel 1000 Silver Lake Rd, Fenton, and from 10 AM until the time of Mass Friday at the church.
Homebrew heaven

The Laundry Room provides venue for aspiring brewers to show off their beer

By Tim Jagielo
(tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795)

Fenton — The beers kept coming in 2-ounce pours, and so did the individual votes, by poker chip for each of the homebrewers.

In one big room, 100 visitors were able to try 17 different beers ranging from Berliner Weiss, to best bitter to cream ales.

Of the approximate 1,700 pours that evening, the one that received the most votes was Bob Hart of Ferndale with his New England IPA (India Pale Ale), named “Sunshine in a bag.”

This is his second contest winning in a row. “It’s a lot of fun, it’s more relaxed,” he said. “Everyone’s here to drink good beer.”

The Lynchpin Beer Company’s Battle of the Brews was sold out with nearly 100 ticket holders judging 14 brewers and 17 beers. This was the company’s third event. The previous events were held in February and August of 2016.

“I did a few events like this and it was really fun for me,” said Lynchpin’s brew master Scott Hayes. Creating a brew and sharing it with the public can be difficult for a homebrewer and he likes providing that opportunity for homebrewers.

Hart won the top prize — his beer will be brewed at Lynchpin Beer Company. He will have a barrel of his winning New England IPA available until the barrel runs out. Hayes will try to coordinate a release party with Hart.

Other prizes included a $100 gift certifi- cate and beer growlers.

While a bevy of recipes were used, there were some limitations — brewers had to create something that can be brewed at Lynchpin. Hayes doesn’t produce sours or lagers or anything made with bourbon barrels at his brewery, so entrants couldn’t offer any at this contest.

Registration was open in the spring to give homebrewers a chance to come up with a plan, a recipe and then to brew their beer. He said some beers can be planned and executed in two weeks.

Unlike a “cook off,” the beer arrived ready to serve.

“I think a lot of brewers start out as homebrewers,” said Hayes. “(The contest is) just a way for hobbyists to get together, and many homebrewers are aspiring professional brewers.”

Lynchpin Beer Company brews out of a single barrel at The Laundry Room, next door to The Laundry restaurant. There are currently seven beers on rotation.

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Over the weekend, Joshua Holvick, 6, of Fenton, caught his first fish ever. This fish was a largemouth bass, caught on Silver Lake while he was fishing with his grandfather, Gary Holvick Sr., also of Fenton.

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HOME VALUES
Continued from Page 3A
Tremaine Real Living Real Estate in Fenton. “Baby Boomers have tapered off in sales activity, now it’s mostly the 40- to 50-year-olds. The market is very responsive; buyers know when a property is priced right.”

Warda says that Fenton’s downtown growth has fueled the real estate market here locally.

“Prices per square foot are higher in Fenton than anytime in the last 12 years,” said Warda. “Linden’s about the same; there’s not a huge gap between Fenton and Linden.”

He estimates there has been an 8-percent increase in housing prices from 2016 to 2017, but doesn’t anticipate prices getting much higher. “We’re still on pace to have a banner year through 2018,” said Warda. “Fenton is one of the hottest markets in Genesee County.”

Even though potential sellers are concerned about their next housing move, Warda says there are options available through lending practices, especially if you have equity in your home. “We help with the whole process, not just selling your home,” he said.

While the market is still going strong this summer, the sale of waterfront properties has begun to wane as potential buyers don’t see much of a lakeshore front seat this year. The waterfront sales season is even shorter than a typical real estate season. “The lake season is from April 15 through May 30 for buyers or sellers,” said Warda. “That’s the time frame they know they can still get in and enjoy the summer.”

With the summer season coming to a close, Steve “Melch” Melchor of Berkshire Hathaway Michigan HomeServices in Fenton sees the market definitely stabilizing and becoming less of a seller’s market. “The inventory is still low but buyers aren’t snapping them up as fast as they were,” he said. “People are just taking a break. After you’ve been in the ring for awhile, you get tired of fighting. It’ll pick up again after school starts.”

ZONING
Continued from Front Page
Planning Commissioner and Trustee, John Tucker, said, “Under the R-3 (or R-5) only the lots with frontage are riparian units. Under the PUD, his interior units were also allowed water access. That is the key thing he is giving up by rezoning away from the PUD. PUD zoning combines different kinds of uses, like residential and commercial, along with greater flexibility with setbacks and sizing issues. Tucker said there were too many obstacles with the PUD zoning to be profitable, like upgrading the lift stations and resurfacing the road. Saab can still develop the same number of units with the residential zoning. He could still build condominiums on platted lots.

The recommendation from the commission to the Fenton Township Board of Trustees is to rezone the property to R-3 with no R-5, Tucker said.

BACKGROUND
In December 2016, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees approved a rezoning request for a parcel on Sonora Drive in order to turn the old Lang’s Marina into condominiums.
Meet

BONNIE

PRAY

• Lifetime VFW member
• Proud mother
• Navy wife

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Bonnie Pray of Fenton is proud to say that most of her time and all of her career has been wrapped up in the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) organization. While she has state-level duties with the VFW Auxiliary, her heart is with serving the veterans, which started with her own husband, Jack.

How did you meet your husband?
I graduated from Fenton High School in the class of ’68. While I was in high school, the Vietnam war was happening and somehow I was writing letters to about 20 GIs. It was very interesting and that is when I started realizing what war was. So, I wrote cheerful letters. That is how I met my husband, Jack. He was in the Navy and our mothers were friends. So, I was given his address and started writing to him, too.

We married and Jack reenlisted in the Navy. We began our military life in California, followed by Florida, Colorado, and even Hawaii. Jack retired after 22 years.

I loved being a Navy wife and wouldn’t trade that for anything. Then we moved back here to be home with our families. We have been in the same house for 26 years. I wouldn’t trade my life for anything I can or need to do for our veterans. I thank veterans all the time for what they do for our veterans. We have our parades, many functions, and fundraisers. We place flags in the cemeteries of our deceased members, we volunteer at the hospitals and nursing homes, and make sure the veterans know we are here for them. We work on that every single day.

What do you do outside of the VFW?
I really don’t do much outside the VFW. I don’t have much spare time right now, but I love what I am doing. We have about 25,000 members in our state, and I meet new members every day and there is always something going on.

What is something someone may be surprised to know about you?
Something surprising about me is when I was in school I was very shy and only had a few friends. My one friend, Sue, I have had for 52 years. And now I speak at our conferences, and even have a gavel.

I am very ambitious, I love to work on jigsaw puzzles and really, I will do anything I can or need to do for our veterans. I thank veterans all the time for their service.

What is your career?
My career has been with the VFW Auxiliary. I decided I could do even more for our veterans, their families and the community by being a department officer and worked my way to be the president of the state of Michigan. I am so very proud to be where I am today. I totally enjoy working with our programs, which includes hospital, legislative, Americanism, Camp Trotter, National Home, membership, veterans and family support and all the extra things we do. What accomplishment are you most proud of?

My accomplishment is being able to do what we do for our veterans. We have our parades, many functions, and fundraisers. We speak at our conferences, and even have a gavel.

“i was very shy and only had a few friends. And now I speak at our conferences, and even have a gavel.”

Bonnie Pray
Michigan VFW Auxiliary president

SAVE THE DATE!

2017 Fenton Regional Campaign Kick-off

Where: Fenton School’s Ellen Street Campus
404 E. Ellen St., Fenton, MI 48430

When: Wednesday, August 23rd

Time: 8:00 am to 9:00 am

Questions: Samantha Baldwin
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WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following is what you missed in the Wednesday, August 16, Midweek Edition of the Tri-County Times. To subscribe and receive both the Sunday Weekend and Wednesday Midweek editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Parolee assaults couple at local hotel

Michael Fisk, 41, formerly of Flint, has been charged with felonious assault after allegedly attacking and choking a man and woman at the Comfort Inn in Fenton.

‘I wish I had died’

Matthew Carrier speaks about the crash that killed five people.

Project is expected to be completed in November

Work to realign and resurface Poplar Street from Silver Lake Road to North Road in Fenton began on Monday, Aug. 14. Completion is expected in November.

LOOKING BACK at this week in NATIONAL HISTORY

AUG. 19

1919: The Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, New York. At the time, television was still in its infancy. Regular programming did not yet exist, and very few people owned television sets. There were only about 400 television sets in the United States, and only in the mid-1950s did regular network broadcasting catch on in the United States, and only in the mid-1950s did television sets become more common in the American household.

Source: history.com

AUG. 20

1957: A NASA rocket launched Voyager II, an unmanned 1,620-pound spacecraft, from Cape Canaveral, Florida. It was the first of two such crafts to be launched that year on a “Grand Tour” of the outer planets, organized to coincide with a rare alignment of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Voyager II was a 12-inch copper phonograph record called “Sounds of Earth.” Intended as a kind of introductory time capsule, the record included greetings in 60 languages and scientific information about Earth and the human race, along with classical, jazz and rock ’n’ roll music, nature sounds like thunder and surf, and recorded messages from President Jimmy Carter and other world leaders.

AUG. 21

1959: The modern United States receives its crowning star when President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a proclamation admitting Hawaii into the Union as the 50th state. The president also issued an order for an American flag featuring 50 stars arranged in staggered rows: five six-star rows and four five-star rows. The new flag became official July 4, 1959.

AUG. 22

1992: Hurricane Andrew hits the Bahamas. There and in South Florida, where it arrived two days later, the storm was responsible for the deaths of 26 people and an estimated $33 billion in property damage. Hurricane Andrew was so concentrated that it resembled a tornado in its effects.

AUG. 23

1902: Pioneering cookbook author Fannie Farmer, who changed the way Americans prepare food by advocating the use of standardized measurements in recipes, opens Miss Farmer’s School of Cookery in Boston. In addition to teaching women about cooking, Farmer later educated medical professionals about the importance of proper nutrition for the sick.

AUG. 24


AUG. 25

2002: Mark David Chapman is sentenced to 20 years to life for the 1980 murder of John Lennon, a founding member of The Beatles, one of the most successful bands in the history of popular music. On Dec. 8, 1980, Chapman shot and killed the 40-year-old singer, songwriter and peace activist, outside Lennon’s New York City apartment building, the Dakota, where he lived with his wife Yoko Ono and their young son, Sean.

AUG. 26

1939: The first televised Major League Baseball game is broadcast on station W2XBS, the station that was to become WNBC-TV. Announcer Red Barber called the game between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, New York. At the time, television was still in its infancy. Regular programming did not yet exist, and very few people owned television sets. There were only about 400 in the New York area. Not until 1946 did regular network broadcasting catch on in the United States, and only in the mid-1950s did television sets become more common in the American household.

Source: history.com
COLLEGE
Continued from Front Page

According to the Michigan League for Public Policy (MLPP), from 2003 to 2015, tuition at almost every Michigan university more than doubled, with some increasing by more than 150 percent. The average tuition for a student attending a state university is $11,991 per year, the sixth highest in the country and second highest in the Midwest. If tuition matched the rise of inflation, tuition would have only been 20.4 percent higher than in 2003.

Matthew McLogan, vice president of University Relations at Grand Valley State University (GVSU), said, “In Michigan, for the last 40 years it has been the practice of the state government to move the cost of attendance off of taxpayers and onto students and their families.” He said in the 1970s, the state paid about 75 percent of university tuition and students paid the remaining 25 percent. Those numbers have flipped, and then some. At GVSU, students pay 80 percent of tuition and the state pays the remaining 20 percent.

McLogan cut university funding by more than $262 million, which is a 30-percent decrease, from 2003 to 2017. “I hope it doesn’t get worse,” he said. MLPP also found that tuition is rising faster than the national Pell Grant, which is a subsidy the U.S. federal government gives students for financial aid.

The situation got worse in 2011 when Gov. Rick Snyder cut funding for higher education by 20 percent in his first budget in 2011. McLogan said Snyder has been working to restore that, but some colleges have not yet come back from that loss seven years later.

The 2017 fiscal year budget included a 2.9-percent increase, or $39.8 million, for state universities.

Michelle Rhodes, associate vice president for Financial Aid at GVSU, said students should be looking for scholarships every year, which can help offset the cost of student loans. Students have a few loan options, from parent loans, to private loans to federal loans. Rhodes said the government sets the interest rates for federal loans.

Currently, the interest rate for an unsubsidized or subsidized undergraduate loan is 4.45 percent. The interest rate for an unsubsidized graduate loan is 6 percent.

“We encourage students to consolidate loans when they graduate. It’s likely they can consolidate and get better interest rates,” she said.

McLogan said there are other costs, like housing if they move out of their parents’ home, that students should take into account.

“Do not be off-put by the cost of attendance. Most public colleges will work with students and families to make sure that the cost is not a bar to attendance,” he said, adding to not let the “sticker shock” be a deterrent.

He said the first thing every prospective student should do is determine if they can obtain financial aid.

“Talk to financial campus aid, find out what’s available,” he said. “A college graduate is going to make $1 million more in their lifetime than someone that does not obtain a college degree.”

McLogan said it’s the best investment a student can make.

In-state 2017 annual tuition at Michigan universities

University of Michigan-Ann Arbor: $14,402
Michigan State University: ... $14,062
Central Michigan University: ... $12,150
Grand Valley State University: $11,520
Western Michigan University: $11,493
Ferris State University: ....... $11,290
University of Michigan-Flint: ... $10,344
Saginaw Valley State University: $9,345
Mott Community College: ...... $3,783

Source: collegecosts.com

Rising student debt

In 1990, the average college student owed $9,634 in college loan debt. In 2016, the average student graduated with a student loan debt of $37,172.

The total student loan debt was $1.31 trillion in 2016, which is the second highest debt in the nation, according to Forbes. Student loan debt is higher than credit card and auto debt, and only behind mortgage debt.

Source: Forbes.com, Pew Research Center

POLICE CHASE
Continued from Front Page

The Michigan State Federal Credit Union, 4 South St., Ortonville, who was reporting that two individuals were currently in the drive-thru attempting to obtain funds fraudulently.

The driver was attempting to cash a fraudulent check. Prior to contacting the Sheriff’s Operation Center, the credit union employee contacted the Brandon Township sheriff’s substation directly to report the incident.

As a sergeant arrived at the credit union, the suspects fled the scene, driving away in a black Cadillac XTS. The sergeant pursued the suspects in his police vehicle. His emergency lights and sirens were activated.

The pursuit entered Groveland Township and eventually, turned northbound on Dixie Highway neart Grange Hall Road. While on Dixie Highway, the driver of the Cadillac made a sudden U-turn and proceeded to drive toward the pursuing sergeant’s vehicle. At that time, the driver of the Cadillac intentionally struck the sergeant’s vehicle head-on.

As a result of the crash, both the suspect vehicle and the sergeant’s vehicle were disabled. Both suspects exited their vehicle and fled on foot.

Multiple units from the sheriff’s office responded to the scene, including several sheriff’s office K-9 units.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police Special Enforcement Division, the Metro North Post and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division responded to the area of the Mt. Holly Ski Resort in Groveland Township. One suspect was located by a conservation officer on the ski hill and turned over to sheriff’s deputies.

The second suspect was apprehended a short time later by a state of Michigan Conservation Officer from the Department of Natural Resources.

Both suspects were treated for their injuries by paramedics from the Groveland Township Fire Department. There were no injuries to deputies during this incident.

The OCSO Traffic Reconstruction Unit responded to the scene to assist with the crash investigation. The sheriff’s office vehicle involved in the incident was not equipped with in-car video.

The incident remains under investigation. Charges could include fleeing and eluding a police officer, felony assault with a motor vehicle on a police officer, attempted use of a fraudulent transaction device.

The buck stays here! Give me a try.

Visit Caretel Inns of Linden for a tour.

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810.735.9400

202 S. Bridge St • Linden
Bronchos hope to contend for Metro League title

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

It really wasn’t that long ago when the Holly varsity football program was routine-
ly one of the weakest in the Metro League. However, that’s changed since the turn of
the decade. Since 2010, the Bronchos have made the state playoffs three times, and have
experienced .500 or better seasons in five of the years. The Bronchos even finished in a
three-way tie for the Metro League crown in 2011.

So it’s fair to say since Ryan Culloty

have been a better program, and
took over at the helm of the varsity football

coaching position in 2008, the Bronchos

made the state playoffs three times, and have

ly one of the weakest in the Metro League.

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BLUE DEVILS
Continued from Page 22A
identity pretty much every year, and should be again this year. Returning is Jarrett Trombley.
“He’s going to be vital to what we do,” Doyle said. “He’s a lighting-in-the-bottle playmaker.”
Parker Goupil separated his shoulder and missed a good chunk of the season last year, but appears to be healthy. Others who will play important roles for the running game are Matt Tomczyk, Bryce Andres and fullbacks Sean Trombley and Brenden Carr.
Luke Tomczyk is the team’s top returning receiver and should work well with Nevadomski. Other receiving threats are Andrew VanVeelan, Hunter Schramm and Cody Schramm.

Defensive line
Doyle said the defensive line will be the biggest rebuild from a year ago because five of the top six front six players graduated.
“There’s a lot of talent to replace, but we have a lot of talent up there as well.” Chris Tomczak is a four-year line-
man and he’ll be the anchor for the group. Others who will play on the defensive line include Jimmy Hamilton, Andy Lyons, Jaeden Yurk and 6-foot-3, 250-pound Matt Turgeon.
At linebacker, Ethan Dunkel and Brenden Carr return after seeing good experience during their sophomore seasons. Cameron McNeil didn’t play football the last two years but he’s back out and quicky adjusting.
The secondary has plenty of experienced depth back. Luke Tomczyk will play more like a center fielder in the secondary and is a good start to the unit. Others who will play a lot as safeties are Sean Trombley, Matt Tomczyk and Mike O’Brien. Hunter Schramm, Cody Schramm and Parker Goupil are expected to play the corner positions.
“We are young on defense and they will get thrown in the fire right out of the gate against New Lothrop and Monroe. We did lose a lot but we have a lot back. We will lean on those kids initially until we get everyone in the right positions.”

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

BRONCHOS
Continued from Page 22A
a bit step as a football player and as a leader. He’s had the tools since his freshman year, but he’s starting to look like the finished product. We think he’s ready to be the finished product. We think he’s ready to be the
“Both are returning starters and both will get thrown in the fire right out of the gate against New Lothrop and Mon-

HOLLY BRONCHOS
2016
Berkeley 26-29L
Williamston 35-28W
Kearsley 21-0W
Clio 28-24W
Flushing 35-14W
Fenton 35-54L
Swartz Creek 35-16W
Linden 27-30L
Brandon 26-43L
2015
Berkeley 29-7W
Williamston 6-7L
Linden 13-14L
Kearsley 42-12W
Clio 14-7W
Flushing 23-20W
Fenton 19-35L
Swartz Creek 21-19W
Brandon 23-27L
Fenton 20-21L D2 playoffs

2014
Berkeley 7-34L
Williamston 7-26L
Linden 6-23L
Kearsley 20-21L
Clio 0-7L
Flushing 14-41L
Fenton 3-35L
Swartz Creek 23-26L
Brandon 6-27L

2013
Swartz Creek 32-26W
Linden 7-21L
Fenton 0-20L
Clio 7-0W
Kearsley 43-13W
Lapeer West 15-18L
Eaton Rapids 36-30W
Brandon 6-45L
Lapeer East 12-41L

Beignet Sunday at the baking company
Sunday, August 27
9:00 am – while they last

Place your order out on our sidewalk, then head inside to pick up hot beignets made-to-order.
These crispy puff pastries are dusted with powdered sugar and sold in sets of three.
A taste of the French Quarter, right here in Fenton.

JARRETT TROMBLEY
Trombley will play a key role for Lake Fenton’s run game this fall.

LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS
2016
Southwestern 41-7W
Olivet 18-14W
Beecher 61-14W
Mt. Morris 42-21W
Montrose 35-0W
Goodrich 40-0W
Corunna 22-20W
Waverly 63-35W
Williamston 35-38L
Powers 19-20L D4 playoffs

2014
Freeland 0-42L
Durand 55-0W
Montrose 12-27L
Mount Morris 38-33W
Divine Child 24-38L
Beecher 6-44L
Goodrich 36-37L
Corunna 27-26W
Williamston 20-34L

2013
Gab. Richard 13-25L
Divine Child 28-21W
Mount Morris 33-12W
Bradford Ac. 56-0W
Beecher 33-14W
Goodrich 35-15W
Perry 59-6W
Durand 53-7W
Montrose 0-37L
Williamston 35-15W D4 playoffs
Sexton 14-32L D4 playoffs