

It's Applefest time!

■ St. John Church festival one of the biggest events of the year

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

The 45th annual Applefest kicks off this Thursday, Sept. 14 at 3 p.m. and runs through Sunday, Sept. 17 on the grounds of St. John the

Evangelist Catholic Church of Fenton.

With apple pies, a midway to entertain the thousands of families each year, car raffles, Fr. Harvey's famous chili, road races, an entertainment tent with live music, Bingo, and more, attending Applefest is a must-do for families throughout the greater Fenton area.

See **APPLEFEST** on 18A

TIMES FILE PHOTO

Apple pies are the anchor and the namesake for St. John's Applefest, which begins on Thursday, Sept. 14.



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2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Therapy dogs — bringing joy to patients one wag at a time



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Mary Ann Pietryzk (second from right) of Fenton Township stands with Loki, her 15-month-old golden retriever, before therapy dog training on Tuesday, Sept. 5 in Goodrich. The training session, ran by Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs, welcomed 21 new teams to a 13-week therapy dog course. See story on page 17A.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWNNEWS:
MARC SEROTA/GETTY IMAGES

Florida residents are evacuating as Hurricane Irma nears.

'I wish I was in Michigan'

■ Local families, visiting or living in Florida, trying to find a safe haven from hurricane

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Cathy Tremaine is spending this school year in Naples, Florida, enjoying her family's vacation home and the proximity of her parents, Dave and Jan Lufkin. She and her husband, John's four kids attend school in Naples, while he commutes back and forth for his business, Tremaine Real Living Real Estate in Fenton.

Cathy has had some tough decisions to make about evacuating their home while waiting for Category 5 Hurricane Irma to hit Florida this weekend.

See **HURRICANE** on 21A

Early fall color is in the forecast

■ Chilly temperatures and sunny days make for colorful fall foliage

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

You may have noticed that some of the trees around the tri-county area are already beginning to change color to their rich

autumn reds, yellows and oranges.

It's not just your imagination; it looks like Michigan may be in for an earlier fall color show than usual, according to J.R. Kirtek, chief meteorologist for ABCTV-12.

After warming for the Labor Day holiday weekend, we're having another shot of cool air this week,

See **FALL COLOR** on 18A

SUMMARY

■ Fall appears to be coming early to Michigan this year, with our state's autumn splendor forecasted to be ahead of last year.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO



“There are only two reasons I don't trust people. 1) I don't know them. 2) I know them.”



“So the DDA is looking for new members? To all you people who criticize the DDA, here's your chance. Step up to the plate and volunteer for one of the most thankless, but important, jobs in the community. 'Walk a mile in our shoes,' as the saying goes.”



“I am sitting on my dock on Lake Fenton, sipping an icy cold beer, pondering the fact that in addition to all its wonderful lakes, forests and natural beauty, Michigan has never had to experience a hurricane.”



“Things I trust more than Hillary Clinton: Flint tap water, a rattlesnake with a 'Pet Me' sign, an elevator ride with Ray Rice, Bill Cosby as a bartender, emails from a Nigerian prince and gas station sushi.”



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“Can someone please explain to me how a Texas flood can pack an additional 50 cents per gallon onto the price of gasoline? More importantly, how does charging more increase the supply of gasoline?”



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Gerry and Kay Willey pose with the sculpture "Stainless Steel Butterfly," in downtown Fenton on Thursday, Sept. 7. The Willeys donated the \$17,000 to purchase it for the city last fall. He appreciates the support his business has received from Fenton residents. "We wanted to give back," he said.

Butterfly lands permanently in city of Fenton

■ Gerry and Kay Willey donate \$17,000 for city to acquire popular sculpture

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Local businessman Gerry Willey admired the butterfly sculpture at Gazebo Park in Fenton so much that he and his wife, Kay, donated the funds so the city could acquire the piece for permanent display.

"It's such a beautiful piece of art that we wanted the city of Fenton to have it," said Willey, owner of Fenton Home Furnishings since 1979.

The sculpture, called "Stainless Steel Butterfly," was created by internationally known Ohio artist James Havens, a retired steel union worker. Handcrafted from 100 percent stainless steel, the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

“It's such a beautiful piece of art that we wanted the city of Fenton to have it.”

Gerry Willey

Fenton Home Furnishings owner

sculpture stands 9½ feet high, 9 feet wide and weighs about 700 pounds.

"Over the years, Havens' works have been some of the most complimented," said John Strayer, chairman of the Sculpture Selection Committee and Fenton DDA board member.

This sculpture is part of the Midwest Sculpture Initiative that partners every year with the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to bring quality sculptures downtown for display and enjoyment of the arts.

Willey feels a special kinship with the arts, both personally and professionally. His son, Rod, who is general manager for Fenton Home Furnishings, is very artistic. Willey also feels that this particular upscale butterfly piece correlates with

See BUTTERFLY on 20A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The dream of a dog park in Fenton Township is becoming a reality. Grass and a parking area were recently added. It's projected to be finished by October.

ARF! ARF!

Dog park could open by Oct. 1

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton Twp. — The driveway and parking area are finished, and grass seed has been planted.

All the Thompson Road Regional Dog Park needs to open now is a fence and a sign, said Bob Krug, Fenton Township clerk.

"If we could get about \$10,000, we have a sign that we're going to use," he said. "If we can get the money, we can have it usable before snowfall."

The 36-acre park, which includes the 2-acre park, is off Thompson Road, just east of Wiggins Road. It was approved by the Fenton Township Board of Trustees in October 2015, and the cities of Linden and Fenton joined the planning a few months later.

The cities of Linden and Fenton joined the planning a few months later.

Krug said they hope to open the dog park by Oct. 1, when the first phase of the park will be complete. This phase includes adding the fence and sign. Krug said they have a few bids for the fence.

See DOG PARK on 18A

“If we can get the money, we can have it usable before snowfall.”

Bob Krug

Fenton Township clerk

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CONTACT INFORMATION

General Office 810-629-8282	Hot Line 810-629-9221
Advertising 810-629-8281	Fax 810-629-9227
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Come *Heller* high water

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Groundhogs and dry ice?

The University of Michigan is catching heat for stuffing dry ice down groundhog holes to kill the little buggers, which are apparently chunneling the heck of out north campus.

The university is worried their passageways will “undermine the foundations of structures, porches and pavement,” according to a news account. So one minute the Lurie Bell Tower is there then, poof, it’s gone, swallowed whole by a groundhog sinkhole.

That would suck.



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

A university spokesperson said groundhogs “are capable of moving a lot of dirt in their digging,” which can create a tripping hazard.

Fair enough, except for the fact that most of the university is

crisscrossed with sidewalks, so unless they tunnel through concrete the risk of tripping seems a bit remote. College students, of course, are known to lounge, play and cavort in the grass. So that could be problematic.

Then again life is risky, so ...

If I had to choose, I guess I’d side with the groundhogs. I don’t have any particular fondness for them. They’ve tunneled a yard or three of mine and it always made me angry. As my Grandma Rose used to say, “The only good varmint is a dead varmint.” Or was that Carl Spackler?

But to my surprise I’ve become more of a pacifist over the years. I never used to think twice about crushing spiders inside the house. Now I carry them outside where they no doubt think, “Well, that was inconsiderate. Now I’ve gotta go to the hassle of getting back inside again.”

Besides, suffocating the poor bastards in their dens seems a bit unsporting. That’s what the dry ice does. When it evaporates, it produces carbon dioxide, thereby choking the

groundhogs. Imagine how awful that would be. Imagine you’re a groundhog and you see a pretty white fog rolling down the tunnel: “Oh, look, party fog. It must be Halloween. I’ll go get my costume on.” Then, whammo, all of sudden you go from pushing up dirt to pushing up daisies.

I think what bothers me most is we’re talking here about the University of Michigan. The place is full of giant brains, and yet they can’t think of a humane way to get rid of groundhogs? At least bring in Bill Murray and his plastic explosive squirrels — something creative and not so crass.

Or how about this: just don’t kill them at all. By killing groundhogs instead of capturing and relocating them, UM is abandoning its principles as a liberal bastion of love, peace, freedom and intellectualism.

UM is better than that.

As a lifelong UM fan that irritates me enough to suggest that, on the evening before this fall’s big game, MSU students seed the heck out of the entire UM campus with groundhogs wearing green Sparty sweaters.

And maybe equip them with little backpack oxygen tanks for the inevitable retaliatory strike.

Just in case.

Opinions offered in Come Heller High Water are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the Andrew at andrewheller@tctimes.com.

Hotlines

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

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

SUPPORTED BY THE fake media, the left is using another name. Past names include Progressive, Liberal, Socialist, Communist and Marxist/ Leninist. The latest name, Antifa, was first used by the German Communist Party in the 1930s. Antifa’s goal is to divide and destroy America through violence, name-calling and fear.

IF YOU THINK Heller’s comedic opinion column is that offensive, you have incredibly thin skin. Grow up.

OBAMA IS RESPONSIBLE for ISIS? Really? The history of ISIS is pretty easy to research. You should try it. Further, ISIS wouldn’t exist if we hadn’t been forced into an unnecessary war.

I JUST WANTED to say what a joy it is to shop at the family hardware store in Holly. Every time I go there, I am greeted by a friendly, helpful staff. Just a nice, friendly, hometown hardware store. I love it.

THE WRITER REGARDING Hillary’s \$240 meet and greet had no concerns. Yes, it isn’t illegal to charge. She was simply pointing out the fact that Hillary is a greedy, self-serving individual. Still thanking God every day that she lost the election.

WHOEVER SAID THAT Holly needs a White Castle, have you been to one in recent years? Their burgers are smoth-

ered in grease. I wouldn’t want one unless you’re willing to camp out in the bathroom.

‘NEO-NAZIS ARE a group of thugs financed by the left? That is one of the most nonsensical conspiracy theories I have ever heard.

DOES ANYONE KNOW why someone has pushed over 28 trees along the walking path between the playscape and Linden Road across from park? They’ve also destroyed the wild raspberries along this walkway.

I HAVE RECENTLY attended several forums on medical marijuana. I am convinced that medical marijuana can and does help sick and suffering people, but I also know there are more pot heads than sick people.

THE ONLY REASON I keep up my subscription to the Tri-County Times is because both of our children are incredible student athletes at a local high school and I like to keep up with their teams. Otherwise, I would be gone due to the “Hotlines” comments.

IT’S MUCH BETTER that Hillary is on book tour collecting \$240 for a meet and greet then another world tour as president collecting \$240 million a pop for the Clinton Foundation in crime syndicate.

PLEASE READ LINCOLN’S letter to Horace Greeley where he clearly states he didn’t care about slavery, only to save the union. Not the country, not the U.S. The ‘Union.’

IN REGARDS TO Andrew Heller’s comment on President Trump’s donation to Houston. I would be curious as to how much Mr. Heller has donated. And by the way, get rid of that guy.

HAIL THE KING. His words of wisdom are priceless. I am sending copies of his ‘Death Spiral of America’ to all my family and friends because I love them and America.

WHY DOESN’T ANYONE on the news ever talk about the hexagon-shaped storm that’s been around Saturn for the last three years.

IN JUST A few short months, Trump has given us economic optimism. We have a good stock, one million jobs, low unemployment levels and a 2.6-percent growth thus far. What’s not to like?

WHAT’S TAKING THEM so long to tear down the Pizza Hut and the Big Boy?

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What’s the most memorable thing you did over summer?

streettalk



“I played Arcadia Bluffs Golf Course, south of Traverse City. It’s \$190 a round. It’s beautiful. It was very nice.”

Robert Leclercq
Holly



“Probably get my daughter ready to leave for a two-year teaching job in Honduras. Her passports, everything. She’s been loving it.”

Katrina McBroom
Fenton Township



“Going up north with my grandma and sister to Traverse City. We went swimming and went out to dinner and went paddleboarding.”

Lexus Hubbard
Linden



“I went to Churchill Downs in Kentucky. It was really cool to watch the horse races.”

Kathy Wilkie
Linden



“We did the engineer day at Sault Ste. Marie and got to walk across the locks. It’s just beautiful.”

Lynn Thrasher
Holly



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those affected by
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YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

IMPLANT RETAINED LOWER DENTURE

Dentures restore the smile and aid in chewing of food when the natural teeth are lost because of dental disease and/or trauma. The biggest challenge for most denture wearers is the lower denture. Unlike the upper denture which usually has retention and is stable; the lower denture has no retention and is often unstable. Lower dentures float. Most people get along pretty well with their complete upper denture but tolerate, at best, their lower denture. Since lower dentures are less stable and lack retention; eating is often a challenge. Those of us with our own teeth take for granted the fact that we can go to any restaurant and order anything we want from on the menu. Denture wearers are often limited on what they can eat because of their lower denture. Now, I am happy to report that there is hope. With the help of dental implants it is now possible to give a denture wearer a lower denture that is stable and HAS retention. With dental implants it is possible to have a lower denture that DOES NOT FLOAT. Dental implants give a precision, snap fit to a once loose and floating lower denture. An implant retained lower denture can be life changing. Now, with their lower denture firmly and snugly in place, they can eat and enjoy essentially anything they want. If you or someone you know and love is a suffering denture wearer, call my office and ask for a free consultation to learn more about how dental implants can help improve their quality of life.

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Proposed bill would give divorced parents equal time with kids

■ Exceptions include cases such as distance, domestic violence

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

One proposed Michigan bill, which would give parents equal time with their children in the case of a divorce, passed the House Judiciary Committee in late June.

Sponsor of the legislation, Representative Jim Runestad (R-District 44) said House Bill 4691 has been around for decades and reintroduced numerous times.

"I've talked to many parents who have experienced basically being taken away from their children for the bulk of their childhood. It's a devastating experience," he said. "I've talked to children who...felt the scars of long-ing for a parent they went from having 100-percent access to, to maybe 15- to 20-percent access."

The bill would not guarantee 50/50 access for both parents. Instead, the bill would guarantee that both parents, if they are fit and loving, start with a presumption of 50/50 access during court proceedings when judges decide how much of the child's time the parents get.

"For two loving, caring, fit parents who want to be involved, the starting point would be 50/50," he said. Currently, most of these cases give one parent 80 percent of physical time with the child and the other parent receives 20 percent.

If something like domestic violence or drug addiction is found on the side of either parent, then the judge reverts to the older laws. Same goes if the physical distance between the parents is too far.

Runestad said even if there's a preponderance of evidence, which is the lowest amount of evidence needed, then the 50/50 presumption would be off the table.

If parents come to an agreement of any kind, the judge will go with that decision, barring safety and welfare issues. The bill also states that if the child is at least 16, the judge must give predominant weight to his or her preference.

The bill would also prohibit a parent from moving more than 80 miles away from the other parent.

Proponents of the bill say the bill

could be unhealthy for children. Rebecca Shiemke of the Michigan Poverty Law program told freep.com that, "This bill presumes that one form of custody is best for all families and that's equal time. And that's not necessarily true."

An important issue the bill would solve, Runestad said, is the transparency issue.

“For two loving, caring, fit parents who want to be involved, the starting point would be 50/50.”

Jim Runestad
Michigan representative
(R-District 44)

"Decisions are all over the map in cases where a judge deviates from 50/50," he said.

When searching for information on why judges deviate, he couldn't find any information from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for numerous years. DHHS is supposed to get the information from the courts, but in 2008, a bill that passed that allowed judges to not disclose that information,

Runestad said.

Since then, Runestad said there's been a huge transparency issue.

"When you make laws, you need to make sure you're not making unintended consequences."

Runestad said when he speaks with judges about recording their decisions for deviating from the 50/50, it seems to cause them "a lot of grief."

"They say 'I make those decisions myself.' Don't you think it'd be simple to write why you're deviating?" he said. "Judges are completely different county by county."

One judge told him they don't keep this data.

SUMMARY

■ A Michigan representative proposed a bill that would give both parents equal time with their children in the case of divorce.

"Transparency and getting data is something you need to make decisions. I have had the most unbelievable time trying to get this information," he said. "There's transparency issues here and part of our bill is to clean this up. If a judge finds there's a reason to deviate, that's fine, but tell us what the reason is."

Runestad cited studies proving that shared parenting is the best arrangement for children.

"The science is in," he said. "This is for the children. It is primarily for the children."



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Vera Hogan named Times associate editor

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Vera Hogan has been named the new associate editor for the Times.

Hogan has worked as a freelance reporter, staff reporter, associate editor and editor during her 13-year stint at the newspaper from 1995 to 2008. During a seven-year break, she pursued other interests, including working at the Flint Journal.

She rejoined the Times in 2015 as a staff reporter.

Hogan is a proven reporter, writer, and editor who has won numerous awards from the Michigan Press Association.

She's earned the reputation of reporting local news factually, with no bias, and she does not hesitate to ask the tough questions to our city leaders and other

elected officials.

A committed fact-checker, Hogan is a stickler for details, which is what our valued readers of the Times have come to expect from their hometown paper.



Vera Hogan

Hogan also loves history, especially when it pertains to the tri-county area. Anytime a writing assignment involves businesses and residents from the past, she's the first to grab that story and run with it.

"Since I love to write, love the Tri-County Times and our local communities, returning to the paper gave me a perfect opportunity to be a part of this exciting business again.

"I am honored to be named the associate editor again and look forward to doing my part to continue moving this award-winning publication into the future."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IT WOULD BE so nice to read a full article in your paper, as we enjoy it so much, instead of maybe all of the silly Hot lines. I know you're short on space but some of the Hot lines could be eliminated.

PLEASE SEND A few of your journalists out to interview auto mechanics and find out how to identify flood-damaged cars.

I HAVE TO agree with the caller calling in about Charter cable. It sounds like the biggest rip-off scam in the world. I have Direct TV now and I am more than happy with them. They don't tell you one thing then charge you another.

PRESIDENT OBAMA IGNORED our immigration laws and kicked immigration down the road. Kudos to President Trump for obeying our country's law and sending the DACA ruling back to Congress to come up with a coherent law.

IMMIGRATION. ISIS. NORTH Korea. Russia. These are all issues that President Obama was incapable of solving.

Thank God we now have a tough business leader as our president.

I AGREE. THERE were thousands who entered the streets after becoming disenchanted with Trump's continued radical discourse. Too bad you weren't there.

NAME ONE COUNTRY that celebrated its civil war by having anniversaries where both sides came together? That is the problem that caused the recent problems.

HEY HOLLY TOWNSHIP, do we really need another auto parts store or another dollar store? How about a White Castle restaurant?

IN RESPONSE TO past Hot lines, the primates you see now and the primates we evolved from are different. Many species existed in our past. From one of those sub species we derived. Modern human and Neanderthal did mate and this leftover gene code again is proof. I don't believe there is just one missing link, but several.

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Sunday, September 17th @ 3:00PM

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Fireworks over Lobdell Lake



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Fireworks explode over Lobdell Lake, Saturday, Sept. 9. The fireworks show, hosted by the Lobdell Bennett Lake Association, has been a Labor Day tradition for eight years. Volunteers created a boat perimeter around the fireworks barge for safety. The light display was followed by a boat parade on Sunday, when lake residents decorate their boats.

Police&Fire report

STUDENT STRUCK BY VEHICLE

Genesee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a personal injury crash involving a pedestrian at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at Lake Fenton High School. According to 911 dispatch, a vehicle struck an 11-year-old student. Afterward, the student was reportedly bleeding from her head. Interim Superintendent Julie Williams said Thursday that the student is doing fine. She had minor injuries and was kept overnight at the hospital for observation. The student was expected to be released from the hospital on Thursday.

View all stories
online at
tctimes.com



WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Sept. 6, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Fenton Township home destroyed by fire

There were no injuries and Michigan State Police investigate as to the cause of the fire on Wenwood Parkway.



Sell alcohol at college sporting events?

More and more universities profiting from alcohol sales.

Local businesses helping with hurricane relief

The aftermath and devastation of Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Louisiana has hit the hearts of tri-county residents in a big way.

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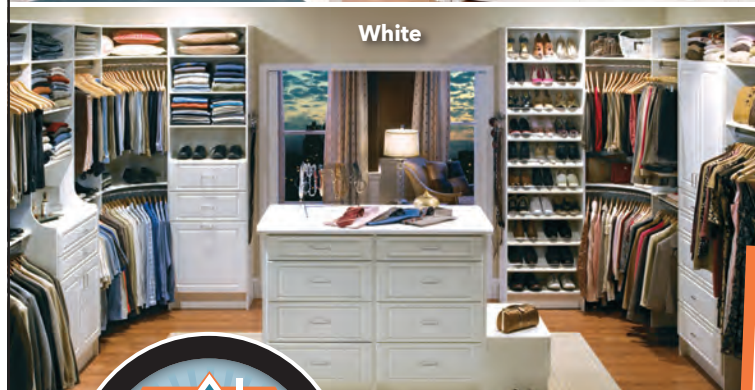
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Offers End 9/30/17

News briefs

Public hearing scheduled for fire protection special assessment roll

Residents of Fenton Township are invited to attend a public hearing during the Sept. 18 Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting to discuss the fire protection special assessment roll. The cost for fire protection services will remain the same at \$65 per parcel, according to Clerk Bob Krug, who said that amounts to about 17 cents per day. The meeting will be held at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive at 7:30 p.m.

Lake Fenton High School Homecoming parade route changed

Due to the Thompson Road traffic and construction, the Genesee County Road Commission requested that the Lake Fenton Community Schools not use Torrey Road for the homecoming parade held on Friday, Oct. 13. More drivers are using Torrey Road when heading south because westbound traffic is not allowed on Thompson Road from Torrey to U.S. 23. Instead, the school district will use an alternative route from the Lake Fenton Middle School at 11425 Torrey Road to the Fenton Winery and Brewery at 1370 N. Long Lake Rd. The Board of Trustees voted 6-0 to approve the route.

ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH OPIOID ADDICTION?

The Times would like to hear your story. Names and faces can be withheld to share your experience. Email news@tctimes.com.

'Serving the children of the world'

■ Kiwanis clubs exist to help kids thrive, prosper and grow

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

This is the third in a series about local civic organizations, their history and what they do for the community. Last week we focused on the Holly Kiwanis Club. This week we focus on the Kiwanis clubs of Fenton and Linden.

Children in the tri-county area are fortunate to have three active Kiwanis clubs — Fenton, Holly and Linden — to help serve a variety of needs.

Research shows adults still value community service and volunteerism, and being a Kiwanis member can be rewarding in many ways.

KIWANIS CLUB OF FENTON

The Kiwanis Club of Fenton features 20 active members, according to Cathy Utter, club secretary.

"Last year, our Fenton Kiwanis Club was presented an award for having 75 years of service to the Fenton community," Utter said. "Typically, we raise between \$10,000 to \$15,000 yearly that go toward the projects we support in the community."

The Fenton club has signature service projects they do annually.

"Our two Key Clubs, which are at Fenton High School and Lake Fenton High School, and our Builders Club at Lake Fenton Middle School are active participants in most of our service projects," she said.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The local Kiwanis clubs are focused on community building, and community aid — such as "Stuff-The-Bus" activities, usually hosted at local schools and churches.

ects," she said.

The Fenton club's projects also include: Back to School Backpack and Shoe Project (partnered with Fenton First Presbyterian Church); The Backpack Food Project (partnered with Project Hope); Holiday Food Baskets (partnered with Rotary's Angel Tree); Brunch with Santa during Jinglefest and more.

The Fenton Kiwanis also fund Key Leadership Training Weekend for Students, and the Michigan State Police Kiwanis Law Enforcement Career Academy. The club also provides senior scholarships, children's games at the Fourth of July Freedom Festival, and Safety Town for pre-schoolers in August.

The Fenton club meets every Tuesday at 12 p.m. at Johnny's Pizzeria in Fenton. "We welcome all interested in finding out more about Kiwanis and are always welcoming of new members," said Utter.

The club's website is www.fenton-kiwanis.com and they are starting a Facebook page soon. Email them at FentonKiwanis@gmail.com.

Lake Fenton Community Schools Interim Superintendent Julie Williams is the current club president. She will be stepping down this month and Vice-President Debbie Decker will take over. Heidi Howieson will become the new vice president. Donna Peters is the treasurer and Utter will continue as secretary.

KIWANIS CLUB OF LINDEN

Don Rajsich, secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Linden, said there are currently 13 members.

Among the club's fundraisers is a chicken barbecue in May. "For the first time this year we tried a chicken barbecue in August that was held just a couple of weeks ago," Rajsich said.

"In September, when Mueller's (Orchards) has its car and craft show for cystic fibrosis, we have a booth for the whole weekend," he added.

In December, the Linden Kiwanis, too, spend a Saturday selling newspapers along the roadways.

"We raise close to \$10,000 a year," Rajsich added.

The Kiwanis Club of Linden donates to a variety of causes. "Each year we give each elementary school in Linden \$150 to \$200 for their emergency funds," said Rajsich. Those funds are used to help kids who come to school with no boots, torn clothes, no hats or gloves, for example.

They also sponsor one female and one male student to attend state school. Sponsored by the American Legion, the Linden Kiwanis pay the tuition for one high school girl to attend the American Legion Auxiliary Michigan Girls State, and one high school boy to attend the American Legion Auxiliary Michigan Boys State.

"It takes place in Lansing and they actually learn about local government," said Rajsich. "They break up in groups, have a mayor and treasurer and try to solve problems. The cost is \$325 to participate."

See **KIWANIS** on 18A



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2017 HollyDay

HollyDay celebrates families and community

Event will be held Saturday, Sept. 16 with family oriented activities

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

"We love where we live, so let's have some fun together!"

That's the goal behind Holly's large community celebration, HollyDay, set for Saturday, Sept. 16 throughout the village and township.

"It's like a big block party," said Katy Hughes, Holly Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director, who is also parade chairperson for the HollyDay Parade. "It's our third annual HollyDay, which actually got its start as the Carry Nation Festival many years ago, then returned when Holly celebrated its Sesquicentennial event on Sept. 16, 2015."

The idea of a Community Play Date came about from Holly's designation as a "Playful City

USA" by KaBoom!, a national non-profit organization dedicated to bringing balance and active play into the daily lives of all kids, especially those growing up in poverty.

Thanks to the Holly Outdoor Recreation Coalition, the village earned this designation by laying out an action plan to improve area parks. The parks will be a focal part of the day's activities, but there will be a number of events throughout the downtown and north end business district.

"We ask local businesses, churches and schools to provide a free activity in exchange for promoting their cause and giving it back to the community," said Chris Rankin, chairperson of the village of Holly Parks Commission.

The day's fun will begin with a 5K Color Fun Run through the streets of Holly from 9 to 11 a.m., sponsored by the Holly Area Community Coalition.

Sidewalk sales will take place throughout Holly, and watch for a free book giveaway, in celebration of families. "We want this whole event to be a celebration of families and community," said Laura Legant, a business owner and volunteer who is helping organize this special day.

The HollyDay Parade will step out at 12 p.m., with a one-mile route from the Holly VFW on Airport Drive, right on Saginaw Street, left onto Maple, ending at Holly Elementary School, according to Hughes.

Watch for Holly Youth Theatre in the parade, promoting its upcoming fall production of the Broadway musical "Annie," with auditions the week after the parade, according to Legant.

Crapo Park will host hundreds of families from 1 to 4 p.m. for active play, including bounce houses and children's



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The Holly High School marching band lends its talents to the 2017 Holly Memorial Day Parade.

activities, and a tug o' war between the Holly police and fire department.

The Oakland County Medivac helicopter is scheduled to land next to the park, weather permitting, according to Rankin. "Fire and police vehicles will be there and we'll have tours of the police, fire and Department of Public Works (DPW) facilities," he said.

There will also be a climbing wall at the north end of town at the Holly Foods Plaza.

Also, watch out for "Holly Rocks!" being painted and hidden throughout town. Holly Rocks on Facebook have gathered 1,300 members and is growing. Once you find a rock, post a picture of it and re-hide it for someone to find, invites the Facebook page.

HollyDay will continue after 4 p.m. with a Hospitality Tent sponsored by the Moose Lodge, a dunk tank, music in the streets and a street dance.

Northern Oak Brewery will host an Oktoberfest event with tents, music, dancers, sausage and beer.

The evening will end with a spectacular fireworks display at Crapo Park, over the water tower, at 10 p.m.

"It's like a big block party."

KATY HUGHES

Holly DDA director and parade chairperson

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HollyDay events

Crapo Park

9am - 5k Color Run

hosted by the Holly Area Community Coalition (must pre-register before the race)

1pm - 4pm - Community Play Day events

1pm - Aimed1 Helicopter Landing and demonstration

(weather-permitting)

2pm - Free Hot Dogs

(while supplies last) sponsored by Villagers, Holly Foods, and Grande Belle

4pm - Tug-of-War

Holly Police vs. Holly Fire

Historic Downtown

All day - Scavenger Hunt

sponsored by Inspirations Arts and Crafts Workshop

12pm - HollyDay Parade

(VFW Hall on Airport, South on Saginaw, East on Maple, ends at Holly El.)

10am - 6pm - Sidewalk Sales

hosted by the Downtown Holly Merchants

4pm - 6pm - Municipal Tours:

Police Dept., Fire Dept., and Water Plant (use the free event shuttle)

6pm - Free Cake

(while supplies last) provided at Cupcakes and Kisses

Broad Street

4pm - Dunk a Council Member

sponsored by the Holly Village Council

4pm - 12am - Hospitality Tent

sponsored by Holly Moose Lodge #1168

8pm - 12am - Live Band performance

Dusk - Fireworks over the Water Tower, near the Fire Station

Battle Alley

10am - 5pm - Vendors / Sidewalk Sales

6pm - 9pm - Street Dance

hosted by DJ Nick Klemp

For Mainstage performance times see page 3B

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FACEBOOK PHOTO

Gary Musgrave will perform at the 2017 HollyDay Festival.

Music in the streets

Entertainment and street dancing will be part of HollyDay afternoon and evening fun

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

"Dancing in the Street" by Martha & The Vandellas must've been on the minds of organizers as they planned the HollyDay music and main stage entertainment for Saturday, Sept. 16.

Terry Connell handled all the arrangements and scheduling and is excited about the entertainment line-up.

The excitement of music will fill the air all afternoon and evening as musicians and performers hit the stage at 2 p.m. at Crapo Park, with the following schedule of performances:

2-2:30 p.m. Nick Lafano
solo musician

2:30-2:35 p.m. Jenna Royle
poetry reading

2:40-2:55 p.m.
"A Different Perspective,"
rock music

3-3:30 p.m. Katelyn Vallier
acoustic/folk/modern

3:30-4:30 p.m. "Human Slate,"
acoustic, original music

4:30-5 p.m. Jamison Jones,
modern acoustic musician and vocalist

5-5:30 p.m. Gary Musgrave,
acoustic/folk/modern

5:30-5:40 p.m.
Special appearance by favorite local
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audience

5:40-6 p.m. Dance Arts of Holly
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Holly Rocks! . . . rock

Nationwide scavenger hunt craze hits Holly with painted rocks displayed on HollyDay

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Holly Rocks! has become a Facebook community phenomenon with more than 1,300 members in this local group.

Painting rocks and hiding them for others to find has become part of a nationwide craze for spreading kindness and positivity.

This local effort will be especially visible during HollyDay on Sept. 16, when painted rocks that have been hidden and found will be on display for everyone to enjoy.

What is Holly Rocks! all about?

"It's a community-focused activity getting families together doing something active outdoors," said Katy Hughes, director of Holly's Downtown Development Authority (DDA). "I've been really championing this cause, because it's really positive."

Holly resident Kelly Judson is in charge of the Facebook group and explains what the activity is all about:

- **Find some rocks** and paint them. Get creative.
- **Hide them around** our town.
- **Once found, post** a photo of it, and



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Jacob Bradley, 2½, has found a number of rocks around town with his mom, Ann Bradley. They post many of their finds on the Holly Rocks' Facebook page.

then re-hide it for someone else to find.

• **More people playing** equals more fun, so tell your friends.

• **Get outdoors, enjoy** the summer sun and have fun.

Getting families to enjoy an active pursuit outdoors is one of the most positive aspects of Holly Rocks!, according to Hughes. "It's like treasure hunting," she said. "It encourages people to go out looking for painted rocks."

Some people have really gotten into the creative aspect of the project, **See HOLLY ROCKS! on 20A**

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Brian Wendt of Gaines is willing to bet his 13-inch beard to raise a little cash for charity. The public can vote with their dollars whether Wendt shaves or saves his beard.

Shave it or save it?

■ Fundraiser lets donors decide if Gaines man can keep his 13-inch beard

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Save it or shave it.

That's the name of a new and unusual fundraiser organized by two Gaines residents over a dispute about facial hair. Gaines resident Brian Wendt's 13-inch beard has been a source of pride for three years, but his close friend, Audra Warner, said he needs to shave it.

"It's a rivalry between us," he said. They're letting the people decide the fate of his beard by holding a fundraiser for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society. People can donate in two categories: shave it or save it. Their goal is to raise \$1,000.

Wendt and Warner used to work together at Gaines Bar, when Wendt was a disc

jockey and Warner was a bartender. They became close friends and Warner is dating Wendt's brother, Lee.

"I set that up," Wendt said. "We have a brother/sister type friendship. We just pick on each other constantly."

Wendt said when he started growing a beard three years ago she hated it.

"Well, he's always had a beard," she said. "But it's never been long. He's so much better looking without it. I'll never get a sister-in-law ever. They'll never like the beard."

"That's not true," Wendt said. "Beards are very in."

"He's a good looking guy, he should show it off," she said.

"I'm still good looking, it's just under the beard," he said.

Beards are a staple in Wendt's family. His uncles

have beards, and his father has a beard he's been growing for 11 years. When he had to have heart surgery, Warner braided his beard into his hair so it wouldn't get in the way of the operation. "I've never seen his clean shaven face," he said.

Warner and Lee are both volunteer firefighters in Gaines. Lee had a beard until he had to shave it for the department. They had the idea for the competition at a friend's wedding when Wendt thought he might be ready to shave it.

"We're voting in monetary value and we're donating it all to the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society," he said. The NMCRS helps Marines, veterans, and their family members with financial assistance during tragedies.

Wendt and his two brothers are marine veterans. His middle brother passed away in 2010. Wendt was stationed in Japan at the time, and his other brother, Lee, was in California.

"They flew me home because I was overseas, but he had to come up with his own plane ticket to fly home. Plane tickets overnight are pretty expensive. He didn't have the money sitting in his account so the NMCRS gave him a six-month, interest-free loan to buy his plane ticket to fly home for the funeral," he said.

They're hoping to get more than \$1,000. They have jars sitting at Wendt's grandparents' house, and a pair at the Gaines Bar at 114 Genesee Ave., Gaines.

WHERE TO DONATE

People can also donate at gofundme.com/saveitorshaveit, or call either Warner, at (810) 730-9534, and donate in support of shaving it, or Wendt, at (810) 691-5656, to donate in support of saving it. They created a Facebook event called Save it or Shave it.

The deadline is Sept. 16 at 7 p.m.

"I grew the beard just to do it. I want to keep it. It takes dedication. When a woman grows her hair out really long, you don't want to cut it because it took you long to get it long," Wendt said.

"I don't see a nice girl wanting to date Brian with the beard. He is really funny and he is really nice and he looks good with his beard, but the chances would be so much higher," Warner said.

“But it's never been long. He's so much better looking without it.”

Audra Warner
Gaines resident

“I want to keep it. It takes dedication.”

Brian Wendt
Gaines resident

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THIS WEEK'S LETTER:

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

A to Z

This is a weekly series encompassing a variety of things in the tri-county area from A to Z.



It's back-to-school this week, Applefest time and the start of our beautiful fall season in Michigan. **KIDS** are back in their classrooms — who **KNEW** the summer would go by so fast, leaving **KOOL-AID** stands and **KITES** in its wake.

There's still plenty of time to enjoy **KAYAKING** on our lakes and rivers, so check out the **KEEPERS** of the Shiawassee website and Facebook pages for more details on upcoming events.

You can continue to enjoy your gardening hobby well into the fall. Grow **KALE**, broccoli, spinach, radishes and more. If the cooler fall weather **KEEPS** you indoors, check out classes for **KICKBOXING** or **KARATE** to give you a **KICK** where you need it most.

With school underway, it's a great time of year to think about remodeling, including large-scale projects like your **KITCHEN** and bathrooms. You can re-face or re-paint your cabinetry, add new **KNOBS** or other hardware and update your room with minimal expense. The

KEY is to work with a professional who has experience and vision in designing new spaces.

You can also use **KITS** to re-do many of your projects, giving even **KLUTZY** do-it-yourselfers a chance to complete a task without risking bad **KARMA**.

Cleaning and de-cluttering are other household tasks that do well in the fall. Go through your **KEEPSAKES** and decide what needs to be **KEPT** and what can be sold or given away.

With Applefest coming this week, make sure to **KNEEL** in

thanksgiving for your local **KNIGHTS** of Columbus and **KIWANIS** members for their help in volunteering, along with the other members of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton. Or at least, blow them a **KISS!**

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News **briefs**

Fenton Township approves rezoning request for Lake Fenton property

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees voted 6-0 to approve a rezoning request from Ghassan Saab, owner of the old Lang's marina site on Sonora Drive. He requested the property be rezoned from a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to R-3 and R-5, Single Family Residential, and plans to build homes on Lake Fenton. According to Treasurer John Tucker, only lots with lake frontage are riparian units with R-3. Fewer lots will have access to the lake with this property zoning. PUD zoning is more flexible, but he said there are many obstacles with PUD zoning to be profitable.

Two public hearings scheduled for special assessment districts for Lake Ponemah and Dollar Lake

Lakefront property owners of Lake Ponemah and Dollar Lake are invited to attend a public hearing to create a special assessment district for each lake at the Sept. 18 Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting. The meeting will be held at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive at 7:30 p.m.

Spotlight on:

RALLY'S DRIVE-IN

National burger chain brings signature burgers, fries and shakes to Fenton

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

Rally's-Checkers, one of the largest drive-through restaurant chains in the U.S., opened June 10 at 15155 Silver Pkwy. in Fenton, the former location of What's Shake'n Burger Grille. Franchisee Alan Balen has employed 30 staffers in this new Fenton restaurant and is very pleased with the community response.

How did Rally's happen to locate in Fenton? We are familiar with this area because we have been located in the tri-cities — Saginaw, Bay City and Midland — for 27 years. We got acquainted with Uncle Ray's Dairyland owner Dave Durant, and took over the What's Shake'n building after about six weeks of remodeling. We re-did mostly the exterior, adding our polished chrome canopy, to match the look of our other Rally's-Checkers locations. We also put tables with red umbrellas outside. That's our trademark.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Rally's of Fenton opened on June 10, said owner Alan Balen, offering sandwiches made fresh to order, and unique batter-dipped French fries.

What's the difference between Rally's and Checkers? They're essentially the same restaurant, having merged in 1999. The chain was founded in the 1980s, actually started by a former Wendy's franchisee. That's why you'll find a lot of similarities, including our chili. **What sets Rally's apart from other hamburger chains?** Every burger is made to order. Our signature burger is a one-third pound double cheeseburger, known as the Big Buford. We're also well-known for our seasoned, batter-dipped fries, creamy shakes and our hand-blended Kool-Aid Slushies. Our chili dogs, made with Koegel-brand hot dogs in our Michigan stores, are very

popular, too. **What new products are being rolled out?** We work with the Culinary Institute from the University of Florida in making new menu items. Our new value concept item, boxed Chicken Dippers with assorted sauces, became available on Sept. 7.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

AFTER VICTIMS ARE helped, will Texas continue to resist government regulations allowing homes to be built on flood plains next to unregulated chemical plants?

JUST CURIOUS AS to how many nations across the world we give aid to or have helped when there was trouble. How many of them have come forward and offered help for the victims of Texas?

SITTING HERE, WATCHING the coverage of the hurricane and counting my blessings.

DONALD TRUMP REALLY scared the daylights out of those Koreans. They've only launched five more missiles last week, Ooooooh, scared to death.

SO THERE'S A gas shortage because of the hurricane, but what I don't understand is raising the price of gas. How does that create more gas?

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THERAPY DOGS

Calming canines can be found in schools, nursing homes, hospitals and more

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

They frequent nursing homes, reading programs, and hospitals to cheer up people with their wet noses and excited tails.

Therapy dogs are identified by their vests and good behavior.

Lynn Behr of Linden has a therapy dog, Lilly, who's a 2-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. Lilly became a certified therapy dog November 2016 from Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs.

"She likes pets, she likes people, and she loves to lick people," Behr said.

Behr takes Lilly to a variety of places like nursing homes, extended care facilities, parades, schools, and she's even visited veterans at Bishop Airport when they're coming home for the holidays.

"I just think that there's this calmness and a kindness about dogs. They're not judgmental," she said. "When she puts her vest on, she turns into a whole different animal," she said. Lilly must wear a vest and leash when she visits people, and both Behr and Lilly wear nametags. Behr said people love to pet Lilly and Lilly loves to be pet.

"She (Lilly) takes the job pretty seriously," Behr said. "She's very gentle when she puts her paws on someone's legs, she lets them pet her head. She's just happiness when you look at her. I want to share her happiness with others."

Her highlight trip, though, is to Camp Copneconic when they have Camp Quality. The camp is for kids who have cancer or survived cancer.

Marianna Ziegler-Hickey, vice president of Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs, became involved in the field with her dog, Maddy, who has since passed.

"While with her at the dog park, instead of playing and running around, she found a man in a wheelchair and made fast friends," she said. "She told us she wanted to do this work and we fit it into our work."

They now have two therapy dogs — 4-year-old Ellie May, a rescued golden retriever, and a 10-year-old black Labrador retriever Ola, who used to belong to a neighbor. They took her in after the neighbor died.

The course at Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs is a 12-week course. The dogs have to know basic commands like sit and stay, and they learn not to be afraid around wheelchairs, crutches and walkers. Owners teach them not to get into trash and to focus on the patient or client. The dogs cannot be aggressive and they cannot bark. They also learn to focus on the patient, not other animals that might



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Caretel Inns of Linden guest Barb Lagerquist cuddles Lilly, a Cavalier King Charles Springer Spaniel, on Wednesday. These specialized dogs are from Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs, which is a volunteer effort. Lilly is owned by Lynn Behr of Linden.

be around.

They hold sessions twice a year. The class costs \$190, which includes the training, vest, ID badge, certificate and the graduation ceremony.

During the first six weeks of training, classes are held in a gym in Goodrich. The dogs must pass the Canine Good Citizen test outlined by the American Kennel Club. After they pass the test, the dogs and handlers go into the community with a training team observing them for another six weeks.

Once they pass that, they graduate and receive their vests. The class also comes with a hefty insurance policy in case anyone is injured by a canine. A new session just started the week of Sept. 5.

Places that welcome therapy dogs usually require proof of vaccinations and proof the animal is a therapy dog. Ziegler-Hickey will start taking her therapy dogs to Linden High School for a new program.

"If you have a dog that has a heart for people, that loves the public, and you think that you have a heart for service, that's really what it's all about."

Marianna Ziegler-Hickey
Mid-Michigan Therapy Dogs vice president

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

STATES' RIGHTS THAT caused the Civil War were not about slavery. Slavery didn't enter the picture until Lincoln was sure that the North was going to win, which was two years after the war started. Lincoln brought up the slavery.

THERE'S A SONG by Buffalo Springfield that is so current to today. 'Hush children, what's that sound. Everybody look what's going down. There's battle lines being drawn. Nobody's right if everybody's wrong.' There's a lot more to it but I can't sing. Everyone should listen to it.

NEITHER PRESIDENT BUSH nor President Obama were responsible for the war in the Middle East. The responsible parties were terrorists.

IT ISN'T PRESIDENT Trump dividing our country. Look in the mirror.

TO ALL THE gun enthusiasts out there who fire their weapons, hours on end sometimes, and the larger ones. I'm pretty sure you can't hit North Korea from here so you're wasting ammo.

WOULD YOU EXPLAIN in your Hot lines what DACA stands for? **Editor's note:** DACA stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. On June 15, 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that certain people who came to the United States as children and met several guidelines may request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years, subject to renewal, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

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KIWANIS

Continued from Page 9A

The Kiwanis Club of Linden also gives two \$1,500 scholarships.

The Linden Kiwanis contributes to a number of other worthwhile causes such as the Helping Hands Fund started by Ed Koledo, the former Linden schools superintendent. "We were the first organization to donate to that," Rajsich said. Today, they have donations from other groups to keep the fund fluid. The fund is used for anything related to scholastics, such as paying for a field trip if a student's family can't afford it.

"We also support the Students Against Destructive Decisions and Project Graduation," said Rajsich. The club has also purchased a bulletproof vest for the police department. It has in past years donated to the Battle of the Books at the elementary school level.

The club has provided financial assistance to Cub Pack Scout (girls and boys) 111, the FISH (For Instant Sympathetic Help) program administered by the Presbyterian Church in Linden. Kiwanis Club of Linden also donates to Christmas Express, a food collection program through the Lutheran church at Christmastime, Rajsich said.

During the Linden Christmas Parade, the Linden Kiwanis give away free cider and doughnuts as a way of giving back to the community and thanking them for their donations

when they stand on the street corners with the Kiwanis newspapers, and supporting the barbecues.

"On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we hang 44 to 45 Christmas decorations throughout Linden," said Rajsich. The decorations are owned and maintained by the Kiwanis Club of Linden.

The club also has donated to numerous additional worthwhile causes. The club is always looking for new members. People are welcome to attend one of their meetings and complete an application. They also have a Facebook page for more information.

John Walsh, the current president, will be stepping down during an October changing of the guard. Annette Murphy of Broad Street Insurance will be the new president, Rajsich will continue as secretary and Rick Miracle, superintendent of Shiawassee Shores, is the treasurer.

LOCAL CLUBS MEET REGULARLY

Kiwanis Club — Fenton

Meets Tuesdays at 12 p.m. at John's Pizzeria, 1492 N. LeRoy St., Fenton.

Kiwanis Club — Holly

Meets Tuesdays at 12 p.m. at Villager Restaurant, 1121 N. Saginaw St., Holly.

Kiwanis Club — Linden

Meets 7 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, and 6:15 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the Shiawassee Shores clubhouse, 1515 W. Rolston Rd., Linden.

APPLEFEST

Continued from Front Page

Applefest evolved from an annual event held every late August in the 1940s and '50s, called St. John's Barbecue. Because of the abundance of apples and orchards in the Fenton area, apples became a "core" part of the festival, hence the name, Applefest.

The Applefest Raffle featuring cars, boats or cash is the backbone of the event, today still providing the biggest revenue of the Applefest. Proceeds go back into the Fenton community through parish activities, including support for the St. John Outreach Program, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. John School and other parish ministries.

See more stories about this year's Applefest starting on Page 7B.

DOG PARK

Continued from Page 3A

The Genesee County Road Commission will remove some trees by the road so the sign, which will be just west of the park's driveway, will be visible to motorists.

"You'll be able to see it from both sides (of the road)," he said, adding that a man volunteered to put in a well. Because the park will be for public use, the county is giving the township 100 trees to plant throughout the park.

"Maybe we'll even create a tree line ... throughout the drive," he said, adding that Cook Excavating constructed the driveway and parking area as an at-will gift.

As soon as they get the sign, park planners want to get all the officials from the three involved municipalities on site for an unveiling.

In the general park area, the planners hope to build baseball diamonds and soccer fields.

TO DONATE

Go to the dog park website at trrdogpark.com or the Thompson Road Regional Dog Park Facebook page. Fenton Township Clerk Bob Krug said donations are tax deductible.

“It all boils down to chilly nights and bright sunny days.”

J.R. Kirtek

ABCTV-12 chief meteorologist

FALL COLOR

Continued from Front Page

he said. We're having low temperatures in the 40s. That may get the color season underway a little bit early.

That means if you're planning to travel up north to view the color along the scenic M-22 highway along Lake Michigan or another destination, you may want to head up sooner than you originally planned.

Last year, Michigan's fall color was at least one week later than normal, because of the warm, dry summer. With cooler temperatures than normal, this year's peak color may be closer to our state's long-term average or a few days earlier than normal.

Here are the suggested time frames for peak color in Michigan. "It all boils down to chilly nights and bright, sunny days," said Kirtek. "A gray, wet autumn would result in a sub-par color season."

Early September — Near peak in parts of U.P.

By early September, parts of Michigan's Upper Peninsula will be seeing near peak conditions. Meanwhile, the northern Lower Peninsula will see some partial color.

Week of Sept. 17 — Best week for U.P.

This just may be the peak color in the U.P., especially from Copper Harbor and Marquette to Munising and Sault Ste. Marie.

Week of Sept. 24 — Best week for Charlevoix

The northern tip of Michigan and the lower southwest portion of the U.P. will see peak colors this week. Meanwhile, most of Michigan's Lower Peninsula will be brightening up with fall color with some peak colors showing.

Week of Oct. 1 — Best week to travel the M-22 highway

If Michigan's scenic fall beauty along the M-22 highway is in your plans, this just may be your perfect week. Michigan's Lower Peninsula, all the way up to about Frankfort, will feature dazzling colors. North of Frankfort will be past peak color.

Week of Oct. 8 — Say goodbye to the changing colors

By this week, the entire state of Michigan will be past its peak foliage.

Source: Freep.com

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Spotlight on:

FEAST GOURMET KITCHEN SHOP

Well known local chef Sean
Gartland opens Fenton
kitchen/cooking store

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Sean Gartland, 40, has expanded his private chef business into a store that offers upscale kitchen supplies and cooking classes. Feast Gourmet Kitchen Shop opened July 10 at 495 Fenway Dr., next to Elections. He and his wife, Kellie, and their three children, Louisa, 9, Ryleigh, 7, and Cooper, 4, live in Fenton.

What are your main products and services at Feast? We carry several upscale kitchen brands such as Staub, Demeyere, Global Knives, Emile Henry and Schott Zwiesel. People can expect to find a chef-curated line of products as well as locally sourced food brands. We offer products you can't just find in a department store or anywhere else in the area.

What motivated you to open this kind of business? After graduating from Carman-Ainsworth High School, I attended culinary school at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. I started Feast in 2011, as a private chef business. In 2014, I became culinary



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Sean Gartland has been in the culinary business for 25 years and has taught cooking classes since 2003. His new business, Feast, on Silver Lake Road at Fenway Drive, provides cooking classes and carries all the gadgets and tools of the trade.

director of the Flint Farmers Market and was able to host cooking classes for the public — everything from basic knife skills to traditional Vietnamese.

I got my love of teaching at a business in Chicago called The Chopping Block that really focuses on bringing a unique experience to its guests. I really wanted to bring that same experience to the residents of Fenton.

Are your classes geared more for beginner or experienced cooks? They're definitely for everyone. I focus on techniques that you can replicate at home. I love to offer unique ethnic classes to expose

people to exotic ingredients and new flavors. We are planning to begin classes in September.

What is your favorite dish to prepare at home? I love to cook seafood whenever I can get my hands on fresh fish.

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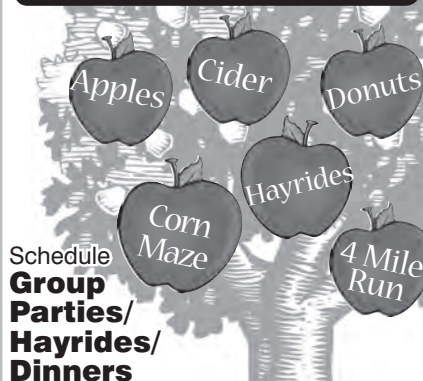
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BUTTERFLY

Continued from Page 3A

his desire to surround his customers with beautiful, quality furniture pieces.

"People are looking for quality in their lives," he said. "That's one of the main reasons for our success in Fenton. The Fenton community has been really good to me, and we want to give back to this

city in as many ways as we can."

Fenton Home Furnishings was founded in 1979 and has since grown to four locations — Fenton, Waterford, Lapeer and Frankenmuth. "Even with all four locations, people still come to Fenton to do business at this landmark store," Willey said. "We pride ourselves in offering 98 percent American-made quality furniture, many from Michigan manufacturers."

In a special presentation to the city, Mayor Sue Osborn said, "We are thrilled that Gerry and Kay Willey have generously donated the funds to acquire the beautiful butterfly sculpture for our wonderful city. The donation will be an anchor in the proposed butterfly garden the city is looking to develop. The people of Fenton thank the Willeys for their investment and dedication to this great city we all call home."

SUMMARY

Fenton Home Furnishings owners Gerry and Kay Willey donated the funds so the city of Fenton could permanently acquire and display the "Stainless Steel Butterfly" sculpture at Gazebo Park.

HOLLY ROCKS!

Continued from Page 11A

including one local dad who has painted all the Star Wars characters. It also brings neighbors together, some of whom are choosing to paint rocks as an activity to enjoy with others.

Businesses are also getting into the act. Local Realtor Lori Goldsmith has painted rocks red, white and blue with her name on them, and invites people who find them to redeem them for a treat at Cupcakes & Kisses in downtown Holly.

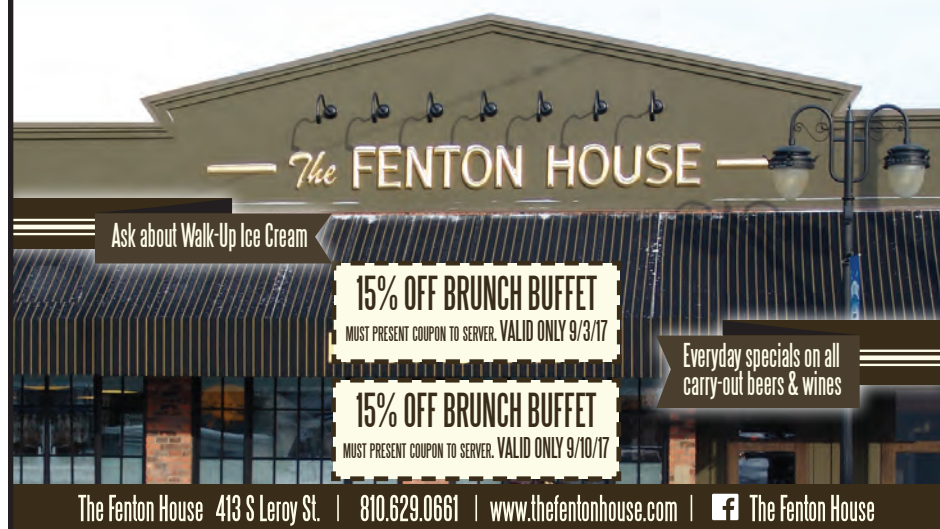
It's a way of connecting with people all around the U.S. and even the world, with rocks found in Holly from dozens of other states and countries. People take them on vacation and leave them in special places, including park areas, downtowns and tourist attractions.

"Ours are traveling all over the world, too," said Hughes. "We encourage people to write Holly Rocks 2017 on the bottom of the rock, so people know where the rock came from."

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HURRICANE

Continued from Front Page

She and the kids, ages 8 to 15, plus their dog, Sofie, left for Orlando on Wednesday to spend the night, and planned to head toward Atlanta, Georgia to wait out the storm.

SUMMARY

Thousands of people are leaving their homes in Florida for safer destinations, although the trajectory of Hurricane Irma continues to change as it gets closer to landfall.

Georgia has declared a state of emergency, along with Florida and South Carolina.

The highway going north from Orlando is packed with people trying to evacuate, Cathy said. "We are fortunate we can leave. There were kids at my daughter's school who said they weren't leaving because they couldn't find gas. There are people on the side of the road pulling gas tanks out of the back of their cars to fill up," she said.

She's trying to make the evacuation an adventure for all of them, to keep everyone calm. "I'm anxious because the news just tells you what's going to happen in the destruction of the hurricane and they leave it at that. The kids are excited. As long as they are fed and watered, they are good. Having our dog with us adds a bit of fun," she said.

Cathy added via text that the Governor of Florida has waived all tolls.

Scarcity of gas continues to be an issue for most Floridians and is keeping some people from evacuating. "We've

They made it to a hotel in Panama City Beach on Thursday night. "Georgia isn't looking very safe," Cathy said. "The Panhandle seems safe so far. We'll probably end up going to Alabama; that's where they are sending people now."

Georgia has declared a state of emergency, along with Florida and South Carolina.

“Last night we went 200 miles before we found a gas station with gas.”

Cathy Tremaine

Who has evacuated her family's vacation home in Naples with four kids and their dog



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

John and Cathy Tremaine have been vacationing in Naples, Florida for years, and this is the first time that Cathy and their four children are spending the entire school year in Florida, while John commutes back and forth. Their family includes Audrey, 15, Olivia, 13, Grant, 11 and Titan, 8.

got a full tank and a full cooler for now," she said. "Last night we went 200 miles before we found a gas station with gas."

Some drivers are riding with extra gas tanks strapped to the top of their cars.

In other updates,

Tony and Margie Shard and son Keegan arrived safely to her sister's home in Raleigh, North Carolina, after evacuating Wednesday morning from their home on Anna Maria Island, Florida.

As of Friday morning, Bob and Shirley Norman were still waiting it out at their mobile home park in Palmetto, but keeping a very close eye on the storm and were prepared to leave.

"We have secured everything, packed up anything important, gassed

up the car, have water and food to go and pillows and blankets in the car," Shirley said. "We're just watching the news reports. There is a voluntary evacuation for our park, starting tomorrow."

If the Normans find that their location is just getting the edge of the storm, they will go to their friend's hotel and wait it out. "If it looks worse, we'll get in our car and head toward Tallahassee. I wish I was in Michigan."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tony and Margie Shard left their home on Anna Maria Island on Tuesday to stay with family in Raleigh, North Carolina.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bob and Shirley Norman take a selfie in front of their mobile home in Palmetto, Florida. They plan to leave Friday or Saturday if they find they are in Hurricane Irma's path.

“Obviously, the last place you want to be is in a mobile home.”

Shirley Norman

Owner of a vacation/retirement home in Palmetto, Florida

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Fenton girls finish on top at first jamboree

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

Goodrich — Cami Tiemann was comfortably in third place, seemingly in a great position to help support her Fenton varsity girls cross country team to a first-place finish at the first Metro League jamboree of the season at Goodrich High School on Wednesday.

But then something happened with about 400 meters left. Tiemann and teammate Abbey Lee made a wrong turn near the finish, suddenly moving their positions from the top five to about eighth and ninth place. Sud-

denly, it looked like the Tigers may be in jeopardy of taking second place in the meet to fellow league contender Flushing.

Tiemann wasn't having any of it. After she realized the mistake, she made a turn toward the finish and sprinted to third place, taking about 100 meters to correct her mistake. Her sprint to the finish resulted in her passing Flushing's top two runners, assuring the Tigers of three finishers in the top eight positions and assuring the squad of first place at the meet.

"I didn't have much time to think

so the adrenaline kind of kicked in and I figured if I am going to go, I have to go now," Tiemann said recalling the moment just minutes later. "It was definitely unexpected, but it was kind of cool because besides the fact I lost about five seconds because of it. That was fun."

"I was pretty afraid that cost us the race, so it's good to see we were able to push through and take the win. It's such an honor because Flushing is such

See JAMBOREE on 23A

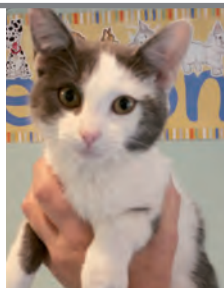


Fenton's Cami Tiemann (163) and Abbey Lee (150) compete in a pack with Linden's Audrey Steiert (221) during Wednesday's Metro League jamboree.

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 | PAGE 1A | W

Times Sports



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Hartland graduate Kyle Summerfield is Linden's new varsity wrestling coach. He's pictured here coaching while in Texas.

Summerfield takes over Linden's wrestling program

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

When Kyle Summerfield was wrestling in high school, he had a successful career.

The Hartland wrestler held a 181-40 career record and was a two-time All-State wrestling performer. He was one of many outstanding wrestlers at Hartland who helped the Ea-

See SUMMERFIELD on 23A

Eagles' boys soar to top of first league meet

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Goodrich — Linden's varsity boys cross country team has a proud tradition since the turn of the century.

The Eagles have won a state championship, and were state runner-ups another season. They've won many Metro League and regional titles as well in that time.

However, the Eagles have not won a Metro jamboree or the Metro crown since 2012. So despite still earning postseason success each year since then, the Eagles have found navigating the Metro League rough going the last few years. However, that dryspell ended on Wednesday.

The Eagles posted three runners within the top seven spots and its entire top five within the top 16 places, capturing the first Metro League jamboree of the season at Goodrich Middle School.

Linden won with 41 points, just six points ahead of defending Metro champions Fenton. Holly remained tight as well in third with 58 points. The top three teams

pretty much dominated the race, earning 14 of the top 16 places in the event.

"Our last jamboree win was in 2012, so it has been a few years," Linden varsity boys cross country coach Clint Lawhorne said. "Our senior group has put a great deal of effort into preparing for this season. I'm really proud of the effort. I felt like they were patient through the first kilometer and then just worked hard for the next four."

Linden's Tyler Buchanan became the first Metro victor in a jamboree, earning first with a time of 16:22.45. He competed with Fenton's Adam Jesse (second in 16:37) and Swartz Creek's Caden Pifer (16:43.90) during different times of the race for the lead, but eventually settled on 15-second win against the rest of the field.

"I felt pretty good," Buchanan said. "I knew a Fenton kid was pretty close behind me, so I knew I had to speed up and get away the best I could, finish well and get first."

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS
(Above) Area runners continue to try to break free from the pack during the early stages of the first Metro League jamboree held on Wednesday.
(Left) Linden runners Tyler Buchanan (right) and Nick McDonald (left) helped lead the Linden Eagles to a first-place finish at the event held at Goodrich Middle School. Fenton placed second while Holly took third. The second Metro League jamboree will be held Sept. 27.

SAFE DATES

The Safe Dates program is lead by trained licensed professionals through the YWCA. The program teaches preteens and teens to **"Expect Respect"** through healthy dating relationships. The program approaches the topic of teen dating violence from both the parents and the teens prospective. It gives both, warning signs and what to look for, empowers both teens and parents to recognize and remove themselves from unhealthy relationships, and provides additional resources for those in need.

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Fenton, Holly capture volleyball wins in opening Metro matches

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Fenton and Holly varsity volleyball teams opened the Metro League season with a pair of road victories on Thursday.

Fenton (1-0, 11-3) defeated Brandon 25-23, 18-25, 25-23, 25-14 while Holly beat Swartz Creek 25-22, 23-25, 25-21, 25-17.

The Tigers were led by Chloe Idoni's 13 digs, nine kills and three blocks while Anna Janowak had eight kills. Erin Carter and Delaney Miesch had five kills each. Lauren Lamb was strong defensively, recording 33 digs and a perfect 21-of-21 on serve reception, while Sydney Acho had 29 assists and seven digs.

CONTINUED AT **TCTIMES.COM**

JAMBOREE

Continued from Page 22A

a good team. We knew they were going to be our toughest competition, so it's really great we were able to compete against them today and win."

"Her grit is something else," Fenton varsity cross country coach Jesse Anderson said about Tiemann. "I love watching her race not just as a coach, but as a fan of the sport."

"I actually missed the whole navigation debacle. I was further up the course looking for our fifth and miss-timed getting back. When I heard what happened, I assumed we lost. It was a surprise for me when the results came out."

CONTINUED AT **TCTIMES.COM**

— **TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | DAVID TROPPENS

Fenton's Alexa Keiser won the first Metro jamboree event with a time of 18:35.1.



SUMMERFIELD

Continued from Page 22A

gles maintain their status as one of the state's finest wrestling programs.

Eight years later, Summerfield is back, beginning a new chapter in his wrestling life. After spending about four years in Texas, Summerfield got married and moved back to the tri-county area this summer. He's currently working within his family's business. He's also Linden's new varsity wrestling coach, replacing Todd Skinner, who resigned the position in June.

Summerfield will be holding a town

hall-format meeting at Linden High School's gymnasium on Wednesday at 6 p.m. for all students and parents. Summerfield is excited to take over the Linden program.

"Historically they had one of the area's better programs," Summerfield said. "Coach Skinner ran a successful program for 20 years and now I'll try to build on his foundation, create a new era of Linden wrestling and take it to the next level."

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PREP REPORT

BOYS TENNIS

► **Fenton 5, Clio 2:** The Tigers won all three of the doubles matches that were completed before weather suspended the rest of the dual match, helping the Tigers clinch the win. Fenton won all five of its points in straight set matches. The doubles squads led the way with the No. 1 team of Parker Trecha and Ethan Gutsiet, the No. 3 team of Bradley Trecha and Jack Gundry, and the No. 4 team of Blake Wheaton and Garrett Bloss winning their matches.

In singles action Gabe Hand (No. 1) and Baylor Hamilton (No. 2) each won their match in straight sets. The No. 2 doubles match was suspended in the third set due to weather.

► **Holly 5, Flushing 3:** The Bronchos improved to 4-0 with the victory against the Raiders.

GIRLS GOLF

► **Kearsley 189, Linden 204:** Payton Leedle shot a 47 to lead the Eagles (2-3). Deanna Jenkinson shot a 51 while Isabel Wright and Alyssa Bowen carded a 53. Jillian Wright shot a 54. Bowen and Wright had career-best rounds.

► **Kearsley 190, Holly 221:** Kate Brown led the Bronchos (2-1) at Heather Highlands with a score of 52. Morgan McReynolds shot a 55 while Emma

Murton and Taylor Vines each shot 57s. Kearsley's Grace Hoffman was match medalist with a 39.

VOLLEYBALL

► **Fenton vs. Walled Lake Northern, Frankenmuth:** The Tigers improved to 10-3 overall with a pair of victories, beating Walled Lake Northern 25-16, 21-26-18-16 and Frankenmuth 25-6, 25-19.

In the victory against Walled Lake Northern, Chloe Idoni led the squad with 15 assists, 11 kills and four blocks while Lily Elfstrom had nine kills and nine digs. Lauren Lamb led the defense with 24 digs.

Against Frankenmuth, Idoni, Chloe McKenzie, Anna Janowak and Delaney Miesch each had four kills. Miesch also had four blocks.

GIRLS SWIMMING

► **Avondale 94, Holly 86:** Hannah Ehrhardt won the 200 freestyle while Kelly Sky won the 100 breaststroke. Lydia Brauer also won the 100 freestyle.

BOYS SOCCER

► **Brandon 3, Fenton:** Owen O'Brien scored a goal in the second half. Noah Martin made seven saves. Fenton is 0-1 in Metro play.

► **Swartz Creek 5, Holly 1:** Holly was outscored 4-1 in the opening half, resulting in the loss.

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Blue Devils continue to crush conference foes

The Lake Fenton varsity boys soccer team is scoring so many goals these days, that varsity coach Sam Jawhari can't keep track of all the goals.

Eight players scored goals in Lake Fenton's 9-0 crushing of Durand in Genesee Area Conference play on Tuesday.

Only one player scored as many as two goals. Austin Wood provided that many. After Wood, Elijah Bourdeau, Ben Polehna, Luke Rimarcik, Nick Abdallah, Dylan Hillger, John Oraa and Alex Copeland had a goal each.

Riley Besser and Ameer Jawhari didn't score goals but they may have been the offense's two best performers.



Fenton golfers break school record vs. Linden Eagles

It's been a season of records for the Fenton varsity girls golf team so far this season. The Tigers tied one for the second time this season.

Fenton shot a team score of 163 against the Linden Eagles, posting a school record

nine-hole low for the second time this season. The Tigers also shot a 163 earlier this season in a victory against Brandon. This one against Linden was its own record because par at Tyrone Hills is 36 versus the par 35 course against Brandon.

Linden soccer squad defeats Flushing in Metro opener

A quick start is all the Linden varsity boys soccer team needed to earn a victory in the squad's first Metro League contest of the season on Wednesday.

The Eagles scored four first-half

goals and cruised from that point on, earning the 4-0 victory at home against the Flushing Raiders.

"We got off to a great start," Linden varsity boys soccer coach Kevin Fiebertz said.

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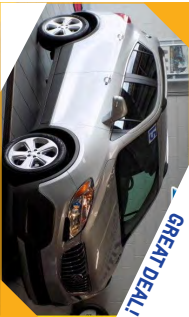
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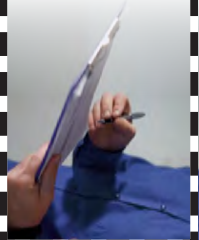
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