

Adopt-A-Pet puppy

Weekend Times

The chickens must go

Weekend Times

Midweek Times

Table for three?

Weekend Times

Teen murder suspect in court

Weekend Times

NAKED & AFRAID

Weekend Times

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

SEE LOCAL LIVING SECTION

Fenton officials considering 6-mill referendum

Weekend Times

Fenton Township teen charged with open murder

Weekend Times

Five killed, three critically injured in crash

Weekend Times

SOURCE BOOK 2018

SEE PAGE 6A

Weekend Times

SUNDAY EDITION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

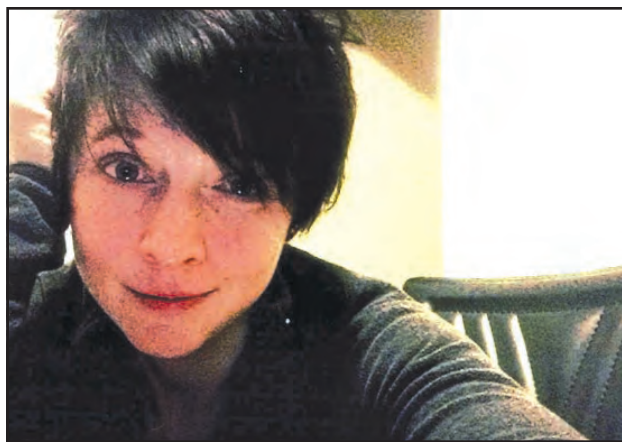
Jogger's death continues to haunt family, community

■ **Mother, boyfriend share their thoughts on tragic loss**

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com

The piece of the puzzle that could solve the murder of Alexandra “Ally” Brueger is still missing.

“This is still an open, active investigation,” said F/Lt. Mike Shaw of the Michigan State Police (MSP). “We still believe that there are those person(s) that have information and we would like to hear from them at (855) MICH-TIP.” When asked if it was normal for a murder investigation to take this long, Shaw said, “There is no way to



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

It has been nearly a year and a half and the person who murdered Alexandra “Ally” Brueger is still at large.

compare any investigation as they are all different so time lines always vary. We are actively investigating every tip that comes in and will continue to do so until the case is solved.”

Brueger’s murder was the news report that shocked an entire community to its core in July 2016, and a year and a half later, her killer is still out there.

See MURDER on 12A

Fenton Township man jailed on criminal sexual charges

■ **Charges include possession of child sexually abusive activity, CSC with person under 13**

A 61-year-old Fenton Township man was arraigned on Dec. 8 on multiple charges, including being in possession of child sexually abusive material,



Derek Timothy Watson

criminal sexual conduct with an individual under 13 years of age and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The charges, according to the Genesee County 67th District Court, date back to an alleged offense on Jan. 1, 2013.

Derek Timothy Watson was charged with seven felonies.
See CRIMINAL on 12A

State police investigate fatal Hartland Township fire

■ **Victim has been identified as 29-year-old New Jersey man**

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

Michigan State Police (MSP) from the Brighton Post are investigating a fatal structure fire that occurred during the early morning hours of Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The victim has been identified as Christopher Anthony Stone, 29, who

was from New Jersey.

“The incident is still pending autopsy and toxicology reports, however, we don’t believe it’s anything more than a tragic accident at this point,” said D/Sgt. Jeff Frasier of the Michigan State Police.

The Hartland Deerfield Fire Authority was called to a structure fire with an occupant trapped inside in the 5000

See FIRE on 12A

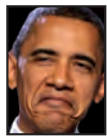
TEXT YOUR HOT LINE
810-771-TEXT



“The Lions will never win as long as an 88-year-old woman is the owner of the team. Would you buy female clothing products from Arnold Schwarzenegger? What’s next, Oprah Winfrey as the coach?”



“Unlike Trump, Obama didn’t inherit his money. He didn’t cheat on two of his three wives. He didn’t go bankrupt three times. He basically earned what he made, he didn’t have it handed to him.”



“On social media we don’t see peoples’ entire messy lives, but instead are shown lives that have been sanitized for mass distribution. Someone’s life might appear to be perfect from our vantage point but everyone has challenges, disappointments and failures. It’s called ‘life.’”



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“I hope that in this new year you make some mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are trying new things, learning new things, pushing yourself and challenging yourself and your world. Congratulations and best wishes for the coming year.”



Happy New Year!

*Wishing you a happy,
healthy & prosperous*

2018

• Sales & Service Installation • Servicing all makes & models • Heat pumps • Boilers • Furnaces

PROVIDING
QUALITY
PRODUCTS
& SERVICE
YOU CAN TRUST

EXTENDED
WARRANTIES
AVAILABLE



**FREE ESTIMATE & HEATING
SYSTEM ANALYSIS**

Don't call a salesman—
Call a heating & cooling expert

Amana
Heating & Air Conditioning
LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.®

409 E. Caroline, Fenton • 810-629-4946 • www.davelambheating.com

We're here 24/7! We Make House Calls!

Median household income depends on where you live

■ Stats vary in Times' Genesee County reader area

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Did you know that if you live in the city of Fenton you live in the poorest community in the Tri-County reader area, with a median household income of \$47,196? The city also has the second to the highest poverty level at 14.8 percent, and the percentage of Fenton City residents who enjoy home ownership is 60.3 percent.

If you live in Tyrone Township on the other hand, you reside in the wealthiest of our local communities. The median household income in Tyrone Township is \$87,273, with a low 4.8 percent poverty level. Owner-occupied homes represent 87.8 percent of the Tyrone Township population.

Why the big difference? One is that the city of Fenton is in Genesee County and Tyrone Township is in Livingston County.

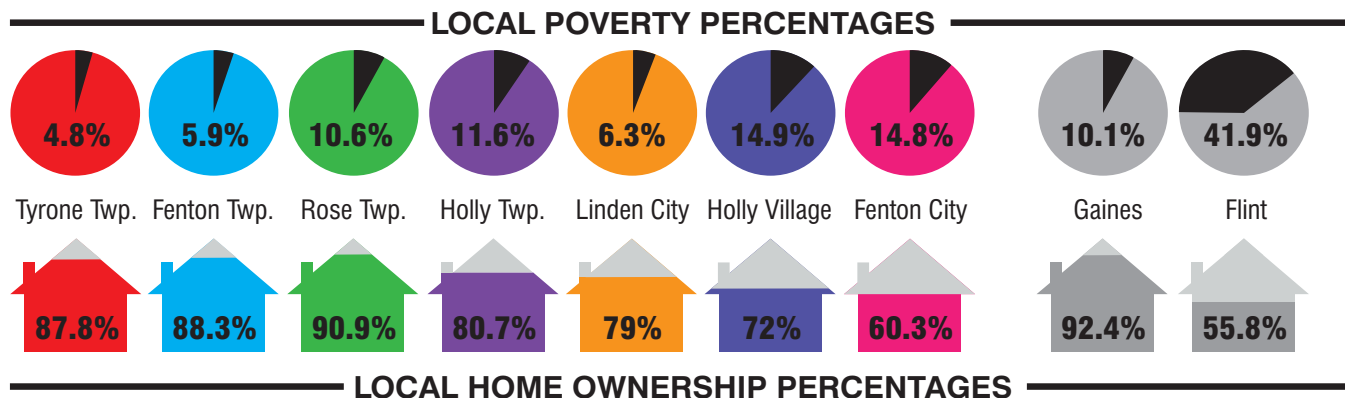
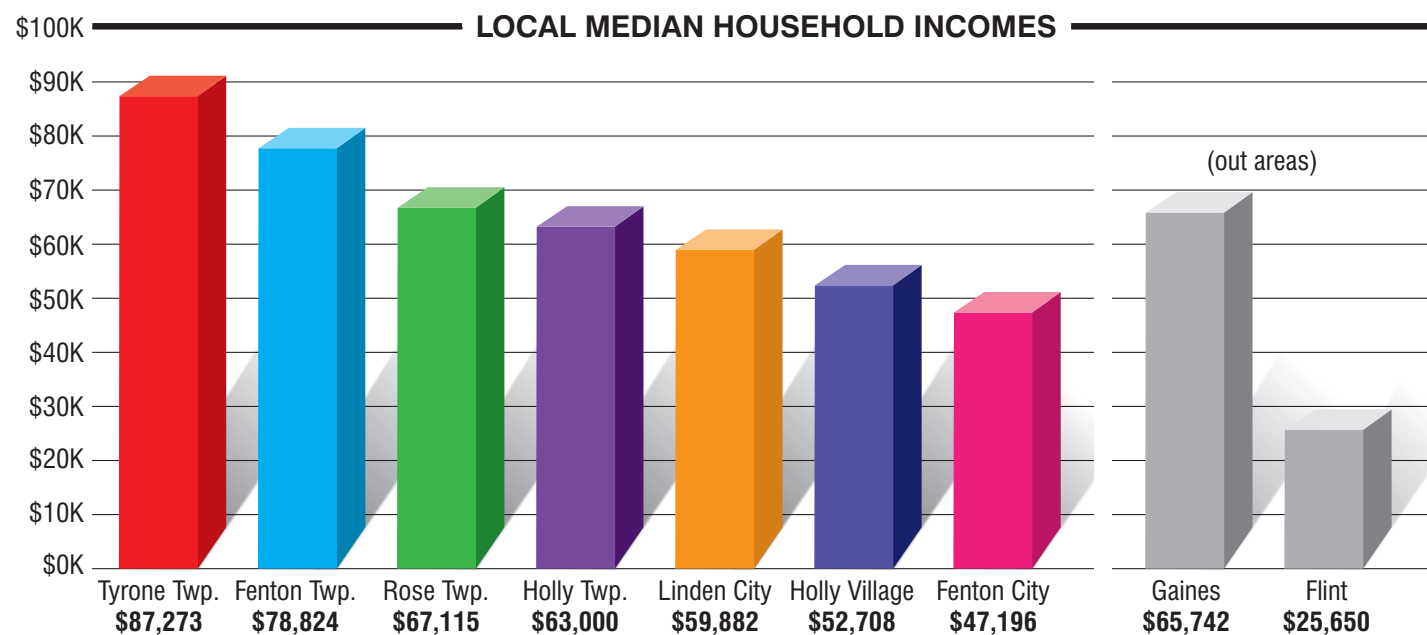
The majority of city of Fenton residents earn their livings in the field of education, health and social services, which is followed closely by the employment in the manufacturing industry.

Since the city of Fenton's growth spurt of the last few years, many residents are now employed in the retail and food service industries.

According to realtor.com, the median price for a home in the city of Fenton is \$99,950. The median price for a home in Tyrone Township is \$219,100.

Apartment living has become the preferred style of living among many young people in Fenton, especially those who are single, living and working in the city.

Tyrone Township Supervisor Mike Cunningham said, "I think there are a few



factors that attribute to our value proposition. The first is location, he said.

"We are a bedroom community within an hour drive to Detroit, Lansing, Flint and Ann Arbor. We are also situated between the fine city of Fenton and the booming township of Hartland."

Cunningham said Tyrone Township's Master Planned Zoned community gives

them direction on how residents want the township to look and feel. The township is zoned mostly farming, he said. The lakes, wildlife and scenery are a major attraction as well.

Tyrone Township has little shopping or industry. Those who reside there are wealthy professionals, particularly in the Hills of Tyrone and Top of the Pines subdi-

visions, which feature million dollar-plus homes. Most people who live there do not enjoy careers that are nearby.

This graph shows the other communities in the Tri-County Times reader area and their latest statistics (2016) for median household income, poverty percentage and home ownership.

Sources: Michigandemographics.com, U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts



RE-OPENING NEXT WEEK

**MON-SAT: 10-7
SUNDAY: 11-5**

**Community Threads
of Fenton**

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHERE YOU LIVE • YOU WORK • YOU PLAY.

A UNIQUE THRIFT SHOPPING EXPERIENCE THAT BENEFITS THE COMMUNITY!

FOLLOW US ON 

AND IN THE TRI-COUNTY TIMES FOR MORE DETAILS!

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION NEED TO HAVE A FUNDRAISER?
SCHOOL GROUPS • CIVIC GROUPS • CHURCHES • BOY OR GIRL SCOUTS • YOUTH SPORTS TEAMS

www.CommunityThreadsOfFenton.com • 1370 N. LeRoy St., Fenton • 810-354-8023

TRI-COUNTY TIMES



The Tri-County Times is published semi-weekly by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. We serve the communities of: Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton, Holly, Hartland, Byron, Gaines, Davisburg, Swartz Creek and Grand Blanc and the townships of: Fenton, Holly, Rose, Tyrone and Argentine. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.

HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday Closed



CONTACT INFORMATION

General Office 810-629-8282
Advertising 810-629-8281
Classifieds 810-629-8194
Circulation 810-433-6797
Hot Line 810-629-9221
Fax 810-629-9227
Email news@tctimes.com
Website tctimes.com

Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

Me? I don't need to make any resolutions. But the rest of you? Well, let's just say you should hit this New Year's resolution thing good and hard because — how do I put this politely? — you've got some work to do, as evidenced by your body of work lately.

Fortunately, I'm here to help. Remember Hamburger Helper? I've created something like that for you, a starter list of resolutions for those who have transgressed, if you will, only instead of ground beef, you only need to add effort.

To wit, in 2018 you hereby resolve to:

• **Learn to drive** in the dad-blasted snow. I swear most of you forget how from one year to the next. After the first snow it's like you intentionally fling yourselves and your very expensive vehicles into ditches and snowbanks, like it's fun or something — wheeee, watch me fish-tail and ultimately lose control before crashing! I guess I shouldn't complain because it does effectively get the worst drivers off the road temporarily. But as a Yooper, I hate to see good sheet metal damaged, so I'm going to impart the secret of safe winter driving given to me by a bearded old Yooper named Skid McFarkle, who used to drive 50 miles to work, uphill, backward, every day in U.P. blizzards, even during the summer, never once sliding into a ditch.

He said, "Son, I'm going to tell you how I done it. See, all you got to do is ..." And then he keeled over dead, so I never did hear what the secret to winter driving is, but I'm pretty sure it was something like this: "Slow the blank down, you ninnies." Pretty technical advice, but effective none-

theless. I suggest you follow it.

• **Vote. I don't care** who you vote for, just vote. Most local elections draw 10-20 percent of registered voters, if that, and if you're not among them you don't have much reason to complain about the choice the winning side makes, now do you? Same goes for state and national elections. You don't vote, you don't gripe. Got it?

• **Read newspapers.** I think the single worst thing the internet did to this country was wipe out newspapers. Back in the day, everybody read the paper and consumed the same news, more or less. And that was a good thing, gosh darn it. Today, if people consume any news at all, it's CNN or Fox, which is news mixed with opinion, not just news. So it's no wonder we don't agree on anything. We're all operating from different sets of facts. So don't do that. Read. A mind is a terrible thing to waste. Especially yours.

• **Say no to low-rise jeans.** Hasn't this style gone on long enough? Unless you weigh 14 pounds, they're uncomfortable (yes, I tried them once) and in all instances are cases of plumber's crack waiting to happen. Say no to crack. Crack is whack.

• **Make up your ding-dang mind** before you get to the drive-thru speaker. This is not difficult, people. Fast food places have basically three things: Burgers, chicken and some variation of French fries. Or in the case of Taco Bell, they have basically one thing — tacos — that come in 400 different varieties. So just pick one, wouldja? Some of us are hungry back here.

• **Signal. Your. Turns.**

If you do just that last one, I'll be satisfied. Happy New Year.

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.

View stories at
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.

I WISH SOMEONE would explain to me why Democrats are against prosperity for all Americans. The new tax bill lowers taxes for all Americans, including the middle class. It raises investments, helps our GDP and improves job and wages.

■ ■ ■
THANK YOU POLICE and firemen for being so brave. You are our heroes.

■ ■ ■
PLEASE RECOGNIZE THAT 'Happy Holidays' might not have anything to do with a liberal agenda. Give up on that. Not everyone is a Christian and they still want to offer you a happy holidays. They don't say 'Merry Christmas' because they're not Christian. Grow up.

■ ■ ■
TO THE PERSON who wants another grocery store, VGs employs hundreds of our neighbors, relatives and friends. Their stores are clean and their staff is fantastic. They contribute to every cause and are supporters of many local school programs. Support them and you are supporting our local economy and our kids. Think local, think big picture.

■ ■ ■
See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

Readers write

Letters, 150 words or less, must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and liability. Letters must be written exclusively for the Times.

Cemetery in Tyrone Township

Dear Editor,
To the residents of Tyrone Township, a private cemetery is planned for Denton Hill Road south of Germany Road. This area is surrounded by wetlands. Water flowing through this area eventually goes into Lake Tyrone and other lakes. The state and county have few regulations concerning burial of bodies? Most regulations concerning caskets, cement vaults, etc. are made by cemeteries. It is customary for some Muslims to wrap the deceased in cloth and bury them directly into the ground. This cemetery will hold about 1,600 graves with room for expansion. Studies in the United States and abroad show that burials without proper precautions and supervision have caused serious contamination of well water. Township and county officials are considering the proposed plan of this cemetery. Some soil tests have already taken place. Who will monitor this cemetery and be responsible when our wells become affected?

Elaine Schilling of Fenton, and concerned residents of Tyrone Township

Living Free Stop Smoking Class



CALL OR TEXT
269.370.9708
for more info or to
reserve your
spot!

• **January 9th-28th at 7:00pm**

• **Adelphian Junior High** 740 Academy Rd. in Holly

• **\$30** includes materials and incentives to succeed

• **Presented by Dr. Alan Patterson & Lois Whitcomb**
Nurses & dieticians will also be on hand. (Respiratory therapist)

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Sponsored by Health Department of Holly & Grand Blanc Seventh Day Adventist Churches

What was the highlight of your 2017?

Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

streettalk



"Going to see my son and daughter-in-law for Thanksgiving in Maryland."

Linda Kinsman
Fenton Township



"We went to see Billy Joel as a family in Indiana. That was fun."

Jim Jensen
Linden Township



"My knee surgery. It turned out really well. Dr. Lis did great."

Amanda Hoolahan
Argentine Township



"I've had lots of highlights, one of them is consistently working out since January."

Anna Handley
Fenton Township



"The Christmas concert at my kids' school."

Bob Perrigo
Argentine Township

Popular driver's ed teacher, Dwight Fitzgerald, dies

■ 'Fitz' was known as a legend in the classroom

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Area residents are mourning the loss of Dwight Fitzgerald, 65, of Fenton, who died on Saturday, Dec. 23.

A retired Fenton High School teacher, Fitzgerald, fondly known as "Fitz" to his friends, students and family was an instructor with Ace Driving School, which handles most of the local driver's ed students from area high schools.

A teacher by profession for 33 years and a father of four, Fitzgerald was said to know and understand kids.

He was often referred to as a legend in the classroom, although his latest classroom was at a private driving school and on the road.



Dwight Fitzgerald

Fitzgerald leaves behind a loving family and many friends.

When news of Fitzgerald's death hit Facebook, the outpouring of condolences, love and sympathy was immediate. Within 48 hours, there were nearly 17,000 page views, 300 shares and dozens of comments. The following is a sampling of what some had to say:

"This is so sad. My kids have fond memories of him both as a teacher in school and drivers ed," said Kim Weber. "My condolences to his kids and family during this difficult time."

April Leigh said, "Prayers to his family! He was a great person. He will be missed by many."

Michelle Slater said she was so sad to hear this. "Mr. Fitz was the best. It's a sad day for Fenton. Prayers to his family."

Julie Turner described him as a man full of life who touched so many. "Prayers for his family through this incredible loss."

Visitation for Fitzgerald was held Thursday, Dec. 28 at Sharp Funeral Home, Fenton Chapel. Funeral service was on Friday, Dec. 29 at AGS Middle School in Fenton.

Police&Fire report

IDENTITY THEFT REPORTED

On Dec. 12, the Fenton Police Department received an identity theft complaint from a 46-year-old Fenton man. Lt. Jeff Cross said this is just one of many identity theft complaints Fenton police have recently received. The man learned from his employer that someone had filed for unemployment benefits using his personal information, including his date of birth and Social Security number. The Fenton man is in good standing with his employer and did not file for unemployment. He was advised to file a complaint with police, the state of Michigan and the Social Security Administration. He also was advised to contact one of the three credit reporting bureaus to have an alert placed on his Social Security number so that he will be notified if his Social Security number is used again.

STRAY BULLET ENTERS NORTH LONG LAKE ROAD HOME

The Genesee County Sheriff's Office recently received a malicious destruction of property complaint from a resident in the 1400 block of North Long Lake Road in Fenton Township. The victim told the responding deputy that when he returned home from a weeklong vacation, he discovered two bullet holes in his house. The victim indicated he had no idea who would have shot at his house. The sheriff's office recovered one round and believe it might be related to target practice. There were no injuries and the incident remains under investigation.

**TEXT YOUR
HOT LINE**

810-771-TEXT (8398)

Times

NOW RECYCLING CHRISTMAS TREES



No
plastic
or garbage
please



810-629-5200

380 S. Fenway Drive • Fenton
www.misclandscape.com

Mon.-Fri. 7am - 5pm • Sat. 9am - 5pm • Closed Sunday

Teachers can expect refund of thousands of dollars

■ Law enacted in 2010 found unconstitutional by Michigan Supreme Court

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Teachers can expect thousands of dollars in refunds after the Michigan Supreme Court ruled unanimously that a 2010 law, which took money from teachers' checks for retiree health care benefits, is unconstitutional.

Joe Grigas, president of the teachers union at Lake Fenton Community Schools, said, "The lower courts will be determining the logistics of how the money will be dispersed ... We had money illegally taken from our pay for close to two years, and we are happy to get that money back."

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the 6-0 vote struck down a law that involuntarily reduced pay for teachers and other school employees by 3 percent and put that money in a retiree health care benefit fund. A Michigan Court of Appeals previously sided with the American Federation of Teachers stating that the law was unconstitutional and violated state and federal constitutions.

A combined \$550 million plus interest will be paid back to approximately 275,000 public school employees, which amounts to \$2,000 per person. The final amount to be refunded to affected employees will be based on how much was taken out of their paychecks for the

two years the law was in place.

Public Act 75 was enacted by former Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2010. Grigas said the Michigan Education Association and other affected parties, such as certain state of Michigan employees and police and firefighters, filed suit, challenging the constitutionality of the law.

"In 2011, the trial court ruled PA75 unconstitutional. The state appealed. In 2012, the Michigan Court of Appeals held that PA75 was unconstitutional," he said. "Governor Snyder, against the advice of the Attorney General Bill Schuette, spent close to \$200,000 of taxpayer money to fight the court's rulings."

The law was replaced in 2012 by Gov. Rick Snyder

with Public Act 300, and teachers had the choice to take health benefits in their settlement.

Grigas said when the courts ruled it constitutional in 2012, all the affected workers got their refund, except teachers.

"We went through the proper channels to challenge PA75 and despite desperate attempts by the Governor, against the advice of the judicial leader of Michigan, we are finally seeing what should have happened six years ago," he said.

Funds that were collected in those two years were put in escrow and the state will refund the districts in the estimated amount of \$554 million. The districts will refund the teachers and other employees.

“... We had money illegally taken from our pay for close to two years, and we are happy to get that money back.”

Joe Grigas

Lake Fenton Community Schools
teachers' union president



49TH ANNIVERSARY
BRIDAL SHOW
Sunday, January 7th
HOLIDAY INN GATEWAY
Hill Road at US-23
Noon - 4pm FREE Parking

Please bring a gift
for Flint East Side Mission
FlintEastSideMission.org

**\$5 with Pre-registration
or \$6 at the door**

TheBridalShow.org

FREE WEDDING PLANNER TO FIRST 200 BRIDES!

Grand Prize: 2 Ct Wt Diamond Bracelet

- Wedding Experts • Dozens of Prizes
- Live Stage Show • Must be Present to Win
- Diamond Cake Dive

A NON-PROFIT EVENT TO BENEFIT THE FLINT EAST SIDE MISSION



MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

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 Thursday, Dec. 21.

Senate Bill 645: Create new state mass transit regulation bureau

To create a new state bureau to supervise and regulate "fixed guideway public transportation systems," meaning rapid rail, heavy rail, light rail, monorail, trolley, streetcar, inclined plane, funicular, and automated guideway systems.

Passed 38 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)	☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)	☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)	☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)	☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)	☒ YES

Senate Bill 511: Create government savings program for first-time home buyers

To authorize a \$5,000 state income tax exemption, and \$10,000 for joint filers, if the otherwise-taxable income is deposited into a specialty savings account that the bill would authorize for the purpose of making a first-time home purchase. Up to \$50,000 of taxable income could

be made tax exempt over time by placing it in this account.

Passed 37 to 1

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14)	☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15)	☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22)	☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27)	☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)	☒ YES

Senate Bill 686: Require disclosure of municipal employee retirement benefit underfunding

To establish a new state disclosure and oversight regime for pensions and other post-retirement benefits (OPEBs) offered by local governments to their employees, including retiree health insurance benefits. Local governments would have to file annual reports on the extent to which the future benefit promises are underfunded, and develop corrective actions if underfunding exceeds levels the bill prescribes, or if they spend more than 12 percent of their budget on this.

Passed 104 to 5 in the House

Rep. Joe Graves (R-Dist. 51)	☒ YES
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	☒ YES

House Bill 4069: Revise requirements for substitute teachers

To permit an individual to be a public school substitute teacher if the person has earned 60 credit hours at a community college or an associate's degree at one. Current law requires 90 credit hours.

Passed 64 to 45 in the House

Rep. Joe Graves (R-Dist. 51)	☒ YES
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	☒ YES

The 2018 Source Book is ready for delivery

■ Watch for your copy with the Jan. 7 edition of the Tri-County Times

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The 2018 Source Book will be at your doorstep next Sunday, delivered with the Jan. 7 edition of the Tri-County Times.

"It's bigger and better than ever," said Times Marketing Director Terese Allen, who led a sales effort resulting in the largest, most comprehensive Source Book the Times has published in the last 10 years.

"Local businesses support the Source Book because they recognize there is no better value than their local business directory. In recent years, despite the era of digital technology, we have learned the average local resident, including millennials, prefer holding a print product in their hand that is specific to their community. With area businesses understanding what our circulation demographic

wants, it's not surprising that the 2018 Source Book is the largest it has been in more than a decade," said Allen.

Contributing to the success of the Source Book is its easy to use design and award winning content, making it the trusted "go to" resource guide. It provides the user with a quick reference to everything from category specific listings in the front to an alphabetical business index in the back.

What is the Source Book?

It's your one-stop resource and reference guide for everything you need to know about living in the tri-county area. You'll find information about your local leaders in government, local school districts, businesses, organizations and more. Even our 47 local lakes, plus local, county and state

parks, are listed and described for your family's recreational enjoyment.

Each area business is listed both by category and alphabetically, to make it user-friendly whether you're looking for a local plumber or an auto repair shop.

Can I use the Source Book in a mobile format?

Because the Source Book is in a digital format, it can be used whether you're at home, at work or on the road.

For those using a laptop or desktop computer, go to tctimes.com and hover over the red EZ Read tab near the top of the home page and scroll down to either of the two Source Book links.

The "Source Book EZ Read" link allows viewers to virtually flip through every page of the book. The "Source Book Website" link will take a viewer to a very user-friendly 2018 Source Book website.

For those using their smartphones, go to tctimes.com and click on the orange navigation icon in the upper right corner. This sub menu listing allows readers to choose from

several categories, including Source Book, breaking news, features, sports, business listings, Hot lines, obituaries, classifieds, garage sales, videos and much more.

Digital versions of the Source Book will include everything the print version has, including a detailed listing of area businesses.

Can I get additional copies of the Source Book?

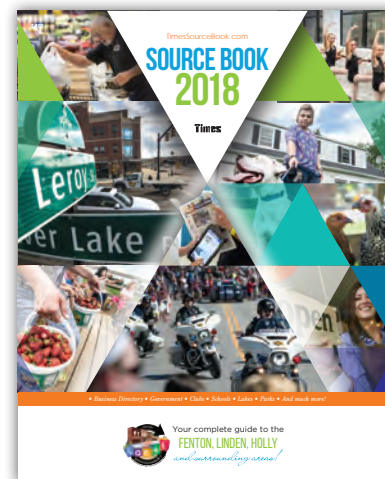
Yes, you can! The printed version continues to be so popular that many Times readers request additional copies for their vehicles, home offices or second homes.

Additional copies may be picked up at the Tri-County offices, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“In recent years, despite the era of digital technology, we have learned the average local resident, including millennials, prefer holding a print product in their hand that is specific to their community.”

Terese Allen

Tri-County Times marketing director



WHICH PROVIDES THE BEST INVESTMENT FOR YOUR FAMILY, YOUR COMMUNITY, AND YOUR FUTURE?

- ☐ \$600 per year - CELL PHONE
- ☐ \$1,200 per year - CABLE TV
- ☒ \$48 per year - TRI-COUNTY TIMES

"Stay Connected to Your Community."

Times

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■
THIS TAX CUT is not about helping the middle class. If you make \$600,000 a year, the average tax cut is 4.3 percent of after tax income. If you make \$80,000 a year, the average tax cut is 1.8 percent of after tax income. If you make \$28,000 a year, the average tax cut is .7 percent of income.

■ ■ ■
TO ALL THE people in the Wednesday paper complaining about Trump being a liar and how he doesn't know what he is doing. When you receive more money in your paycheck or when you file taxes for 2018, please donate your refund

to a charity as you do not deserve it whatsoever.

■ ■ ■
I WANT TO thank the person who paid for my breakfast at the McDonald's drive-thru on Owen Road last Friday morning. Thank you and I will pay it forward.

■ ■ ■
MAYBE YOU SHOULD research this about Reagan — Iran Contra, size increase of the national debt, and the benefits the middle class received from his tax cuts — then we should talk.

■ ■ ■
HOW DO YOU like our Global Unwarming?

The

JOHN WENTWORTH

GROUP



RE/MAX

Platinum

3295 W SILVER LAKE ROAD | FENTON, MI | JOHNWENTWORTHGROUP.COM | 810-354-5065

SILVER LAKE

OPEN SATURDAY 1-3PM

15139 MARL DRIVE
LINDEN | \$550,000
4 Beds, 2 Baths & 3076 SQ FT



9394 SEYMOUR RD
SWARTZ CREEK | \$267,899
3 Beds, 1.5 Baths & 1930 SQ FT



5401 DOOLEY DRIVE
LINDEN | \$399,999
4 Beds, 4.5 Baths & 3472 SQ FT



9720 BURNING TREE
GRAND BLANC | \$399,999
4 Beds, 3.5 Baths & 4090 SQ FT



6170 LONE OAK
GRAND BLANC | \$199,999
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths & 1816 SQ FT



16115 KNOBHILL DRIVE
LINDEN | \$619,999
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths & 2864 SQ FT



9067 LISCOM ROAD
GOODRICH | \$239,999
3 Beds, 2 Baths & 2293 SQ FT



3082 N HENDERSON RD
DAVISON | \$279,900
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths & 2102 SQ FT



8335 W FARRAND RD
MONTROSE | \$389,999
5 Beds, 4 Baths & 4000 SQ FT



11036 WOODWARD DRIVE
BYRON | \$159,999
3 Beds, 1.5 Baths & 1480 SQ FT



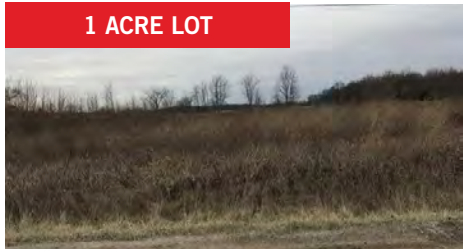
14194 DARTS DR
FENTON | \$674,999
4 Beds, 3.5 Baths & 2086 SQ FT



12204 WOODLINE DRIVE
FENTON | \$749,999
4 Beds, 4.5 Baths & 7,000 SQ FT



7480 MAJESTIC WOODS
LINDEN | \$369,900
3 Beds, 3.5 Baths & 2981 SQ FT



8376 SHARP RD
SWARTZ CREEK | \$24,900
Lake Fenton Schools



MUNGER RD
HOLLY | \$100,000
More Partial Options Available



4430 FULTON CT
LINDEN | \$149,999
Channel Frontage to Tupper Lake

Happy New Year

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2018!



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

6025 LOCUST TRAIL
GRAND BLANC | \$169,900



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

524 PEACHTREE LANE
CANTON | \$249,999



SOLD IN 13 DAYS

998 WATERS EDGE LANE
FENTON | \$359,999



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

703 CHERRY STREET
LINDEN | \$149,999



SOLD IN 57 DAYS

9967 WHITE PINE COURT
CLARKSTON | \$579,000



SOLD IN 46 DAYS

16215 GRAND VIEW ROAD
FENTON | \$999,999



SOLD IN 13 DAYS

43247 ASHBURY DRIVE
NOVI | \$449,999



SOLD IN 12 DAYS

10758 W BRAEMAR
HOLLY | \$414,999



SOLD IN 24 DAYS

16473 ELDER OAK TRL
FENTON | \$239,999



SOLD IN 52 DAYS

7199 WINDBURY LANE
FLINT | \$164,999



SOLD IN 26 DAYS

11041 LAVENDER COURT
FENTON | \$649,999



SOLD IN 32 DAYS

2427 DAVIS ROAD
FENTON | \$584,999



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

1400 BONE ROAD
FENTON | \$225,000



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

16182 MEREDITH COURT
LINDEN | \$349,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

818 CANYON CREEK DRIVE
HOLLY | 199,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

201 PARTRIDGE LANE
HOLLY | \$179,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

4921 HURON DRIVE
CLARKSTON | \$209,900



SOLD IN 7 DAYS

10344 EDGEWATER
GRAND BLANC | \$169,000



SOLD IN 14 DAYS

147 SEDUM
HOWELL | \$259,900



SOLD IN 24 DAYS

12607 REED ROAD
BYRON | \$209,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

452 OTTER RUN
HOLLY | \$189,999



SOLD IN 14 DAYS

10414 LAKE SHORE
FENTON | \$184,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

7259 PARKWOOD DRIVE
FENTON | \$649,999



SOLD IN 17 DAYS

12125 CENTER ROAD
FENTON | \$586,000



SOLD IN 39 DAYS

5515 DOOLEY
LINDEN | \$274,999



SOLD IN 3 DAYS

6210 BULLARD ROAD
FENTON | \$199,999



SOLD IN 52 DAYS

14421 HESS ROAD
HOLLY | \$224,900



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

16205 JACOB ROAD
LINDEN | \$189,900



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

7345 PARKWOOD DRIVE
FENTON | \$449,999



SOLD OVER ASKING

10382 WALNUT SHORES DRIVE
FENTON | \$449,999



SOLD IN 30 DAYS

10015 WALNUT SHORES DRIVE
FENTON | \$434,999



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

8868 SOLITUDE DRIVE
BRIGHTON | \$379,999



SOLD IN 3 DAYS

7343 S LINDEN RD
SWARTZ CREEK | \$149,999



SOLD OVER ASKING

14040 FISH LAKE ROAD
HOLLY | \$149,999



SOLD IN 10 DAYS

5045 SANDALWOOD DRIVE
GRAND BLANC | \$119,999



SOLD IN 20 DAYS

11150 CARPENTER
FLUSHING | \$199,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

153 E AUBURN TRAIL
BRIGHTON | \$372,499



SOLD IN 14 DAYS

2691 EARL LAKE ROAD
HOWELL | \$349,999



SOLD IN 31 DAYS

7489 DENTON HILL ROAD
FENTON | \$349,999



SOLD OVER ASKING

5572 MABLEY HILL ROAD
FENTON | \$324,999



SOLD IN 45 DAYS

13326 WHITE LAKE
FENTON | \$375,000



SOLD IN 39 DAYS

16304 STAGES
LINDEN | \$184,999



SOLD IN 11 DAYS

2469 GOLDEN SHORE
FENTON | \$179,999



SOLD IN 7 DAYS

10462 LAKE SHORE
FENTON | \$265,000



SOLD IN 3 DAYS

6110 BULLARD ROAD
FENTON | \$289,999



SOLD IN 18 DAYS

1047 LINCOLN DRIVE
BRIGHTON | \$314,999



SOLD IN 53 DAYS

9319 FAUSSETT ROAD
FENTON | \$299,999



SOLD IN 12 DAYS

1354 SEWARD COURT
BRIGHTON | \$299,999



SOLD IN 26 DAYS

6426 CRESTVIEW DRIVE
HOLLY | \$184,900



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

6350 ACADEMY
BRIGHTON | \$350,000



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

1142 CELINA COURT
CANTON | \$229,999



SOLD IN 53 DAYS

11068 CHARLES DRIVE
BYRON | \$180,000



SOLD IN 28 DAYS

6200 BULLARD ROAD
FENTON | \$289,999



SOLD IN 11 DAYS

6713 CHEDDAR VALLEY DRIVE
BRIGHTON | \$274,999



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

8469 CAROLE LANE
FENTON | \$279,999



SOLD IN 5 DAYS

840 GLENLIVET STREET
HOWELL | \$209,999



SOLD IN 21 DAYS

**12247 MARGARET DRIVE
FENTON | \$1,395,000**



SOLD IN 23 DAYS

**2208 ISLAND SHORE DRIVE
FENTON | \$1,200,000**



SOLD IN 45 DAYS

**8211 PINE HOLLOW TRAIL
GRAND BLANC | \$1,033,725**



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

**12350 WINDSOR BEACH DRIVE
FENTON | \$999,999**



SOLD IN 31 DAYS

**18 EMERALD POINTE
LINDEN | \$749,900**



SOLD IN 6 DAYS

**4757 FOX LAKE ROAD
GOODRICH | \$299,999**



SOLD IN 3 DAYS

**8013 HAVILAND BEACH DRIVE
LINDEN | \$374,999**



SOLD IN 41 DAYS

**8401 GROVEMONT COURT
GRAND BLANC | \$574,999**



SOLD OVER ASKING

**6382 COOK ROAD
SWARTZ CREEK | \$499,999**



SOLD IN 32 DAYS

**15229 MARL DRIVE
LINDEN | \$449,900**



SOLD OVER ASKING

**13342 ENID BLVD
FENTON | \$399,999**



SOLD IN 24 DAYS

**12607 REED ROAD
BYRON | \$209,999**



SOLD IN 41 DAYS

**8220 BURLEIGH ROAD
GRAND BLANC | \$279,999**



SOLD IN 52 DAYS

**16445 ELDER OAK TRAIL
FENTON | \$249,899**



SOLD OVER ASKING

**1199 SUMMERLYN DRIVE
GRAND BLANC | \$185,450**



SOLD IN 11 DAYS

**122 S WEST STREET
FENTON | \$149,900**



SOLD IN 13 DAYS

**701 SILVER LAKE ROAD
LINDEN | \$204,999**



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

**11360 FOREST HILLS DRIVE
FENTON | \$210,000**



SOLD IN 8 DAYS

**11410 FOLEY ROAD
FENTON | \$234,999**



SOLD OVER ASKING

**14194 RIPLEY ROAD
LINDEN | \$249,999**



SOLD IN 11 DAYS

**16207 HILLTOP DRIVE
LINDEN | \$349,999**



SOLD IN 34 DAYS

**8695 BEACH AVENUE
BRIGHTON | \$275,000**



SOLD IN 4 DAYS

**16074 PINE BLUFF COURT
FENTON | \$599,999**



SOLD IN 11 DAYS

**9519 WOODMONT DRIVE
GRAND BLANC | \$299,999**



SOLD OVER ASKING

**12237 MARGARET DRIVE
FENTON | \$699,999**

The
JOHN WENTWORTH
GROUP



RE/MAX
Platinum

Facts about New Year's Eve

■ NYE is America's fourth favorite holiday to celebrate

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

Whether you going out or staying in, or watching the ball drop at midnight or going to bed at 9 p.m., New Year's Eve is a huge celebration across America and around the world.

Here are 20 facts about New Year's Eve in America from Wallethub.com.

1. Approximately 49 percent of Americans will celebrate New Year's Eve at home, 18 percent will celebrate at a friend's house, 9 percent will celebrate at a bar, restaurant or organized event, and 23 percent don't plan to celebrate.
2. Thirty percent of Americans fall asleep before midnight.
3. About 54 percent of Americans plan to kiss someone at midnight.
4. New Year's Eve is the fourth favorite holiday in America, behind Christmas, Thanksgiving and Independence Day.
5. More than 103 million people will travel at least 30 miles from home for New Year's celebrations. The most popular destinations are Las Vegas, Nevada, Orlando, Florida, and New York City, New York.
6. The average cost for a couple to enjoy a dinner and show in New York City on this holiday is \$1,160. The same experience costs \$480 in Washington, D.C.
7. The average attendance at Times Square in New York City is two million people. Approximately 175 million watch the ball drop on TV.
8. A Ball drop party pass for Times Square costs \$229.
9. More than 7,000 police officers will patrol Times Square on NYE, and 280 sanitation workers will clean up 40-50 tons of trash.
10. About 1.5 tons of confetti will be dropped in Times Square.

SUMMARY

■ The majority of Americans will celebrate New Year's Eve at home.

11. Nearly 360 million glasses of sparkling wine are consumed on NYE.

12. The average blood alcohol content on NYE is .094 percent, making it the most drunken night of the year. About

1 in 10 11th and 12th graders admit to driving drunk on the holiday.

13. The average cost of a DUI is \$10,000. More than 41,900 people will get hurt in car crashes on NYE and New Year's Day, and more than 364 will be fatalities.

14. NYE is the number one night for gunfire meant in a celebratory fashion, but is actually illegal.

15. NYE is the third most popular day for car theft, with approximately 2,242 stolen.

16. The average number of births on New Year's Day is 7,792.

17. The average number of births on Sept. 30, which is nine months after NYE, is 11,974.

18. On New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 1776 is the date the first American flag was unveiled. Betsy Ross replaced the Union Jack with stars in May 1776.

Nearly 360 million glasses of sparkling wine are consumed on New Year's Eve.

19. The slaves became free on New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

20. Approximately 67 percent of Americans make a New Year's resolution.

Source: wallethub.com

New Year's Resolutions

- Approximately 67 percent of Americans make a New Year's resolution, but only 9.2 percent achieve their resolution.
- Approximately 49 percent make the resolution to lose weight and/or exercise.
- About 33 percent of New Year's resolutions involve paying off debt, saving more money, or a different financial goal.
- Education and career goals make up 26 percent of resolutions.
- About 16 percent of resolutions involve habit changes, like drinking less and quitting smoking.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

OBAMA GOT US out of the worst recession most of us have ever been in, and gave health care to millions of Americans that were in need. 'Nuff said.

I WISH ALL those who serve our communities a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

I AM SO proud of my community for their honesty. My wallet, left in a supermarket cart, and cash left in an ATM were both returned. Thanks so much. You warmed my heart. Merry Christmas.

EXPIRE IN SEVEN years!? So silly.

HEY LIONS. YOUR team sucks. Why don't you bench that high-priced quarterback and hire Colin Kaepernick?

YOU BETTER STOP looking at what Donald Trump says and tweets, and you better start looking at what he does.

IT'S PRETTY INTERESTING. The day after President Trump gets his way with the tax package, stocks close down.

THE GREEDY OLD party is now robbing the poor and middle class to pay off the rich.

THESE SCHEDULED TAX laws may be a win for Washington but it's a mugging for Michigan. Prepare to pay \$170 per person per household in state taxes. Good job, Mr. Bishop.

CUTTING TAXES ISN'T the only way to boost growth and raise wages. Eliminating redundant and outdated regulatory hurdles can have a real impact on our lives. That's what the Trump administration will be doing next. Finally, a president for the citizenry.

I RESENT THOSE people who blame everything on liberals — letting illegal immigrants in, using our healthcare, taking over our school, etc. There have been three Republican presidents who have contributed plenty to that situation. If being a liberal means having compassion and respect for other peoples' religion, then call me a liberal.

TO THE PERSON who's no longer an NFL addict, your wife must be really happy with him

We go to the meetings so you don't have to.

The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.



"Stay Connected to Your Community."

THE-COUNTY Times

CRIMINAL**Continued from Front Page**

Count one is child sexually abusive activity. A cash surety bond of \$100,000 was ordered on this count, meaning the full amount needs to be posted before he is released from custody.

Count two is possession of child sexually abusive material. Counts three, four and five are for first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a person under 13 years of age.

Count six is a felon in possession of a firearm and count seven is a felon in possession of ammunition.

Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson said a 15-year-old female came forward with allegations against Watson when she was 12 years old. Swanson said Watson was brought in to make a statement and subsequently a seven-count warrant was issued for his arrest. The sheriff's office executed a search warrant at his home on Dec. 5 and removed several undisclosed items. Watson was arraigned on Dec. 8 and a probable cause conference was held on Dec. 21. A preliminary exam has been scheduled for Jan. 4 at 9 a.m. A court appointed attorney has been assigned to his case. He remains in the Genesee County Jail, however, if he posts bond, he is to have no contact with anyone under the age of 16.

MURDER**Continued from Front Page**

"Our hearts are broken and the circumstances surrounding Ally's murder and loss are unrelenting," said Ally's mother, Nikki Brueger. "Every breath and daily step apart from our daughter is a physical, emotional and spiritual battleground. It will be a year and a half on Jan. 30. To us it's like it happened yesterday."

Nikki said last week that she wants to appeal to people again, especially mothers.

"People still have information," she said. "The reason I know this is in October, I was raking leaves when a woman in a car stopped to talk with me. She's a mother and lives about a half a mile away from us. I stopped to talk with her and she said she saw Ally jogging all the time."

"Then she proceeds to tell me that in an area east of her house, for weeks or months, a vehicle filled with young men would park and listen to rap music really loud," Nikki said. "Right after this happened to Ally, they disappeared. I asked if she gave the police this information and she said no, they didn't want to get involved."

"So, here is it 15 months later and someone is giving me something I felt was important," she said. "I believe there are other people out there sitting on information. People, especially mothers,

should not sit quiet on something that could solve the case."

In addition to her parents, Ally is mourned by her boyfriend, 30-year-old Weston "Wes" Sutherland. He is a Neuro ICU patient care technician at Providence Park Hospital in Novi, where he and Ally met. They dated for two and a half years.

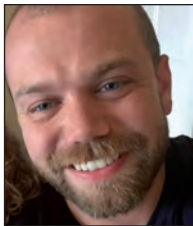
"Our first date was on New Year's Eve," he said.

"I wasn't prepared to lose Ally," he said. "I served six years in the Army as a combat medic with the infantry. I spent two years in Iraq and lost many good friends. It was extremely painful but I was mentally prepared for that reality."

"I wasn't prepared to lose Ally. She was smart, adorable, funny, and the most kind-hearted person you could meet. Ally was my best friend and I loved her more than anything in the world," he said.

"Ally's death turned my world upside down and my life will never be the same without her; as I know is true for her family, friends, and anyone who knew her," Sutherland said.

"I've slowly had to accept that she's gone, but no explanation, no one held to account for what they did to her that day — that's not something I'll ever be able to accept," he said. "The hunt will continue until the monster that took her away from us is held to account."



Weston "Wes" Sutherland

The story...

On Saturday, July 30, 2016, Brueger, a 31-year-old nurse at the time, was gunned down while jogging on Fish Lake Road in Rose Township. She ran 10 miles every day for the past 10 years, until that deadly Saturday afternoon.

Brueger was shot shortly after 2:30 p.m. while running in the 11000 block of Fish Lake Road. She was shot in the back four times before collapsing in the yard of a private residence.

The homeowner found her bleeding in his front yard. He called 911 and tried to resuscitate her. She died later at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc Township.

Her father, Franz Brueger, later said he recalls vividly staring at the emergency room floor and the dozens of shoe prints in his daughter's blood by the doctors and nurses trying to save her life.

Brueger was described as small in stature at 4-feet, 9-inches tall, weighing 98 pounds. Despite her small size, her parents said she was mighty in presence.

Her mother has often said that from the back, her daughter resembled a 12-year-old child. "Who would shoot a child in the back?" she asked.

Keep the tips coming

Anyone with information leading to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Alexandra "Ally" Brueger is asked to call 1-855-MICH-TIP (642-4847) or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP (773-2587). The current reward, offered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (\$5,000) and Crime Stoppers (\$8,500) is \$13,500.

Crime Stoppers pays for information that leads to an arrest, not a conviction.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO proof that anyone bused anyone to Alabama. However, there is proof that Republicans have gerrymandered the voting districts of this state to satisfy their needs. That is true. Look it up.

THE LIBERALS HAVE been investigating President Trump for over a year. They have found absolutely nothing. Why don't we have a real investigation of Hillary Clinton and her bunch for a year and see what we can find.

IN ONE YEAR, Trump has truly made America great again. He has strengthened our borders, been vigilant against terrorism and ISIS, he has rebuilt our military, and now he has the most sweeping historic tax reform package in 30 years, which will benefit the majority of Americans and improve prosperity.

TO THE PERSON complaining about a buffet not being available, there's an Asian buffet on North LeRoy and there's a Mediterranean buffet on Silver Parkway. Try it, you might find you actually like it. It's good for you.

FIRE**Continued from Front Page**

block of Tipsico Lake Road at about 3:40 a.m.

According to Frasier, there are two buildings on the property — a main house and a second structure, which was either a guest house or office turned into living space.

"It was the second structure that was involved, not the main house," he said.

The two individuals in the main house were able to make it out safely.

Stevens FURNITURE

Open Saturday: 9AM to 5:30PM
OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE
12PM-4PM

CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY!
OPEN TUESDAY: 9AM TO 6PM

YEAR END CLEARANCE SALE

STOREWIDE SAVINGS



3-PC Sectional w/ Corner Chaise
Contemporary style adds excitement to any decor

\$999



ROCKER RECLINER
\$288



Gulfport - Pillow Top Mattress Sets

FULL Size	\$319 set
<small>Compare at \$749.95</small>	
QUEEN Size	\$379 set
<small>Compare at \$799.95</small>	
KING Size	\$599 set
<small>Compare at \$1,199.95</small>	

Take With

Stevens

Furniture Inc.

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

HOLIDAY HOURS:
Fri. 9 til 8
Tues. - Thurs. 9 til 6
Sat. 9 til 5:30
Sun. 12 til 4

Open Friday: 9am-8pm

(810) 629-5081

1030 Silver Lake Rd. • Fenton



Fenton's Czarnota leads the way on our 2017 football team

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

In the long history of Fenton varsity football there have been many outstanding players.

But very few have the credentials Josh Czarnota earned during his three seasons as Fenton's starting varsity quarterback. During his career, he threw for 5,851 yards, tossing 71 touchdown passes. He also ran for 2,978 yards and 41 TDs. He finished his career with a perfect 22-0

record in Metro League contests, posting nine-win seasons all three of those years. He helped lead the team to 1,346 team points during those three seasons, the most in any three-year period in Fenton football history, and also guided the team to three straight district championship games, winning one during his junior season.

Indeed, when it comes to the list of the best Fenton football players in school history, a decent case can be

made that Czarnota is it. And for the 2017 season he was overwhelmingly the tri-county area's best player, earning him 2017 Tri-County Football Player of the Year honors.

While Czarnota has more than his share of football memories at Fenton, if you ask him to name his top highlight, it has nothing to do with any of the TD passes or TD runs he made.

"I just love my community, my teammates and my coaches. It's been a heck of a career," Czarnota said.

"They all supported me. We broke a lot of records. We went to three district championship games and competed in a regional championship game.

See **CZARNOTA** on 15A



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

PAGE 13A

Who will take me HOME?
Adopt-A-Pet
A Friend for Life!
 13575 Fenton Rd. • Fenton
 www.adoptapetfenton.com
 810-629-0723



Hondo
 I'm a little senior Feist Terrier. I love my people.
 SPONSORED BY:
Accent
 DECORATING and DESIGN
 Painting & Wall Coverings
 www.accentdd.com
 810-232-3530
 CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE!

Spo **imes**

Playoff runs highlight first half of 2017's top 12 list

■ Three prep state champs included on today's list

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Making a sports year-in-review list can be a thankless job.

Of course, we all have different views of what makes a story important. Is it the story with the most hits on the internet? Do all state championship efforts (track, wrestling and skiing ones included in 2017) automatically go on top of the list regardless of the sport? Does popularity (football is the most popular obviously) of a sport impact the list? How much does historical significance factor in the list? And, finally, how much does the personal preference of the person making the list factor in the final results? Every year the value each aspect changes, which makes making these list tougher every year.

However, we'll brave through it. We'll start our review of 2017 with the bottom half of a Top 12 list for 2017 in today's publication. We'll finish the list in our first publication of 2018.

No. 12 – Fenton, Linden

open football seasons in different venues: The opening week of the football season has changed a little in the tri-county area. Two falls ago, the Fenton Tigers opened the season with a game at Grand Valley State University. Last August, the Tigers upped the prestige a bit by opening the season at Michigan Stadium — the Big House. The Tigers made the most of the occasion as well, crushing the Brandon Blackhawks 48-21. Fenton quarterback Josh Czarnota started his amazing senior season by completing 16-of-25 passes for 427 yards and five touchdowns. Spencer Rivera rushed for 155 yards and two TDs on just 10 carries. The Tigers also brought a healthy number of fans to the game, making it even more memorable.

The Tigers' rivals, Linden, had their own special opening game at Flint's Atwood Stadium as a part of the inaugural Vehicle City Gridiron Classic. Facing off against Flushing, the Eagles won a thriller 27-22. Trailing late, George Walterhouse threw a 19-yard TD pass to Corbin Sines earning the Eagles the win. Flushing had a chance to take the lead late, but Cade Dickson

broke up a pass play on fourth down, locking up Linden's win.

No. 11 – Five area cross country teams qualify for the state meet: Cross country may be the area's most talented sport and the area teams proved that once again this fall when both Fenton teams, both Linden teams and the Lake Fenton boys all qualified for the state meet. The Linden boys placed seventh while the Lake Fenton

See **2017'S** on 14A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTOS

Fenton's football team (top photo) opened the season at Michigan Stadium, defeating Brandon 48-21. It was one of the top 12 tri-county athletic highlights of 2017. Others included Fenton's Zoe Weinberg (above left) winning the giant slalom state title and five area cross country teams (above right) qualifying for the state meet. Pictured above are runners from Fenton's and Linden's boys teams.

YOUR COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR SOLUTION

- ◆ FOREIGN
- ◆ DOMESTIC
- ◆ MOTOR HOMES

MUFFLER & GO

810-629-1066

1478 N. LeRoy St. | Fenton
 www.mufflerandgo.com

- Done Right, The First Time -

24 Hour Emergency Service
 Shuttle & Car Rental
 24 Hour Towing

ASK ABOUT OUR NO INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS OFFER! See us for details.

DRIVE-IN OR BY APPOINTMENT: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM-6PM, SATURDAY 8AM-3PM

TCT COUPON EXPIRES 1/20/18

FREE

VEHICLE CHECK-UP
 Call for details.

MUFFLER & GO

TCT COUPON EXPIRES 1/20/18

FREE

ENGINE LIGHT SCAN/DIAGNOSIS
 Must present coupon

MUFFLER & GO

TCT COUPON EXPIRES 1/20/18

10% OFF

ALL SERVICES
 Must present coupon.
 See store for details

MUFFLER & GO

TCT COUPON EXPIRES 1/20/18

\$16.95

FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGE
 Up to 5 quarts of oil.
 Must present coupon.

MUFFLER & GO



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
FILE PHOTOS
Two of 2017's top tri-county athletic highlights involved the Linden girls soccer team's (above) run to the Division 2 state semifinals and Lake Fenton's state championship 3,200-meter relay team of Thomas Mueller, Isaac Golson, Elijah Bourdeau and Remington Clements.



2017'S

Continued from Page 13A

boys took 15th in the D2 boys race. The Linden girls placed 13th. This marked the first season ever that both Fenton squads qualified for the D1 race. The boys finished in 19th while the girls took 20th.

No. 10 – Fenton's Zoe Weinberg wins the D1 state giant slalom state title: The seven-time All-State senior performer captured her second event state championship of her career by winning the giant slalom with a combined time of 55.78 seconds. Weinberg also won a slalom state championship her sophomore season. She also took third in the slalom in February (1:11.65).

No. 9 – Linden football captures a district title: The Eagles had a fine regular season, going 7-2, but the two blowout losses — to Fenton and DeWitt — probably kept Linden a tad off the radar as the playoffs began. Despite the losses, the Eagles earned a No. 1 seed. While at home, the displayed their talent during the most important part of the season — the postseason. Linden crushed Bay City Central in the opening round of the district tournament, 35-0 and then followed that performance with what is only the second district championship in school history. The Eagles faced the Brandon Blackhawks in the D3 title game and blew out to a quick 28-6 lead. George Walterhouse threw for 383 yards and five TDs while also running for a score, and the Eagles won 49-27. The final score was made to look a bit more competitive by two meaningless fourth-quarter TDs by Brandon.

The win meant the Eagles not only won a district title, but they were going to host their first-ever regional championship game, facing state power Farmington Hills Harrison. The Eagles gave the even-

tual state runner-ups a good battle, tying the game at 14-all early in the third quarter on a Walterhouse 58-yard TD pass to Corbin Sines, but Harrison scored the game's next 20 points, earning the eventual 34-21 victory. The season marked the 16th straight season Linden qualified for the playoffs.

No. 8 – Linden girls soccer advance to the state semifinals for the first time in school history: The Linden girls had a solid regular season, but the team probably accomplished a tad less than they hoped. However, when the postseason began, the Eagles avenged a previous loss against Fenton to win a D2 district title by a 2-0 score. The Eagles then followed the district crown with a 5-0 win against St. Clair and a 3-2 win against Notre Dame Prep to win the team's first-ever regional championship. The Eagles faced state power Marian in the state semifinals, and saw their run end with a 2-0 verdict. However, by the time the run was over the Eagles had recorded a 22-4-1 overall record, earning a school record for wins in a season.

No. 7 – Two state championship track performances: Apparently area runners love 3,200-meter run events. Fenton's Dominic Dimambro captured the Division 1 3,200-meter run championship while on the same day at the D2 meet, the Lake Fenton 3,200-meter relay team also won a state championship. Dimambro made sure the 3,200 state championship stayed in Fenton (Jacob Lee won the race in 2016) by winning the event with a time of 9:07.79 at East Kentwood High School. Meanwhile, Lake Fenton's 3,200 relay team of Thomas Mueller, Isaac Golson, Elijah Bourdeau and Remington Clements won the D2 crown in their event with a school record time of 7:50.92, winning the event comfortably.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

December 31st, 2017



EVAN BARTOW
Boys Swim & Dive

FENTON



DEVIN GOUBORD
Boys Bowling

HARTLAND



CHLOE IDONI
Girls Basketball

FENTON



HAILEY HOWES
Girls Bowling

HARTLAND



DYLAN CONTE
Hockey

FENTON



KYLE KANTOLA
Wrestling

HARTLAND



BRANDON BOSSENBERGER
Boys Basketball

FENTON



SUPPORTING LOCAL ATHLETES



ABBEY VANGOETHM
Gymnastics

HARTLAND



your financial partner for life

(800)535-0517 • www.thestatebank.com

2017 ALL TRI-COUNTY FOOTBALL TEAM

Player of the Year	Position	School	All-State
Josh Czarnota	Quarterback/Secondary	Fenton	Second, AP

Comment: Our Offensive Player of the Year ago is our outright Player of the Year after the 2017 season. This was an easy selection. Czarnota capped the season completing 117 of 193 passes for 2,246 yards and 24 touchdowns. He threw only six interceptions. He also rushed for 1,109 yards and 17 rushing TDs, averaging 7.5 yards an attempt. Czarnota completed his career with 8,829 passing yards and 2,978 rushing yards, putting him on the short list as potential greatest QBs in the tri-county area of all time.

Rest of first team	Position	School	All-State
Chris Tomczak	Defensive Line	Lake Fenton	
Zach Brown	Defensive Line	Linden	First, MC
Devin Fuller	Defensive Line	Fenton	
Easton Giacomantonio	Defensive. End	Linden	
Hunter Chappell	Defensive End	Fenton	
Cade Dickson	Linebacker	Linden	First, MC
Grant Tooley	Linebacker	Holly	
Phoenix Dickson	Linebacker	Linden	
Matthew Tomczyk	Linebacker	Lake Fenton	
Grady Sondgeroth	Linebacker	Fenton	
Seeger DeGayner	Secondary/Receiver	Linden	
John Sage	Secondary	Fenton	First, MC; HM, AP
David Pietryga	Secondary	Fenton	
Hunter Schramm	Secondary	Lake Fenton	
Luke Tomczyk	Secondary	Lake Fenton	First, AP
Jackson Nevadomski	Quarterback	Lake Fenton	HM, AP
Cade Dickson	Running back	Linden	
Jarrett Trombley	Running back	Lake Fenton	
Corbin Sines	Receiver	Linden	First, MC
Josh Maher	Receiver	Fenton	
Chanse Setzke	Receiver	Fenton	HM, AP
Andy Lyons	Offensive Line	Lake Fenton	
Trevor Edger	Offensive Line	Fenton	First, MC; HM AP
Grady Sondgeroth	Offensive Line	Fenton	
Eddie Grode	Offensive Line	Linden	
Garrett Durkac	Offensive Line	Linden	
Koleton Strauss	Pace kicker	Linden	
Jonathon Lannon	Punter	Holly	First, MC

Note: The players on the team and the Player of the Year were selected by the sports staff, with the aid of the all-league teams. Two All-State teams are recognized here — The Associated Press (AP) and the Michigan High School Coaches Association (MC). Players are listed based on position and not in any other particular order.

2017 IN REVIEW

On the Way Down

Five teams/organizations/personalities steadily regressing in 2017.

1. Jim Harbaugh
2. U.S. men's soccer
3. Detroit Tigers
4. National Football League
5. Detroit Lions

Note: Over the last five decades there has been plenty of change with the **Detroit Lions' organization** with one exception — the same family still owns the squad. The Lions have won one playoff football game since winning the National Football Championship in 1957, and have failed to make the playoffs once again this season. Come on Lions! Even lousy organizations make deep playoff runs occasionally. The **National Football League** has had to deal with players kneeling, concussions, weird completion rules that no one understands and lower TV ratings this fall. Heck, there's more professional soccer on TV on the weekends than NFL games. Is the NFL finally starting to lose its grip at No. 1? The **Detroit Tigers** had a terrible season and are in the middle of a fire sale, trying to get rid of its talented veterans. It appears a 100-loss season may be on the horizon. At a time when soccer is at an all-time high interest in this country, the **U.S. men's national soccer team** complete-



Jim Harbaugh

ly embarrassed itself by not qualifying for the 2018 World Cup. But the sad thing is, minus Christian Pulisic, what true talent is coming up the U.S. men's pipeline? Finally, Michigan hired its messiah, **Jim Harbaugh**, to run its football program, and exactly what has he done? The team has gone a combined 1-5 against Michigan State and Ohio State, has never finished higher than third in the East Division of the Big Ten Conference and is only getting January bowl games due to its name and not its talent on the field. So when is Harbaugh going to bring this program back to its glory days, anyway?

On the Way Up

Five teams/organizations/personalities steadily progressing in 2017.

1. Fenton athletics
2. "Minor" sport TV coverage
3. College football
4. Traditional prep doormats begin to rise to respectability/championships
5. More curling on television

Note: In 2017 we saw Linden boys basketball win a Class A district title, the Holly softball team capture a Metro League crown for the first time in 40 seasons, the Fenton wrestling team show signs of life for the first time in over a decade and saw an area boys basketball team (Lake Fenton) play in a state quarterfinal game. It's always exciting to see the teams that have struggled, have their moment in the sun. While the National Football League struggles at every turn, it seems **college football** is making great strides to become more popular than its professional relative. The four-team playoff seems to be working well and it has created many great games each week for fans to watch. At a time many sports networks are seeing ratings declines while the major sports contracts remain ridiculously high, it seems we see more **"minor" sports on TV**, and they seem to be a hit. College softball ratings are going strong as are college baseball ratings. Networks are realizing they can spend a few days at simpler venues, cut down on expenses and still get interest in their



Holly's Metro League championship softball squad

programming by covering these "odd" sports. We see Australian Rules Football, rugby, soccer, lacrosse, beach volleyball and all those crazy X game sports on TV constantly. They remain fresh and interesting while not breaking the network's bank. Expect to see this trend continue. **Fenton athletics** is becoming dominant, routinely competing for league titles or winning league titles in most sports. Watch out Metro League, the Tigers are on the prowl. So maybe more **curling** shouldn't be on the list, but, hey, the sports staff is adding it to the list any way. A member of the sports staff is a curling enthusiast and has been waiting his entire life to see more curling on U.S. television (minus at Winter Olympic time) and has started happening with NBC leading the way. Yeah, most of the televised matches are tape-delayed and begin around midnight, but, hey, it's a start. Be prepared to see plenty of curling during the Winter Olympic coverage.

CZARNOTA

Continued from Page 13A

It's nice to realize we made an impact not only on the team, but the community."

"He's probably the best one we've ever had," Fenton varsity football coach Jeff Setzke said about his three-year starting QB. "We have a fantastic quarterback coming up and we've had some fine ones in the past, but none of them can do what Josh does with his arm."

"One of the statistics you don't see often is in 22 league games over three years he was 22-0. ... Nobody has ever had zero losses (during a long varsity career). That speaks volumes. He was tough as a sophomore. His statistics as a junior were off the charts and we told him before the year began it would be hard to repeat that season. The first five of six games we had running clocks but he still compiled some very nice statistics. That speaks volumes about how good



Fenton's Josh Czarnota

he was."

This season alone, Czarnota completed 117 of his 193 passes for 2,246 yards, completing 24 of his passes for touchdowns. He only tossed six interceptions. Of course, that only tells half of Czarnota's offensive story. He also ran for 1,109 yards and 17 touchdowns on 148 attempts. He also played more on defense during the fall of 2017 than ever before, collecting about 10 tackles and two interceptions while playing in the secondary.

Czarnota's outstanding season earned him All-State Second-Team honors from the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association, and placed him on the Hungry Howie's 2017 Mr. Football top 10 list.

CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM

Devils drop close game in tourney opener

When Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Brian McNerney looked at his schedule prior to the season's start, the squad had only 19 games scheduled.

So when an opportunity came to play in the Bendle Winter Classic, the Blue Devils accepted.

The Blue Devils opened the tourna-

ment with a solid performance, but fell to Ferndale in a 43-38 contest on Thursday.

The loss meant the Blue Devils played tourney hosts Bendle in the consolation game on Friday. Results of that game were unknown at press time.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

SPECIALIZING IN ROOFING & TEAR-OFFS

FREE ESTIMATES
INQUIRE ABOUT A
LIFETIME ROOFING
WARRANTY
LICENSED & INSURED



CALL LORNE
810-577-8591

L. KNAUFT
CONSTRUCTION LLC

<p>— 2017 CHEVY —</p> <h1>CLOSEOUT</h1>	<p>NO GM DISCOUNT NEEDED!</p>  <p>3 LEFT!</p>	<p>2017 TAHOE PREMIER IRIDESCENT PEARL MODEL 4X4</p> <p>WAS \$7,300 • SAVE \$12,012 • demo discount Stk#1290065 NOW \$60,988</p> <hr/> <p>LAST ONE!</p>	<p>2017 CHEVROLET COLORADO</p> <p>WAS \$21,940 • SAVE \$5,877 Stk# 1319331..... NOW \$28,688</p> <hr/> <p>LAST ONE!</p>	<p>2017 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN</p> <p>WAS \$76,445 • SAVE \$13,458 Stk#1791631 NOW \$62,987</p> <hr/> <p>LAST ONE!</p>
--	--	--	--	---



CHEVY
EMPLOYEE
DISCOUNT
FOR EVERYONE

**YOU PAY WHAT WE PAY.
NOT A CENT MORE.**



\$205
/MO
FOR 24 MONTHS

2018 EQUINOX LT
STK# 1161063



\$289
/MO
FOR 36 MONTHS

2018 TRAVERSE
STK# 1139751



\$149
/MO
FOR 39 MONTHS

2018 TRAX
STK# 1173484



\$231
/MO
FOR 36 MONTHS

2018 MALIBU
STK# 6136370T



\$229
/MO
FOR 24 MONTHS

**2018 SILVERADO
4WD DOUBLE CAB**
STK #116198



\$143
/MO
FOR 24 MONTHS

**2018 COLORADO
4WD CREW CAB**
STK# 111685

DISCLAIMER: Lease prices are based on 24 month or 36 month as noted, 10,000 miles/year, gm employee pricing, \$2000 cash or trade down plus normal upfront fees of tax on payment, title doc and plate fees due at signing. Other terms and pricing available, see dealer for details. Rebates included in lease pricing include GM lease loyalty. Prices valid through 1/2/2018.

 CHEVROLET

SHOP AT WWW.CANEVER.COM

CALL NOW! 810-503-0241

FIND NEW ROADS™

CHECK OUT THESE ROCK BOTTOM PRICES! EVERYTHING MUST GO!

CERTIFIED
PRE-OWNED

2010 GMC ACADIA SLE
Stk#180225A.....**\$8,600**

2012 DODGE AVENGER
Stk#188430A.....**\$6,800**

2009 FORD ESCAPE
Stk#180215B.....**\$5,900**

2016 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT
Stk#180227.....**\$15,900**

2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT 2LT
Stk#180236.....**\$15,018**

2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500
Stk#180235.....**\$25,718**


2015 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LT CLOTH 1LT
Stk#180214.....**\$19,999**

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT
Stk#127641A.....**\$25,900**



2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT 2LT
Stk#180227.....**\$16,367**

2007 CADILLAC DEVILLE
Stk#1500389D.....**\$1,889**



2001 FORD RANGER XL
Stk#133553C.....**\$1,800**



3000 Owen Rd. @ US-23 in Fenton
www.Canever.com • 1-810-503-0241

CHEVROLET

SALES HOURS

Mon & Thurs: 8:30am - 8:00pm
 Tues: 8:30am - 6:00pm
 Wed & Fri: 8:30am - 6:00pm
 Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm
 Sunday: CLOSED

SERVICE HOURS

Monday: 7:00am - 8:00pm
 Tues - Fri: 7:00am - 6:00pm
 Saturday: 8:00am - 2:00pm
 Sunday: CLOSED

**AFFORDABLE,
QUALITY, CERTIFIED
SERVICE!**

“Patrick Sassine is always professional and does whatever it takes to support a good service experience.”

-Rod K. of Fenton

**UP TO
\$100 BACK
ON ANY SERVICE**

Get instantly approved* when you apply for a BuyPower Card® at your dealership. You could qualify for a one-time **statement credit** in the amount of your first dealership purchase, up to \$100††

*Credit Approval required. Terms and conditions apply.
 ††You must apply via servicecardapply.com. You are eligible to receive this promotion within the first 30 days of application approval. This one-time credit will appear on your 1st, 2nd or 3rd statement and will be in the amount of your first dealership purchase, up to \$100, on service, parts, or accessories. Offer ends 12/31/17

ALWAYS FREE

- SHUTTLE SERVICE
- BATTERY INSPECTION
- WIFI
- COFFEE
- CHECK ENGINE LIGHT SCAN
- ① BRAKE INSPECTIONS
- KID'S PLAY AREA

CHEVROLET

CERTIFIED SERVICE

GM GENUINE PARTS