Drunk driver crashes car into house on Worchester Drive

Fenton man arrested after fleeing scene

Bv Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 A 35-year-old Fenton man was arrested after he crashed his 2008 Saturn Vue into a home on Worchester Drive in Fenton at 4:15 a.m. on March 28.

Lt. Jeff Cross said police were dispatched to the scene after the homeowner called 911

to report that a vehicle crashed into his bilevel home. The driver of the vehicle had fled the area by the time police arrived.

Fenton police requested a K-9 unit and the driver's scent was tracked to a nearby apartment complex, where police located him. Cross said the man admitted to crashing his car, first into a tree, then into the home, as well as drinking alcohol prior to the crash.

See DRUNK DRIVER on 11A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES SUBMITTED PHOTO A Fenton resident on Worchester Drive took this photo after hearing a vehicle crash into his neighbor's house at 4:15 a.m. on March 28. The home will have to undergo structural repairs.





to resume

■Weather-permitting, work on the site will begin Thursday

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823 The city of Fenton is ready to finish the Caroline Street project.

Last fall, Champagne & Max Excavating was hired by the city to construct the Caroline Street connector to link Walnut Street with LeRoy Street. See CAROLINE on 6A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Work to link Walnut Street to LeRoy via Caroline Street began last fall. Completion of the project is expected to resume on Thursday, April 5, weather-permitting



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Parish Deacon Dan Medich washes the foot of a parishioner during Maundy (Holy) Thursday Mass on March 29. The foot washing symbolizes the final supper and Jesus washing the feet of his disciples before he was crucified. Hundreds attended the Mass, which is the only Thursday night Mass on the Catholic liturgical calendar.

Michigan has dubious distinction of being 10th drunkest state

Alcohol use disorder can

affect all socioeconomic sta-

tuses and races, and it is the third

leading lifestyle-related cause of

death in the nation. It also costs

Approximately 20 percent of Michigan adults drink excessively

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Michigan ranks 10th in the country for the number than we think."



of adults who binge drink or drink heavily.

Katie Baxter, clinical services project manager for Genesee Health Systems, said, "Alcoholism is fairly common, not just the nation billions of dollars. in Michigan. It's more prevalent

L'm betting that most readers are not aware that the coach who died in the Florida school shooting was a licensed gun owner. The coach lost his life,

and most likely several

students died also.

because he was not allowed to

carry in the school."



'Precious' to a 'prestigious' university

would be far better served to send their offspring to U of M Flint for the freshman

year, and then to the university in Ann Arbor the next year. It's a winwin for all involved."

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

FILE PHOTO According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Michigan ranks number 10 in number of adults who binge drink.





and trucks for all the auto accidents that occur each day.





With the wealth of great literature and media available to educators, is it really necessary to teach using books and movies that include nudity, rape, and sex? As a retired literature teacher, I'm with the parents on this one. Choose literature that uplifts and inspires."



WEEKEND TIMES

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Aiden Saunders, 13 (upper right), of Deerfield Township, is surrounded by his family, which includes his parents Bill and Lori, and his sisters, Sarah, 5 (foreground, right), Carli, 7 (left), and Kiera, 10. He is recovering from a heart transplant, and returned home Tuesday, March 27 after a month at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

'An Easter miracle'

■Flu-like symptoms in February lead to heart transplant for area teen

By Sally Rummel

The Tri-County Times is published semi-weekly by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. We serve the communities of: Fenton, licidea Leke Factor, Melly Herthard

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news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Easter Sunday will take on a whole new

meaning this year for the Bill and Lori Saunders family of Deerfield Township.

Their son, Aiden, 13, went from being a healthy, active eighth-grader with flu-like symptoms and stomach issues in February, to acute heart failure that seemed destined

to end his young life —unless he could be saved by a heart transplant.

That heart transplant took place on March 16, "3-16" (16th day of third month) and its significance with the well-known Bible verse John 3:16 wasn't lost on the Saunders family.

"It's definitely an Easter miracle," said his father, Bill, talking with Aiden at their Lake Shannon home on Wednesday, just one day after his homecoming from C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. Their return home brought all their Lake Shannon neighbors out in support with posters and well wishes.

See EASTER MIRACLE on 7A

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Linden woman lobbies for stricter cosmetic regulations

■U.S. bans 11 chemicals from beauty products, compared to European Union's more than 1,300

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 After years of disappointing doctor's appointments and struggling to find beauty products that don't contain harmful chemicals, one Linden resident went to Washington, D.C. to fight for her cause.

Ashley Gallagher went to lobby Congress about the potentially harmful ingredients found in cosmetics and beauty products that may cause cancer, fertility issues, or incur other harm.

"You think about what you're putting in your body but not necessarily what you're putting on your body," she said. "You don't want to have to be a chemist to read the ingredients on your personal care products.'

See COSMETIC on 11A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Linden resident Ashley Gallagher (left) got involved in lobbying for stricter cosmetic and beauty product regulations after being diagnosed with Hashimoto's Disease.

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WEEKEND TIMES

Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

t has long been my contention that farmers and chefs are in cahoots to get us to eat things that are not normally considered food. Brussels sprouts spring to mind first.

I had the misfortune to confront a platter of these abominations the other day at a fancier restaurant (meaning one with cloth napkins and no photos on the menu) when the lovely yet formidable Marcia ordered them as an appetizer.

When they arrived, there was nothing appetizing about them. They looked and smelled like blackened



alien cocoon pods. So I said, 'They look like blackened alien cocoon pods." I've always

been pretty literal. Marcia was not amused.

"Stop, they're caramelized brussels sprouts

with bacon," she said. "Try it, you'll like it."

Right. My mom used to say that when I was a kid. She lied every time. It didn't take me long to understand that what she meant was, "Try it or no dessert and an early bedtime for you, young man."

I'm not a child anymore, of course. So I manned up and tried one anyway. It was a mistake. It tasted like a blackened alien cocoon pod, only bacon-y. So I said, "It tasted like a blackened alien cocoon pod. Only bacon-y.

To which Marcia frowned and rolled her eyes — someday I swear they're gonna stick that way.

My point here is that almost no one throughout all of human history has liked brussels sprouts, not even the people of Brussels. That's why they ship them here.

So why are they suddenly on every restaurant menu?

I think it's because chefs are ambitious. They figure, "Anyone can make a filet mignon taste good. But it takes a true genius to make something

Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

edible out of brussels sprouts. If I can do that I will become world-renowned and get my own show on the cooking channel."

So that's what happened. An entrepreneurial chef tried a hundred different ways to cook brussels sprouts but nothing was working because, after all, a sprout is

still a sprout.

or she cooked

it with bacon,

which usually

So finally he

66 My point here is that almost no one throughout all of human history has liked brussels sprouts. not even the people of Brussels. 77

fixes anything. Then they got their own TV show. After seeing the show, restaurants added them to menus. Then customers ordered them thinking, "I've always hated these things, but hey, that chef is on the cooking channel, so they must know what they're talking about." There's no doubt people hated them

anyway. But no one likes to admit they don't like something (unless they have a newspaper column) for fear others will find them unsophisticated. So they kept their mouths shut.

And voila, a food trend was born. Farmers love it when something becomes trendy, especially something like brussels sprouts, because finally they can get rid of their existing supply, which has been piling up in the barn. (Alien pods never go bad.)

Eventually, demand becomes so great that they have to plant more brussels sprouts, which amazes them because they know what brussels sprouts taste like and they can't believe they're making money off of alien cocoon pods.

Of course, no trend lasts, which is why a new one has to replace it. Which is why, I figure, kale — vile, bitter kale — is now a thing.

I may never go out to eat again. 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.

lo not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-Cou serve the right to edit for clarity, length and liabili

'A WELL-REGULATED militia' are the first four words of the second amendment. 'Shall not be infringed,' are the last four words of the second

amendment. The founding fathers were providing a means for our country's defense. The right of any individual to own his own private arsenal is secondary. ALL OF THIS criticism of Mark

Zuckerberg is completely misplaced and unwarranted. He is just a very bright young man who provided a means for open communication, with amazing worldwide success. Anyone foolish enough to put their information on public display should be prepared to suffer the consequences.

VIOLENCE IS ABNORMAL behavior. Some parents have no problem repeatedly exposing their teenagers to violent content while getting worked up into a tizzy when teenagers are exposed to sexual content. Sex is perfectly natural behavior that teenagers need to be aware of so they don't make a life-altering mistake.

SPREADING YOUR PARTICULAR religion door to door won't make for a better place. The road to hell is paved with good intentions.

IN FURTHER DEFENSE of the second amendment, please read Federalist No. 46, written by James Madison, you know, the main writer of the U.S. Constitution

who gives one of the reasons that the second amendment is there.

THANK YOU FOR your service. The National Guard is considered a part of the Army. They sign up for the Guard and are under the control of both their state and the federal government.

DON'T BLAME TRUMP for the budget. Reagan was forced to sign bloated budgets in order to strengthen our military and destroy the Soviet Union without a war. Both political parties need a Congressional leadership change before they bankrupt us. Write your congressman now.

HEY FAR RIGHT, take a look at the millions of kids marching and get ready for a blue wave. Your fault for letting crazy people get guns.

IT IS OBVIOUS from some of the Hot lines, that some of the parents of the disgruntled writers would have benefited from Planned Parenthood.

THE SUPREME COURT has ruled that the states have the right to regulate guns. Michigan could ban machine guns or tanks from being owned by citizens if its government chose to do so. Common sense should rule this issue.

TO THOSE WHO think the

government should be run like a business. That ship sailed long ago. Check the percentage of senators and congressmen who are already millionaires. Both political parties are guilty. Stop the partisan bickering and wake up.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



What do you remember most about Easter as a child?



"I'm Jewish, so Passover is a big deal, but Easter, not so much. I remember everything being closed on Good Friday for three hours."

> - Dan Steinhardt Southfield



"Easter egg hunts for sure. It was my favorite thing. All my siblings and sometimes cousins reaching for the eggs, everyone doing the cash grab." - Dave Moreno

Fenton



"Doing Easter egg hunts around the house with my brothers, occasionally we'd have neighbors over."

- Jacob Hoffmann

Fenton Township



"My mom would make this coconut cake that was shaped like a rabbit, with jelly bean eyes, nose and mouth."

- Chris Heron Fenton Township



street talk

"For me, it was going to my grandparents, doing the egg hunt, and going to church every year until I went to college."

The million-dollar reason **Ripley isn't paved**

L The cost for

gravel) because of

the extensive work

that needs to be

done is right around

\$1 million. **77**

Paul Zelenak

Linden city manager

■Special assessment district would cost nearly \$50,000 per lot

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Linden — A portion of Ripley Road has been a point of contention in Linden City and Fenton Township for over a decade. Large potholes are plentiful on the gravel road, which only worsen during

spring the rainy season. The city of Linden is responsible for Ripley Road from Silver Lake Road to Rolston Road, even though north of the railroad tracks, the east side of the road is in Fenton Township.

A small portion of the road is paved between Silver Lake Road and Rolston Road. This stretch of the road is in Fenton Townshp. The main reason for not paving the rest of Ripley is the cost.

"Ripley Road has been discussed several times in the past. The cost for paving the road (from gravel) because of the extensive work that needs to be done is right around \$1 million," said

Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak. "Additional costs to do other utility improvements and sidewalks would put the figure a few hundred thousand dollars higher."

The council has discussed creating a special assessment district in the past. Zelenak said the cost per lot was close to \$50,000.

In 2005, the road was reclassified to make it eligible for federal dollars.

In April 2015, Linden and Fenton Township were in talks to potentially

HOT LINE CONTINUED MASS SCHOOL SHOOTINGS are taking place in gun-free zone schools and small communities. Put metal detectors in schools that check all backpacks, students, and faculty members entering the building. That's what they do in inner city schools and they don't have mass shootings there.

FIVE GIRLS HAVE quit Linden softball since tryouts. Two others switched schools this fall to play elsewhere. Four more are looking into switching schools next fall. What will it take to get rid of the real issue?

I WOULD LIKE to know what Hillary Clinton had to do as secretary of state in the United States of America to amass \$400 million in her so-called charitable fund. I'll believe in justice when I see her and Bill both in jail because they're both a couple of crooks.

YOU MAY HAVE been a master mechanic and had to buy your own tools, but you never had to pay for other people's tools. That's what the teacher has to do when she buys your kid a pencil.

I AGREE THAT you should be the better educator with nine years training (versus homeschooler) — I oppose the social and political indoctrination of my children

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL Linden City councilors are currently developing a road improvement plan but Ripley Road is not included.

develop a plan to pave the road. At the time, Zelenak said if the city were to receive funds from the county to pay for the road, residents would have to pay approximately 20 percent of the costs. The council attempted to secure federal funding through the county, but the road did not qualify for the money.

Zelenak also said they were in talks with the Genesee County Road Commission about potentially having the county take over the grading and main-

tenance of Ripley.

Also at the time, Thomas Broecker, Fenpaving the road (from ton Township operations manager/deputy clerk, said they had discussions with Linden City officials about the possibility of creating a special assessment district for Fenton Township residents to pay a portion of the costs.

> These plans did not come to fruition. The city of Linden is currently developing a road improvement plan, but Ripley Road is not included.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN a

mechanic paying for his own tools and the teacher buying school supplies for her classroom is the mechanic can take those off his taxes. However, teachers can no longer do that.

THIS IS IN regards to the Uranium One deal orchestrated by Hillary Clinton of which Russia's Rosatom company bought out 20 percent of all the United State's uranium. After this deal was completed, \$2.35 million was donated to the Clinton Foundation and Bill received \$500,000 to give a speech in Moscow.

PEOPLE COMPLAIN ABOUT

politicians not having come from the business world. Snyder and Trump do, and apparently, they don't understand the difference. Businessmen do what they do for profit. Our government is there for us, not profit. Their decisions affect lives.

ROSEMARY STICKEL IN Our

Town Sunday was such a delight to read. I have no doubt that she, along with her two friends from childhood, will celebrate their 100th birthdays together.

GRAND BLANC, BYRON, Millington and Westwood Heights all have school elections on Tuesday, May 8. Mark your calendars. Every vote matters.



BURTON MAN ARRESTED AFTER POLICE CHASE

At 1:20 a.m. Thursday, March 29, a Fenton police officer, conducting stationary radar on Owen Road, observed a vehicle pass by traveling 70 mph in a 40-mph zone. The officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle near U.S. 23, however, the vehicle did not stop and entered northbound U.S. 23. The driver eventually pulled over and

stopped after exiting at Torrey Road. The officer made contact with the driver, who smelled of intoxicants. The officer determined the driver, a 30-year-old Burton resident, was intoxicated. The driver was placed under arrest and lodged at the police station overnight. He was ticketed for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, fleeing and eluding police, driving on a suspended license and speeding.







Holly Academy student wins state spelling bee

Three other classmates participate in charter school competition

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Holly — A 12-year-old Holly student brought some state accolades to her school, Holly Academy, by winning a statewide spelling bee on March 16.

Anika Guru, 12, who is in seventh grade, won the 14th Michigan State Charter School spelling bee in the sixth- to eighthgrade division, taking home a trophy.

"I was really excited. I had never really won a big competition like that before," she said.

Anika started competing in fifth grade. By placing second, she was sent to the state competition, where she was eliminated in the first round because she was so nervous. "Coming back this time, I had a lot more confidence," she said. The state competition was in Taylor.

In order to make it to state competition, students must win first or second

place at their school. Twenty-eight students competed at the state level in approximately 15 rounds. Competitors are eliminated the first time they get a word wrong. The rules change once there are two students left.

Other Holly Academy

L For spelling, I imagine seeing it in my book and what the context around it would be. **77**

> Anika Guru Holly Academy seventh-grade student

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Anika Guru, 12, is the winner of the 2018 Michigan State Charter School Spelling Bee in the sixth- to eighth-grade division.

students who competed at the state level this year were Noah Vetter, Molly Dixon, and Richie Majewski. Noah came in sixth, Molly placed in

the top 15, and Richie placed fifth.

This year the school words were harder than the state words, Anika said. One word she spelled correctly at the school competition was "dormant."

"But the state competi-

tion is more intimidating," she said. "I can't really remember a lot of the words because it was so long ago. Because it was so exciting, I forgot (the word I won with)."

She likes competing every year because it makes her smarter, she said.

"I read a lot. I have been reading big books like Harry Potter since third grade," she said. "Reading helps me study and I figured that if I do the spelling bee than I can continue to learn and grow as a reader, writer and in everything that I do."

Anika doesn't have a spelling bee study regimen besides reading. "I just kind of wing it. When I get there, I picture the word on a wall. I have a photographic memory so when I'm spelling or writing something out, or when I need to picture something in my head, I just find a blank space," she said. "For spelling, I imagine seeing it in my book and what the context around it would be."

She plans on competing again next year.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

HOW MANY PEOPLE have been protected, defended and saved by good, law-abiding Americans with guns? Also, isn't the first step to oppression to disarm the citizenry? Just asking.

I'M SAD TO see another family business close in Linden and move to another city. If you love our small, sweet town, please let Linden City officials know and continue to support the local family owned businesses before we lose them all.

CAROLINE

Continued from Front Page "This was to help improve the traffic flow and accessibility to downtown

flow and accessibility to downtown Fenton," said Dan Czarnecki, public works director. Caroline Street, from LeRoy to Wal-

nut, is slated to close on Thursday, April 5, weather permitting.

The remaining work to be completed includes installation of brick crosswalks, the concrete sidewalks, brick placement along the sidewalk, and irrigation to the plants/trees. They antici-

Benefits of spelling

The term "spelling bee" does not derive from the insect. Instead, the term refers to a gathering of people who come together for a common purpose, often helping each other to achieve something. Spelling bees help students gain a healthy sense of sportsmanship and gain languagebased knowledge and literacy skills. Students often study the origin of words, as well as the context, history and the grammatical function.

Source: spellquiz.com

National spelling bee

The National Spelling Bee was first started in 1925 by nine newspapers that hosted a competition. Currently, approximately 11 million students compete in spelling bees each year.

Ananya Vinay, 12, won the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee with the word "marocain," which is a dress fabric made with a warp of silk or rayon, and filling of other yarns and is similar to but heavier than canton crepe.

How it works

At the National Spelling bee, spellers must first take the preliminaries test, which contains 12 round-one spelling words, 12 round-one vocabulary questions, a round-two vocabulary question and a round-three vocabulary question. A total of 30 points can be earned. Then, they compete in round one and round two. If they get a word wrong, they are eliminated.

In 2017, 40 of 291 spellers qualified for the finals by earning at least 29 points in the preliminaries. You can take the preliminary test online to see if you would qualify at spellingbee.com. *Source: spellingbee.com*

SO SAD HOW blame gets shifted during school tragedies. Absentee parents, Xbox, Grand Theft Auto, all create the atmosphere for these events. The NRA has nothing to do with putting the guns in their hands. Are the guns locked up at home? Take part in your kid's life and your kid's education. Teachers can't do it all.

LITTLE WAS SAID by the leftist media when Democrats — Kennedy, Johnson and Clinton had affairs while in the White House. Now it's major news that Trump may have had an affair 12 years ago. Whatever happened to unbiased media?

pate the work to take four to six weeks.

"The weather will play an important part to completing this work," Czarnecki said. "We all know how the weather in Michigan can easily change."

They will be closing the street to traffic so they can work safely, Czarnecki added. "There will also be some parking spaces in the parking lots that will be blocked from use, again for safety," he said.

The project is expected to cost approximately \$400,000 and is being funded by Downtown Development Authority (DDA) construction bonds.

EASTER MIRACLE **Continued from Page 3A**

Aiden's journey from health to heart failure became evident in February when he starting feeling ill with vomiting, lack of appetite and fatigue. "We thought it was a stomach bug," Bill said.

Meanwhile, Aiden continued his

SUMMAKY

An Easter

miracle came

old Aiden

early for 13-year-

Saunders, who

heart transplant

underwent a rare pediatric

on March 16

after he went

from healthy

to acute heart failure.

schoolwork at Cheryl Stockwell Preparatory Academy in Brighton and even went to swim meets and practices as a swimmer for the Hartland Hurricanes, a competitive swim club.

The Saunders took Aiden to the University of Michigan Hospital emergency room on Feb. 25 when his symptoms really es-

calated. Doctors noticed right away that he had an enlarged heart and liver, signs that his heart wasn't supplying enough blood to all his major organs.

Aiden's diagnosis was dilated cardiomyopathy and he was immediately admitted into the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

At first, Aiden showed signs of improvement, but his quick downward spiral by the next weekend left doctors no choice but to do open heart surgery and implant a LVAD (Left Ventricular Assist Device) to mechanically assist his heart in pumping blood throughout his body.

Aiden ended up with a Bi-

VAD, a battery operated pump that helps both the right and left ventricles move blood throughout the heart, in addition to the implanted LVAD. It is used only in extreme circumstances, often when a patient is waiting for a heart transplant.

'We knew at that point Aiden would have to have a transplant," Bill said.

Pediatric heart transplants are rare, only about 500 worldwide each year. Because of his age, he was big enough to take the donated heart of someone up to about 30 years of age.

The paperwork and insurance for a heart transplant usually take at least a week and a half, but because of his age, otherwise good health and his hospitalization at a major transplant center, the process moved along quickly. "He had everything going for him," Bill said. "He was listed as 1A, at the top of the heart



HOT LINE CONTINUED

TELL ME AGAIN how guns don't kill especially in the hands of an innocent 4-year-old who just shot a 7-month-old.

TRUMP SUPPORTERS: TRY to refrain from bringing up Clinton or Obama. Now, if Trump was a Democrat, what would you say about his payment to a porn star, his waffling on issues such as gun control, his White House staff turnover in his first year in office, the Russian interference investigation?

RIGHT ON HELLER. Having two sons in teaching for the past 29 years has created a firewall against any member of the family ever going into teaching, including grandchildren.

OH MY GOD. I just found out Bozo the Clown died. I thought that clown died decades ago. At least 45 years plus ago. We watched him every day growing up in the '60s like a lot of other people around here. Rest in peace Bozo, rest in peace.

THE KING IS 'the Man.' You can 'handle it.'

DOES ANYONE KNOW what Betsy DeVos would say about the Linden High School R-rated movie and book requirements?

likely need to have another transplant. "It makes me want to go into the medi-

cal field," Aiden said. They also hope to meet the donor's

family at some point in their journey, but this would take place in the future, if both families are interested, and would be arranged through the donor organization.

For today, Aiden and his family are basking in the power of prayer, the support of community and the love of family. "We'll be at church on Easter Sunday," Bill said.



The real miracle was about to unfold. The night Aiden's name went on the

transplant list, March 14, a match was found for him, and a helicopter transported the heart to the transplant team for the 11-hour surgery.

in the morning, a new heart saving his life.

exceeded all his doctor's expectations, allowing him

What is dilated cardiomyopathy?

This occurs when heart muscle cells are abnormal or damaged. In more severe cases, the heart is unable to pump enough blood to meet the body's needs, causing symptoms of congestive heart failure. It is quite rare in children. Source: C.S. Mott Children's Hospital

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with his swim team just two months ago.

transplant list."

We knew

at that point

Aiden would

have to have a

transplant. 77

Bill Saunders

Father of 13-year-old heart

transplant patient

By Friday, March 16, early

was beating in Aiden's chest, Aiden's new heart has

to come home just 11 days

after transplant. He does have some restrictions to help build his immunesuppressed system, including not going back to school for the remainder of the school year, "but he'll be ready to ski and

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO Aiden Saunders, 13, will wear a mask while around large groups of people as he heals to prevent infection.

wakeboard in June," said Bill to his son,

doesn't last forever. Its lifespan is usually

with a smile.

On the down side, a transplanted heart about 15 years, after which time Aiden will

FHS robotics team to compete at state level

■Will join 160 teams at FIRST **Robotics Competition**

From April 12 to 14, high school students from Fenton's Titanium Tigers will be competing with 160 teams in the Michigan State Championships, a FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) event held at the Ryder Center at Saginaw Valley State University.

More than 80,000 high school students around the world, located in 26 different countries, competing on more than 5,000 teams will compete in the 2018 FRC game, "Power Up."

The objective of Power Up involves cooperation between alliance members to place as many cubes into three different gravity acted mechanisms. The teams can choose between three different locations for their cubes, either an elevated scale, a grounded switch, or into their vault to store in order to activate special abilities called "power-ups." At the end of the match, the robots are designed to be able to hang onto an elevated bar and support themselves by hanging 12 inches off the ground.

Each team of students had just six



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

More than 80,000 high school students, including Fenton's Titanium Tigers, will compete at FIRST Robotics Competition April 12 to 14.

weeks to design, build and program their robots for competition. Each team competes in two district events that qualify them for the state competition.

These competitions not only inspire

place in Michigan for the first time this year, located in Detroit's Cobo Center from April 25 to 28. For more informa-

students to learn more about science and tion about the Titanium Tigers, visit www. fentonrobotics.com or email them at fhs. technology, but also prepare them to be

future leaders in STEM (Science, Techrobotics@fentonschools.org.

nology, Engineering and Math) industries. The World Championship will also take



Former Holly police chief facing **25 felonies**

WHAT YOU

MISSED

in the

MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

Charges against Elena Danishevskaya involve alleged false salvage vehicle inspections in 2014 and 2015.

Holly teen charged for alleged threat on

Snapchat Kenneth Dane Parks, 17, is released on tether, personal bond and is under house arrest



Iconic Fenton scrap yard on the market for \$1.6 million

Fenton Auto Salvage owner John Abee, 72, who wishes to retire, has listed his business for sale after 38 vears.

Grant aimed at funding more downtown Fenton perks

If the city of Fenton receives a \$300,000 grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, downtown Fenton could become even more of a haven for kavakers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the U.S.

Popularity is increasing for this low-impact, high speed paddle sport for all ages.

A look back at 1968

Remembering when the Detroit Tigers won the 1968 World Series.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHAT IS WRONG with these high school kids calling in these fake terrorist shoot-up threats? They're ruining their lives forever. Idiots. That's sad.

YESTERDAY, FIVE MS-13 violent

gang members were arrested in Las Vegas for the kidnap, torture and murder of 10 individuals over the last year. These illegal immigrants came into the United States from El Salvador due to President Obama's and the Democrats' weak foreign policies.

DURING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S

term, the VA system became more corrupt and more incompetent. He never did any mass firings, and he basically gave slaps on the wrist as our veterans suffered or died while trying to get care. Getting rid of Dr. Shulkin, Obama's appointee, is the right thing to do. He never got a handle on trying to run this out of control system. Dr. Jackson will do a better job.

Functional medicine to be offered at Fenton Medical Center

▶ Tejal Joseph, M.D. heads up new health program modeled after Cleveland Clinic

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Fenton Medical Center plans to offer Functional Medicine care starting April 9, 2018 with Tejal Joseph, MD, and Megan Moreno, certified health coach. The functional medicine model is an evidence based, patient-centered approach that works to uncover the underlying factors for many chronic diseases.

Cleveland Clinic's Center for Functional Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the largest functional medicine centers in the nation. Joseph, who is a board certified family medicine physician, has been training with the Institute for Functional Medicine to obtain certification. In the meantime, she and Moreno plan to partner with their primary care colleagues to help care for patients with various medical conditions.

"Up to 80% of our immune system lies within the gastrointestinal tract, and almost 90% of the neurotransmitters needed for optimal mood also reside in the gut,"Joseph said. "With theses facts, it's not hard to see how many chronic medical conditions that seem far removed from the stomach and intestines actually originate in the digestive system."

These statistics indicate that the root cause of your illness may stem from within your GI system. Here is a list of several medical conditions that could have a GI connection:

 Acne Food Sensitivities Hypothyroidism Mood Disorders Digestive Disorders GERD Irritable Bowel 	 Vitamin Deficiencies Allergies Chronic Fatigue Constipation Eczema Hyperthyroidism Migraine Headaches
• Irritable Bowel Syndrome	

If you identify with any of these medical conditions, then you may be the perfect candidate for a functional medicine evaluation at Fenton Medical Center.

Your journey to better health will begin with a thorough health history form which you will complete prior to your initial appointment. This history will provide valuable, detailed information



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

to Diet, Rest, Exercise, Stress man-

Dr. Tejal Joseph (right) and Certified Health Coach Megan Moreno of the Fenton Medical Center are teaming up to bring patients well-rounded care. Joseph treats patients medically, while Moreno assists them with lifestyle factors, such as diet and exercise.

about you, including your concerns, health habits, diet, exercise, sleep,

stress level, and many other particulars that help paint an accurate picture of who you are and what your pertinent issues are. At your initial appointment, you will have an opportunity to tell your story and undergo a physical exam, and

plan for you. Functional lab testing (810) 629-2245 and tell the office will likely be ordered as well. "The that you are interested in the funchistory, physical, and labs can help uncover any imbalances, infections, or other abnormalities, and provide us with many healing opportunities," states Joseph.

Certified Health Coach Moreno goes on to note, "The cornerstone of our program, however, will be our DRESS for Health Success acronym. No matter what the medical condition is, it can always use proper attention — PAID ADVERTISEMENT —

agement, and Supplements." The **"DRESS for Health Success**" **D-Diet**

S-Stress Reduction

cal Center plans to partner with you in implementing these lifestyle modifications on your journey to improved health.

tional medicine evaluation.



S-Supplements

functional medicine team at Fenton Medi-**R-Rest**

Fenton Medical Center is at 102 N. Adelaide Stress in

we may then further outline a health Fenton. For an appointment, call

E-Exercise



Christian-themed movies have become more popular and profitable at the box office, including the new "I Can Only Imagine," released March 16 in time for Easter.

The top-grossing

Christian movie of

all time was Mel

Gibson's 'Passion of

the Christ' in 2004,

bringing in \$370.8

million at the

box office.

USA Today

Faith-based movies more popular and profitable than ever

■ 'I Can Only Imagine' is the newest box office success story, released March 16

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Maybe there's a bigger audience for inspirational, hopeful movies in today's world than most people might think.

Producers of the Christian-themed movie, "I Can Only Imagine," might have only hoped and prayed for the popularity of this movie, which has already grossed about \$42 million since its debut at the box office March 16.

With its timed release just a few weeks before Easter, this movie is based on contemporary

Christian rock band MercyMe's front man, Bart Millard, who wrote "I Can Only Imagine" in 2001. The song was written by Millard in response to his relationship with his troubled father and became the biggest selling contemporary Christian single of all time.

Actor J. Michael Finley stars as Millard, a heartbroken man who finds God after he has hit rock bottom. Actor Dennis Quaid plays Millard's father, Arthur, who eventually reconciles with his son.

The movie surprised just about everyone with opening weekend sales of \$17.1 million, an impressive showing for a religious movie with a modest budget of \$7 million.

But it's hardly the only faith-themed movie to have moved mountains at the box office.

The movie "Son of God," in which Portuguese actor Diogo Morgado portrayed Jesus, made \$59.7 million at the box office when it was released in 2014. "God's Not Dead," "Heaven Is For Real" and "War Room" made similar headlines after their box office debuts, proving that many Christian moviegoers put their wallets where their faith is.

The 2016 movie, "Risen," an epic biblical story of Jesus' resurrection, took a "CSI" approach to this historical account. It took in over \$46 million in worldwide

box office sales, as well as another \$10 million in domestic video sales.

Some of the biggest Christian hits of the past few years have been based on best-selling books, and we're not just talking about the Bible.

"The Shack," released on May 30, 2017, was based on a best-selling novel of the same name and grossed a total of \$57.4 million. "Miracles From Heaven,"

released on March 16, 2016, had a total of \$61.7 million in box office receipts.

Having a built-in branding and reference point for those who may have read the books these films are based on gives the film immediate credibility.

Offering a fresh take on the Bible is also a selling point for many

movies, including Mel Gibson's 2004 blockbuster hit, "The Passion of the Christ," which offered a gritty, violent view into the crucifixion of Jesus. The movie took in \$370.8 million.

Three of the five highest grossing faithbased movies are "The Chronicles of Narnia" series, released in the mid-2000s. All are based on C.S. Lewis' young-adult novels and grossed more than \$100 million at the U.S. box office.

Disney's big-budget adaptation of the best-selling novel, "A Wrinkle in Time," removed many of the author's religious overtones and instead trimmed down the conflict to one between "evil" and "light."

This confusing message without Biblical references originally in the book may have put a dent in its earnings, \$74.1 million so far, according to USA Today — even with the star power of Oprah Winfrey, Reese Witherspoon and Mindy Kaling.

Many faith-based movies earn their audiences through grassroots community outreach, including church sermons and study guides tied to the movies, special screenings, etc.

Flashy marketing campaigns don't always draw in the faithful who have been distrustful of Hollywood's offerings in the past.

Source: USA Today; the-numbers.com

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COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

APRIL 1

1700: English pranksters begin popularizing the annual tradition of April Fools' Day by playing practical jokes on each other. Although the day, also called All Fools' Day, has been celebrated for several centuries by different cultures, its exact origins remain a mystery. Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to Jan. 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes.

WEEKEND TIMES

APRIL 2

2005: John Paul II, history's most welltraveled pope and the first non-Italian to hold the position since the 16th century, dies at his home in the Vatican. Six days later, two million people packed Vatican City for his funeral, said to be the biggest funeral in history. John Paul II was born Karol Jozef Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland, 35 miles southwest of Krakow, in 1920.

APRIL 3

1936: Richard Bruno Hauptmann, convicted in the 1932 kidnapping and murder of the 20-month-old son of Charles A. Lindbergh, is executed by electrocution. On March 1, 1932, Charles Lindbergh Jr., the son of the famous American aviator who made the first solo, nonstop transatlantic flight in 1927, was kidnapped from the nursery of the Lindbergh home in Hopewell, New Jersey. The infant's battered and mostly decomposed body was found in the woods just a few miles from the Lindbergh home. The cause of death was determined to be a massive fracture of the skull occurring roughly two to three months before.

APRIL 4

1968: Just after 6 p.m., Martin Luther King Jr. is fatally shot while standing on the balcony outside his second-story room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. The civil rights leader was in Memphis to support a sanitation workers' strike and was on his way to dinner when a bullet struck him in the jaw and severed his spinal cord. King was pronounced dead after his arrival at a Memphis hospital. He was 39 years old

APRIL 5

2008: Best known in his later years as the outspoken president of the National Rifle Association (NRA), actor Charlton Heston first earned a reputation in Hollywood for playing larger-than-life figures in epic movies such as The Ten Commandments and Ben-Hur. He died on this day in 2008, at the age of 84.

APRIL 6

1896: The Olympic Games, a long-lost tradition of ancient Greece, are reborn in Athens 1,500 years after being banned by Roman Emperor Theodosius I. At

the opening of the Athens Games, King

Georgios I of Greece and a crowd of 60,000 spectators welcomed athletes from 13 nations to the international competition.

APRIL 7

1970: Legendary actor John Wayne wins his first and only acting Academy Award, for his star turn in the director Henry Hathaway's Western True Grit. Wayne appeared in some 150 movies over the course of his long and storied career. He established his tough, rugged, uniquely American screen persona most vividly in the many acclaimed films he made for the directors John Ford and Howard Hawks from the late 1940s into the early 1960s. Source: History.com











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COSMETIC Continued from Page 3A

In 2011, she started paying attention to the chemicals used in beauty products to educate herself. She wanted to put healthier products on her body, especially while she was pregnant. Gallagher now has two children.

When she started learning about the products and the chemicals used in them, she said, "I have no doubt it was a huge contributing factor (in her disease). It's a chronic thing we use every day."

See sidebar for a list of potentially harmful chemicals.

For Gallagher, her interest was sparked when

she was 22, after years of battling a disease doctors couldn't diagnose for three years. Gallagher has Hashimoto's Disease, which is a condition where your immune system attacks your thyroid, a tiny gland at the base of your neck beneath your Adam's apple. The thyroid, part of the body's endocrine system, creates hormones that coordinate many of the body's functions, according to the Mayo Clinic.

"It's not a very well understood disease and it has many other components with your endocrine system. Conventional medicine is not super helpful," she said. "I was never told by a doctor about how these things I could be putting on my body could contribute to it, the endocrine imbalance."

She discovered Beautycounter, which excludes over 1,500 chemicals that may potentially be harmful to a person's health in their products. "It's about getting safer products in the hands of everyone, helping this industry to create more regulation to have more access to safe regulations," she said. "I don't want (my daughter) to worry about this when the time comes."

On March 5, she, and 100 other Beautycounter consultants, spent the entire

day in Washington, D.C., meeting with members of Congress and staffers to raise awareness and push for more regulations on the cosmetic industry. Gallagher met with representatives from Michigan, Maine and West Virginia. Maine Sen. Susan Collins is already sponsoring and introducing the Personal Care Products Safety Act with California Sen. Di-

anne Feinstein.

You think

about what you're

putting in your

body but not

necessarily what

you're putting on

your body. 77

Ashley Gallagher

Linden resident

"Most people assume that what's on the shelf in a store is safe. You assume that someone is regulating this industry and it's just not true," she said. "The U.S. has not passed a major law regulating this industry since 1938."

Currently, the Federal Food and Drug Administration does not regulate what chemicals are used in cosmetics and beauty care products. That is the responsibility of the cosmetics industry, which is something the bill would change.

Compared to other countries, the U.S. is lax in regards to regulations on what chemicals can be used in these products. She said the U.S. now partially bans 30 chemicals out of the 88,000 that have been introduced since World War II.

The European Union bans over 1,300 chemicals and Canada bans approximately 600, according to safecosmetics.com. "Our government likes to say, even in the pharmaceutical industry, 'in small doses' or 'in this amount it's safe.' However when you're putting it on your body every day, it's all adding up," she said.

Potentially harmful chemicals currently found in beauty products

• Parabens, which are found in makeup, skin care products, and hair care products, are one chemical that cause concern. They are used as a preservative, according to besthealthmag.ca, and they are xenoestrogens, which mean they mimic estrogen. Parabens have been speculated to cause breast cancer because they've been found in breast tumors, according to the FDA, and estrogen has been known to cause cancer. Although, the Cosmetic Ingredient Review studied the amount of parabens and found they were safe in cosmetics at current levels.

• Another chemical, **phthalates**, have been known to disrupt the reproductive systems of laboratory animals. They are used to make plastics more flexible and harder to break, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and are found in nail polish, hair spray, lotions, soaps, shampoos, and commonly in products containing fragrance.

• Other potentially harmful chemicals include **bisphenol**, **triclosan**, and many more.

Source: Environmental Working Group, Huffington Post



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO This home on Worchester Drive in Fenton must undergo structural repairs after a vehicle crashed into it at 4:15 a.m. on March 28.

DRUNK DRIVER

Continued from Front Page The driver, who was not injured, was arrested and transported to the police station where he registered .18 blood alcohol content. His vehicle was recovered from the home.

Cross said the home was secured and the city's building inspector indicated the house was not structurally sound and repairs are necessary before the residents could move back in.





tctimes.com

News briefs

JAZZ CONCERT AT LAKE FENTON HIGH SCHOOL

The Lake Fenton Community School Foundation presents the University of Michigan Jazz Ensemble and the Lake Fenton Jazz Band on April 29 in the Lake Fenton High School Auditorium. The performance begins at 3:30 p.m. Tickets for students and adults over 65 years of age are \$5. Tickets for adults are \$10. They can be purchased at www.lakefentonschools.org/ district/department/207-educationalfoundation or at the door on the day of the concert.



Parents to get alert if deputy pulls over their teen driver

Livingston County Sheriff's Office to test new electronic system with \$25,000 grant

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Young drivers in Livingston and Mason counties will be part of a test run for a new electronic process of alerting parents if they happen to be pulled over by a sheriff's deputy. Locally, this will affect young drivers of Tyrone and Deerfield townships.

On April 11, the Michigan Sheriff's Association (MSA), State Farm Insurance and the Livingston County Sheriff's Office will hold a press conference to announce the

State Farm Insurance is giving the MSA a check for \$25,000 to implement an electronic way to notify parents if their child has been stopped by a deputy.

"Short story," said Livingston County Sheriff Mike Murphy. "Parents go online to sign up. Deputy pulls kid over, deputy puts in a number that corresponds with the number the parents were issued.

"The kid has 48 hours to break the news to parents before they receive an email or text regarding the incident and the circumstances of the stop.

"Livingston and Mason counties are going to be the beta test for this. Kinda a cool deal," Murphy said.

DRUNKEST STATE Continued from Front Page

'One statistic in 2010 estimated that it costs the U.S. \$250 billion," she said. "About less than 10 percent of the individuals with alcohol use disorder actually get the treatment they need."

Binge drinking

is defined as

drinking five or

more drinks on

an occasion for

men or four or

more drinks on

an occasion for

women.

Financial news and opinion company 24/7 Wall St. analyzed data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to identify the states with the highest levels of adults who binge drink or drink heavily.

The data collected included the number of adults who drink exces-

sively, alcohol-related driving deaths, and adults in fair or poor health, among other variables.

"Excessive alcohol use, including underage drinking and binge drinking (drinking five or more drinks on an occasion for men or four or more drinks on an occasion for women), can lead to increased risk of health problems such as injuries, violence, liver diseases, and cancer," according to the CDC.

Numbers

In Michigan, the data found that 20 percent of adults drink excessively, compared to 18 percent nationwide. The percentage of alcohol-related driving deaths is 29.4, which is the 16th lowest.

Michigan is the 20th highest state with adults in fair or poor health at 16.8 percent. The drunkest metro area in the state was identified as East Lansing.

Binge drinking is considered heavy alcohol consumption, and kills approximately 90,000 people a year, according to the CDC. People who die from alcohol abuse die 30 years prematurely on average.

Drinking laws

In America, it is illegal to drive with a blood alcohol content at or above .08 percent. Additionally, there are "zero tolerance" laws, which make it illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to drive

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IN RESPONSE TO the Hot-liner about the major news channels like CNN and Fox. They do show both all of the sides of the issue, however, very few of the commentators give the participants of the news show enough time to express their views and Fox News is good for interrupting the people if they don't agree with them.

WE SHOULDN'T CLOSE the track to the public during the day. It's one of the safest places for our senior citizens to walk

WHY PUT 25 mph signs in front of State Road Elementary when you can only do 15 mph without breaking a shock absorber?

BEFORE YOU CONDEMN those cops that shot the young man keep in mind that it was night, he was running from them, had a phone in his right hand and that these days the cops are shot at all the time. None of which changes the fact that a family lost a son and brother. How sad.

IF YOUR WIFE has bad manners now with her phone, she's always had bad manners.

with any measurable amount of alcohol in their system.

According to the CDC, "These laws, along with laws that maintain the minimum legal drinking age at 21, are in place in all 50 states and the District of Colum-

> bia, and have had a clear effect on highway safety, saving tens of thousands of lives since their implementation."

> Certain laws vary state to state. In Michigan, sobriety checkpoints, which are specific locations for police to briefly stop vehicles and check for drunk drivers, are not allowed. However, Michigan does allow ignition interlocks, which

are devices installed in cars that measure alcohol on the driver's breath. The car will not start if the BAC (blood alcohol content) is above a certain level.

The best and worst states

The five best states with adults who binge drink the least include Tennessee at number 50, West Virginia, Utah, Alabama and Mississippi.

According to worldstlas.com, three states, Kansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee, are entirely dry by default, meaning counties specifically must authorize the sale of alcohol in order for it to be legal and subject to state liquor control laws. Alabama specifically allows cities and counties to elect to go dry by public referendum.

The five worst states are North Dakota at number one, Wisconsin, Alaska, Montana and Illinois. In North Dakota, 24.7 percent of adults drink excessively and 46.7 percent of fatal crashes involve alcohol.

According to the CDC, approximately two in five violent deaths and one in four emergency room visits for violent-related injuries are due to excessive alcohol use.

MAY THE 9,000 hard working UAW pensioners who have passed this year RIP. They're part of dying breed of middleclass that understood the importance of solidarity and how it could forge a National Agreement anchoring their family's fair share of the American Dream.

STUDENTS, LOOK IN the mirror. Shootings are in your schools and committed by your peers. Yet you want to tell adults and government what to do. Why don't you govern yourselves first? Youth today feel they can dictate to others, such as parents, government or society.

IN THIS COUNTRY we can elect anyone to be president — an upstanding citizen or a charlatan, or whatever. We have elected a charlatan and now we have to deal with it much to the country's dismay.

ITHINK OF religious people knocking on my door the same way I think of telemarketers calling on my phone.

THANK YOU TIMES for providing our communities with a venue to share our thoughts, frustrations and compliments. People that visit us are always amazed and jealous of our local newspaper. Keep up the good work.





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WEEKEND TIMES

The tooth telephone

Engineers recently unveiled the world's first tooth telephone, perfect for those who want to talk hands-free while on the go. When implanted into a tooth, the tiny device vibrates to let the user know there's a call. Users speak normally, and the tiny microphone picks up their voice. Incoming sounds are transferred to the inner ear by means of bone resonance.

TRUE APRIL FOOL'S

Whistling carrots

Tired of overcooking the carrots? Now there's a solution. British scientists announced last year the development of a genetically modified whistling carrot. Tapered air holes inside the carrot cause it to whistle when properly cooked.

APRIL FOOL'S

Shark breeding experiment

In 1981 the National Biological Foundation released 2,000 radio-tagged sharks (including blue sharks, hammerheads, and a few great whites) into selected Michigan lakes in order to study the coldwater breeding habits of the sharks. In the press release announcing the experiment, the Foundation suggested that local fishermen and swimmers should exercise caution around the sharks.



TRUE

TRUE APRIL FOOL'S



Fact*or*

foolery

Located on

Page 7B

nswers



810-519-8333 | 1386 N. Leroy | Fenton Mon-Thurs 11am-9:30pm | Fri - Sat 11am-10:30pm | Sunday 11:30am-9:30pm

Fact or foolery? ■A little April Fool's Day

quiz to see how smart you

Compiled By Vera Hogan

really are

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Every April Fool's Day there are outrageously fake stories — issued by a variety of sources. The challenge is to sort out the April foolery from the weird stuff that's actually true.

Listed below are claims that have been made. Can you tell the difference between fact and foolery? See the answers on page 7B.

Don't disturb the squirrels

In 1993 city officials in Cologne, Germany imposed a new regulation on people jogging through the city park. Runners were required to pace themselves to go no faster than 6 mph. Any faster, the city officials cautioned, could disturb the squirrels who were in the middle of their mating season.

TRUE APRIL FOOL'S

Corporate tattoos

The Pepsi-Cola Company, in search of more innovative ways to reach out to young consumers, once experimented with offering teenagers an intriguing deal. The company sponsored teenagers to tattoo themselves with its corporate logo. In return for permanently branding themselves, the teenagers received a lifetime 10 percent discount on the company's products. Teenagers were said to have responded enthusiastically to the offer.

TRUE APRIL FOOL'S

Crustless bread

For those who just can't stand the taste of crusts, and are too lazy to cut them off themselves, Sara Lee introduced in 2002 the ultimate in convenience - crustless bread. Available in stores everywhere.

TRUE APRIL FOOL'S

HOT LINE CONTINUED

YESTERDAY I SAW Tom Perez, head of the Democratic National Committee. He was interviewed and, of course, was against the question on the new census about U.S. citizen status of those in our country. It is very clear that protecting illegal immigrants is the number one concern for the Democrats.

THERE'S A SWEET older man who lives in Linden. Besides being very friendly, he's always busy cleaning something around town. I've seen him shoveling snow, raking leaves, cleaning

Pet tax The city of Philadelphia, faced with a looming budget shortfall, announced a new tax targeted at pet owners. The owners would be charged a base fee of \$10 per pet, and then \$1 extra for every

additional pound the pet weighs over 10 pounds. Failure to pay the tax could result in the euthanization of the pet. TRUE

Chicken manure-powered electrical plant

In 1991, Mitsubishi Bank contacted venture capitalists about an exciting new investment opportunity: Fibropower, a 14-megawatt generating plant fueled entirely by chicken poop. Finally, the investment prospectus boasted, a way to put unwanted chicken manure to good use. Suggestions that this was a chickens**t idea were ignored.

APRIL FOOL'S

Vodka bars

peal more specifically to Russian tastes: chewy Vodka bars. The company hopes

the street along the curbs, cleaning street drains. And what's wonderful is he also does it for the neighbors and even businesses near him. God bless.

I SAW ON the 5 o'clock news that they are contemplating or going to repeal the second amendment from the Constitution of the United States. Please people of the state of Michigan, write your congressman or telephone them and tell them 'no way Jose.'

THANK YOU FOR Hot lines regarding

rude cellphone use. I thought I was the only one feeling that way.

such as Mars and Snickers bars. The

TRUE

__ APRIL FOOL'S

Photo: reddit.com

TRUE

A Russian beverage company announced a new product designed to apthe candy bars will compete successfully against popular western imports Vodka bars will be available in lemon, coconut, and salted cucumber flavors.

APRIL FOOL'S

Eagles' bats soar in doubleheader sweep vs. Powers Catholic

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Not a bad way to start a varsity soft-ball season.

Not a bad way at all.

The Linden varsity softball team's bats racked up 22 runs and 23 hits in just 11 innings of work, resulting in a double-header sweep of Powers Catholic prior to the start of spring break.

The Eagles crushed the Chargers 12-2 in the opening game and beat Powers 10-7 in the second contest at Linden High School. It took some time for the Eagles' bats to heat up in the first game. Tied at 1-all, the Eagles scored two runs in the bottom of the third inning to take the lead for good. Both runs scored on Emma Mossing's one-out single, making it a 3-1 lead.

The Eagles blew the game open in the fourth with four more runs. After backto-back walks to Heather Crampton and Ashley Bertschy, Liz Ratkowski singled, plating the first of the four runs. Ellie Klocek followed with the big blow a three run home run over the left-field fence. Linden led 7-1. The Eagles scored another run in the fifth, but then earned the 10-run mercy victory with four more runs in the sixth inning. Mossing provided an RBI-double while Jordyn Hobson hit a two-run single. A wild pitch ended the game.

Linden finished the game with 13 hits with Bertschy, Buerkel, Widner, Moss-See BATS on 15A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS Linden's Avery Koan slides into second base during the Eagles' doubleheader sweep against Flint Powers on Monday.



Sok unov

photo by Mark Bolen



Fugate was fantastic in 2018

 Holly junior is our Tri-County Girls Basketball
 Player of the Year

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 For Rebecca Fugate, basketball has always been a family affair.

Her older brothers, Michael and Josh, played while she was growing up, and that meant she spent a lot of time in gyms.

"They were always in the gym, talking about getting better and talking about going to college. I went to so many basketball games as a kid, and my dad was always the coach," Fugate said. "I wanted to play because I saw how much they loved it. They made it look like so much fun. Plus, all of my family comes to the games and I wanted everyone to watch me play."

Everyone is watching Fugate play these days. And in the process they are seeing one dynamite player. When one thinks of the Holly varsity girls basketball team this past season, it's impossible to quantify exactly how important Fugate was to the Bronchos, a team that finished the season with a 16-7 mark.

Through her fearless drives to the

bucket, her sizzling

jump shots from the perimeter and her efficient freethrow shooting, Fugate's 451 points represented 48 percent of all the points the Bronchos scored. It's fair to say without her that 16-7 record may have been 7-16. No individual player was more important to her team's

success this See FUGATE

on 19A

Holly's opponents knew if they stopped Rebecca Fugate during the season, they had a great chance to win. She still ended up scoring 48 percent of Holly's points, while scoring 19.6 points a contest.

ALL TRI-COUNTY GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Player of the Year	Rest of first team	Grade	School
Rebecca Fugate	Chloe Idoni	Jr	Fenton
Class Junior • Team Holly Comment:	Alyson Lenz	Sr	Fenton
Fugate almost scored 50 percent of Holly's	Maddie Carr	Sr	Fenton
points, leading the squad to a 16-7 record overall. She also grabbed 87 rebounds and swiped 61 steals.	Taylor Vines	Sr	Holly
Note:	Hannah Garty	Sr	Lk. Fenton
The players on the team and the Player of the Year were selected by the sports staff.	Payton Price	Jr	Holly



David's **Dabblings** Some thoughts

about sports and others not dealing with sports at all

TOYS R US INFLUENCED MY LIFE

When we were kids, of course we loved our birthdays.

Anything that meant more gifts was a reason to celebrate.

In the Troppens' household, birthdays meant one of two options in our pre-teenage years. We could either decide to have a birthday party or we could have some money, go to Toys R Us and buy just about anything we wanted to.

I always selected the money to go to Toys R Us. We lived in a large subdivision so I saw my friends a million times a week anyway. Why risk getting things I didn't want when I could have the money to buy what I wanted? The best thing was my birthday is January 28, so whatever I didn't get for Christmas, I would always just wait a month and then get it for my birthday at Toys R Us. And, finally, I had the twin advantage. My brother occasionally selected the birthday party, and while he was allowed to invite the kids that came, all of them were my friends as well, and they always gave me presents too. So while the party wasn't specifically for me, guess who also reaped the rewards from it. You got it, me.

When we were kids, if you asked us what store we wanted to go to, the answer was Toys R Us. It was our store Heaven.

I can credit Toys R Us for me having a stamp collection, and some of my other favorite toys we owned -Capsellas, Micronauts and Puzzletowns. They also had a great book section. I still own a Charlie Brown's Encyclopedia I purchased back in the day.

It also started a hobby that I still embrace to this day — sports board games. I picked up a game called Statis-Pro Baseball one year at Toys R Us. The game allowed you to replay a Major League Baseball season with game cards that allowed players to replicate their actual seasons. I still own three of the games I purchased as a kid, and to this day still play sports board games. In fact, I now have my own soccer and auto racing games I sell to other 40-plus year old misfits on the internet that still play these games as well.

So while it's been over 30 years since I've been a frequent visitor of Toys R Us, there's no question the store had a direct influence on the person I am today. So good bye, Toys R Us. You may be leaving the marketplace, but for many of us 40-somethings, you will always have a place in our hearts — at least you will in mine.

FUGATE

Continued from Page 14A winter earning her First-Team All-Metro honors. Well, she's getting another honor today, being named the Tri-County's 2018 Most Valuable Girls Basketball Player of the Year.

"She had a really good season last year, and this year I was really concerned whether we would be able to play against other teams because teams were going to be able to really focus on her," Holly varsity girls basketball coach David Hall said. "Last year we had Paige (Reid) who could also score, and had other kids that could do other things. Teams couldn't put all of their attention on Becca. This year, teams tried to focus on her and she was still able to produce. And the other kids did just enough so that if they focused on Rebecca too much, she'd make them pay. She went into this year with a bullseye on her back and I wasn't sure how she was going to be able to handle it. She played with a lot of composure, didn't force things and let the game come to her."

Particularly at the beginning of the season, when younger players were learning their roles, Fugate had no choice but to lead the team. In the team's first game of the season, Fugate scored a game-high 21 points, outscoring Lakeland herself, in a 31-20 victory, and that set the tone for the rest of the season. She nailed 79 two-point buckets and 62 three-pointers. She attacked the lane constantly, helping her get 141 free-throw attempts. She nailed 107 of them, or more than half of the free throws converted by the Holly team all season.

"I just wanted to win as many games as we could," Fugate said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

BATS

Continued from Page 14A ing and Hobson having two hits each.

On the mound, Hobson pitched a strong contest, allowing just two hits and two walks in six innings of work. She struck out five. Only one of the two runs she allowed was earned.

In the second game, the Eagles scored eight runs in the first two innings and then had to hold off an impressive Powers comeback attempt. Linden scored three in the first inning off of RBI-singles by Klocek, Widner and Hobson. The second inning saw five more runs score. The only real RBI-producing hit during the inning was a Widner infield

single, scoring Buerkel. The Eagles took advantage of three Powers' errors, setting up most of the damage. Linden led 8-0.

Holly's Rebecca Fugate (right) helped lead

the Bronchos to a 16-7 overall record this

season.

Powers kept chipping away at the lead, scoring two runs in the third and fourth innings while scoring three in the fifth but were unable to close the gap entirely. Meanwhile, Linden scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings. In the fourth, Jillian Wright hit an RBI-double. In the fifth, Deanna Jenkinson hit an RBI-double.

Rakowski, Widner and Hobson finished the game with two hits each.

On the mound, three Linden hurlers pitched.

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WEEKEND TIMES



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Linden's Lauren Buerkel prepares to put a

tag on a Powers runner during the Eagles'

doubleheader sweep against Flint Powers

PREP REPORT

Fenton vs. Swartz Creek,

Oxford: The Tigers captured a pair

of 1-0 victories against their recent

Fenton's goal against Swartz Creek.

Lauren Murphy scored in the victory

Fenton's JV team also defeated

Goodrich 4, Linden 1: Linden's

goal was provided by Kaitlin Garvey

on a nice assist by Lauren Gocha.

The Eagles only gave up six shots,

The JV team won 3-0. **BOYS GOLF**

GIRLS LACROSSE

Irwin stopped 25 shots.

BASEBALL

McLaughlin.

but four goals were scored on those

Fenton at Perry Scramble: The

Tigers placed third in the meet. Dylan

Conte and Logan Lake took first with

• Oxford 20, Holly 4: Grace Fitzgibbon, Kat Kubiak, Kelsey Voyer

Howell 1-1, Linden 0-0: The Ea-

gles had some outstanding pitched

runs while getting swept by Howell.

a run in the second inning, and that was the game's only run. Howell had

In the second game, John Miller, Richard Linn and Jeff Metzger

combined to pitch a five-hitter. The

only run was scored in the bottom

with one being a double by Drake

of the sixth. Linden had just two hits

just three hits, but Linden only had two.

games, but were unable to score any

In the opening game, Howell scored

an 18-hole scramble score of 66.

and Nina Chmura had goals for Holly's co-op lacrosse team. Sierra

Swartz Creek 9-1. Molly Lehman

scored three goals while Hannah Polzin scored two goals.

adversaries. Kristen Foor scored

on Monday.

GIRLS SOCCER

against Oxford

shots.

CHEVROLET



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