

FHS property is going on the market

■ Fenton schools will use proceeds from sale of 3.5 acre parcel for security upgrades

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Last December, officials in the city of Fenton voted unanimously to rezone some of the property owned by Fenton Area Public Schools and a section of land across the street on Owen Road.

The school district's Owen Road property, located between the Speedway gas station and the high school football field, all the way back to the bus garage, including the land where the bus garage is located, was rezoned from Low Density Residential (LDR) to General Business District (GBD) with a

Planned Unit Development (PUD) overlay.

The PUD overlay will also now include property across the street on the north side of Owen Road, which starts on the west side at U.S. 23 and ends at Alloy Drive.

"The school property just east of the Target entryway has been planned for commercial use since the previous Master Plan Update," Carmine Avantini, the city planner, said in December 2017.

The Master Plan, through the U.S. 23 Owen Road Study, designates the Owen Road frontage portion of the school property for two restaurant commercial out lots.

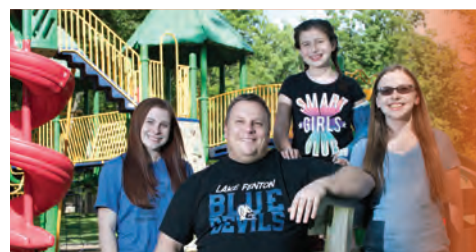
Superintendent Adam Hartley said this week that the Fenton Board of Education

See **PROPERTY** on 6A

**TRANSITION OF
AGS CLASSROOM
AND OFFICE AREA
TO TAKE PLACE
DURING THE
SUMMER
OF 2020.**



**LOOK
INSIDE
LOCAL LIVING
SECTION FOR:
FENTON HIGH
SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2018**



**PAGE 3A
WHAT
MAKES
A GREAT
DAD?**

Weekend Times

VOL. 25 NO. XXIV

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018

\$1.00

Barricaded Fenton man takes own life

Chief: 'It was a long day and a tragedy for the family'

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

It's been five days since the police standoff on Hickory Street and local police officers are coming to terms with the emotionally exhausting situation — the unknown, possible domestic violence, possible suicide, possible homicide, and more.

See **TRAGEDY** on 14A

Debate over reading material prompts new school policy

■ Linden parents can now see school's reading list online

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

After months of debate over the books and movies studied by students at Linden schools, the Linden Board of Education adopted an updated English curriculum at its May 30 meeting.

See **READING LIST** on 15A

Retiring faded 'old glories' on Flag Day



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Great Lakes National Cemetery (GLNC) in Holly Township hosted its second annual Flag Retirement Ceremony on Thursday, June 14, Flag Day 2018. The GLNC Advisory Council estimates that they retired approximately 5,000 flags from the cemetery, as well as those brought in by the public. See **story** on Page 17A

**TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE**
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“Andrew Heller’s drivel should be dealt with by his removal from the Times staff. The derogatory smearing of our national anthem and our flag is put forth without benefit to anyone. He is a cancer in an otherwise great publication.”



“Lo, it is summer, that long anticipated stretch of lazy, lingering days, free of responsibility and rife with possibility. It’s a time to hunt for insects, master hand-stands, practice swimming strokes, conquer trees, explore nooks and crannies, and make new friends. Nothing is better than summer in Michigan.”



“Love to read Andrew Heller in the Sunday Times. Always brings a smile to my face. At least Heller doesn’t hide his identity.”



**COMMENT
OF THE WEEK**

“Want to enrich your family’s life? It is rewarding beyond words to rescue a dog from Adopt-A-Pet and have that dog become part of your family. We finally did it and Cassie is now the most popular member of our family. The kids dote on her. Right now is the perfect time.”

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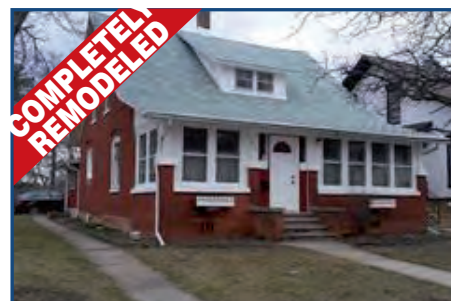
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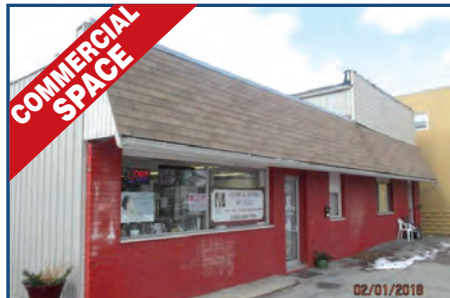
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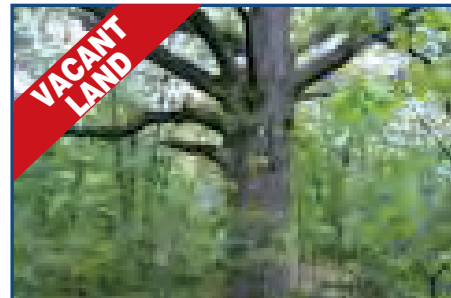
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dan Ferguson with his wife, Jennifer, are raising three daughters, Maris 16, (left) Wren, 12, (right) and Lynde, 8. His daughters like his jokes, his support and knowledge and calm demeanor. Ferguson said his role as a parent helps his job as principal of Lake Fenton Middle School — he tries to treat students the way he'd want his own children treated.

'Teach them that they have a voice'

■ School principal learned his 'Dad' role from his hard-working mother

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Life could have turned out very differently for Dan Ferguson, Ph.D., 45, principal at Lake Fenton Middle School.

The youngest of seven kids raised by a single mom, Mary Ellen Ferguson, Ferguson could have taken a far different path in life had he not learned at home how to love each other unconditionally. He also learned at a young age the impact that a positive attitude and strong work ethic can have on all situations.

Ferguson is applying all these life lessons to his own role as "Dad" to his and his wife Jennifer's three daughters, Maris, 16, Wren, 12 and Lynde, 8.

“As with all holidays, our days are surrounded by family. My request for ‘presents’ are actually for my kids to be ‘present’ and not distracted by a screen. Wow, sounds like a great day!”

Dan Ferguson
Father of three daughters

“After our first child, the best thing was learning that love has depth and I learned a whole new kind of love,” he said. “Now the best thing is watching and listening to my daughters laugh together and care for each other. When they show care and compassion for one another, I know they are developing life-long relationships.”

A very important aspect of his relationship with his family is to be the leader when it comes to encouraging faith.

“Our daughters have two rules: Follow Christ, and be an amazing sister and daughter,” he said. “Later in life, the roles of mother and wife may enter the picture, but for now, it’s that simple. My goal is for them to be strong, independent women who follow Christ. I hope they never define their self worth based on the admiration of a crowd or another person.”

See **DAN FERGUSON** on 14A

What makes a great dad?

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

A good father can make all the difference in a child's life. He is a pillar of strength, support and discipline. His work is endless and sometimes thankless. But at the end of the day, it shows in the sound, well-adjusted children he raises.

Here is how a few local fathers answered the question, “What makes a great dad?”



Brad Wright, vocal music and music technology teacher at Fenton High School, is shown here with his family. They are (from left) Jennifer with Macy, 12, in front of her, son Joe, 10, Brad, oldest daughter Jailen, 24, and Addie, 14.

“I think one of the things that makes a great dad is putting family first. Being at events like games, recitals and concerts says more than words can. I also think treating mom with love and respect is important as well. But really simple things, saying ‘I love you’ and ‘I’m proud of you.’ Doing things together like gardening, hiking, hunting, fishing, playing Frisbee, just being together.”

See **GREAT DAD** on 10A

“Anyone can be a father, but it takes a real man to be a daddy.”

Anonymous

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HOURS:
Monday-Thursday:
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday
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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

Domino's has a publicity stunt going right now where they pave potholes in states around the country (although, oddly enough, not Michigan) to prevent damage to their pizzas.

Pretty clever.

Pretty sad, too. We've officially reached the point where government at all levels is so pathetically gridlocked and underfunded that even fast food companies are doing a better job of maintaining public services.

I blame libertarianism. At some inde-

terminate point in the far distant past, Republicans adopted the crackpot libertarian belief that all taxes — no matter how small or how needed — are bad.

So when the GOP is in power, they often cut taxes. Public services, in turn, suffer, to the point now in Michigan where it's entirely plausible that you and your Ford or GM could be swallowed whole by a pothole, never to be seen again.

Or, in the case of poor Flint, your entire city could be poisoned, all because government was trying to save a couple of bucks on chemicals.

Democrats are no better. Instead of being brave little boys and girls when they're in power, they, too, prefer to cut taxes, if possible. They seldom, if ever, do the courageous thing and (gasp) raise taxes because they're afraid they'll be labeled as spendthrifts by Republicans (copyright pending on the name) and voted out of power. (It's all about them, people. Not us. Remember that.)

This is why our schools are a wreck, college costs are soaring, and our roads, bridges, water systems and parks are crumbling. In short, America has become like a wealthy, old miser who dresses in rags, won't pay to see the doctor and dies alone in his decaying old mansion, surrounded by

bales of money.

Since Domino's is a Michigan company, you would think state lawmakers would be shamed into action. But they are beyond shame at this point.

"Wait a second," you're saying, especially if you lean Republican. "Didn't the Legislature just approve \$300 million in surplus funds to fix roads in metro Detroit?"

Yes, they did.

But it's a drop in a very large bucket. As Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel told the Free Press: "I've got 803 lane miles to fix right now." The \$7.7 million he's getting from the surplus will rebuild about 4.5 miles of that. Woo-hoo!

The truth is Michigan is hopelessly behind in infrastructure spending. According to a ClickOn Detroit report earlier this year: "In investment per lane mile, Michigan is 33rd. Investment per vehicle-mile traveled, we're 47th. And per capita, we're dead last in the country."

What that means is we're ultimately to blame. You and me. (Well, mostly you. I'm willing to pay higher taxes for better public amenities.)

We love to gripe about the roads. A recent AAA survey said 90 percent of us rate our roads and bridges as fair or poor. But it also indicated we aren't willing to pay more to fix them.

So we get what we get.

But let's look on the bright side. If you don't want to pay more in taxes but want your street fixed, you can always buy a pizza and ask the delivery guy to put in a good word for you with Domino's.

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.

“In short, America has become like a wealthy, old miser who dresses in rags, won't pay to see the doctor and dies alone in his decaying old mansion, surrounded by bales of money.”



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

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.

MR. TRUDEAU SEEMS to be upset with the United States and Trump. Maybe we ought to just put in a U-turn lane on the Ambassador Bridge and send his trucks that he sends over here with their garbage right back.

AFTER EIGHT YEARS of Obama's weak and feckless leadership, it is refreshing to observe Trump's tough talk and his tough stance in the North Korea talks and at the G7 Summits where Trump always put America first.

THIS IS TO the Republican who won't vote Democratic because they support or defend gangs, killing police officers, human trafficking and abortions. I counter that the world and political parties aren't that black and white, but mostly gray?

TO HOT-LINER ASKING 'Why doesn't the King use his real name?' Every week his name (Foster Childs) is right there below his photo. Duh.

PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS restored optimism for our country. He has rebuilt our military and he has revised our economy with lower taxes and with household income that is at a 50-year high. The Democrats, of course, would love to redistribute my income with massive tax increases and massive regulations.

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.

Too many stores in one building

Dear Editor,

I am a Boy Scout with Troop 212 in Fenton. I wanted to express my opinion on the five stores going into the Kmart building. I think that that is too many stores in one building. Also, if Michael's goes into the Kmart building it will still leave a vacant building on Silver Parkway. What do you think?

*Damion Ketchmark
Fenton Boy Scout Troop 212*

Fenton needs a skatepark

Dear Editor,

My name is Andrew Kelly and I'm with Boy Scout Troop 212 in Fenton. I am working on my communication merit badge. I wanted to express my opinion on the need for an indoor skatepark. I thought the perfect place for this would be the old Kmart store. However, I read in the recent paper that this location will be made into more stores. I think kids in the area need an outlet in the community for fun things to do. Do you know if there's any talk about putting in a skatepark? I think it would be a good idea because kids spend too much time indoors watching TV or playing on their phones. They also play too many video games. Having something like a skatepark would give kids some place to go who don't play sports, or after the sports ends. What do you think?

*Andrew Kelly
Fenton Boy Scout Troop 212*

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What's cool about your dad?

Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

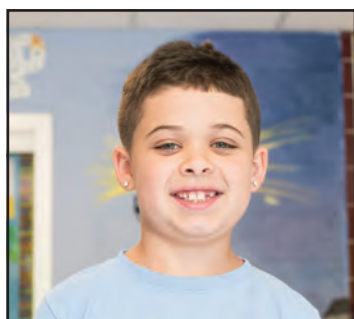
Question asked to Holly Elementary third-graders

streettalk



"He's humorous, he's kind, we play baseball together — practice hitting and playing catch."

— Aaron Griswold



"When it's just us hanging out, he cooks me special stuff when my mom's not home."

— Jorden Torres



"He is really funny, and he is a really good basketball player. He works a lot and always does the dishes."

— Adlin Moore



"He fits in time for me, and he can spend time with us with his busy schedule. We go to a place, just me and him and spend quality time."

— Breana Dominguez



"I think it's cool that he is safe; he's safe and loving. He's big and strong and nice. He loves me and (my sister) Jane, and my mom."

— Jack McMillan

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PROPERTY

Continued from Front Page

has approved a resolution for the property on Owen Road, next to the football field, to be put out to bid for the purpose of being sold.

"The board also voted to restrict the revenue from the sale of the Owen Road property to be used for security upgrades at AGS Middle School and the Ellen Street Campus," Hartley said. "The AGS Middle School project will be phase one of the project."

Hartley said safety audits were completed at each building/campus to identify safety gaps and vulnerabilities.

"AGS showed safety gaps in entrance/access to students," he said. "The AGS entrance is by the cafeteria and gymnasiums."

The ongoing question was how to solve

the issue, including adjusting the existing entrance. It was decided that a new entrance will allow for a secure access point and moves ingoing and outgoing foot traffic away from students and staff.

The existing office at AGS will become three classrooms, including a science lab, Hartley said.

The district has investigated the use of 3.5 acres of land adjacent to the football stadium and bus facility for three years, since 2015.

"After completing due diligence work the district determined that leasing the property was not a viable option and releasing a bid for sale would be the most prudent," Hartley said.

The bid will include deed restrictions and landscaping requirements.

The bids released will be due back on June 28. The finance committee will review the bids and make a recommendation to the board in the early fall regarding next steps.

Construction is expected to begin in the transition of AGS classroom and office area to take place during the summer of 2020 and completion of the project in the fall of 2020.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

EVERYWHERE I GO people are commenting that Fenton is becoming the foodie capital of Michigan. This is great news for our town to be a destination. I grew up in this town. I remember when Fenton had a great downtown before it was torn down. Keep going the way you're going, Fenton.

IN OVER 60 years and a dozen some presidents ending hostilities on the Korean Peninsula, our government still never signed an armistice with the Korean government to end war. What a week this could be in the history books.

I'M CALLING ABOUT the people who threw their leftover pizza and plastic bag in the Shiawassee River last Thursday. I hope I never see that again. They were old enough to understand. They were in their late 60s, at least.

EVERYONE, PLEASE. IF you see a cottonwood tree, cut it down. This is getting ridiculous.

TO THE HOT-LINER talking about national debt, I found research stating that debt added under Obama was approximately \$8 trillion whereas GW Bush added \$3.2 trillion. Get your numbers straight please.

HELLER, ON YOUR NFL article, let's just say that I'm very disappointed in you. I thought you were smarter. I was quite shocked that you took the Black Lives Matter bait, or are you a supporter?

ANYBODY NAÏVE ENOUGH to think they're going to vote for the candidate, not the party, doesn't realize a vote for any house Democrat or Senate Democrat is a vote for Chuck Schumer or Nancy Pelosi or both.

FENTON CITY COMPLAINING about ducks and geese being on a sidewalk is like going to a baseball game and complaining because it was a no-hitter. Nature is the reason people enjoy the Millpond. The city should embrace instead of complain.

WE MOVED INTO the city of Linden six years ago. We love this place, and it has been ideal to raise my children. A few suggestions though; bring back Linden Mills Days, stop building apartments (increases traffic), develop long-term plan to keep this a 'bedroom community,' and please ban the panhandling downtown.

FENTON CITY NEEDS to stop spending money on sculptures and new buildings and start rebuilding the roads between First and Sixth streets. This is ridiculous.

I TRULY BELIEVE that books will be written about Trump's first 500 days in office where he has accomplished more than Obama's 2,900 days in office. Trump has improved our military, our economy, jobs and trade. He will go down as our one of our greatest presidents ever.

Police&Fire report

WOMAN SHOPLIFTS SHAMPOO, LAUNDRY SOAP IN HOLLY

On June 10 at 2:59 p.m., Holly police were dispatched to a grocery store in the 15000 block of N. Holly Road for a 36-year-old female shoplifter in custody. The store manager told police that they recognized the woman when she entered the store and observed her attempting to leave without purchasing items. When approached, the woman turned over shampoo and laundry soap to the manager. She said she had recently lost her job. The owner was contacted and indicated that they wanted to press charges. The woman was ticketed and was told not come back to the store or she would be trespassing.

WINDOW BROKEN AT NEW BUSINESS IN HOLLY

At 9:25 a.m. on June 8, Holly police were dispatched to the 1000 block of N. Saginaw Street to investigate a malicious destruction of property complaint. The owner of a new business said when she arrived that morning she noticed the front entrance door was cracked. Police determined a large rock had been thrown at it, causing the glass to crack. The case remains under investigation.

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NOTICE

ANNUAL MEETING OF ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

The Annual Meeting of the Argentine Township residents will be held on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lk Rd, Linden. The 2018/2019 fiscal budget will be reviewed as well as other matters the residents may vote upon.

Denise Graves, Clerk
Argentine Township



PHOTO: CHARITY.LOVETOKNOW.COM

Two recent breakthroughs in breast cancer research provide hope for a better future in fighting this deadly disease.

Breast cancer breakthroughs offer hope

■ Local expert says annual mammograms and early detection still important

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

If you were watching Good Morning America last week, you may have caught what sounds like a very promising update on breast cancer research.

Dr. Jennifer Ashton, who serves as medical editor and chief medical correspondent for ABC News and Good Morning America, talked about a major breakthrough in the fight against breast cancer.

Ashton's report told of a clinical trial with a 49-year-old woman with Stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. This patient was out of options, said Ashton.

The cancer patient participated in cell-based immune therapy. Basically, they took 11 of her immune cells, duplicated them by the billions and gave them back to her to attack the cancerous tumor. Ashton called it a "seek and destroy" mission. After three years, she said the woman is cancer free.

Ashton further stated that anyone interested in participating in this medical trial can go to clinicaltrials.org and enter "tumor infiltrating lymphocytes," and proceed from there.

Regional Medical Imaging

Dr. Randy Hicks, co-owner of Regional Medical Imaging in Fenton for 29 years, watched the GMA report and said, "This is great, this is what the whole medical world is working on. It's a case of her own body fighting her own tumor, training her body to kill her own cancer."

"That's where the world is going in a hurry," Hicks said. "It's not real time though. We can't do that for anyone right now."

Hicks said there are drugs available that are similar, but they not the same. These drugs are intended to "trick" not "kill" the cancerous cells. "But I think

it's where we are all going and hope we can get to it at some point," he said.

Everyone in the world is working on immune therapy. "We don't have those scientists sitting in Flint, Michigan right now," Hicks said.

No more chemotherapy?

The immune cell-therapy report comes on the heels of another report last week that breast cancer patients may no longer require chemotherapy to fight the disease.

According to the New York Times (nytimes.com), many women with early-stage breast cancer who would receive chemotherapy under current standards do not actually need it, according to a major international study that is expected to quickly change medical treatment.

The study found that gene tests on tumor samples were able to identify women who could safely skip chemotherapy and take only a drug that blocks the hormone estrogen or stops the body from making it.

The results of the study indicate that 70 percent of patients who would be potential candidates for it based on clinical features can be spared from needing chemotherapy.

Researchers did caution that the data indicated that some women 50 and younger might benefit from chemo even if gene-test results suggested otherwise.

Most cases of breast cancer occur in older women. The median age at diagnosis in the United States is 62.

Hicks, who saw this video as well, said the report is true. "It's a multi-international study that tells us what we've been doing in the past is probably wrong and we were over-treating," he said. "We can now cut back and do things differently. The challenge is always trying to learn. As a radiologist, I find the tumor, get it out onto a microscope and find out what we can do. Your tumor is not the same as your neighbor's."

See **BREAST CANCER** on 9A

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BREAST CANCER
Continued from Page 7A

The bottom line

The bottom line, according to Hicks, is that these things are indeed happening in the world. These clinical trials and studies are blazing the future of where we are going to be, but it is not prime time. "Still today, have a mammogram once a year, see your doctor and do self breast exams," he said. "The future is looking bright, but early detection is key."

BREAST CANCER STATISTICS

- **About 1 in 8** U.S. women (about 12.4 percent) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.
- **In 2018, an** estimated 266,120 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S., along with 63,960 new cases of non-invasive breast cancer.
- **About 2,550 new** cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in men in 2018. A man's lifetime risk of breast cancer is about 1 in 1,000.
- **Breast cancer incidence** rates in the U.S. began decreasing in the year 2000, after increasing for the previous two decades. One theory is that this decrease was partially due to the reduced use of hormone replacement therapy (HRT) by women after the results of a large study called the Women's Health Initiative were published in 2002. These results suggested a connection between HRT and increased breast cancer risk.
- **About 40,920 women** in the U.S. are expected to die in 2018 from breast cancer, though death rates have been decreasing since 1989. Women under

- 50 have experienced larger decreases. These decreases are thought to be the result of treatment advances, earlier detection through screening, and increased awareness.
- **For women in** the U.S., breast cancer death rates are higher than those for any other cancer, besides lung cancer.
 - **Besides skin cancer,** breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women. In 2017, it's estimated that about 30 percent of newly diagnosed cancers in women will be breast cancers.
 - **In women under 45,** breast cancer is more common in African-American women than white women. Overall, African-American women are more likely to die of breast cancer. For Asian, Hispanic, and Native-American women, the risk of developing and dying from breast cancer is lower.
 - **As of January 2018,** there are more than 3.1 million women with a history of breast cancer in the U.S. This includes women currently being treated and women who have finished treatment.
 - **A woman's risk** of breast cancer nearly doubles if she has a first-degree relative (mother, sister, daughter) who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Less than 15 percent of women who get breast cancer have a family member diagnosed with it.
 - **About 85 percent** of breast cancers occur in women who have no family history of breast cancer. These occur due to genetic mutations that happen as a result of the aging process and life in general, rather than inherited mutations.
 - **The most significant** risk factors for breast cancer are gender (being a woman) and age (growing older).

Source: breastcancer.org

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE DEMOCRATS HAVE a new mission statement and it is 'America last.'

WELL, NO WONDER the communities have a problem keeping firefighters. With that pay scale, long hours, constant training, and dangerous work, it is a wonder these brave men and women

keep doing this difficult job. I say prayers for them every day.

WHY HAS A county-based fire and EMS system never been explored? Livingston County runs a great EMS system. Also look at Los Angeles County in California. It could solve manpower and save money. Dang, some of the chiefs of area departments that make less than a 1,000 calls annually make \$100,000.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

On Tuesday, June 12, Torrey Hill Intermediate School graduated 160 students. They will be sixth-graders in the fall. Here, they receive a clap-out from faculty, parents and 310 classmates at the luau-themed party.



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Councilwoman's removal from Oakwood Cemetery Board rescinded

■ City officials violated fellow council member's rights

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

As part of her "punishment" for placing her hands in wet cement at the base of "The Game" sculpture at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center, the Fenton City Council voted at a recent meeting to remove Councilwoman Cherie Smith from all boards and commissions.

The only commission she sits on is the Oakwood Cemetery Board.

At the Monday, June 11 meeting, the council was informed by retiring city attorney, Stephen Schultz, that the way Smith was removed from the board was not done according to stipulations in the City Charter.

According to the City Charter (Sec. 5.4) such removal by the council shall be made only after a hearing of which such officer has been given notice by the clerk at least 10 days in advance, either personally or by certified mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the officer at his or her last known address.

The notice shall include a copy of the

charges against such officer. The hearing shall afford an opportunity to the officer, in person or by attorney, to be heard in his or her defense, to cross-examine witnesses and to present testimony.

None of these things were done prior to Smith's removal from the Oakwood Cemetery Board. As a result, and instead of going back and following proper procedure, the council voted to rescind their vote to remove her from the board.

Officials expressed severe disapproval of Smith's actions at the Tuesday, May 29 meeting. They publicly chastised her after she admitted to making a handprint in the wet concrete around the base of the sculpture. Smith was caught in the act on surveillance video. The base has since been fixed.

The sculpture was donated to the city by Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman last October.

Smith apologized, saying it was "a dumb thing to do."

The Fenton City Council also voted at the June 11 meeting to appoint Patti Halligan to the Oakwood Cemetery Board, to fill the vacant seat previously held by Loretta Peters. Her term will expire on April 1, 2021.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DOES ANYONE THINK this whole eighth-grade formal dance is a little ridiculous? I mean isn't that what high school is for?

■■■■
I GET SO much joy driving past the beautiful horses and their colts. Thank you to the house on Torrey Road for the many smiles.

■■■■
LINDEN'S MAYOR, CITY Council and Planning Commission are reaching far, far, far into their utopian dreams for ideas about new laws to pass in their effort to make Linden the 'perfect' place to live. Vote these yahoos out of office the first chance you get. Thank you, my neighbors.

■■■■
PRESIDENT TRUMP, AS a candidate, said that he would not touch Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid. Last week he sent a bill to Congress to cut \$800 million from those very programs.

■■■■
SAYING ALL (OR any) Democrats want to protect MS-13 gang members is like calling all (or some) Republicans white supremacists.

■■■■
OH VANITY, WHERE is thy selfie-stick?

GREAT DAD

Continued from Page 3A



Will Stiverson, a member of the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, is shown here with his 12-year-old son, Logan.

"A father's biggest role is to teach kids everything he can so they expand on that to make the world a better place. I've been very direct with Logan and told him that even when I'm not here anymore, he'll always be OK as long as he knows who his heavenly father is."

...



Jeff Canever is the sales manager for his family's business, Vic Canever Chevrolet. He is shown here with his wife Elizabeth, son, Finn, 7 months and daughter Aria, age 3.

"I believe what makes a great dad is being present in your kid's lives, setting a good example for them, and living by the golden rule — treating others with respect and kindness. Nowadays I think it is rather important to put your phone down and interact with your kids — all too often we are caught up in our own 'social' lives and ignore our children. For me, I try to do special things with my kids one-on-one as well. I try to plan a couple things a month where I take my daughter and do a special daddy/daughter event, which gives mom some time by herself but also shows my daughter that she is special and that hopefully helps cement our bond."

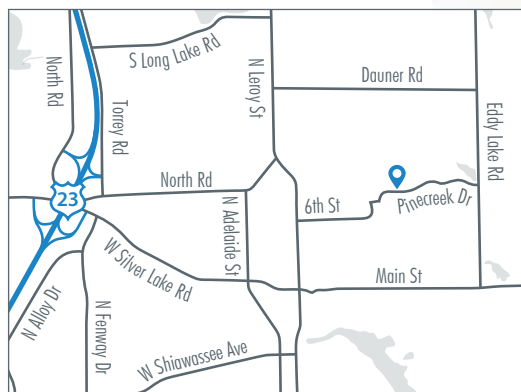
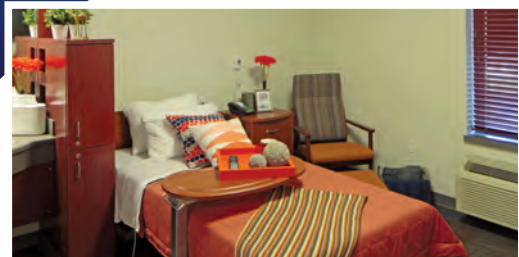
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Dave Cruickshank is a member of the Holly Village Council. He is shown here with his wife, Kelley, and daughters Meadow (left), 10, and 6-year-old Harper.

"For me, being a good dad is about being present. Engaged. I always focus on being a better person and father than I was the day prior."

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WHAT YOU MISSED
in the
MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, June 13, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Police standoff ends in death

A 35-year-old man suspected of domestic assault died of a self-inflicted gunshot. He was discovered after what was thought to be a standoff with Fenton police and Michigan State Police, who were unaware that he had already taken his own life.



NEW 911 Fire Reports

A new Tri-County Times feature exclusive to the Midweek edition. It will not appear in the Sunday weekend edition or on our website. It is a listing of all 911 calls, date, time, location and nature of emergency for the week prior.

Michigan bicyclist deaths increase by 15 percent

If one House Bill (4265) becomes law, motorists will be required to give cyclists 3 feet of road.

Linden tent issue tabled

Residents with existing tents in front yards could be allowed to keep them.

A look back at 1968

Love-rock musical "Hair" premiered on Broadway 50 years ago.

Tyrone police and fire assessment to be renewed

Same services and annual fees paid since approved in 2010. A public hearing has been scheduled for 7 p.m., June 19.

Fenton golfer turns 100

Swingless golf club helps Annie VanLeuven drive ball 200 yards at Fenton Farms Golf Club.

Give me an 'H'



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

On Wednesday, June 13, Bill Carr Signs completes the installation of the "Horizon Building" sign on the newly constructed building in downtown Fenton. Construction is still on track for summer completion and occupancy, said Kevin Johnson of Rhoades & Johnson. The building is 23,000 square feet. No additional tenant information is available at this time. Johnson expects a July announcement for tenants.

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911
Fire reports

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5
Fenton City fire responds to North Road and Forest Drive on a report of arcing wires at 12:42 a.m.
Holly Village and Groveland fire responds to 100 block of Clarence Street for an emergency call involving a fire for an old male with difficulty breathing.
Holly Village and Groveland fire responds to a medical call at 9:40 a.m. on the block of Grange Hall.
Fenton Township fire responds to a medical call at 9:40 a.m. on the block of Hogan Road involving a female, possible stroke.
Fenton Township fire responds to a medical call at 11:07 a.m. on the block of Crystal Cove Court involving a male who was having difficulty breathing.

Argentine Township medical call at 10:00 a.m. on the block of Haviland Boulevard involving a male sustained a boat propeller injury.
Linden City fire responds to a medical call at 8:15 p.m. on Silver Lake Road involving a female who complained of chest pain.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6
Fenton City fire responds to a medical call at 10:00 a.m. on the block of N. Argentine Street involving a female who complained of chest pain.
Fenton City fire responds to a medical call at 10:00 a.m. on the block of S. Argentine Street involving a female who complained of chest pain.
Fenton City fire responds to a medical call at 10:00 a.m. on the block of S. Argentine Street involving a female who complained of chest pain.

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Daniel Cusson
Linden resident

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Linden volunteer firefighter Dan Cusson, 44, went to his first fire June 12 at Water Greens Court in Fenton Township.

our town

Meet

DANIEL CUSSON

- Linden planning commissioner
- Electrician
- Volunteer firefighter
- Veteran

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Linden resident Daniel Cusson, 44, who was born and raised in Wyandotte, moved to Linden six years ago. He served in the Army from 1991 to 1994. He and his wife, Danielle, each brought two kids

into the marriage. As a new volunteer firefighter, Cusson has completed the medical training, but not fire training. He worked in zoning in Wyandotte and brought that experience to Linden. **How long have you been an electrician?**

All my life. My grandfather owned a company down in Wyandotte called Harvey's Electric. I would go there on the weekends and after football practice, sort through parts and load the vans, clean up the shop. In high school, I would dig ditches and run some pipe.

He was definitely one of my mentors and people that I miss the most.

Tell me about being a volunteer firefighter.

I joined in November. My first fire was yesterday (Tuesday, June 12). It was exciting. Part of the volunteer thing is missing a few hours of sleep when the pager goes off. I feel like it's just something to help the community.

Even if I can help out for 10 minutes or just go to a fire scene and pull the electrical meter because I know what to do. Make it safe electrically. Then I'm contributing something.

Why did you get into municipal work?

Just to be part of the community. Instead of being the person that always complains about it and never doing anything to help the situation, I get involved, see how the situation works, and then if I can make a change, do it and benefit the majority of the citizens.

A lot of people don't understand what it takes, with all the committees and sessions, just to run the city. It's just a group of people that have the same goal in mind and that's to make the best decisions for the citizens as a whole.

Your wife is the mayor of Linden.

What's that like?

It's what we expected. Although she was a councilor for a dozen years, we knew she'd have a lot of work to do. She had to prove herself because a lot of people in town still have the mentality that women shouldn't be in charge. Are we back in the '40s?

She's been at everything, every community function. It's been a challenge to balance that schedule with home life and four kids. I try to do as much as I can to give her the freedom and her schedule to do what she needs and what's best for the city.

What do you do in your free time?

We spend some time with the kids. We go to Lobdell Lake and hang out with the in-laws. I listen to a lot of books on tape as I'm driving an hour each way. I do a lot of volunteer work. Our son, he just became an Eagle Scout. My youngest son, he's in Webelos now, he's moving onto Boy Scouts. Most of our lives involve responsibilities with the kids. I collect sports cards and memorabilia, like baseball cards and autographs. That's probably my favorite hobby.

Father's Day is this Sunday. What does it mean to be a father?

Everything. My dad was never around when I was a kid. I have a few pictures of him playing baseball or going ice skating, but I've always said I wanted to be a good dad. Be the dad that's at most of the sporting events. You can't make everything, especially with all four kids.

You want to be that active parent, you want to be that person that gives them the guidance that kids need that I didn't have. As a parent, you want to give your kids the best opportunity so they can be successful in life. It's probably the best challenge I've had in my life.

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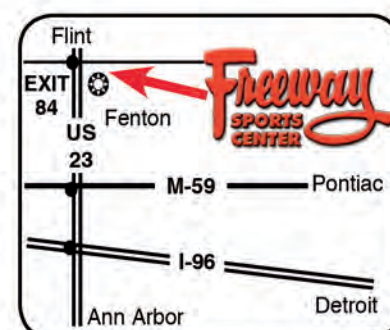
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
Ferguson and his family enjoy ice cream in downtown Linden on Thursday, June 14.

DAN FERGUSON

Continued from Page 3A

One of the hardest things Ferguson has had to learn is how, as a dad, to say “no.” “It’s so much easier to say ‘yes,’” he said. “But there are just some things as a parent that simply cannot be negotiable.”

While Ferguson grew up playing sports, providing his greatest memories growing up, his three daughters have thrown him a curve ball with their lack of interest in participating in traditional sports.

“So my favorite activity is watching our girls compete in dance, perform in plays, concerts and recitals,” Ferguson said. He’s happy to do so, believing that any activity they participate in that takes risk and growth is something to celebrate.

He loves to watch the TV show “This is Us,” saying that Jack Pearson

is his favorite TV dad. “He’s a man who isn’t perfect but whenever he pauses his self-interest and focuses on the needs of the family, he brings honor to his home,” Ferguson said. He gives Frank Castanza of “Seinfeld” an honorable mention because “who doesn’t love Festivus?”

Ferguson’s real life father figure, however, is his father-in-law, Wayne Teggerdine. “He’s the most influential man in my life,” he said. “He shows by example how to honor his marriage and support his entire family any way he’s able. He’s always working for others in any way he can add value to their lives.”

His advice for other fathers of daughters: “Teach them that they have a voice. A young lady with confidence and a strong self-concept can truly accomplish anything.”

SUMMARY

■ Dan Ferguson, married to his wife, Jennifer for 20 years, is the father of three daughters, Maris, 16, Wren, 12 and Lynde, 8. He’s also a role model to hundreds of students as principal of Lake Fenton Middle School.

TRAGEDY

Continued from Front Page

It started when a woman called 911 at 8 a.m., Tuesday, June 12, to report an assault against her, by her 35-year-old boyfriend, Kyle Smith. The couple, who had two children in common, lived in a house on Hickory Street in Fenton.

Fenton police officers were dispatched to the house but were but were unsuccessful in making contact with the man. While there, the officers learned that the victim and one child were at the police station. The officers returned to the police station to ask the woman more questions.

Once police determined that a felony (domestic assault) had occurred, they returned to the home to arrest Smith.

As police approached the front porch of the house at 8:49 a.m., they heard a single gunshot. Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater said his officers believed the man was alone in the house, based on what his girlfriend had told them. After hearing the gunshot, police pulled back and called Michigan State Police (MSP) Emergency Support Team (EST) for the Third District for backup.

After securing the perimeter of the house, MSP broke down the barricaded front door using an armored vehicle. They also broke a window with rounds of rubber ammunition so that a robot with an attached camera could be placed inside the home.

Slater said after the initial gunshot at 8:49 a.m., no other gunshots were fired. Hours later, after several pleas to convince Smith to surrender, police found the suspect dead in the basement.

Speaking about the situation Friday, Slater said the first thing to be considered by police is the safety of the public and his officers.

Based on past experiences in similar situations, he said police do not know if a suspect harmed themselves or if they are waiting for police to enter the home. “Our goal was that no one was going to leave that house,” Slater said.

State police are brought in because they have the equipment to handle this type of situation, including the armored vehicle.

While attempting communication with the suspect, Fenton schools were advised of the situation and schools went into secure mode as a precaution, although Slater said he did not believe any of the schools were in danger.

The Genesee County Medical Examiner Investigator (MEI) responded and assisted with processing and documenting the scene. An autopsy was ordered and at this time, Smith’s body was positively identified and family members were notified.

Slater said the entire ordeal started around 8 a.m. and police did not clear the scene until after 3 p.m. “It was a long day and a tragedy for the family,” Slater said. “I wish he had chosen another path other than taking his own life.

“It plays on our minds, we don’t know if someone is homicidal or suicidal.”

As with every major event, Slater said they will critique their response and learn from this experience. “It was an unfortunate situation and I wish it didn’t end that way,” he said.

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READING LIST

Continued from Front Page

Beginning in the fall of 2017, a group of parents brought their concerns to the board about books and movies containing rape, nudity, violence and other graphic material being taught to students. They wanted more awareness of what their children were reading.

Sonia Quinlan, French teacher and head of the English and World Language Department, said they added reference pages online for each book, including suggested grade level and suggested age level.

"We added these for further transparency and to give parents the basics if they don't want to read the whole book," she said.

On the high school's website under "Academics" and "English," the course offerings page lists all the books read by certain English classes. The parent resource pages contain descriptions of the books and parental warnings for adult themes.

At the bottom of the book list for honors British literature, a statement reads, "Some of these texts contain mature content. Please review book before confirming your choice. A parental permission slip is required for every book."

"We also spent some time making it more obvious to parents that they have a choice when they don't like/approve of the book we have chosen for our students," Quinlan said. Choices for alternative reading options are listed on the curriculum maps and on the summer reading permission slip. No R-rated movies will be shown in class.

"Our hope is that parents and the board can clearly see that we are following the district policy that mandates a choice be offered if someone asks for it," she said. Previously, parents only signed permission slips for the semester, and now parents are asked to sign slips for summer reading as well.

"Everything else has been reviewed

extensively, is fully aligned to local and state standards, and adjustments have been made over time, so there was no need to overhaul the whole program," Quinlan said. "All of the books in our collective curricula are at age and grade levels that are appropriate according to the Common Core State Standards and several other third-party sources, so there were no changes in our required offerings."

Some parents had some objections. According to the meeting minutes, Melissa Miller said her son's

first experience at Linden High School will be to opt out of "Speak," a book that deals with the aftermath of rape. She asked about the safeguards for children being exposed to these materials even after they opt out. She said her daughter was "exposed to a SAT worksheet with this material."

Another parent Sarah Tottingham, said, the questionable books should be a secondary option and not the first choice.

Scott Maker, Board of Education president, said, "Ultimately we have a

process that can accommodate families that find material objectionable. With some assistance of representatives from Genesee Intermediate School District, the staff and administration

SUMMARY

■ The Board of Education adopted new English curriculum standards May 30 following a months-long debate about books and movies that deal with adult themes, such as rape and violence.

did a great job putting a good plan in place so parents are aware of course material and have access to independent resources to review content before students take a class."

The vote was 6-1. Secretary Steven Losey was the dissenting vote. During the meeting, he said he doesn't like the profanity in the books, and that violence and sexual content should not be in public school curriculum.

“We also spent some time making it more obvious to parents that they have a choice when they don't like/approve of the book we have chosen for our students.”

Sonia Quinlan
Linden Community Schools
English Department head



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Approximately 70 4- and 5-year-olds learned everyday safety practices at last year's Safety Town. Open registration for this year is underway.

Summer is 'Safety Town' time

■ Open registration for four-day program in Fenton

"Safety Town" is once again coming to town in Fenton this summer. Fenton Kiwanis has open registrations for the Safety Town Program, which teaches pre-kindergartners, young 5s, and kindergartners a variety of life safety aspects. This is the 23rd year Safety Town has been offered in the Fenton area. Registrations will be accepted until all available slots are filled.

Safety Town is set up to resemble a small-scale town with small buildings, roads, street signs and railroad crossings. The interactive learning environment is used to offer practice in many of the safety lessons.

Safety Town will be offered Aug. 7 to 10, at the Ellen Street Campus in Fenton.

Two sessions are offered: Session 1 is 9 a.m. to noon and session 2 is 1 to 4 p.m. All lessons and activities relate to a specific topic regarding safety, such as traffic and pedestrian safety, riding and parking a bicycle, stranger danger, playground safety, railroad safety, school bus safety, animal safety, sun safety, fire safety, swimming safety and much more.

On Friday, Aug 10, the last day of class, parents are invited to attend the Safety Town graduation ceremony to watch their children, wearing their Safety Town T-shirt and bicycle helmet, receive their certificate.

For more information or to register, call Fenton Kiwanis members, Cathy Utter (517) 230-6161, uttercat@aol.com or Heidi Howieson (810) 955-6754, Hhowieson@gmail.com.



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5,000 flags retired at National Cemetery

■ Federal law requires faded, frayed U.S. flags be 'retired' by fire, with dignity

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly Twp. — Standing before the blistering heat of the fire pit, Anthony Raffin, 11, carefully tosses in small American flags one by one, from an armload he's holding.

"I do this a lot," he said. "I like doing it; it gives me a chance to honor my country."

Raffin was one of several volunteers who retired approximately 5,000 American flags on Flag Day, June 14.

The fire sent billowing black smoke across the Great Lakes National Cemetery (GLNC) grounds.

Per federal law, the American Flag is to be "retired," when it no longer "serviceable," as outlined in United States Flag Code Title 4, Section 8K. It states, "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

Bill Wentz is provost marshal of the GLNC Advisory Council and Flag Committee Chairman. He said a flag is ready for retirement when it is "frayed, being ripped apart by winds, discoloration."

"The flag is our number-one symbol," he said. "It should be respected

in that manner no matter what religion or nationality or whatever you are."

He said it's a symbol of the freedoms Americans enjoy, and should be respected.

Before a flag could be retired, the Advisory Council held a short ceremony, following the guidelines set by the American Legion.

"The flag is truly a symbol of our country, the home of the brave and the free," said Donald Lada, vice president of the GLNC Advisory Council.

This was Fenton resident Bonnie Pray's first Flag Retirement Ceremony.

"There's a lot of people that don't know and don't understand what the flag stands for," she said. "I'm very proud to know many people who fought for this country, and for this flag."

“The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.”

United States Flag Code Title 4, Section 8K



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Before the flags could be retired, a Flag Retirement Ceremony is held by members of the Patriot Guard Riders and Great Lakes National Cemetery Advisory Council.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Anthony Raffin, 11, of Rochester Hills places flags to be retired into the fire pit at the Great Lakes National Cemetery on Flag Day, Thursday, June 14.

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

JUNE 17

1994: Viewers across the nation are glued to their television screens, watching as a fleet of black-and-white police cars pursues a white Ford Bronco along Interstate 405 in Los Angeles, California. Inside the Bronco is O.J. Simpson, a former professional football player, actor and sports commentator, whom police suspected of involvement in the recent murders of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman.

JUNE 18

1984: Talk radio icon Alan Berg, the self-described "man you love to hate," is gunned down and killed instantly in the driveway of his home in Denver, Colorado. The 50-year-old host, whose

show on the station KOA gained a strong following in the early 1980s, stirred up controversy with his outspoken personality, abrasive approach and liberal views. He had already been the target of a steady stream of death threats.

JUNE 19

1938: A flood in Montana kills 46 people and seriously injures more than 60 when it washes out train tracks. Custer Creek is a small winding river that runs through 25 miles of the Great Plains on its way to the Yellowstone River. On the evening of June 19, a track walker was sent out to check the rail lines near Custer Creek in Terry, Montana. He reported dry conditions and no problems with the tracks. However, within just a few hours, a sudden downpour overwhelmed Custer Creek. A bridge used by trains was washed out, and when the Olympian Special came through, it went crashing into the raging waters with no warning.

JUNE 20

1977: With a flip of a switch in Prudhoe Bay, crude oil from the nation's largest oil field begins flowing south down the trans-Alaska pipeline to the ice-free port of Valdez, Alaska. The steel

pipeline, 48 inches in diameter, winds through 800 miles of Alaskan wilderness crossing three Arctic mountain ranges and hundreds of rivers and streams. Environmentalists fought to prevent its construction, saying it would destroy a pristine ecosystem, but they were overruled by Congress, which saw it as a way of lessening America's dependence on foreign oil.

JUNE 21

1964: Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James Chaney are killed by a Ku Klux Klan lynch mob near Meridian, Mississippi. The three young civil rights workers were working to register black voters in Mississippi, thus inspiring the ire of the local Klan.

JUNE 22

2011: After 16 years on the run from law enforcement, James "Whitey" Bulger, a violent Boston mob boss wanted for 19 murders, is arrested in Santa Monica, California. The 81-year-old Bulger, one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted" fugitives, was arrested with his longtime companion, 60-year-old Catherine Greig, who fled Massachusetts with the gangster in late 1994, shortly before he was to be indicted on federal criminal charges.

JUNE 23

1987: Long before Hannah Montana and High School Musical, a 16-year-old aspiring pop star named Tiffany Darwish had a self-titled debut album on a major record label that was gathering dust on record store shelves around the country. What transformed Tiffany (the album) into a quadruple-Platinum smash hit and Tiffany (the singer) from a flop into a pop idol was a brilliant and highly unorthodox marketing strategy. It was put into effect when Darwish launched a career-making tour of America's shopping malls.

Source: History.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

PRESIDENT OBAMA WENT to great lengths to help every other country in the world at the expense of the United States. President Trump's philosophy is to help and protect the American worker.

I'M RESPONDING TO the Hot line that was in the Sunday, June 10 paper regarding Holly Hills trailer park. I'd like to correct that person. This is not a trailer park. Holly Hills is a manufactured home community, and if you need to know anything about the expansion call the office to get more information.

READ ABOUT BRITAIN'S growing problem with Muslim and Asian men who go around the country raping and beating women and girls. The rapes occur to girls as young as 11 years old. This is a huge problem for Britain and needs to be known throughout the world.

CBS BROADCASTED THE Tony Awards where we saw an unhinged Robert DeNiro go on a rant against our president. I called CBS at 1 (212) 975-4321 to express my concern for using vulgarity on a public television station. Please do the same and join me in calling them to express your disappointment.

TO THE BUSINESSES that let their employees stand at the front door to smoke — shame on you.

THE FLOWERS IN downtown Fenton are gorgeous! So proud to live here!

I SAW YOU cut in line at McDonald's takeout, and then saw you nudge out a car to go next at the pay window who probably called you out as you answered by giving them the finger. I feel sorry for your children. Grow up.

TO THE ONE criticizing Trump for asking to have Russia back in the G-8,

wouldn't you rather have the enemy before you as opposed to behind you?

DON'T POINT FINGERS at the doctors. Take a look at society where the people think they shouldn't experience any pain ever; not after surgery, not with diseases or illness, not with broken bones. Our society wants to feel numb.

I'LL SECOND, I believe we have suffered enough of Heller.

THOUGHTS ON EBT cards? Person in front of me at big box grocery store used an EBT card. No identification was asked to see if it was actually her card and she received cash back.

I LOVE THAT the Hot-liner that agreed with Roseanne being fired went on to name a list of people who should also be fired, that were all liberal media and talk show hosts. I love Roseanne's show, but what she said was racist and idiotic. The others you listed gave an unracist opinion.

DID ANY DEMOCRAT ever say that they wanted to take away all guns? I'm seriously curious. Did I miss something?

OBAMA'S QUANTITATIVE EASING saved the economy? Quantitative easing was purely a Federal Reserve action, which Obama has zero control over. Please start making up better lies.

THANK YOU TO all the local firefighters who give of their time and energy to serve our community. Great job folks, you are appreciated.

YOU'RE WRONG, THE main reason for shootings and killings in schools is schools. If there were no schools, there would be no school shootings. Ban all schools now. Yes, I know my argument is idiotic. So is your anti-gun argument.

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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 Friday, June 8.

Legislative Initiative Petition 2: Repeal prevailing wage law

To repeal the state prevailing wage law, which prohibits awarding government contracts to contractors who submit the lowest bid unless the contractor pays wages based on union pay scales that local union officials represent as prevalent in a particular area. The voter-initiated legislation was placed before the legislature by petition, and does not require the Governor's approval to become law.

Passed 23 to 14 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) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Dist. 51) ☒ YES
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 787: Allow lower cost auto insurance option for seniors

To exempt a person age 65 or above from having to buy the unlimited personal injury protection (PIP) coverage mandated by the state's no fault auto insurance law. Specifically, these individuals could buy either unlimited coverage or a policy that caps medical coverage at \$50,000, with injury expenses above that amount covered by the individual's Medicare and related coverage. By the same margin, the Senate also passed Senate Bill 1014, which restricts charges for long term attendant care provided by family members to crash victims under the standard unlimited medical benefit coverage.

Passed 23 to 13 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ NO
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

House Bill 5391: Impose regulations on electric skateboards

To prohibit riding an electric skateboard at a speed greater than 25 mph, and ban riding one on a street with a speed limit greater than 25 mph. The bill defines electric skateboard as one that is "no more than 60 inches long and 18 inches wide, is designed to transport only one person at a time, has an electrical propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, and has a maximum speed on a paved level surface of not more than 25 miles per hour." Riders could go on streets subject to the same rules as bicycles.

Passed 37 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

House Bill 4115: Increase nonprofit sales tax exemption

To exempt from sales tax the first \$10,000 in retail sales by a nonprofit organization that has less than \$25,000 in sales during a year, rather than \$5,000 under current law.

Passed 27 to 9 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) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 897: Impose work requirement on able-bodied Medicaid recipients

To require state welfare officials to seek federal permission to allow requiring able-bodied individuals enrolled in the Medicaid expansion authorized by the federal health care law to work at least 80 hours a month for at least nine months a year, or be in school, job-training or volunteer work. The bill authorizes exceptions for a parent with children under age 6, individuals getting disability benefits or above age 62, a disabled person's caretaker and more.

Passed 62 to 47 in the House

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

Passed 25 to 11 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) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

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The 'dumbest' laws in Michigan

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Do you ever wonder what legislators do every day in Lansing? If you're an avid reader of the Times' "Michigan Votes" feature, you know what they do (among other things) — make up laws.

When they come back after their summer break, maybe they should take a look at the following laws, still on the books. They have been called the "dumbest" and "craziest" laws in Michigan.

No 'drunking' and riding

Persons may not be drunk on trains. No person shall while in an offensive state of intoxication enter or be on or remain upon any railway train or inter-urban car as a passenger.

Poor pooch

It is illegal to kill a dog using a decompression chamber. Killing a dog or other animal; use of high altitude decompression chamber or electrocution prohibited. An animal control officer or other person killing a dog or other animal pursuant to the laws of this state shall not use a high altitude decompression chamber or electrocution for that killing.

Maybe they won't mind

Adultery is illegal, but can only be punished upon a complaint by the affected husband or wife. Any person who shall commit adultery shall be guilty of a felony; and when the crime is committed between a married woman and a man who is unmarried, the man shall be guilty of adultery, and liable to the same



PHOTO: WETPAINT.COM

We all know that it is illegal to drive a moving vehicle while intoxicated, but did you know that in Michigan, it is also illegal to be a passenger on a train while intoxicated? Act 68 of the Michigan Compiled Laws was enacted in 1913, but was never repealed.

punishment.

No prosecution for adultery, under the preceding section, shall be commenced, but on the complaint of the husband or wife; and no such prosecution shall be commenced after one year from the time of committing the offense.

Best leave that girl alone

Any man who shall seduce and debauch any unmarried woman shall be guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment in the state prison not more than five years or by fine of not more than \$2,500; but no prosecution shall be commenced under

this section after one year from the time of committing the offense.

No one knows why

The last Sunday in June of each year shall be known as "log cabin day."

Not on Sunday

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to engage in the business of buying, selling, trading or exchanging new, used or second-hand motor vehicles, or offering to buy, sell, trade or exchange, or participate in the negotiation thereof, or attempt to buy, sell, trade or exchange

any motor vehicle or interest therein, or of any written instrument pertaining thereto on the first day of the week commonly called Sunday.

Today, most dealerships choose to close on Sunday. The law states if a dealership is located in a county that has a population below 130,000, it can sell cars on Sunday.

Like this will ever happen

A woman isn't allowed to cut her own hair without her husband's permission.

Intruder-proof your house

It is legal for a robber to file a lawsuit if he or she got hurt in your house.

A felony at 12?

Any person over the age of 12 may have a license for a handgun as long as he or she has not been convicted of a felony.

Top 'crazy' laws in the state of Michigan

- **In Kalamazoo** it is illegal to serenade your girlfriend.
- **In Harper Woods** it is illegal to paint sparrows and sell them as parakeets.
- **In Rochester** all bathing suits must be inspected by the police.
- **It is illegal** for a man to scowl at his wife on Sunday.
- **In Detroit** it is illegal to let your pig run free unless it has a nose ring.
- **Willfully destroying** an old radio is prohibited.

Source: dumblaws.com; wfk.com

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Connors leads Powers all-league teammates, headed to Detroit Mercy to continue career

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

Kelson Connors didn't start playing lacrosse until he was in the seventh grade.

It didn't take him long to realize the sport was going to be one of his passions in life.

"My whole life I played baseball but I loved the speed of lacrosse," Connors said. "I love football because contact is my stuff and lacrosse has

contact.

"Lacrosse is No. 1. Football was No. 1 for awhile, but I quickly figured out I was pretty good at lacrosse. I love them both, but lacrosse clicked with me."

Connors, a recent Powers graduate, was one of five tri-county athletes on the Chargers' squad that earned All-Saginaw Valley League honors, and one of two to earn first-team status. He's also headed to the Univer-

sity of Detroit Mercy to continue his lacrosse career at the Division 1 level next school year. The area all-league lacrosse players — Connors, Miles Cramer, Hunter Skarzynski, Ben Affrica and Fidel Carino — helped lead the Chargers to a 11-6 final season record and to the regional championship contest, eventually losing to Orchard Lake St. Mary's 15-8.

"The season went really good," said Connors, who not only was a first-team All-SVL selection but also selected the league's most valuable player.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Fenton resident
Kelson Connors

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Sports Times

Holly girls tennis scores an ace this spring

■Five Fenton squads fill our Tri-County Top Eight Teams of the Spring list

By David Troppens
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In some ways making our 2018 Tri-County Top Eight Teams of the Spring list was easy.

Figuring out the top three squads was pretty simple. And figuring out who was No. 1 was pretty much a no-brainer.

However, after that, there is very little separating No. 4 to No. 8. Consequently, the second half of the poll was a challenge. But, everything in life can't be simple, so the sports staff will continue forward with brave thoughts. Here are the top eight teams of the spring sports season in the tri-county area based on the sports staff.

No. 8 - Fenton girls track and field: The Tigers dominated the dual season, going 8-0, but took second at the Metro Meet and had to share the title with Flushing. The Tigers placed fifth at regionals. Alexa Keiser placed eighth at the state meet in the 3,200 run.

No. 7 - Fenton boys track and field: The Fenton boys did the opposite of the Fenton girls. The Tigers lost to Flushing during the dual portion of the season, but bounced back to win the Metro Meet and share the Metro crown. The boys are higher than the girls because while the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
FILE PHOTOS

Two of the tri-county's top spring sports teams were the Holly varsity girls tennis team (above) and the Lake Fenton/Goodrich girls lacrosse team.

boys also placed fifth at regionals, they scored more team points (62), and also had more people participating in more state events. Chanse Setzke placed fifth in the long jump.

No. 6 - Fenton baseball: The Tigers defended their Metro crown by earning a co-championship with Linden with a 13-3 league record. The Tigers finished 21-11 overall. They placed higher than Linden because the Eagles had a weaker overall record.

No. 5 - Lake Fenton/Goodrich girls lacrosse: It's hard to figure out where to rank the co-op program because the sport is so new to this area, but the squad finished 11-2 overall and also advanced to the regional semifinal round, losing to Okemos in that round. The Fenton/Linden girls won a league title but lost to Lake Fenton/Goodrich and had a pretty average overall record. That's why this squad is rated higher than the Fenton/

See TOP EIGHT on 23A

David's
Dabblings



Some thoughts about sports and others not dealing with sports at all

SOME WORLD CUP
RANDOM THOUGHTS

As the 2018 World Cup begins in Russia without the United States' men's team at the event, all international soccer news isn't bad news in America.

Along with Mexico and Canada, the United States will be hosting the 2026 World Cup. It will be the second time in history the World Cup has been hosted by the United States.

Other good news may be tagged to that announcement. Traditionally, the country hosting the tournament gets an automatic bid into the event. Considering the United States is hosting 60 of the 80 matches, it's likely the United States will get that automatic bid. However, it's not a given. The Federation International de Football Association (FIFA), can grant an automatic bid to none or all three of the hosts. Still, chances are the United States will get that bid, and even if they don't, while the Americans didn't qualify for the World Cup this season, with the World Cup expanding from 32 to 48, the chance of the United States qualifying should be a bit easier.

I missed going to a World Cup game when the United States hosted in 1994, despite the fact I lived 20 minutes from the Pontiac Silverdome where some games were actually played. If I'm around in 2026, there's no way I'm not going to a game.

With no US in the tourney who is my rooting interest this World Cup?

With the United States out, I'm pretty much forced to change my allegiance to my bloodlines. I'm roughly half-Polish and half-German, so those are my default picks. One would think I should be geeked having German blood, considering the defending champions are a great selection to win this year's cup as well, but I'm an underdog guy. I'm going to pull

See WORLD CUP on 13A

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Fenton's varsity baseball team is on the 2018 Tri-County Top Eight Teams of the Spring. The Tigers are ranked sixth after earning a co-Metro League title.

TOP EIGHT

Continued from Page 22A

Linden co-op girls lacrosse team.

No. 4. - Lake Fenton girls soccer: The Blue Devils ended up earning a co-Genesee Area Conference title during the regular season, and also won the league tournament. However, the squad lost in the district semifinal, keeping the Blue Devils from finishing higher in this poll.

No. 3 - Fenton girls soccer: The Tigers had a strong season, finishing the Metro League slate in dominating fashion with an 8-0 mark and the outright league crown. The squad also had a solid 15-5-1 mark, and advanced to the district title game. However, once there, Fenton lost a 3-0 contest to Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, keeping them from having a shot to contend for our top spot.

No. 2 - Fenton boys golf: The Fenton boys golf team was a reasonably easy No. 2 selection. The Tigers dominated league play, winning the first Metro tournament by four strokes. From there, they just got better, going 8-0 in dual play. They won the final Metro meet by 29 strokes with a 335.

What keeps the Tigers from contending for the top spot is that they took only seventh in regional play. It was a tough regional, but the squad needed to do better than seventh place to fight for the top spot. In fact, they probably had to figure a way to qualify for the state meet.

No. 1 - Holly girls tennis team: I remember a few years back when Brennan Brown was the varsity boys and girls

tennis coach at Holly. He loved looking at these polls and challenging me why his tennis teams weren't always as high as he had hoped.

My answer was it was hard to judge the team based on the local talent in the Flint area because beyond the Holly squad the talent was pretty low. So to really compete for the top spot on polls, winning a league title and even a regional title wasn't always enough. They had to do damage against teams outside the area.

Well, under head coach Will Sophia that's happening now. The Bronchos captured fifth at the state meet for the second straight year, while earning their first-ever flight champion at the state level (Nicole Johnson at No. 2 singles). The squad had success outside the league during the regular season at weekend tournaments as well.

And now they are doing stuff against their "easier competition" that makes it eye-popping worthy. The Bronchos didn't lose a single set in Metro League dual or tournament play this year. In fact, we'll bet they won about two-thirds of their sets by a 6-2 or better score in Metro play. Of course, this means all eight flights won league titles. They did the same while earning a regional title as well, winning every set and every regional flight championship.

The Holly girls were clearly the elite team of the spring, and are a great contender for our Top 16 poll for the entire school year (starting soon). I'm sure Brown will be paying attention.

WORLD CUP

Continued from Page 22A

for the Robert Lewandowski-led Poland squad first. Germany will be my second pick.

World Cup coverage concerns

I rarely get too worked up with who is covering what on television. If it is ESPN, Fox or whoever, it doesn't rock my world terribly much. And I'm certainly not an ESPN nut. In fact, I hardly ever watch the station, and it's probably been at least 10 years since I've watched a complete edition of SportsCenter. It's probably been that long since I've watched 15 continuous minutes of SportsCenter. Why bother? You can find anything on the internet today, and SportsCenter is pretty much garbage (or was the last time I watched it).

But the World Cup is one exception when it comes to concerns about who is covering the World Cup. If it was ESPN/ABC, we know we'd get a top-notch presentation of the World Cup. We've experienced it in the past. But with Fox, I'm pretty nervous. First off, last I heard

they only planned on having two broadcasting teams in Russia. They have six teams, but apparently four will be in Los Angeles announcing games from monitors in a studio. What? Really?

Others are concerned with the fact that there won't be hearing many British accents during the broadcasts, because eight of the 12 members of the announcing crews will be American. When ESPN presented the 2014 World Cup, five of the play-by-play announcers (led by Ian Darke) were British. That doesn't bother me. I don't need someone with an English accent to watch soccer.

Who am I picking to win the World Cup?

Germany — I don't think this Germany team is better than the one four years ago, but it's still pretty good. Plus, they won the Confederations Cup last summer in Russia and cruised through World Cup qualifying. Germany will be tough to beat once again in this tournament.

Area Runner's Log

A LOOK AT SOME
UPCOMING AREA RACES.

Most sports enthusiasts understand the tri-county area has its share of running enthusiasts. And to give these runners their "racing fix" the tri-county area has plenty of events you can attend located in your own backyard. We'll occasionally, present this runner's log during the summer to help those who maybe looking for an area race to support. If you know of any events located in Fenton, Holly, Linden, Fenton Township, Tyrone Township, Holly Township or any other tri-county community, alert us about the event at dtroppens@tctimes.com and we'll add it to the list.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The first Wednesday Night Races at the Parkevent at Linden County Park is June 20.

den County Park. The shorter races start at 6:30 p.m. while the combined two-mile and three-mile race begins at 7 p.m.

EIGHTH-ANNUAL FIRST TRY TRIATHLON

► The eighth-annual event is happening at Linden County Park Saturday, (June 16), at 8 p.m. The event includes a 300-yard swim, a 9.1-mile bike race and a two-mile run. Registration is closed for this year's event. Check it out as a spectator if you are not enrolled.

16TH YEAR OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT RACES AT THE PARK

► This will be the 16th year the Wednesday Night Races at the Park will be held at Linden County Park.

The races are June 20, June 27, July 11 and July 18, starting at 6:30 p.m. each night. Registration is done the night of the event and the cost is \$2 a person or \$5 a family. There are races ranging from one-half mile to three miles for every age and skill level. This is more of a cross country format race with the event being ran on the trails around Lin-

WINGS OF MERCY RUNWAY 5K

► This June 23 race is unusual because the 5K walk or run begins at 9 p.m. and a lot of the course involves the runways at Linden's Prices Airport. Once it gets darker, the lights around the runways help guide the runners to the finish line.

The cost is \$35, plus an additional \$3.25 for a sign-up fee. Registration ends June 23 at noon. All proceeds benefit Wings of Mercy East Michigan Inc. They provide free air transportation for patients with limited incomes needing treatment at medical centers within 600 miles of Eastern Michigan.

For more information check the race's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/wingsofmercy5k/>.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

June 17, 2018



DYLAN HUCK
Golf

HARTLAND



JADEN ZAITSHIK
Boys Track & Field

LAKE FENTON



SAMI HILD
Tennis

HOLLY



MAKAYLA BILBIA
Tennis

HOLLY



NOLAN LAWRENCE
Baseball

FENTON



OLIVIA FOSTER
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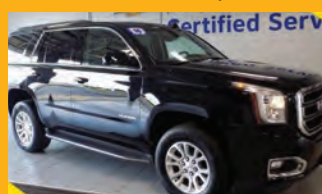
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