

# Cornerstone II building still coming to downtown

■ Builders moving forward, but taking their time

By Vera Hogan

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If you come, they will build it.

Ghassan Saab, project manager for Corlin Builders, Inc. of Grand Blanc, said Wednesday that the Cornerstone II project is still in the site plan development phase.

"We are looking for tenants," Saab said. He said they would like to have a few residential and business tenants lined up before they break ground.

In November 2016, it was expected that groundbreaking would likely take place during the spring of 2017.

"We are still moving forward, but taking our time," Saab said.

See **CORNERSTONE II** on 13A

Corlin Builders, Inc. presented this artist rendering of its next project in November, 2016.

The four-story, mixed-use building will be located at 111 S. LeRoy St. in downtown Fenton.



**PAGE 5A**

**WHO THE HECK IS WALT AND WHERE DOES HE GET HIS CRAWLERS?**

## Weekend Times

**\$1.00**

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## New GM plant good news for area job seekers

■ \$65-million project will be completed in 10 months

By Hannah Ball

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On Wednesday, June 20, construction started on the new General Motors plant in Burton near the corner of Genesee and Davison roads.

The \$65 million project will be an AC Delco and Genuine GM parts processing facility expected to bring the 720 jobs from their existing Davison Road parts processing center. Work is estimated to be complete in 10 months.

See **GM PLANT** on 15A

## Anti-gerrymandering bill on November ballot

■ If passed, measure would create an independent panel to define voter districts

Compiled by Tim Jagielo

tjagiello@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Voters will have a chance to strike down the process of "gerrymandering" in Michigan this November.

See **GERRYMANDERING** on 15A



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES**  
FILE PHOTO

Jordan Smellie, of Voters Not Politicians, holds a Lego model of the 14th congressional district during a town hall meeting.

## Fourth of July parade grand marshals



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO

Every year a grand marshal is chosen to lead the Fenton Freedom Festival parade, held on July 4. This year, it is a group of first responders who were involved in saving the life of a local woman following an October 2016 car accident. Fenton police, Stat EMS and Fenton firefighters were involved. Shown are Mike Peterson, firefighter; Al Morea, firefighter; Cpt. Nick Will, firefighter; Lt. Dustin Lucius, firefighter; Mike Johnson, firefighter; David Siburt, firefighter; EMT Chris Bowen, Stat EMS; Matt Hadfield, firefighter; and Paramedic Rob Beggs, Stat EMS. Not pictured is Fenton Police Officer Tom Cole, Frank Carpenter, Ryan Jenema and Casey McLaughlin-Smith.

## Controversial 'green' cemetery approved in Tyrone Township

■ Burial practices being close to water wells debated

By Tim Jagielo

tjagiello@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Green burials with no coffin or embalming chemicals could be coming to

Tyrone Township.

On Tuesday, June 19, the board voted 5-0 to approve the special land use permit for the proposed 1,500 plot cemetery, under the official name Yasin LLC.

See **CEMETERY** on 7A

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES**

FILE PHOTO

Hasan Siddiqui of Tyrone Township addresses residents at the Nov. 14 Tyrone Township Planning Commission meeting.



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YOUR  
HOT LINE**  
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“Why is Fenton High School the only local high school that didn't recognize their top 10? I'm sure students three through seven work just as hard as one and two. To the Fenton Board of Education, shame on you. This political correctness has to stop.”



“If you don't think separating children from their mothers is inhumane, where is your humanity? Why don't you put yourself in their shoes and see why they are trying to escape a terrifying and horrible situation? Who doesn't want a better life for their children?”



“You liberals need to make up your mind about your protection of children. You whine and cry over the cruelty of a child being separated from their parent, yet don't bat an eye about cavalierly and painfully murdering over 650,000 babies through abortion in 2017. Your hypocrisy is astonishing.”



**COMMENT  
OF THE WEEK**

“Fenton's downtown is a pleasure to behold. Families walking and a vibrance that warms the heart and soul. I agree, congratulations to all city leaders that were part of this fantastic transformation.”





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**New Price**



### Grand Blanc • \$319,900

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**Open Sunday 1-3 pm**



### Davison • \$169,900

**1043 Sturbridge Ln**  
This Home Offers 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths And Over 2,200 SF. Full Basement To Finish, 2nd Floor Laundry, Large Deck And More!

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### Byron • \$289,900

**15021 Duffield Rd**  
Beautiful 4 Bed, 2 Bath Home w/Lake Views of Crooked Lake. Updated Kitchen w/Granite, Center Island, HW Floors, Open Family Room w/FP, Finished LL, 2700SF Of Living Space.

**New On Market**



### Grand Blanc • \$142,900

Updated Cape Cod In Established Neighborhood. Home Features 4 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths w/Split Layout Design, New Carpet and Updated Bath. Large Deck and Fenced-in yard.

**Open Sunday 1-3 pm**



### Hartland • \$449,900

**8830 Brindlewood Trl**  
Beautiful 4 Bedroom Home On Large Rolling Lot. Open Floor Plan Features Lg. Granite Kitchen w/ Island, HW Floors, 2-Story Great Room w/FP, Cozy Den/Office, 2,800+SF. Hartland Schools.

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**New On Market**



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### Grand Blanc • \$254,000

**6119 Kings Scepter**  
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**New Price**



### Fowlerville • \$249,400

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# Amusement park features vintage rides from around the world

■Former Linden woman operator of popular ‘Wild Frontier Fun Park’ near Oscoda

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

After high school and later college, most graduates go on to enjoy successful careers in their chosen field. Some of those careers may be more interesting than others, and some may pay more than others. But one Linden High School grad’s career choice is just plain fun.

With her husband, Mike, Rebecca “Becky” (Hartman) Harrington runs Cedar Valley’s Wild Frontier Fun Park, a place in Comins, Michigan (in the Fairview/Mio area) that offers family fun for all ages. It has been deemed

the second largest amusement park in Michigan.

As of 2016, the population of Comins Township, located in Oscoda County, is 2,017. The population of the town Comins is 433. It is said there are five people for every square mile.

“There is a store,” Becky said. Needless to say, Cedar Valley’s Wild Frontier Park (3780 N. Weaver Rd.) and **See FUN PARK on 16A**



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Cedar Valley’s Wild Frontier Fun Park is located “off the beaten track” in Comins.



PHOTO CREDIT:  
MATT VARCAK/OSCODA COUNTY HERALD  
Children work together to keep spinning on the Barrels-of-Fun ride at Cedar Valley’s Wild Frontier Fun Park.

## Other Michigan amusement parks

Today, **MICHIGAN’S ADVENTURE**, which is owned by Cedar Fair, which also owns Cedar Point and King’s Island in Ohio. is really the only major amusement park in the state, according to tripsavvy.com. Michigan’s Adventure in Muskegon is Michigan’s largest amusement park and includes the highly rated Shivering Timbers CCI-built wooden coaster. Other coasters include the suspended steel coaster, Thunderhawk, and a second wooden coaster, the Wolverine Wildcat. There is also a log flume ride and a large Ferris wheel. Admission includes both the amusement park and the adjacent WildWater Adventure waterpark.

There are some smaller parks and family fun centers that offer rides and other attractions, which are identified below. They are open and arranged alphabetically.

**CJ BARRYMORE’S FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**  
21750 Hall Rd., Clinton Township  
(586) 469-2800

It’s not an amusement park, but it is a decent-sized facility with plenty of diversions including bumper boats, bowling, and a steel roller coaster with a loop (called, unimaginatively enough, “Loop Roller Coaster”).

**CROSSROADS VILLAGE**  
The entrance to Crossroads Village and Mott Children’s Farm is off Bray Road, just south of Mt. Morris Road, in a rural area near Flint. Phone (810) 736-7100, (800) 648-PARK or visit [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org)  
It is a turn-of-the-century park with 30 re-created shops and historical interpreters in period costumes. Attractions include a carousel, steam train, paddle-wheel boat, and a 1912 Ferris wheel.

**See PARKS on 17A**



Heather Skinner

Brandon Peabody

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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

# Come *Heller* high water...

• **OK, well, this** has been a crazy week. If only one thing comes from it, I hope it's this: That we as people – left, center or right – at least agree that separating children from the parents when other options are available is wrong. We need to re-establish some form of common ground. We used to have a lot of it. Maybe it's time to start over, even if just to establish dialogue.

• **I'll start:** Kittens are cute. How about that? Anyone object other than ailurophobes, allergy sufferers and people who hate cat pans?



Andrew Heller  
FEATURED COLUMNIST

• **Your turn:** Shoot me your thoughts on things all Americans can and should agree on. Make them serious or funny, but please don't make them political. I'm really serious about this. If we can't agree on something then we can't agree on anything, and I like to think we're better than that. My email is andrewhellercolumn@gmail.com. I'll print the best in next week's column.

• **How else was** the week crazy? Well, there was this headline: "Michigan woman may have served ex-lover's remains at U.P. barbecue." I'm from the U.P. so now I feel the need to ask all my relatives, "Hey, been to any neighborhood BBQs lately?" Can you imagine being one of the people who was at that party? I may never leave the house again. Too many weirdos out there.

• **Thursday was the** summer solstice and the longest day of the year. The optimist in me says, "Woo-hoo, summer's officially here! Time to party!" (But not at a BBQ, of course.) The part of me that's been beaten up by too many Michigan winters is saying, "The longest day of the year? It's all downhill from here." That part of me is a real drag.

• **MSU president John Engler** has ordered the MSU alumni magazine to emphasize all the good things he's done in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal rather than take a critical look. Wow, is that wrong. If I were an MSU grad and my alumni mailed me a propaganda puff piece, I'd be disgusted. What Engler doesn't know about human beings, PR and communications stuns me. You don't make despicable things go away by ignoring them. You recover from despicable things by talking about them openly and honestly.

• **Speaking of moving on,** Engler should. Nassar's victims this week joined the chorus calling for him to resign. They wrote the board that "Engler and leaders at MSU have refused to listen. They persist in attacking our character, our integrity and our intelligence. These attacks send a clear message that survivors who speak up will likewise be attacked. They send a clear message that perpetrators and enablers will not be held accountable. They send a clear message that nothing at MSU — none of the mindsets that allowed Larry Nassar to abuse children for decades — have changed." Good for them. Engler was an odd choice from the beginning. I suspect he was brought in to save the university money on the settlement. But his ham-handed communication style has been a disaster for a school that already has enough trouble.

• **"The single biggest** problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place." - George Bernard Shaw.

“You recover from despicable things by talking about them openly and honestly.”

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

## Hotlines

Submit at: [tctimes.com](http://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.

“When I wasn’t old and I was good.”

**WELCOME TO THE USA** — just do it the legal way. Follow our country’s rules and laws and everything will be fine.

■■■■

**INTENTIONALLY INVOLVING YOUR** children in a criminal enterprise, exposing them to a dangerous, often deadly, desert trek, and surrendering them to the custody of criminal gangs all constitute child abuse. Remove children from their illegal immigrant parents permanently.

■■■■

**DESPITE MAINSTREAM MEDIA’S** claims to the contrary, we all know the blame rests 100 percent with the illegal immigrant parents.

■■■■

**YES, THE HOLLY** Village Council ‘sold out.’ They allowed a for-profit group to spend their own money to improve a grossly under-utilized park for the public good. It is idiotic to see this as anything but a win for the community.

■■■■

**REGARDING THE YELLOW** notices from Lake Fenton Property Owners Association. I no longer have dock fish. I haven’t heard one bullfrog. One of the nicest evenings of the year and I can’t swim.

■■■■

**HOLLYWOOD IS 90** percent of what’s wrong in the United States. We have loudmouth liberals like DeNiro, Alec Baldwin, Jimmy Kimmel and the entire cast of The View, who go on to tout open borders? These people have no morals and no values and are basically anti-family.

■■■■

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

**GIVE US THE** king weekends and mid week. I personally don’t really care what his actual name is, he is more in touch with reality than Andy could ever hope to be.

■■■■

**EITHER YOU BELIEVE** abortion is killing babies or not, no gray. If you believe the second amendment means what it says or not, no more restrictions, no gray. If you believe borders and walls are to protect us or not, no gray. I will never vote Democrat

■■■■

**I FULLY SUPPORT** the immediate reunification of illegal children and their parents — back on the other side of the border.

■■■■

**GRETCHEN WHITMER WANTS** to bring back affirmative action as a civil rights issue. She is an Obama disciple and she also was very close to Jennifer Granholm, two people who had basically tried to hurt prosperity for Michigan. Whitmer would do the same

■■■■

**REALLY ENJOY ANDREW** Heller’s column. He always makes me laugh and we all could use more of that.

■■■■

**IF A WOMAN** with a child is caught shoplifting, she goes to jail and her child goes to a family member or to foster care.

■■■■

**A VERY OLD** man was once asked ‘What were the good old days?’ He answered,

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter and Tim Jagielo, media editor

## What’s your favorite ride or activity at amusement parks?

## | streettalk



“A wave pool. Michigan Adventure on the west side of the state has a good one. I’m not one for roller coasters at all.”

—Martha Romanowski  
Fenton Township



“Roller coasters. King’s Island, the Beast in Cincinnati, Ohio. It’s pretty rough. It’s kind of retro, it’s not modern.”

—James Bullen  
Centerville, Indiana



“I would have to say the carousel because it’s classic. You always see children on them. It’s nice and easy and it won’t wreck your stomach.”

—Jasmine Garback  
Fenton



“A roller coaster ride, front car. It’s more exciting; you can see it all coming.”

—Pat Coleman  
Linden



“The arcade games. You can get prizes afterward. I like Skee-Ball.”

—Elizabeth Collins  
Fenton





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

There are five varieties of Walt's Crawlers at the Fenton Party Shop. Walt's Crawlers checks the status of the live bait each week, and provides replacements as needed.

## Who's Walt, and where does he get all those crawlers?

■ Bright yellow bait signs are staple of gas stations and convenience stores

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Take a look around you at just about every gas station or convenience store in the Midwest and you'll see bright yellow signs that say "Walt's Crawlers."

So, who's Walt and what's he selling?

If you're a fisherman, you likely know the answer.

Walt's Crawlers is a small bait packager and Midwest distributor of live night crawlers and other creepy crawly bait products, including Canadian night crawlers, Belgian worms, leaches, wax worms, red worms, green crawlers and spawn.

Located in Otsego County, about 8-1/2 miles north of Gaylord, Walt's Crawlers was founded in 1983 by Walter Swiderski.

He sold over \$500,000 in night crawler worms to bait shops in five states to over 500 customers, according to his obituary from Petoskeynews.com. Swiderski sold his business in 1997 to Rick and Becky Cope, but the company still bears Walt's name. He passed away on April 7, 2009.

Believe it or not, worms are a big business, and Walt's Crawlers is one of the major players in the Midwest, selling millions of worms and other bait mostly to convenience stores.

"Walt was pretty close to being the

first to actually put bait in convenience stores," Becky said. "We do packaged bait, not sold in bulk and we hand deliver our products to our customers. We've got a lot of convenience stores in the Fenton and Holly areas."

So where does Walt's Crawlers get the worms that they package and distribute?

According to Becky, this is all very proprietary information, but she did say that they are from farm fields in Canada. Night crawlers are not grown commercially; they are caught and picked up by hand. "They are so delicate that there's not a machine that could do the work," she added.

Fish bait is the primary use for Walt's Crawlers, especially with the popularity of fishing as a recreational sport. According

to the latest National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, there are 30 million recreational fishermen in the U.S. and in 2016, one out of every seven Americans went fishing.

### SUMMARY

■ You know the fishing season is here when you see bright yellow signs at convenience stores all over town for Walt's Crawlers.

However, Walt's Crawlers are also purchased as feed for exotic animals, Becky said. Many local convenience store owners use Walt's Crawlers, while others use a competitor – it's a very worm-eat-worm (dog-eat-dog) type of business.

See **WALT'S CRAWLERS** on 13A

**Experts say worms do not feel pain because they do not have the ability to process emotional information.**

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## LOOKING BACK *at this week in* NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

### JUNE 24

**1966:** The United States Senate votes 76-0 for the passage of what will become the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson the following September, the act created the nation's first mandatory federal safety standards for motor vehicles

### JUNE 25

**1876:** Native American forces led by Chiefs Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull defeat the U.S. Army troops of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer in a bloody battle near southern Montana's Little Bighorn River. Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, leaders of the Sioux tribe on the Great Plains, strongly resisted the mid-19th-century efforts of the U.S. government to confine their people to reservations.

### JUNE 26

**1975:** With a string of pop hits in the mid-1960s that began with the career-defining "I Got You Babe" (1965), Sonny and Cher Bono established themselves as the most prominent and appealing married couple in the world of popular music. After 13 years together as a couple

and six years of marriage — the last three for the cameras — Sonny and Cher were legally divorced on this day in 1975.

### JUNE 27

**1950:** President Harry S. Truman announces that he is ordering U.S. air and naval forces to South Korea to aid the democratic nation in repulsing an invasion by communist North Korea. The United States was undertaking the major military operation, he explained, to enforce a United Nations resolution calling for an end to hostilities, and to stem the spread of communism in Asia. In addition to ordering U.S. forces to Korea, Truman also deployed the U.S. 7th Fleet to Formosa (Taiwan) to guard against invasion by communist China and ordered an acceleration of military aid to French forces fighting communist guerrillas in Vietnam.

### JUNE 28

**1888:** Writer Robert Louis Stevenson and his family leave San Francisco for their first visit to the South Seas. Stevenson, an adventurous traveler plagued by tuberculosis, was seeking a healthier climate. The family finally settled in Samoa, where Stevenson died in 1894. Among his more popular books are *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped* and *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

### JUNE 29

**1995:** The American space shuttle Atlantis docks with the Russian space station Mir to form the largest man-made satellite ever to orbit the Earth. This historic moment of cooperation between former rival space programs was also the 100th human space mission in American history.

### JUNE 30

**1936:** Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*, one of the best-selling novels of all time and the basis for a blockbuster 1939 movie, is published on this day in 1936. In 1926, Mitchell was forced to quit her job as a reporter at the *Atlanta Journal* to recover from a series of physical injuries. With too much time on her hands, Mitchell soon grew restless. Working on a Remington typewriter, a gift from her second husband, John R. Marsh, in their cramped one-bedroom apartment, Mitchell began telling the story that became *Gone with the Wind*. By the time Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1937, a movie project was already in the works.

Source: *History.com*

## News briefs

### Rescue 911 children's learning event at Bush Park Wednesday, June 27

Rescue 911 will take place at Fenton's Bush Park on **Wednesday, June 27**. The program is a free, hands-on learning event that teaches kids how to react in emergency situations. The event includes bike and helmet safety, fire prevention and safety, first aid, railroad and water safety, bullying education, nutrition and wellness information and tours of police, EMS and fire vehicles. It is for kids ages 8-12. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Kids must be checked in by a parent or legal guardian and registered with STAT EMS.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**AS WE CELEBRATE** 500 days in office, Trump's popularity is soaring. Especially after the summit with the North Korean leader last week. Every day, I thank God that this president is our president. He is a true leader.

■■■■ **THE BORDER ISSUES** that we're facing this week involving illegal immigration begun under President Obama when he opened up our borders and allowed an estimated 22 million illegals in the United States. Many of these are violent, drug and gang members, such as MS-13.

■■■■ **I JUST SAW** a commercial for Gretchen Whitmer for governor of Michigan, but the ad did not even mention that she is a Democrat. She wants to increase income taxes, business taxes and fuel taxes. She wants increased gun control. She wants abortion on demand, and increased support for Planned Parenthood.

■■■■ **UNDER OBAMA, PEOPLE** from Mexico and Central America were very comfortable in ignoring our immigration laws and just coming across the border. But now we have zero tolerance policy regarding our border law. The humane thing to do now is to reunite these children with their parents, put them on a bus back to where they came from.

■■■■ **I JUST READ** the new bicycle law they're coming up with. I got a better idea. How about having every automobile preceded by a man on foot waving a red flag to warn the bicycle riders that we're coming?

■■■■ **I SUPPOSE THE** headline could have read 'New market opens in Flint for first time in decades,' but I missed a headline that would have said, 'New market can't open in Flint because no one chooses to apply.'

## Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church Welcomes New Pastor

Fenton, MI – The congregation of Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church is adding another exciting chapter of its long history in the community by welcoming a new pastor and his family.

Pastor Lawrence Bowlin, his wife, Ellen and their three daughters, Grace, Joy, and Hope, moved to Fenton from Coventry, Connecticut in late May. Pastor Lawrence was then officially installed as Tyrone Covenant's Senior Pastor on June 17th.

Lawrence is originally from North Carolina having been born and raised in Raleigh. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro and his master's degree at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. He is currently working on his doctorate at Reformed Theological Seminary in Charlotte.

In his twenty years of ministry thus far, Lawrence has served churches in North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, but he and his family are now eager to call Michigan "home."

Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), which is an evangelical and conservative church, fully committed to the Scriptures,



**Bowlin Family**  
Joy, Grace, Hope  
Pastor Lawrence & Ellen

the reformed faith, and the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ. Relying on the grace of God and the work of His Spirit, the church is working to build a true Christian community where each member grows in grace, shares Christ with others, and serves Him faithfully in all spheres of life. The church emphasizes expository Bible preaching and reverent, joyful worship.

To learn more about Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church, visit the website at [tyronepca.org](http://tyronepca.org) or call 810-629-1261.

For more information about the Presbyterian Church in America, visit [www.pcanet.org](http://www.pcanet.org).



**“In his twenty years of ministry thus far, Lawrence has served churches in North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, but he and his family are now eager to call Michigan “home.” ”**

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## CEMETERY

Continued from Front Page

Now that the township has approved the plans, cemetery manager Hasan Siddiqui of Tyrone Township must submit an application to the state of Michigan. He expects the application to be accepted, and that burials could start next fall, after approval and development of the land.

Getting approval by the township has been a lengthy process. Siddiqui first applied in November. His preliminary plans were debated hotly at the Planning Commission's November 2017 meeting.

The central concern was the burial practices the cemetery would allow — "green burials," which would not include a coffin at all, but a burial shroud and slab on top of the corpse, and no embalming chemicals would be used, per Sufi Muslim practice.

As all the nearby parcels are on wells, property owners were concerned that these burials could negatively impact their water.

Siddiqui is a Sufi Muslim. "The whole basis of Sufism is to love your neighbor and your community," he said. His family owns the property on which the proposed 10-acre parcel is located. By comparison, Fenton's Oakwood Cemetery is on approximately 40 acres.

During the planning process, residents aired concerns that included potential noise pollution, adverse affects on property values and increased traffic on the roads.

Siddiqui changed the cemetery plans and looked into how ground water is affected by a natural burial, and drafted a document addressing these concerns in March.

In December, Livingston County took soil borings and studied the flow and direction of the water. Siddiqui said that the county cleared his plans as being safe for the ground water. An independent environmental and pathogen study yielded the same results.

"We felt relieved that everything checked out, we felt relieved that our environmental report came back affirmative," said Siddiqui. "It's more important that we did everything in a safe manner."

While the property is owned by a Muslim family, the cemetery will be open to anyone in the community. It is not a faith-based cemetery.

Nearby resident Donita Sanders has been an outspoken critic of the proposed cemetery. Her concerns for her groundwater

draw on 32 years in the field of science, including cancer research at The University of Michigan and the biology department at the University of California San Diego.

She disputes the finding that the cemetery will be completely safe. "I am worried that the aquifer we all use in this corner of Livingston County is going to be contaminated as a result of inadequate advice from so-called 'experts.'"

"We will be the ones affected by their lack of knowledge and the fact that they are not even going to the trouble of

reading the research we found easily within scientific data bases."

She said that as a human body decomposes it releases toxic chemicals such as cadavarine and putrescine.

While the cemetery is planned for approximately 1,500 plots, Siddiqui said there would likely be a couple green burials per year.

**"I am worried that the aquifer we all use in this corner of Livingston County is going to be contaminated as a result of inadequate advice from so-called experts."**

**Donita Sanders**

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**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

■■■  
**I READ THE** article about the Fenton School Board releasing property for sale. But I somehow missed the announcement for the replacement of the shot put and discus area that the Fenton high school track team has been using for the better part of 10 years. Where is the new area?

■■■  
**I'M WONDERING WHY** they're blaming Trump for separating families at the border. The parents are violating the law deliberately, bringing their kids here. They've portrayed Trump as a bad guy when he's just enforcing our borders. We have to have borders if we're going to have a country.

■■■  
**FIFTY OR MORE** years ago, American and European products seemed to last forever. When they wore out, they could be repaired. I'm still using items that old every day. In the last 20 or 40 years, the Japanese and Chinese economies have produced the throwaway disposable society.

■■■  
**THE CLOSER YOU** get the slower I go.

■■■  
**I WONDERED WHAT** the answer is to these adults who bring kids, many times are not even their own kids, being let in this country and getting to stay here. They're breaking the law. We can't keep feeding and taking care of the whole world. We'll go broke.

■■■  
**WHERE ARE THE** toddlers and girls, who were separated from their asylum-seeking parents? Or did you want us to see the older boys? You know, future MS-13 members.

■■■  
**TO THE WOMAN** at Walgreens Monday just after 6 p.m. It was 90 degrees when you left your Goldendoodle in the car with no windows down. Even just five minutes in this heat is too long for a dog.

■■■  
**AFTER PRESIDENT TRUMP** was elected, Johnny Depp, a movie star, said to a group, 'it has been over 100 years since an actor assassinated a president, maybe it should happen again.' I will never watch one of his movies again.

■■■  
**I HAVE NOTICED** there isn't any artwork or flowers located by the play area for Fenton kids. Walk around and you will notice waste cans are needed, as well, by the red sculpture.

■■■  
**IS ANYONE ELSE** leery of the current administration quoting the Bible to justify its deeds?

■■■  
**CITY OF LINDEN,** when are you going to clean the curbs and debris off the sewer inlets? They are totally covered. Where does the rain go?

■■■  
**LINDEN'S FOOTBALL FIELD** is looking awesome.

■■■  
**JUST WANTED TO** say thanks to the person who stole my mom's flags from her front yard on Hickory Street in Linden Monday night.

■■■  
**HOPEFULLY, THE NEW** cyclist law states that they cannot ride side-by-side. If it does, I will cross over the double yellow line, probably on a hill, and get a front impact with another vehicle.

**MICHIGAN VOTES**  
 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

*MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, June 15.*

**Senate Bill 848: Appropriations, "Omnibus" budget**

The "omnibus" non-education state government budget for the fiscal year that begins on Oct. 1, 2018. This authorizes \$39.937 billion in spending, up from \$38.786 billion authorized the year before. Of this amount, \$20.847 billion is federal money, and \$19.091 billion comes from state taxpayers. With the separate education budget (House Bill 5579) added, the legislature authorizes spending \$56.780 billion next year, up from \$53.667 billion this year.

**Passed 33 to 2 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

**Passed 66 to 43 in the House**

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

**House Bill 5579: Appropriations, "Omnibus" education budget**

The state education budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct 1, 2018. This appropriates \$16.843 billion, including \$1.843 billion of federal money. Of this, \$14.765 billion goes to K-12 public schools, up from \$14.580 billion this year. Another \$1.669 billion is for state universities, compared to \$1.629 billion this year. Community colleges get \$408 million, up from \$399 million. The bill increases the basic state "foundation allowance" grants to public schools by \$120 per pupil for higher-spending districts, and \$240 per pupil for districts that get less funding.

**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

**Passed 63 to 46 in the House**

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

**Senate Bill 683: Impose full licensure on acupuncturists**

To convert a registration mandate now imposed on acupuncturists into a more comprehensive licensure regime, including training and apprenticeship requirements, license fees, regulations specified in the bill and additional ones that the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs would be authorized to impose, and more.

**Passed 33 to 3 in the Senate**

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

**Senate Bill 331: Impose licensure on genetic counselors**

To impose licensure, fees, certification through a nationally recognized agency, and more on "genetic counselors" as they are defined in the bill.

**Passed 33 to 3 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

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## our town

# Meet TYLER ROSSMAESSLER

- Husband and father
- Lake Fenton graduate
- Force for economic development

By Tim Jagielo

tjagiolo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Tyler Rossmmaessler, 33, is a Fenton resident and Lake Fenton High School graduate. He went to college at the University of Michigan, and Georgetown University in Washington DC. He's currently the director of Economic Development at the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce. He's married to Emily with three children.

**How do you pronounce your last name?**

Three syllables — Ross-mess-ler. It is German; from what I have been told, it roughly translates to 'horse-knifer.'

**How did you meet your wife?**

We met growing up in church. She was a grade ahead of me, but I had an eye on her. I knew I had to catch up to her before I made my move. I was able to graduate college in three years and caught up.

So the summer after graduation, we had both moved home for a summer and I asked her out. But, I was moving to Washington, DC that fall. Luckily, she stuck it out with me and the distance until we were able to be in the same city a year later.

**What is your current job?**

My title is director of Economic Development at the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce.

Every day my team and I work to bring more jobs and investment to Genesee County. It is more than a job; it's a passion. I have a passion to see our economy grow and thrive.

A growing and thriving economy relies on three interconnected things: business, talent, and place. Successful businesses need talented people. Talented people want to live in a thriving place.

**How are Flint businesses doing, lately, compared to the suburbs?**

I see economies as regional in nature, so the barometer on how companies are doing in Flint is similar to Fenton, Linden, and others. Today, the economy is strong and companies are growing, but they are struggling to find people able to do the work. The most successful economies, on a macro-level, and companies, on a micro-level, are the ones that are able to attract and retain high skilled workers. It doesn't matter if they are in Flint or the suburbs.

**How has your upbringing/education in Lake Fenton influenced your leadership, or family style?**

I was so blessed to grow up in Fenton and go to school at Lake Fenton. The thing I loved most about Lake Fenton was familial feel of the community. Growing up, I felt 'known.' I think everyone, from colleagues at work to kids at home, want and need to be known.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Tyler Rossmmaessler, 33, stands in the second floor of the Mott Foundation Building in downtown Flint. As Director of Economic Development for the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce, he works to grow and strengthen the local economy.

Especially today, we all have our social networks and media presence, but we all still desire to be known.

**What part does faith play in your work and family life?**

It is the lens by which I understand how my life story fits into the larger narrative of the history of the world. Therefore, it shapes the way I treat people, determine priorities, and approach my work.

**What might people be surprised to know about you?**

Before we moved back to Michigan in 2014 from Washington, DC, my last meeting as a management consultant was in the White House Situation Room. It was a surreal way to close that chapter of my life.

**Any hobbies or side projects?**

My number one side project is raising three contributing Americans. Right now, we are working on important things such as feeding yourself, personal hygiene, and walking.

Next lessons will include showing up on time, voting, and paying taxes. You're welcome, America! Other than that, we have a little real estate investment side hustle in Fenton that we love and hope to grow.

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# How to safeguard your digital photos

■ Organize your family pictures so you don't lose life's best memories

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The start of summer kicks off the busiest season of the year for taking family photos.

Whether you're taking vacations, visiting family or picnicking in your own backyard, you'll likely pull out your smart phone's camera to record the memories.

But 99 percent of Americans simply leave all those great pictures on their cameras, and look at them only occasionally. Those images will be lost if some future problem crops up, making your camera inoperable.

Experts agree family photos should be copied and backed up for maximum protection. Ideally, you could make at least three copies of all your pictures, to insure you'll have plenty for your kids and grandkids to enjoy when they grow up.

Search for "Photo Storage" on your web browser to get details on various ways to save your photos.

One way is to store photos on SD cards or USB thumb drives. Some people make DVD or Blu-ray discs of family photos, and others put them on external hard drives. But, external drives should be copied, too – that's the third copy – in case your primary drive quits sharing all your memories.

The growing option is cloud storage,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Photos can be stored in the online cloud, or on physical hard drives like these. A one terabyte hard drive can hold tens of thousands of photos, and costs less than \$60.

where all these images are backed up outside your home for more safety.

You can use a free storing service like Google Photos (iOS, Android), even on an iPhone. Once you download the app, you can save an unlimited number of photos and videos in high quality on Google's own cloud servers and view them from any device.

If you run out or go over the 15GB of free storage, you buy additional cloud storage space, but the 15GB is plenty of

storage for the average person, according to USA Today.

If you're an Apple diehard, you can opt for the iCloud Photo Library. You will have to pay for additional storage after you've used your first 5GB.

A downside to cloud storage is that those photos will be lost when the monthly payments stop, so it is helpful to have more than one person oversee your family collections, according to techradar.com.

Here are the most popular online cloud storage systems:

Dropbox  
Google Drive  
Microsoft Drive  
Flickr  
Adobe Creative Cloud

You can also use a photo album, but not the kind your grandma had.

A digital Aura Frame can display all your family photos, creating photo collections of the people you take pictures of most often.

You can go all-out with Samsung's The Frame TV, which instantly changes from an ultra-sharp 4K TV to a gorgeous art frame, as soon as you turn it off.

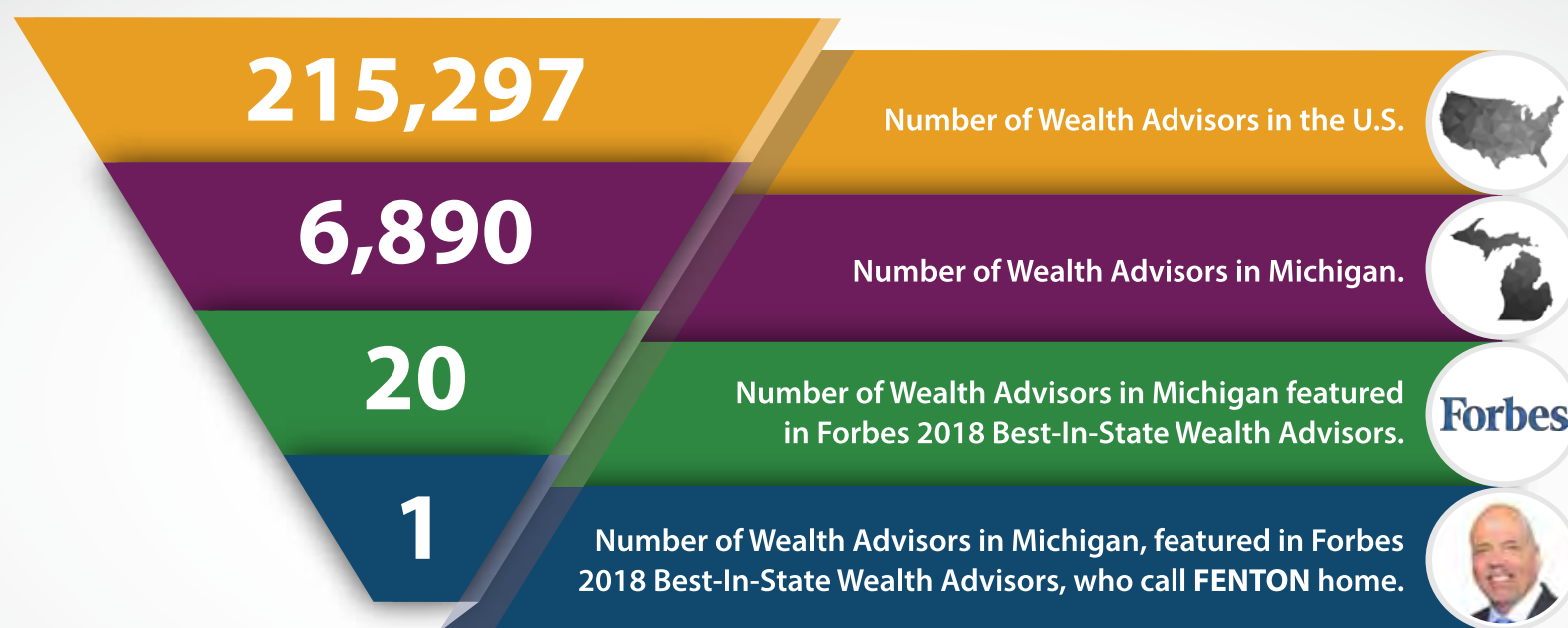
Boombox Gifts is another memory keeper, allowing you to upload up to 150 photos and messages to a private web page. Then, experts customize, design and print those memories out on 5x7 cards that go into a keepsake box. There's a DIY option that is more affordable, too.

You can also do things the old-fashioned way, by printing out your favorite four or five photos each month, and keep a running "Our Family's Story" scrapbook, like your mom used to do.

However you keep your photo memories, the most important thing is that you just do it, or your memories might be lost forever.

SOURCES: USA Today; The Guardian

## Hey Fenton, did you know...?



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## SUMMARY

■ This allergy season is worse because winter was prolonged.



## It's not your imagination...allergy season is getting worse each year

■ Tree pollen, grass, weed and rain all heighten allergies

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Allergy season is in full force, with pollen amounts worse than past years. With a rise in temperatures, trees produce more pollen than usual, making allergies worse, according to CBS News.

Dr. Rao Botta, M.D. at the Asthma, Allergy & Immunology Center in Flint, said allergy season is worse this year because we had a longer winter.

"The pollen season was delayed. It overlapped with the grass releasing pollen in May," he said, adding that the combination of ragweed pollen from trees and the pollen from grass is making for a worse allergy season. "We will have ragweed until we have a good frost. It usually comes in the first week of October but it was delayed a few weeks the last few years. The seasons are more prolonged with global warming."

Rain makes grass allergies worse, and also causes more mold. Botta said mold allergies are common, and if it rains frequently, "The mold will make life miserable."

People with mold allergies are more likely to develop asthma because the particles travel to the lungs, while particles from grass and pollen get stuck in the nose.

Many experts are saying that the higher concentrations of pollen in the air and longer allergy seasons are linked to a rise in average temperatures and more carbon dioxide.

At the March meeting of the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI), Dr. Jeffrey Demain, a board-certified allergist and immunologist, said allergy seasons are currently 27 days longer than they were seven to 10 years ago.

"When you look at a pollen grain, there are certain proteins that cause the allergy, they are the allergenic peptides. It's been shown that in rising carbon dioxide, the allergenic peptide of each pollen grain goes up," he said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 20 million adults and 6.1 million children have been diagnosed with seasonal allergies, which is

also called allergic rhinitis and hay fever. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) estimates that more than 50 million Americans have various types of allergies.

Signs someone has seasonal allergies include sneezing, coughing, congestion and red, irritated eyes.

### Why do allergies occur?

A person develops an allergy when their immune system thinks a harmless substance is attacking the body. That substance, which could be pollen, nuts, strawberries and more, becomes an allergen, according to John Hopkins Medicine. The body creates an immune response against the allergen and releases histamine.

This can cause sneezing, a running nose and watery eyes. In more serious cases, which of-

ten happens with nut allergies, the person may go into anaphylactic shock. When this occurs, the person's blood pressure drops fast and airways narrow, making breathing difficult. It can be deadly if it isn't treated immediately, according to healthline.com.

Source: USNEWS.COM

### More allergy facts from the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

• **Allergies** are the sixth leading cause of chronic illness in the U.S.

• **Allergies** are the most common health issue affecting children in the U.S. In 2015, 8.2 percent of adults and 8.4 percent of children were diagnosed with hay fever.

• **People visit** the emergency room about 200,000 times each year because of food allergies.

• **The most** common triggers for anaphylaxis, a life-threatening reaction, are medicines, food and insect stings. Medicines cause the most allergy related deaths.

• **African-Americans** and the elderly have the deadliest reactions to medicines, food or unknown allergens.

• **The annual** cost of allergies exceeds \$18 billion.

• **Food allergies** cost about \$25 billion each year.

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**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

**YOUR LESS THAN** intelligent comments indicate you're oblivious to the complexities of QE, especially what brought it about. For your enlightenment, 'Stress Test' by Timothy Geithner would be a good start, all 610 pages. Until then, carry on with your purely fanatical diatribe.

**WELL, ROSE TOWNSHIP** officials are making themselves fat and happy with obscene wage increases claiming that they make less than officials in neighboring townships (which isn't true). You officiate over a township with a gas station and a seasonal orchard as the only business.

**FIRE HELLER AND** kill the messenger. Now we've shown we're not smarter than a fifth-grader.

**WHEN MY MATERNAL** great grandparents immigrated to the United States, my great grandfather had to have already secured a viable job, a place to live and enough money to pay for passage for his five children and wife. Good laws and great results. We're all blessed to be here.

**I HAVE TO** give kudos to the individual(s) that post here weekly reciting the freshly printed Hannity/Levin talking points to perfection. Your ability to think freely and independently for yourself is admirable.

**LET ME GET** this straight, if an American citizen breaks the law, their children can be taken, but if someone enters the United States illegally, their children are not taken. Something is not right.

**THANK YOU TO** the Linden Planning Commission that is trying to clean up Linden.

**JUST A REMINDER** to Fenton Township residents. When there is a power outage and you get your generator running to flush your toilets, remember that if a lot of others are doing the same thing, and the township cannot keep its portable sewer generators running quickly enough.

**EBT DOES HAVE** a cash back option on selected people's cards. It is supposed to be used for paying bills or other necessities.

**TO THE PERSON** in the Wednesday paper talking about how we are a nation of immigrants. You are correct; the only difference is that we came over here legally, not illegally. That is the point you are missing.

**HOW MANY PEOPLE** do you want to flood into our country so we can take care of them? Just walk in collect welfare and whatever else is free to them. How will we supply jobs, not only to the Americans already here, but the thousands of illegals also. Think about that and let me know. The cost currently is over \$35,000 each per year to have them here.

**YOU FOLKS FUMING** over Linden City possibly banning car tents in the front yard complain that the tents are protecting valuable cars. If they are so valuable, build a garage in the back yard to protect them.

**THESE PEOPLE ARE** bringing their children thinking that we'll take care of them and take them in. They're bringing their children because they're fleeing for their lives and they don't want to leave their children behind to get raped and pillaged. They're trying to start a new life.

**It's official — There's a housing shortage in Michigan**

Many local governments in Michigan feel they have a shortage of housing in their counties and cities, according to a survey from University of Michigan researchers.

About 40 percent of local officials say they have too little single family housing and nearly half say their county has too little multifamily housing.

"The survey shows that there is a shortage of housing, whether it is entry-level, mid-level or high-end," said Tom Ivacko, associate director of the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) at U-M's Ford School of Public Policy.

Some analysts note that rising mortgage rates and competition over low inventory are driving up prices for home-buyers in every sector, particularly for first-time or entry-level buyers, Ivacko said.

To deal with the shortage, some local jurisdictions say they are changing policies to boost housing constructions.

"About 30 percent of jurisdictions in southeast Michigan say they are changing policies to try to boost housing construction, compared to the statewide average of 18 percent of jurisdictions doing this," said Debra Horner, project manager at CLOSUP.

The data come from the Michigan Public Policy Survey, an ongoing poll of Michigan's 1,856 local governments conducted by CLOSUP. The fall 2017 survey received a 76-percent response rate with results from 1,411 jurisdictions.

Among the survey's key findings:

By jurisdiction type, local officials from counties (41 percent) and cities (40 percent) are the most likely to say they have too little single-family housing.

Nearly half (46 percent) of county officials say their county has too little multifamily housing, and 41 percent of city officials also mentioned the lack of housing.

Over half (52 percent) of local leaders from all jurisdictions reported that housing stock is out of date and 53 percent report that they have housing stock that suffers from blight.

When looking by jurisdiction type, half of county leaders say there is too little entry-level housing in their counties; 53 percent of city leaders say there is too little mid-range housing in their cities.

Relatively few local leaders (17 percent) believe their jurisdictions' policies are part of the problem with housing shortages.

There is sizeable support among local leaders for a range of potential actions the state government could take to help improve housing supplies across the state. Though no single policy of the eight presented garners majority support, there is also very little opposition among local leaders to these possible state interventions.

The researchers say that addressing housing shortages can help not only potential owners and renters, but also increase local government revenues from property taxes, create new jobs in the residential construction workforce and decrease blight.



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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 20, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

### Silver Lake Road study to be released soon

Traffic on Silver Lake Road, between Silver Parkway and Fenway Drive, is congested, potentially dangerous, due to two U.S. 23 exits.

### Clerks looking to hire election inspectors

Fenton Township is looking for election inspectors and encourages even 16- and 17-year-olds to apply. They could earn \$150 per election.

### Officials expected to give themselves 12-percent pay raise

During a special meeting on Wednesday, June 20, starting at 6 p.m., Rose Township officials are expected to give themselves a pay raise as part of the 2019 budget approval.

### You may know this Uber driver

Well-known Lake Fenton coach and tutor has logged almost 2,000 miles behind the wheel.



### Experience the arts in Fenton this summer

'Arts Are the Heart' and 'Fenton Artwalk' are coming in July.

### A look back at 1968

"True Grit," the novel is published in 1968. It was first published as a 22-week serial in "The Saturday Evening Post."

### 911 Fire Reports

A listing of tri-county area fire alerts from Tuesday, June 12 through Monday, June 19. These reports can only be seen in the Times Midweek edition.

## WALT'S CRAWLERS

Continued from Page 5A

Doug Smith, owner of Smitty's Exit 80 in Fenton, uses Huron Live Bait of Imlay City. "I need minnows for my customers, so that's where I get all my bait," Smith said.

Fenton Party Shop uses Walt's Crawlers for its many live bait customers.

Wherever you buy them from, worms are a sticky, squirmy business, and it's also rather secretive. "We've been asked so many times for interviews, TV shows, tours, etc.," Becky said. "But we don't do them because we're already well-known for our bait. This is truly who we are."

## Did you know?

- **Night Crawlers** (*Lumbricus Terrestris*) can live up to 20 years, providing they don't take their place alongside others of their kind that make up nearly 90 percent of the worms-for-bait market.
- **They grow about** 1 inch per year, taking about six to seven years to reach the length we normally buy for bait.
- **A 1/13-ounce** night crawler (about 300 to the pound) can move a 2-ounce stone; that's the equivalent of your 200-pound workout buddy at the gym, benching about 2½ tons.
- **They will burrow** 8-12 feet deep in permanent burrows, where they lay their eggs.
- **A mature breeder** (2 years old) produces an egg sac about every week to 10 days, containing from two to 20 mini-crawlers that hatch in about three weeks. It's thought that 200 mature breeding night crawlers can produce nearly a billion offspring every three years.
- **The pointy end** is the head, and the flat end is the tail.
- **Night crawlers have** about 150 segments, five hearts, three principal blood vessels, and are 80 percent water.
- **Though they have** no eyes, or sense of smell, they are sensitive to taste, light, and vibrations.
- **All attempts to** remove them from their permanent burrows and intensively cultivate them have failed.
- **Experts say worms** do not feel pain because they do not have the ability to process emotional information.

SOURCE: Times article archives

View stories at  
tctimes.com



feature five retail spaces. The second floor will be offices, and the third and fourth floors will feature condominiums.

It is unknown what changes, if any, there will be once the site plans are completed.

Saab previously assured city administrators that they will do everything to limit the impact construction has on nearby 100-year-old buildings and that of the church, which is also historic.

Although Corlin Builders, Inc. have yet to submit site plans and go before the Planning Commission, according to Mike Reilly, building and zoning administrator. Saab said, "Optimistically, we would like to break ground yet this summer or in the fall."

Realistically, it will likely take place when a few tenant commitments are made, Saab said.

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## CORNERSTONE II

Continued from Front Page

Once they do break ground, the building will be located at 111 S. LeRoy St., between the existing Cornerstone building and the Fenton United Methodist Church.

In November 2016, it was reported that the \$6.8-million project will feature four stories for a total of 40,400 square feet. Floors one through three will feature 10,780 square feet of space and the fourth floor 9,460 square feet.

Two terraces proposed at each end of the building on the fourth floor make up the remaining square footage. The total overall square footage is 41,800.

Like the first Cornerstone building, at Silver Lake Road and South LeRoy Street, the first floor of the second building will



**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

**THE NEXT TIME** that you look at a picture of President Trump making a public address, look closely at the face of Mike Pence standing behind him. It makes me think of the lyrics and the song title of Puppy Love. What an adoring look that Mikey has looking at our president. It's like 'someday, Donald, I want to be like you.' Let's hope that day never comes. Have a good day.

**TO THE HARDCORE** anti-immigrant writers and callers. They will often speak about a few who 'break the law, you're separated from your family.' Well the fact is crossing the border illegally is a misdemeanor. And if you were jaywalking and got a ticket for a misdemeanor, you would not have your family taken away.

**YES, KIND OF** wondered what happened to the Hot line. I guess you don't have it no more. Thank you. Bye.

**WE SEPARATE FAMILIES** of legal citizens all the time, sometimes for life, when they are apprehended for the crimes they commit. Why should an illegal alien, a criminal, be treated any differently. Please enlighten me with your illogical logic.

**WE CANNOT AFFORD** healthcare. How can I possibly support these families that are coming in to our country? I want my government to help us, not them. It's just not fair. We have to take care of our own. You people are ruining this country with this division. It's just wrong. Respect our president and the flag, please.



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | HANNAH BALL

Waverly Ritchie, 15, Maris Ferguson, 16, and Lindsey Gibb, 15, collect bags full of feminine hygiene supplies for Faith in Femininity, a group Ritchie and Gibb started.

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**Two local teens have Faith in Femininity**

■ They packed 202 bags of feminine hygiene products for women in need

**By Hannah Ball**  
hball@tctimes.com;  
Faith in Femininity, an organization started by two 15-year-old girls, hopes to supply women in need with feminine hygiene products.

About a year ago, Lindsey Gibb and Waverly Ritchie, two Lake Fenton students, started Faith in Femininity because they saw a significant number of women couldn't afford pads, tampons, and panty liners.

"A lot of people forget to donate feminine products. It's usually stuff like toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo. We found out it was a big necessity," Ritchie said.

On Wednesday, June 13, with around 6,000 to 7,000 products, they met at Fenton First Presbyterian Church and packed 202 bags full of feminine hygiene products for women in need. Approximately a dozen other people, including men, helped for their third

packing event. "Each of our little packages has enough products for one monthly cycle for a woman," Gibb said. "We also put a little Bible verse in there and warnings about toxic shock syndrome."

Visions in Motions Dance Studio and St. Jude's Episcopal Church held drives to collect these products. Gibb and Ritchie received \$850 from the Lake Fenton Middle School National Junior Honor Society and \$500 from an anonymous donor.

They've donated to a few places and they're talking with the Women's American Legion Auxiliary to provide a donation. This round of bags is going to the Center of Hope in Fenton.

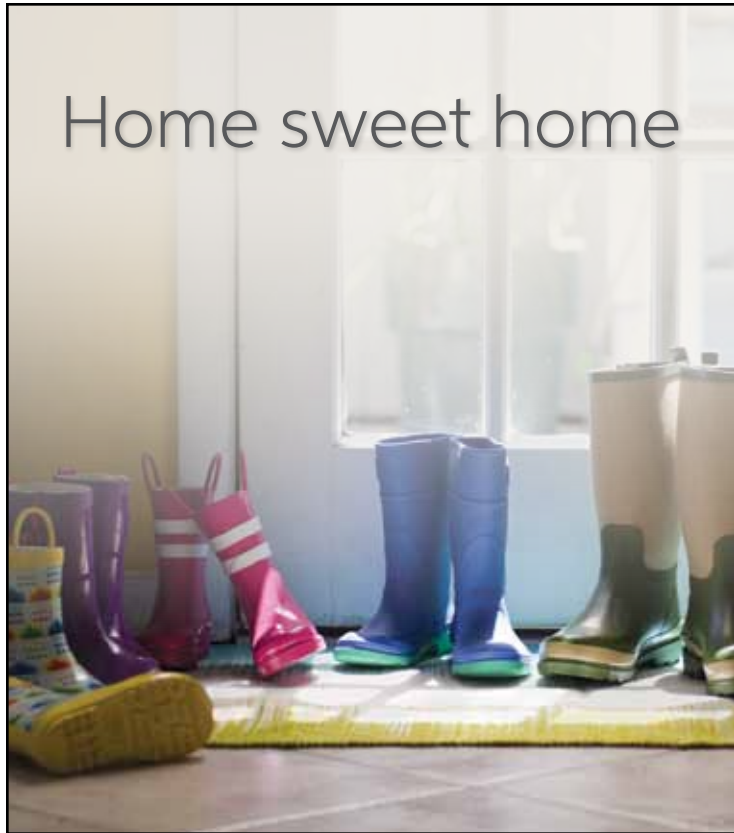
Ritchie said, "Jennifer, who is the owner of it (Center of Hope), said that a lot of women are crying for these products. We're also reaching out to the women's shelter in Flint."

Gibb said if women cannot afford these products, they'll use things like diapers, newspapers, socks or other unsanitary items.

They also want to end what they perceive to be a stigma regarding menstruation. "We're hoping that a really big part in Faith in Femininity can be to end the stigma around menstruation because so many people are afraid of talking about it," Gibb said.

**“Each of our little packages is enough products for one monthly cycle for a woman.”**

**Lindsey Gibb**  
Lake Fenton student



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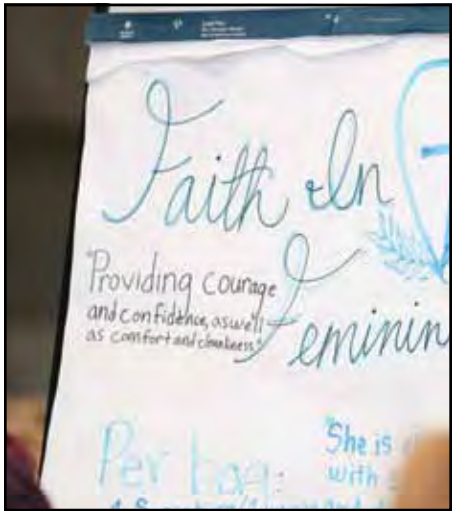
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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | HANNAH BALL

Faith in Femininity packs bags full of tampons, pads, and panty liners and disseminates them to other local charities that give them to women in need.



HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■  
**FOR GOD'S SAKE**, quit giving any cred-  
ibility to the moronic logic of the illogical,  
mentally challenged leftists. They don't  
give a (blank) about the immigrants or  
their kids, they simply hate Trump. If  
he had let them stay, they would have  
protested that. They are only interested in  
hating Trump.

■ ■ ■  
**KUDOS ON YOUR** front page story  
regards the Silver Lake Road disaster.  
Hopefully it will hasten a solution to what  
many of us feel is a tragedy waiting to  
happen.

■ ■ ■  
**TALK OF PEOPLE** not getting their  
facts straight. It took all of 30 seconds to  
Google Barack Obama's approval rating.  
The highest he ever hit was 59 percent  
not 69 percent.

■ ■ ■  
**EVERYONE SAYS SHOP** local local local  
but with Governor Snyder and the Repub-  
licans making the businesses in Michigan  
rich with seniors pension money, it's time  
we all buy everything online now from far  
away companies.

■ ■ ■  
**IMMIGRATION HAS BEEN** a very tough  
issue for the past few decades. We are  
supposed to be a democracy, not a dicta-  
torship. Our elected officials need to step  
up and come to some kind of an agree-  
ment. That's what democracies do.

■ ■ ■  
**MINUS THE COMPLICITY** of the liberal  
media there would be no protests. We  
are a country. Countries, by definition,  
have specific borders. We are not doing  
anything every other country in the world  
does. Quit watching NBC and CNN, they  
are propaganda broadcasters, not news  
broadcasters.

GM PLANT

Continued from Front Page

While the plant comes with no addi-  
tional jobs at this time, Lisa Veneziano,  
executive director of GM's global after  
sales supply chain, warehousing and  
logistics, said their goal is to grow the  
business. Doing so will likely mean more  
jobs in the future.

The 141-acre parcel was purchased for  
\$268,000 by NorthPoint Development,  
based in Kansas City, according to Burton  
Planning Commission meeting minutes.  
The building would be 1.1 million square  
feet.

The site plan was unanimously ap-  
proved in April by the Burton Planning  
Commission.

The owner of the project was kept secret  
for a while due to a nondisclosure agree-  
ment between the city and the company.

Burton Mayor Paula Zelenko announced  
in April that the company was on the  
Fortune 500 list.

During the April meeting, Brent Miles,  
vice president of economic development  
at NorthPoint Development, said the plant  
would be a two shift operation running  
Monday through Friday with the last shift  
ending between 10-11 p.m. Hundreds of  
parking spaces will be added at the plant,  
along with more than 80 loading docks.  
Construction includes improvements on  
Genesee and Davison roads.

General Motors signed a 12.5-year  
lease agreement with NorthPoint Devel-  
opment.

The automotive giant was approved for  
an industrial facilities exemption certi-  
ficate, which would allow for a 50-percent  
tax abatement at a new or replacement  
facility for no more than 12 years.

GERRYMANDERING

Continued from Front Page

The Michigan Board of Canvassers  
voted 3-0 to place the redistricting proposal  
on the ballot, after they were compelled  
by the Michigan Court of Appeals to do  
so on June 7.

The non-partisan group, Voters Not  
Politicians, gathered 425,000 signatures  
to end the practice of "gerrymandering,"  
which is the political manipulation of leg-  
islative and congres-  
sional district maps.

This manipulation  
can lead to oddly shaped  
districts, such as that of  
a lizard or salamander,  
as a Boston Gazette  
newspaper illustrator  
observed with the first  
"gerry-mandered" dis-  
trict in Massachusetts.  
The word is combina-  
tion of Eldridge Gerry,  
the Massachusetts gov-  
ernor in 1812 who signed off on the process,  
and "salamander."

Currently, Michigan district lines are  
drawn by the political party in power.

They can draw lines in their own favor,  
creating irregularly shaped districts,  
such as the 14<sup>th</sup> congressional district in  
Michigan.

If passed, the new law would create  
an independent panel to draw political  
district lines.

Michigan would join other states such  
as California, Arizona, Iowa, Montana,  
Washington, Idaho and Alaska, which  
have independent commissions to choose  
their districts.

Katie Fahey is  
founder and execu-  
tive director of Vot-  
ers Not Politicians.  
"Voters know our  
state has some serious  
problems," she said in  
a news release. "Our  
roads are crumbling,  
our education system  
needs reform and in  
many communities,  
water isn't safe to

drink. This proposal is an important first  
step toward fixing our state so we can  
elect officials who are accountable to  
solve problems."

“This proposal is  
an important first  
step toward fixing  
our state so we can  
elect officials who are  
accountable to solve  
problems.”

Katie Fahey  
Voters Not Politicians  
executive director

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Linden park gets  
new bathroom

■ Project not to exceed  
\$147,000, state will pay \$50,000

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Construction will start soon on a  
bathroom at Eagles Wooden Park in  
downtown Linden.

The project, not to exceed the cost of  
\$147,000, was unanimously approved  
at the May 14 Linden City Council  
meeting. City Manager Paul Zelenak  
said Oak Construction is expected to  
start building sometime this week.

Plans include two bathrooms and a  
drinking fountain.

The original plans included a metal  
roof, but they were able to cut down on  
the cost with a shingle roof. However,  
during the May 14 meeting, a few  
council members asked if a metal roof  
would be more durable.

Councilor Brad Dick said, "I'd like  
to see the metal roof on the building.  
It's a \$3,000 additional cost but it stops  
us from having to repair and replace  
roofs."

Other councilors agreed with Dick.  
Zelenak said it costs less than  
\$5,000 to hook into the sewer with  
the Department of Public Works do-  
ing the work.

The project is partially paid for  
by the state of Michigan and the rest  
will come out of Linden's general  
fund. The state of Michigan will pay  
\$50,000.

MICHIGAN  
VOTES  
LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan web-  
site 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 15.

Senate Bill 110: Authorize more local  
developer subsidies

To authorize local subsidies and other  
incentives for developers to build  
housing projects that provide low or  
moderate cost rental units.

Passed 32 to 4 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 941: Authorize debt and  
spending on job training programs

To spend \$100 million on government  
job and career training programs,  
scholarships, program grants and more,  
labeled as a "Marshall plan for talent."  
Senate Bill 942 would authorize paying  
for this with money borrowed against  
revenues from a 1998 state tobacco  
lawsuit settlement.

Passed 105 to 4 in the House  
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Dist. 51) ☒ YES  
Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) ☒ YES

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PHOTO CREDIT: MATT VARCAK/OSCODA COUNTY HERALD

Fairview Area School kids anxiously wait to enter Cedar Valley's Wild Frontier Fun Park.

## FUN PARK

Continued from Page 3A

the Cedar Valley Golf Club (3757 N. Weaver Rd.) are "off the beaten track," a bit away from highway traffic and the summertime "Up North" hot spots.

A 1992 graduate of Linden High School, Becky says the park's first full year in operation was in 2015. The park is owned by her family members, John and Carole Kulhavi.

Becky and Mike run the fun park as well as Cedar Valley Golf Club across the road.

Once visitors pass through the gates of Cedar Valley's Wild Frontier Park, they are entering a whole new world of entertainment. There are more than a dozen rides for both small children, and older children and adults. They have a few more on the way, including a water flume coming from Australia. Those rides won't be available for use right away, however, until proper inspections take place.

"Most of our rides are vintage rides," Becky said. "We have a Harold Walker carousel from 1951."

There is also a Tilt-a-whirl, a roller coaster and the Octopus, she said. All of the rides are completely restored. According to a video interview with Kulhavi, the park employs a gentleman whose job it is to find the vintage rides from around the world, and make sure they are completely restored and

mechanically sound.

In addition to a 19-hole putt putt golf course, there are batting cages, and a gallery where carnival midway-style games can be enjoyed. A food concession is on site, serving up burgers, hotdogs, fries, ice cream, funnel cakes and, of course, cotton candy.

"We are always trying to think of new menu options," Becky said. Visitors also are welcome to pack their own picnic and bring into the park.

"There are no entry fees," Becky said. "Everything is on a pay-to-play basis." The smaller kiddie rides cost one ticket, while the bigger ones will take two tickets. Each of the rides runs for about 4 minutes, she said. An all-day ride bracelet can be purchased for \$35, and that's half price after 6 p.m.

Comins is about 150 miles from Fenton, an approximate 2-1/2 hour drive. The park is open on Friday and Saturday, from 12 to 10 p.m., and Sunday, from 12 to 7 p.m. The season is from Memorial Day until the weather gets bad. "We try to stay open until October, but sometimes it gets too cold and wet," Becky said. For more information, call (989) 848-2799.

### The road to Comins

Becky moved from Linden to Idaho in 1998. "That 's where I met my husband," she said. When the couple decided to get married, she brought Mike back to Michigan. After four years in Michigan, they moved to Texas.

"We came back in 2013 to do the golf course," she said. "Then the following year we got the idea to put in the fun park."

Becky and Mike have three children, a 12-year-old daughter and two sons, who are 9 years and 2-1/2 years.



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# State offers amusement park safety tips

## ■ Keep it safe on carnival and amusement rides

The more than 40 million people who will travel in Michigan to enjoy carnival and amusement rides this summer season are urged to make safety a top priority, especially with the kids, according to LARA, the state of Michigan's Licensing and Regulatory Affairs bureau.

"Carnival rides in Michigan are held to the highest safety standards to keep riders safe," said LARA Director Shelly Edgerton. "We ask all ride patrons to do their part by following ride rules and restrictions and using all the safety equip-

ment provided."

LARA works to make Michigan a leader in ride safety, inspection, and registration of amusement rides to ensure compliance with Michigan's rules and regulations that protect citizens of all ages while riding.

Most amusement ride injuries are suffered by children under age 13, according to national data compiled by the Saferparks organization. Kids between the ages of 7 and 12 account for nearly a third of all ride accidents. The speeds, heights, rapid changes in direction, and special effects can overwhelm and panic a child.

Edgerton emphasized that all amusement rides, including "kid-die rides," are powerful machines. Although most full-sized rides are designed for adults and teens, there has been an increasing emphasis on the safety and retention of children on adult rides. Many Ferris wheels have had seat belts added to them to help keep kids in their seats. Catastrophic accidents are often the result of rider

PHOTO: JOSH HALLET



inexperience, immaturity, and horse-play on such large machines.

"Choose cautiously what rides you and your family can enjoy safely," Edgerton said. "Use good judgment when deciding if your child can safely ride alone. Watch the ride with your kids before boarding, or ride along with them."

## Here are a few safety tips on what you and the kids need to know before you go:

- **Know the rules** of the ride; listen to verbal or recorded instructions.
  - **Observe all** age, height, and weight restrictions. Know the safest riding position for the kids.
  - **Never seat** a child on your lap, unless ride operators indicate it's safe to do so.
  - **Securely latch** seat belts, shoulder harness, and lap bars before the ride begins. Hold on to handrails; use grab bars.
  - **Keep hands, arms, legs, and feet** inside the ride at all times. Do not ride with hands in the air. Secure loose hair, clothing, and belongings. Never stand up on a ride.
  - **Stay seated** until the ride comes to a complete stop and you are instructed to exit.
  - **Patrons with heart conditions, pregnancy, or back/neck injuries** should heed any warning signs posted.
  - **Report any unsafe behavior or conditions** on a ride to a ride supervisor or manager immediately.
  - **Report injuries** to a ride supervisor. They will assist the injured and report the injury to LARA.
- If Michigan consumers have questions regarding a ride's license or inspection, they can call (517) 241-9273.

## PARKS

Continued from Page 3A

### DUTCH VILLAGE

12350 James St., Holland;  
Phone (616) 396-1475

Park is themed to 19th-century Netherlands' village life. Currently there are 30 structures in the Dutch Village, with architecture representing different provinces in the Netherlands. Costumed klompen dancers, street organ music, a carousel, carillon bells, heirloom quality gifts, souvenirs, and many other Dutch treats await guests. Attractions include a 1924 carousel and a swing ride.

### FUNLAND AMUSEMENT PARK

Houghton Lake

Apparently, this is a small park. It's so small, it doesn't have a website. Attractions include a kiddie steel roller coaster. The park's phone number is (989) 422-5204. Call for more information.

### JEEPERS

14600 Lakeside Circle, inside the Lakeside Mall, Sterling Heights  
Phone (586) 247-1400

Located at the Lakeside Mall, this indoor family entertainment center has a few kiddie rides including a small roller coaster. There is also an arcade and a café with fast food. Located in over 20,000 square feet of space at Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights, Jeepers is a one-of-a-kind family destination featuring rides, arcade games, food, and fun.

### KOKOMO'S FAMILY FUN CENTER

5200 Kokomo Dr., Saginaw  
Phone (989) 797-5656

The indoor and outdoor family entertainment center includes go-karts, laser tag, batting cages, an arcade, and a 45-foot tall steel roller coaster.

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# After eight years, FirstTry/FastTry Triathlon creating its own fan base

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Eight years ago, several local sponsors, led by event coordinator Dan Skinner, had an idea.

The idea was to host the tri-county area's first-ever triathlon. But instead of focusing on veterans, the thought process was luring athletes into the sport.

With those thoughts in mind, the idea of the FirstTry Triathlon sprouted

with nearly 200 competitors giving the shortened triathlon course a whirl.

Eight years later, the event is as popular as ever. Saturday's eighth-annual FirstTry/FastTry Triathlon held at Clover Beach and Linden County park included about 200 competitors braving three events — a 300-yard swim, an 11.4-mile bike ride and a two-mile run. The race hasn't changed much since its first year (minus a change in the bike course due to construction this year), and it seems

to remain a hit with the area competitors.

"This is our eighth year and we have almost 200 athletes, so we are pretty excited with the fact that we have that number," current race director Jeff Haggerty said. "Approximately half are first-timers and many others this is the only (triathlon) event they do every year. It's pretty remarkable."

Since Skinner, the race has gone through its share of race directors

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FirstTry/FastTry triathletes compete in Saturday's event.

## Sports Times

# Linden's new turf field exciting players, staff

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Linden** — On Monday, the Linden Spread Football Camp began, but initially it wasn't the camp that had the over 100 players' attentions.

It was what was happening just to their immediate side at Linden High School's football field, Claude Cranston Field.

Construction of Linden's new turf field isn't complete, but anyone looking at the field on Monday was getting a nice preview of what the field may look like.

When one turns the corner and sees the field for the first time, the red outline that extends around the football field is the first thing that hits the eye. Then come the black end zones with the word "Linden" in one end zone and the word "Eagles" printed in the other. They are in bold red and outlined in white. Finally, the field in between the goal lines is colored green, with two shades of green. In between the 45-yard lines, the field of play is dark green. Then after each alternating five yards toward each end zone, the shade of green alternates from a light shade of green back to the dark green.

The turf isn't completed yet. Many details still need to be added. One of the major ones is the Eagles' logo at midfield. The scoreboards are still being replaced as well, and the track still has to be resurfaced. But, for the most part, the kids looking at the field on Monday had a good sense of the field they'll be playing on this fall.

"It's really exciting," senior lineman



Garrett Durkac said. "It's our senior year and we finally get to play on a pretty neat field. It's awesome."

"I've been here prior to today, but it looks amazing," fellow lineman Tyler

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

DAVID TROPPENS

Linden High School's Claude Cranston Field (top) has a good portion of its new turf field laid out. (Top left) The new scoreboard wasn't

completed Monday afternoon, but it looks like its construction was well under way during the afternoon. (Bottom left) Astro

Turf workers (from left) Guillermo Wallace, Juan Machigua and Miguel Martinez work on sealing the word "Linden" in one of the two end zones on Monday.

Hart said. "The red definitely pops out more than the rest (of the field)."

"The kids are excited," Linden co-varsity football coach Nick Douglass

See TURF on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Cade Dickson tackles a ball carrier. Dickson will play college football at the University of Indianapolis.

# Linden sending 17 students to college athletic programs

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Linden** — About three weeks ago, Linden High School honored 17 student-athletes preparing to start their college careers as athletes.

But before the senior student-athletes signed their commitments to their college schools in their sport of choice, Linden High School athletic director Greg Durkac gave them one more life lesson at the May 23 signing event with one question.

His question prior to them signing their papers was, "Who brought a pen?"

Two of the 17 athletes — football player Zack Brown and competitive cheer performer Alex Premo — passed that fun final test as the others scrambled to audience members for pens to sign their papers.

See LINDEN on 19A

# Eagles getting in some early summer work at Linden Spread Camp

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Linden** — It probably didn't feel like football weather to the 103 athletes on Linden High School's football practice fields on Monday.

With temperatures in the 90s and a heat index flirting with triple-digits, getting work done on Monday during Linden's annual Eagles Football Spread Camp was challenging, but the group seemed to make do reasonably well.

"The heat is one of those things we have to deal with," Linden co-varsity football coach Nick Doug-

lass said. "The heat index was close to 100 if not 100 this morning. But we always let the kids know as long as a coach isn't talking, you can get water whenever you want. ... If kids are struggling a bit, they let us know they need water and our trainer takes care of them."

Despite the heat, the camp runs efficiently well. Quarterbacks from a variety of levels take snaps, tossing balls to receivers, and do so at a consistent pace. Meanwhile, the linemen work in another area, refining their skills as well. So while one thinks about passing at a spread

camp, the linemen are busy as well.

"We have a fast offense," Tyler Hart said. "We are working on our pass sets and getting ready working with screens and stuff. You see and feel what you are looking for what you are getting out of the blocks."

"This is a technique day," lineman Garrett Durkac said. "We are back to our fundamentals and learning the new offense we are putting into place. ... Everyone is tired so we have to put our best effort forward. We have to work even though it's hot out."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden hosted its annual Linden Eagles Football Spread Camp on Monday and Tuesday. Above, linemen do a drill.



# Wednesday Night CROSS COUNTRY RACES

Here are the results for the first week the Wednesday Night Races held at Linden County Park. The final three events are June 27, July 11 and July 18.



**800 METER RACE**

**BOYS (AGE)**

Bowen Lay (5)	5:09.14
Marshall Smelis (4)	5:14.85

**GIRLS (AGE)**

Anna-Kate Larsen (5)	5:30.63
Molly Katic (11)	8:18.64
Lucy Sawyer (2)	8:37.78
Kaylee Briggs (7)	9:11.68
Kendall Briggs (2)	9:37.83

**ONE MILE RACE**

**BOYS (AGE)**

Nathan Katic (13)	6:39.75
Abram Larsen (8)	8:41.99
Darin Meckstroth (12)	9:02.48
Parker Smelis (8)	13:49.56
Jack Skene (9)	15:46.98

**GIRLS (AGE)**

Kaitlyn Bowles (9)	8:38.58
Melody Steckroth (9)	8:41.70
Kelly Miller (12)	10:02.52
Jillian Bowles (9)	10:16.99
Alexis Alvarado (11)	15:41.58
Ella Skene (6)	15:47.65

**WOMEN (15 & OLDER)**

Beth Skene	15:48.50
Kathryn Alvarado	18:24.89

**TWO MILE RACE**

**GIRLS (AGE)**

Kendra Kuch (10)	17:09.93
------------------	----------

**BOYS (AGE)**

Nathan Katic (13)	14:50.07
Jacob Orzol (7)	18:02.37

**MEN (15 & OLDER)**

Charlie B. Dobson	15:39.09
David Troppens	20:28.39

**THREE MILE RACE**

**GIRLS (AGE)**

Nicole Palmer (14)	23:38.66
Katelyn Palmer (14)	25:04.77

**BOYS (AGE)**

River Meckstroth (14)	20:13.52
Matthew Woodworth (14)	24:09.50
Matthew Withuhn (10)	26:50.52
Spencer Dicks (11)	23:31.10

**WOMEN (15 & OLDER)**

Grace Thomas	26:43.18
Jody Dicks	29:38.38
Anna Troppens	29:51.86

**MALES (15 & OLDER)**

Eric Larsen	19:20.71
Brian Brunell	23:57.71
Tony Micallef	25:05.13
Gary Mundy	29:27.78

**LINDEN**  
Continued from Page 20A

The 17 athletes will be tested more than that next fall when they head to different campuses to pursue academic and athletic careers. The 17 athletes will be headed to 11 different schools to compete in nine different sports. Those are pretty impressive numbers for a graduation class of approximately 265 students.

"I'm pretty proud of it, actually," said Brown who will be playing football at Lawrence Tech. "We have the biggest class but we most definitely have the biggest support group of athletes and skilled players. Our class is really determined and self-motivated. We are always champions and always there to compete."

"It just means that on all skill levels and for all sports Linden is a great school to go to," said Hunter Babcock, who is headed to Adrian College to play football. "It shows the tradition we have."

Six of the athletes are headed to the next level to play football. That list also includes Cade Dickson to the University of Indianapolis, Noah Giacomantonio and Owen Wagnitz to Concordia University and Corbin Sines to Adrian College. Sines and Babcock will be able to remain teammates at the college level.

"It's pretty big," Sines said about being able to have a teammate at college with him at Adrian College. "It's nice to meet more people, but it's nice to see some familiar faces."

Brown is excited to be playing for two reasons. First, he loves the sport. Second, by playing he'll help his parent's financial burden.

"When I started my freshman year I was determined to help my parents out because they wanted to pay for college for me because they thought it was horrible for me to go in debt while I was in school," Brown said. "So I put it in gear, and helped them out and got the cost down a lot."

Premo is headed to Concordia University to be a part of the cheer team. She says being a competitive cheer performer has helped make her the person she is today.

"It has taught me that I'm a natural born leader in my eyes and that I love being around a team," Premo said.

CONTINUED AT  
TCTIMES.COM

**TURF**  
Continued from Page 20A

said. "Some haven't seen it. We've been out of school for about 10 days, so when they left school it was rock. ... You can see it starting to come to a final product. It's coming together beautifully, and everyone is getting excited. There were some kids today thinking, 'Oh my gosh, look at that.' It's pretty cool."

The artificial turf is being installed by Astro Turf for slightly less than \$500,000. The total value of the complete project is \$1,330,944 according to Greg Vadasz, director of operations at Linden Community Schools.

Athletic director for Linden Community Schools, Greg Durkac, said the project is scheduled to be finished prior to the start of the 2018-19 academic school year.

CONTINUED AT  
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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES**  
SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Linden's Allison Conly (left) makes a kill attempt during the volleyball season last fall. Conly is one of 17 Linden seniors headed to colleges to compete at that level athletically. Linden held a signing day celebration near the end of the 2017-18 school year, honoring those senior graduates.

**Fenton Nominees:**  
*Margaret Berry*  
*David Pietryga*

**Hartland Nominees:**  
*Madelin Skene*  
*Jake Gallaher*

**Holly Nominees:**  
*Samantha Hild*  
*Grant Tooley*

**Linden Nominees:**  
*Blake Hutchings*  
*Nick McDonald*

**Lake Fenton Nominees:**  
*Hannah Garty*  
*Jarrett Trombley*

**ATHLETE OF THE YEAR WINNERS:**  
*Jarrett Trombley*  
*Margaret Berry*



Back row - left to right: Grant Tooley (Holly), Jarrett Trombley (Lake Fenton), Jake Gallaher (Hartland), David Pietryga (Fenton) - not pictured Nick McDonald (Linden)  
Front row - left to right: Samantha Hild (Holly), Margaret Berry (Fenton), Hannah Garty (Lake Fenton) - not pictured Madelin Skene (Hartland) and Blake Hutchings (Linden)

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