Fenton Township fire chief faces sex harassment lawsuit

■Accused of failing to stop sexual harassment of female firefighter

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Fenton Twp. — On Wednesday, July 25, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees discussed the suspension of Fire Chief Ryan Volz and firefighter Paul Bjorklund in closed session.

The Times received the complaint Thursday, July

26 from Julie Lafkay, attorney for the plaintiffs, Kristy Polidan, firefighter and Kirk Stephens, captain. The situation involves Polidan and Stephens, who filed a civil complaint against Volz and the township, for alleged sexual harassment and retaliation.

The civil lawsuit, which was filed Wednesday, July



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Fenton Township Attorney Jack Belzer (left) and Treasurer John Tucker address the audience at the special meeting Wednesday, July 25 concerning Fire Chief Ryan Volz and firefighter Paul Bjorklund.

25 in Genesee County Circuit Court, claims that Volz did not stop a "pervasive" culture of sexual harassment and participated in it. Volz allegedly failed to stop the harassment after learning about it in March 2017, and directed inappropriate comments toward her.

The complaint alleges Polidan talked to a captain of Fenton Township Station No. 2 about the situation, See FIRE CHIEF on 12A

We'll be looking at alternative options for litigation if we have to clear his name and we believe this is a violation of due process. 77

Alec Gibbs Attorney for suspended firefighter

PAGE 11A AMERICAN PICKERS ARE COMING **BACK!**

Weekendtimes

At least 16 suspected heroin overdoses

25 NO. XX

■Batch of highly potent drug hits Genesee County

By Sharon Stone sstone@tctimes.com

At least 16 people have overdosed on a lethal batch of heroin in Genesee County since Tuesday, July 17. Earlier reports indicated there were eight overdoses, but that number increased in the past three days, said Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson.

See HEROIN on 17A

Residential building permits quadruple

Tax base growing as more homes being built in Fenton Township

By Hannah Ball hball@tctimes.com

Home building is making a comeback in Fenton Township. The township issued 88 more residential permits in 2017 compared to 21 in 2012.

See **PERMITS** on 17A



LA famous man made a speech in 1948 about how safe the streets and his country

were since they confiscated everybody's guns. That famous man's name? Adolf Hitler.



We are a Mexican-

American family. How do we feel about Trump's border wall? We want the border wall, the sooner the better."

L People often vote against something instead of voting for something. You know, like ideas, candidates and



see so much negative political advertising. It's also why Trump will be reelected in 2020. Wake up liberals, we are our own worst enemies.

parties. That is why you



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

GI just listened to Trump saying, 'We won't apologize for America, we will fight for America.' I thought it funny that when he had that opportunity to serve, he dodged the draft."



Farmers Market Fun — Visitors walk past the White Oak Farms tent during the Fenton Farmers Market on Thursday, July 26. The markets are being held on the lawn of the Fenton Community and Cultural Center this summer.

Ally's killer still at large

By Vera Hogan vhogan@tctimes.com

Monday, July 30, marks the second anniversary of the day Alexandra "Ally" Brueger was murdered while jogging on Fish Lake Road in Rose Township.

Ally was only 31 years old and a registered nurse at the time. She was running that

p.m. someone snuffed the life out of this young woman by shooting her in the back four times, killing her. She was a See ALLY'S KILLER

on 9A

fateful Saturday afternoon

in 2016 on the familiar roads

she had been jogging nearly

At approximately 2:30

every day for 10 years.

information about her daughter Ally's murder to come forward.

Nikki

Brueger

implores

anyone with



Local filmmaker worked on blockbusters



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO Fenton resident Stephen Smith (right) is a filmmaker who has worked on movies and television shows.

From 'Batman v Superman' to car commercials, Fenton resident is experienced filmmaker

L It was surreal.

going through

Wendy's drive-

through with

Ryan Gosling. 77

Stephen Smith

Fenton resident and filmmaker

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

He appears in "Batman v Superman," hung out with Ryan Gosling in Detroit, and was one of the first people in Michigan to use a certain camera that was revolutionary in the digital film industry.

Fenton resident Stephen Smith is a camera operator, director,

producer, and director of photography. He currently makes commercials for companies like Chevrolet and Chrysler, but his resumé contains some impressive Hollywood titles.

On "Batman v Su-

perman: Dawn of Justice," he was a camera operator and shot all of the news segments. He even appears in the movie at one point, "acting" as the camera operator for a news anchor, while actually shooting the scene.

"There's a shot of me in the film," he said. "It's kind of crazy."

For three weeks, Smith shot a film called "Lost River" with director Ryan Gosling in Detroit.

"It was really wild," he said. He helped with everything from assisting with the camera, to downloading the media and technical work. Smith said Gosling was "super cool" to work with, but he does avoid talking about "The Notebook."

"He's a super chill dude. He's a super humble guy," he said. "For

> a couple days, it was me and him, another camera assistant and an actor driving around Detroit in a minivan. It was surreal, going through Wendy's drive-through with Ryan Gosling." He's worked on

many other films, including "Harold and Kumar," "Into the Storm," "Only Lovers Left Alive," "The Five Year Engagement," "Vamps," "Sparkle" with Whitney Houston, and "America," which was directed by Rosie O'Donnell. He's also worked on a few reality television shows. One was a show on coal miners called "Coal," where he went into the mines with the workers.

See FILMMAKER on 14A

It's corn time

■You can boil, steam, grill, bake, microwave or slow cook this favorite summer 'side'

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 One of summer's best tastes is fresh corn on the cob. It's hard to argue with the perfect blend of crunchy sweetness and

the indulgent drips of butter on your chin. There are many different ways to prepare this delicious barbecue staple but the best way is still simple, simple, simple.

Caring, Comprehensive,



Culinary Institute of America. Unless a recipe calls for boiled corn,

the dean of America's top cooking school does not remove the husk when he steams, roasts or grills corn on the cob. One of See CORN on 10A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Eichelberg Farms owner Dwight Eichelberg (left) gathers corn with his workers in July 2017.





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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

ov. Rick Snyder this week issued an open letter signed by 220 well-intentioned people and groups calling for "civility" in public discourse.

That's a good thing, right? We all want, as the letter says, "to show the world how we can disagree without being disagreeable, how we can debate without personal attacks, and how we can solve more problems together than we can apart."

I think just about everyone also agrees that we can and should do better



when it comes to political discourse. Frankly, we suck at it right now. We might as well not even have a party system. Democrats and Republicans compromise on nothing, which is why the laws

that are passed tend to be either far right or far left (these days mostly far right), which in effect makes fringe players of the majority in the middle. Which, I'm sorry, is just stupid.

So why, especially as a middle child, doomed to a life of trying to keep the peace, was I turned off by Snyder's letter?

Well, first, because, in my experience, people who call for civility are usually the ones being the most uncivil in their words and deeds, especially when it comes to politics. They're also usually the ones currently in power, meaning it behooves them not to have passions ignited.

For instance, Rick Snyder. Of course HE wants civility. He's spent the better part of his current term being roasted for his handling of the Flint water crisis. It was so putrid that Fortune magazine named him one of the world's 19 most disappointing leaders, saying "Called to testify before Congress, Snyder, who touted his competence in his gubernatorial campaign, labeled the experience the "most humbling" of his life --- then attempted to shift blame," earning him the magazine's "Don't Blame Me, I'm Just The Governor Award."

Snyder's election mantra was "relentless positive action." But ask the people of Flint their opinion of his sudden call for civility and my guess is they'd react with a relentlessly uncivil flip of a finger, and no one would deserve it more,

44 The truth given his administration's grudgabout civility ing, slow-roll is it's grossly response to the overrated in some about civility is instances. 77 it's grossly over-

rated in some instances. Again,

The truth

crisis.

ask Flint. It was incivility, in fact — a refusal to no longer stay quiet and accept the treatment they were getting from the state, including an official telling them to "relax" as tainted brown gunk poured from faucets ---- that final-ly brought the water crisis to light.

If citizens hadn't fussed and fumed, it's likely more people would have died (to date, at least 12 people died from Legionnaire's disease tied to the water and 79 were sickened.)

If they hadn't shown up at forums clutching bottles of yellow water, if they hadn't scrawled angry messages in chalk on the sidewalks outside Snyder's posh downtown Ann Arbor condo, even more children would have been at risk of developmental issues tied to lead.

Local and state government wasn't in any hurry to fix the water. Instead they seemed more interested in downplaying or dismissing it. If the citizens of Flint hadn't demanded answers and "relentless positive action," there's a good chance they'd never have gotten it. And this thing would have gone on

and on.

So let me politely say this: Civility is in the eye of the beholder, Mr. Snyder. Sometimes being uncivil is the most

civil thing you can do. 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@tclimes.com.

ve the right to edit for clarity, length

SHAME ON YOU, Tyrone Township, for allowing people to bury almost 1,600 bodies with no vaults or caskets. What are you thinking? Do you even care about the people who depend on water in that area for drinking? Does the state of Michigan need more water contamination?

THE KING IS right on regarding his article about San Francisco. A physician I know just came back from a medical meeting and he said San Fran is now a hell hole including beggars, drugs on the streets, tents being put up anywhere and the smells in the streets are absolutely disgusting.

MAYBE NOT EVERYONE wants Fenton to be a foodie destination on the map. The beautiful historic buildings are sorely missed.

IN A LETTER to Tyrone Township Planning Commission dated Feb. 20, 2018, Hasan Siddiqui says, 'We have reduced the number of cemetery plots significantly ... from 3,847 plots to 1,589 plots. At the average rate of \$3,000, this is an incredible, significant loss in potential revenue (\$6.77 million).' Yep, that's a 'green' cemetery alright.

I'M A LIFELONG resident of Fenton and 1974 was the only time I was ashamed; when they took a wrecking ball on our beautiful historic town.

Letters, 150 words or less, Readers 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.

Thankful for Good Samaritans

Dear Editor,

On Sunday, July 22, I was ready to leave VG's North parking lot when my car would not start because of a dead battery. This happened at the same time as I was out of much needed oxygen. I was in trouble, without a phone. I began flagging someone down for help. Many passed by or did not see me. Eventually, Dave and Carolyn stopped. I asked them to call my home. Dave said he had jumper cables. Carolyn expertly moved their truck up for the cables to reach while Dave stood in the pouring rain and got my car started. In these times there are so many negative acts happening that we lose sight of the positives. The majority of Americans are great like Dave and Carolyn, ready to help. Thank you, Dave and Carolyn, you helped me out of a very difficult situation.

> Joe Cmejrek Fenton



Should bicycles be allowed on the road?

Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

street talk



"In busier areas, they should stay on sidewalks, but in more rural areas they're easy to avoid on the road."

- Dylan Dockins Fenton



"Yes, but with some rules or laws attached to the bicyclist and the motorist. In a group form a single file, or let the cars go around."

– Mary Arasim Tyrone Township



"Not in this day and age. People are too distracted when they're driving. Plus the roads are narrower around here."

- Peggy Fowler Fenton



"They scare me to death. Someone can hit a stone in the road and flip in front of you. There should be more bike paths."

· Christine Harris Fenton Township



"I like to see bikes on the road. But courtesy is a two-way street, for cars and bikes."



LOOKING BACK at this week in NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

JULY 29

1976: The so-called "Son of Sam" was a serial killer, who terrorized New York City over the course of the next year. Police, following up on a parking ticket that had been given out the night of the latest attack, discovered a machine gun in a car belonging to David Berkowitz of Yonkers, New York. When questioned, Berkowitz explained that "Sam" was his neighbor Sam Carr, an agent of the devil. Sam transmitted his orders through his pet black Labrador. Berkowitz was allowed to plead guilty before claiming insanity and was sentenced to over 300 years in prison. In prison, he later claimed to be a born-again

JULY 30

Christian

1999: The Blair Witch Project, a low-budget, independent horror film that would become a massive cult hit, is released in U.S. theaters. Shot with shaky, handheld cameras, the documentary-style movie told the story of three student filmmakers who disappeared into the woods and were never heard from again, although their footage was later discovered. With the help of a web-based viral marketing strategy — a relatively new concept at the time, The Blair Witch Project generated huge buzz over the question of whether or not it was based on a true story. In fact, the story was entirely fake.

JULY 31

1975: James Riddle Hoffa, one of the most influential American labor leaders of the 20th century, disappears in Detroit, Michigan, never to be heard from again. Though he is popularly believed to have been the victim of a Mafia hit, conclusive evidence was never found, and Hoffa's death remains shrouded in mystery to this day.

AUG. 1

1981: "If advertisers make the video disco channel a success, the implications for cable television and the recording industry could be far reaching," wrote a New York Times business columnist in the summer of 1981 about the upcoming premiere of a new cable television network dedicated exclusively to popular music. This prediction proved to be an understatement of historic proportions MTV became a huge pop culture hit.

AUG. 2

1934: With the death of German President Paul von Hindenburg, Chancellor Adolf Hitler becomes absolute dictator of Germany under the title of Fuhrer, or "Leader." The German army took an oath of allegiance to its new commander-in-chief, and the last remnants of Germany's democratic government were dismantled to make way for Hitler's Third Reich. The Fuhrer assured his people that the Third Reich would last for a thousand years, but Nazi Germany collapsed just 11 years later.

AUG. 3

1958: The U.S. nuclear submarine Nautilus accomplishes the first undersea voyage to the geographic North Pole. The world's first nuclear submarine, the Nautilus dove at Point Barrow, Alaska, and traveled nearly 1,000 miles under the Arctic ice cap to reach the top of the world. It then steamed on to Iceland, pioneering a new and shorter route from the Pacific to the Atlantic and Europe.

AUG. 4

1753: George Washington, a young Virginia planter, becomes a Master Mason, the highest basic rank in the secret fraternity of Freemasonry. The ceremony was held at the Masonic Lodge No. 4 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Washington was 21 years old and would soon command his first military operation as a major in the Virginia colonial militia. The first American Mason lodge was established in Philadelphia in 1730, and future revolutionary leader Benjamin Franklin was a founding member.

Know the rules for campaign signs

Not too close to the road, can't block intersections and more

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

Red, white, blue, silver, black and yellow are decorating lawns along roads

while this election season rages on. With the primary election coming on

Tuesday, Aug. 7, some busy intersections sport 10 campaign signs at once, while others have a lone post. Are these signs

allowed by roads? How many are allowed in one yard? How big can they be?

Here are local regulations for campaign signs.

In the **city of Fenton**, these signs are considered "temporary campaign signs" and cannot be located closer than 20 feet to the edge of the traveled portion of a roadway, nor within any dedicated right-of-way. They cannot block the view of an intersection.

Campaign signs can be erected 60

days prior to any election and they must be removed within three days after the election. Only one campaign sign per candidate is allowed per parcel. Two signs are allowed if there are two street frontages, but two is the maximum number allowed even if there are more than two

street frontages. In **Fenton Township**, they are referred to as "political signs" in municipal language. A political sign is defined as "A temporary sign used in connection with local, state or national elections or referendums," according to Ordinance No. 693 for sign regulations.

"Political signs are permitted with the real property owners' authorization, provided such signs are not placed within public road right-of-way, such signs do not exceed 32 square feet in area, and that such signs are removed within five business days following the election for which they are erected," according to the ordinance.

In the **city of Linden**, political signs can be erected no more than 36 days prior to an election.

In **Argentine Township**, political signs shall be confined within private property and removed within 14 days after the election.

In Holly Township, political signs can be placed no earlier than 45 days prior to election day and they must be removed no later than 10 days following the election. They are allowed on See CAMPAIGN SIGNS on 15A

New Treatment for Back & Sciatic Nerve Pain

By Erica Rainer



caused by a pinched nerve in the lower back. Pains begin in the nerve roots, located on either side of the lower spine and move through the sciatic nerve, which runs the length of each leg m to the foot. The leg

Sciatica is leg pain

from the buttocks, down to the foot. The leg agony, called radiculopathy, "is often worse than the back pain," says Dr. James Ide, DC. clinic director at Painless Chiropractic of Fenton MI. "It's very common for patients to come in describing an agonizing, shooting, burning pain that starts in the buttocks and flows down to the leg and at times into the foot with numbness, tingling and cramps in the leg." The sensation "can be intolerable," says Dr. Krista Ribando, head adjusting chiropractor at the Fenton Clinic. "Some people describe it to be similar to the nerve pain you experience if you have a toothache. For home care options visit PainlessDC. com/sciatica

After reviewing many different treatment options we have found that typically the average person who suffers from Sciatic pain usually experiences the same frustration when seeking help. They tend to start off going to their doctor who prescribes them one or more of the following; Muscle Relaxers, Pain Pills or Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs.

The Muscle Relaxers tend to make patients tired but do relax the muscles. The Pain Pills mask the pain while on them but tend to make many people tense, nauseous, constipated and unable to focus. The Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs give some people weakness, moon face, weight gain, insomnia and mood swings. All in all the pain usually comes back once the drugs are gone because nothing was ever corrected just masked. These drugs all focus on the symptoms and not the problem.

This is often the case with most pain related to the spine and nerves, regardless if your issue is in your neck, resulting in headaches or pain, numbness, tingling and/or muscle weakness in the arms and hands or down in the low back and buttocks, resulting in Sciatic Pain.

Once the patient goes to their MD, takes

their prescriptions and then goes back, still in pain, they are usually referred to physical therapy, pain management or a surgeon. Most patients respond to physical therapy however, once the program has finished many report the pain returns.

When they visit pain management, they may be prescribed the same types of drugs their MD gave them or they may jump right to the steroid epidural shots into your spinal column which may not be FDA approved so please be advised to do plenty of research if you ever find yourself in this situation. As for having surgery... well we all know that surgery should always be a last resort because once you make the decision to have surgery, there is no going back and undoing it and many other options are off the table after surgery.

Regardless of how the symptoms are treated, the number one problem with finding relief through these treatments is that they only focus on treating the symptoms not the underlying issue. In severe cases, this condition can lead to muscle wasting, numbness, and constant tingling down to the toes and eventually sexual dysfunction and even loss of bladder/ bowel control. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life. People lose hope and have no idea where to turn.

That is until now.

Chiropractic Corrective Care for Sciatic Pain Relief

"I was beginning to think surgery was my only option and then my neighbor told me about Painless Chiropractic and how much they had helped his brother. I made an appointment the next day. I was skeptical but I was out of options. It was the best decision I ever made I only wish I would have tried it sooner. My pain is gone and I feel better than I have in years!"

- Louis K., Grand Blanc

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% many back surgeons are recommending their patients try this treatment first before having surgery. Right here in Fenton MI, at Painless Chiropractic you can try Non-Surgical Reconstructive Spinal care under the direct supervision of low back and sciatica specialist Dr. James Ide D.C. and Dr.



Sciatica Relief Expert James Ide

Krista Ribando D.C.

The fully trained spinal care team have helped countless patients find relief from their agonizing back and sciatica problems. "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology not utilized elsewhere in the area for precisely diagnosing the cause of your pain; and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people" said Dr. Ide.

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain. However, as Dr. Ide says "we are happy patients experience less pain but the pain is just a symptom, our goal is to correct the underlying problem which is structural. The pain is usually the last thing to show itself and the first thing to disappear and if not properly treated and maintained, will show up again in the future.

If you are ready to get to the bottom of your debilitating shooting, stabbing and burning pain stemming from your low back, buttocks and sciatic nerve, Painless Chiropractic is ready to deliver the same positive results to you as they have to so many others. That is why the Times has teamed up with the clinic to spread the news and showcase the offer they put together for our readers. Call them now and get a full and thorough consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$27!

The normal cost of such an exam is \$195 so you will save \$168! Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve. Call and set up your appointment now. Call 810-618-6380 Memention the code JULY2018 to claim your special offer.



Fenton Township sign regulation ordinance

Living with depression

■Stop saying 'cheer up' and 'get over it'

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 This article is the first in a series on mental health.

You have no motivation. The things that should make you happy, don't. This is what it's like living

with depression. Fenton resident Lori (her last name has been withheld for privacy reasons) has lived with depression her whole life. As young as kindergarten, she was obsessed with the idea of "sleeping forever," she said.

"When I was late adolescence/early teens

I knew I needed help but back in the '60s, if you saw a psychiatrist, people labeled you 'crazy.' Her wouldn't let her talk to any doctors or experts.

What is depression like?

Describing depression to someone who doesn't have it is "extremely difficult" because people confuse it with sadness and grief, Lori said. Sadness and grief both have sources and can be handled with counseling and coping skills. "Depression has no source. It is over-

whelming and infiltrates your mind and thinking process the same way that street drugs affect a junkie. The very things that you love dearly, live for and that keep you going are the first things out of your mind when the thought of hurting yourself takes over,' she said.

Lori said it's very frustrating when people tell her things such as "cheer up," "get

over it," "pull yourself together," and "go out and do things - you'll feel better." "I heard someone say once it's like



telling a quadriplegic to get up and walk it off," she said.

A 60-year-old Fenton woman, who wished to remain anonymous, first experienced bouts of depression in her teens and early 20s. She said depression is very dark and lonely. "I feel completely valueless and invisible, an empty shell.

Rationally, I know that's not true but it takes over and I just shut down," she said. She'll do her necessary errands, but she feels no delight or excitement.

Handling depression

To handle her depression, Lori has been on every medication "imaginable" and only one worked. When the generic version of the drug came out, her physician refused to continue to give her the name brand. The generic version didn't work the same and she dealt with withdrawals. Lori had bills up to \$1,600 a month to pay out-of-pocket for the name brand version.

"I was using my savings so I could wean myself properly. It took a call to the COO of the hospital to get proper action," she said.

SUMMARY If you're struggling with depression, you're not alone. Help is available.

"I wholly understood a drug addict stealing from family and committing crimes to get what they need. My withdrawal was so severe that I became hyper sensitive to the drug so if I was even a couple hours late in taking a dose

the sickness would begin again."

The Fenton woman started getting help in her 30s. She takes antidepressants and anxiety medication. "Too much for way too long. I'm currently researching potential alternatives. I also talk with a therapist and a psychiatrist manages the medication," she said, adding that she resisted going to a therapist for a very long time.

Mindful meditation has helped her a lot.

Talking about depression

Lori doesn't want depression to be a taboo subject. "Those of us affected think we're suffering alone especially when others don't speak of it. It's so helpful to have support from others and know we aren't struggling by ourselves."

She also encourages people to ask those who are suffering from depression to do things. "Often times, people quit asking us to go places and do things because we 'never want to.' It's not that we never want to, just that we find it impossible to do sometimes," she said.

The Fenton woman wants to remind people that people with depression don't want to feel that way. "It isn't a personal pity party. Educate yourself if you or someone you know has depression," she said. "On the bright side, no matter how much pain you are in, it always gets better. Always."

If you or someone you know struggles with depression, contact the Genesee Health System crisis hotline at (810) 257-3740.

Lori Fenton resident

11 heard someone

say once it's

like telling a

quadriplegic

to get up and

walk it off. 77

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thegdl.org



Nikki Brueger says their dog, Zeus, "still looks for his girl, Ally, every day."

The Crime Watch

Daily episodes

referred to in this

article can be viewed

at www.tctimes.com;

look up Crime Watch

Daily in archives.

ALLY'S KILLER Continued from Front Page

tiny woman at about 4 feet 9 inches tall and weighing just under 98 pounds.

Although no one has been arrested, the Michigan State Police (MSP) continue to aggressively work this case. There has been one change, however. In the beginning, F/Lt. Michael Shaw said, "Everyone is a suspect." He repeated that on a Crime Watch Daily episode about Ally's murder, which aired in March of this year. During his interview with the host, Chris Hanson, Shaw said everyone was still a suspect, "including mom and dad."

That, however, has changed. "We do not consider the Bruegers as suspects at this time," said Shaw earlier this month.

That is because Franz voluntarily submitted to a polygraph test, which was completed in Flint on Friday, April 13. He passed the polygraph conclusively, eliminating him as a suspect. The Crin Daily or referred

"We continue to receive tips and follow up on all of them," Shaw said. "This is still an active investigation and detectives from the

Special Investigation Section are still working this case."

During that same Crime Watch Daily episode, a former boyfriend of Ally's, Weston Sutherland, pointed the finger at her parents.

"You think the parents could have done this," asked Hanson during the interview. "I think that her father could have,

yes," Sutherland said.

Franz, who says he doesn't rattle easily, scoffed at what Hanson called the "stunning accusation."

Since that interview, the idea that Franz Brueger could have shot and killed his only child was continued publicly on a website called websleuths.com.

Tricia Griffith is the owner and administrator of that site, which is a membersonly forum dedicated to studying, discussing and possibly assisting in solving open crimes throughout the country.

"The public is able to read open forum discussions," Griffith said. "But no one can 'post' anything on the site unless they go through the application and approval process to become a verified insider."

In order to protect members' identities, code names are used when participating

in the forum discussions. Ally's murder has become a popular topic of discussion on the site. Well-meaning members have had daily discussions regarding this crime, especially since one member claims to have inside knowledge of the case.

Although he, too, uses a code name, that member has identified himself as Ally's boyfriend and claims to have first-hand knowledge about her parents and the case. He also claims to be in touch with investigators and says the FBI is now involved.

Shaw said, "Sutherland, still a suspect, has no inside information on this investigation and the FBI is not involved."

Nikki said, "We have lived two years now without our beloved daughter and only child. Time has not quelled the

anger, pain and despair that we feel over her senseless murder.

in this e viewed nes.com; e Watch chives. "We have no closure and we know that people who are either fearful or indifferent still have tips and information that they are holding onto," Nikki said. "Ally was ambushed — try and imagine the fear and

terror she experienced as she ran from the gun to try and stay alive.

"Please help us find justice for our daughter," she said. "Speak up, you can do it anonymously. Don't let the killer, a puny, impotent coward have another day of freedom. If not for us, then speak up for our dog, Zeus. He still looks for his girl, Ally, every day."

Shaw said, "Yes, there is a killer is out there. Someone knows who it is and hasn't come forward yet. We need that one missing piece to solve this investigation. Please contact 800 MICH TIP (800-642-4847) if you have information."

Crime Stoppers Reward

Crime Stoppers of Michigan is offering up to \$8,500 for tips leading to the arrest of a suspect in Brueger's murder. The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF, is offering \$5,000. Anyone with information can submit a tip anonymously by calling 1-800-SPEAKUP.

Tributes to Ally

Friends, family, coworkers remember her big heart and great sense of humor

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

The following are excerpts from comments and tributes for Alexandra "Ally" Brueger, the registered nurse who was murdered at the age of 31 while jogging on Fish Lake Road in Rose Township on Saturday, July 30, 2016. Some of her friends called her "Alex." These tributes and many more can be read in their entirety at www.tctimes.com.

Nikki Law, RN coworker

On an outing with coworkers to the zoo a few years ago, Alex did something out of character. She bought the photo of the three of us like we were on a family vacation. She gave Amy and me our copies and we went home. Little did I know the wallet-sized photo would become a 'security blanket' for me, as I keep it on my badge at work so Alex is with me always. Alex was hands down the best nurse I've ever worked with and if somehow one day I could be a fraction of the nurse that she was, I will be lucky.

Amy Olinzock, RN, coworker

She used to make me laugh until I cried. I remember when I was in the med room, concentrating on getting medications ready for my patients, I would look up to see Alex staring at me through the window on the door. I have no idea how long she would stand there and wait for me to notice her, but it would make me jump every time. Alex was an extraordinary friend and always knew the right words to say. I am a very lucky person to have had her in my life.

See TRIBUTES on 14A



Ally Brueger is shown here in June of 2016 on an outing to the zoo with nurse coworkers Amy Olinzock (left) and Nikki Law (right).







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YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro ROOT CANALS AND CROWNS

Once a tooth becomes infected a root canal is needed to save the tooth. An infected tooth will never heal on its own. An abscessed tooth is a source of chronic infection that can drag down your immune system and in advanced cases can be life threatening. In year's past the only treatment option

for an abscessed tooth was to have the tooth extracted. Now saving the tooth with endodontic (root canal treatment) is a more favorable option. Once the root canal treatment is completed, a crown is often, but not always, needed. One of the main reasons a tooth needs endodontic treatment in the first place, is because there is a very large and deep cavity. Most teeth that need root canals have huge cavities. Root canalled teeth are usually weaker that regular teeth. The larger the area of decay the less tooth structure remaining and the weaker the tooth is. The overall success rate of a root canal is 95% The number one reason a tooth that has had a root canal ultimately fails and needs to be extracted is because the tooth fractures and breaks becoming non-restorable. A crown provides much needed support and reinforcement to the tooth preventing fracturing Now, there are times when a tooth has had a root canal and there is plenty of remaining strong tooth structure. In these cases a crown is not needed. Therefore, the need for a crown after a root canal is determined on a case-by-case, basis.

I welcome your questions and comments. Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net CREATING BEAUTIFUL SMILES FOR OVER 20 YEARS 607 N. Saginaw St. • Holly • 248-634-4671

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meritdental.com/holly

Continued from Page 3A the pluses, besides the aroma and flavor, is that the corn silk comes right off.

SIX WAYS TO COOK PERFECT CORN ON THE COB

1. Boil it

CORN

Bring four quarts of water to a boil, put in a pinch of sugar and a pinch of salt. Meanwhile, shuck the corn. Drop the corn

into the boiling liquid and allow it to come back to a boil. Cook the corn for about 5-7 minutes. Turn off the flame and let the corn sit in the water — for up to 30 minutes — until it's time to serve.

"For a traditional ear of corn, we like to boil it for 3-4 minutes, then serve with butter and salt," said Maria Starrs of Starrs

Lakeview Farms in Linden. "Alot of people overcook corn, which makes it chewy."

2. Steam it

Fill a large stockpot with 1½ to 2 inches of water. Place unhusked corn in the pot vertically so it's standing up on the stalk end. Bring the water to a full boil, then cover and steam for 15-20 minutes, adding water as necessary so there is always some on the bottom. The steamed corn can sit in the pot, covered, for up to 30 minutes without overcooking. Use rubber gloves to remove the husks and serve.

3. Grill it

Sean Gartland, local chef and owner of Feast in Fenton, roasts his corn on a



11 keep the

husk on but

remove the silk.

It takes about

15-20 minutes on

indirect heat. 77

Sean Gartland

Local chef and owner of

Feast in Fenton

charcoal grill, then smothers it with butter and sea salt. "Carefully peel back the husk, leaving it attached at the bottom of the cob. That leaves the silk exposed. Then you can just pull it off and fold the husk back over the cob. Some people like to actually soak it in water at this point to get the husk really wet. It creates steam while cooking and helps to speed along the process.

"It takes about 15-20 minutes on indirect heat. You can cook it right over the

> coals for a bit at the end to give the corn some char and caramelize it, if you like," he said.

The corn is hot when it comes off the grill, so peel it wearing rubber gloves.

Mark Gulliver, executive chef at The Fairlane Club in Dearborn, grills corn on the grill with his wife, Pam, using a unique twist: They soak the corn

in the husk in water and milk, then cook it on the grill for about 45 minutes. "It brings out the sweetness of the corn," Gulliver said.

4. Bake it

Preheat oven to 425-450 degrees. Place unhusked corn on a baking sheet and cook it for 25 minutes, turning each ear one or two times until the outside of the husk is lightly charred and brown. Using rubber gloves, remove the husks and serve.

5. Microwave it

Place two unhusked corncobs in a microwave for five minutes. Use rubber gloves to remove silk and husks, which will be very hot.

6. Slow cook it (who knew?)

Remove the husks and silks from eight small ears of corn. Place one ear of corn in a square sheet of foil. Top with 1 ½ t. butter. Wrap corn and place in 6 quart slow cooker. Repeat with remaining corn. Cook on low for 4 hours or on high for 2 hours. Serve with extra butter, if desired.

7- Sauté it

"Another favorite way to prepare corn that my sister, Andrea, introduced me to, is to cut the uncooked kernels off the cob and saute in butter with onion and poblano or cubanelle pepper," said Starrs. "Just cook it for a few minutes until warm, and then serve. My dad has always said corn does not actually need to be cooked; when you boil it or saute it you are just warming it up."

Source: Today.com, Bhg.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE DDA APPROVES \$35,000 for a butterfly garden at the millpond, but ignores the fact that the play structure there is a death trap for our children. Butterfly gardens are nice but the safety of our children and grandchildren is far more important.

TO THE WOMAN looking for some good summer reading. Our local PBS station has a series with authors, actors and regular people from all walks of life talking about their favorite books. Check out 'The Great American Read.' Try some of them. Vote for your favorites. At the end of the summer, there will be a list of the top 100 American favorites. Your local library should be able to locate some of them for you. Try www. wcmu.org/GreatAmericanRead.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTO Corn is one of the highlights of the late summer season and is an easy, tasty side dish for any barbecue. The best way

HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST EARS OF CORN

to prepare it is to keep it simple.

• **Don't be the** customer who peels back the entire husk of corn and decides not to choose it. Now the corn is susceptible to drying out and no one will buy it.

• **Check the tassel** instead, the top most part of the ear of corn where the silk shoots out. It should look clean and smell sweet; if it's black and mushy, the corn has been around too long.

• **Give the whole** cob a squeeze to check for soft spots, which would be a sign of missing or overripe kernels. Also, any little brown holes in the husk can be a sign of insects, another thing you'll want to avoid in your corn purchase.

• **OK, take a** little peek. If you're just not sure that the ear is one you want to buy, pull back the top just a tiny bit and take a peek. Just a peek, please.

• If you're shucking the corn on-site, be sure to be neat about it by using the bins many stores and markets put out just for this purpose. But remember, your corn will be much fresher tasting if you keep the corn in the husk and actually cook it that way, too.

Source: Thekitchn.com

HOW TO STORE CORN FOR PEAK FRESHNESS

To best preserve the sweetness of sweet corn, store it unhusked in the refrigerator after purchase, if you aren't going to use it right away. It will lose its sweetness much faster at room temperature. If corn has been shucked, store it in a plastic bag in the refrigerator. Corn stored in the refrigerator will last for one to three days. You can freeze corn using this 1-2-3 method:

 Husk corn, remove silk and wash
 Blanch (plunge into boiling water) for 4 minutes and chill quickly in ice cold water
 Drain, cut kernels from the cob and package in airtight containers or freezer bags. Corn will maintain peak freshness up to eight months.

IT IS CLEAR to me that Putin definitely has something on our President. Mc-Connell has to be involved, too.

IN THE 1960S, JFK stood up for America and against Russia. In 2018, President Trump stood up for Russia and against America.

I SURE HOPE the stop signs at the corner of Shiawassee/Owen Road and Rounds Drive are temporary. Once school starts, it's going to be more brutal than it already is. I'm thinking it is an interim until a much better traffic flow solution is set in place? *Editor's note:* A drunk driver struck and destroyed the traffic light at that intersection on July 1. Temporary stop signs are in place until a new traffic light can be installed.

WEEKEND TIMES

'American Pickers' heading back to Michigan

Here's your chance to be on hit TV show, sell some antiques

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz and their team are excited to return to Michigan. They plan to film an episode of the hit TV series American Pickers throughout the region in September.

American Pickers is a reality TV series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on the History channel. The hit show follows Wolfe and Fritz, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them.

The hosts of American Pickers were in Holly in 2016. During that visit,

Holly resident John Lauve sold several items to the hosts including a classic Mini Cooper, 1960s Norton Motorcycle, some automotive corporate artwork and other odds and ends. The segment aired in December 2016.

Recently, Lauve learned that a famous actor bought his 1968 Mini Mark II Cooper S—NCIS star Mark Harmon. Harmon called him

a week ago, and sent him a polite letter of inquiry. "I now own your former 1968 Mini Mark II Cooper S," began the letter from the California-based actor.

Harmon asked whether Lauve still had certain parts for the car, like the steering wheel, carburetors, air intake and manifold. "I apologize for asking and taking up your time ... this car is too important to me to not give it a try," the letter read.

Lauve also received a signed NCIS hat from Harmon, including a "Gibbs 15," make, a reference to Harmon's NCIS character

HOT LINE CONTINUED **PUTIN AND TRUMP** have something in common. Although they have opposite ideologies, both want to make their countries great again and they don't want to be controlled by a 'world government.' Those who want a, 'global government,' need both men eliminated in order to establish their 'New World Order.'



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Frank Fritz (left) and Mike Wolfe, stars of the hit TV show American Pickers, will be in Michigan in September. They are seeking leads as to where to visit.

> Leroy Jethro Gibbs, and possible reference to the show's 15th season. It could alse reference Gibbs' rule No. 15, which is, "Always work as a team."

Wolfe and Fritz hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way. They are ready to find extraordinary

items in the tri-county area and hear fascinating tales about them.

American Pickers is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Holly resident John Lauve holds the

hat NCIS star Mark Harmon sent him.

Harmon recently bought Lauve's Mini

Cooper from the hosts of American

Pickers who bought the car from Lauve.

If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send them your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call 855-OLD-RUST. Find them on Facebook @GotAPick.

I LAUGH AT the Republican ads advocating skilled trades education to train our youth when they and Snyder made Michigan a right-to-work state, along with abolishing prevailing wage laws — two things that will keep our citizens from making a livable wage in the future. Hypocrites all.

THIS IS TO the 'I'm a proud liberal.' That's sort of like saying I'm a nice character, isn't it?



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In this July 10, 1945 photo provided by U.S. Navy media content operations, USS Indianapolis (CA 35) is shown off the Mare Island Navy Yard, in Northern California, 20 days before it was sunk by Japanese torpedoes.

The sinking of the USS Indianapolis

■ July 30 is 73rd anniversary of one of the worst naval disasters in U.S. history and worst shark attack ever recorded

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Tales of sailors, sharks, courage and cowardice mark the remembrance of the sinking of the USS Indianapolis on July 30, 1945 after being torpedoed by the Japanese at the close of World War II.

Monday, July 30 will mark the 73rd anniversary of this disaster, which has gone down in history as one of the United States' worst naval disasters.

See INDIANAPOLIS on 15A





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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department chased this cow down Main Street in Fenton hoping to steer it back to his farm. The cow made it home with no injuries.

Police chase cow in Fenton

Cop stops traffic on Main Street to return young cow back to farm

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

A young cow was uninjured following a police chase on Tuesday, July 17 at about 9:30 a.m.

Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department responded to a home on Howard Street after a caller told police that a cow was in a front yard of a home. Cross drove out to the area and walked around hoping to spot the wayward cow.

He found the cow on property just west of Clark's farm on Main Street/ Grange Hall Road, where the cow had escaped. Cross watched as the cow was standing near a corner of the fence and it tried multiple times to run out to Main Street. Finally, the cow barreled through the bushes and onto Main Street.

Cross ran out onto the road and stopped traffic as he chased the cow for approximately 100 yards in the eastbound lane toward the farm.

Officer Adam Lape, driving his cruiser, pulled up behind Cross and they were able to steer the cow back to its farm. Cross attempted to take a video of his comical chase with his cellphone, however, it malfunctioned. The dashcam in Lape's cruiser recorded the cow making its way home.

This is not the first time Cross has chased a cow. He said this was actually his third time — twice from this farm and once on Runyan Lake Road when he was trying to stop a bull. "That one didn't like me. It kept charging me," Cross said.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

More than a dozen citizens, firefighters, and media members packed the Fenton Township Board of Trustees meeting Wednesday, July 25.

Fenton Township

and the fire chief

FIRE CHIEF Continued from Front Page

and the captain suspended two firefighters. Allegedly, Volz reprimanded the woman for speaking with the captain because she was not assigned to work at that station.

According to the complaint, Stephens, captain of Fenton Township Station No. 1, learned of the rumors and he, along with other firefighters, approached the Fenton Township clerk, deputy clerk and other officials. The captain and the firefighter claimed the fire chief and the township violated Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on race, sex, religion, color, national origin age and more

origin, age and more. Polidan and Stephens are reportedly seeking an undis-

closed financial judgment. Stephens claimed Volz retaliated against him for supporting the firefighter by altering his hours, assigning a

lower ranking lieutenant to use his office and failing to allow him to be in charge during Volz's absence.

Volz and Bjorklund were suspended with pay at the July 9 Board of Trustees meeting. Bjorklund is not mentioned in the lawsuit.

On Wednesday, July 25, Fenton Township Supervisor Bonnie Mathis recused herself from the discussion and vote because she is the mother-in-law to Volz. Treasurer John Tucker ran the meeting and addressed the audience, which contained firefighters, more than a dozen residents and multiple news stations.

Tucker told the audience at the meeting that due to pending litigation, the board would not discuss it in an open meeting. The board voted to plan another meeting for Thursday, Aug. 3 at 5 p.m.

"The topics we're scheduled to discuss tonight are emotional for a lot of folks," he said.

Tucker said the situation has changed since the Wednesday meeting was

scheduled, and even the board wasn't aware of the lawsuit until the meeting. He announced they were now discussing pending litigation.

"With respect to the Open Meetings Act, any proceedings are probably going to be in closed session because of the nature of matter now being pending litigation," he said. "Once we go into closed session, we're going to clear the room."

Before the board went into closed session, the board appointed Capt. Steve Haiser as interim fire chief. The vote passed unanimously.

After the audience cleared the room, Alec Gibbs, attorney for

Bjorklund, said, "We were going to request a one month adjournment. We did request Mr. Bjorklund's disciplinary file. There's no write-ups or disciplinary anything in that file, which is required under state law. So as far as we're concerned, the town-

ship doesn't have any basis for doing this. "They have refused to provide us with

a copy of any allegations so we have no idea what we're going into. It's a bit of a kangaroo court in there from what I can see. We'll be looking at alternative options for litigation if we have to clear his name and we believe this is a violation of due process," he said.

Gibbs added he believes this is "motivated by something other than true disciplinary matters."

Fenton Township attorney Jack Belzer confirmed the nature of the lawsuit. He said the township would instruct its insurance company to hire an attorney in the matter.

"When a municipality gets sued, 99 percent of the time it's covered by insurance policies," he said.

The next step is for the defendants to file "some sort of answer" to the lawsuit, Belzer said, which could take two to three weeks, and a court date could be months down the road.



HOT LINE CONTINUED

I'M A PROUD Democrat because the only time I saw my wage go up was when a Democrat was in Lansing and the White House.

REPUBLIC AND DEMOCRACY are not co-equal terms no matter what 'definition' Google puts in front of you. Iraq, under Saddam was a Republic. Was that a democracy? China? North Korea? A Republic has a standard of law. A Democracy leaves everything to the will of the people.

'REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY'

JUST means it's an indirect Democracy via chosen representatives. A 'Democratic Republic' is still a republic, a standard of law, but recognizes power derived from the people, not a democracy open to the whims and will of the people.

I LIKE TO support all the tri-county events, but there is more character

and meaning in Linden's small Memorial (Day) Parade than in Fenton's lengthy 'advertisement-style' parade. Please fix it.

SPECTRUM'S A RIP-off! Another increase I called to discuss. Rep said dropping (free) wire maintenance would double the I-speed. Then I lost channels. They removed me from a 'grandfathered' tier never mentioning it. Is this customer appreciation? I want competitive cable providers.

THE FOUR-WAY stop on Shiawassee causes a back up past Fenway Drive regularly. How on earth can anyone think it is good?

LINDEN POLICE, YOU need to watch closely these young teenagers riding scooters through the streets. They do not actually have a driver's license and have a kid riding on the backseat turned around backwards. Somebody's going to get killed. Do something about it.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

A 3-year-old dog from Gaines sets a record for the longest dock dive with a 31-feet, 2-inch jump.

Gaines dog sets dock diving record

Rachael Brinkman

■Slingshot competes in competitions around the country

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Slingshot, a dog from Gaines, set a national record for longest dock diving jump by a dog Friday, July 20 at Farmington Fido Fest.

In the video provided, the 3-yearold whippet can be seen running

fast off the dock, then taking off and soaring through the air until he grabs his toy and lands in the water. He jumped 31 feet and 2 inches.

Slingshot's owners, Rachael and Dan Brinkman, own Einstein Dog Training in Fenton. Slingshot is their second dog

involved in the sport. Rachael said it's an understatement to say she was excited about the record.

"I've traveled all over the country with this dog, literally. Just last month we traveled to Huntington Beach, California to compete in the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge. We took second place in that event," she said. "He's been to three world championships for dock diving in just his two short years of competition."

Brinkman has been involved in the sport for many years, so Slingshot has trained since he was young. They compete in two different dock diving organizations- Dockdogs and Ultimate Air Dogs. Each organization has its own scores and records, but they measure the dogs the same way.

"The distance is measured from the end of the dock where the dog jumps, to the where the base of the tail touches

the water. Of all the organizations, this is He's been the farthest jump ever to three world recorded in a national event. It beats the previchampionships for ous world record, which dock diving in just has been the record since 2012," she said. his two short years Brinkman said of competition. 77

the sport is typically dominated by Labrador Retrievers and Belgian Malinois. "It

feels great having a whippet capable of achieving these scores.'

The sport is very competitor friendly. Brinkman said most events have onsite registration for the public to try it with their pet.

"They don't have to be registered with the organization to give it a try. Most people that try it, get addicted to the action," she said.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

More than 100 kids with the Salvation Army attend a fun day at the lake event on Lake Fenton on Thursday, July 19.

Fenton Rotary hosts fun day for **Salvation Army kids on Lake Fenton**

Compiled by Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

The Fenton Rotary hosted its third annual Salvation Army day at the lake on Lake Fenton on Thursday, July 19. With sunshine and much help from local volunteers, the Rotary was able to provide lunch to more than 100 kids and volunteers from the Salvation Army.

The kids enjoyed pontoon rides, climbing on Fenton Township's fire truck, playing in a bounce house and relaxing at the Lake Fenton Sail Club.

Longtime Rotarian Scott Ward who also serves on the Board of the Salvation Army of Greater Flint started this event in 2015. The event has grown from about 20 people to well over 100.

"We ran out of food and had lots of fun doing so," said Noah Morgan, president of the Fenton Rotary. "It is a great way for us to allow kids to be kids and enjoy one of our areas most treasured local lakes."

Many children from low-income families rarely experience life outside their

immediate neighborhood. That's why The Salvation Army's partnership with the Fenton Rotary's day at the lake is so important. Every year, these kids get a fresh perspective on life as they meet new friends, discover new activities, and get a taste of the great outdoors.

At the lake, they learned about boater safety, played games, sang songs, made art, and scouted. They were with their trained counselors who helped them navigate the complicated emotions and struggles often associated with their lives back home.

The Fenton Rotary thanks the Lake Fenton Sail Club for allowing them to use the facility and all of the volunteers for making this year's event another great success.

To learn more about the Fenton Rotary, they meet weekly at Spring Meadows Country Club at 7:15 a.m. For details, visit their website at fentonrotary.org or follow the Fenton Rotary on Facebook. If you have any questions email the Fenton Rotary at info@fentonrotary.org.

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FILMMAKER **Continued from Page 3A**

"After going into a coal mine for three months, I got really sick. I got MRSA," he said. "It's dangerous."

In the union, he was considered a digital imaging technician. He worked alongside people like Larry Fong, who worked on the movie "300." "You're next to these guys who have all this experience, and you have a chance to glean off all these really good things," he said.

How he got into filmmaking

Smith studied animation and digital filmmaking at Ringling College of Art and Design in Florida and in New York City at Tisch School of the Arts. After school, he moved back to Michigan, which awarded incentives to filmmakers, and became involved in the Flint Film Festival.

Smith became a background talent on a film shot at Mott Community College, and ended up getting a digital technician position from his animation background and knowledge of the digital 35mm camera, called the Red camera, which "didn't really exist at the time," he said. These cameras are more widely used now, but Smith was one of the first in the state to work with them.

The Michigan film incentive

Local filmmaker Stephen Smith was disappointed that Gov. Rick Snyder ended the film incentive program in 2015. At the time, the Senate Fiscal Agency reported that refundable film tax credits generated only 60 cents worth of private sector activity, according to the Detroit Free Press. Other experts reported that Georgia expected to make billions from its film incentives.

Smith said Michigan had been a great option for big Hollywood producers and stars as a location for

SUMMARY There's a bit of Hollywood in the Fenton area with Fenton resident and filmmaker



movies, but not any-

employ set builders, construction workers, lighting crews and more to make the movies, which brought jobs.

"We need to bring back the film incen-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I HANNAH BALL Fenton filmmaker Stephen Smith has worked on "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," "Lost River," which is a movie directed by Ryan Gosling, and more.

tive," he said. "Movie companies were coming here. It brought another whole industry here that, just like GM, just like Chrysler, created all these jobs. I feel like people didn't understand it and I think that's why it was so quick to get the ax."

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612 W. BROAD ST. (ALPINE PLAZA)

TRIBUTES **Continued from Page 9A**

Kate Negrón, best friend

Ally is the smartest person I've ever met, and also the funniest. She could observe something and tell a joke about it before you'd even noticed what was happening.

My home life was chaotic at best and abusive at worst, and Nikki and Franz welcomed me into their home as a second daughter. By the time I was old enough to drive, I often opted to head to their house after school rather than my own. The love, kindness, and compassion they showed me will never be matched.

This past year, my husband and I decided to channel our grief into a new project. We contacted Holly High and worked with their wonderful counselor Jeannine to start a scholarship fund in Ally's honor. We called the scholarship the "Alexandra N. Brueger Enduring Heart Award." We chose the name because Ally's greatest gift was her heart - her love, her courage, and her compassion -and when she bestowed it on you, your life changed forever.

Basim Towfiq, M.D., hospital coworker

Two years passed since you were taken away from us. No day, no night passed without thinking of you. I see you in the dawns, sunsets and sunshine. I feel you in the breeze, in the storms and the rain, I hear you in birds' songs, rustling of the leaves and babies' giggles.

You are not a memory, you are here, in our souls, in our hearts, occupying every second and every space.

I met you through our work, caring for our invalid fellow humans, but soon discovered that you have a big heart and giant personality that captured everyone's mind and soul. You are not only an excellent nurse, but a human radiating kindness and glowing with talent, joy, compassion, and smiles.

Deidre Aiuto, RN coworker

One of my favorite memories of Alex has to do with working together. There's a window to our medication room (there's a pattern emerging) and while working night shift together, she would place her face right at the bottom opening of the window from the outside and wait for you to turn around, usually causing whomever to jump, possibly scream and eventually always laugh. Every day when I'm at work, I wish for nothing more than to be able to turn around one last time and see her face staring back at me through that window, even if it did always make me jump.

Nicole Adamson, cousin

Ally was a ray of sunshine that brightened the lives of those she came across. She had the warmest heart and the best sense of humor. I was blessed with the best of both worlds when Ally was born. By blood a cousin and by heart a friend. She has been taken from us way too soon. I will cherish all the wonderful memories we have shared together (i.e. sleepovers, holidays, vacations, my wedding). I will hold her close within my heart and there she will remain. I love you Ally!



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO Ally is shown in the front at the wedding of her friend and coworker, Deidre Aiuto.



WEEKEND TIMES

Notes of thanks

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Tri-County Times for continuing to do stories that bring awareness to our daughter's murder, and everyone who took the time to contribute to those articles

Thank you also to Vera Hogan for her tenacity, integrity and determination in finding the truth and obtaining justice for our Ally. And to the men and women of Holly VFW Post and Auxiliary 5587 for their ongoing generosity, support and friendship. They epitomize the values of community. Our grief and daily struggles would have been even more bleak without them.

Nikki and Franz Brueger, Rose Township Parents of Alexandra "Ally" Brueger

CAMPAIGN SIGNS Continued from Page 5A

private property with the permission of the property owner.

These signs "Shall be placed as to not interfere with the visibility or effectiveness of any official traffic sign or signal; driver vision at any access point or intersection; or, pedestrian movement on any public sidewalk," according to the township's general conditions ordinance.

The signs cannot be located within 100 feet to an entrance of a polling place. They shall not exceed 6 square feet on a residentially used or zoned parcel, and they cannot exceed 32 square feet on any non-residential used or zoned parcel.

Only one sign from each candidate is allowed on the parcel.

Holly Village follows the same rules as Holly Township, but has added stipulations. Those include requiring the signs be freestanding and not attached to any tree, utility pole, building or structure, and the top of the sign shall be no more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground. They must be placed outside of the road right-of-way.



Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the Wednesday, July 25, Midweek Times. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Fenton Township fire chief. firefighter suspended with pay Board of Trustees to hold special meeting on Wednesday, July 25 to decide possible disciplinary action.

City toying with drone capability Fenton City police, fire and

building departments could benefit from overhead eyes. From Holly to



classic car to American Pickers, who sell car to NCIS star Mark Harmon.

Condo owners take issues to Fenton City Council

Residents in the latest phase of homes built in the Waters Edge community, approached the Fenton City Council with complaints about the condition of the property.

Why we're addicted to TV crime dramas, true crime

Could be because it triggers most powerful emotion — fear.

Disaster experts ready at a

moment's notice Local couple has been to countless national and local

A look back at 1968

First time forensic evidence was used to solve a crime took place 50 years ago in England.

disasters as Red Cross volunteers.



INDIANAPOLIS **Continued from Page 11A**

This warship, known as "Lucky Indy," was torpedoed by the Japanese in the North Philippine Sea after delivering the core components of the atomic bomb that would destroy Hiroshima.

This war-time disaster took the lives of almost 900 of the 1.200 sailors and marines on board and left 317 survivors barely clinging to life from exhaustion, dehydration, saltwater poisoning, drowning or shark attack before a dramatic rescue took place.

It took four days for the Navy to mount a rescue operation. Meanwhile, hundreds of sailors were now in danger of death by sharks, a new terror beyond what they had just faced aboard ship with fires, explosions, screams and the stench of burning flesh and hair.

As they were ordered to abandon ship, many had not had time to find their lifejackets and very few life rafts could be found. Those men who did not drown immediately clung to debris or treaded water to survive, finding respite only when the death of a crewmate made a lifejacket available.

The feeding frenzy from sharks circling the dying sailors resulted in the worst shark attack in recorded history.

"There soon were hundreds of fins around us," recalled Harold Eck, who was an 18-year-old seaman at the time. "The first attack I saw was on a sailor who had drifted away from the group. I heard yelling and screaming and saw him thrashing ... then I just saw red, foamy water."

The sailors' thrashing about often attracted sharks and there'd be a bloodcurdling scream. One sailor recalled, "Like a fishing float taken under the water,

the helpless sailor quickly disappeared and then his mangled body would resurface moments later with only a portion of his torso remaining. That was then fought over by other sharks, a haunting sound and scene I cannot erase from my mind."

The ship's captain, Charles McVay, was court-martialed for having endangered his ship by failing to require that it take a zigzag course to confound enemy submarines. A broken man, McVay committed suicide in 1968, a revolver in one hand and a toy sailor in another.

Decades later, a coalition of aged survivors; a former skipper of the Indianapolis' namesake, a nuclear attack submarine; a teen who took on the cause after learning about the sinking in a reference in the movie, "Jaws" and Senator Bob Smith took on the cause to absolve the captain of blame.

Congress passed a resolution in 2000, exonerating McVay for the loss of the Indianapolis.

Last year, on Aug. 19, 2017, a search team funded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen found the wreckage of the Indianapolis at a depth of approximately 18,000 feet in the North Philippine Sea.

Many of these events have been woven into numerous books on the subject of the USS Indianapolis, the latest of which was just released July 10.

"Indianapolis" by Lynn Vincent and Sara Vladic, delivers an account of what happened through crisp writing and superb research, according to a review in USA Today. It is the full story behind the tragedy itself, the decades-long movement to clear the captain's name, all the way through the discovery of the wreckage in 2017.

Sources: USA Today, Kirkus Reviews, The Daily Mail



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Just sayin'...

l've got the (DNA) 'blues'

In May, I sent away to ancestrydna. com for a DNA kit. When the kit arrived, I read the instructions and learned that I would have to spit some saliva into a little vial. Once the vial was filled, I was to shake it up, mixing it with the solution at the bottom, and send it back to ancestry in a special box.

There was one problem. Before spitting into the vial, I had some serious dry mouth going on. Before drinking some water to remedy this problem, I opened my desk



VERA HOGAN

Problem solved, no more dry mouth, I opened the vial and began dropping saliva into the little vial. To my horror, my saliva was blue. Because it was mixing with the solution on the bottom there was no turning back. Oh well, I thought. Hope this still works and I sent it in on May 23.

I joked with my coworkers that maybe my results will show that I am a descendant of "Smurfs."

On Monday, July 23, I received an email from ancestrydna.com. They said that after repeated attempts to test my saliva, the results were inconclusive and that I needed to submit a new test, which is on the way for free.

It got me to wondering though, is there any such thing as a "blue person?" So I looked it up online and THERE IS!

PERMITS **Continued from Front Page**

That number has steadily increased since 2012 and is expected to set a new record this year. So far in 2018, 77 resi-

Since the

economy started

to improve, we

haven't had many

applications for

new subdivisions.

however we have

seen a steady

increase in new

home starts. 77

Thomas Broecker

Fenton Township operations

manager/deputy clerk

dential building permits have been issued, with five months still left in 2018.

These numbers were provided by Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk Thomas Broecker, who said, "When the economic downturn hit about 10 years ago, Fenton Township had a number of approved subdivisions with very few homes built. Since the economy started to improve, we haven't had many appli-

View stories at tctimes.com



The couple went on to have seven children and four of them, like their father, had blue skin.

Fast forward to the 1970s and Benjamin Stacy was born. Stacy is the greatgreat-great-great-grandson of Martin Fugate and Elizabeth Smith. To the surprise of his parents and the hospital's staff, Stacy inherits the family's distinctive blue coloring.

This is apparently caused by a condition called methemoglobinemia.

Fortunately for the Fugates and their kin, there are no physical health problems associated with their blue skin. In fact, most survived well into their 80s and 90s.

A doctor came to the community in the 1860s. He had heard rumors of the blue people and started investigating. The doctor's research showed that they lacked the enzyme diaphorase.

The good doc came up with a cure, a medication that turned blue skin pink. It was only temporary though because the medication exited the body during urination. Knowing that it worked, however, he left the Fugates with a healthy supply of blue-ridding tablets to take daily.

I am curious now, when my test results get back, will I have other color skins in my ancestry. Like brown or black, that would be awesome. Or red, that would be cool, too. Yellow would be great as well. Whether we like it or not, all of us are what my husband likes to call a "Heinz 57" blend.

Opinions offered in Just Sayin' are the author's alone and do not neces-sarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Vera at

cations for new subdivisions, however, we have seen a steady increase in new home starts."

People are choosing to build homes in Fenton Township because of the many

lakes, three "excellent" school districts, the shopping in Fenton and Linden, and the "reasonable" commuting distance to Flint, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Novi, Detroit and more, Broecker said.

However, there is no way to differentiate between permits for people who already live in the township and are building ahouse, or people moving to Fenton Township.

"The majority of permits are pulled by builders but we don't neces-

sarily know if the home is being built for the new owner or simply a 'spec' home to be put on the market when complete," he said. "The new homes will increase the township's tax base, which will generate more revenue for services and infrastructure improvements."

vhogan@tctimes.com



O.D., F.A.A.O., Diplomate, American Board of Optometry



The Fenton Pub, owned by local restaurateur Jason Warda, will open downtown this fall at the former location of Bent Yoga, next to Marjie's Gluten-free Pantry.

simple pub. We're not

trying to compete with

the restaurants. There

are so many good food

choices down there. 77

Jason Warda

The Barn and The Fenton Pub owner

NEW BUSINESS: The Fenton Pub

■ 'Simple pub' will be newest addition to Fenton night life

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 The Fenton Pub will be opening its doors downtown this fall, following action Thursday night by the city of Fenton Planning Commis-

sion. On Thursday evening, the Fenton Planning Commission approved the Special Land Use permit to owner Jason Warda for his new downtown pub, formerly the site of Bent Yoga at 108 S. LeRoy St. "The

applicant will now need to apply for construction permits to renovate the space," said Mike Reilly, city of Fenton building and zoning administrator.

Warda, owner of The Barn restaurant in Fenton, decided to open a casual, rustic bar downtown because of

HEROIN

Continued from Front Page

Conditions, ages and hometowns of the patients are unknown as of Wednesday afternoon, said Swanson.

When asked if he expected more overdoses, Swanson said,

SUMMARY

Several law enforcement

agencies are investigating

a rash of suspected heroin

County over the past week.

overdoses in Genesee

"Yes, sadly, we expect more. It's everywhere and we are actively working it as are many other agencies."

Swanson said heroin today can be fatal on the

first use. It can be fatal if the user is long wait, seek help," he said. term. He added that the deadly problem now is the concentration and not knowing if it is mixed with fentanyl, which is 100 times stronger than morphine or carfentanil, which is 10,000 time stronger than morphine.

Fentanyl and fentanyl-related compounds such as carfentanil and acetyl fentanyl are synthetic opioids, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

It only takes a very small amount of fentanyl or its derivatives, which can be all the growth and development that's taking place in the downtown area.

"Fenton could use a simple pub," he said. "We're not trying to compete with the restaurants. There are so many good food choices down there. What we need is a place for people to go before or after dinner, to grab a

drink and hang out **44** Fenton could use a with friends."

The pub will seat 40 people. "We're restoring the original exposed brick and the hardwood floor," he said. "We'll also have an outdoor seating area, a pool table and dart board." What the pub

won't have is a kitchen. "We'll have a full bar, craft beers and a full drink menu, plus Happy Hour specials," he said. "We're just going to have snacks like the signature Barn Dip, chips and salsa, popcorn and nuts, as much locally sourced as possible."

inhaled or absorbed through the skin or mucus membranes, such as being inhaled through the nose or mouth, to result in severe adverse reactions. As a consequence, not only are users exposed to danger, but so are others who encounter them in-

cluding the general public, first responders, and law enforcement, according to the DEA.

The undersheriff urges anyone that sees the drug not to touch it. "If you are, or know an addict, don't

"In the end, addicts stop for only three reasons. They chose to. They get incarcerated. They die."



NOTICE – SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARINGS ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Please be advised, The Argentine Township Board will hold a public hearing for the following Special Assessment Districts Thursday August 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden, MI 48451 to hear any comments or objections. The proposed amounts are for one year and will be placed on the Winter tax rolls. The following proposed amounts are for Township-wide garbage collection, police and fire protection. The additional assessments apply to owners of properties within the proposed districts only.

This year the proposed annual amounts are as follows:

Township-wide Districts:

Garbage Collection \$150.00 per parcel with a home Fire Protection \$130.00 per improved parcel, \$50.00 per vacant parcel Police Protection \$170.00 per improved parcel

Residents who live on a dirt road maintained by the county will pay Road Improvement of \$92.00 for Chloride - dust control

The residents who live on the following lakes weed control districts are as follows:

Lobdell Weeds \$175.00 riparians McKane Weeds \$100.00 riparians Softwater Weeds \$150.00 riparians Myers Weeds \$25.00 riparians

The lighting districts are as follows and only residents who reside in this district will pay the assessment:

Kovacs Lights \$50.00 per parcel for lights Hatt, Locke and Angel Drives \$120.00 per parcel for road maintenance and lights Windwood Beach Drive \$100.00 per parcel for road maintenance and light Pineview Lake Dr \$10.00 per lot for mowing around sign and light Rustic Trail \$10.00 per parcel for light Knobhill Lights \$300.00 for a light and gate maintenance Woods Lights \$56.00 per parcel for lights White Oaks Drive \$40.00 per parcel per parcel for lights

The following is for Road Maintenance on roads that are maintained by the residents who live on them:

Longfellow Drive \$180.00 per parcel for road maintenance Oakhill Drive \$100 per improved parcel and \$40 for vacant for road maintenance and lake access improvements Woodward Drive \$30.00 per parcel for road maintenance plus \$200.00 for ten years for repairs for a total for a total of \$230.00 Selma and Sharon Drives \$150.00 per improved parcel for road maintenance Hartwood Drive \$30.00 per parcel for road maintenance Bougher Drive \$225.00 per parcel for road maintenance Hiawatha Drive \$150.00 per parcel for road maintenance Ridge Drive \$75.00 for parcels North of Lake Drive, \$35.00 for parcels South of Lake Drive for maintenance Longfield Drive \$140.00 per parcel for road maintenance Shiawassee Drive \$150.00 per parcel for road maintenance Locust Grove \$75.00 per parcel for road maintenance Shared Driveway (Duffield Rd) \$10.00 per parcel for road maintenance

The appearance and protest of a property owner or party in interest or agent at the above-referenced public hearing is required to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Such appearance and protest may be made in person at the hearing or by letter addressed to and received by the Township Clerk at 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden, MI 48451 prior to the close of said public hearing. Any appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal must be filed within 30 days after the date the roll is confirmed

Denise Graves, Clerk Argentine Township



Howdeshell keeps making strides to his NHL dream

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Keeghan Howdeshell had quite the

hockey season.

The Fenton Township resident experienced the best hockey season of his career, scoring 16 goals and dishing off 20 assists in 61 regular season games for his Ontario Hockey League (OHL) squad the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds. His squad advanced all the way to the OHL finals, enabling Howdeshell to score nine more goals in 22 games, including a goal that made ESPN's top 10 list. Finally, the

season ended with a trip to the Toronto Maple Leafs' developmental camp in late June, and eventually included an invitation to the Maple Leafs' rookie training camp. However, Howdeshell won't be going to that one. Instead, he's headed to the Arizona Coyotes' rookie camp in early September. Indeed, it's been a good last year for Howdeshell.

"I have found my confidence. I

have more confidence than I used to," Howdeshell said. "This past year I went to the Soo and they treated me well. I was happier and my teammates made me a better player. The coaching staff made me a better player. I had more confidence than I've had in a long time."

Howdeshell recently went to the Toronto Maple Leafs' developmental See HOWDESHELL on 19A

PHOTO COURTESY OF SOO GREYHOUNDS Tri-county resident Keeghan Howdeshell had an outstanding season with the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds last winter and also recently attended a prospect camp for the Toronto Maple Leafs.

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2018 | PAGE 18A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Fenton dominates first portion of Tri-County Top 16 poll

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 When it comes to the prep sports scene, the tri-county area has been pretty blessed with great squads.

When the sports staff has done its Tri-County Top 16 Teams in recent years, we've had teams placing in the top 10 or advancing to state quarterfinals that would find themselves just inside or maybe even outside the top five. The competition has been tight, and it's been outstandingly great.

Now let's advance to the 2017-18 school year. It's not like the athletic scene didn't have great stories. It did. Our No. 1 team truly deserves that ranking, and would've contended for it during other recent seasons. However, when it comes to elite state level competition, we were lacking this year. We had a few, but the sports staff would argue the depth of this year's top 16 isn't nearly as deep as in the past. In fact, a team that may be mid-list this year, may have not have qualified for our list in some of our recent polls.

Okay, enough talk. It's time to list the first third of our 2017-18 Tri-County Top Teams. Remember, this poll is strictly the opinion of the sports staff.

Honorable mention - Linden football took second in the Metro and won a playoff game, but fell just short of our top 16. The Lake Fenton football team finished an undefeated GAC Red season but was unable to crack our list. Apparently, Lake See TRI-COUNTY on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES DAVID TROPPENS

Two of the 2017-18 Tri-County Top 16 Teams are eighttime Metro League champions Fenton football (above) and Lake Fenton's varsity boys cross country team. Fenton football was placed at No. 16 in the sport's staff annual poll while the Lake Fenton





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

David's



MY DETROIT TIGER FANDOM CARD HAS BEEN REVOKED

I am a Detroit Tigers' fan. Growing up, before any other Detroit professional sports team, I became a Tiger fan first.

I always wanted to go to opening day, and forced my parents to take me to a reasonable number of them. If given five stat lines from any 1978 Detroit Tiger, I could probably nail which line is for which player still 40 years later. That's how much Tigers' stats were ingrained in me at the time.

But as I get older, my interest in professional sports has waned. Don't get me wrong. I'm still a Detroit Tigers' fan and will always identify as one, but even as recent as about 2009, I never missed any game I didn't need to. That has changed to last year's season where I'm not sure I even watched a complete game any time during the season.

This year I wanted to change that. I wanted to start getting more involved with the Tigers again. And up until the Monday of the All-Star break, I thought I was doing a relatively decent job. I've watched more games. I've watched pieces of more games. And when I miss games, guite frequently, I watch the abbreviated replays at midnight to catch up. Indeed, my

See DABBLINGS on 19

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

The Fenton varsity girls soccer team is No. 15 in our 2017-18 Tri-County Top 16 Poll. The Tigers won the Metro League title with a perfect 8-0 record.

TRI-COUNTY Continued from Page 18A

Fenton teams will have the biggest beef with our honorable mention selections — the Lake Fenton girls soccer team, the Lake Fenton/Goodrich girls varsity lacrosse team and the

Lake Fenton competitive cheer team also finished just outside the top 16. No. 16 - Fenton football: Traditionally, our area football teams haven't ranked terribly high on our lists, and there's a reason for that. While many have outstanding league

seasons, it's really their nonleague games and their postseasons that will enhance their resumes. And, unfortunately, the tri-county area is still waiting for a football team to win a regional title. That's why the area's most popular sport

and looked poised to make some noise in the postseason, holding an 8-1 overall record. However, the postseason ended a bit earlier than the Tigers had hoped when they lost to league foe Flushing in the district title game. They beat Carman-Ainsworth in the district semifinal.

No. 15 - Fenton girls soccer: The Tigers were our No. 1 team in 2014-15 and make another appearance this year after finishing the Metro League season with a perfect 8-0 record and a strong 15-5-1 overall record. Fenton would've been higher in the poll but the Tigers lost to Pontiac Notre Dame Prep in a district title game.

No. 14 - Fenton boys golf: Traditionally, the Fenton athletic program ends up with a nice number of these teams in the poll. This year, the Tigers will be dominating the Top 16, with more than half of the entries in it. Fenton boys golf was our No. 2 team from the

spring season and earned it by completely crushing the Metro League competition. The Tigers won the preseason league meet by just four strokes, but then went undefeated in dual play before capping league play by beating everyone by 29 strokes in the final conference meet.

But like a lot of teams in this poll (and just outside the poll), while they dominated Metro squads, the postseason wasn't as dominant. The Tigers took seventh in what was a tough regional, but it still was only seventh. That's what kept them so low in this poll.

No. 13 - Lake Fenton boys cross country: Sorry, Blue Devils, but this is your only team in the top 16 this year. The Blue Devils finished only second in the GAC, but that was due to a strong Corun-

na squad in their conference. **CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM** HOWDESHELL

Continued from Page 18A camp for two weeks. It wasn't his first time being invited to one. He was invited to the New York Islanders' camp two years ago.

"It was a good experience and it was fast-paced," Howdeshell said. "Four current players on my team were there. Two years ago I was a little nervous (at New York's camp) but at this one I think it was a bigger camp and there were better players to be around. I think being older made a big difference."

One thing Howdeshell had at the camp that maybe none of the other members had was a highlight during the OHL playoffs that was so good it made ESPN's Top 10 list. While skating around the opponents' net, he lifted the puck up on his stick, and threw it into one of the top corners around the keeper.

"I tried it a few times during the season and I was getting better with it as the year went on," Howdeshell said. "I went behind the net and it was the perfect opportunity. The puck went on my stick and I made it. I had been practicing it a long time, so I was pretty happy.'



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOO GREYHOUNDS

Tri-county resident Keeghan Howdeshell plans to play for the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds this winter.

While his plans may change depending on what happens in Arizona, right now Howdeshell plans on returning to the Greyhounds for one more junior hockey season.

"I'll go to rookie camp, do my thing and then go from there," Howdeshell said. "My plan is to go back to the Sault. I have another year I can work with. That's the plan, but if something does come up (from the rookie camp), then I'll focus on that. But right now I'm focused on the upcoming season."

Howdeshell said he's excited about his future.

"I've had more fun over the last year-and-a-half playing hockey than I've ever had," Howdeshell said. **CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

DABBLINGS

Continued from Page 18

doesn't rank very high in this

list. The Tigers won their eighth

straight Metro League crown

.

Tigers' fandom card had returned to active status — at least that's what I thought.

On the Monday of the All-Star break I turned on the television, looking to see if the Tigers were playing (forgetting it was the All-Star break, so that's strike one).

The contest was a daytime game and I found that weird. That meant the game had to be a Monday afternoon contest, and I couldn't figure why it was a Monday afternoon game (strike two). Finally, the game got into the late innings and they were

talking about pinch hitting Miguel Cabrera. My first throught was 'Wait a minute, he's hurt and out for the season' and now I was curious. I had to see if he had miraculously healed (foul ball, still strike two). It wasn't until the Tigers won a game by a walk-off suicide squeeze play that it finally hit me — 'It's the All-Star break and this is a replay of a great game from earlier in the season.' But, when the game ended, I had no recall of the game at all (strike three, looking).

.

I guess I still have a long way to go before I get my Detroit Tigers' fandom card re-approved.

RUNNER'S LOG

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 darn near 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 tricounty community, alert us about the event at dtroppens@tctimes.com and we'll add it to the list.

SGT. PATRICK J. O'ROURKE 5.5K AND FAMILY HERO 1/4 MILE FUN RUN The event based at Hartland High School is Aug. 11. The 5.5K race begins at 8:55 a.m. The course takes

runners through downtown Hartland. Part of the course will include the Sgt. Patrick O'Rourke Memorial Highway, a stretch of Old US-23 renamed in his honor. Preregistration is \$35 with a shirt and \$25 without a shirt. Day of registration costs are \$45 and \$35.

For more information, go to payitforward55.com.

DIEHL'S CIDERFEST RUN

The event based at Diehl's Orchard and Cider Mill is slated for September 29. The one-mile run begins at 8 a.m. and the four-mile run starts at 8:30 a.m. The one-mile race costs \$15 while the four-mile race is \$25 for those who preregister and \$30 for those who register on race day. For more information call Rachel Selina at (810) 923-5550.

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