Butterfly garden will have new steps, lighting

■ Safety features will bring total cost to about $54,000

By Vera Hogan

Although $35,000 was approved for the original project, the need for some safety features could bring the cost of Fenton’s downtown “Butterfly Garden,” currently under construction, up to about $54,000.

According to Michael Hart, assistant city manager and DDA (Down-town Development Authority) director, a few things came up during construction that needed addressing.

“We had steps there that had jagged stones,” Hart said. “It was decided to have new steps, lighting and some safety features could bring the cost of Fenton’s downtown “Butterfly Garden,” currently under construction, up to about $54,000.”

Looking for a few good bus drivers

■ Fenton transportation finds creative way to solicit applicants

By Vera Hogan

Fenton Area Public Schools transportation administrators have put it right out there — on a big yellow school bus on Owen Road indicating the need for school bus drivers.

“We, in transportation, have been dealing with driver shortages for at least five years,” said Gayle Matthews, transportation director.

Fatality rate has doubled since motorcycle helmet law repeal

By Vera Hogan

Was it a mistake for the Michigan Legislature to repeal the motorcycle helmet law in 2012?

The partial repeal, passed in April 2012, allowed Michigan motorcycle riders age 21 or older to legally ride without a helmet if they have the candidates have done, Fenton officials, well done.”

To the residents who are too lazy to vote, I say thank you. We don’t need more uninformed citizens casting their vote based on television ads full of BS promises that the candidates have no intention of fulfilling. Do your homework or stay home.”

Hey, I have a good idea for the new building going up on Owen Road. Let’s put in a Big Boy and a Pizza Hut.”

‘I never dreamed I would have a husband light me on fire’

■ Area woman shares horrifying story of being abused by spouse

By Sharon Stone

Rebecca Garnett considers herself lucky to be alive.

Garnett, 56, of Holly could have been killed when her husband, David Garnett, doused her with gasoline and lit her on fire following an argument about her cat and the litter box at 6:56 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 5. He was sentenced May 29 to a maximum of 50 years in prison for the first-degree arson and assault with intent to murder, as reported in the Times on Sunday, June 3.

Still living in her mobile home in Holly with her older cat, Garnett is sharing her story with the hopes of

Big crowds enjoy ‘Taste in Fenton’

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — The 18th annual “Taste in Fenton” on Wednesday, Aug. 1 saw crowds of people in seemingly never-ending lines waiting to get food.

Nineteen local restaurants from Mancino’s to VQ’s and more were busy taking tickets and handing out food to hungry people. The Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce hosted the event.

Various businesses and organizations, such as Fenton’s Open Book and...
526 N. Leroy • Fenton
222 N. Main • Davison

FENTON
4550 Autumn Wood Way
Great Location! 1976 sq ft plus partial finished basement total of 2576 finished living space! Spacious foyer, Open Kitchen/Great room area with fireplace. Kitchen has just delivered all new appliances! Master bedroom with master bath, and walk-in closet.

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HOLLY
3513 Grange Rd
Beautiful Home located in the village of Holly. Walking distance to downtown Holly. Close to Seven Lakes State Park - Nature Park is the back yard for you to enjoy very private. You will fall in love with this home.

$192,000
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CLAYTON TWP
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This updated ranch sits on a beautiful lot with majestic trees and beautiful landscaping, 16x24 two story barn would make a great workshop and provide lots of storage. Heated 12x20 four season room offers a wonderful view of the yard and wildlife that ventures thru.

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Call Sheila Rhodes 810-348-7357

CLAYTON TWP
8112 Beecher
Very cute, completely updated 3 bedroom 2 full bath home on 4.43 acres. Open living room, kitchen, Dining room concept. 1 Car attached garage and 2 car detached garage. Beautiful yard, over an acre fenced in and 2+ acres into the woods.

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Pride of ownership is on glistening display in this sprawling newer home constructed in the old Victorian/Colonial style that will blow you away with it’s 10 foot ceilings on the main level PLUS great room and the brightness provided by huge custom windows.

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SWARTZ CREEK
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Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath totally renovated home in highly sought after Swartz Creek Schools. New paint, new kitchen, granite countertops, all kitchen appliances included, ceramic tile floors, new carpet, remodeled bathroom with ceramic tile shower and floors, new driveway.

$125,000
Call Tammy Harper 248-459-6868

HOLLY VLG
402 Harden St.
Welcome home to this completely remodeled ranch sitting on 3 lots within walking distance to downtown Holly. Offers lots of storage room in the large, clean attic. Yard is fenced in and has an additional shed for hobbies or gardening. Large 2+ car garage.

$145,000
Call Sheila Rhodes 810-348-7357

OTISVILLE VLG
400 W. MAIN Street
Vintage home. Quaduplex. This is a diamond in the rough, but with a little tlc could be a wonderful bed and breakfast, or family sprawling home, or continue to use as a rental. Lots of original woodwork, including beautiful curved staircases. 24x30 attached garage and storage.

$149,000
Call Sheila Rhodes 810-348-7357

LINDEN
6396 Azorn Way
River Oaks Hollow sub, 1940 sq ft home with 3 bedrooms 3.1 baths. Attach garage and Finish walkout basement with large entertainment room, bedroom and kitchen area. Beautiful yard. Hurry! This one won’t last!

$269,900
Call Patrik Wethy 810-240-0418

VERNON TOWNSHIP
11590 Prior Rd.
Custom built home in 2016 on 7.5 acres. Home sits at the back of the property for Privacy. This home is very energy efficient. Garage plus studio workshop and So Much More! A MUST SEE!!

$329,000
Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351

VENICE TWP
9890 E Brooks rd
4,100 Sq Ft Ranch on 20 acres, with 3 car garage and large 40x60 attached pole barn. Come see what this home has to offer!!

$359,900
Call Judy Wright 810-845-4414

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2375 Gibson Road
Ranch home on 1.18 acres. Spacious 2014 sq ft home close to shopping, and expressways. 2 car detached garage. Unfinished huge basement.

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Ranch home with 1900sq ft, 3 bedrooms, finished basement, Great Location. Come see what this home has to offer!! Utica Schools

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Open concept eat in kitchen with appliances included. Back of property features bright 3 season room also with a vaulted ceiling windowed to the top that leads out on to a deck.

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Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552
There’s lots of summer left in Michigan

Don’t let a single second of summer slip through your fingers

By Sally Rummel

Halloween candy and crafts may be filling the store aisles and you’re already making your back-to-school to-do list — but that doesn’t mean summer is almost over.

In fact, there are still 49 days left before the first day of fall on Sept. 22, and 24 days until school begins on Aug. 28. There’s lots of living you can do between now and then, so don’t let a single second of summer slip through your fingers.

See SUMMER on 17A

Summer is still sunny and beautiful here in Michigan. There is still time to plan summer fun.

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WITH THE FENTON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Roundtrip airfare • ALL meals included • Local wines served every dinner on the ship

TOURS INCLUDE:
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Space is limited because there are only 70 cabins and the trip is open to all Chambers in the US.

Don’t miss this opportunity!

For more information call 810-629-5447

Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce
February Sponsors: Action Centers Inc.

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TCTimes.com

WEEKEND TIMES Sunday, August 5, 2018 3A

Fenton Fire Assistant Chief Charlie Koan, 70, has been with the department for 47 years, and has seen the job, and the community change in that time.

A perspective of change through the eyes of local firefighters

By Tim Jagielo

Firefighters have a unique vantage point of the community. Like police and paramedics, they see people at the worst moments of their lives.

Their job puts them inside, and on top of burning buildings, and slicing up vehicles at crash sites to extract trapped crash victims.

The construction of homes and vehicles has changed over time, as well as the composition of the community. These local firefighters shared how their job, and how the community, has changed over the decades.

Fenton Fire Department

When Fenton Fire Department Assistant Chief Charlie Koan, 70, started, some firefighters didn’t even wear a breathing apparatus.

Koan has been a Fenton firefighter for 47 years, and has seen the changes in the landscape and technology. He said that buildings have changed “drastically” in size.

“A lot more square footage, also the construction has changed,” he said. There is more brick and mortar than there is wood, making them less flammable.

There are now more chemicals that burn along with structures, such as foam, stains and polyurethanes from furniture. Today, firefighters go in wearing air packs as part of their protective “turnout gear.”

The gear lets them know when oxygen is getting low, so they can get out and get more air.

Firefighter gear used to be black rubber. “Sometimes you felt you were going to burn up in them,” he said. Today, they wear flame-resistant Nomex.

The size of the department has grown from 18 to 35 on-call firefighters. He said that buildings have changed “drastically” in size.

“...
3-D-printed guns? Yea, that’s what we need as a society. I’ll tell you what: When 3-D printing becomes cheaper (a plastic gun costs between $5,000 and $600,000), this country is in for a world of hurt. We rely on metal detectors to protect our courts, stadiums, airplanes, you name it. It’ll be open season on the loons and terrorists when there’s no metal to detect. Thank you, N.R.A.

As long as I live, I will never understand — nor abide by — Starbucks’ use of tall, grande and venti for small, medium and large. I refuse to use their terms on grounds that calling a small a tall is stupid. (I’m a deep thinker) And I am against the use of fancy-schmancy made-up words (venti, for instance, in which we use the same number of letters as the abbreviation V for venti). How many of those do we need?

Don’t you think, though, that there are too many micro-breweries for the micro-beer drinker? Seems like a lot of micro-brewers for the micro-drinker. I don’t think so.

I’m not a huge beer fan, but I will say Bell’s Two Hearted Ale is the best I’ve ever tasted, although I’m willing to accept challenges. Your submissions welcomed.

Don’t you think, though, that there are too many micro-breweries for the market to support? Seems like a lot of them are bound to die off. Same goes for coffee shops offering specialty blends. How many of those do we need?

We’re coming up on Michigan corn time. There’s none better. Butter and sea salt are my favorite toppings, although Cuban corn (majo, lime, cayenne and Parmesan) is a close second.

I’m starting to hear people talk about football. Please stop it. Football is a fall activity. Summer doesn’t end until Sept. 21. Stop jumping the season.

Oh, hell, I might as well join in: My fearless Detroit Lions prediction is they’ll sort of, but not quite completely stink, as always. Death. Taxes. Lions.

UM coach Jim Harbaugh seems like a weird (in an amusing way) dude. Did you see the report this week about his belief that he doesn’t eat chicken (or didn’t when he was playing at U.M., anyway) because it’s a nervous bird? How do you even respond to that if someone says that to you?

Speaking of season—jumping, I see the stores are already filling up with fall and winter gear. I refuse to shop at stores that do this. I don’t want to buy fall and winter gear in the summer. I want to buy fall and winter gear in the winter, by which time all that will be available is spring and summer stuff. Life is dumb.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a warning last week that salads and wraps from Trader Joe’s, Kroger and Walgreen’s may be contaminated with an intestinal parasite. O.K., that’s bad. But if you’re like me you’re much more focused on thinking, “Wait, Walgreen’s has salads?” At least if you get sick on one, you’re in the right place. “I’ll take the salad and this medium, please.”

There have been so many food illness outbreaks lately I’m tempted to stop eating altogether. Is there such a thing as an aietarian? (I’ll try it and let you know how it works out.) The political part of me wonders whether a lack of health inspections has anything to do with the outbreaks. I don’t know about you but food safety should be one area where we stand as one. The more inspections the better.

“Very little is needed to make a happy life; it is all within yourself, in your way of thinking.” — Marcus Aurelius

I WAS NEVER happy that one couldn’t split tickets in primary elections. This year it isn’t even a question. Blue, all the way.

VLADIMIR LENIN, founder of the Communist Party said, “Destroy the family, you destroy the country.” Planned Parenthood, women’s liberation, attacks on religion, Sunday shopping, no-fault divorce and the LGBT movement all have contributed to the demise of the family.

The most read book in the world is the Bible. You shouldn’t die without reading it.

I see the comments about the parade and think that would make a good article. What is the process to be in the parade? How come there are no marching bands? Does the city seek people out or just first come, first served?

In Chicago and San Francisco, they are proposing to hand out monthly stipends of $500 to $1,000 a month to low-income families as welfare. Food stamps and Medicaid programs are not enough.

President Trump is a master negotiator and dealmaker whether it is regarding trade in the best interest of America, foreign policy or getting more support for NATO from our allies. After eight years of seeing Obama cave in, capitulate, and throw money at these problems, Trump is a refreshing change for America first.

Bernie Sanders and the Democrats have some big ideas all revolving around freebies; free tuition, free Medicare programs and Medicaid programs and job guarantees. Please note that many people do not want to work and free money is no incentive to work.

I’d like to say huge kudos to Fenton for the excellent art fair this past Saturday. Music, the activities, art stand for children and the displays were all very nice and very well coordinated. Thank you.

Wake up residents of Tyrone Township. Green cemeteries are not necessarily good cemeteries. The only thing green about them is the money that the owner and township will make on this deal. Concerns about contaminated water should come first? When it is too late?

The street talk on tattoos was interesting, but I’d like to offer some facts. One out of every five people under the age of 35 has at least one tattoo. The rate of infections and contaminations are off the charts including hepatitis. Think before you ink is what I would recommend.

When you’re in line at the grocery store, mind your own business. Maybe the person using a food card worked all their life and only gets $800 a month from Social Security. You want to see fraud, go to Flint. Mind your own business.

Stay proud dear Democrat, you’re not alone.
### Tankless Heaters

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<th>Model</th>
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<tr>
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<td>$119.95</td>
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<td>Saniflo 51252</td>
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### Water Softener Salt

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<td>50 LB Bag of Water Softener Salt</td>
<td>$10.90</td>
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### Pump Stand Selection

- **5 Foot Tower Stand**: $499.00
- **10 Foot Tower Stand**: $749.00
- **15 Foot Tower Stand**: $1,099.00

### Trophies

- **5x5 Trophy Tower**: $1,699.00
- **5x6 Predator**: $2,199.00
- **6x6 Buck Palace**: $2,499.00
- **6x7 Big Country**: $2,799.00

### Hunting Season

- **5 Foot Tower Stand**: $499.00
- **10 Foot Tower Stand**: $749.00
- **15 Foot Tower Stand**: $1,099.00

- **5 Foot Tower Stand**: $499.00
- **10 Foot Tower Stand**: $749.00
- **15 Foot Tower Stand**: $1,099.00

### Water Softener Salt

- **50 LB Bag of Water Softener Salt**: $10.90
- **50 LB Bag of Water Softener Salt**: $9.90

### Store Hours

- **M-F 7am-5pm**
- **Sat 8am-2pm**

### Contact Information

**Vic Bond Sales**
227 Industrial Way, Fenton
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**Store Hours**
M-F 7am-5pm
Sat 8am-2pm

**Online Presence**
[www.vicbondsupply.com](http://www.vicbondsupply.com)
Witches Night Out to benefit local firefighters

Mark your calendars. The Witches Night Out is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 12, from 5 to 9 p.m. in historic downtown Fenton. Round up all your friends, dress as a good witch, bad witch, or wizard for a spookycuckl晓 night of shopping. Stroll the merchants for scary good sales, prizes and treats. Another special part of the event is the “Stuff the Boot,” located in Fenton’s Open Book, which is collecting funds to support the Fenton Fire Department. Free shopping bags will be available while supplies last.

Police & Fire report

Harland township woman killed in motorcycle crash

On Wednesday, Aug. 1, at approximately 3:40 a.m., deputies with the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office were dispatched to westbound I-96 and Highland Road in Howell Township for a fatal crash involving a motorcycle. The preliminary investigation has revealed that a 44-year-old Harland Township man was operating a 1994 Honda Gold Wing with a 46-year-old female passenger also from Harland Township. The driver lost control in the rain merging onto westbound I-96 from Highland Road. The motorcycle crossed three lanes of traffic before coming to rest in the median. The driver was transported to the University of Michigan Hospital by Livingston County Ambulance with life threatening injuries while the passenger was pronounced deceased at the scene. The driver and passenger were both wearing helmets at the time of the crash. Alcohol and speed do not appear to be factors in the crash. Personnel from Livingston County Ambulance, Hamburg Township Police, Howell Area Fire Department, and the Michigan State Police assisted deputies at the scene. The freeway remained closed for approximately three hours while deputies investigated. This accident remains under investigation by the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office Traffic Safety Bureau.

Helmets

Continued from Front Page

passed a motorcycle safety course or have held the motorcycle endorsement on their driver’s licenses for at least two years. During the year after Michigan allowed motorcyclists 21 and older to ride without helmets, the fatality rate among the bareheaded riders was double that of their helmeted counterparts, according to a study released in September 2016 by the University of Michigan and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

The research covered the 12 months immediately prior to and after April 2012, when Michigan repealed its universal helmet law.

The study examined police-reported motorcycle crash deaths and head-injury data. For that two-year period there were 7,235 reports of riders who crashed in the state. Of those, 1,094 were hospitalized at trauma centers. Over the two-year period, the number of motorcycle fatalities overall did not increase significantly, but the fatality rate among unhelmeted riders who crashed was 3.4 percent, nearly double the 2.8 percent among helmeted riders.

The percentage of trauma patients with head injuries increased 14 percent in the year after repeal. They were 17 percent less likely to suffer concussion-related injuries, but 39 percent more of them incurred skull fractures.

A separate study of one Michigan trauma center published in early 2016 in the Journal of Surgery stated that care given to unhelmeted riders cost about $28,000, or 32 percent higher than care cost for helmeted riders.

Under the law, those choosing to ride without a helmet must carry at least $20,000 of accident insurance.

The good news is that 75 percent of motorcyclists 21 or older still choose to wear a helmet.

Cindy Meganck of Lennon, said, “I always wear my helmet. Anybody that rides on their bikes will wear a helmet. That is our rule.”

Veronica Pheasant of Argentine Township said not wearing a helmet “is like a death sentence. I think freedom of choice, right?” She said she would not allow her son to go helmetless.

Former battalion chief for the Argentine Township Fire Department, Joe Ludwig, said, “From a fire/ems and EMS viewpoint, it’s cata-

strophic not to wear one.”

Joe Ludwig, former battalion chief for the Argentine Township Fire Department.

Sources: iihs.org, freep.com

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

IN CALIFORNIA THIS past weekend, an illegal immigrant from Mexico who had been deported 12 times and now back in California, took a chainsaw to his wife. Surprisingly, she survived. Please keep in mind that these are the people that the Democrats wants to protect.

WHY DID TRUMP meet with Putin in a closed-door session for two hours? What was discussed and what is he not telling the citizens of the United States?

THANK YOU to the people in the white pickup truck with I love chickens sticker in the rear window for paying for my lunch at McDonald’s in Holly on Friday, July 13. Thank so much. I’m 85 years old and that was so nice of you. God bless you.

JUST FOUND OUT there will not be a Ghost Walk this year. This was always a fun way for me to learn about history and stories from the past. It brought 100s of people into town, which is always great for business.

IF CALLING AN unbearably loud baby a uterus is justification for your convictions about ending its life, there is no reasoning with you. I would argue contraception, abortion, adoption, anything but abortion. Life is up on conception period.

IF CALLING AN article stating the first sets of Korean War soldier remains may be brought back to the U.S. at the end of July. So much for your report that they were returned and being tested. Military officials report no new cases have been returned since the North Korean summit.

GOD LOVES YOU all the time. He created you. No mistake, you are special. Best things in life are free. You must appreciate all these things we take for granted — air, water, hands, feet, ears, eyes, nose and mouth. Count your blessings.

DEMOCRATS THINK of Trump the same way Republicans think of Obama. Both are stupid and you can’t fix stupid.

GIVE ME A break. Democrats are not opposed to family values, religious freedom, upholding the laws, opposing to family values, religious freedom, upholding the laws, and being open minded and spreading lies is what Republicans do best.

THANK GOODNESS WE can protest anything we want, including what this country was founded on. Maybe some conservatives will wake up and open their minds and see the error of their ways.

YES, I NEED some more information on how to get rid of my cable. I need to open their minds and hearts and learn compassion.

THE ONLY REASON you don’t like roundabouts is because you’re not smart enough to learn how to use them.
A Family Entertainment Center located in nearby Clarkston!

- A gigantic 3-story play structure with slides, obstacles, a zip line and our signature 3-story bear slide!
- Cub Cove for the little ones is a smaller version of our big play structure with a variety of age-appropriate toys.
- Wavy slides, bumper balls, rope climbs, kiddie rides, skeeball, games, arcades and more!
- Café and Bar serving beer, wine, wraps, paninis, salads, and fresh pizza for lunch & dinner.
- Big screen TVs and Massage Chair for mom and dad!

Basic Party Package $150
Includes 10 children/20 adults
Party room for 1 hour
2 pitchers of pop
Colored birthday party decor

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HOURS: Mon - Thurs: 9am - 8pm • Fri - Sat: 9am - 9pm • Sun: 9am - 6pm
Woman steals air mattress, power washer in Fenton

On Sunday, July 22 at 12:40 p.m., Fenton police responded to a retail store on Owen Road to investigate a retail fraud complaint. A loss prevention officer told police they observed a white female push a cart containing $200 worth of merchandise out of the store, at the lawn and garden exit. The employee requested that the woman stop, however, she did not stop. She tossed an air mattress and power washer into a Chewy Impala and sped away. The license plate information was given to police and it is registered to a 74-year-old Flint woman, which did not match the description of this suspect. Police are attempting to identify the suspect and doubt that the Flint woman is involved.

Register now for Sgt. Patrick J. O’Rourke 5.5K Run/Walk and Family Hero Fun Run

The third annual Sgt. Patrick J. O’Rourke 5.5K Run/Walk and Family Hero Fun Run will take place Saturday, Aug. 11, starting at Hartland High School. The race begins at 8:55 a.m. with a scenic route through historic downtown Hartland. Part of the course will include the route through historic downtown Hartland. Awards will be given out on a stretch of Old U.S. 23, renamed Sgt. Patrick O’Rourke Memorial Highway.

Bus drivers

Continued from Front Page

Director: “We have managed to keep things running smoothly here in Fenton because of several other employees within the district that hold a CDL and are willing to help out where they can.”

Superintendent Adam Hartley said, “The shortage of drivers has forced us to be creative in how we cover runs, such as using our head mechanic to drive, and how we advertise our open positions.”

“Years ago, school bus drivers were, for the most part, moms that were looking for a part-time job that was on the same schedule as their children, Matthews said. Now, most families are looking for full time, year round work, with benefits, she said. “Joe Humpert, our operations director, and I have been talking about ways to advertise for school bus drivers,” she said. “We decided a good way to do that would be a sign on an actual bus sitting in a highly traveled area would be best, and it has brought at least 10 calls with interested people. Some of those said they would get back with me, and we have two that are working toward becoming a school bus driver.”

Matthews said, “Being a school bus driver is a job that allows a person to also have time to do other things in the day,” she said. “You have the middle of the day off, along with all weekends, holidays, and summers. Driving a school bus is a great job for retired people looking for something to do.”

Hartley said, “Joe Humpert and Gayle Matthews continue to be creative and work hard to bring in quality people and train them properly to be part of our team here in FAPS. We are fortunate to have the leadership we do in order to weather the storm when it comes to a statewide shortage of drivers. We appreciate all of our bus drivers and what they do for us day in and day out.”

Anyone that may be interested can contact Matthews for more information and details at (810) 591-8911. “Fenton Area Public Schools is a great place to work,” she said.

Register now for Sgt. Patrick J. O’Rourke 5.5K Run/Walk and Family Hero Fun Run

The third annual Sgt. Patrick J. O’Rourke 5.5K Run/Walk and Family Hero Fun Run will take place Saturday, Aug. 11, starting at Hartland High School. The race begins at 8:55 a.m. with a scenic route through historic downtown Hartland. Part of the course will include the route through historic downtown Hartland. Awards will be given out on a stretch of Old U.S. 23, renamed Sgt. Patrick O’Rourke Memorial Highway.

Round and Owen traffic light should be in place by start of school year

City wants suspected drunk driver’s insurance company to pay for replacement.

’Taste in Fenton’ is tonight

A complete rundown of 18th annual event featuring 19 eateries, entertainment, 50/50 raffle and more.

New election technology stops split ticket mistakes

Roses Township trains next generation of election inspectors for primary election.

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VOTE

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AUGUST 7, 2018

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Not authorized by any candidate or candidate’s committee.
Workers with Jetstream Landscape and Irrigation compress the pavers at the butterfly garden in Fenton on Wednesday, Aug. 1.

Hart. The exact cost of the footings and mounting the sculpture is not yet known. Permanent footings will be able to tolerate freeze/thaws and the changing of the seasons. “We were going to try and fasten it (sculpture) to the tiles, but we’re really trying to make it more durable,” he said.

Hart anticipates the Butterfly Garden in what he calls the “pocket park,” could be completed by the third or fourth week of this month.

It will take time, too, for whatever plantings are put in to become established, Hart said. He anticipates butterflies becoming attracted to healthy growing flowers as early as 2019. It will likely take two years for it to really flourish. “If we have a really rough winter, we might have to replant or refill,” he said.

Hart anticipates another additional cost and that is approximately $6,000 for a lighting package. He is bringing that request to the next DDA meeting.

“One thing we were not contemplating was people out there in the evening,” he said. The project is being very well received and popular.

“If we had lighting, the pocket park could be utilized in the evenings and during concerts in the park,” he said. “We’re going to have lighting there in the flower beds, at the sculpture and stairwells. We’re getting a lot of people downtown. “If we have a lighted pocket park, it becomes a bonus, an extra amenity for the downtown and for Thursday night concerts,” he said. “These visitors shop, eat at our restaurants and enjoy free family fun on a beautiful Thursday evening.”
**Activation of emergency sirens confuse residents**

Genesee County 911 investigates unplanned blaring of sirens

By Sharon Stone

If you heard an emergency siren blaring off in the distance Tuesday, July 31, you are not imagining things. Genesee County 911 confirmed that sirens activated at 6:25 p.m. and 11:25 p.m., however, there was no emergency or weather threat.

The sirens were activated by an outside source.

Municipalities across Genesee County, except for Fenton City, are linked to Genesee County 911. The municipalities are responsible for purchasing, installing and maintaining their own emergency sirens and Genesee Central Dispatch has been responsible for sending the control tones to activate those sirens for decades now. Fenton City 911 is responsible for controlling the sirens inside the city.

When Genesee County 911 sends the proper control tones for siren activation this signal is large enough that all sirens under control of County 911 are controlled, said Fred Moses, chief technology officer for the Tri-County Times. They cannot pick groups or areas of sirens to alert/control. They have three options — Weather Alert, CD ATTACK and Cancel. Those are the only commands they can send and if somebody had accidentally pushed one of those buttons or “hacked” into that system all the sirens would have been controlled. During the events in question, only small portions of the sirens were activated and as such were controlled from a separate lower powered signal Moses believes. This is why Tuesday’s activations are under investigation.

Moses believes that someone with an inexpensive hand-held VHF radio sent out the control tones. These alert tones, being the valid tones the sirens are waiting for, triggered as they were supposed to. As the signal was not as powerful as normal, the sirens in range were triggered.

When asked if this could become a regular problem, Moses said if someone is intent on triggering sirens from a vehicle as they drove down the road, it would be difficult to stop in real time. Federal authorities from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the FBI have great RDF (Radio Detection Find) systems that can be used to track and identify the offending signals. But in the long-term, upgrading the siren control systems to a more secure digital system would need to happen for this to be permanently stopped. Technology has come a long way in the last few decades for siren control/activation means. And our systems should be upgraded, said Moses.

Moses reminds residents that the National Weather Service does not have the capabilities or authority to activate any particular municipality’s emergency sirens. These are controlled by the municipalities themselves.

In the event that a siren is activated, Moses urges residents to seek further information, either by turning on their TV or checking news websites covering their area. Residents can also sign up to receive free emergency notifications via text, email or voice message by going to genesee county 911. “When a siren is activated something is happening and you need to look for more information, it doesn’t always mean a severe weather event is coming,” Moses said.

Oakland County’s system is different than Genesee County’s 911 system. Oakland County well over a decade ago upgraded technology that allows isolated sirens to be activated rather than sounding sirens across the entire county. The system also is two-way in that the effect that sirens can report back statuses and error conditions to allow for proper maintenance before a siren is needed and could fail.
The pie-eating contest at Taste in Fenton attracts a big crowd. Contestants could not use their hands to eat the pie.

The pie-eating contest at Taste in Fenton.

The attendace was off the charts compared to what it's been in the past. Matt Sherrow Taste in Fenton chairperson

The event is in an “ideal location,” right behind the Fenton Community and Cultural Center, he said, which is how they showcase downtown Fenton to the people who travel there for the event. “Our committee and chamber think it was a great success,” he said.

TASTE Continued from Front Page
Concerned Over Police Safety (C.O.P.S.), set up booths around the perimeter, engaging the attendees.

The kids’ area featured a bounce house, face painting, a big inflatable slide and a dunk tank. Parents took videos and photos of their kids plunging under the water after a successful throw.

CRUST - a baking company drew big crowds for its two competitions — the kids doughnut-eating contest and the pie eating contest.

In the doughnut-eating contest, Dan Doan of Brighton won the pie-eating contest and $500. Contestants had to be the first to finish an entire pie, made by CRUST, without using their hands. Their faces were covered with blueberry pie when the contest ended.

“It was fantastic,” Doan said. His son and daughter, who watched him win, both won cherry pie-eating contests in Traverse City. “They were really excited for me to join this. They were really rooting for me to get pulled.”

He said the pie was good, but his stomach was then queasy.

Attendees enjoyed live music as they ate and drank. Entertainment was provided by, “Tie-Dyed Giants,” a band that plays ’50s to contemporary music.

The event was off the charts compared to what it’s been in the past, Sherrow said.

It’s hard to gauge the actual attendance but based on feedback from restaurants and vendors, the attendance was off the charts compared to what it’s been in the event,” he said, adding that multiple restaurants that are veterans at the event ran out of food.

“It was more than anyone had ever served,” he said. “We were running low on tickets at the end. That’s never been an issue.”

He doesn’t yet know how much money was raised.

Sherrow said the weather, which featured a few sprinkles, likely kept the attendance up because it wasn’t too hot with the cloud coverage.

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Matt Sherrow, who owns Fenton Winery & Brewery with his wife, Ginny, has been on the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Taste In Fenton Committee since 2008. He has been the chairperson since 2014.

More information about the Holly Area Schools Health and Enrollment Fair, call (248) 328-3106.

Home sweet home
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Meet a resident of Our Town

Dr. Chris Repke

- Husband
- Father of two
- Veterinarian

Dr. Chris Repke, 42, doctor of veterinary medicine, has been a vet for 15 years. He’s originally from Alpena, and came to Fenton after working in White Lake for about 12 years. He graduated from Michigan State University in 2003 and now owns Pointe Animal Hospital in Fenton.

Why did you want to be a vet?

It’s what I wanted to be from the time I was a little kid. I’ve always enjoyed animals and as I grew older, it seemed like a fun and interesting job. Amazingly enough, I still feel the same way today.

What’s a common mistake people make with their pets?

A common mistake I see people make with their pets is failing to anticipate the costs of owning a pet. From food to treats to bedding to toys to healthcare for them and many other items, the cost of owning a pet. From food to treats to bedding to toys to healthcare for them and many other items, the cost of owning an animal is failing to make with their pets?

What advice would you give high school and college graduates?

One, work smarter, not harder. Many times in life, an alternative path can get you to your destination much easier than the one you are currently struggling on. Two, and perhaps initially it may seem counter to the first advice, but that is to work hard. Anything truly worthwhile in life will take effort to accomplish. If it were easy, everyone would do it. And hard work can overcome many other shortcomings you may have.

Third, be self-reliant. Don’t depend on others or the government to make your life into what you want it to be. Make it yourself. And last, live life so that when you reach the end, you are absolutely, completely, and utterly exhausted. Squeeze every last drop of enjoyment out of your life.

Tell us about your family.

I love being a dad. My wife and I have two sons, Luke and Ryan. Luke is about a year and half old, and Ryan was born just this Fourth of July. You went to MSU. Are you big into sports?

I love sports, particularly football, baseball, soccer, and hockey.

Who inspired you as a kid?

As a kid, my biggest inspiration was my dad. As I grew a little older, another big inspiration was Dr. Woolman, the veterinarian in Alpena that I worked for as a kid.

If you could be any animal, which one would you choose?

If I could be any animal, I would love to be something like an eagle, where I could fly and see the world with ease.

As a kid, my biggest inspiration was Dr. Woolman, the veterinarian in Alpena that I worked for about a year and half old, and Ryan was born just this Fourth of July. You went to MSU. Are you big into sports?

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Lt. Dustin Lucius (left) and Assistant Chief Charlie Koan work on making shelves at the Fenton Fire Department on Tuesday, July 24.

“We put our lives in each other’s hands every day. We experience things both horrendous and miraculous. I think all of that creates a unique bond of caring and support.”

Jeremy Lintz
North Oakland County Fire Authority chief

“...I think can be attributed to stricter building codes and better public education,” Lintz said. Like all departments, NOCFA has experienced an increase in medical calls. Better vehicle technology has decreased vehicle crash injuries over time. The biggest change over the past 20 years for Lintz is working with other fire agencies for mutual aid on calls, which he thinks has been a huge benefit to communities.

He said the same family atmosphere at NOCFA has persisted through his career. “We put our lives in each other’s hands every day. We experience things both horrendous and miraculous. I think all of that creates a unique bond of caring and support.”

One problem every department is experiencing is a shallow roster of on-call firefighters. Lintz and Koan both attribute this to the significant training required, whether someone is paid-on-call, or full-time.

Initial training includes physical agility training and six months, or 240 hours of training. After that, maintaining the certification could take another 20 hours a month. “Remember this person is a volunteer or paid-on-call firefighter so they may not have the same experience as they work full time at, and may have a family that they are raising,” he said.

**HOT LINE CONTINUED**

TRUMP’S $12 BILLION bailout for farmers, from his tariffs, where is the Tea Party now?

TO THE ABORTION activist. Perhaps the science class you need is just a lesson in real life. I once believed what you believe now — and I truly regret it. Abortion ruined my life. There is ‘nothing more precious’ or ‘valuable’ in life than a life that is surrendered.

IF YOUR GOD of science eases your conscience of killing babies, then by all means use the terminology of fetus instead of baby when in the womb. The Bible declares life begins in the womb (Psalm 139:14-16), so abortion is killing the baby, according to God’s word.

TRAVEL ROUTE INFORMATION. old U.S. 23 north of White Lake Road to Bennett Lake/Jennings Road corner was bad for many years. It all been resurfaced with new black top. Nice job guys, beautiful.
IMMUNIZATIONS OFFERED MONDAY, AUG. 6
The Genesee County Health Department is offering an offsite immunization clinic Monday, Aug. 6, from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Argentine Early Childcare Center at 8483 W. Silver Lake Rd. Michigan law requires certain vaccines to be administered to school age children. To help you keep your child up to date for school or daycare, the Genesee County Health Department offers offsite clinics throughout Genesee County. Call (810) 357-4588 to schedule your child’s immunization appointment.

FREE HEARING AND VISION SCREENING
The Genesee County Health Department is offering free hearing and vision screenings for preschool and kindergarten students ages 3-5 on Monday, Aug. 6 and Tuesday Aug. 7 at the Argentine Early Childcare Center at 8483 W. Silver Lake Rd. Call (810) 591-0320 to make an appointment between a.m. and 3:15 p.m. for either day.

Students entering kindergarten in a Michigan public school are required to have their vision screening six months prior to the start of school in September. Michigan House Bill 5094 requires children entering kindergarten present a statement to school officials confirming they have received the Michigan Department of Community Health vision screening.

ABUSED
Continued from Front Page
educating young girls and women about domestic abuse so that they won’t end up in her position.

Garnett said she and David had been together for 14 years and married for 10. For nearly 20 years, she has worked as a caregiver for special needs adults. She said she loves her job.

Her caregiving role spilled over into her married life as well, since David underwent back surgeries and was home most of the time. She waited on him as she thought he should, as his wife.

About six months before the attack, which was the first physical assault on her, Garnett said she started standing up for herself around David. She said he was never happy with what she did and that he made her feel that she was never good enough.

They argued often about her cat, which he hated, and its litter box. She said she told him that if he didn’t like how she was doing things he could do it himself since he was home all day. “He didn’t take that well,” she said, adding that he told her, “Now you think you’re better than me.”

Garnett said she implied to David that he could leave if he didn’t like things. She said he took the trailer and did not go anywhere. He was adamant about not leaving and that he would light it on fire with his inside. “I didn’t believe it, but he did,” she said.

On Feb. 5, she said he started breaking things in their home and then threw a shadow box containing her father’s military flag and photos out their bedroom window. Shattered glass fell in the bedroom.

“She was trying to choke me but I didn’t want him to fall since he was disabled,” she said. She quickly thought that she’d be in trouble if she knocked him down causing injury to him.

She said David walked outside, into a shed and grabbed a five-gallon container of gasoline. He walked back into their home pouring gasoline on the floor and onto the sweat pants she was wearing.

Using her cellphone, Garnett, trying to stay calm, called a friend and asked if she should call 911 or the fire department. Before she could do anything, she said he threw the phone out the window as well and lit her pants on fire as he walked out the door.

On fire, Garnett said she climbed through the bedroom window and fell onto the snow. She had cuts on her hands from the broken glass. She rolled around in the snow to put out the fire. “I was lucky it was just my leg,” she said. “God was looking out for me.”

A neighbor came to her aid and David was arrested. To this day, she cannot wear long pants since they would interfere with the healing of skin grafts she had on her leg.

She missed 10 weeks of work. Garnett said she was raised by parents who were married for more than 60 years before they died. “I never dreamed I would have a husband light me on fire,” she said. “It makes no sense.”

She has sought counseling to cope with the situation and is trying to make sense of it all. She said she really thought she could lead their marriage by example. She thought she could fix his controlling behavior if she spoke nicely and quietly. “It didn’t work,” she said, adding that he was unhappy and depressed.

As she heals, Garnett is considering going to the schools to teach young girls and women not to let this type of behavior become a pattern. “Don’t think that a guy can talk to you rudely or grab your arm,” she said. “To your parents, you are the most precious thing in the whole wide world. I guess I didn’t get that message growing up.”

For the rest of her life Garnett will be telling herself, “I’m worth more than that.”

THREE COUNTIES TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
Friends of Rebecca Garnett of Holly have started a gofundme page to help her move from her fire and smoke damaged mobile home into a one bedroom apartment. For details go to www.gofundme.com/new-life-start-for-burn-victim. According to Garnett’s gofundme page, Winglemire Furniture in Holly is donating a bed since she moves into an apartment and Skaff Furniture in Flint Township is donating a recliner.
TRI-COUNTY TIMES DIRECTORY

APOTOLIC

THE CARPENTER’S HOUSE CHURCH
2740 Grange Hall Rd. • Fenton
Corner of Fish Lake Rd.
248-328-9844
Pastor James Dilworth 634-2195
Sunday Morning Service………..11:00 am
Wednesday Evening……………..7:00 pm
Wednesday Youth Service…..6:30 pm

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH
6481 Faussett Rd. • Howell
517-546-9807
Father Gregg Pleissner, Pastor
Saturday Mass…………………………5:00 pm
Sunday Mass………………8:30 am & 10:30 am
Weekday Mass Wed-Fri……………9:30 am
Confessions Saturday……………….4 pm and upon request

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
600 N. Adelaide • Fenton
810-629-2251
Father Robert Copeland, Pastor
Pastor Matthew Joseph, Associate Pastor
Saturday Mass………………6:30 pm
Sunday Mass………………8 am, 10 am, 12 noon & 6 pm
Weekday Mass….Mon-Fri & 1st Saturdays 8:20 am
Wednesday Evening………………6:30 pm
Holy Days: See our parish bulletin or visit our website at www.stjthefenton.org
Confessions Saturdays 3:40 pm ………Wed 6-7 pm
Monday & Friday following the 8:20 mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
every Friday 9:00 am-8 pm in the church cry room

ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH
309 E. Maple St. • Holly
248-634-4841
Fr. David Blazeck, Pastor
Saturday Mass………………4:00 pm
Sunday Mass………8 am, 10 am, 12 noon & 6 pm
Weekday Mass………Tues 7:00 pm
Wed. & Thurs…………..9:00 am
Reconciliation after Sat. 4 pm Mass or by appx.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
204 E. Rockwell • Fenton
810-629-3211
Church Service………………..11:00 am
Sunday School…………………11:00 am
Wednesday Evening………………7:00 pm

EPISCOPAL

ST. JUDE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
106 E. Elizabeth St. • Fenton
810-629-5681
Holy Communion………………8:00 am, 10:30 am
Children Program-God Play………10:25 Youth Group
………………………………11:45 am

LUTHERAN

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, LC-MS
7355 W. Silver Lake Road
(Behind Linden High School)
Linden, MI 48451
810-735-4807
www.hopelinden.org
Pastor Steve Schlake
Sunday Worship………………8:15 am & 10:45 am
Adult Bible Study………………9:30 am
Sunday School………………9:30 am

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14176 Fenton Rd. • Fenton
810-629-7332
www.fentonlutheran.org
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ALL ARE WELCOME ALWAYS!
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Summer Wednesday Worship…….7 pm
Adult Sunday School……………9:30 am
Women’s Adult Bible Study Thursdays……10 am
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Fax 810-629-9877
www.trinitylutheranchurch.org
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Worship Services
Wednesday in the Word………………6:30 pm
Saturday Traditional Worship…………6:30 pm
Sunday Traditional Worship…………6:30 pm
Sunday Education Hour………………9:45 am
Sunday Contemporary Worship………….11:00 am
Saturday ……………………………5:30 pm, Bible Study

SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES WELS LUTHERAN CHURCH
8420 Runyan Lake Rd. • Fenton
Pastor Nathan Loercher
810-224-1250
Sunday School………………9:15 am
Adult Bible Study………………9:15 am
Sunday Worship Service…………..10:30 am

FENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
119 S. Leroy St. • Fenton
810-629-2132
www.fentorumc.com
Jeff Jaggers - Lead Pastor
Michelle Forsyth - Associate Pastor
Katie Glasson - Director of Children’s Ministry
Ashley Bach - Director of Youth Ministry
Sunday morning traditional worship in our sanctuary……………….9:30 am
Sunday morning casual style worship in our Family Life Center………………11:05 am
Sunday evening blended style worship in our Family Life Center……………….6:30 pm
Nursery and children’s ministries at………………9:30 am & 11:00 am

HOLLY CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
15101 N. Holly Rd. • Holly
248-634-9711
www.hollycalvary.org
Rev. Cliff Schroeder
Sunday Worship………………9:30 am
Wednesday Worship………………6:30 pm
Nursery Provided at all services.

LAKE FENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2581 N. Long Lake Rd. • Fenton
810-629-9361
Pastor Char Shay
Sunday Worship………………9:00 am
Sunday School……………………10:00 am

LINDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
201 Bridge St. • Linden
810-735-4807
Pastor Crystal Thomas
Worship & Jr. Service………………10:00 am
Coffee Hour……………………….11:00 am
Nursery Available.

NAZARENE

ARGENTINE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
16248 S. Seymour Rd. • Linden
810-735-7118
Pastor Robert Lindsay
Sunday School………………9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship…………11:00 am
(Senior and Youth Ministry)
Sunday Evening Worship…………6:00 pm
Wed. Children & Teens………………7:00 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting………………7:00 pm

FENTON CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
11075 Runyan Lake Rd. • Fenton
810-750-6544
Pastor Ron Sharpe
Sunday Worship Services………………11:00 am
Sunday School for all ages………………10:00 am
Nursery Provided for Sunday Services.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

THE ROAD COMMUNITY CHURCH
810-922-2088
Lead Pastor Chris Vitarelli
www.theroadcommunitychurch.com
Howell Campus - 4101 Clyde Rd……………9 am
Fenton Campus - 301 S. Holly Rd.…………11:30 am
Coat Closet and Food Pantry available on Sundays or by appointment (810) 348-4286

THE ROCK
11400 S. Linden Rd. • Fenton
810-629-2444 • www.hisrock.net
Pastor Wes Morris Welcome you
Saturday Evening Service………………6 pm
Sunday AM Service………………8:30 am
Sunday AM Service/LakeFenton HS 10 am & 11:30 am
Wednesday Mid Week Service
Kidd Rock (2 yr & 3rd grade)…………………..7 pm
Adult Bible Study…………………..7 pm
Jr. & Sr. High Bible Study…………………..7 pm
Addiction & Recovery…………………Tuesday nights 7 pm
BUS MINISTRY IS NOW AVAILABLE -
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PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FENTON
503 S. LeRoy St. • Fenton
810-629-7801 • www.fpcf.org
Pastor Lindsey Carnes
Sunday Worship………………10:00 am

LINDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
119 W. Broad St. • Linden
810-735-5755
Pastor Dawn Stoker
Traditional Service………………9:00 am
Contemporary Service………………10:30 am
Children’s Church………………10:30 am
(Nursery provided at each service)

TYRONE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
9141 Hartland Rd. • Fenton
810-750-0350
Pastor Linda Living-Hawley
Sunday Worship Schedule
Celebratory Worship………………10:00 am
Children’s Sunday School………………10:30 am
Fellowship…………………………11:30 am

TYRONE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10235 White Lake Rd. • Fenton
810-629-1261 • Tyronepena.org
Sunday Worship (Includes Children’s Church)………………10:15 am
Sunday School ………………………9:00 am
Sunday Evening Worship…………6:00 pm

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½ Sandwich & Soup $5.25
Burger, Fries & Drink $6.99
Gyro, Fries & Drink $6.99
Valid with coupon only. Not valid with any other offer. Fenton location only. Expires 8/14/18

20% OFF
YOUR TOTAL BILL OF $30 OR MORE
Valid with coupon only. Not valid with any other offer. Fenton location only. Expires 8/14/18

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REGARDING SPECTRUM, IT’S called lobbying and you will not be given a choice. Keep voting corporate Democrat or Republican.

TO THE SELF-described Democrat. As a union carpenter, the only raise I’ve gotten in the last 10 years was this past tax cut. Thanks go to our President.

IN REGARDS TO the person offering their opinion about Trump not serving — did you?

WEEKEND TIMES
Beaches
You’re never more than six miles away from a body of water in Michigan or 85 miles from one of the Great Lakes. Take advantage of our late summer weather and hit the beach. There are beaches in Fenton, Linden and Holly, and an entire coastline in Michigan from which to choose. Pick somewhere you haven’t been before and take a road trip. Hint: If you haven’t been to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Empire, put that on the top of your list.

Baseball
If you haven’t been to a ball game yet, you still have plenty of time to catch a Detroit Tigers game at Comerica Park. Their final home game series will be played Sept. 21-22-23 vs. the Kansas City Royals.

For minor league action, you have your choice of games from the Lansing Lugnuts to the Great Lakes Loons (Midland), Traverse City Beach Bums, West Michigan Whitecaps (near Grand Rapids), Kalamazoo Growlers and in nearby Toledo, the Mud Hens. Play continues throughout August and early September, according to most schedules.

Lions pre-season training camps
To get a jump on the Detroit Lions fall season, you can still see the team in action open to the public in August at their training facility in Allen Park, including their pre-season opener on Aug. 10. For a full schedule of practices and regular season games, visit DetroitLions.com.

Concerts
August and September continue to be busy outdoor concert months in Michigan. Our state’s most well-known concert venue, DTE Energy Music Theater in Clarkston, will be offering top-notch music entertainment until its final concert with Ozzy Osbourne & Stone Sour on Sept. 19. Watch for other big-name entertainment at Ford Field, Little Caesar’s Arena, Freedom Hill Amphitheatre and Meadowbrook Music Festival.

Festivals
Hollygrove is the fictional home of the Michigan Renaissance Festival in Holly, opening Aug. 18 on weekends and Labor Day through Sept. 30.

For more family fun, visit the National Night Out Festival in South Haven Aug. 9-12; Back to the Bricks Tune-up Parties in Linden on Aug. 8 and in Fenton on Aug. 9; the world’s largest one-day automotive cruise, the Woodward Dream Cruise, on Saturday, Aug. 18 in Metro Detroit; the Ann Arbor Blues-Festival Aug. 17-18; Arts, Beats & Eats in Royal Oak Aug. 31-Sept. 3.

For a complete list of festivals, visit michigan.org/fairs-festivals.com.

SUMMER
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Hot Line
The world got it wrong. Truly Adolph Hitler was a god as he was able to rise from the dead to give a speech, three years after his death.}

To the comment of the week. Sunday. When you are speaking of a draft dodger, you are speaking of Bill Clinton. Trump had a physical when he was A-1 classified. You don’t like our president, but that unfortunately is your opinion. Telling things accurately in my opinion, is better.

To proud democrat. whose only wage increase came under Democrat administrations, I’ve had wage increases under both parties. Instead of waiting for government try getting off your butt and earning a raise.

Hurley builds a strong foundation for 25 years

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For a complete list of festivals, visit michigan.org/fairs-festivals.com.
By David Troppens

At the time Erin Carter wasn’t too upset.

The Fenton varsity softball team was playing a May 23 doubleheader at Grand Blanc High School. During the twinbill, the Fenton junior was having one of her typical strong showings. She had five hits in eight at bats and drove in six runs. She even hit one of her seven home runs she had during the team’s 31 contests this spring. It was an outstanding day at the plate with one exception — Carter struck out during one of her plate appearances. Unknown to her at the time, it was the only time she struck out during 113 plate appearances all season.

“Of course I do,” Carter said when asked if she remembered that one strike out. “I try to think of all the good things but it is hard not to dwell on that one. I think it’s funny because I struck out just one time. It was swinging. At that point I had no clue I had not struck out so far, so (Fenton varsity softball coach Ken Brant) was keeping it on the down low. It was rolling in the dirt, I was in my head, I swung and struck out.”

That’s about the only bad moment Carter had all season. In a sport where batting .400 is considered outstanding, she was spectacular collecting an eye-popping .625 batting average, a .681 on-base percentage and a 1.104 slugging percentage. Already verbally committed to the University of Iowa, Carter collected 11 doubles, seven triples and seven home runs among her 60 hits in 96 at bats in 2018. She drove in 45 runs and walked 14 times.

Her season earned her first-team All-Metro League status and Division 1 Honorable Mention All-State status. It also earned her another honor. She’s the 2018 Tri-County Softball Player of the Year, beating out strong seasons by Division 2 First-Team All-State players Kalani Lau (Lake Fenton) and Liz Rakowski (Linden) for the honor.

“I think my confidence grew this year,” Carter said. “My other years were decent, but I thought I grew as a person, grew with confidence when I was going to the plate and fielding a ground ball. I believed in myself.”

“It’s hard to define her season for sure,” Brant said. “Those numbers don’t even equal to what she brings to our team. Not only is she an unbelievable skill player who can dominate offensively and defensively, but she’s just a good-hearted, even-keeled athlete, and she loves to compete.”

The Tigers were a young squad in 2018, so the wins weren’t as plentiful as they have been in recent years, but what Carter did was help a young squad get experience and help provide leadership to help the team during their rebuilding season. And she provided the strongest bat of any player in the tri-county area on a daily basis. She went 5-for-8 (.625 batting average) in the team’s first doubleheader against Flint Powers and her batting average never dipped below .520 from that point.

CONTINUED AT TTCTIMES.COM

Fenton’s Carter slugs her way to Softball Player of the Year honors

By David Troppens

Holly girls tennis tops our Top 16 for first time

By David Troppens

All of the sports seasons have plenty of squads. In fact, if the sports staff has counted each season’s team total correctly, the fall sports season has the fewest varsity squads in the tri-county area. Yet, each year fall dominance continues.

All that said, our first-place team is not a fall sports team, and while our new top squad is annually in our poll (missing only once), this is the first time the team has hit the top spot. That means in the 10 years the sports staff has been doing the Tri-County Top 16 Team Poll, we have our seventh new team champion. We won’t say who that is yet.

Traditionally, area boys’ teams have dominated the top spot, but this year’s team is a girls’ team. Holly girls tennis tops our Top 16 for the first time.

The 2017-18 school year was no exception. In fact, it may have been the year the fall season did its best.

Of the 16 teams on our list, 10 are from the fall sports season. There’s no real reason for this.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 2018 | PAGE 18A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS
Linden Warriors program growing, squad competes at World Series

By David Troppens

About four years ago, Jamie Widner had an idea. The idea was to create a Linden travel softball program to help generate interest in the sport within the community.

During that first year, the Linden Warriors had just two teams. Now the program has squads at four different age groups and is holding tryouts for its fourth season next spring.

The program also did something else. The team qualified for the NSA Class B World Series held in Hobart, Indiana recently, finishing the tournament with a respectable 2-3 record.

“We did well there,” Widner said. “We played some really tough teams and I’m pretty sure all of the girls had a lot of fun.”

“It was a great event. It was our first time doing it. We started our club with two teams and now we are getting ready to start our fourth year. We grew to five teams this year and we’ll probably add another one and have six teams this year.”

The squad earned a 9-3 win against Michiana Repetition and a 6-5 victory against the Prestige (Illinois). In the 6-5 win, Sophia Helm hit a two-out, two-run single in the bottom of the fourth earning the team the lead for good. Helm ended the game with three hits and three RBI, while Aubrey Wymore had two hits.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

The Holly varsity girls tennis team finished the season as the 2017-18 Tri-County Top 16 Team’s No. 1 squad.

TOP 16

Continued from Page 18A

earning seven of them. However, that number won’t become No. 8 as we’ll have our third girl’s No. 1 squad.

Enough of the trivia, let’s get to the fi nal six teams. Numbers seven through 16 were published in previous publications.

No. 6 - Fenton boys cross country: The fifth cross country team to be listed in our poll is our highest ranking harrier squad. The Fenton boys were No. 5 last year, and slipped just one notch to No. 6.

The Tigers won the Metro League by taking second in the first jamboree but then winning the final two, beating out area rival (and fellow top 16 entry) Linden for the championship.

During the postseason, the Tigers qualified for the Division 1 state meet by taking third in what was a demanding regional field. Once at the state meet, they took a so-so 19th place at Michigan International Speedway. Linden’s boys finished seventh at the state meet. What gives? Fenton beat the Eagles during the regular season and Division 2 is an easier state task than No. 1. If we took both teams’ state times, Fenton would’ve beat Linden in a dual. This was a tough call, and one others could easily gone the other way and post Linden higher, but the sports staff sided with the Tigers this time.

No. 5 - Fenton girls swimming and diving: Here’s a team that’s been in our poll nearly the entire 10 seasons. Last school year’s No. 12 team jumped an impressive seven notches into our top five this year.

The Tigers have won at least a piece of every Metro League title since 1998, and earned the 2017 one by going undefeated and crushing the entire Metro field at the league meet.

But as most know, the competition level isn’t very high in swim for the Metro League, so the Tigers have to impress us by what they do at the state meet. The Tigers were solid, taking 18th out of 50 teams that had representation at the D2 state meet. Taylor Shegos placed second for diving and the squad had all three relay score team points.

This was a mighty talented team, but most of the squad should be coming back this fall. Maybe the Tigers can contend for No. 1 next year? We’ll find out soon.

No. 4 - Fenton volleyball: The Tigers are one of just two teams to make our poll each of the 10 seasons we’ve produced it. After finishing No. 2 a year ago, Fenton had another outstanding season by dominating the Metro League with an undefeated championship season.

The Tigers also had another strong postseason run. A year ago Fenton advanced to the state semifinal round. Last fall the squad won the district championship and advanced to the regional championship match before losing to Midland. The Tigers just keep plugging along.

No. 3 - LFLF gymnastics: Wow, what a debut to the Tri-County Top 16 Poll! The co-op squad that has gym- nasts from each of the four tri-county schools captured a league title, a team regional championship and became the area’s top winter team as well. Once at the state meet, the squad placed 10th with Brook Hutchings earning All-State honors in all four events and in the all-around.

The winter squads better be prepared. They have a new sheriff in town.

No. 2 - Fenton girls golf: The entire top five of this poll are girls teams and the Fenton lady golfers had a pretty strong case to be No. 1, after earning the top spot in our 2017 fall poll.

The Fenton golfers put together a strong regular season and a pretty dominating postseason as well. That’s something very few teams did last year in the tri-county area.

The Tigers dominated the regular season by winning all of their Metro duals and won both Metro meets by an average of 40 strokes.

In the postseason, the Tigers were regional runner-ups, earning Fenton a spot at the state tournament. Once there, the Tigers had a strong showing, taking 10th place.

The girls made a nice jump. They were No. 7 in last year’s poll.

No. 1 - Holly girls tennis: This decision was an easy no-brainer. Traditionally one of the area’s top teams for the last 30 seasons, the Bronchos put together one of their finest seasons in school history this spring.

The Bronchos crushed the Metro League, not only winning every match in dual and tournament play, but Holly did so by never losing a single set to any opponent. Now that’s complete domination.

When the postseason started, the Bronchos made the regional foes look pretty silly as well, winning every single match (and every single set once again) en route to one of the easiest regional championships Holly tennis has ever experienced.

The magic continued right through the D2 state meet, as Holly took fifth at the state meet and had Nicole Johnson win the squad’s first ever state flight championship when she won at No. 2 singles.

Simply stated, the Holly varsity girls tennis team was the most dominant team of the 2017-18 school year by large amount.
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