

Fenton's beloved Walden's Lounge closed for good



Malvin E. "Babe" Walden is shown here in 2010. He died in April of 2013 at the age of 69.

Tri-County Times file photo

■ Iconic bar served locals for more than 80 years

By Vera Hogan

The door to another piece of Fenton history has been closed. Walden's Lounge, located on North LeRoy Street for more than 80 years, has been closed, likely permanently.

In 1934, Phyllis (Lunt) Walden and her husband Malvin J. Walden purchased the Cobblestone Tavern on North LeRoy and renovated it. After a fire in 1964, the bar was rebuilt and named Walden's Lounge. Her husband died in 1972.

Phyllis Walden was born in Lancaster, England and came to this country in 1911 with her family aboard the RMS

See **WALDEN'S LOUNGE** on 16A



Duane "Fuzzy" Walden is shown here in 2016. He died June 22 of this year at the age of 76.

Tri-County Times file photo

PAGE 12

Our oceans... more plastic than fish by 2050

Weekend Times

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Higher than expected election turnout across the state

■ Locally, Linden had highest percentage of voters

By Hannah Ball

Voter turnout for the Aug. 7 primary election was higher than expected across the entire state, showing more people doing their civic duty and taking part in America's electoral system.

Local municipalities

The city of Fenton saw a 27 percent voter turnout with 2,383 votes out of 9,331 registered voters.

Fenton Clerk Sue Walsh said, "Historically, primary election voter turnout in Fenton has been light with an average of approximately 12-percent turnout. Yesterday's turnout was very encouraging. My hope is that voters are realizing how important it truly is to vote in every election."

See **VOTER TURNOUT** on 8A



The Fenton Tune-Up Party, which is a pre-party to the Back to the Bricks event on Aug. 14 to 18, drew a healthy crowd anxious to view hundreds of classic, unique and even stock vehicles on Thursday, Aug. 9. The weather was clear from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m., when the threat of rain prompted some participants to leave. The police cleared the streets for the safety of the visitors. See more photos online at tctimes.com. Photo credit: Tim Jagiello, Times media editor

Holly Hills expansion decision postponed



In the early 1990s, the first phase of Holly Hills was built with 276 homes. Owners are seeking to gain site plan approval for the second phase. By the time the third phase is built, the manufactured home community could feature 700 homes. Photo credit: Tim Jagiello, Times media editor

■ Neighbors and officials cite safety concerns for project

By Vera Hogan

The Holly Township Planning Commission postponed making a decision on the Holly Hills expansion project, inadvertently giving those opposed, more time to garner support for their efforts to

have planners eventually deny the request.

Holly Hills, which is owned by Meritus Communities in Farmington Hills, was expecting to get the project approved at the Aug. 1 Planning Commission

See **HOLLY HILLS** on 15A

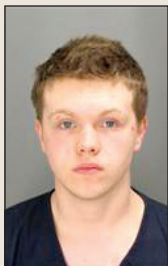
Two years probation for Snapchat threat

■ Holly teen pleads guilty to posting 'I feel like shooting up a school today'

By Sharon Stone

Kenneth Dane Parks, 17, of Holly, was sentenced July 23 to 24 months probation, ending July 23, 2020, after he pleaded guilty to making threats to

See **THREAT** on 15A



Kenneth Dane Parks

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“President Trump is focused on America first. Liberals are focused on stopping Trump. Take a moment to think about that.”



“Tyrone Township, organize against proposed 'green' cemetery at Fenton and Germany roads. Local mortician says burial without encasement is not advisable. Our wells will be in danger. Write your state reps and make them aware. Attend township meetings and voice your concerns. We don't want another Flint water crisis here.”



“Genesee County residents, have you gone insane? You vote for more millages while we are being taxed to death on our homes? A millage is a tax. Don't you read the Times? We are already paying for 15 millages. You just added thousands of dollars to our property taxes.”

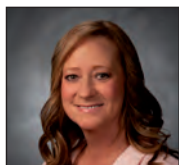


COMMENT OF THE WEEK
“Want to say that the new Horizon Building is a great asset to Fenton. Heard someone complaining that it is different than other buildings. Yes, thankfully it is wonderfully designed and built. Congratulations to the owners and occupants.”





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Associate Broker
Sales Associate
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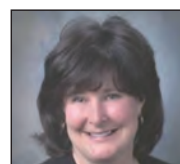
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Sunday
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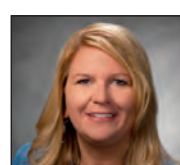
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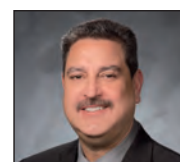
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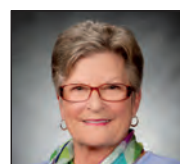
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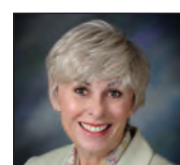
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New On Market



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Great neighbors make great neighborhoods

■What it takes to live peacefully with the people around you

By Vera Hogan

Everyone can make small changes in their community every day simply by acting in a neighborly way.

The importance of being a good neighbor extends far beyond improving bonds with those you live closest to. Communities work better, students perform better, crime rates are lower, kids are safer, and people live longer when neighbors know one another better.

Laura Carpenter of Fenton agrees and said, “We have amazing neighbors downtown, next door and across the street. We can rely on them for anything — a quick



Volunteers rake and clean Eagles Wooden Park in Linden, for the community clean-up day, spring 2017. Working to beautify a community is part of being a good neighbor. **Tri-County Times** file photo

pet check, lawn mower, shoveling, even a pick up if your car is dead.”

According to americanlifestylemag.com, the following is a list of top things good neighbors do:

Establish good terms and build relationships with all neighbors

Great neighbors make their communities friendlier and safer, while improving the overall quality of life for themselves and those who surround them.

Pay it forward

Every time a neighbor does something nice, he or she pays it forward to at least two other neighbors. Even simple things like clearing a neighbor’s driveway before he or she gets the chance to, or

See NEIGHBORS on 5A

Cleaning up after the flood and the fire

■Disaster restoration companies seek to get homes and businesses to ‘pre-loss’ condition

By Tim Jagielo

His business had only been open for a month, but Community Threads owner Allen Ryckman was roused at 3 a.m. and told his building was on fire.

“It was scary, we couldn’t get into the building, and we were peeking in the windows,” Ryckman said. “Your heart sinks into your stomach.”

On Nov. 29, 2017, a rooftop heater unit above his Fenton business caught fire, damaging the roof and filling his unit with smoke. The fire department stopped the fire, but also dumped water into his building.

The restoration company, Purves Construction, was on site within five hours to patch the roof, handle the water and set up air scrubbers for the smoke. He opened a month later, and the heater was finally replaced in June.

Disaster restoration companies are often work-



This home in Fenton was a total loss in May of 2018, according to Servpro. Some houses can’t be restored, and must be rebuilt. **Photo submitted to Times**

ing with people during their worst time, or one of the worst times in their lives, and it’s their job to get clients back to where they were before the loss.

They also work with insurance companies and communicate with clients through the process. Generally, the goal is to get their clients’ home or business to “pre-loss condition.”

Eric Chesser is president of Servpro of Lapeer/Grand Blanc, which handles the local area.

“It’s very catastrophic for any homeowner or business owner,” said Chesser, whether fire, water, mold, “or God help them, a trauma situation.”

While most people will experience one of these situations in life, “for us obviously it’s an everyday occurrence.”

Dan Rozboril, Dust Busters Restoration Services owner, has 33 years experience in the field. He said fires and water damage know no season, though fall and winter are busier times for him.

See RESTORATION on 10A

“If we hadn’t responded as quickly as we did, probably the walls would have caved in.”

Dan Rozboril
Dust Buster Restoration Services owner



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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

People who have read my column for a long time often ask me if I make up the stories I tell about my family, especially the lovely yet formidable Marcia.

For instance, I once wrote about the day she phoned me at work and said, frantically, "Hehp eee!"

"What'd you say?" I replied.

"HEHP EEE!"

"I'm sorry, one more time, please."

"Eye ung is ozen! Hehp eee, ooo ehiet!" Which I eventually figured out meant "My tongue is frozen, help me, you idiot."



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

What happened is she was defrosting the freezer in our apartment (this was before frost-free freezers) by jabbing at the ice with a knife. At some point, she punctured a tube holding refrigerant, which squirted out and hit her square in the mouth, which was apparently open at the time. (I speculate she was saying "OhmyGod!" at the time when the stuff nailed her mid-God.)

So, yes, the things I write about her are real. There are some people in this world to whom odd things simply happen more often than to others. Marcia is one of those souls.

For instance, have you ever been attacked by a turkey?

She has. It happened several weeks ago. She was walking Tonka, our rather crazy-looking Terrier mix, along a path in the woods near our home. In one hand she held his leash, in the other she had a bunch of feathers she had found. She collects stuff like that. I was home "watching" a ballgame, which means I was napping with a Tigers game on, when the phone rang.

"(Unintelligible) turkey!" she said, out of breath and frantic. "Come help

(unintelligible)! ... Tonka (unintelligible)... attack (unintelligible) ... chase ... ankle!"

Which I took to mean that Tonka had taken off after a turkey. So I grabbed a broom — in case I had to separate them — and took off running. When I arrived, Marcia was staggering out of the woods, bleeding, limping and with one hand clutching feathers.

"My God," I said, "you *fought* the turkey?"

But no, that's not what happened.

She had startled a large Tom on the path, but instead of fleeing, it headed straight for her. Marcia — still holding the dog's leash — tried backing away slowly, which seemed to only irritate the bird more. He fanned his feathers and kept on coming, at which point Marcia, sensibly enough, turned to run. But in doing so she caught the heel of her flip-flop on the ground, tumbled over, hurt her ankle and cut up her toe. Worse, she was now helpless and prone before an advancing Thanksgiving dinner of doom. Death by pecking seemed imminent.

“When I arrived, Marcia was staggering out of the woods, bleeding, limping and with one hand clutching feathers.”

As she related all this, I said "Why didn't you let go of Tonka?" To which she said, "I didn't want him to get hurt!"

As it happens, Tonka — who was going nuts — slipped his collar and chased off the turkey, so he was the hero of the day, earning him numerous treats and much admiration.

Marcia ended up with a nasty sprain and a pair of crutches.

I, of course, ended up with another story to tell.

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

Hotlines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

THIS PAST WEEKEND a police officer in Fort Myers, Florida was murdered by an illegal immigrant. In Texas, a jewelry store's windows were smashed and they were robbed by six illegal immigrants. Every weekend, there are new examples of crime by millions of illegal immigrants in our country.

REGARDING THE AMERICAN Pickers. We just happened to be in LaClaire, Iowa this summer and excited to see a great antique store. Wrong, it was two stores filled with all sorts of T-shirts, mugs, magnets etc., with a few antiques thrown in for looks. Just another tourist trap.

ISN'T IT ABOUT time we all drop the political bickering and realize we all are Americans and we all are in the same boat. We had to learn this with President Obama and by now should have learned this with President Trump. Working together to make America a better place helps us all.

WENT FOR AN evening walk checking out new butterfly park being built at a new tune of \$54,000. What are they going to do with the old railings, paved walkway, and dilapidated cement retention pond? My tax dollars? Fix the old things first.

SINCE REPEALING THE motorcycle helmet law, deaths are up 50 percent. I'm all for personal freedom but it must be fair. Motorcycle riders who won't wear a helmet must be made to pay the difference between the

taxpayers' costs now and the lesser costs paid by taxpayers prior to repeal.

AN ARMED CITIZENRY is not compatible with socialism, hence the left's hatred of guns.

IT WOULD BE nice if the DPW would actually address issues in the city. Like streetlights that have been burnt out or the poles destroyed. Return some phone calls will you? Not a happy taxpayer.

FOR THE PEOPLE of Linden, if we do not get the DDA out of our town, there won't be one building left, but we will have a ton of parking spaces.

HOW ABOUT ORGANIZING your Hot lines into sections with one about the tri-county area and one about politics. I want to hear about happenings in our town, not people bashing other people for different views. You can print them all, just separate the political ones.

THE AUDACITY OF the DDA to publicly acknowledge the increase in the butterfly garden expenditure from \$33,000 to \$54,000 is amazingly obtuse, even for a government entity. I'm sure Fenton citizens could benefit in some other way with that amount of money other than bushes and benches.

THANK YOU TO the kind Mill Street couple for their generosity, from your Tri-County Times news carrier.

AS A BUILDER, I cannot dig a hole without permits and inspections but you are going to let (them) dump dead bodies in the ground without protection from poisoning the area? Unthinkable. Political correctness rules.

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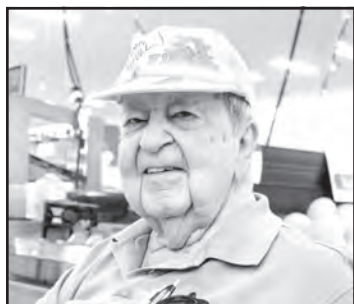
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What makes a good neighbor?

Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

streettalk



"Someone who keeps his mouth shut, I don't want him going around and telling stories about me."

Clem Langeway
Tyrone Township



"You have to be a good neighbor to have a good neighbor. I want someone to be considerate."

Jackie Hoetgor
Tyrone Township



"I have a great neighbor. We chit chat and borrow sugar from each other, it's like the old days. We look out for each other."

Nancy Allor
Tyrone Township



"I would say a good neighbor is someone who is very friendly and respectful of their neighbors."

Fran Gaston
Tyrone Township



"I want them to be friendly and keep an eye on the rest of the neighborhood. We should be there for each other and help each other out."

Liz Stefanic
Grand Blanc Township

NEIGHBORS

Continued from Page 3A

offering up a piece of lawn equipment to save a neighbor valuable time can have a huge impact on a neighborly relationship.

Do your part

Keeping the neighborhood looking beautiful is a community effort, and good neighbors keep all spaces that are visible by others clean and well maintained. They keep up with basic yard work, making sure that the lawn is mowed, hedges are trimmed, and weeds are kept at bay; they understand that these tasks not only impact the value of their house, but also the homes around it.

Follow up with seasonal maintenance

This includes sweeping up leaves in the fall, shoveling sidewalks and driveways in the winter, and cleaning up lawn clippings during warmer months. The neighbors that brighten up their outdoor space with flowers and other landscaping set the precedent for the rest of the street.

Be tidy

Good neighbors take care to put their trash out on the right night, and in proper receptacles, so that the whole street doesn't see (or smell) what they've tossed.

Be conscientious about outdoor décor

Decorating for the holidays is a great way to spruce up an outdoor space, but make it a house rule that your haunted houses and lights come down within a few days of the holiday passing.

Don't fight for the right to party

When having additional people over, the noise level can go up very quickly. The most courteous neighbors inform others of get-togethers, and ask to let them know if the gathering has gotten too loud. Better yet, they invite all the neighbors to the party.

Take an active presence in change and community decisions

Caring neighbors stay informed on community issues and make it a point to vote. It's likely that you and your

neighbors have busy lives and schedules, but if the community comes together as a group, change can happen more efficiently, and issues can be resolved more quickly. Plus, just showing up at community meetings and offering input shows that they care about the community and the people who share it.

Show respect

Good neighbors teach their kids what both literal and figurative boundaries mean by explaining where their property ends and the neighbor's begins, and any rules that go along with that. They also reinforce the concept that being on one side of the property line doesn't mean noise levels can be ignored.

Source: *Americanlifestylemag.com*

Young local woman talks about her nice neighbors

Heaven-Leigh Angel said she lived in a mobile homes where everyone was closer. This made her good neighbors even better neighbors.

"We all looked out for each other," she said. "The neighbor across from me, I would look after her pets while she was gone. I would often tell her when her van door was open (especially at night) because sometimes she would hit the key fob and open them without knowing."

"I won't forget how I was cleaning up leaves the first fall," she said. "I had a bunch of yard bags and still didn't have enough. I went inside to take a break and wait as someone was at the store and bringing me more bags. By the time they arrived my pile was gone. My neighbor had come over and finished it for me because she knew she could make it work with all the bags I had filled already."

"My neighbors were the best. All my neighbors respected each other's privacy while also looking out for one another," Angel said.

Biggest mistakes people make in a speech

■ Knowing what they are and avoiding them could save your career

Compiled By Vera Hogan

Not everyone can stand in front of an audience and deliver a successful speech. But if you know what mistakes to avoid, it will get easier and, you may soon find that you enjoy it.

According to *hughculver.com*, here are five mistakes you should never make in a speech:

1. Thanking the host

Thanking the host, the sponsors, or the event planner is self-serving. Your job is to serve the audience. Here's how to kick off your next speech:

Jump right into a story. Nothing makes people lean in more than a great story. Make it relate (even slightly) to the problem you are there to fix.

Make a bold claim. A speaker might start with "Imagine if the next 60 minutes give you exactly what you need to create your best year ever." The audience may have doubts, but you have their attention.

Tell a joke. This is the riskiest — if you can't guarantee people will love it, don't do it.

Be controversial. For example, if your talk is about marketing, say you don't believe in marketing, you believe in relationships. A little shock value will grab your audience's attention and segue into your topic.



2. Reading your slides or notes

Reading your notes is taboo. Studies have shown that within 24 hours, audiences retain as little as 10 percent of what you say if you read from your slides or notes no matter how precise you are with your message.

Instead of reading from notes, stay on track with a point-form list and speak to each point. Nobody will miss what isn't there, so don't worry about including every single point.

3. Going overtime

There is no excuse for this one. Event planners sweat for months over every agenda detail. When you mismanage your time and chew up 10 minutes of the break, you shortchange the audience on their break and insult the event planner.

Instead, learn how to use time markers. For example, mark your notes at the point you have 20 minutes of content to go, so if you start at 8:30, write 9:10 where you need to be in your notes.

See **SPEECH** on 7A

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■ ■ ■
IT IS ABSOLUTELY unacceptable that the inept, weak, Tyrone board would approve a Muslim graveyard in our backyard. I doubt it would be done in even in Dearborn. Stop this madness.

■ ■ ■
I THINK THE DDA has well passed its usage. They are now buying, and giving properties and monies that aren't acceptable. I propose that 'we as citizens of Fenton' vote to dissolve this group, and all monies revert to, 'City of Fenton Department of Utilities' general funds.

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

AUG. 12

1990: Fossil hunter Susan Hendrickson discovers three huge bones jutting out of a cliff near Faith, South Dakota. They turn out to be part of the largest-ever Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton ever discovered, a 65-million-year-old specimen dubbed "Sue," after its discoverer. Sue's skeleton was over 90 percent complete, and the bones were extremely well-preserved. Hendrickson's employer, the Black Hills Institute of Geological Research, paid \$5,000 to the landowner, Maurice Williams, for the right to excavate the dinosaur skeleton.

AUG. 13

1995: Former New York Yankees star Mickey Mantle dies of liver cancer at the age of 63. While "The Mick" patrolled center field and batted cleanup between 1951 and 1968, the Yankees won 12 American League pennants and seven World Series championships.

AUG. 14

1935: President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs into law the Social Security Act. Press photographers snapped pictures as FDR, flanked by ranking members of Congress, signed into law the historic act, which guaranteed an income for the unemployed and retirees. FDR commended Congress for what he considered to be a "patriotic" act.

AUG. 15

1969: The Woodstock Music Festival opens on a patch of farmland in White Lake, a hamlet in the upstate New York town of Bethel. Early estimates of attendance increased from 50,000 to around 200,000, but by the time the gates opened on Friday, Aug. 15, more than 400,000 people were clamoring to get in. Those without tickets simply walked through gaps in the fences, and the organizers were eventually forced to make the event free of charge. Folk singer and guitarist Richie Havens kicked off the event with a long set, and Joan Baez and Arlo Guthrie also performed on Friday night.

AUG. 16

1896: While salmon fishing near the Klondike River in Canada's Yukon Territory on this day in 1896, George Carmack reportedly spots nuggets of gold in a creek bed. His lucky discovery sparks the last great gold rush in the American West.

AUG. 17

1915: Charles F. Kettering, co-founder of Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company (DELCO) in Dayton, Ohio, is issued a U.S. patent for his "engine-starting device" — the first electric ignition device for automobiles. In the early years of the automobile, drivers used iron hand cranks to start the internal combustion process that powered the engines on their cars. In addition to requiring great hand and arm strength, this system was not without certain risks: If the driver forgot to turn his ignition off before turning the crank, the car could backfire or roll forward, as at the time most vehicles had no brakes. Clearly a better system was needed, and in 1911 Cadillac head Henry M. Leland gave Charles Kettering the task of developing one.

AUG. 18

1920: The 19th Amendment to the Constitution, guaranteeing women the right to vote, is ratified by Tennessee, giving it the two-thirds majority of state ratification necessary to make it the law of the land. The amendment was the culmination of more than 70 years of struggle by woman suffragists. Its two sections read simply: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex" and "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Source: history.com

WHAT YOU MISSED

in the

MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Aug. 8, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Two Fenton proposals will be on November ballot

City wants \$2 million per year for 10 years to fix roads.

Life-saving lessons learned at 'Rescue 911' event

Kids learn bike safety, fire safety and more at event held in Fenton's Bush Park.



Judge grants CSC suspect a support dog

Douglas William Walsh is on trial for alleged child criminal sexual conduct. Reasons for needing a support dog are unknown.

DDA reimburses \$350,000 to city

The city of Fenton enters into its annual agreements with the DDA (Downtown Development Authority) and LDFA (Local Development Finance Authority) to reimburse the general fund for public services provided in their respective districts.

FANG members investigated for misconduct

Fenton and Linden pay narcotics group a combined approximate \$20,000 per year.

It's classic car week

Fenton and Linden hosting Back to the Bricks Tune-Up parties. Holly hosts weekly car show.

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Detroit auto show moving to June in 2020

■ Entire event will be reinvented as a summer festival of design, speed and innovation

By Sally Rummel

Leave your winter coat and boots at home and come on out to the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in June 2020.

This iconic Detroit event will be moving from its traditional time slot in January to its new dates in June, beginning in 2020. The upcoming 2019 NAIAS will still be held in January, open to the public from Jan. 19-27, 2019 at Cobo Hall.

The following year, the show will begin the week of June 8, 2020, according to organizers. The main venue will still be Cobo Center in Detroit, but additional exhibits will be open at multiple outdoor sites, including Hart Plaza, Detroit RiverWalk, Campus Martius, Woodward Avenue and Grand Circus Park.

The entire NAIAS will be reinvented as a summertime festival of design, speed and innovation, according to its website, Naias.com. It will also include outdoor interactive experiences, including dy-

namic vehicle debuts showing vehicles in action, rides and drives, autonomous/automated driving on public roads and off-roading demonstrations and rides.

"The potential to create a month-long automotive festival in Detroit, starting with the Detroit Grand Prix, going through our show and concluding with the nationally

celebrated fireworks on the river will provide an unmatched festival-like experience for all attendees," said Rod Alberts, executive director of NAIAS.

Why the move? The month of June provides a better opportunity to

showcase the new direction of the automotive industry because of the weather, opportunity for outdoor venues, etc. This move to June with an emphasis on outdoor venues and related events has been called the show's "most significant transformation in the last three decades," Alberts said.

It will be the NAIAS's first break-out of the traditional auto show model. "June provides us with exciting new opportunities that January just didn't afford," Roberts said.

“June provides us with exciting new opportunities that January just didn't afford.”

Rod Alberts
NAIAS executive director

News briefs

U.S. 23 RAMPS IN FENTON TO CLOSE OVERNIGHT FOR CRACK SEALING

Starting Monday, Aug. 13, (weather permitting) at 8 p.m. until 6 a.m., the following ramps will be crack sealed.

- U.S. 23 at Owen Road
- U.S. 23 at Silver Lake Road
- U.S. 23 at North Road

The work will start on northbound U.S. 23 at Owen Road, continue north until the ramps at North Road are completed, then switch to southbound and work their way south working on one ramp at a time. The ramps will be closed while the work is completed. The work is expected to take about four nights, with no work on Friday or Saturday nights.

FLEA MARKET

VFW Post 5587 in Holly will hold its Flea Market on Friday, Aug. 17, Saturday, Aug. 18 and Sunday, Aug. 19. They are looking for vendors. A 10-foot by 10-foot space is \$20 per day. Those who prepay for one space for all three will have to pay \$50 instead of \$60. For more information, contact Bruce at (248) 807-3458 or Rick at (248) 459-0055.

SPEECH

Continued from Page 5A

4. Making it all about you

Your goal should be to impress your audience with valuable, relevant solutions they can use, not with your exaggerated claims of grandeur. Use words like "you" and "your" and be there to serve.

5. Making the audience squirm

Make your audience uncomfortable and you shut down their ability to learn. The autonomic fight/flight reaction gets sparked, pupils dilate, heart rate increases, and blood leaves the brain. Here are some things (to avoid) that make audiences squirm:

- announcing it's going to be interactive asking for a show of hands: "Who here has to admit they're a pretty bad listener?" (who wants to admit they're a poor listener?)
- asking for a volunteer from the audience. Instead, meet people ahead of time and then ask them if they would volunteer.
- blaming the audience. It's great to talk, in general, about gaps in personal or corporate performance, but once you start mentioning names, or talking about specific campaigns, or departments, you've crossed the line.

Source: hughculver.com

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TOWNSHIP OF TYRONE LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN 1951 PA 33 PROCEEDINGS

Notice of Public Hearing on the Assessment Roll for the Police and Fire Protection Special Assessment District No. X0082

TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TYRONE, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Supervisor and assessing officer of the Township have reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a special assessment roll prepared by him covering all the properties within the Special Assessment District benefited by the proposed assessment. The assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing the costs of providing police and fire protection within the assessment district as more particularly shown on the plans on file with the Township Clerk at 10408 Center Road, Fenton, MI, which assessment is in the total amount of \$605,550.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT the assessing officer has further reported that the assessment against each parcel of land within the district is to such relative portion of the whole sum levied against all parcels of land within the district as to the benefit of such parcels bears to the total benefit to all parcels within the district. Each parcel shall be assessed as follows: a) vacant parcels, \$75.00; b) parcels with residential structures, \$150.00; c) parcels containing structures or trailers with multiple units, \$250.00, plus an additional \$20.00 per unit; and (d) all other parcels, \$250.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT the Township Board will meet at the Township Hall, 10408 Center Road, Fenton, MI commencing at **7:00 P.M. on August 21 2018**, for the purpose of reviewing the special assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto. The roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of the hearing and may further be examined at the hearing. Appearance and protest at the hearing held to confirm the special assessment roll is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

An owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. The owner or person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of special roll with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.

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VOTER TURNOUT

Continued from Front Page

Locally, the highest number of registered voters who cast a ballot was in the city of Linden, with 38 percent. Precinct 1 reported a 40-percent voter turnout.

Fenton Township experienced a 32-percent voter turnout. Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk Thomas Broecker expected approximately 18 percent.

Broecker said this was the highest voter turnout for a primary since he's worked there. In 2016, it was 16 percent, and in 2014 it was nearly 15 percent. He attributes these higher numbers to electing a new governor for the first time since 2010, the active campaigns for state representative, county commissioner and judicial seats, and an overall greater interest in politics.

Argentine Township had a 30-percent voter turnout. Clerk Denise Graves said it was higher compared to the low 20-percent turnout she was anticipating. Compared to a similar year in 2010, the August voter turnout was 19 percent.

She attributes the higher turnout to a new millage proposal and the many candidates who went door-to-door and campaigned.

"You have eight judges that ran, all out there campaigning. You had a lot of candidates out there getting the vote out," she said. "They campaigned hard. It was a spirited race, as it should be."

Holly Township voter turnout for this election was 26 percent. Oakland County reported a 34-percent voter turnout.

Genesee County

In 2014, the last non-presidential primary election, 14.28 percent of registered voters cast a ballot in Genesee County, according to a past Times story. In this year's non-presidential primary election, 26 percent of



Times file photo

registered voters cast a ballot.

Genesee County Clerk John Gleason said this was a "record turnout." Usually primaries see a 15-percent voter turnout.

"But we had an extremely visible state house race in the southwest corner of Genesee County, the (Mike) Mueller and (Drew) Shapiro race. A lot of political activity really raises up the vote," he said.

He also attributes the high turnout rate to the number of judicial candidates campaigning.

"It's great because almost every seat at the county and state level is decided at the August primary because of the way election lines are drawn," he said.

Gleason anticipates the governor race will be "very vigorous," especially with Republican candidate and current attorney general Bill Schuette choosing a woman as a running mate. He will face Democratic candidate Gretchen Whitmer in November.

He said it's nice to see people take an interest in voting, and that it's a "right not appreciated."

Michigan

Statewide, local municipalities performed better. According to the Secretary of State's office, Michigan's voter turnout was 30 percent. With unofficial numbers, 2,196,944 voters cast ballots in the primary, which is the most for any Michigan primary election since at least 1978.

LF voters approve operating millage renewal

By Sharon Stone

Voters in the Lake Fenton Community Schools district approved an operating millage renewal on Tuesday, Aug. 7 by a vote of 1,855 to 1,023.

Superintendent Julie Williams said, "We are so appreciative of the continued support from our community. Non-homestead dollars are used to support general operating expenses, so this will allow us to continue with our level of staffing and operations throughout the district."

"We have an amazing community. Thank you."

This renewal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

The remaining .7631 mill is only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the "Headlee" amendment



Voters in the Lake Fenton Community Schools district approved an operating millage renewal. Times file photo

to the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that reduction.

The renewal seeks 18.7631 mills (\$18.7631 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of five years, 2019 to 2023, to provide funds for operating purposes. The possible income for 2019 would be \$1,955,375.

"We have an amazing community. Thank you."

Julie Williams
Lake Fenton Community
Schools superintendent

Fenton officials approve two ballot proposals

■ One aimed at extending tax collection period for roads, the other for road millage

By Vera Hogan

The Fenton City Council has approved language for two proposals that will go on the November ballot. One proposal will ask voters to decide whether to approve a charter amendment to allow a special millage specifically for road and street improvements for up to 10 years — and the other to create a roads millage for 5 mills.

City Manager Lynn Markland made the request to approve the two proposals at its Monday, Aug. 6 work session.

The Fenton City Council discussed the topic for more than 40 minutes in front of a packed conference room, before voting unanimously to approve both proposals.

Council members agreed that not repairing the roads would mean a failure on their part, which led to discussion on how much to ask on the proposal. Eventually they settled on 5 mills.

"Every city is going through this, not just the city of Fenton," said Mayor Sue Osborn.

Last year, voters defeated a proposal to amend the charter to allow for a taxing period of 10 years instead of three for any proposal, by a vote of 1,140 to 385.

The proposal in this November's election would increase the number of years for just the road and street improvements.

Fenton City officials have repeatedly said there is only one way to get the city streets fixed, and that is if voters approve a citywide millage. And in order to maximize the number of streets that can be fixed under one millage, a 10-year collection period is necessary, said Markland.

Funds the city receives through Public Act 51 is not enough to fund regular maintenance, including winter maintenance and improvements to the streets, said Markland.

Public Act 51 (of 1951 as amended) created the Michigan Transportation

See PROPOSALS on 11A

IF 5 MILLS PROPOSAL PASSES, IT WILL COST:

\$50,000 taxable value =	\$250
\$100,000 taxable value =	\$500
\$150,000 taxable value =	\$750
\$200,000 taxable value =	\$1,000

WHAT YOU SAID



City residents had this to say about the article:

Nate G. said "This will be an easy 'no' vote for me until the city can publish what they have done to make cuts in their yearly budget to start saving money for the road repairs. If the city wants to add an additional tax to my household, I will have to make cuts to budget in that added tax. I am not interested in doing that if the city had not made cuts within its budget as well."

Michael C. said, "Well Councilperson Lockwood, how about if we use those three months to educate the mayor and city council regarding wiser use of our (not their personal) tax dollars? They can begin by not squandering funds on unsightly so-called works of art in our public places."

Sean S. said, "The city staff has done an amazing job in the last 10 years to find a way to keep the budget balanced through grants, cuts, etc. To the point that the average citizen doesn't realize how much the revenue has been chopped. To use your household analogy, the city's paycheck has been cut by 20 percent and they were still able to pay their bills. Could you do the same?"

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Mueller wins Republican primary for 51st seat

■ Will go up against Democrat David Lossing in November

By Hannah Ball

In a highly contested race with four opponents vying for a chance to win the 51st District seat in Michigan House of Representatives, Fenton Township resident Mike Mueller came out on top in the Republican side of the primary election.



Mike Mueller

“I was happy about it. It was a good feeling. I’ve been going door-to-door since February and it’s been a lot of work. When you’re juggling a campaign, a full-time job, family, and business with the orchard and the wedding venue, it’s a lot,” he said.

Mueller received 60 percent of the votes with 7,714 ballots marking his name. He received much of his support from the townships of Argentine, Fenton and Atlas, and the city of Linden.

His Republican opponent Drew Shapiro garnered 2,134 votes.

He said he was happy to receive so much support from his family and friends.

“I couldn’t have done it without them,” he said, adding that the numbers surprised him. “I thought I was doing OK, but I didn’t

expect it to be the way it ended up. I’d just like to thank everyone, my family and friends, and the people who voted for me.”

His campaign strategy isn’t going to change going into November when he goes up against Democrat David Lossing in the polls for the 51st District seat in the Michigan House of Representatives. He said he hopes to keep the momentum going into the general election.

Lossing, former Linden mayor, ran unopposed in the Democratic primary and received 8,190 votes.



David Lossing

“I’d just like to thank everyone, my family and friends, and the people who voted for me.”

Mike Mueller
Republican candidate for 51st District seat

VOTES BY LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

Fenton City	
Mike Mueller:	718
Drew Shapiro:	329
Matthew D. Anderton:	41
Ian Shetron:	63

Fenton Township	
Mike Mueller:	1,672
Drew Shapiro:	485
Matthew D. Anderton:	79
Ian Shetron:	154

Linden City	
Mike Mueller:	473
Drew Shapiro:	93
Matthew D. Anderton:	26
Ian Shetron:	30

Argentine Township	
Mike Mueller:	715
Drew Shapiro:	117
Matthew D. Anderton:	40
Ian Shetron:	23

Genesee County voters approve new arts millage

■ Will add an additional \$144 each year on a home with a \$150,000 taxable value

By Vera Hogan

The majority of Genesee County voters showed their generosity during the Tuesday, Aug. 7 primary by passing one new millage and renewing two others.

The Arts Education & Cultural Enrichment proposal passed by a vote of 40,016 to 36,278. This brand new millage will add .96 per \$1,000 of taxable value to a homeowner’s annual tax bill. A home with a taxable value of \$50,000 will pay \$48 additional per year; a home with a taxable value of \$100,000 will be charged \$96 extra per year; and a home with a taxable value of \$150,000 will pay another \$144 per year.

This money will be used to provide annual dedicated funding through the

Flint Cultural Center Foundation for the continuing support of arts, education and cultural enrichment for students, residents and visitors to cultural institutions. They include the Sloan Museum, the Longway Planetarium, The Whiting Auditorium and Flint Institute of Arts, the Flint School of Performing Arts, Flint Symphony Orchestra, Flint Youth Theatre, Flint Institute of Music, the Capitol Theatre and the Floyd J. McCree Theatre and Fine Arts Centre and the Berston Field House.

It also will be used to provide \$500,000 annually to the Greater Flint Arts Council grants to support art, education and cultural enrichment programs at other nonprofit and governmental arts and cultural institutions in Genesee County.

It is estimated that \$8,775,655 will be collected in the first year of this
See ARTS MILLAGE on 10A

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Shumaker to face Curtiss in November

■ Primary results show it could be a close race for Genesee County commissioner

By Vera Hogan

Republican Shaun Shumaker defeated Republican William Stiverson III in the Tuesday, Aug. 7 primary election by a vote of 3,554 to 1,920.

Shumaker, a Fenton Township resident and trustee on the Fenton Township Board of Trustees, will advance to the November election and face Democrat Greg Curtiss for the office of Genesee County Commissioner, District 6.

Curtiss of Linden and the only Democrat on the primary ballot garnered 3,905 votes, just over 350 more than Shumaker, indicating the run in November could be close.

Shumaker shared his sentiments about winning the Republican nod on his website. He said, “I would like to say thank you to all of my supporters and those of

you who made the choice to vote for me. I am beyond blessed. ... I would also like to thank my opponent (Stiverson) for pushing me farther than I have been before, and running a clean, strong primary campaign. Now the race for November begins.”

Curtiss shared his thoughts on social media, saying, “We will swell the energy felt (Tuesday, Aug. 7). We will bring the best out of the people in our community and challenge them to test their potential.

“It is a humbling and character building experience to get support like this from the beautiful souls with whom my life’s journey has connected me. I have no clue as to how I can ever repay the gestures I’ve received, but I will not let these people down by giving anything less than my absolute best effort. For the next three months I’m going to leave it all on the field. I will continue to expand upon the foundation of which I built my campaign.”

The general election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 6.

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Purves Construction Services handled the restoration work for Community Threads of Fenton, which was damaged by water and smoke following a rooftop fire on Nov. 29, 2017. **Times file photo**

RESTORATION

Continued from Page 3A

Floods tend to happen either during the rainy season, or during spring thaws.

A memorable local disaster involved a \$300,000 home in Linden about 10 years ago, with a flooded basement. When they arrived, the water had risen up to 1 foot from the ceiling, which was more than 9 feet high. "That's one that I'll never forget," he said.

A water line for the well had broken, filling the basement. They pumped out the basement, dried the structure, rebuilt the walls and floors, took the homeowners' guns to be professionally restored and handled the insurance claim and more. "If we hadn't responded as quickly as we did, probably the walls would have caved in," he said.

Chesser said the bulk of Servpro's projects are water damage, such as frozen pipes, sump pump failures and sewer back-ups.

Garden hose pipes can burst undetected in the winter if the water had not been turned off in the fall at the main valve.

It's only when the pipes thaw and the homeowner turns the outdoor faucet on in the spring when they realize the pipe burst, flooding the basement.

Asking a restoration company for an average project cost is difficult to calculate, with all the variables and different types of jobs involved. Chesser said water damage can cost between \$1,500 and \$1.5 million. His company did a carpet cleaning job this month for \$250.

The biggest project he could recall was a \$40-million commercial fire mitigation.

Water damage can be a complicated project, especially if the pipe burst on the second floor, damaging the walls and ceilings below.

Both companies recommend checking on your homeowner insurance policy and see if issues like sump-pump failures are covered.

A high deductible, said Rozboril, might eclipse the price of some jobs. He said most deductibles are between \$250 and \$500. He feels that high deductibles of more than \$1,000 do not serve in the client's best interests.

Linden road millage to be on November ballot

■ City asking residents for 5 mills for 10 years to improve worsening road conditions

By Hannah Ball

Linden residents will have an opportunity to vote for better roads, through a millage, at the Nov. 6 general election.

After months of discussing the millage and deciding the language, the Linden City Council voted July 23 to approve a new millage of 5 mills for a 10-year term.

"We have a duty to our residents to spend wisely and plan for the future. The decision to place the road millage on the ballot was not an easy one," said Linden Mayor Danielle Cusson.

Residents would be charged \$5 per \$1,000 of taxable value of their property.

The language states that the millage is for the purposes of improving, replacing, resurfacing and reconstructing streets in the city of Linden, along with drainage work and other improvements. (See sidebar for the exact language.)

City Manager Paul Zelenak said it's estimated the levy will generate \$520,000 in the first year.

Cusson said the council has discussed the conditions of roads and funding for rehabilitation for months.

"The roads have been our top focus in work sessions and regular meetings. With the decreased revenue from property taxes and the loss in revenue sharing (\$1.3 million lost since 2002), Linden, like many local municipalities, does not have the funds to do rehabilitation and reconstruction of the roads in addition to maintenance," she said.

The condition of the roads has decreased over the years. Linden roads were judged based on the PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) scale in 2014 on a scale of

one to 10, according to a past Times article. A rating of 10 is the best. Linden roads received an average of 4.9 at the time. In 2018, the roads average a 3.3 rating. There are numerous roads between a 6-10 rating.

The city created a Road Improvement Plan that outlines which roads and projects will be done over the next 10 years. The Linden Downtown Development Authority (DDA) opted out of receiving any money from the potential road millage.

Before the vote in November, Cusson said they will be working to provide residents with information to help them make an informed decision.

"I have also proposed setting up times where residents can come and meet with council members, city staff or members of the road committee to discuss their concerns," she said. "All of the council members and city staff have done their homework to look at how our funds are allocated and searched for ways short of proposing a road millage to the residents."

The council also has worked on a special assessment district policy.

Zelenak said they will be having public information meetings, and all the information is available on the city website lindenmi.us.

LINDEN ROAD MILLAGE BALLOT LANGUAGE

"Shall the City of Linden levy a new millage of 5.0 mills (\$5.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a 10-year term (2019 through 2028 inclusive), for purposes of improving, replacing, resurfacing and reconstructing streets in the City, including drainage improvements and curbs and gutters, together with necessary rights-of-way, appurtenances and attachments, pursuant to the Road Improvement Plan that is available for inspection at Linden City Hall?" It is estimated that the levy will generate \$520,000 in the first year.

ARTS MILLAGE

Continued from Page 9A

millage that will be collected from 2018 through 2027.

MSU Extension millage renewal

Genesee County voters have also approved the renewal of the MSU Extension Services millage by a vote of 45,798 to 30,712.

This is a renewal and homeowners will continue to pay .40 per \$1,000 in taxable value starting this year and ending on Dec. 31, 2023.

MSU Extension offers programs for 4-H youth development, master gardener, urban agricultural, agricultural/agribusiness, health and nutrition, natural resources, and other community educational programs through a contract with Michigan State University Extension.

It is expected that \$343,679 will be collected in the first year.

MTA millage renewal

The Mass Transportation Authority (MTA) millage renewal was passed by a vote of 53,179 to 23,734.

Genesee County homeowners will continue to pay .40 on every \$1,000 of taxable value for this service. It is expected that \$3,335,795 will be collected in the first year. The millage will take effect on Jan. 1, 2019 and expire on Dec. 31, 2023.

This millage funds for "Your Ride," and other related services for the elderly, persons with disabilities, the disadvantaged and other members of the public throughout Genesee County.

County millages are collected with the winter tax bills.

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Working as an election inspector

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Twp. — The voting experience should be quick, painless, and end with a congratulatory sticker. For election inspectors and everyone else who works to ensure voting days run smoothly, the experience is much longer.

I worked as an election inspector in Fenton Township on Tuesday, Aug. 7. I was at Lake Fenton High School for nearly 16 hours, and it was a great experience.

I worked in precinct three, signing people in, explaining how voting straight ticket works, and more. We were the busiest precinct with 634 voters.

My main takeaways — it's not a big deal if you spoil your ballot, the voting system is incredibly secure, I should have worn better shoes, and everyone loves "I Voted" stickers.

• **Voter turnout** was much higher than expected this election, and I was elated to see people doing their civic duty. I'll never understand people who don't vote. You're only choosing the people who will literally decide how this country is run. No big deal, right?

• **The current** voter system and software used in elections is excellent. It's easy to learn and the computers are efficient. Other election inspectors told me horror stories about having to flip through a book to verify voters.

• **The main** question running through my mind was "how could someone hijack this election?"

• **No worries**, it's extremely unlikely. At every stage of the voting tabulation process, both Democrats and Republicans are involved.

• **I could** only think of a few ways to create fake votes, or alter results. Someone could make fake ballots for nonexistent people, or for people who were registered but didn't vote. But, it would have to be a bipartisan effort because both Democrats

and Republicans working the precinct tables see everyone who comes into vote. A "ghost" voter wouldn't be possible.

• **Hijackers could** pose as a different party and work at the same precinct. Clerks choose experienced poll workers

to head the precincts, though, so it would have to be a long-term effort to gain their trust. It would have to be at more than just one municipality to actually make a difference. That's a lot of people to manage, and a lot of possible snitches.

• **All county** races and lower, meaning townships and cities, should be run nonpartisan. Politicians rarely vote on any party issues until they're at the state level. I've seen fantastic trustees voted out of office because so many people vote for only one party and don't vote on a candidate-by-candidate basis.

• **Take advantage** of voting absentee. This next general election Tuesday, Nov. 6 is going to be wild at the polls. Avoid the lines and vote from the comfort of your own home. Your country, and election inspectors, thank you.



Hannah Ball

GOVERNOR RACE



REPUBLICANS

	Brian Calley	Patrick Colbeck	Jim Hines	Bill Schuette
Argentine Twp.	172	133	109	481
Fenton City	247	169	167	611
Linden City	146	80	98	316
Fenton Twp.	550	271	302	1,326
Holly Twp./Village	225	163	126	636
Rose Twp.	190	181	80	504
Tyrone Twp.	334	355	213	745



DEMOCRATS

	Abdul El-Sayed	Shri Thanedar	Gretchen Whitmer
Argentine Twp.	168	70	375
Fenton City	370	132	578
Fenton Twp.	404	200	956
Linden City	118	81	251
Holly Twp./Village	316	146	601
Rose Twp.	125	68	366
Tyrone Twp.	246	124	567



LIBERTARIANS

	Bill Gelineau	John Tatar
Argentine Twp.	5	3
Fenton City	9	5
Fenton Twp.	5	2
Linden City	1	4
Holly Twp./V	5	3
Rose Twp.	3	0
Tyrone Twp.	5	1

PROPOSALS

Continued from Page 8A

Fund (MTF). Revenues collected through highway user taxes, state motor fuels taxes, vehicle registration fees, and other miscellaneous automobile-related taxes are deposited into the MTF.

By the year 2021, the city of Fenton is expected to collect \$1,398,117 from the MTF.

A few years ago, the state legislature enacted some new legislation that provides more funds for roads and streets, Markland said. But the first few years of that additional revenue collection will go to pay off Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) debt (bonds) that was incurred many years ago.

The city's additional revenue is estimated to be an additional \$500,000 in revenue by 2021, but until MDOT's funds are paid off, the city's increase will be marginal.

It should be noted that DDA (Downtown Development Authority) dollars cannot be used for street or road improvements.

The city's engineers have conducted a street and road study and have determined that the city needs to spend about \$2 million a year on improvements, and the only way the city has to raise revenue is through a millage. Markland said based on information from the city treasurer, it would take 4.75 mills to raise approximately \$1.5 million for roads.

VantagePointe Financial Group opens new office

■ Dave Ramsey SmartVestor approved financial advisor Ryan Barber, of VantagePointe Financial Group, opens new office in Flint, MI.

SmartVestor Pro Ryan Barber, along with Associate Jacob Kokaly, of VantagePointe Financial Group, recently opened a new office in the city of Flint. The office is located in the Flint Ferris Wheel building at 615 S. Saginaw Street, Flint, Michigan 48502.

“We opened a new location here in Flint to increase our ability to service current and future clients by bringing them a location closer to home.”

Ryan Barber
Approved Financial Advisor

“I’m more than a financial professional,” said Barber. “I’m someone you can relate to and share your dreams with. I fit your investments to your life, help you understand what you’re investing in and why, and encourage you to stick with your long-term goals. We opened a new location here in Flint to increase our ability to service current and future clients by bringing them a location closer to home.”

Dave Ramsey SmartVestor Pros are financial professionals dedicated to helping people in all stages of life to make wiser and more informed financial decisions. Dave Ramsey is a financial author, radio host, television personality, and motivational speaker.

Dave formed Ramsey Solutions in 1992 to counsel individuals hurting from the results of financial stress. The mission statement of Ramsey Solutions is to “provide biblically based, common-sense education and empowerment that give hope to everyone in every walk of life”. The SmartVestor program is an extension of that mission to help others.

For more information, or to meet with Ryan Barber, please contact the office at 810-310-3601.

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VantagePointe Financial Group is an independent Financial Services Firm with locations throughout Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. They have been helping individuals, families, businesses, and professionals with the management, accumulation, and protection of wealth since 1992. They have built a strong reputation as a leader in providing innovative solutions for a wide range of client needs, goals, and dreams. This reputation was achieved through a commitment to excellence at every point of contact.

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Dave Ramsey
Creator of SmartVestor



Ryan Barber
Financial Advisor



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Plastic waste gets into our oceans at an alarming rate and experts say that by 2050, there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish. Photo credit: www.nationalgeographic.com

Our oceans...more plastic than fish

■ Our oceans are strangled by plastic; here's what you can do about it

By Sally Rummel

A typical day in America revolves around plastic.

From sipping your morning coffee in a disposable cup to slinging your groceries home in plastic bags, plastics have been a huge part of our daily lives since 1950.

The technical name for plastic is polypropylene and it is everywhere, even in unlikely sources like chewing gum and tea bags. Unfortunately, about 70 percent of our discarded plastic winds up in open dumps or landfills, and it will be with us for hundreds of years, according to a television report last Sunday, Aug. 5 on CBS Sunday Morning.

Even worse, it ends up in our oceans, where the World Economic Forum predicts that by 2050, there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish.

In addition to killing sea life, humans end up eating plastic, because the 5 to 12 million metric tons that enter the ocean each year begin to affect the food chain, even our sea salt and tap water.

How does plastic actually get into our oceans?

About a fifth of marine litter is made up of fishing gear and other materials lost at sea by accident, industrial losses or illegal dumping, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

About 80 percent of litter comes from land, including that left behind by beach tourists, plus the plastic that is littered, left on streets or in the environment. All this trash gets carried by wind and rain into our drainage networks or rivers that then flow into the sea. Lax standards in industrial processes are also responsible for plastics getting into the environment.

Since only about 9 percent of our plastic waste in the U.S. gets recycled, the majority is dumped in landfills or burned. When plastic waste is collected and transported to landfill sites, it's at risk of blowing away and ending up in rivers and oceans.

Don't most people recycle plastic? Even if you do put that plastic in your recycling bin, it might not actually get recycled, because half of what we throw in that bin is

contaminated by food, paper labels or other materials. When plastics are pure and clean, it's easy to recycle into new products, like bottles, lawn furniture, playground equipment and more.

Americans recycle about 66 million tons of material each year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, about one-third of which is exported, mostly to China.

However, a recent Chinese ban of imports of various types of plastic and paper and other tightened standards has left many recyclers without a substitute for the Chinese market. So many of these plastics are being stockpiled in the U.S. and will end up in the landfill anyway, according to the CBS Sunday Morning report.

So what's a person to do? Most experts agree that solving this environmental disaster starts with a commitment to taking care of our planet.

A 2017 U.S. ban on micro beads, plastic particles found in many personal care products, was one place to start.

Many plastic manufacturers are switching some of their products to polymers, a form of plastics which are biodegradable.

Other companies are addressing their packaging and waste issues. McDonald's, for example, has announced that by 2025, all of their packaging will be made from recycled plastics.

Locally, The Laundry in Fenton has eliminated the use of plastic straws in an effort to reduce one of the

largest contaminants in our environment.

Ways you can help reduce plastic pollution:

- **Give up plastic bags.** Take your own reusable ones to the store.
- **Skip straws, or** use paper ones.
- **Don't buy bottled water,** use a refillable bottle.
- **Avoid plastic packaging.** Buy bar soap instead of liquid, buy in bulk, give up plastic plates and cups.
- **Recycle what you can.** The U.S. at 9 percent, is lower than most other countries, including European countries at 30 percent.
- **Don't litter.**

Source: National Geographic

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Being a military family

■ With one parent absent, household feels the effect

By Hannah Ball

What is it like being a military family? "You often wonder and worry if they will make it home," said Ashley Nick, who lives in Linden with her husband, Michael, and four children.

More than 1.3 million men and women serve in the U.S. military, and approximately 55 percent are married and 43 percent have children, according to care.com. When soldiers have a family, serving in the military affects more than them.

Michael enlisted in the Army National Guard in 2006, and was deployed from 2009 to 2010 to Iraq, and again from 2011 to 2012 to Afghanistan. He's now a full-time active guard reserve soldier, a staff sergeant E6, and works Monday through Friday assisting with training other soldiers.

"When he first enlisted, his units were getting ready to deploy, so he was gone often for training," Ashley said. His regular 9 to 5 schedule also includes one weekend a month of training and two weeks of training annually.

Home life

Ashley and Michael have four children together, ages 14, 11, 10 and 7. Deployments aren't easy on any family.

"Our children often asked questions as to what their dad did while overseas, and as a parent you try to explain to them that their dad is just doing his job, just far away," she said.

Even though he's home most of the year, it still affects their family when he leaves for training because he misses family events.

"They miss having their dad at baseball games, band concerts, etc. As a wife, I do my best to keep the family going, while wearing both hats. It's my job to help support my husband in his career that he truly loves, and gives his all to," she said.

When he's gone, Ashley tries to maintain a normal schedule for the kids.

"They stay in their activities that they love. We have also attended events with other military families when they have them. We have many military friends throughout Michigan," she said.

The Nicks never lived on base because Michael chose to join the National Guard instead of active duty. Ashley said if you're active duty, you can choose to live on a base or rent a house near the station.

As a history buff, Michael went to school to be a teacher and ended up joining the service after they married.

"It's always been something he's wanted to do. I'm extremely proud of him. He's a guy who truly gives 110 percent in what he does, he strives to be a good soldier,

"As a wife, I do my best to keep the family going, while wearing both hats."

Ashley Nick
Linden resident



Michael and Ashley Nick live in Linden with their four kids. Michael is in the Army National Guard and is often gone from home. Being a military family has instilled in the kids to always thank veterans and stand for the national anthem. Photo submitted to Times

and continues to learn more and more in his career. His entire family is proud of him," she said.

Effect on family

Ashley said her oldest son, Aiden, 10, wants to join the service when he's old enough and "do what dad has done."

"It does make me nervous because you never know what could happen overseas. It's the fear of the unknown," she said. "We have taught the kids to always thank a vet, to stand properly when the anthem is played, and to respect each and every soldier. They are proud to say 'my dad's a soldier.'"

Military family facts

- 1. More than 2 million** U. S. children have a parent who served in Iraq or Afghanistan.
- 2. The average military** family moves every two to three years.
- 3. If both husband** and wife are soldiers, it's possible they can be deployed at the same time.
- 4. The average military** child will change schools six to nine times.
- 5. The unemployment rate** among military spouses is more than three times the national average.
- 6. Service members divorce** less frequently than civilians.
- 7. Military children** are twice as likely to join the military as children of civilians.

Sources: The Professional Counselor, Center for research on Military Organization, care.com



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MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, Aug. 3.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
A COUNTRY BAR in Fenton? With drinking and dancing and such? Why, we can't have that here. This is a yuppie town. We've got to walk around with a sweater over our shoulders or wrapped around our waist and go into very expensive restaurants with good wine.

■■■■
HEY, RAIN AT last.

■■■■
I'M A PROUD Dem also. Bought my house in 2008, was upside down

The Legislature remains on a summer campaign break with no sessions scheduled until after the Aug. 7 primary election. Rather than votes, this report contains some interesting or noteworthy recent bill introductions.

Senate Bill 1051: Require governor create annual state "strategic plan"

Introduced by Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R), to require the governor to submit an annual "strategic plan" for the state alongside the annual executive budget recommendation. This would have to include, "the mission, vision, goals, strategies, and performance measures

for 10 years. Unregulated Wall Street/finance was the cause, Republicans were responsible.

■■■■
THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION is no longer funding extinct animal preservation. We have no right, please stop this.

■■■■
GREAT SHOW FENTON Marching Tigers. So much hard work and talent. Always amazed at the end of band camp. Can't wait to see the half-time show along with the new uniforms. Thumbs up from a trombone mom.

■■■■
CITY PAYING 50,000 for butterfly gardens

for each state department, including measures of the department's inputs, outputs, and output measures." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 1056: Accommodate "genetic material for use in posthumous conception" in wills

Introduced by Sen. Judy Emmons (R), to revise the law governing wills and estates to accommodate and create rules for when a decedent leaves behind "genetic material for use in posthumous conception," or when there is "an individual in gestation at a decedent's death" who may have a claim

while Fenton has worst streets with potholes all over.

■■■■
AT THE END of the day I still believe that Foster Childs is the smartest person in the room. Thank you for all you do for our community with your newspaper.

■■■■
PEOPLE, PLEASE GET a full-length mirror and look at yourself before you leave the house. Make America beautiful again.

■■■■
JUST BECAUSE YOU have an opinion does not make it fact.

on the estate. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 6012: Authorize multi-state traffic ticket reciprocity

Introduced by Rep. Steven Johnson (R), to require the Secretary of State to suspend the license of a Michigan driver if notified by another state that the individual got a ticket and failed to pay it, or didn't show up in court. Also, to notify other states if one of their residents does the same here. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 6020: Repeal crime of having sex without disclosing HIV

Introduced by Rep. Jon Hoadley (D), to repeal a law that makes it a crime for a person who knows that he or she has an HIV infection to have sex with another person without disclosing this. Under the bill, this would be a crime only if done with the intention of infecting the other person. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 6026: Establish forensic laboratories oversight regime

Introduced by Rep. Tom Barrett (R), to mandate that forensic laboratories obtain a professional accreditation, and create a state forensic science commission to regulate forensic laboratories, investigate claims of negligence and nonperformance, and make recommendations to the legislature. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 6030: Restrict declawing cats

Introduced by Rep. Yousef Rabhi (D), to mandate that veterinarians performing onychectomy (declawing) and flexor tendonectomy procedures on cats and other animals provide the owner with informational materials that the Department of Health and Human Services would be required to make available. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

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7.4 cu. ft. electric dryer 02681182
Gas dryer priced higher. Optional pedestals sold separately.

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Kenmore
SAVE \$488
24.5-cu. ft.[†] side-by-side refrigerator 04650043
Reg. 1369.99

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26.1-cu. ft.[†] french door refrigerator with ice maker 04673025
Reg. 1899.99

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AFTER 10% SAVINGS

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Electric range with storage drawer 02293013
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AFTER 10% SAVINGS
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LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.

HOLLY HILLS

Continued from Front Page

meeting. Because of some continued safety concerns, the matter will come before the commission again at its Wednesday, Sept. 4 meeting, which will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Karl Richter Campus.

It is expected the matter also will be discussed at the Aug. 15 Board of Trustees meeting.

The postponement did not stop those objecting to the expansion project from again expressing their concerns at the Aug. 1 meeting. Additionally, Sue Julian, a member of the Holly Board of Education and a strong voice for Headwater Trails, made a presentation regarding water and environmental safety concerns.

Hubble, Roth and Clark, engineering consultants for Holly Township, and NOCFA (North Oakland County Fire Authority) also have concerns about the expansion project from a safety standpoint.

Three homeowners from Holly Hills also were in attendance to share their worries about the project.

The Taylors and their neighbors encourage concerned residents to attend the Aug. 15 Board of Trustees meeting. "We need to pack the place, big decisions are being made," Stacy said.

They also have taken their worries about the impact on the environment to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) via letter, but have not yet received a response.



Neighboring homeowners' concerns over the Holly Hills expansion include the safety of the wells and drinking water in the township, increased traffic on Falk Road, the additional burden on Holly Area Schools and the negative effects it could have on wetlands. Photo credit: Tim Jagielo, Times media editor

Background

In 1990, a consent judgment prohibited Holly Township from preventing the use of 164 acres located north of East Holly Road and east of Falk Road.

As a result, the first phase of the Holly Hills Manufactured Home Community was built with 276 homes. By the time Phase III comes around, there could be more than 700 homes on the site.

According to Stacy Taylor, who with her husband, Mark, owns a six-acre

parcel of land on Falk Road, which they call home, said the consent judgment was the result of a "clerical error." She said this fight has been ongoing since the late 1970s and it's still not over. It's the reason their group is called "Old fight to make it right."

The Taylors and several concerned neighbors are spearheading the fight against the expansion project. They have been preparing to fight this expansion for several reasons and have amassed a voluminous amount of documents to try and prove and illustrate their points.

Their concerns include, but are not

limited to, the safety of the wells and drinking water in the township. "This is a danger to our aquifer," Stacy said.

Another major concern is the increase in traffic on Falk Road, as the expansion site plans call for three access points into the manufactured home park from Falk Road.

Other negative effects of this expansion cited by those opposed include the additional burden on Holly Area Schools as far as increased class sizes, traffic impact and taxes. Manufactured home owners pay \$36 a year toward taxes. Objectors also cite the "devastating effects" this could have on the wetlands. Although documents provided by the MDEQ show there have been no wetland issues so far, it is believed there will be in the future.

The toll this expansion will take on Holly Township roads is also a major concern, Stacy said.

The Taylors and their group are worried about the additional asphalt driveways and runoff issues. Meritus is also seeking additional utilities.

Although planners will be tasked with approving, or not, the Holly Hills expansion plans, final site plan approval is granted by the State of Michigan Mobile Home Commission.

Holly Township Supervisor George Kullis said previously that because of the consent judgment, "Our hands are tied." The property owner is required to get site plan approval for engineering from a safety standpoint. They are working with NOCFA, which is working closely on this for fire safety matters.

THREAT

Continued from Front Page

his Snapchat followers in March. He also has more than \$2,000 in fines to pay.

Parks was arrested March 22 and arraigned on the charge March 23. Most of his Snapchat followers are students at Holly Area Schools.

According to Holly police, students reported the incident to the school resource officer because the photo he posted had a title of "I feel like shooting up a school today."

The investigation was turned over to the Oakland County prosecutor's office for review. Parks was charged with malicious use of a telecommunications device. He faced six months imprisonment and/or a \$1,000 fine.

As previously reported, School Re-

source Officer Michael Houck was familiar with the teen due to an unrelated contact with him the day prior to the Snapchat incident. Houck conveyed the information to the Holly Police Department. Approximately one-half hour later, a Holly police officer located the suspect's vehicle.

Holly Police Chief Michael Story said, "My department and Holly Area Schools will remain very vigilant in investigating threats made against it and its students."

"We will remain at a zero tolerance in our dealing with perpetrators. This particular individual was very fortunate he was charged as he was and if circumstances were just a little different he would have likely been convicted of a felony requiring prison time."

“We will remain at a zero tolerance in our dealing with perpetrators.”

Michael Story
Holly police chief

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CATCH OF THE WEEK



Erik Hine, 9, from Brown City, caught this 18-inch largemouth bass at Seven Lakes State Park on July 28 while visiting his Papa and Grandma in Holly.

WALDEN'S LOUNGE

Continued from Front Page

Lusitania. Four years later, it was sunk by German submarines.

She proudly displayed the small high-button shoes she wore when arriving at Ellis Island. She donated money for the restoration of the island and the Statue of Liberty.

Fentonites remember Phyllis as a friendly, caring and hardworking woman, who was proud to be an American.

Phyllis died at her North LeRoy Street residence on Dec. 21, 2002 at the age of 96, after a lingering illness. Funeral services were held that Christmas Eve and she now rests in Fenton's Oakwood Cemetery.

The bar, which has one of the oldest liquor licenses in the state, was until recently owned and operated by her two sons, Malvin E. Walden, known to family and friends as "Babe," who died in April of 2013 at the age of 69. Duane, affectionately known as "Fuzzy," died June 22 of this year at the age of 76.

The Walden family was instrumental in raising funds for the American Cancer Society at their bar, including an annual auction in more recent years. Items for



(Left) Duane (Fuzzy) and Malvin (Babe) Walden as children, and (right) the brothers as adults in front of the popular tavern started by their parents in 1934.

Tri-County Times file photos



the auction were generously donated by local businesses and individuals.

Walden's first started collecting funds for ACS in February of 1958 when bars throughout Genesee County competed to see which one could collect the largest amount. There was a traveling trophy which was engraved with the winner's

name. Walden's received it for several years.

When the competition ended, Walden's continued to collect money from customers during February, eventually adding the "fun" and profitable auction.

Babe Walden was born in his parents' home, behind Walden's Lounge. Until the day he died in 2003, the lounge was a part of his family and legacy. He loved Walden's Lounge, but mostly loved the people and the conversation he found within it.

The lounge opened just after prohibition and was his father's, but it legally belonged to Babe and his brother, Duane "Fuzzy" Walden since 1972.

Babe Walden served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He graduated from Fenton High School in 1962 and described his teenage years as the best ones of his life due to his lack of responsibility. The only thing he had was a car and the only worry he had was how to get gas in it.

In a previous interview with the Tri-County Times, Babe Walden was asked what the one thing he learned from life was. His answer — "Never take anything for granted."

Babe and his brother Fuzzy Walden were known for their kindness, generosity and sense of humor.

Walden's Lounge has been a staple for locals looking for good drinks and great food. It has been said by many that they had the "best sandwiches" around.

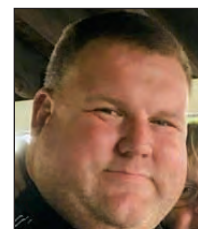
Fuzzy, too, served in the U.S. Army in Germany as occupation force, guarding Hess Prison in Berlin. He loved garage sales and auctions and enjoyed spending time up north hunting, fishing and being outdoors.

Friends and family shared their remembrances after Fuzzy's death. One said, "Whenever I asked Fuzzy how he was doing, he always responded with 'I don't know cuz nobody told me yet.'"

Sadly, Babe Walden's son, Malvin W. Walden, died unexpectedly Sunday, Aug.

5 at the age of 43. After his Thursday, Aug. 9 funeral service, he, too, rests in Fenton's Oakwood Cemetery.

The circumstances surrounding the closing of Walden's Lounge are a private family matter.

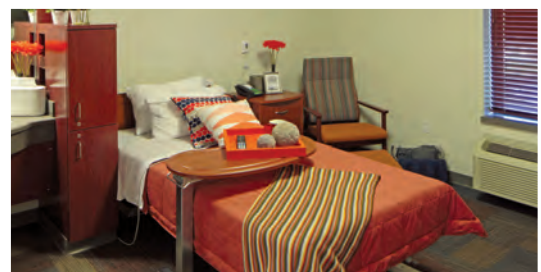


Malvin W. Walden

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Some studies suggest that chronic tardiness comes from a personality type. Photo credit: www.monster.com

The science behind tardiness

■ Being late cost the U.S. \$90 billion in productivity

By Hannah Ball

Multitasking. The planning fallacy. A type B personality.

These are three reasons experts name for why some people are chronically late.

According to a YouGov poll, one in five Americans are late to work at least once a week. Only 48 percent report never being late.

Multitasking is one of the culprits. In a 2003 study by San Diego State University, it was found that out of 181 subway operators in New York City, people who multitasked were late to their job more often.

Multitasking makes it more difficult to be fully aware of the task at hand, and some things can take longer than expected. People are also not fully aware of how long something will take if they're doing multiple things at once.

The planning fallacy is when people don't accurately judge how long something will take to complete. According to sciencealert.com, on average, people underestimate how long a task will take 40 percent of the time.

Your personality type may also play a role on arriving on time. Another San Diego State University study found that people with a type A personality—achievement-oriented, aggressive, competitive — are more likely to be on time

compared to their type B counterparts, who are more laid-back and relaxed.

A study by San Francisco State University found that people who are chronically late, also called punctually challenged, share other personality traits like anxiety, low levels of self control or a penchant for thrill seeking.

According to a Proudfoot Consulting survey, American CEOs are late to eight out of every 10 meetings.

Cost of being late — time is money

Disregarding potentially losing your job because of chronic lateness or constantly getting in trouble with your friends, there are monetary consequences to Americans being late — up to \$90 billion a year.

According to a Proudfoot Consulting survey, American CEOs are late to eight out of every 10 meetings, and when they're late just by 10 minutes every day, it costs the economy \$90 billion in lost productivity.

Tardiness has a snowball effect. If the CEO is late, the meeting ends later, and everyone may be behind in their day.

How to stop being late

- Have a 15-minute buffer before going anywhere.
- Track how long it takes to accomplish certain tasks.
- Don't over commit to activities.
- Don't be a perfectionist.
- Limit distractions.
- Give yourself consequences. Tell your friends you'll buy wine if you're late for dinner.

Source: abcnews.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
IN RESPONSE TO the comment made in the Hot line. I'd like to say that Trump is president because of the incompetent Obama, who divided us as a nation, made us weak and vulnerable and of course poorer.

■■■
TRUMP'S ECONOMY IS booming and working well for America. I'd like to remind the public that not a single Democrat voted for these wonderful changes for our country.

■■■
CALIFORNIA'S LEGAL POPULATION is in decline. Your growth number of 309,000 comes from 735,000 additional illegal immigrants in 2017.

WE NOT ONLY feel bad for UM fans, we feel bad for Spartans, too. Go Buck-eyes. From a local OSU fan.

■■■
FUNNY HOW SOCIALISTS always point to public goods as examples of socialism. Libraries, police, fire, national defense, public education and roads are not examples of socialism. They all represent the government meeting market demand: a purely capitalist construct.

■■■
HAS ANYONE EVER heard of the DDA trying to save an old building? No, tear it out. Get rid of it. Make a parking spot.

■■■
HEY, 'LOVE THE Fenton area' person: You don't speak for the entire community, especially me.

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Blue Devils' 'Midnight Madness' move to Friday pays off

■ Hundreds attend annual late-night session for first glance at football team

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Hunter Schramm loves it any time he gets a chance to spend time with his Lake Fenton varsity football teammates.

If that means a midnight football practice, then it will be at midnight.

The Blue Devils have hosted a 'Midnight Madness' football practice for years now, but varsity football head coach Marty Borski, who is returning back to the helm this fall after replacing Eric Doyle, put a new twist on it this year.

Just as in the past, there was still tailgating a good hour before the practice. As in the past, there were kids throwing footballs during those tailgates. And just as was true in the past, there were prob-

ably about 300 community members watching the hour-long practice. However, this year's session was on the fifth day of practice at 12:01 a.m. Friday was See **MIDNIGHT** on 19A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

The Lake Fenton varsity football team walks toward the football field during Friday's midnight practice that started at 12:01 a.m., the first minute the team could work out in full pads.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 2018 | PAGE 18A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Sports Times

Fenton's Berry leads our 2018 girls soccer team

By David Troppens

In some ways it felt like Margaret Berry was on the Fenton varsity girls soccer team for more than four seasons.

A lot happened during her tenure with the Tigers.

When she was a freshman, she was one of the key defensive players on a squad that defense was the

key reason for the Tigers' greatest post-season tournament run in school history. Fenton advanced to the Division 2 state championship game before having to settle as state runner-up, losing to Richland Gull Lake in the final 1-0 due to a shootout. In reality, the Tigers didn't allow a goal in that game (the state title game reflects that Richland won a shootout) and only allowed one goal in seven postseason tournament contests.

In 2016, the Tigers captured a Metro League title and during the spring this season the Tigers captured another Metro crown, going undefeated and outscoring Metro foes 34-6 in their eight league games.

sity girls soccer) coach (Matt) Sullivan and all of my teammates, I learned how to be a good teammate and learned leadership skills and a lot of other things that will take me further into life."

"She's been the anchor for four years," Sullivan said. "So much of our success is tied to her and it has been for four years.

"She's been the heart and soul of our team not just her senior year but for all four years. She totally bought into the program and is a true leader. I try to tell kids they don't have to be a senior to be a leader. Margaret Berry is a great example of that."

Berry is an outstanding defender, but she also found a way to be a part of the Tigers' offense during the spring, scoring eight goals and dishing off three assists.

"She developed the ability to become a threat on both sides — offense and defense," Sullivan said. "She became one of our biggest scoring threats. When we get into those big games against big teams, she was vital."

Berry said being a part of the Fenton varsity girls soccer team has made soccer more fun than it otherwise may have been.

"I think that it helped me enjoy the game more," Berry said. "I think that a lot of times if you play travel all of the time, it's more serious, and playing in high school is a time I can go, play the game with my best friends and enjoy it. You still want to win in high school, but it's a little more relaxed. It's a nice balance to have."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



MARGARET BERRY

Berry is our 2018 Tri-County Female Soccer Player of the Year. She earned First-Team All-State honors. She was Fenton's top defender for four years.



Here is a list of the players that made our All Tri-County Girls Soccer Team as selected by the sports staff.

All Tri-County Girls Soccer Team

FEMALE SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Margaret Berry, Fenton senior

A First-Team All-State pick, Berry was probably the Tigers' most versatile player, leading Fenton's defense while also scoring eight goals during Fenton's Metro League championship season.

REST OF FIRST TEAM (All-State performers listed in parenthesis)

Name (all-state team) School

Payton Price (First Team) Holly
Teyana Brown Lake Fenton
Morgan Reitano (H. Mention)Lk. Fenton
Taylor Acox..... Linden
Lexi Curtis..... Holly
Chloe Wagner Fenton
Kirsten Foor..... Fenton

Name (all-state team)... School

Melanea Strauss Linden
Lauren Murphy (Third Team) Fenton
Erica Breitling Linden
Victoria Karakuc Holly
Bella Reitano Lake Fenton
Tri-County Keeper
Lauren Koscielniak..... Fenton

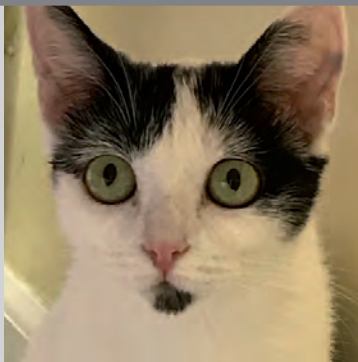
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Lilah

I'm as sweet as can be and I just love everyone I meet. I'm heartworm positive and will be recovering from that very soon.

Eagles go bowling before starting official football practices

■Linden coaches impressed with effort during first days of season

By David Troppens

Linden — Apparently it was time for a change.

For as long as the Linden varsity football team can remember, the squad has gone on a camping trip the weekend prior to the start of football practice.

During the weekend, the team has always gone on a canoe trip while on the venture.

That changed this year. The team still went on their trip, heading to a place in Gaylord that assistant coach Greg Durkac owns, but the canoe trip was no more. Instead, the Linden Eagles went bowling.

"The kids wanted to go bowling instead and it was a lot of fun," Linden varsity football co-coach Denny Hopkins said. "The bowling alley opened up for us and opened their cafe for us. They gave us a great deal in food and stuff, so it turned out pretty nice. We filled the entire bowling alley up pretty much."

The football players also learned something else — that Hopkins is a pretty good bowler. Hopkins beat all the players on the squad. His greatest compe-

tition was Travis Klocek, but as Hopkins said, he still won all three games.

"I was on a league at one time, but I haven't bowled in four years. I was pretty good," Hopkins said. "Klocek had the highest average (among the players), but I got him all three though."

The annual camping trip is a great way to have some fun before the start of football practice. Practice started on Monday for all of Michigan's high school teams and Linden was no exception, starting around mid-afternoon. On Wednesday, the squad had an atypical morning/early afternoon practice. It was the first day teams were allowed to wear their helmet and shoulder pads to a practice.

"They are doing well," Hopkins said. "The kids are doing a good job. We are pretty pleased and we are looking forward to Friday with everything on. We have tried to put kids in different spots, and next Thursday is our scrimmage, and that usually settles the competition."

Hopkins said the team has 37 players and he's pretty pleased with his depth.

"We're two-deep at every position," Hopkins said. "We'll take that. We have 37 kids and that's not bad."

Fellow co-head varsity football coach Nick Douglass likes

what he's seen out of this season's squad as well.

"The most impressive thing so far is their willingness to help one another succeed, even if it is at the expense of their own playing time," Douglass said. "So, I guess you could say they have bought into the team concept."

"We work pretty doggone hard," Hopkins said. "The work ethic of the kids is very good. That's what I like. They come every day. They came last night and then we came back this morning (early) to break up the week. They were a little sore this morning, but they're still working hard."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS

The Linden Eagles have 37 players preparing for the 2018 varsity football season. (Above) The Eagles do a drill during one of Wednesday's practice sessions. (Left) The Eagles run an offensive play during the same practice on the team's practice field.



MIDNIGHT

Continued from Page 18A

the first day teams could wear full pads, so the Blue Devils held it then instead of on Monday.

"Of course I'm excited," Schramm said. "It's always nice to come out here with my teammates, bond with them and get better as a team. It's a big step for us and we are all excited about this."

"I like it because we used to do it at the beginning of the week and we were usually a little sluggish because of how late we were up," fellow senior player Sean Trombley said. "But now that we are almost all the way through two-days it's almost like a prize for us. It's exciting for us to finish off the week."

Borski was an assistant coach with Doyle for many years and they had talked about possibly changing the date in the past. But when Doyle made a job transition forcing his resignation of the Lake Fenton varsity football coaching position, that enabled Borski to return to the position he held from 2002 through 2009. It also enabled him to make the date change of the midnight practice.

"Eric started the 'Midnight Madness' and the community loved it," Borski said. "The last couple of years we talked about transitioning it to the first day of pads. We thought we'd be a little more polished and that we could put on a little better show. I thought since we were reinventing ourselves, why not start it right now?"

Lake Fenton ran some plays on offense, did some special teams work and also had their linemen do some drills



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The Lake Fenton linemen did some rushing the quarterback drills during Friday's practice session that started at 12:01 a.m.

in front of a pretty attentive crowd of people. It was a first chance for the fans to see a team that has experienced a lot of transition since last year.

The squad has won back-to-back Genesee County Red Division championships with undefeated records, but the Blue Devils have graduated most of the players that have made the last two seasons possible. The team is eager to show that they won't miss a beat this season.

"We have a lot of young talent coming up and a lot of people are stepping up in big-time areas," Schramm said. "We are going to make the most out of it. Trust me, we are going to be pretty good."

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