If you agree with Nike glorifying Colin Kaepernick, vote with your wallet. If you agree with them, buy Nike. If you don’t, buy some other brand. It really is that easy to let your voice be heard.”

You oppose abortion and the programs to help unwanted, needy children. Have you adopted any unwanted babies?”

If you agree with Nike glorifying Colin Kaepernick, vote with your wallet. If you agree with them, buy Nike. If you don’t, buy some other brand. It really is that easy to let your voice be heard.”

If you continue to say that Foster doesn’t have a mind of his own because he thinks like Trump, would you at least accept that great minds think alike?”

Would you live next to a ‘green’ cemetery?

No embalming or burial vaults at more than 300 cemeteries across the U.S. — 20 are in Michigan

By Tim Jagielo
For some residents of Tyrone Township, the answer is a firm “no.”
Citing concerns for their well water and property values, the subject of the proposed “green” cemetery at the corner of Denton and Germany roads in Tyrone Township is a source of deep concern to nearby residents.

A cemetery development located near the intersection of Denton Hill and Germany roads in Tyrone Township is a source of deep concern to nearby residents.

PGA greats invading Warwick Hills once again

The Ally Challenge’s PGA Tour Champions League event begins Sept. 13

By David Troppens
For years, professional golf was one of the staples of living in the tri-county area.
From 1958 until 2009 (minus a seven-year gap from 1970 to 1976) the PGA Tour made a stop at Grand Blanc’s Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club, bringing professional golf to the tri-county area.
The list of winners throughout the years included some of world’s greatest players of their time. The first winner was the iconic Billy Casper in 1958. The final winner was the iconic Tiger Woods. In between, many other great names competed at Warwick Hills’ par 72 layout.

But after the 2009 PGA season, General Motors ended its sponsorship of the Buick Open, leaving the tri-county area void of professional golf since. That will change when Warwick Hills hosts its first-ever PGA Tour Champions event named The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren, from Sept. 13 to 16.
However, there will be some changes from the past.

Iconic Dixie Cleaners to close on Sept. 29

Moleski family has owned it for 66 years, 50 of which were in Fenton

By Sally Rummel
You won’t be “taking anything to the cleaners” after Saturday, Sept. 29, at least not to Dixie Cleaners in Fenton.
That will be the last day of hearing the familiar sounds of a hissing steam iron

FALL MEANS FESTIVAL TIME IN MICHIGAN

This storm swept quickly across Lake Fenton at approximately 8:10 p.m., Monday, Sept. 3. It brought wind, rain, and dramatic dark clouds across Genesee County, while causing multiple power outages. This photo was taken from Margaret Drive in Fenton Township by Tracy Kaye.

Photo submitted to the Times

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Hard hit prompts visit to doctor — cancer found

14-year-old Linden football player battling Lymphoma

By Hannah Ball

On the day he was released from the hospital, 14-year-old Linden eagle Toby Versola did something no freshman football player should ever have to do — he told the team he wouldn’t be able to play this year because he has Hodgkin Lymphoma, which is cancer that starts in the lymphocytes.

Not only can he not play football, he can’t go to school. Toby will be tutored and homeschooled this year.

“I was in shock to be honest, I never really thought that it could happen to me,” Toby said. He thought about the diagnosis, but his main concern was not being able to play football.

Instead of experiencing his freshman year of school and playing football, Toby Versola, 14, will spend the next few months receiving treatment for cancer.

The team was in shock. Some were mad or sad, like they couldn’t believe it could happen to him, Toby said.

“They said that they are praying for me. They wanted me back on the field,” he said. “I told them to tough it out, they can get through it without me, focus on your plays, stick together and practice hard.”

The diagnosis

Toby took a hard hit at football practice a few weeks ago, said his father Nick Versola. Days later, his chest was still too sore so they took him to a family doctor for X-rays. The doctor called and said to take Toby to another hospital for a CT scan right away.

That appointment revealed a large mass just under Toby’s ribs and sternum, and over his heart, lungs and a section of his trachea. He was immediately sent to University of Michigan Children’s Hospital in Ann Arbor.

“What followed was a whirlwind five days of agonizing waiting for the results of more images, tests, and procedures that included biopsies of 12 samples of the mass itself, a bone marrow biopsy, a lumbar puncture, a PICC line placement, ultrasounds, CT scans, and a PET scan,” Nick said.

Toby was a “Titans” throughout the entire process and wasn’t administered any anesthesia because the doctors were concerned about the size and location of the mass if he were lying on his back, unconscious.

Toby said it was some of the worst pain he felt in his life. The bone marrow procedure hurt the worst when they inserted the needle and scraped the inside of his bone. He was officially diagnosed with Stage 2A Hodgkin Lymphoma Saturday, Aug. 18.

Treatment

The treatment plan includes chemotherapy every other week for four months.

“What that means for Toby is cancer, chemo, no football, no regular freshman year of school, diet restrictions, face masks, mass amounts of hand sanitizer” Nick said. “Still, he hasn’t stopped cracking jokes. His confidence is high and rightly so.”

Doctors believe Toby will respond well to treatment and the survival rate for this condition in people Toby’s age is 95 percent.

“Most of the time I can keep a positive outlook but there are still those times when I can’t stand it. Just knowing that I have to go through all this and crazy things do anything upsets me,” he said. “But, his friends and family are supporting him and he’s going to the ‘best hospital’ for treatment.”

He plans to return to sports next year.

Fundraisers

Nick Versola said they’re asking for prayers. To contribute to the family’s GoFundMe, go to gofundme.com and search “43TobyVersola.” His jersey number is 43. On Saturday Sept. 8, people can participate in a cornhole tournament at the VFW Post 3243 & Auxiliary in Fenton at 10 a.m. All proceeds go to the Versola family.

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When standard police gear isn’t enough

By Tim Jagielo

The Fenton Police Department (FPD) doesn’t own any military-style armored vehicles, but sometimes they’re needed.

According to Chief Jason Slater, there are three instances in his memory when his department had to call in the force of the Michigan State Police MSP (Emergency Support Team) to provide assistance in emergency situations.

This extra support included weapons and vehicles, such as M-16 rifles and armored vehicles, to provide protection for the officers, not to mention their specially trained troopers.

In June, such a vehicle was used to knock down the front door of a home on Hickory Street, because they believed an armed man had barricaded himself inside.

Slater said the FPD doesn’t have any military-style gear, or armored vehicles. “We wouldn’t use it enough through the year to justify the expense; it’s a phone call away,” he said, referring to the MSP team.

However, there are several departments across Michigan that have actual retired, military surplus vehicles, and equipment, which they received for free from the U.S. Government’s 1033 program.

This is different from the MSP which buys new equipment and vehicles specifically for their law enforcement needs.

According to a spreadsheet from the Defense Logistics Agency, many law enforcement agencies across the state have surplus equipment ranging from utility knives to mine-resistant vehicles. According to Michigan Radio, 30 agencies have armored vehicles, and 2,500 surplus M-16 rifles.

Holly Police Chief Michael Story said his department has AR-15 rifles procured from other departments, currently. While the department has patrol rifles, he said since 2006, they haven’t been used in a situation in the field.

The Genesee County Sheriff’s Office received dozens of rifles and related equipment through the years, along with an unmanned ground vehicle.

The Livingston County Sheriff’s Office also received a variety of gear some of it as early as this spring.

The Brighton Police Department received a “mine resistant vehicle” in 2016 and is the closest department to the tri-county area.

Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson said his agency doesn’t have interest in getting an armored vehicle, but he believes that each department should have the ability to call for one as needed.

“With today’s high-powered weaponry available, an Armored Personnel Vehicle (APV) allows the officers to make up-close and personal contact without putting ourselves or others at additional risk,” Swanson said.

About the MSP Emergency Support Team (EST)

The EST has five armored vehicles. They are not retired military vehicles, but specifically designed to be used by law enforcement for protection and rescue of both the public and law enforcement members.

The team has responded to approximately 500 tactical calls in the past two years. An armored vehicle was used on 38 calls. See MILITARY on 8

The day her momma socked it to the ‘Harper Valley PTA’

By Vera Hogan

Women all over America cheered. “Yeah, mind your own business!” when Jeannie C. Riley’s song Harper Valley PTA, was released in 1968. The song immediately became a hit for Riley and went to No. 1 on both the Billboard Pop and Country charts, a feat repeated by a woman until 1981 when Dolly Parton released 9 to 5.

Harper Valley PTA is about a widowed woman by the name of Mrs. Johnson, who confronts a group of members of the PTA after her daughter brings home a note from school that is critical of her (Mrs. Johnson) habits of wearing miniskirts, going to gradations, wedding or engagement announcements and wedding anniversaries. The stories are no longer published in the Tri-County Times or its affiliates due to privacy and safety practices. The inclusion content such as birth announcements, births, school graduations, weddings or engagement announcements and wedding anniversaries.
What is the greatest hypocrisy of all time?

Women’s magazines. Every issue since the beginning of time has contained some form of these two mandatory subject stories: ‘All Men Are Pigs’ and ‘How to Attract a Man.’

Where does rain come from?

All water originates from glaciers. Several million years ago, the glaciers, through a process called migration, traveled to Florida trailer parks inhabited almost entirely by old men wearing chest-high pants, bitching about taxes, and eating dinner at 4 p.m. During the glaciers’ centuries-long journey, they carved out millions of lakes. These lakes, through a process called evaporation, provide the water that creates clouds, which in turn create rain, through a process called precipitation. After falling back to the earth, the rain seeps into underground wells, which are then tapped by a Fortune 500 brewery and made into beer through a process called fermentation. Finally, the cycle is completed when this beer is consumed by ground wells, which are then tapped by a Fortune 500 brewery and made into beer through a process called fermentation. Initially, the cycle is completed when this beer is consumed by swimmers, boaters and fishermen and deposited back into the very lakes it originated from, through a process called urination.

Random thoughts:

• The problem isn’t that obesity runs in your family. The problem is that no one runs in your family.

• Does my wife think I’m a control freak?

• Don’t you hate it when someone answers their own question? I sure do.

• What single consumer product do you think provides the best value for your money?

Consider the lovely pencil. Lumber workers cut the trees that sawmill workers then shape into milled wood, while miners draw the graphite from deep in the earth, and others smelt and shape it into the thin rod, which is somehow encased in the octagonal tube of wood, which is then gaily painted, varnished and stamped with a name, motto or snappy saying, topped with a milled metal tip (also mined and processed and stamped) which contains a pink eraser made of gum from some remote jungle. This pillar of communication technology then becomes available to you and me at the shockingly, insanely, irrationally low price of—about 10 cents.

The problem isn’t that obesity runs in your family. The problem is that no one runs in your family.

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Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

What has been the highlight of your summer?

"Going to Seattle to visit my oldest son and his fiancée. We also did some wedding planning for their wedding next month."
Lori Thompson, Flint Township

"Probably a golf trip that I went on. There are 20 of us that have gone for a number of years. This year we went up by Boyne Mountain to golf at their courses. We ended at Bay Harbor."
Brett Meat, Fenton Township

"I live on Lake Tyrone, so that’s an obvious highlight. Everyone on the lake feels like family."
Judy Bemiss, Tyron Township

"Probably going to the Sleep- ing Bear Dunes for a long weekend. It was warm and very beautiful."
Marc Enfroy, Fenton Township

"I didn’t really like this summer, it was too hot. I did take it easy this summer, though, and it was sort of relaxing, so that was nice."
Steve Ort, Fenton Township

HI, I SURE would like to know who the ignorant person who thinks only Republicans love America? I happen to be a Democrat and I love America very much. Thank you.

HERE IS THE OFFICIAL list of people who want ICE to be abol- ished: 1. Illegal aliens. 2. Terrorists. 3. MS-13. 4. Democrats.

YES, I DID receive a so-called lottery ticket with all the winning numbers. There will be thousands of others with the same ticket. It’s a scam sent from Portugal. Danger, beware.

SO YOU LISTEN to Vladimir Putin saying the Russians wanted Trump to become president of United States, and that doesn’t bother you?

I JUST SAW the picture of the rendi- tion of what Dr. Dr. Wants to do in Linden. Leave Linden alone. Let it look like a quaint small town, not like the mess in Fenton.

TO THE PERSON stating Trumpism. The middle class started disappearing when Bill Clai- r signed NAFTA, followed by Obama’s administration that did absolutely nothing for the unions.

Thank you for printing ‘True words were never spoken.’ This is the opinion of many Americans stated clearly and succinctly. Thank you.

John McCain had more American patriotism in his little finger than the whole Trump family combined.
Funeral set for Argentine Township woman

By Sharon Stone

A 54-year-old woman, later identified as Beth Dailey was found dead in her Argentine Township home on Friday, Aug. 31.

Regular PGA Tour events are four-day, 72-hole events. Just like the PGA Tour has its FedEx Cup season championship, the PGA Tour Champions have a similar season points championship race called the Charles Schwab Cup. Basically a golfer gets a point for every dollar earned. The top 36 players at the end of the regular season will qualify for the playoffs, starting with the Dominion Energy Classic (Oct. 19-21).

Buick Open champion (2001, 2008) Kenny Perry, 2000 Buick Open champion Rocco Mediate, 2002 Buick Open champion David Toms, the player currently in second place in the Charles Schwab season point chase Jerry Kelly and seven-time PGA Tour Champions winner Scott McCarron are headed to Warwick Hills.

How much will the winner receive?

A $2 million purse will be up for grabs with the eventual champion earning 15 percent of that total purse, or $300,000. That’s much less than the $918,000 Tiger Woods earned of the $5.1 million purse at the Buick Open in 2009.

Tickets/media information

Ticket prices vary greatly depending on what day you go and what type of package you are looking for. Your best bet is to go to ticketmaster.com and check what day you go and what type of package you are looking for. Your best bet is to go to ticketmaster.com and check what day you go and what type of package you are looking for.

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What young drivers should know

Speeding, tailgating, distracted driving bring penalties; school zones carry twice the fine

By Hannah Ball

Drivers between the ages of 16 and 20 are usually the least experienced drivers on the road, according to the Michigan Secretary of State’s Office. Argentine Township Det. Sgt. Doug Fulton said there’s an increase in crashes during the school year because more younger drivers are sharing road space.

“We have a lot of problems with speeding through the school zone,” he said, adding that they’ve increased their patrols around Linden schools when school starts, when school is in session, and when it lets out. “It’s after school, everyone’s hurrying to get home. A lot of the speeders are also parents dropping off kids or getting to school and jet off to work.”

Teens also have an issue with tailgating and distracted driving.

“We do see kids on their phones. Some of the distracted driving is a car load of teens. We see all of them talking, chatting and the driver is distracted. The next you know we have a rear-end accident,” he said.

If you get a ticket in a school zone, the fine and points are double, and it can affect your insurance.

“We’re trying to see if there’s some way we can get one of those flashing school zone signs in our areas,” he said.

Driving tickets are more expensive in school zones, such as $500 fine, up to twice the fine. — U.S. NAVY vet

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**Holly Masonic Lodge sale falls through**

By Tim Jagiello

The Holly Masonic Lodge building is back on the market, after the sale fell through Thursday, Aug. 30.

“The buyer literally refused to close at the closing table (this morning),” said Realtor Julie LeBourdais. She said the building at 105 Washington St. had been emptied out, ready for the sale, following the offer being accepted on June 18.

While the building is in good shape, the Holly Masonic Lodge #134 is weathering financial difficulties, leading to the sale of the building.

In July, Dave Cruickshank, a Mason member, said, “We've been struggling to pay the bills for a while and we are out of money. It’s very sad since we’ve had the building since the 1920s.”

Their new home has not been decided. According to the lodge website, the Masons are the longest continually running or organization in Holly, forming in 1862.

The building had only been listed for four days before the interest came pouring in. It is listed at $49,000 cash.

It has a total of 2,500 square feet and a basement. LeBourdais said it is zoned residential in the village.

**Building history**

The building could have been constructed as early as 1854, said LeBourdais. It was originally built as a church, and then sold to the McCabe family, who eventually sold it to the Masons in 1920.

With such an old building, finding solid records has been difficult. “The title company is having a hard time clearing it,” she said.

LeBourdais spent time combing through microfiche tape to find past bills of sale, because the only physical copy is so deteriorated, and there is no digital copy.

**DIXIE CLEANERS**

Continued from Front Page

de-wrinkling a shirt and a loud “ding” announcing to workers that a customer is waiting at the front desk.

Tom and Candy Moleski will be closing their doors for good at noon on Sept. 29, after running a business that has been open since 1968.

Dixie Cleaners has been family owned and operated ever since Fenton residents Herb and Marie Moleski opened their doors, first on Caroline Street, then Le Roy St, and finally, at 218 First St.

Tom and his sister Lisa Perczak, grew up in the business, watching their parents work long, hot days behind huggers and dryers, dry cleaning machines and hot irons. Perczak has worked in the business since she was 15 years old, and became the store’s main seamstress for thousands of alterations.

There were the days of woolens and velvets, suits and dress shirts, draperies and bedding that required specialty cleaning and ironing. Today’s casual business attire and wash and wear fabrics have changed all that, along with trendy styles and disposable quality.

“It’s a dwindling business,” said Tom Moleski, 67, who has worked in the family business for 53 years. “Most clothes today are polyester and cottons. EXECUTives don’t wear suits anymore. It’s been ‘business casual’ for the last 10 years.”

One thing that has endured in the dry cleaning business has been his marriage to Candy, whom he met when she was a co-op student at Dixie Cleaners at age 16. They’ll celebrate 41 years of marriage next month, along with the end of Tom’s treatment for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, contracted from Agent Orange during Tom’s tour of duty in Vietnam.

Over the years, they’ve experienced many strange incidents — from $1,500 found in a pocket and rightfully returned to its owner, to a Superman thong in a guy’s pants pocket. “That got thrown away,” Tom said. “Another time, a wad of money was found in a inside skirt pocket. That was returned also. We’ve never kept anything we haven’t rightfully earned.”

Dixie Cleaners has actually been pre-paring for this day since 2015, when its dry cleaning equipment broke down and the Moleskis were faced with the decision to replace it for $25,000 or not.

They decided to work out an arrangement with Jan’s Professional Dry Cleaners in Chio, which picked up and dropped off dry cleaning for all customers. “Saving has been the only way to make money, we’ve done on-site for quite awhile,” Tom said.

The property and building are currently for sale, and Perczak is planning to open a new business in Fenton. For now, customers are encouraged to pick up any items that may be still at Dixie Cleaners — before they close for good.

“Anything that’s left will go to Jan’s in Chio to be picked up,” Tom said.

What they will miss the most are the loyal customers that have become like family to the Moleskis. “We’ve seen generations and generations of people through our doors,” Candy said. “We’re on two, maybe even three generations.”

**SUMMARY**

Dixie Cleaners in Fenton will be closing its doors for good after the doors of business Saturday, Sept. 29 at 12 p.m. The Moleski family has operated this business for 66 years, 50 of those in Fenton.

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**A Great Way to Enjoy Buying Local!**
Fall means festival time in Michigan

From local events to road trip possibilities, there’s a festival to suit every interest

By Sally Rummel

Summer may be on its way out, but the coming of fall signals its own wave of fun festivals in Michigan. Close to home. HollyDays will be gearing up for its three-day celebration in Holly this weekend, Sept. 7-9, followed by Applefest in Fenton, Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 13-16.

Jousting and juggling continue to attract visitors to the 17-aces of Holly-groove in Groveland Township near Holly at the Michigan Renaissance Festival. weekends through Sept. 30.

To experience downtown Grand Rapids at its artistic best, don’t miss Art Prize, an independently organized international art competition taking place every other year. This year’s dates are Sept. 19 to Oct. 7, and will alternate years with “Project 1 by Art Prize,” a new event to launch in 2019. This event is slated to engage a single citywide public art project, according to Artprize.com.

Fall excitement continues at the Frankenmuth Oktoberfest. Sept. 20-23. This is the only officially sanctioned Oktoberfest celebration outside of the original in Munich, Germany, according to Funtoper.com. Here, the Hofbrauhaus beer is flowing, the hand-rolled German pretzels are warm and the experience is as close to authentic as one can imagine.

If you love antiques and classic cars, don’t miss Michigan Antique Festivals in Midland, on Sept. 21-23 and in Davison, on Oct. 6-7. These events have been a mainstay Michigan tradition for more than 50 years. Celebrating a half-mile area of the raucous saloon days of the late 1800s, Hell’s Half Mile Film & Music Festival features four days and nights of independent film, music and fun in downtown Bay City, Sept. 27-30.

If you’re a car lover, you’ll enjoy the Northwood University International Auto Show, on Oct. 12-14. Exhibiting more than 500 cars from 65 manufacturers, it’s the largest outdoor new car show on the continent, according to Gogreat.com. Best of all, admission and parking are free.

There are tons of other festivals taking place near and far from the Salmon Festival in Grand Haven Sept. 14-16 to the Detroit Fall Beer Festival, Oct. 26-27. Check out all the possibilities and plan a road trip to enjoy Pure Michigan, in all of its fall glory.
The Generation GAP

By Sally Rummel

Editor’s Note: This weekly series, The Generation Gap, features opinions from Associate Editor Vera Hogan, 65, a Baby Boomer and Reporter/Social Media Editor Hannah Ball, 25, a Millennial, and is exclusive to the Midweek.

What is the biggest problem you feel our nation faces today?

Vera Hogan

It would be very easy to blame it on our current leadership, but that’s not it. It’s a lack of civility. In Washington, we need more true leaders, people who can come up with solutions, not fight each other. I’m not sure this two-party system is great, but it’s all we have.

We need to go back in history and read our Bill of Rights and our Declaration of Independence. We need a fresher course on what these really mean.

Hannah Ball

There are two main things: People’s unwillingness to seek out the truth — believing their own emotions, rather than just facts. People’s unwillingness to read past the headlines makes society stumble.

The second thing is people’s unwillingness to look at a point of view besides their own. People have different life experiences. Just because you haven’t experienced an issue or problem doesn’t mean it’s not valid for someone else. Police brutality, for example, one people think that commentary news shows are actually news when they are not. This also leads to the Alex Jones of the world — pushing out conspiracy theories like saying the Sandy Hook shootings were fake.

People thinking that their own emotions, whether they are real or not, are always right.

People have too much that they don’t have to work for. One thing connects to the other. There are no consequences for negative behavior. We adapt and accept everything, even if it’s not the right thing to do.

Memorable social media comments

By Hannah Ball

For the past few news cycles, the Times has published stories on local marching bands, accidents over Labor Day, bags of abandoned marijuana being found, using smartphones in elementary school and more.

Here are some of the memorable comments the past two weeks.

Facebook

Craig Salter, new principal of Tomek-Eastern Elementary School, had his first day Tuesday, Aug. 28. On our Facebook post about Salter, we asked what readers remembered from their first days. Cherie said, “First day of fourth grade I fell and broke my right arm.”

On the story questioning if today’s adult drivers could pass a driving exam, Beth said, “My mom made me do donuts in the (snowy and empty) parking lot at FHS for an hour before she’d let me take my driving test. Smart.”

We posted the story about a Fenton woman, and a team of people, pushing her wheelchair-bound husband across the Crim finish line on Aug. 29.

Linda said, “Janet Ruggirello was our mother’s nurse at Hurley hospital some 17 years ago and her kindness is in my heart like it was just yesterday. God bless them and their team. Mike, you’ve got the right woman at your side.”

On the story about a bag of marijuana being found at State Road Elementary playground, two weeks after a bag was found on the side of the road in Argentine Township, Heidi said, “Stayed tuned, bag three coming soon.”

Twitter

After we tweeted the story about the bag of marijuana, username @lennoncast said, “That was mine. Feel free to return it.”

Instagram

On our post about someone damaging “The Game” statue, username @hopeanway said, “Classy…Hope he’s caught quickly.” Username @nomers99 said, “You just can’t have nice things when certain people are around.”

Tag your photos with #myfenton to see them on the Times website.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I WOULD LIKE to know the plans on repaving our neighborhood roads. We should be ashamed that our city streets are in such bad shape. It seems like all the city cares about is the downtown area.

WE SHOULD BE grateful that the Donald won the Presidential election. If Hillary had won, she is so smart we would not have found out the dirty illegal things her administration would do. The Donald, clearly, is not smart enough to hide his administration’s misdeeds.

MY OPINION on breastfeeding in public — modestly is a virtue; the middle of a room is showing off. There is someplace nearby where a baby can be nursed while being considerate of others.

LIBERAL LOGIC: FOSTER Childs has a different opinion so therefore he is ‘The Enemy.’

OF COURSE A Baby Boomer had to chime in and whine because they didn’t like Hannah’s article. Grow up.

ALL THE BOOMERS who are retiring early should do society a favor and take some college courses with all their free time. Those of us who are half your age are tired of you wanting help with everything.

IF YOU WERE smart, you would get gas Thursday so that you don’t have to pay the holiday gas prices. It’s pretty sad how all the oil companies take advantage of everyone like that.

ARETHA FRANKLIN WAS a human not a goddess.

I’M A HAPPY and thankful Fentonite. I am happy because we have a president who is fighting for the forgotten men and women in America and he is fighting to make America great again.

SHOUT OUT TO all the staff keeping the Linden High School, middle school and elementary schools looking fantastic. What a great place to take a walk and the trails are a bonus, thank you for your hard work.

HI, I JUST wanted to give a huge shout-out to (local business) on Owen Road. I’ve been there for probably the last eight years and every time I go in there, they never disappoint — courteous and kind. They’re the best in town. Thanks.
CEMETERY
Continued from Front Page

Hill and Germany Roads continues to draw public comments at meetings, and Hot lines in the Times.

Donita Sanders has a drinking water well close to the future cemetery property which is privately owned.

“Several people have said that they might have to think about moving because of property values and the water are affected,” she said.

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

Director Hasan Siddiqui lives on the property, and is a Sufi Muslim. “Our properties are the two that are direct neighbors,” he said. “Our wells are the closest to the cemetery and are the only neighbors,” he said. “Our wells are the property owners were concerned that in their case, the cemetery has been negatively affecting drinking water.”

The central concern for other residents is the burial practices the cemetery would allow — “green burials,” which would not include a coffin at all, but a burial shroud and slab on top of the corpse, and no embalming chemicals would be used, per Sufi Muslim practice. The cemetery is past the local and county approval stages. The next step is state approval.

The national ‘green’ burial trend

According to the Green Burial Council (GBC), there are more than 300 “Green Burial Council approved” cemeteries in North America, in 41 states. According to a GBC provider’s map, there are 20 such providers in Michigan.

Siddiqui’s family will use these “green” burials per Muslim tradition, however their cemetery is technically not religion-based, and the cemetery is open to anyone. “Green” cemeteries and burials don’t necessarily have anything to do with religion.

Siddiqui’s plans are moving ahead, after he modified the cemetery plans to allow for fewer cemetery plots, at approximately 1,500.

The approval process

Cemeteries are regulated in Michigan by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).

However according to LARA, questions of groundwater of fects are addressed in the Michigan Public Health Code, which all owns the local health department to regulate cemeteries.

This has been a very long process,” said Matt Boland, director of environmental health for the Livingston County Health Department. His department indicated that the site was suitable for a cemetery and it would not affect local well water.

The local residents, like Sanders, find the research inadequate. “We truly don’t think the threat of contamination has been investigated properly,” she said. Sanders is coming from a long career in science. “I feel the county doesn’t have the data from enough core borings to truly know the drainage problems and leach fields that might be associated with this cemetery.”

Part of Boland’s job is to investigate vacant land and to determine whether the land is suitable for a septic field or cemetery. His department might investigate and permit 500 septic systems per year and a cemetery every five years.

He said that septic fields have to be a minimum of 75 feet from septic water well. He said burial sites have to be 75 feet from a residential well, which this site exceeds.

Boland believes that “green” burials are more environmentally safe than standard burials because there is not metal, preserved wood, or embalming fluid.

He said the chemicals emitted by a decomposing corpse are far less than a family of four would discharge into their underground septic system on a daily basis.

Residents, throughout the process, have disagreed with these assessments and findings.

“We have tanks and septic fields which breakdown waste and contaminants and filter out contaminants,” Sanders said. “I have never heard of anyone’s septic tank contaminating their drinking water, but I have numerous papers about cemeteries contaminating drinking water.”

Other community experiences

There are several “green” cemeteries in Michigan. There’s an active site in Waterford Township very close to homes, but these homes are on a municipal water service.

In Wisconsin, a community went through a similar process with a “green” cemetery, with homes located on wells.

The Natural Path Sanctuary is located in rural Springdale Township, Wisconsin. According the Times, in August 2010, residents had similar concerns about their wells, and property values.

The cemetery was approved and has since sold 327 full-body burials and 35 cremations, according to Director Shedd Farley. He said they’ve buried 120 full bodies since 2011, so far.

He said they’ve been vetted by soil engineers, hydrologists and geologists.

Township Clerk Susan Severson said that in their case, the cemetery has been an asset, and hasn’t seemed to affect property values.

The closest homes are in the $500,000 range.

The cemetery, which is part of a certified organic nature preserve, has close neighbors in two areas — though they may not be as close as neighbors in Tyrone Township.

The Times attempted to reach residents in the nearby neighborhood, but they did not respond to requests.

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Linden resident earns World Grand Champion in adult forms at ITF event

By David Troppens

Cody Dolby is just 18 years old. Yet the Linden resident is a world champion.

Dolby competed at the 15th annual ITF World Championship in Washington, D.C., and came home the World Grand Champion.

“My goal is to have fun and see how I fare against everyone else, but mostly it’s to have fun and support the school,” Dolby said. “I was really happy. It was my first time competing against adults in a world tournament.”

Dolby, who trains with Master Anthony Husted at Fenton Karate, is a third-degree black belt in Tang Soo Do. He is expecting to test to become a fourth-degree in 2021. He was thrilled to win the tournament.

“It was awesome, an incredible feeling like no other,” Dolby said. “I was joking.”

Clavitter excelling at Chicago State’s volleyball team

By Michael Pearce

On the volleyball court, Megan Klavitter is breaking records as a member of Chicago State University’s volleyball team. Submitted photo

Chicago State University’s volleyball team broke the school record for most digs in a season, and earned Class A all-region honors.

She now holds another record. The 5-foot-4 libero for Chicago State University’s volleyball team broke the school record for most digs in a single season, and earned Class A all-region honors.

She set a school record with 842 digs in a five-set battle against Linden High School.

“On the team I’m known as ‘Trip City’ because I can’t kick a ball,” Cairnduff said.

Cairnduff broke a scoreless tie with a shot from about 15 yards out to the far-side corner of the net with just 2:30 remaining in the contest, leading the Tigers to a 1-0 non-league victory against the Linden Eagles. It seemed like Cairnduff’s goal was a special one not just for him but his entire team as everyone got into the celebration for more reasons than just beating Linden. The entire team wanted in on congratulating Cairnduff.

“I used my toe on that one,” he said. “It happened to be a lucky one.

“It’s probably one of my better moments from high school because I had all my brothers around me, surrounding me. It’s cool to have all the guys around me and (Fenton varsity soccer coach Matt Sullivan). It’s great.”

It was a tight game throughout with neither team doing that much to separate themselves from the other. If the match was judged on points, the Tigers probably earned the nod because they owned more possession and owned a 17-9 shot edge (including a 10-3 on tar get edge). However, most of those attempts weren’t of any great danger.

That did change the final score as the Tigers won by a 2-1 margin.

Fenton, Holly XC teams prepare for Metro competition at Saline Early Bird Invitational

By David Troppens

The defending Metro League champion Fenton varsity cross country teams are off to a solid start this season. The Fenton girls posted three girls in the top 20 and the varsity boys had two of their runners post top-20 efforts at the Saline Early Bird Invitational. The event was held at Huron Meadows Metropark on Thursday.

The Holly varsity cross country program was at the event as well. Alexa Kesser led all area performers at the event, proving once again why she’ll be among the favorites in the women’s Metro League races this fall. The Fenton junior took second with a time of 18:40.2. Not terribly far behind her was Holly’s top performer, Andrea Ruiz. Ruiz placed sixth in 19:24.2.

Fenton had the rest of its top five finish within the top 50. Cambria Tiemann took ninth (19:45.7), followed by Abbey Lee in 19th (20:09.3), Kaitlin Bayer in 29th (20:36.8), and Hanna Chapin in 50th (21:23.2). The Tigers are a veteran squad. The entire top five are returning runners with Tiemann and Chapin being seniors. Tiemann is already among the favorites in the league. The Linden boys team is strong after placing second behind Saline.

Tigers to a 1-0 non-league win

By David Troppens

Linden boys’ soccer season was just getting started when one of the area’s top players proved he was one kick ahead of the rest.

Cody Dolby proved he’s one kick ahead of the rest by scoring a goal with his toe. The goal was a key moment in Fenton’s 1-0 win against Linden on Thursday.

It was a tight game throughout with neither team doing that much to separate themselves from the other. If the match was judged on points, the Tigers probably earned the nod because they owned more possession and owned a 17-9 shot edge (including a 10-3 on target edge). However, most of those attempts weren’t of any great danger.

That did change the final score as the Tigers won by a 2-1 margin.

Fenton Abbey Lee (right) and Holly’s Monia Ruiz (left) are two of the area’s returning varsity girls cross country runners expected to compete in today’s first Metro League jamboree. The Fenton Tigers are the defending champions for both genders. File photo
TIERS
Continued from Page 12
10 minutes of the contest when the Eagles started looking like they may be the team to break the scoreless deadlock. Shots by Ryan Gillespie and Jacob Welch gave the Eagles chances to score, but they didn’t. The Eagles had one more chance to score after Cairnduff’s shot with 15 seconds left, but that shot by Welch went wide.

“I think we are going to be really good this year,” Cairnduff said. “We have a lot of team chemistry. We just have a lot of fun together and that’s all that matters. We have a lot of talented guys so that’s good.”

Linden (5-3-2) has had some strong performances during the early fall, but this wasn’t one of them according to Linden varsity soccer coach Kevin Fiebernitz.

“One moment we look real good and fantastic ... and another we struggle. I would’ve taken my practice team from last night compared to what this was today,” Fiebernitz said. “It’s puzzling because this is a rival to begin with. It’s Fenton. ... We beat ourselves. We came nowhere close to playing the way we are capable of.”

Fiebernitz cited the team’s victories against Berkley and Lakeland as promising victories. The Eagles also have a win against Powers.

“I see the talent. We have the talent,” Fiebernitz said. “I think our biggest issue is leadership.

“You can’t turn the switch of and on, you have to come and bring it and compete.”

Fenton hosts Brandon today at 6 p.m. while Linden travels to Flushing.

DOLBY
Continued from Page 12
ing with my parents that this must be what it feels like to win an Oscar. It was crazy.”

In forms competitions competitors do detailed choreographed patterns of movements practiced either individually or in pairs. In this case, Dolby competed as an individual. Different competitors do different forms with each having varying degrees of difficulty. The competitors are judged based on their performance doing their specific form. Degree of difficulty may or may not come into play when determining the winner.

Dolby will be the adult form champion until the next World Championship in two years in Orlando, Florida.

Dolby, who graduated from Linden last spring, has been studying his craft at Fenton Karate for 10 years.

KLAVITTER
Continued from Page 12
High School, Cori Mason, taught me a lot,” Klavitter said. “She played a lot at Mott Community College and Saginaw Valley State University. She told me a lot of stories about her college experience, that helped me a lot. There are a lot of good coaches who have helped me, the biggest being coach Mason.”

In 2017 and 2018, Klavitter was named to the WAC All-Academic team, which requires an athlete to complete at least one academic year, have at least a 3.2 cumulative grade-point average and participate in at least 50 percent of the team’s contests.

“I think to be a collegiate athlete is to be great in the class and on the court,” Klavitter said. “It means I’m respected on the court and by my teachers. Cori Mason taught me relentless pursuit in academics and athletics, which I’ve carried with me to the college level.”

Relentless is the perfect word. It was announced in July that Klavitter would not only be the president of Chicago State’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), but vice president of the 2018-19 WAC SAAC as well.

Some of the duties of SAACs as defined by the NCAA are to promote communication between athletics administration and student-athletes, disseminate information, provide feedback and insight into athletics department issues, generate a student-athlete voice within the campus athletics department formulation of policies, and build a sense of community within the athletics program involving all athletics teams.

Continued from Page 12
Holly’s girls only had three other runners to reflect by the event. Adam Jesse remains the event. Adam Jesse remains

no. 7 in the boys gold varsity event. He was followed by Samuel Cox in 17th (16:52.3).

The rest of the Fenton boys top five runners were Logan Canada in 21st (16:56.2), Nolan Day in 32nd (17:21.2) and Gage Bond 220.0).

The Fenton boys will have a lot of new faces on their varsity team this fall, as reflected by the event. Adam Jesse remains a strong competitor, taking 10th in 16:23.6 in the boys gold varsity event. He was followed by Samuel Cox in 17th (16:52.3). The rest of the Fenton boys top five runners were Logan Canada in 21st (16:56.2), Nolan Day in 32nd (17:21.2) and Gage Bond 220.0).

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SPECIAL BRICKS

JOHN DENNIS CHINONIS 1935-2018

John Dennis Chinonis - age 82, of Fenton, died Friday, August 31, 2018. Funeral service will be held 11 AM Thursday, September 6, 2018 at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 2245 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc. Visitation will be held 4-6 PM Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton with a Trisagion service at 7 PM. Internment will be at Oakwood Cemetery, Fenton. Those desiring may make contributions to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 2245 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI, 48439. Gertrude was born May 4, 1930 in Heppenheim, Germany, the daughter of Adam and Lisle (Vock) Becker. She married Harry Lynn Halboth July 21, 1956 and he preceded her in death March 20, 2018. She had resided in the Holly and Fenton area for the past 20 years coming from Lake Orion and Oak Park. Gertrude worked as a seamstress at Weiman’s in Detroit and also owned and operated Kowalski Deli Shop in Ferndale for many years. She was a member of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, in Linden, her funeral is scheduled to be held 11 AM on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at Hope Lutheran Church, 7355 Silver Lake Rd., Linden. Pastor Paul Kolek officiating. Visitation will be at Sharp Funeral Homes, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton Wednesday, September 5, 2018 from 4-9 PM and at church Thursday from 10 AM until the time of the service. Those desiring may make contributions in Beth’s memory to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at www.nationalmssociety.org. Online tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
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