

Surprise! Local drivers not speeding

■ Fenton police share results of six-day monitoring test on North LeRoy Street

By Sharon Stone

Over the course of several days, the Fenton Police Department's speed trailer was placed on North LeRoy Street near

Fifth Street, recording northbound and southbound traffic in an attempt to determine the pace of vehicles traveling in that area.

This comes after Robert and Marie Bechtel of Fenton approached the city about their concerns of increased traffic and speeds in this area. At issue are pedestrian safety concerns that are occurring because

See **SPEEDING on 15A**

Fenton police placed a speed trailer on N. LeRoy Street, near Fifth Street to determine the average speed of motorists after residents expressed concerns over increased traffic and speeds with growing downtown activity. Times file photo





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Weekend Times

VOL. 25 NO. XXXVI

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

\$1.00

Fenton schools drop 6 percent in reading proficiency

■ All four local districts better than state average in standardized testing

By Hannah Ball

The most recent standardized testing results show Michigan schools have improved in third-grade English.

Approximately 44 percent of Michigan's third-grade students tested proficient or higher on the English language arts portion of the spring 2018 Michigan Student Test of Education Progress (M-STEP).

See **TESTING on 16A**

To see results of all area districts, visit this article online at tctimes.com

She's saving the monarchs, one butterfly at a time

An adult butterfly and larvae sit on the hand of Carmoleta Foley, who brings them into her care as very small larvae and nurtures them to adulthood.

See **story on 1B.**

Photo: Tim Jagielo



Downtown Linden road construction adding to school traffic



A construction worker breaks large chunks of concrete on Bridge Street in downtown Linden Thursday, Sept. 6. Construction is expected to be done this fall.

Photo: Hannah Ball

By Hannah Ball

With school beginning Tuesday, Sept. 4, increased traffic was noticeable in the road reconstruction in downtown Linden. Parents, bus drivers and some older students who drive themselves to school have to navigate around the traffic cones and barricades as workers continue to redo Bridge Street.

Construction started this past spring to repave Bridge Street from the Shiawassee River south

See **TRAFFIC on 15A**

“The traffic flow on Bridge Street will be slow, but with two lanes we should see a decrease in traffic back-ups.”

Russ Ciesielski
Linden superintendent

Woman billed \$1,400 after son's accident

■ Municipalities able to charge non-residents for emergency services

By Hannah Ball

An accident on March 25 on U.S. 23 in Tyrone Township is still causing problems for the people involved and the township.

In the crash, in which no one was injured and medical services were not needed, a 29-year-old man received a ticket for failure to yield. It resulted in an approximate

See **BILLED on 11A**

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE
810-771-TEXT



“Don't blame all illegal immigrants for the heinous crimes of one,” say the folks who blame everyone in the NRA for acts committed by people who are not members of the NRA.”



“Just read Vera and Hannah's generation gap story. Their opinions on marriage were quite the opposite. Can't wait to see what they've got to say next week.”



“Everyone that I know enjoys the Hot lines. That being said, we need to not be so aggressive with our commentary. So, here's my solution. When we send comments in why don't we all pretend we are talking to our mother. Problem solved.”



“Your relentless caustic political Facebook postings have finally convinced me to come around to your way of thinking, said nobody, ever.”

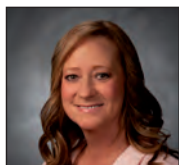


COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“So Colin Kaepernick is now the new face of Nike? The new logo should be 'just blew it.'”



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Sales Associate
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Michelle Bullis
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Sharon Davis
810-964-2144



Karen Esker
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Heather Guminski



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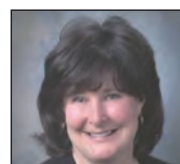
New On Market



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Wade Pyles
810-845-6759



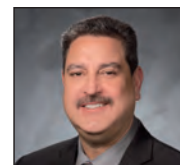
Cindy Rivette
810-240-6489



Jerry Rule
810-965-4011



Andrea Shearer
810-919-1375



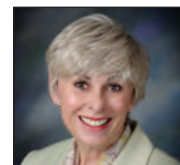
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**It's
that time
again!**



St. John - Fenton

Applefest

**SEE
COMPLETE
COVERAGE
INSIDE**
Pages 5-12B

The 46th annual event runs Thursday, Sept. 13 through Sunday, Sept. 16 at St. John's

By Sally Rummel

Tents are being delivered, crisp, fall apples are being peeled and carnival rides are being set up on the grounds of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton.

Yes, it's Applefest time again in Fenton. This week, the school and parish grounds are being transformed into the 46th annual Applefest, which runs Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 13 to 16.

The event will begin with an opening prayer at 3 p.m. on Thursday, signaling the start of midway activities that will continue throughout the weekend.

The midway, provided by Skerbeck



The 46th annual Applefest will run Thursday, Sept. 13 at 3 p.m. to Sunday, Sept. 16 on the grounds of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton. *Times file photo*

Entertainment Group from Escanaba, is the focal point of fun for kids and teens, operating Thursday from 3 to 10 p.m., Friday from 3 to 11 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m.

The midway also includes traditional festival activities like the Cake Walk, Attic Treasures and more, plus a lot of carnival food favorites from Elephant Ears to the Happy Apple Tent, where about 1,700 handmade apple pies will be sold. "We have more items this year (at Attic Treasures) than anyone can ever remember," said Will Stiverson, new Applefest chairperson.

Stiverson, 36, a single dad, is likely the first-ever non-couple chairperson of this huge event. However, his experience with the festival goes back several generations, and also looks ahead to the future, with the help of his son, Logan.

See APPLEFEST on 17A

Local 9/11 memorial observances

CITY OF FENTON

The Fenton City Fire Department at 205 E. Caroline St. will be observing 9/11 (Sept. 11, 2001) with a memorial activity — rain or shine — following this timeline on Tuesday, Sept. 11:

• **8 a.m.** — Fire trucks E-11, L-15 and T-14 will be pulled outside the doors of the station and parked. One wreath and the mural will be placed on the bottom of the tripod holding the wreath, in front of the trucks. A black fire helmet will be placed below



Photo: www.lafra.org

the wreath. The other wreath will be placed at the memorial on the south side of the fire station.

- **9:59 a.m.** — At the time of the first tower collapse, a truck siren will be sounded for approximately 15 seconds.
- **10 a.m.** — One minute of silence will be observed.
- **10:01 a.m.** — All personnel will be dismissed from the ceremony, and trucks and wreaths will remain on display until 8 p.m., when they will be returned inside the station.

See 9/11 MEMORIAL on 14A

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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

• **Bill Schuette**, your wanna-be next governor, recently signed onto a court filing that calls climate change “unsettled science.” And props to him: he’s right. To date, only 97 percent of the world’s climate scientists say climate change is real, is damaging the planet, and humans are to blame. Which means a whopping 3 percent (I was always good at math) disagree. And he’s siding with them. That’s the kind of enlightened, independent and odds-challenged leadership Michigan has always needed, don’t you think?



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

• **You detected** that I was being sarcastic, right? I’ve always thought there should be a sarcasm font. Maybe I’ll invent one and go on “Shark Tank.”

• **BTW: Hey, Bill**, about 3 percent of the

population doesn’t believe pizza is good either. And the world? Flat as a pancake. Please use these examples in your next stump speech.

• **I’m starting to** worry about Ford. Too much smoke in the news lately. And where’s there’s smoke, there are usually layoffs.

• **A school board** member in the Upper Peninsula village of L’Anse is in the news for ordering female marching band members to wear bras. I have a feeling she’s going to regret that. Haven’t we reached a point yet where we leave people the heck alone about how they dress and look? Apparently the body-shaming movement hasn’t made it that far north yet.

• **Why is it** the older I get, the more I like marching band halftime shows, despite the truly dreadful arrangements of pop tunes the kids are usually forced to play? (Marching bands should always play classical or marching tunes. Maybe old TV theme songs. But never pop or hip-hop. No one needs Uptown Funk played with tubas and kettle drums.)

• **Beware: We have** officially entered

pumpkin spice season. I can’t wait to see what gets the pumpkin spice treatment this year. I’m guessing deodorant. Or maybe spray butter. Or shoelaces. Or ¾-inch hex wrenches. (You think I kid? I do not. Nothing is safe from the pumpkin spicers. In fact, this column is infused with pumpkin spice scent. You like?)

• **Also, why does** everything these days have to have a “hack?” Are we really doing that many things the hard or wrong way? Are we really that dumb? I’m particularly annoyed with all the Facebook videos telling me that my

whole life I’ve never once cut, chopped or peeled a single vegetable or fruit correctly.

• **I’ve taken** nothing but the stairs at work for six months and I’m happy to report that ... I’m still winded each and every time. What the heck, body?

• **Some people** are so mad at Nike for its new Colin Kaepernick ad that they’re cutting the Nike swoosh

out of their Nike socks. I wouldn’t do that. It’d ruin the socks, wouldn’t it? And if so, why not just throw them away? Personally, I’d prefer athletic clothing without logos. I don’t buy Nike socks or shoes because they’re Nike socks or shoes. I buy them if they fit and look OK. I’ve always been against turning myself into a walking billboard for companies to sell more stuff.

• **“I owe my** success to having listened respectfully to the very best advice, and then going away and doing the exact opposite.” — G. K. Chesterton

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.

“I’m particularly annoyed with all the Facebook videos telling me that my whole life I’ve never once cut, chopped or peeled a single vegetable or fruit correctly.”

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.

I WOULD HOPE the newspaper declines to print some of the more caustic hot line opinions. We should all measure our words when expressing our thoughts and views.

HOLLYWOOD LIBERALS LOVE to revise history to their point of view. That’s why it is very unsettling that the new movie called ‘First man,’ does not show Neil Armstrong planting an American flag on the moon. The director wants to celebrate this as an accomplishment of all men, but it does not recognize the fact that it was the blood, sweat and tears of Americans that made this happen.

ALL OF YOU who watch Fox, go see the documentary out called ‘Active Measures.’ It’s about Donald Trump and Putin’s Russian mafia going back 30 years to present. It’s not fake news. That’s why he is Putin’s (mafia) puppet. TCTimes probably won’t print this. This is ‘Trumptown.’

I HAVE NO problem with people who are arrested being strip-searched. Do you have a problem with being strip searched at the airport?

TELL ME ONE thing the government does efficiently, with the exception of lying to us.

I JUST CHECKED, the stock market is up. Unemployment and welfare are down. Consumer confidence is up.

PART OF THE reason that standard Americans struggle with Muslims is that they don’t adapt, for instance, their burial planning.

PLEASE TELL HELLER that reported median income under his hero, Obama was at \$54,000. Under Trump, just reported to be at \$62,000.

VERY PROUD OF Fenton schools and police department for the way they handled the bomb threat.

A WAR HERO, an outstanding Republican senator dies, and a sitting Republican President doesn’t get invited to the funeral. That should tell you a lot about the man.

TO THE PERSON who can’t fly our American flag because of the King and President Trump. How sad. Of all the great things there are in this country to be proud of and thankful for and you can’t fly our flag? What a shame.

BASED ON MY experience, employers will underpay people not because of their worth but just because they can. They have you over a barrel.

FOR THE LIFE of me I cannot understand how both Republicans and Democrats can continually vote strictly along party lines. That means your loyalty is to your party, not your country. Disgusting and juvenile. Vote them all out.

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LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS

What do you remember about 9-11?

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

streettalk



“I was on an airplane flying out west. We stopped in Minneapolis to change flights. I saw a TV and saw the second plane hit. Flights were cancelled and we were stuck there for four days.”

Lee Murray
Linden



“My wife and I were in our kitchen feeding our 1-year-old granddaughter. We were watching the news and we were quite shocked as everyone else was.”

Chuck Wood
Tyrone Township



“I was at Higgins Lake, hanging dry-wall, working. It was just terrible. I think a lot of the younger generation forgets because they were so young. It’s like Pearl Harbor, you can’t ever forget.”

James Hernandez
Argentine Township



“I was off that day. I watched it on Good Morning America and I started crying. It was a down and sad day. It was a terrible thing to watch, all those people.”

Diane Przybylowicz
Holly



“I was in college, sitting in class. I think it came across the TV. We talked about it. We weren’t happy.”

Erik Lawrence
Birch Run



“I was at work at GM. I remember feeling scared. GM was worried about some of its big buildings downtown.”

Linda Zeeb
Fenton Township



“I was watching the news. The first building had been hit. Then the second one was hit and they said it was terrorists. I was surprised anyone would do such a thing. I was worried about the people.”

Larry DeMaar
Fenton Township



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PENDING



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PENDING



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SOLD



130 Whispering Pines Fenton \$210,000

SOLD



5146 S. Seymour Swartz Creek \$115,000

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
APPROVAL OF OUR mainstream media is at an all-time low. NBC squashed the Harvey Weinstein story. CNN lied to the American public on numerous occasions. Rising above it all is Fox News, whose ratings are at an all-time high, crushing the ratings of CNN and MSNBC.

■■■
LAST YEAR 72,000 Americans died from overdose of opioids. Ninety-five percent of the heroin and opioids come from Mexico across the border and yet they don't want a wall. It appears to me that the Dems have blood on their hands.

■■■
IMPOSSIBLE THINGS ARE happening every day.

■■■
THE SO-CALLED closed-minded people like Trump and Foster Childs that the writer refers to are actually true Americans who love America and promote America first.

■■■
IT IS SAD. With the NFL season starting again, we are witnessing the NFL kneelers disrespecting the United States, our flag, our soldiers who died and of course our veterans, heroes like John McCain. This is why five million people have stopped watching NFL.

■■■
OBAMA SAID THAT the Republicans are clinging to guns and religion. That may be true, but I'd like to expand it because I also believe the Republicans are clinging to jobs and their love for America.

■■■
I THINK HANNAH was misunderstood. They were all just jokes, weren't they, the ones about millennials?



Charles A. Damon (Left Hand Charlie) retired from his career as a trick-shot artist in Wild West shows and established the Damon Orchard in 1914. Shown above is what the property at 1010 S. East St. in Fenton looked like at that time.

Photos: FENTON POSTCARD HISTORY SERIES BY DONNA AND KENNETH SEGER FOR THE FENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

'Left Hand Charlie' traveled with Wild West Shows

■ Charles Damon used earnings from sharp-shooting days to invest in Fenton, his hometown

By Vera Hogan

Charles A. Damon was a trick-shot artist nicknamed "Left Hand Charlie." He used the money he earned from traveling with Wild West shows in the 1880s and 1890s to buy a big house on West Shiawassee Street.

Damon began developing his shooting skills when he was a youngster growing up in Fenton. His father, George Damon,

operated a grocery store, and young Charlie would get his friends to throw eggs in the air so he could shoot them.

Wild West shows were traveling vaudeville performances in the United States and Europe that existed around 1870-1920. The shows began as theatrical stage productions and evolved into open-air shows that depicted the cowboys, Native American Indians, army scouts, outlaws, and wild animals that existed in the American West.

The shows introduced many western performers and personalities, and romanticized the American frontier to a wide audience.

The showmen who created these Wild West extravaganzas made Great Plains imagery their stock-in-trade. They paraded figures like the frontier scout, the Plains Indian warrior, and the cowboy hero, touted them as "real" or "authentic," and made them central to popular views about the American West at home and abroad, according to plainshumanities.unl.edu.

Their success stemmed from Americans' nostalgia about the passing of the frontier. The shows blended myth and reality in a simplified and patriotic fashion that reinforced popular notions about the nation's Manifest Destiny, identity, and gender roles: they were scripted dramatizations about the "winning of the West."

The heyday of the Wild West shows ended in 1913, although they continued through the 1930s in combination with rodeos and circuses. The cinema's growing popularity contributed to the Wild West shows' demise.

There are no stories readily available about "Left Hand Charlie" and his days with the Wild West shows. But when he retired, he established the Damon Orchard in 1914. It was at 1010 S. East St. in Fenton.

"We have had 50 autos at one time, and 250 autos in one day, buying fruit," it reads in a Damon Orchards photo advertisement taken in the 1930 season. The orchard sold peaches, apples, pears, plums, grapes and cherries.

Damon died in 1934 at the age of 71.



Charles A. Damon used money he earned from traveling with Wild West shows in the 1880s and 1890s to buy this house on Shiawassee Avenue in Fenton. The house was built in the 1880s.

Today

Edward and Pat Manion bought the house and property in 1991. Pat said they knew the building as the "old apple barn."

Although she does grow a lot of flowers, Pat said, "We don't even have an apple tree on the property. We still have a pole barn with some things that indicated they used to show horses here."

Pat said she knew the name Damon but didn't realize the man had a reputation for being a sharpshooter in the Wild West Shows.

She said Damon sold the property to a McKinley and it became known as the McKinley Ranch. Tom McKinley was Damon's son-in-law.

Don Sinclair bought it from McKinley, and the Manions bought it from Sinclair. Pat has original platting documents from Guarantee Mortgage and Title in Flint. "We have a copy of a hand-drawn map of Fenton. The original is in the Fenton library and was drawn in 1880. "Our house is on the map," Pat said. "The original land entry was on Nov. 10, 1830, by Wallace Dibble."

She also said there is a warranty deed dated 1842 that Wallace and Mariah Dibble gave to Robert LeRoy and William Fenton.

"It will go with the house," said Pat of the original set of documents.

Source: <http://plainshumanities.unl.edu>; Genesee County postcard history 1900-1960



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Living with bipolar disorder

■ Local woman shares what it is like to experience extreme mood swings

By Hannah Ball

Bipolar disorder, which is also known as manic-depressive illness, is a brain disorder that causes unusual shifts in energy, mood, activity levels and the ability to carry out everyday tasks, according to the National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH).

Sue, a resident of Fenton (her name has been withheld to protect her identity), started seeing a therapist for depression about 12 years ago after finding out her husband had an affair.

"I was misdiagnosed as obsessive compulsive with mild depression," she said. Obsessive-compulsive disorder causes people to have uncontrollable, reoccur-

ring thoughts (obsessions) and behaviors (compulsions) which he or she feels the urge to repeat over and over, according to the NIMH.

Bipolar disorder is different. It involves changes in moods, called manic periods. Periods with an elated and energized mood are known as manic episodes, while sad or hopeless moods are known as depressive episodes.

A manic episode can appear as someone having a lot of energy, feeling "wired," talking really fast about different topics, getting agitated, doing risky things and more. Depressive episodes include having little energy, trouble sleeping, feeling worried, forgetting things, eating too much or

too little and thinking about death or suicide.

When Sue was going through her divorce, she put \$20,000 on her American Express card without telling her then-husband when they only used cash. Then, she quit doing laundry, left the kitchen a mess and had her wedding ring redone without him knowing.

Before the divorce was finalized, she started an affair with a married man.

"My therapist went nuts. I was doing the same thing that hurt me to someone else. So I just quit going and then (switched) to a different therapist. Within two visits she asked if anyone had ever told me I was

bipolar," she said.

See **BIPOLAR** on 12A

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Sue
Fenton resident

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WHAT YOU MISSED IN THE MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Sharon Stone

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Sept. 5, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Labor Day 2018 ends with thunder, lightning, heavy rain

A storm swept quickly across Genesee County Monday, Sept. 3 at approximately 8:10 p.m.

Would you live next to a 'green' cemetery?

No embalming or burial vaults used at more than 300 cemeteries across the U.S., including 20 in Michigan.

Iconic Dixie Cleaners to close Sept. 29

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



PGA greats invading Warwick Hills once again

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

Hard hit prompts visit to doctor — cancer found

A 14-year-old Linden football player is battling Hodgkin Lymphoma.

A look back at 1968

The day her momma socked it to the 'Harper Valley PTA.' Women all over America cheered when Jeannie C. Riley's song 'Harper Valley PTA' was released in 1968.

When standard police gear isn't enough

Area police departments can obtain free military surplus or request services from Michigan State Police.

NOTES OF THANKS

Holly VFW Post 5587 would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the Fenton VG's and Walmart, and their patrons who supported our post by purchasing raffle tickets or contributing a monetary donation. Thank you.

Holly VFW Post 5587

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Times



Drivers of electric vehicles need to find charging stations if they have no gasoline backup. Photo credit: www.govtech.com

Is the future electric?

■ Plug-in electric vehicles rising in sales; still trounced by eAssist vehicles

By Tim Jagielo

When you're stopped at a light, and there's a newer car next to you, pay attention when it drives off when the light turns green.

If you hear the engine fire up suddenly, that's "eAssist."

These vehicles don't idle at rest. They are powered only by a battery when not driving. When the driver lets off the brake and begins to accelerate, the engine starts back up and they drive away.

Oliver Hackney, sales consultant for Randy Wise Buick/GMC in Fenton, estimates that half the 17 million new vehicles sold this year will have some sort of eAssist. "It improves the fuel economy in-town by about 35 percent," he said.

At Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton, they sell the Volt, which runs on electric or gas and the all-electric Bolt, which will go 238 miles on a full charge, according to general manager Matt Stevens.

"Interest in plug-in electrics is growing rapidly," Stevens said. "Several times a week, someone comes in with questions about the Volt and Bolt."

Still, half of the 17 million vehicles sold will have some kind of eAssist. Compare this to plug-in electric vehicle sales.

In 2016, plug-in electric vehicles accounted for 144,035 out of more than 17 million vehicles sold in the U.S., according to Hybridcars.com.

In 2017, 199,826 were sold, according to InsideEvs.com. Statista.com is projecting sales to reach 400,000 in 2018.

Hackney has been in the car sales business since 1983. He's seen technology change more quickly over the past 10 years, than his first 20. "Huge changes, all for the sake of fuel economy," he said.

While the first generation Volt debuted in 2010, and the next generation in 2015, electric vehicles are not "everywhere," yet.

Hackney sees this as an issue of infrastructure. Drivers of electric vehicles still have to plan when and where they

can recharge. There are apps that map out electric-friendly areas.

Another issue is gas prices. While higher than most would appreciate, gas prices have been stable, hovering around \$3 per gallon for several years.

When the recession hit, Hackney said drivers were unloading large V8 "gas guzzlers" as much as possible. Today in this climate of \$3 per gallon gas, V8 trucks are top sellers. He said if gas prices go back up, people will clamor for hybrids. For now, large V8 vehicles are selling.

The Chevy Volt first went on sale in 2010, and aside from the Nissan Leaf, was all alone in the electric market.

"At first, I think a lot of consumers weren't sure if it was going to be a lasting technology or just a fad," Stevens said. He said the landscape of the whole world's view on energy and climate has changed, leading to these changes in technology.

"The future is definitely electric," he said. "GM is planning on bringing

at least 20 new all electric vehicles to market by 2023."

How "eAssist" works

The battery is charged by the friction of the transmission, and when the vehicle brakes. All new Buick/GMC vehicles except the full-sized pick-ups and SUVs have this system, along with other automakers.

Ford vehicles have "EcoBoost" which delivers and regulates fuel in a more efficient way.

“The future is definitely electric. GM is planning on bringing at least 20 new all-electric vehicles to market by 2023.”

Matt Stevens
Vic Canever Chevrolet
sales manager

WHAT ELSE SHOULD THE TIMES BE COVERING?

The staff is seeking interesting upcoming events, big and small, to take photos and write stories. Please email tips to news@tctimes.com.

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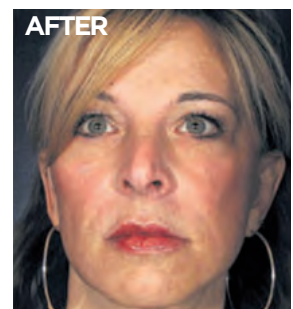
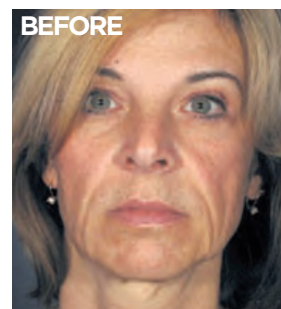
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By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

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Meet a resident of

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Mitch Smelis

- Athletic trainer at Fenton High School
- Proud dad
- Amateur photographer

By Sally Rummel

Mitch Smelis (pronounced 'Smiles'), 45, has strengthened and encouraged the sports abilities of thousands of kids at Fenton High School during his 21-year career as an athletic trainer. Officially, he works for NovaCare Rehabilitation in Fenton and is assigned to cover the school-year athletic programs at FHS.

A 1991 graduate of Imlay City High School, Smelis spent two years at Oakland University, and then transferred to Central Michigan University where he earned his bachelor's degree with a major in athletic training. He and his wife, Nickole, have two boys, Parker and Marshall. She teaches French and Spanish at FHS.

What's the biggest lesson you've learned in your career with kids and sports?

Every year I get older, but the age group I deal with stays the same, 13 to 18. So how I see and understand things



Fenton Athletic Trainer Mitch Smelis relaxes during a past soccer game.

Photo: Times file photo

isn't the same as their experience. I try to remember what I was like at that age and incorporate their perspective. While they need help and support transitioning to the responsibility of being an adult, they also are still growing and learning, needing support, structure and encouragement, with some patience as well.

What's the biggest challenge of being an athletic trainer at the high school level?

Probably the biggest is time management. Every day is different (that was one of the things that drew me to the profession), but with that comes the challenge of balancing schedules. I can't always plan my day out because I have to expect the unexpected. I have to utilize the resources around me to provide the best care I can. I have many great coworkers in the clinic, school, and other providers in the community.

What are your favorite sports to play and your favorite to watch?

Believe it or not, I've never really been active in competitive sports. Occasionally I used to do some recreational tennis or golf, but not in a while. Keeping up with my kids is my activity these days. I enjoy watching a variety of sports, not one particular favorite. I enjoy the Olympics because you see many other things you don't see other times of the year.

Have you ever had a sports injury yourself?

I did sprain my knee many years ago playing paintball and I've had ankle sprains at other times. Recently I found a little 'old age' and woke up with a pain in my foot; it turned out to be a stress fracture. I'm still not sure how or why it happened and I'm just now getting out of my boot that I had to use for the summer.

How did you meet your wife, Nickole?

We met in 2005, both chaperoning the FHS prom. We both hadn't planned to go that year, but were later encouraged by Mark Suchowski, FHS principal, to come help out. We met while there and started to talk. That summer, she was working on her master's degree and studying abroad in Central Mexico. We emailed back and forth and started to hang out

more that fall. We were engaged the following spring. The rest is history. We got married in November 2006.

What do you like most about being a dad?

I love seeing the wonder, amazement, curiosity, and other things that kids experience through their eyes. Each of the boys has similar, but different interests. I love those unprompted hugs and 'love you's' throughout the day. I learned to be a dad from many different 'dads' in my life and I'm still learning. Unfortunately, kids don't come with a manual, so it is learn as I go and try not to repeat too many mistakes along the way.

When you're not at a sports event for work, how do you like to spend your time?

Family time, helping get stuff done around the house, taking care of the kids in the morning and getting them

off to school, helping at church (First Baptist in Fenton) and reading from time to time. I also co-chair the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society Secondary School Athletic Trainer Committee.

What's the best vacation you've ever taken?

Tough choice, there are many good ones to pick from. Our most recent was a week spent in the U.P. (Upper Peninsula) with some family. It was a long time since I had been in parts of the area. But we are ready to go back and explore some more. I'm always looking for new places to explore and adventure as a family.

What is something about you that most people probably don't know?

I actually left working in the NFL to come and work in Fenton. I was a summer intern for the Philadelphia Eagles in '96 and '97. I had just graduated from college and the internship was just for July and August. But I had applied for jobs before I left and got the call/interview for the position that opened at Fenton High School with my previous employer. So I had to leave there to come back and get situated at Fenton to start fall practices. I could have stayed at training camp but I wouldn't have had a full time job when the internship was over in a couple weeks.

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BILLED**Continued from Front Page**

\$1,400 bill from the township that Jeanette Smith, the mother of the 29-year-old, refuses to pay.

She appealed the bill to the township board on Aug. 21, but it was rejected, said Tyrone Township Supervisor Michael Cunningham.

Tyrone Township does not have its own fire or police department, so it contracts with other municipalities for emergency services. The city of Fenton, Fenton Township and the Hartland-Deerfield Fire Authority are a part of that contract. Residents who live in Tyrone Township pay a special assessment fee of \$150 per parcel every year for these services.

Smith and her son do not live in Tyrone Township. She resides in Farmington Hills.

Through its cost recovery ordinance, Cunningham said people are billed per run when they are found to be in violation of an ordinance or when they caused an accident.

If it doesn't look like anyone is hurt, the township only requests police on scene. The Fenton Fire Department responded to this particular accident. They charged Tyrone Township a flat rate of \$1,419 per call.

"The fire department was called because it looked like a personal injury accident," Cunningham said. "If it becomes a priority one call, when

there is a severe injury, a rollover, if the median barrier system gets struck, then the fire department needs to go out. If we don't send the fire department and there's someone injured or someone dies... we have to send them."

Cunningham said Smith's insurer, Allstate, said they weren't going to pay the \$1,400. An Allstate representative wrote a letter to the township that an investigation determined her son was not legally responsible for the crash and they wouldn't pay, adding that the cost recovery ordinance was "invalid," according to livingston-daily.com.

"Our cost recovery ordinance has been challenged at the state Supreme Court and has been found to be valid," Cunningham said, adding that if someone causes an accident because they were texting or doing something dangerous, then the township will recover costs.

"We don't bill them administration fees, we bill them the true costs for what it costs to have the fire department to go out," he said. "What's going to happen is the insurance company is going to have to pay up. That's what they have that coverage for."

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said insurance won't cover certain items after a crash because of Michigan's no-fault law.

"If someone seeks to bill for damages after an accident the state's no-fault laws

are very specific on what you can bill for," Cairnduff said. "You can't bill for cleanup costs. We don't give itemized statements because we can't recover the costs. If we did it that way, the insurance companies consider it damages. The fee is for the response, not for what we actually do."

SUMMARY

■ If you're in an accident in a municipality in which you don't reside, you could be charged cost recovery fees.

billed Tyrone Township for the call, and the township decides whether to bill the resident. In this case, the man was illegally burning so they put the cost on him.

Fenton also has a cost recovery ordinance. If a non-resident is involved in a crash in Fenton, they are charged \$750 for the first hour. After one hour, the fee changes to reflect the amount of firefighters and trucks on scene.

"Check with insurance companies to see if you can add ordinance coverage to your policy," Cairnduff said. "We wish we didn't have to be on the billing side of it."

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NEWS

BRIEFS**C.O.P.S. POLICE APPRECIATION PICNIC SET FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 22**

The third annual C.O.P.S. (Concern Over Police Safety) Police Appreciation Picnic will be held Saturday, Sept. 22, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Wind Walker Farms in Tyrone Township. The hoisting of the American flag 135 feet high by crane will take place at 4:30 p.m., followed by the singing of the national anthem, a bagpiper playing "Amazing Grace" and a moment of silence for all police officers killed in the line of duty. Special guests will include Lt. Jeff Neville, attacked while on duty at Bishop International Airport, Flint, in 2017, plus police departments and tactical SWAT units from Livingston, Genesee and Oakland counties. Kids' activities will include inflatables, slides and face painting. Live music and a D.J. will also entertain guests. Food will include pizza, hot dogs and pulled pork. "So many wonderful businesses have helped support this event," said organizer Herman Ferguson, founder of C.O.P.S. He is expecting about 1,000 people to attend this annual picnic.

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Recognizing first responders



Thursday, Sept. 6, was First Responders Day in Michigan. In Lansing, a very large American flag was flown in front of Michigan's Capitol, suspended between two fire trucks. The gesture recognizes individuals, both career and volunteer, from public safety dispatchers, law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, search and rescue and other organizations in the public safety sector.

Photo submitted to the Times

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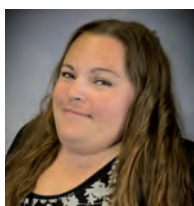
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Context matters

■ Complaining about books with graphic scenes means nothing without understanding context

By Hannah Ball

Let's talk about two of my favorite things: books and context.

Understanding context means knowing that there is a rape scene in "The Kite Runner," but focusing on how 99 percent of the book is about redemption after inaction, and how one mistake can haunt you forever.

When reading "A Clockwork Orange," context means knowing that the violent and graphic scenes are there for a reason — to show a dark side of humanity, and to show what can happen to someone when they lose free will.

The context in "A Lesson Before Dying" is timeless. A racist judicial system, the dehumanization of African Americans in the 1900s, and finding your humanity when you're sentenced to death. It's such a powerful book even if you can't overlook the word "nipple."

Linden's English program is one of the best in the state, if not the best, led by extremely competent teachers. I was shocked when a group of parents complained to the Board of Education about these books containing sex, nudity, rape, and violence. Some of their dialogue border-lined on banning these books that I love and learned so much from.

Because of these teachers, I graduated with the ability to form intelligent arguments, understand egregious perspec-

tives, and to have empathy for people experiencing things I will never experience.

Context is not only analyzing that these subjects are talked about, but *how* they're talked about.

Context means knowing that these terrible, graphic things are just that—terrible and graphic—but it's knowing that Linden teachers cover these books with compassion, and act as moderators who steer the conversation toward education, understanding and empathy.

Students who have experienced these awful things, like rape, shouldn't be required to read rape scenes, and they aren't. Teachers offer alternatives.

Yet, the default shouldn't be to shelter teenagers from tough topics, especially in a safe and professional setting. Would you shelter them from learning about the Holocaust or slavery while in

high school? Teenagers need to learn about both, and the gory details, to warn them about what happens when you dehumanize an entire population. That's crucial to learn at an age when you form your world view.

Parents do not know more about teaching these books to students than qualified teachers do. It's sad to me that these parents dismiss amazing works of literature just because of some nudity or graphic descriptions. Along with dozens of my classmates, I was not scared by these books. These books helped me grow as a reader, a writer and a human being.

Context is understanding that the Linden Board of Education certainly made mistakes not following their policy, but it's also doing what's best for the students, and that does not include shielding them in this way.



Hannah Ball

BIPOLAR

Continued from Page 8A

Sue did research and found the disorder fit her condition. She had rapid speech, was up all night, and had bad episodes after something sad happened. Sue missed two weeks of work after one of their kittens died.

"I was cycling all the time, up, down, up, down," she said.

After the divorce, she switched her medicine. She got remarried, and they had money issues after the disorder made her think she needed to buy two new cars the same day. Soon after, her husband was laid off.

Sue said her life has been a "roller coaster" and it gets worse with each stressful and traumatic event.

"I am well aware of what I am doing. I just can't always control it. Even with my new medication Lamictal, and Wellbutrin. I also take Zoloft very low dose for anxiety," she said. Lamictal is a mood stabilizer and anti seizure medication.

Sue goes to a psychiatrist every three to six months, and doesn't go to therapy anymore because of the cost. She takes her medication as prescribed and "would never dream of going off them." Exercise is also an important part of her treatment.

"People would never guess I was bipolar. Most of us seem really happy, always looking for fun and we are up to do crazy things," she said, adding that she is mainly manic, not depressive.

"I am not embarrassed about my condition. At first my mom felt guilty and embarrassed that I was that way. That we didn't see signs sooner. Now we share to

help others," she said.

"Some days I am on top of the world. I can do anything. Become obsessive about a project and stay up for days. Other times I just want to stay in bed. You can't get me to go out for anything. Also we tend to have a short attention span on anything we aren't really interested in," she said.

This is the last article in a series on mental health. The first two articles covered depression and anxiety.

Symptoms of bipolar disorder

Symptoms of bipolar disorder usually include intense emotion, changes in sleep patterns and activity levels and unusual behaviors.

Recognizing bipolar disorder in people who experience hypomania, which is less severe, is harder. Family and friends may notice that something is off. Bipolar disorder is often misdiagnosed as depression because people usually seek help when they are depressed.

Source: National Institute on Mental Health

Treatment

Bipolar disorder affects about 5.7 million American adults, according to WebMD. Treatment involves medication, such as Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI), anticonvulsants and antipsychotics. Finding the right medication can be difficult and take time.

A doctor should also recommend psychiatric evaluation, psychotherapy and counseling.

Source: Mayo Clinic

The three-leafed terror is not done for the summer

■Poison ivy will linger through fall, turn bright red and remain active

By Tim Jagielo

The Skin and Vein Center in Fenton has been busy with poison ivy rashes lately. “We’ve been seeing an increase of it these past three weeks,” said Lisa Brown, physician assistant. “I feel like it’s been non-stop.”

The infamous three-leafed plant is a staple summer nuisance, as lawn plants explode due to heat and high rain, and hiking trails become lined with them. Autumn time won’t make them go away either.

Poison ivy can be identified by the slightly jagged, three-leaf pattern, which will soon be turning a bright red during the fall, according to the Michigan State University Extension.

How does it work?

Certain parts of the plant are coated with urushiol, a sticky oil that can cling to skin, clothing, yard tools and pets. It lasts a long time, and easily transfers from one surface to another.

“Some people are more prone to getting it than others,” Brown said. The first sign of the rash might be a slim red line, like a paper cut, or a cluster of dots. It could eventually spread, and produce oozing (weeping) yellow sores or scales that itch.



Poison ivy can be a free-standing plant, or even a vine. The plant is spread as animals eat its berries. Photo: MSU extension

It can also easily spread from one part of the body to the next, until the oil is washed off.

The rash and weeping sores cannot spread the rash to others; only the oil can.

If you’ve come in contact with poison ivy

Brown suggests that if anyone thinks they’ve contacted poison ivy, to strip down and wash thoroughly, immediately. Clothes should be laundered in hot water.

Any tools or items that may have contacted the oil should also be washed carefully right away.

You may have to wash bedding, and car seats, handles and anything else you’ve contacted, to stop the spread of the oil.

There are also com-

pounds that can be bought at grocery stores specifically for washing off these harmful oils.

How to treat it

If you do have a rash, and have already washed off the oil, the body may flush it from the system on its own. Brown said that it takes about five days to reach the peak of the rash.

In the meantime, topical creams like hydrocortisone can relieve the itching. Oral antihistamines like Benadryl can help bring the rash to an end.

Cool wet compresses and different pastes like zinc and baking soda can also ease the irritation.

Sometimes, the rash just lingers. “A lot of people end up coming in because they need a steroid shot for it because it’s so out of control,” Brown said.

Steroids, whether oral or in a shot, will kick the body into gear to shut down the rash overall. “They work for any inflammation, systemically, they work inside the body,” Brown said.

Eventually, the episode will end, but each contact could make the body’s reaction worse.

Getting rid of the plant

According to the MSU Extension, the plant should not be burned, because even the smoke can cause irritation to the lungs. There are compounds designed to kill the plant, which can be used with a lawn sprayer.

If clearing the plant by hand, try not to touch it, and clean anything that has contacted the plant. Even a dead plant still has urushiol.

NOTES OF THANKS

This is to thank you for the services we have received at our VFW #3243 on LeRoy St., Fenton. A huge thank you goes to The Home Depot for the grant they gave us for our building. It was such a surprise as to what all they have done to our Post home. Improvements included new ceiling tiles, new window blinds, new siding, new doors, a porch roof, the front of the building was cleaned, the pavilion area was cleaned, and new picnic tables were donated. We even received a new mailbox. Thank you all again for all you have done for our VFW and Auxiliary Post. We would also like to say thank you to the city of Fenton for its participation as it assisted greatly with the cleanup and disposal of the items, bushes, weeds, etc. A special thank you goes to our past commander, Rick Carmer, for bringing all this together and the volunteering members.

Sincerely,
VFW 3243 Commander Fred Boettge
and Auxiliary President Barb Glover

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stryker

Suffering from joint pain?

ATTEND A SEMINAR to learn more and help us attempt to break a Guinness World Record at the same time!

Tuesday, September 18th

Join local orthopaedic surgeon Roland Brandt, MD

In celebration of **Bring Your Loved One to the Doctor Day**, Stryker invites you to help us attempt to break a Guinness World Record. On September 18th we’ll be hosting seminars across the country focused on the latest advances for joint pain, including Mako Robotic-Arm Assisted Technology. Mako Technology helps doctors plan your joint replacement using a 3D virtual model, and perform your surgery with a robotic arm.

Be a part of history—help us attempt to break a world record while learning about treatment options to address your joint pain.

Tuesday, September 18, 2018 | 6:00 pm
Fenton Community Center | 150 S. Leroy St.
Fenton, MI 48430

To register, visit dmc.org/jointsolutions
or call 313-578-6775

All surgery carries risk. See your orthopaedic surgeon to discuss your potential benefits and risks. Not all patients will have the same post-operative recovery and activity level. Individual results vary. Stryker Corporation or its divisions or other corporate affiliated entities own, use or have applied for the following trademarks or service marks: Mako, Stryker. All other trademarks are trademarks of their respective owners or holders.



HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
YES, I JUST read your article in the Sunday paper. The 'truer words were never spoken' and I really believe this article and I'm saving it. I'm going to put it up and save it for other people to read later. Thank you very much.

■■■■
YEAH, I THINK Foster Childs better start looking for an adult living facility or assisted living, some place in the suburbs, so they can take care of him so he doesn't hurt himself.

■■■■
FOSTER CHILDS STANDS for decency and good old-fashioned common sense. If you consider him an enemy of yours, you need to take a long hard look in the mirror.

■■■■
I WOULD LIKE to know where Larry Elliott and Marc Jacobson from Channel 12 went. We miss them very much and want them back. Also, why are all the big beautiful trees on Silver Lake Road being cut down?

■■■■
LET'S PUT A 10- or 15-cent deposit on these plastic water bottles. They're lining the beaches and they're lining

the road. We'll see the end of that when they charge for them. Thank you.

■■■■
THE HOT-LINER'S reply about how DDA funds can be spent is correct, but either it's coincidence, or could you tell me where else in Fenton could you find nicer sidewalks, crosswalks, brick pavers, paved roads and bridges?

■■■■
YESTERDAY, AN ILLEGAL alien and MS-13 member broke through a second-floor window in Brooklyn and raped an 11-year-old girl in her bedroom. It's hard to believe anyone would continue to defend illegal aliens and MS-13.

■■■■
AS WE CELEBRATE Labor Day today, we should also take notice to celebrate the massive increases in jobs, wages and manufacturing, and coal and oil production, and the increases in farming and trade deals that are supporting our nation. At long last, we now see that it is Trump and the Republicans who now represent the hard-working men and women of America. America first policies are winning.

■■■■
MEGHAN MCCAIN SAID it best, '... America is already great.'

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

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

SEPT. 9

1893: Frances Folsom Cleveland, the wife of President Grover Cleveland, gives birth to a daughter, Esther, in the White House. Cleveland married Frances Folsom, the daughter of Cleveland's late law partner and friend, Oscar Folsom. Fewer than 40 people were present to witness the 49-year-old president exchange vows with Frances, who at 21 years of age became the youngest first lady in U.S. history.

SEPT. 10

1977: Charlene Williams meets Gerald Gallego at a poker club in Sacramento, California, resulting in one of the worst serial killing teams in American history. Before they were finally caught, the Gallegos killed and sexually assaulted at least 10 people over a two-year period.

SEPT. 11

2001: At 8:45 a.m. on a clear Tuesday morning, an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashes into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. Then, 18 minutes after the first plane hit, a second Boeing 767 — United Airlines Flight 175 — appeared out of the sky, turned sharply toward the World Trade Center, and sliced into the south tower at about the 60th floor. America was under attack.

SEPT. 12

2002: Three former executives from Tyco International, including the CEO and CFO, are indicted in New York on charges that they stole hundreds of millions of dollars from the company. Two of the men, CEO Dennis Kozlowski and CFO Mark Swartz, were later convicted and given lengthy prison sentences. The case became symbolic of the era's corporate corruption and greed. Kozlowski and Swartz were charged with using Tyco, a manufacturer of industrial products, as their private bank and looting \$150 million while pulling in another \$430 million by secretly selling large shares of company stock after its value had been artificially inflated.

SEPT. 13

2004: TV talk-show host Oprah Winfrey gives a brand-new Pontiac G-6 sedan, worth \$28,500, to everyone in her studio audience, a total of 276 cars in all. Oprah had told her producers to fill the crowd with people who "desperately needed" the cars, and when she announced the prize (by jumping up and down, waving a giant key ring and yelling "Everybody gets a car! Everybody gets a car!"). Mayhem — crying, screaming, delirium, fainting — broke out all around her. It was, as one media expert told a reporter, "one of the great promotional stunts in the history of television."

SEPT. 14

1999: Millions of people evacuate their homes as Hurricane Floyd moves across the Atlantic Ocean on this day in 1999. Over the next several days, deaths are recorded from the Bahamas to New England due to the powerful storm. Floyd approached the Bahamas and looked to be on a collision course with central Florida. Walt Disney World closed its doors in preparation for the first time in its history and NASA operations at Cape Canaveral were shut down to get ready for the coming storm.

SEPT. 15

1978: Boxer Muhammad Ali defeats Leon Spinks at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans to win the world heavyweight boxing title for the third time in his career, the first fighter ever to do so. Following his victory, Ali retired from boxing, only to make a brief comeback two years later. Ali left the sport permanently in 1981.

Source: history.com

9/11 MEMORIAL Continued from Page 3A

CITY OF LINDEN

- **8 a.m.** — All trucks and police cars will be lined up in front of the station, at 132 E. Broad St., along with a memorial wreath.
- **9:45 a.m.** — A brief reading and prayer with firefighters, police and citizens will be done.
- **9:58 a.m.** — All available personnel will assemble, at attention, in front of the trucks.
- **9:59 a.m.** — At the time of the first tower collapse, a truck siren will be sounded for one minute.
- **10 a.m.** — There will be one minute of complete silence.
- **10:01 a.m.** — All personnel will be dismissed, and trucks and wreaths will remain on display until 8 p.m., at which time they will be returned inside the station.

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TRAFFIC

Continued from Front Page

to city limits, near Simply Self Storage. Linden Superintendent Russ Ciesielski released a statement about how the construction could impact the schools.

"The road will still be under construction as they prepare for asphalt to be laid. The traffic flow on Bridge Street will be slow, but with two lanes, we should see a decrease in traffic back-ups. As motorists, we need to be cautious and patient as we enter and exit Linden Elementary," said Ciesielski in a statement.

"The intersection in downtown Linden (Bridge and Broad streets) will continue to be a challenge, especially with the anticipated increase in traffic once school starts," he said.

According to the release, construction workers should soon begin milling the north side of Bridge Street before laying asphalt. This will cause intermittent lane closures and traffic delays.

"Again, we are asking for your patience," he said.

Ciesielski said the transportation department and bus drivers are aware of construction and potential delays. Bus routes and times have been adjusted with information of potential delays, but the

district cannot "predict daily schedules."

"We are anticipating that our buses will make travel decisions based on the daily construction schedule, which we have no control over. These decisions will be based on getting our students to and from school in a safe and orderly manner," Ciesielski said. "In an attempt to decrease the traffic congestions at all of schools, we are encouraging parents to use the busing that is provided."

SUMMARY

■ Bridge Street construction started this past spring and is affecting school traffic.

Contact the Linden transportation department at (810) 591-0996 to find out about what bus your student can ride.

Construction

Construction on Bridge Street includes 0.57 of road reconstruction, new curb and gutter installation and replacement, adding bike lanes and new water main and hydrants from Lindenwood to the bridge over the Shiawassee River. It also includes storm sewer replacement and repair, drainage improvements, various new concrete driveway approaches, a sidewalk ramp replacement, a few driveway culvert replacements and updated signage and pavement markings.

According to lindenmi.us, the cost is estimated at \$1.2 million with 80 percent paid for by federal and state funds.

SPEEDING

Continued from Front Page

of the fast growth in and around the downtown Fenton area.

Specifically, the Bechtels are referring to the three-quarter mile, primarily residential stretch of North LeRoy Street, from North Road going south to the downtown, at Silver Lake Road.

As previously reported, the Bechtels said the problem is getting worse with the dramatic increase in construction trade traffic and large construction vehicles that "drive too fast and rattle all of our homes."

During the Tuesday, Sept. 4 work session, Police Chief Jason Slater presented the results of the speed trailer to City Manager Lynn Markland in a memorandum.

Southbound traffic on N. LeRoy Street near Fifth Street

Aug. 22 through Aug. 24 – 4,601 out of 5,226 vehicles were traveling at or below the posted speed limit. Twelve percent of all vehicles were traveling between 1 and 10 mph over the posted limit. The average speed of all vehicles was 30.3 mph in a 35-mph zone.

Northbound traffic on N. LeRoy Street near Fifth Street

Aug. 27 through Aug. 29 – 9,625 out of 10,389 vehicles were traveling at or below the posted speed limit. Seven percent of all the vehicles recorded were traveling between 1 and 10 mph over the posted limit. The average speed of all vehicles was 29.6 mph in a 35-mph zone.

Slater pointed out that the speed trailer

has the capability of recording a vehicles up to 1,000 feet away, depending on various factors such as vehicle size, shape and speed. Keeping this in mind, a vehicle's recorded speed is usually captured before the driver had time to notice his/her speed on the trailer's display and change their pace.

After reviewing the results, Markland said, "The study that was conducted by the police department demonstrated that there is not a problem with speeding in that area."

"However, the volume of traffic traveling in both directions may make it challenging for pedestrians to cross the street. This is a different issue than speeding and will obviously require a different solution."

"Reducing the speed limit would not solve the problem and may actually create more issues than it would solve."

"We are going to continue to look at the area and consider some opportunities to make it easier/safer for pedestrians."

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TYRONE TOWNSHIP

REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS HELD SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.

1. Present: Supervisor Mike Cunningham, Clerk Marcella Husted, Treasurer Jennifer Eden, Trustees Al Pool, David Walker, Soren Pedersen and Chuck Schultz.
2. Approved the agenda as presented; approved the consent agenda as presented.
3. Received and placed on file Communications 1-2.
4. Supervisor Cunningham updated the board on the search for available land for a future township hall; one potential parcel is in the process of being cleared by the owner and the Supervisor continues to look for other parcels.
5. Joe Verlin of Gabridge & Co. presented the township's audit.
6. Approved the Becker-Fredenburg boundary realignment as recommended by the Planning Commission.
7. Approved the Rex land division as recommended by the Planning Commission.
8. Adopted amendments to the Zoning Ordinance #36 to include provisions for commercial recreational uses in the FR district, rebuilding of nonconforming structures after a disaster, and to allow detached accessory structures on adjacent lots in certain districts.
9. Appointed Kim Veenstra to the Planning Commission to fill an existing term expiring August 31, 2019.
10. Discussed the criteria and process to revise speed limits on roads in the township.
11. Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

The minutes of all regular and special Tyrone Township Board Meetings are on file and may be reviewed at the Tyrone Township Clerk's office, 10408 Center Road, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and online at www.tyronetownship.us. The next regular meeting of the Tyrone Township Board will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall. The public is encouraged to attend. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Tyrone Township Clerk at (810) 629-8631 at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Marcella Husted, Tyrone Township Clerk

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Times

TESTING

Continued from Front Page

The majority of Michigan third-graders, about 55 percent, which is 56,850 students, are not proficient in reading, writing, language and listening.

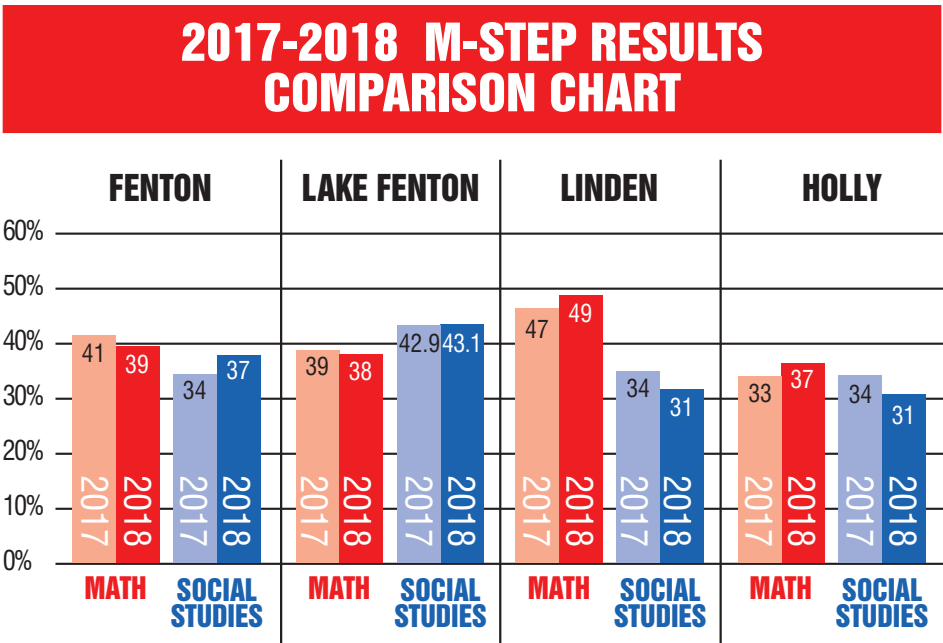
The four tri-county area school districts are above average compared to state levels.

Holly and Linden third-graders saw the most significant rise in English levels. Holly third-graders went from 47 percent proficient in 2017 to 52 percent proficient in 2018. In Linden, third-grade students' proficiency in English increased from 57 percent to nearly 64 percent.

Linden Superintendent Russ Ciesielski said "We are all excited that our scores continue to improve. This is a testament to the effort our students and staff put into the learning process. We are continually looking for ways to improve what we do in and out of the classroom."

Holly Superintendent Scott Roper said, "At Holly Area Schools, we know third-grade reading scores are an early indicator of setting our students on the right path toward achievement, so we are excited to see continued improvement in our third-grade reading M-STEP scores. This year, third-graders in all four of our elementary schools exceeded the state's average M-STEP reading score, marking the second consecutive year of improved third-grade reading achievement."

Roper said the averages match or surpass the Oakland County average, but they are not going to "rest on our laurels" as they strive to improve.



*M-STEP science results will be withheld for two years because state education officials say the exam is a sample test and does not yet measure proficiency, according to detroitnews.com.

"This year, our fourth- through seventh-grade students also exceeded the state average M-STEP reading score. I would like to commend all Holly Area Schools teachers for their continued hard work and dedication to helping improve reading performance across our district," he said.

Fenton third-graders increased English proficiency from 47 to 48 percent in the same timeframe, but overall English proficiency for all students dropped from 60 to 54 percent.

Heidi Ciesielski, executive director of

teaching and learning at Fenton schools, attributed the rise in third-grade scores to the Third Grade Reading Bill.

"While we still focus on that in totality with all students there are only so many resources to go around. Sometimes when districts focus on one area or level, a different grade or subject matter might drop slightly," she said. "I am guessing that is why people are seeing the state average drop in higher grades, however, are increasing in the first grade tested (third)."

Ciesielski said she doesn't agree that

“It’s a snapshot in time for that particular student.”

Heidi Ciesielski
Fenton Area Public Schools executive director of teaching and learning

standardized testing is a quality measure of individual students.

"It's a snapshot in time for that particular student. It doesn't take into consideration a lot of variables that could be happening on that particular day in the spring for that student," she said.

English scores by district

Fenton

From 2017 to 2018, proficiency for all Fenton students in English dropped from 60 percent to 54 percent. However, proficiency in English for third-graders increased from 47 percent to 48 percent in that time period.

Linden

Linden had the highest test scores out of the four school districts. Third-grade students' proficiency in English increased from 57 percent in 2017 to nearly 64 percent in 2018. English proficiency for all Linden students dropped from 64 percent in 2017 to 62 percent in 2018.

Holly

Holly Area Schools saw a rise in English proficiency for third-grade students from 47 percent in 2017 to 52 percent in 2018. For all Holly students, English proficiency saw a slight decrease from 51.3 percent to 51 percent this past year.

Lake Fenton

For third-graders, English proficiency dropped from nearly 55 percent in 2017 to 51 percent in 2018. For all Lake Fenton students, English proficiency dropped from 57 percent to 53 percent in the same time period.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■
I SURE WISH they would have spent the money on a new playground instead of a butterfly garden.

■ ■ ■
WHO IS JIM and why is his fanatical opinion important to us? There are vets who believe people have the right to protest. That's what we fought for.

■ ■ ■
IF CLOSED-MINDED people are

preventing this Hot liner from flying the banner of our great nation, there is something wrong with this person. You should fly it for country, freedom, sacrifice, national pride and love of our great country.

■ ■ ■
HAS NIKE LOST their mind? Colin Kaepernick as their new spokesperson. What a dishonorable way to pander to the demographic they obviously recognize as their primary customers.

■ ■ ■

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Frankenmuth, MI 48734

Speaker: Mark Janicki, M.D., Carmel, IN
Event Code: PEP-07121

Reserve your seat today: 1-877-895-1136 • rmsEducation.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. 24.

The Legislature remains in recess with regular sessions resuming Sept. 5. Rather than votes, this report contains some interesting or noteworthy recent bill introductions.

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Times

House Bill 6114: Review scope of occupational license mandates
Introduced by Rep. Lana Theis (R), to give a state Law Revision Commission the duty of reviewing whether occupational licensure mandates use the least restrictive regulation necessary to protect consumers, as defined in the bill. The commission would have to review 20 percent of existing mandates each year, and review bills proposing new ones. Among other things its analysis would have to apply "a rebuttable presumption that market competition and private remedies are sufficient to protect consumers," and establish that if this is rebutted then it should tailor regulations "to address specific market failures identified." If a licensure mandate fails the test, the commission would have to recommend that the legislature repeal it, convert it to a less restrictive regulation, or instruct the relevant officials to promulgate a revised occupational regulation. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 6120: Criminalize selling kosher or halal food that isn't (kosher)
Introduced by Rep. Abdullah Hammoud (D), to make it a misdemeanor to knowingly sell food represented to be halal or kosher but isn't kosher. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

APPLEFEST

Continued from Page 3A

He's also one of the rare chairpersons who didn't serve first on the core team of Applefest before becoming chairperson. But he has known for the last two years that he would be taking on this position.

"Last year I 'shadowed' with Sara and Dave McDermott, who chaired Applefest for more than six years," Stiverson said. "That's unheard of. Usually, it's for two years."

Apples are the stars of this festival, and take more volunteer time than just about any other part of Applefest.

"We make more than 1,000 apple pies on-site and complete the process in four days," said Amy Blissett, chairperson of the apple pie-baking committee. Parishioners will add another 700 hand-baked pies. "Last year, we sold out of all of our pies," Blissett said.

Some of these pies will be entered in Sunday's Apple Pie Contest and Auction at 2 p.m., where several pies will be sold for thousands of dollars.

To burn off all those apple pie calories, put your best foot forward at Saturday's Applefest Road Race, which will include a 10K Run, 5K Run/Walk, Apple Core One Mile and an Apple Core-ter (1/4-mile).

Food and entertainment are a huge part of Applefest fun. Pancake breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday, Friday Night Fish Dinner, Saturday Night Chicken Dinner and Sunday's Spaghetti Dinner are some traditional favorites.



One of the St. John Applefest favorites is the midway section with its wide variety of games. *Times file photo*

For more casual street fare, check out the Food Tent featuring pizza, sausage, tacos, chicken wings, fries and of course, the festival favorite, Padre's Chili.

The biggest event at Applefest is the Entertainment Tent, which offers live entertainment on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with adults-only and a cover charge after 6 p.m.

Thursday will feature "Bon Dion" from 8 to 11 p.m., Friday will present "Westfall" and Saturday will feature "Rook," weekend evenings from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Saturday and Sunday afternoon will offer football

and NASCAR on the big screen.

You also have lots of opportunities to win big prizes at Applefest, from grand prizes of a three-year car lease, pontoon boat or \$10,000 cash (pre-tax) to a cruise raffle and other large prizes. New this year is a prize package of \$500 worth of gift certificates to local restaurants, "Fun With Food in Fenton," Stiverson said.

Bingo is also offered Friday through Sunday at the Knights of Columbus Hall and Nite-N-Reno will take place Friday and Saturday in the Grand Hall.

When all is said and done, the fun of Applefest keeps all the volunteers coming back year after year. "No matter how much work it is, by Sunday evening we say, 'Of course I'll do it again next year,'" Stiverson said.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
TO THOSE COMPLAINING about Trump adding \$1 trillion to the national debt. Please compare to the national debt when Obama took office at \$10.6 trillion and when he left it was at \$19.8 trillion.

■■■■
TO FENTON CITY fathers. Please consider moving the Kmart light to the Silver Parkway entrance to Walmart, a very difficult intersection.

■■■■
LOVE THE LETTER to the NFL that was in the paper Sunday. I just hope the right people read it. Thanks for the update.

■■■■
SIGNAL LIGHT AT LeRoy and Silver Lake in Fenton changes too often. It only lets four or five cars through. The light at North Holly Road and Grange Hall Road in Holly lets 20 or more cars through each light. Much more effective.

■■■■
ARE YOU PARANOID that so many Democrats and one transgender is running for governor? You should be. They are all going to win.

■■■■
I'M SO SAD because of Nancy Pelosi and her wanting to tear down statues. She is a poor example of an American woman.

■■■■
THE EDITORIAL 'TRUER words were never spoken,' was absolutely amazing. Thank you for sharing this with us.

■■■■
TRUMP HATERS. I have been out of the job market for nine years and figured I would only get hired if at all from a self-employed business, but in one week I have been offered four good paying jobs from big companies and I have minimal skills.

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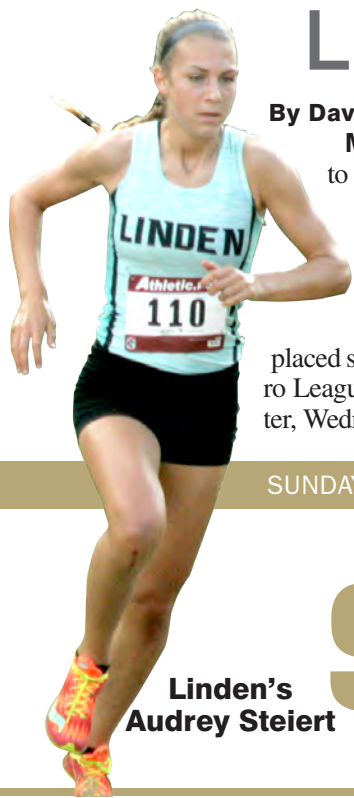
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Linden's Steiert happy to be back running



By David Troppens

Mt. Morris — Audrey Steiert is happy to be back competing.

After tearing an ACL last October, one of Linden's top athletes has been on the sidelines.

But the Linden senior is back, and apparently as good as ever. Steiert placed second at the first girls cross country Metro League jamboree held at the Cummings Center, Wednesday. She helped Linden place third in

the team results with 76 points, 43 points behind first-place Fenton and 17 points behind second-place Flushing. Holly was fifth with 125 points.

"I feel really good," Steiert said. "I'm just so happy to be back, returning to sports. I couldn't finish my season with the team last year, so I'm just happy to be back and to be able to finish this one."

"I feel good. I feel just as good as last year, and my times have been faster. Our whole team has been putting in a ton of work, so the whole team

environment has helped me get back in shape too. They've been really helpful getting me get back."

Steiert was just one of two runners to finish the 3.1-mile course in hot and muggy conditions in less than 20 minutes. She posted a time of 19:19.68, about 22 seconds behind Fenton's first place runner Alexa Keiser (18:58.20), but nearly a minute ahead of Holly's third-place performer Andrea Ruiz (20:15.28).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 | PAGE 18A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Linden's
Audrey Steiert

Sports Times

Fenton XC teams dominate first jamboree

■Keiser leads Lady Tigers at first league jamboree

By David Troppens

Mt. Morris — Alexa Keiser is now at about the halfway point of her prep running career.

The junior understands she's a better runner now than she was when she started two years ago. That's not a good thing for the rest of the Metro League.

Keiser, who won all six of her Metro League jamborees/meets during her first two seasons with the Fenton Tigers, repeated history on Wednesday by winning the first jamboree of the 2018 season.

The Fenton varsity girls cross country team also did what they needed to do to begin their quest for a third straight Metro League title by winning the women's first jamboree easily. Fenton had four of the top seven runners and scored just 33 team points. Flushing was second with 59 points in the nine-team field. Linden took third (76), while Holly finished fifth (125), 18 points

behind fourth-place Swartz Creek. Owosso and Clio took sixth and seventh, respectively while Brandon and Kearsley failed to field a complete team.

Keiser was the dominant runner for the seventh time in seven Metro events. She was being pushed by Linden's Audrey Steiert and Holly's Andrea Ruiz early on, but Keiser ended up being the only runner to finish the 3.1-mile course at the Cummings Center in hot and humid conditions in under 19 minutes. She finished in 18:58.20.

"I think I'm a lot stronger than I was my freshman year because of my coaching staff, the summer training and the friendships I have made with my team, and having that good atmosphere," Keiser said. "Each race you learn something new."

"I liked that I started out very conservative and then over the course of the run I wanted to pick it up. I didn't want to go too fast when I was going out, but just enough. That's what I tried to do and I think I accomplished that."

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Fenton's Hanna Chapin (left) and Jessica Adams helped the Tigers win the first Metro League jamboree Wednesday. Photo: David Troppens

■Tigers take strong first step to defending crown

By David Troppens

Mt. Morris — With four of Fenton's top seven runners graduating last spring, it seemed that maybe the Metro League varsity boys cross country squads could put a little mystery in the league title race this fall.

One race into the Metro League season, apparently the mystery has ended. The Fenton Tigers left no doubt that they have a squad more than capable of earning the squad's third straight title in 2018 at the Metro League jamboree hosted at the Cumming Center in hot and humid conditions on Wednesday.

"We lost a couple of good guys last year but we have some good (runners) taking their places," Fenton junior runner Adam Jesse said. "We weren't super sure (if we'd win) but we had some freshmen really get down and help the team at the end of (last) year, so we were hoping they would step up this year."

Three of last year's freshmen (now sophomores) that Jesse was talking

about showed up in the Tigers' top seven and two of them finished within Fenton's scoring five as the Tigers dominated. Five of the top 10 runners were Fenton competitors, earning the squad just 30 team points, 51 less than second-place Holly. Linden was third in the nine-team event with 104 points.

Jesse led the Tigers. He was in the battle for first place for about half of the race, before settling for third place with a time of 16:55.55. Linden's Tyler Buchanan won the race (16:32.34) while Owosso's Jorden Sowash was second (16:42.65). The trio were the only runners to finish the 3.1-mile event in less than 17 minutes.

After Jesse finished, four of the next seven runners to finish were Fenton runners. Sophomore Samuel Cox was fourth (17:27.83), while junior Logan Canada was sixth (17:29.68). Senior Nolan Day was seventh (17:45.02), while sophomore Gage Bonde was 10th (17:55.48).

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Linden's Tyler Buchanan (255) won Wednesday's first Metro League jamboree. Photo: David Troppens

Linden's Buchanan wins first Metro League boys race

■Bronchos take second

By David Troppens

Mt. Morris — Tyler Buchanan is the defending Metro League boys cross country champion, but going into this season he knew he was going to be challenged.

After all, his two biggest challengers for the title a year ago returned.

However, the Linden junior proved he's still the early favorite to win the title again this season after winning the first Metro League jamboree of the season at the Cummings Center on Wednesday.

Buchanan won the race (16:32.34) by about 10 seconds ahead of last year's third-place finisher Owosso's Jorden Sowash in hot and humid conditions. Following behind Sowash was last year's runner up, Fenton's Adam Jesse (16:55.55).

In the team standings Fenton won the race with 30 points while Holly was second with 81 points. Linden was third with 104 points in the nine-team field. More details about Fenton's performance can be found elsewhere in this publication.

"I felt drained and it was very hot today, but I had to give it my all at the end because I knew they were right on me," Buchanan said. "I had to get away at some point. I just kept surviving and finally lost them at the end. It was not easy."

Buchanan won all three Metro races a year ago, giving him a four-event Metro winning streak after Wednesday's race. It was his second first-place finish of the season, earning a first at the Durand Invitational.

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Fenton's Samuel Cox (left) and Logan Canada were two of Fenton's top five runners at the first Metro League jamboree. Photo: David Troppens

Bronchos learning with new coach

By David Troppens
Holly — Jay Reynolds already has some experience when it comes to coaching Holly athletes. The new varsity boys soccer coach is also the Brandon/Holly co-op boys varsity lacrosse coach, so he's not completely new to the school. "It's nice to be here," Reynolds said. "I coached boys high school lacrosse and these boys talked me into doing it. (Holly

athletic director) Deb (VanKuiken) wanted to have me and it's been a pleasure being here." Right now Reynolds is learning his team. They continued that process on Tuesday as the Bronchos had enough offense to beat Swartz Creek, but the defense wasn't able to hold back the Dragons, resulting in a 4-3 Metro League loss to Creek at Holly High School.

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Holly's Sean Loeffler (right) battles for the ball in the team's 4-3 loss to Swartz Creek. Photo: David Troppens

Fenton soccer ends Brandon's Metro streak

By David Troppens
The Brandon varsity boys soccer team has earned at least a co-Metro League title in each of the last three seasons, sharing the championship with Fenton in 2016. Through that run, the Black-hawks have not lost a Metro contest in 26 games. That run ended against the

Fenton Tigers on Wednesday. What was a scoreless tie for most of the game, ended up being a 2-0 Tigers' victory after Fenton scored two second-half goals. The game was delayed due to weather conditions and was declared a final result with eight minutes remaining. The contest was the first Metro game for both squads, putting

the Tigers at 1-0 in league play. "There's no doubt Brandon has been the class of our league lately," Fenton varsity boys soccer coach Matt Sullivan said. "They have great sportsmanship and are well coached at sharing the ball. We are very proud to have ended their streak."

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Holly boys tennis see streak end at 107

By David Troppens
Holly's varsity boys tennis team ended its match with Flushing on a high note. One of its flights won a gruelling three-set match to earn a point against Flushing, a match that symbolizes the heart that Holly tennis always shows at all of its Metro League dual meets. However, while Holly won that point, they didn't win the match. Holly's 107-match unbeaten streak came to an end with a 5-3 loss to Flushing. Instead of reflecting on the ending

of the streak, Holly varsity boys tennis coach said this opens the door for a new era, and he's excited about seeing how the team responds to the challenge. "We are only a couple of weeks into the season and there's a lot of tennis to play," Sophia said. "We are excited. There was a moment of being bummed and reflecting on the incredible streak, but at the same time we now have some young kids that will get an opportunity to make a name for themselves."

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PREP REPORT

VOLLEYBALL

► **Fenton def. Walled Lake Northern:** The Tigers had what coach Jerry Eisinger said was the team's "best match of the year" defeating Walled Lake Northern 25-20, 25-17, 25-17. Chloe Idoni and Chloe McKenzie led the offense in all three sets, while setter Sydney Acho did a strong job distributing the ball to the hitters. She also had a strong defensive game, as did libero Lauren Lamb. ► **Linden at Cros-Lex Tournament:** The Eagles (8-6-5) won the silver division championship at the event. Jordan Moros had 111 assists, 25 digs, seven kills and five blocks while Makenna O'Keefe had 34 kills. Avery Koan had 59 digs. ► **Holly 209, Kearsley 235:** The Bronchos were paced by Kate Brown who shot a 48 at Flint Elks Country Club. Megan McReynolds carded a 49 while Ella Lonsbury shot a 53. Lexie Curtis carded a 59. Holly is 4-0 in Metro action. ► **Holly 185, Linden 243:** The Bronchos posted the third-lowest nine-hole score in team history, earning the win at Heather Highlands. Kate Brown led the Bronchos with a medalist score of 42. Kelsey Malone recorded a 45 while Megan McReynolds carded a 47. Ella Lonsbury had a 51. Ella LaMonthe led Linden with a 56 while Kaitlyn Straub scored a 59. Brooke Goll

shot a 62 and Emma Lurcvey shot a 66. ► **Fenton 172, Flushing 222:** Charlotte Cunaud posted match medalist honors with a 37. Brook Herbstreit carded a 44 while Angela Hanners shot a 45. Olivia Herbert shot a 46. ► **Clio 258, Linden 260:** Kaitlyn Straub led the Eagles with a 57 while Hanna Baldwin and Emma Lurvey carded 67s. Ella LaMonthe shot a 69. ► **BOYS TENNIS** ► **Holly 6, Clio 2:** The Bronchos won all four doubles matches, earning Holly a Metro League victory. Garrett VanGilder and Garrett Reid won at No. 1 doubles and Cameron McAninch and Brendan Kreft won at No. 4 doubles by 6-0, 6-0 scores. The No. 2 doubles team of Trey Ridgeway and Jack Terry and the No. 3 doubles of Wyatt Caldwell and Noah Rooker also won their matches in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4. Braden Wilson (No. 1) and Leyton Reister (No. 4) also won singles matches. ► **Fenton 7, Kearsley 1:** The Tigers won all four doubles matches and won three of the four singles matches, earning the Tigers the easy win. ► **BOYS SOCCER** ► **Linden 1, Flushing 0:** Jacob Welch scored the game's only goal on a Ryan Gillespie assist, earning the Eagles a win in their first Metro contest of the season. Ian Downarowicz recorded a shutout in net.

Fenton, Holly open volleyball Metro with wins; Linden falls

By David Troppens

It was a good start to the Metro League season for Fenton's and Holly's varsity volleyball teams. Meanwhile, the Linden Eagles had a tough start. The three-time defending Metro League champion Fenton Tigers competed against a pesky Brandon squad at home and won in four sets 25-17, 25-18, 19-25, 25-13. Meanwhile, the Holly Bronchos swept their match with Swartz Creek 25-16, 25-19, 25-11 while the Linden Eagles lost to a tough Flushing team on the road 25-23, 25-9, 25-19. The Fenton Tigers, who have finished each of the last two seasons with undefeated Metro League records, began their defense of the title with a strong balance of offense and defense. Seniors Chloe Idoni and Erin Carter paced the team's offense and led the team with the major-



Fenton's Lauren Lamb dives to the ground to make a dig during the Tigers' victory against Brandon. Photo: Mark Bolen

ity of their kills. Fenton varsity volleyball coach Jerry Eisinger was pleased with his defense as well commenting that Lauren Lamb and Meg Wolosonowich were strong in the back row. Holly may be putting its team together at the right time. After struggling during the pre-season with a 5-7-4 record, the Bronchos looked like a Metro League contending team at home against Swartz Creek.

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Athlete Of The Week



DREW KRUEGER
Boys Cross Country

LINDEN



IAN DOWNAROWICZ
Soccer

LINDEN



GARRETT VANGILDER
Tennis

HOLLY



GARRETT REID
Tennis

HOLLY



MELANEA STRAUSS
Girls Cross Country

LINDEN



BROOK HERBSTREIT
Golf

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LAUREN O'BRIEN
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